New-York Tribune.

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THE FRENCH DEFEATED.

A FIERCE BATTLE IN TONQUIN.

THE COUNTRY INVADED BY A LARGE CHINESE ARMY—REPORTED ANNIHILATION OF A FRENCH FORCE.

LONDON, Aug. 27.—A dispatch to-day from Shanghai to Reuter's Telegram Agency says:

"According to reports received at Sontay 80,000 Chinese troops have invaded Tonquin and have already had an engagement with the French troops. In this battle, it is asserted, the French were annihilated, while several thousand of the Chinese were killed."

THE BOMBARDMENT OF FOO-CHOW.

LARGE LOSSES OF THE CHINESE—ADMIRAL COURBET'S REPORT ON THE CONFLICT.

LONDON, Aug. 27.—The French loss in the bombardment of Foo-Chow was seven killed and fourteen wounded. The Chinese loss is estimated at 1,000 killed and 3,000 wounded. The Chinese man-of-war Yangwu was exploded by a torpedo after it had fired a broadside at a French torpedo boat. The boiler of the latter was exploded by means of hand grenades thrown from the Yangwu, after which the boat was sunk by the Volta to prevent its being captured by the Chinese.

The French expected to occupy the heights commanding the Pagoda anchorage. It is reported that there are 75,000 Chinese troops in the vicinity of Foo-Chow.

The Times's Foo-Chow dispatch dated yesterday says: "There has been a heavy bombardment of the Mingan forts by the French fleet since daybreak this morning. The forts are believed to have been silenced. No attack has been made on the Kinpai forts."

THE CHINESE FORTS HOLDING OUT.

Private telegrams received in London report that the Chinese forts on the Min river are holding out well against French bombardment. The French gunboats are still unable to pass down the river. The Chinese authorities are confident of the strength of the forts.

It is semi-officially announced that after Admiral Courbet leaves the Min river he will occupy the Island of Formosa, which will remain in the hands of the French until China pays the indemnity demanded by France.

ADMIRAL COURBET'S REPORT.

PARIS, Aug. 27.—The official report of the bombardment at Foo-Chow last Saturday received from Admiral Courbet is as follows:

"Foo-Chow, Sunday Morning Aug. 24. A good beginning has been made. We opened fire yesterday and in four hours 9 Chinese men-of-war and 12 junks were sunk and the Krupp battery commanding the arsenal was silenced. Our loss was 6 killed and 27 wounded. The fleet suffered no serious damage except that the boiler of a torpedo boat was burst. The Chinese losses were heavy. During the night the fleet was beset by burning wrecks and logs. The torpedo cutters will clear all this away to-day and afterward we will bombard the arsenal. We shall not leave the river before the 29th or 30th inst. The officers and men are animated with the greatest ardor.

"One of our torpedo boats sank a large Chinese cruiser. The vessels which took part in the action were the Volta (which hoisted my flag), the Duguay, the Trouin, the Triomphante, the Villars, the De Staing, the Aspic, the Lynx and the Vipere, together with two torpedo boats."

Vice Admiral Peyron, Minister of Marine, has telegraphed Admiral Courbet expressing the satisfaction of the Government at the brilliant beginning of the campaign in China, and wishing him success.

BUSINESS MEN ALARMED.

MEDIATION OF GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES TO BE URGED—THE CHINESE TREATY PORTS.

LONDON, Aug. 27.—Circles interested in commercial relations with China are debating the advisability of presenting a memorial to Earl Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. This would urge the Foreign Department to co-operate with America and Germany in representing to France the serious injury which would be inflicted upon trade by interfering with the Chinese treaty ports.

A Calcutta dispatch says: "The war between China and France has thus far had little, if any, effect on Indian trade or the money market. It is believed that the effect will be only slight unless the war shall be prolonged."

SHANGHAI THREATENED.

HONG KONG, Aug. 27.—The French outward mail boat stopped here yesterday and transferred her mails to a neutral steamer. An immediate attack is probable upon Woo-Sung in order to clear the entrance to the port of Shanghai.

AMERICAN VESSELS IN CHINESE WATERS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—It is learned at the Navy Department that no additional instructions have been given to Rear Admiral Davis, commanding the Asiatic Station, in regard to his attitude toward the Franco-Chinese war. Some months ago Admiral Davis was instructed to give part calar attention to the protection of American interests in China, and it has not been thought necessary to repeat them. His squadron is now in the vicinity of Foo Chow. It is composed of the following vessels: Trenton, Juniata, Enterprise, Monocacy, Alert, Palos, Ossipee, and Essex. The last named vessel will leave Hong Kong for the United States in September.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ELECTION TOUR.

HEARTILY GREETED ON HIS JOURNEY TO SCOTLAND—AN EDINBURGH MEETING.

LONDON, Aug. 27.—Mr. Gladstone started for Edinburgh to-day. He was greeted by large crowds at the railway stations as he passed through.

At Warrington he addressed the people who had assembled to greet him. He said the Government would do their duty, but in a considerable National crisis the issue depended upon the action of the country.

At Edinburgh preparations have been made for a grand welcome of the Prime Minister. Windows and balconies throughout the business places and residences throughout the city have been decorated and visitors in large numbers are arriving. Mr. Gladstone has accepted an invitation to attend a meeting of workingmen to be held in Waverley Market on Tuesday next. Ten thousand tickets of admission to the meeting have already been sold.

BANK DIRECTORS PUNISHED.

PARIS, Aug. 27.—The trial of the directors and managers of the Banque of Lyons et Loire, which failed two or three years ago, was concluded yesterday. M. Savary, an ex-deputy, and at one time Under Secretary of State, was sentenced to five years in prison, to pay a fine of 20,000 francs, and to suffer for ten years a suspension of his civil and political rights. M. Zielinski, the manager, was sentenced to five months in prison and to pay a fine of 8,000 francs; M. Bellantan, sub-manager, four months in prison, with a fine of 5,000 francs. The rest were only fined, the amounts ranging from 1,000 francs to 10,000 francs. M. Savary, the chief offender, has fled from the country.

A RUSSIAN ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 27.—The Ministry of Marine has issued to several learned societies a plan for a Russian Polar expedition. The idea is to have several large parties start from Jeannette Island and proceed entirely on foot across the ice, leaving large depots of provisions in their rear. It is thought that there are many islands north of Jeannette Island that could be utilized.

ALLIANCE OF GERMANY AND FRANCE.

PARIS, Aug. 27.—A dispatch from Berlin to the *Matin Français* asserts that a Franco-German alliance has been arranged. According to this France is to obtain certain territory on condition of not opposing Germany's claim to two ports on the North Sea. Both countries are to assist each other in acquiring colonies.

A SON OF WILLIAM M. TWEED DEAD.

PARIS, Aug. 27.—Richard Tweed, eldest son of the late William M. Tweed, of New-York, has died in a mad-house. It is understood that he left little or no property.

Richard Tweed never had any prominence or influence except as the son of the head of the Tweed Ring. He never displayed any of the uncommon shrewdness and power of managing men which Tweed possessed, never had any weight in politics even in the wards where his father's following was the strongest, and was not admitted to the councils of Sweeny, Watson, Connolly and the other heads of the organization which controlled the city government and plundered the taxpayers of many millions of dollars. His father tried to make a lawyer of him with indifferent success. Later, and not long before the disclosures which led to the overthrow of the thieves, William M. Tweed leased the Metropolitan Hotel for his sons, and fitted it up in extravagant style. The opening of the house under the new management, which followed that of the Lelands, was celebrated with a supper and Democratic reception on a great scale, which nearly all of the politicians from near and from far attended, and at which champagne was much more abundant than Croton. The quantity of wine drunk and wasted was prodigious. The collapse of the Ring put an end to the Tweed management of the Metropolitan, and sent Richard Tweed into complete obscurity. Nothing has been heard of him for many years except that he was living in Paris on a slender income, which went only a little way in gratifying his inordinate passion for gambling.

WOLSELEY TO RESCUE GORDON.

APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADING BRITISH GENERAL TO COMMAND THE RELIEF EXPEDITION.

LONDON, Aug. 27.—General Lord Wolseley will start for Egypt next Sunday. He will proceed to Cairo, assume immediate command of the forces in Egypt, and direct the operations for the relief of Khartoum. General Wolseley's appointment is due to the statement of General Stephenson, that the present plan for the campaign, via. the Nile, is impracticable.

All the newspapers approve of the despatch of General Wolseley to Egypt. The official announcement of his appointment to this post says: The preparations which have been in progress for some weeks for an expedition up the Nile, resemble in a great degree those which were adopted in 1870 for the Red River expedition, which gave General Wolseley an experience which no other officer possesses."

There is some reason to hope that Major Kitchener's mission to Dongola will shortly afford the means of opening communications with General Gordon again. But the government are of the opinion, having regard for the approach of the cool season, that no time should be lost in proceeding to Major Kitchener's assistance in case his mission should fail.

GORDON WINS A VICTORY.

CAIRO, Aug. 27.—Major Kitchener telegraphs from Dongola that a spy has brought in the report that General Gordon gained a great victory over the rebels on August 11 and that two of the rebel leaders were killed in the engagement.

Rumors are current here that Egypt has informed England that she is bankrupt since yesterday and is unable to meet current expenses.

OTTAWA, Ont., Aug. 27.—The Governor-General has been ordered by the home Government to secure the services of 600 Canadian river voyageurs to go up the Nile with the expedition for the relief of General Gordon at Khartoum. They are to take flat-bottomed boats up the Nile and make portage around the rapids. It is intended to take 300 men from the Ottawa district and the remainder from the Quebec and St. Maurice regions. Applications are already rushing in. Indians will be eligible.

The Governor-General has written to the militia department asking for the names of some militia officers whose services can be obtained to take charge of the voyageurs's contingent. Preference will be given to officers who served under General Wolseley in the Red River expedition. Some French-Canadian officers will also be taken, as it is expected that the majority of the voyageurs will be French Canadians. The advertisement calling for volunteers will be issued at once.

FRAGMENTS OF CABLE NEWS.

BERLIN, Aug. 27.—The meeting of the three emperors, each of whom will be attended by his principal minister, has been definitely arranged.

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 27.—Mr. Carl Steen Anderson de Bille, Minister resident and Consul-General of Denmark, at Washington, has resigned his position.

VIENNA, Aug. 27.—The sugar trade in this city is passing through a crisis. The failure of the great firm of R. Weitsch caused a panic on the bourse yesterday. The failure was due to rash speculations. A year's respite has been granted the firm. Those interested in the firm are doing their utmost to support it.

BRUSSELS, Aug. 27.—The Burgomaster has issued an order forbidding the holding of clerical meetings on the same day with liberal meetings.

WARSAW, Aug. 27.—The police of this city have posted placards in the public places, announcing that the Czar of Russia will arrive here at the end of the month, and giving the people permission to decorate and illuminate their houses on that occasion.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 27.—An under Secretary of Foreign Affairs has been placed under arrest for using seditious language.

TO LIMIT THE PRODUCTION OF COAL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 27.—Officers of the Reading Company state that the agents of the coal companies have practically decided that two weeks suspension in September will be necessary to regulate the coal trade. There seems to be no doubt that this will be agreed upon by the coal presidents. The New-York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad Company is diverting the majority of its anthracite production to New-York. The reason assigned for this is that sales for it can be made quicker there than in the West, where the majority of it has hitherto gone. Officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company indirectly admitted to-day that through rates to and from the West are being cut. They declare that their road is maintaining rates, but insinuate that there may be some cutting by others. The earnings of the Reading Railroad Company for August are estimated at $2,000,000 net. If there are two weeks of suspension in mining during September the showing for that month will be poor, but for the balance of the year a large showing is expected.

A WIFE LEFT TO STARVE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CHARDON, Ohio, Aug. 27.—Last evening, about 6 o'clock, a woman, probably forty-five years old, was found in the woods in the northwest part of the town and was brought to this city by a farmer and placed in the care of Sheriff Pierce. She was reduced by starvation almost to a skeleton. She revived sufficiently to-day to give an account of herself. It appears that she formerly lived in Cleveland. About a month ago she gave her husband money to pay taxes on their little home. Instead of doing so he disappeared and has not been heard from since. Her house and lot were sold to satisfy the taxes, and, without a friend in the world and too proud to beg, she wandered aimlessly into the country, sleeping in the fields and subsisting on what fruits and berries she could find. Fortnight—even days she says no food has passed her lips. She absolutely refused to give her name. She was sent to the infirmary to-day.

A SUIT BY NEW-YORK CREDITORS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

EASTON, Penn., Aug. 27.—New-York creditors represented by Josiah P. Marquand, of Rose, McAlpine & Co., have sued out a criminal proceeding against Moses Hirshfield, whose shoe factory was sold by the sheriff recently, charging him with securing property with intent to defraud creditors. Mr. Hirshfield has given $3,000 bail for a hearing. It is charged that shortly before the time of the seizure Hirshfield, who was reputed to be worth $50,000, gave to Lewis Tobias, a New-York relative, a mortgage for $10,300 without consideration, and that to other relatives he gave about $9,000. The total claims of the New-Yorkers amount to about $8,000.

ARRESTED FOR PASSING BAD MONEY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

TRENTON, Aug. 27.—John Fox, alias "Reddy" Fox and "Foxy" Green, was committed by United States Commissioner Rowe this morning to await the action of the Grand Jury on a charge against him of passing counterfeit money in South Trenton. Fox is a huckster, and, like his father, is well known to the police. The father has served a term for passing counterfeit money, and his son is believed to be one of a gang who work off spurious coins in Trenton, Easton and other cities hereabouts. The police have been on their track for some time.

NICKEL WORKS TO RESUME.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CAMDEN, N. J., Aug. 27.—On January 1, 1883, the nickel works of Joseph Wharton in this city, the only nickel refinery in the United States, suspended operations, owing to the reduction in the tariff made shortly before by the Democratic majority in Congress and the over-production of the metal. On September 1, 1884, the works will be put in operation again, employing about ninety hands. This action is to be taken because much of the stock previously accumulated has been worked off, and because the proprietor of the works looks for a Republican victory this fall and a consequent increase in the tariff.

VOTING AGAINST WATER WORKS BONDS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

VINELAND, N. J., Aug. 27.—A popular vote was taken last night on bonding the town to build water works, the vote being 160 for and 273 against the measure. The Board of Health passed an ordinance forbidding the keeping of hogs in the borough limits.

KILLED BY A BULL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ERIE, Penn., Aug. 27.—Henry Grorger, a farmer of Washington township, in this county, was attacked by a cross bull to-day and fatally injured, being literally disembowelled. He was knocked down, gored and stamped on, the brute leaving him only when it had exhausted its fury.

RUINED BY OVER-DRAFTS.

HOW A LYNCHBURG BANK WENT UNDER—AN INVESTIGATION BY A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 27.—In the House of Delegates to-day Mr. Pollard, chairman of the Committee on Finance, submitted the report of that committee on the investigation of the Planters and Mechanics' Bank of Petersburg, which recently failed, and the status of the State funds deposited therein. The report says that the amount due the State on May 1, 1884, was $135,373. The committee find that the money of the State was so mingled with other funds of the bank and so used as to make it impossible for the committee to ascertain the precise use made of the identical money so deposited. The greater portion of the deposits seem to have been transferred to the Chase National Bank of New-York, or left with the First National Bank of Richmond, and to have been ultimately paid out through those banks. While the committee has not traced the identical State money deposited in this bank into the hands of any individual, they find that the books of the bank show what must strike the mind as a startling fact, that, with a capital stock of only $119,550, the enormous sum of $111,810 had been allowed to be drawn from the bank by over-drafts at the time the bank closed its doors, in addition to very large sums previously overdrawn by favorites of the bank which had been covered by notes upon which no security had been required and most of which notes are utterly worthless. Among the names of those upon whose checks the largest of these overdrafts were drawn are Stith, Bolling & Co., $19,000; William E. Cameron, Governor, nearly $4,000; State Senator W. E. Gaines, $6,000; Inge & Mahone, the latter the son of General Mahone, $15,000; General William Mahone, nearly $4,000; Thomas Wayne, cashier of the bank, $15,600, and R. A. Young, over $8,000.

In addition to the amounts due the bank on account of over-drafts, there was $300,000 due upon notes and bills received. Of these assets a very large proportion is represented by notes of persons hopelessly insolvent. Among these are Stith, Bolling & Co., call loan for $10,000; Governor William E. Cameron, sundry notes, $11,400; Inge & Mahone, $8,800; George Parkinson, over $5,000; Thomas Whyte, cashier, nearly $4,000; State Auditor General F. S. Blair, $1,300; J. C. Drake, $15,700; D. Drake & Co., $3,000; Stratton & Co., of which firm Edward White is the only member, $58,000; C. W. Spicer, about $50,000.

The committee says that Governor Cameron and General Mahone have paid the amounts of their overdrafts to the trustees since the affairs of the bank have been placed in the trustees' hands. Senator Gaines has paid $4,000 of his overdraft of $6,000. Nothing has been paid on the amounts due by Governor Cameron upon his notes, aggregating over $30,000, nor the trustee of the bank hold as collateral $50,000 of Southern Telegraph Company bonds, worth, perhaps, $17,000, and fifteen shares of the stock of the Washington Improvement Company, of uncertain value. It is proper to say that these collaterals were considered, at the time the loans were made to Governor Cameron, good for the amount of his notes, but they have since greatly depreciated. The committee says it is not satisfied with Governor Cameron's statement as to the security which should have been required from the bank before the deposits were made. The bond now in possess on of the Treasurer will prove almost wholly unavailable to the State as security for the large amount of public funds upon which the bank has defaulted. The committee has not yet ascertained that any person is liable to criminal prosecution for conversion of the State's money deposited in the bank.

AN OHIO BANK CLOSED.

A XENIA BANK SUSPENDS—ITS CASHIER A SPECULATOR IN GRAIN.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 27.—A dispatch to *The Times-Star* from Xenia, Ohio, says the Second National Bank of Xenia closed its doors this morning. There was a run on the bank yesterday, but payments were made so promptly that confidence was restored and many persons renewed their deposits. Cashier Ankeney has gone West. He had been engaged in grain transactions with R. M. Smart, to whom the bank, through Ankeney, recently made large advances. Smart gave a mortgage to secure this money but the directors were not satisfied and demanded Ankeney's resignation. He went West yesterday, and this caused the run of yesterday. The officers are generally regarded as able to meet all liabilities. The book is in the hands of an officer of the bank, by the Controller of Currency, and no statement of its condition has yet been made. The president is J. P. Lutusley, cashier John S. Ankeney. The paid up capital is $150,000; the surplus at the last statement, October, 1883, was $20,000, and the undivided profits $23,000. The bank has two New-York correspondents—the National Park Bank and the First National Bank.

JEFFERSON DAVIS STILL COMPLAINING.

HE THINKS THE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS TO UNION SOLDIERS ONLY IS "OFFENSIVE FAVORITISM."

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 27.—The Confederate soldiers of Monroe County have just finished a reunion at which memories of the war were freely interchanged. Among the incidents was the reading of a letter from Jefferson Davis, in which he complained of the pensioning of Federal soldiers as discrimination. He says: "The annual meeting of the old Confederate soldiers, both pleasant and useful in itself as reviving memories over which disaster could bring no cloud of shame, and serving to teach the rising generation the truths for which you so nobly struggled, is conceived by you with the beneficent purpose of relieving your needy and suffering comrades and protecting the orphans of those who sacrificed their lives in the effort to maintain the State Sovereignty won by Georgia in the war of the Revolution. Though the States are again reunited, and all contribute to fill the Treasury of the general Government, the funds collected are only appropriated to provide for the ex-soldier of the Northern States. The Southern soldier disabled in war and the widows and orphans of those who died can only hope for relief from a second tax, which may be voluntarily paid by the people for whom they fought and who suffered with them. It is not the least of your meritorious manifestations that you meet this discrimination without complaint and brace yourselves to bear this double burden with no ill feeling to the Government for this offensive favoritism. True under all the severe trials to which you are subjected, it is equally honorable to you that you have accepted the consequences of defeat and thereafter gone shoulder to shoulder with all who are striving to secure the welfare, promote the prosperity and preserve the honor of a common country. Please present to the members of your association the sincere regards and best wishes, with which I am ever faithfully your friend. Signed, JEFFERSON DAVIS."

HENDRICKS OPPOSES A CHANGE.

HE DOES NOT THINK CLEVELAND OUGHT TO WITHDRAW.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Aug. 27.—*The Herald* will publish to-morrow the following letter from Governor Hendricks, received by a citizen of this city, in answer to an inquiry concerning the rumors affecting a change in the National Democratic ticket consequent upon the reports published against Governor Cleveland:

INDIANAPOLIS, August 24, 1884.

I have your letter of the 19th inst. I cannot consider with favor your suggestions of a change in the National ticket. The action of the Convention cannot now be reconsidered, must stand, and I think it ought to stand. I do not agree with you in respect to the probable result. I think the probabilities are favorable to the success of our ticket. The Cleveland scandal will not have weight with the people and ought not to have weight. It is unworthy the National contest. Three times Governor Cleveland has stood the test of popular canvass—once for the office of Mayor, in his own city—and each time he received the indorsement of his neighbors by a vote largely above his party strength. Whatever there may have been of the scandal existing before, that is not just either to him or the people now to revive it. The public welfare requires that he be judged by his public record, by his capability and fitness for the discharge of responsible and important public duties, and not by old and exploded private slander.

Very respectfully, yours, etc., T. A. HENDRICKS.

PROHIBITION NOMINATIONS IN MICHIGAN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

LANSING, Mich., Aug. 27.—The Prohibitionists to-day nominated David Preston, of Detroit, for Governor, and also a full State ticket. They expect to carry a heavy Methodist vote.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES—BY TELEGRAPH.

GIVEN OVER TO FEDERAL JURISDICTION.

BATH, Me., Aug. 27.—Sergeant Dennis Kelly, who shot Freeman Smith in Fort Popham on July 29, 1882, was indicted by the State authorities; but the Federal officials claiming exclusive jurisdiction of the case, the prisoner was delivered to the United States Marshal, who removed him to Portland.

INJURED AT A POLE RAISING.

LITTLETON, N. H., Aug. 27.—George F. Shaw was seriously, and it is feared fatally, injured here this morning while assisting to raise Republican flagpoles. His wrist was broken and he was badly hurt internally.

SENTENCED TO BE HANGED.

BATH, Me., Aug. 27.—Daniel Wilkinson was this morning sentenced to be hanged on November 20, 1885, for the murder of Policeman Lawrence of Bath, last September. The execution will take place at Thomaston.

ALLEGED MURDERER IN CUSTODY.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 27.—Thomas J. Chapman, the alleged murderer of Nicholas Herbert, a wealthy bachelor farmer near Charleston, Ill., was arrested at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, yesterday and is now on the way to Charleston in custody of Deputy Sheriff Jennson. Chapman formerly lived in Poplar Bluff and he started for that place, where his wife now is, immediately after killing Herbert.

SCIENTIFIC WORK.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION MEETS.

NOTABLE MEN AT MONTREAL—LORD RAYLEIGH'S ADDRESS—PROGRESS OF THE YEAR.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

MONTREAL, Aug. 27.—The British Association for the Advancement of Science was favored with Queen's weather for its opening day in the Provinces. With dry air, a bracing breeze, a clear sky and warmth without oppressive heat, the Canadian climate for one day at least satisfied the most fastidious or captious Englishman in town. Good humor was infectious under these conditions. The reception rooms were thronged from 9 until 4 o'clock, presenting a most animated spectacle. The preliminary arrangements for the session were rapidly completed. At the council meeting ten organizing committees were appointed; an hour later a general committee; at 1 o'clock and at half past 4 o'clock sectional committees. At 2 o'clock and at half past 4 o'clock an address of welcome was presented in Queen's Hall by the Mayor and the Council of Montreal.

At 8 o'clock this evening the first general session was held. Sir William Thomson, as Professor Cayley's deputy, resigned the chair, and Lord Rayleigh delivered an inaugural address as President. To-morrow the sections will meet at 11 o'clock for scientific work and in the evening a reception will be given by the governors of McGill College in the grounds and buildings of the university. The English delegation, as seen twice to-day in Queen's Hall, is a most remarkable body of men. Unlike American college professors who ordinarily have sallow complexions and show signs of premature age, these distinguished representatives of English scholarship have ruddy faces, strong frames, erect figures, and apparently enjoy robust health. Even the old men are wonderfully well preserved. There are no bent figures and stooping shoulders, and where hair has turned it is iron gray, not white. In manner the scientists are genial and frank, talking quietly with few gestures, and in deep tones, without harshness. Occasionally a shy man is descried peering around helplessly as if in search of shelter and retirement of a private library, but the great majority look like men of the world, accustomed to deal with public affairs or private business on a large scale. Great Britain is represented at this meeting by hundreds of its most distinguished scholars in every branch of science. The foremost in reputation is Sir William Thomson, England's great electrician and mathematician. He is a Scotchman about sixty years in age, of retiring disposition in society, but a most laborious student and worker. Graduating at Cambridge with high honors he was appointed almost immediately to an important chair in the University of Glasgow. His contributions to science since 1850 have been of the first rank; relating to heat, electricity, magnetism, submarine telegraphy, sound and dynamics. His services in connection with ocean cables are well known, and he is a most ingenious inventor of scientific instruments.

The greatest chemist at the meeting is Professor Henry Enfield Roscoe. He is author of various works on chemistry and spectrum analysis and has distinguished himself by most laborious investigations respecting the chemical action of light. Sir Richard Temple has made great reputation as a civil administrator in India, having entered the Bengal service thirty-eight years ago and held important positions under various governments. He superintended the relief operations in Bengal in famine years and has had a most varied experience in the East. He is a tall, spare man with soldierly bearing and large features. His face is one of the most remarkable in the assembly. His Roman nose, piercing eyes and scanned skin betoken a strong character and a history of unusual interest. George Howard Darwin is a son of the celebrated naturalist. He is professor of astronomy at Cambridge and has already attracted attention by his experimental work. Dr. Robert S. Ball, Astronomer Royal of Ireland, is one of the younger men, but he has already made a great reputation as an author, lecturer and politician. Among the eminent geologists is Professor William Boyd Dawkins, who has occupied important chairs in Owens College, conducted geological surveys in Great Britain and its colonies and written valuable works. J. B. Martin is secretary of the Statistical Society, London. He is an ingenious and industrious investigator.

Professor J. J. Sheldon, of the College of Agriculture, is among the foremost authorities in his department and will read an important paper at the present session. W. H. Preece, chief electrician of the English Post Office, is one of the few scientists wearing spectacles, good sight, apparently being the rule even among the most laborious students in Great Britain. He has a fine head and forehead, and a full beard, and looks like a man of genuine force. The English Civil Service has another representative in the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, C. W. Fremantle, a man of imposing presence, tall and erect, with strong features. He is an authority on all questions relating to metals.

Professor Dewar has a ruddy Scotch face with strongly marked features. He has a quiet scholarly manner, and shows no signs of age. He has a chair at Cambridge University, and will be among the strongest debaters in the chemical section. Dr. Alexander who has attended the sessions of the association for thirty years, has crossed the ocean in his eightieth year to listen, if not to take active part in the proceedings. Another medical delegate is Dr. James Edmunds, senior physician of the London Temperance Hospital. He is a man of good powers of observation, with the manner of the old school English practitioner. Captain Douglas Galton is a soldierly-looking man, tall, erect and vigorous. He has made a close study of the railway systems of the world having been inspector of the English railways for thirteen years. He is also a great authority in military fortifications, and has written valuable papers on the requirements of hospitals. Professor Chandler Roberts of the Royal School of Mines, London, has acquired a great reputation for thorough investigations in the department of metallurgy. He seldom misses a session of the association and invariably produces a solid paper of great practical value. Sir Lyon Playfair is a familiar figure in America owing to his frequent journeys across the Atlantic. His intellectual face is one of the most noticeable in the hall. Sir Frederick J. Bramwell, president of the mechanical section, has a large head and, unlike his scientific associates, a clean-shaven face. He has been president of the Society of Mechanical Engineers and is a vigorous speaker. Another strong man of the same department is Professor H. S. Hele Shaw, with the manner of a student rather than a man of action. Among other university professors are Joseph Henry Gilbert, distinguished for his researches in agricultural chemistry, D. J. Cunningham, the well known anatomist of Trinity College, Dublin, H. N. Moseley and O. Henrici. In the Department of Anthropology, Edward B. Tylor, keeper of the Oxford University Museum, is a most prominent figure. Professor Oliver J. Lodge and the Rev. W. H. Dallinger are night lecturers during the session and have the reputation of being excellent speakers.

THE RECEPTION TO THE ASSOCIATION.

These were the leaders of the distinguished company of visitors to be entertained by the city and formally welcomed to-day at Queen's Hall. The musical reception was well managed and characterized by a feeling of genuine hospitality. The civic authorities headed by the Mayor occupied one side of the platform, and the officers and the council of the association the other side. The Mayor read his address in a perfunctory manner, fumbling his manuscript and repeatedly losing his place and stumbling over his periods. Sir William Thomson replied with awkwardness of manner, but true feeling, and was heartily applauded. He referred humorously to the misgivings felt when the association was organized half a century ago on a peripatetic basis of meeting here and there in the United Kingdom from year to year. He felt sure that even the most radical spirits of that day would have been startled if the suggestion had been made that the association might one day cross the ocean. He maintained that there had been no departure from the original plan, inasmuch as the association in crossing the sea had not left British soil. He congratulated the members on the experiments so successfully tried, and after referring to an early meeting of the association, when the mathematical and the physical section had solemnly declared that it was impossible for a steamboat ever to cross the Atlantic, thanked the Mayor for the warmth of the welcome extended by the citizens of Montreal. Lord Rayleigh added a few words of welcome, after which Sir John Macdonald made a humorous and effective speech, closing with expressions of loyalty which were appreciated by the audience. The Mayor then called for the singing of "God save the Queen" by all standing, and for cheers for the Queen and the British Association.

The first general meeting was held in the evening in the same hall; all seats in audience room being reserved for members of the association. Sir William Thomson, as representative of the retiring president, introduced Lord Rayleigh, the incoming president.

LORD RAYLEIGH'S ADDRESS.

Lord Rayleigh proved a pleasant speaker, with a clear, strong, well-modulated voice and effective delivery. He is a man of medium stature, florid complexion, sandy hair and side whiskers. He is in middle life, professor of experimental physics in the University of Cambridge, and an industrious and loyal member of the association. He is constant in attendance and laborious in the section work. His address occupied an hour in delivery and was a comprehensive review of recent work in special departments of the scientific world. At the outset he referred to the death of Sir W. Siemens and paid a hearty tribute to that inventor's work, and then passed rapidly to the most striking advances in the production and application of electricity upon a large scale. Looking forward to a future of electric lighting, he found good ground for encouragement. Already the lighting of large passenger ships was an assured success, and although at the present there is no experience of a house-to-house system of illumination on a great scale and in competition with cheap gas, yet in large institutions such as theatres and factories electricity is in successful operation and preparations are making for its trial on an adequate scale in London. He referred to the advantages derived from powerful currents now at the command of physicists. He described the application of the great laws of thermodynamics, and enlarged upon the important work in optics rendered possible by the use of special photographic methods. He spoke of the beautiful inventions of the telephone and the phonograph as imparting new interest to the study of acoustics, and in concluding his survey of recent progress in physics, congratulated the Association on the present position and the prospects of experimental science. From the general spread of a more scientific education, he felt warranted in expecting important results. He considered it strange, almost monstrous, that dead languages should hold the place they do in general education. He thought it could not be denied that their supremacy was the result of routine rather than of argument. While doubting whether an exclusively scientific training would be satisfactory, and admitting that where there is plenty of time and literary aptitude Latin and Greek may make good foundations, he considered it useless to deny that a majority of boys either learn dead tongues thoroughly or appreciate the writings of ancient authors. He commended the study of mathematics, science, history and the modern languages. He repelled the objection to modernized education based on its supposed tendency toward materialism. He contended that men who devote their lives to investigation cultivate the love of truth for its own sake and endeavor to clear up, not to obscure, difficult questions. Scientific investigators have no aim to assume the attitude of prophets. In their hearts they know that underneath their theories lie contradictions which they cannot reconcile. The higher mysteries of being if penetrable at all by human intellect require other weapons than those of calculation and experiment.

Lord Rayleigh's address was well delivered and was highly complimented by the members of the association on the platform. The sections are prepared to take up the real work of the meeting to-morrow, presidents delivering addresses in most instances. The announcement that Lieutenants Greely and Ray have been directed by the Signal Service office to attend the session of the association, has created a great deal of pleasure. Their presence will render the geographical section the centre of interest. They are to be entertained by the Citizens' Committee, probably at the Windsor Hotel.

The Governor-General of the Dominion made an admirable address at the evening meeting, welcoming the British Association and referring with real eloquence to the awakening of the interest of the mother country in its colonial dependencies, and the reciprocal feeling of loyalty promoted in the Dominion of Canada. He caused great amusement by referring to Lord Salisbury's warning against legislation by pledge and expressed the hope that the profuse hospitality of Montreal would not involve kindred dangers for distinguished visitors. The address included a generous welcome of all representatives of American science.

THE FIRE RECORD.

MUCH DAMAGE IN A LOUISIANA TOWN.

NEW-ORLEANS, Aug. 27.—A dispatch to *The Times-Democrat* says: A fire broke out at 6:30 o'clock last evening at New-Iberia in the rear of Leiman & Taylor's dry-goods store, totally destroying the building and its contents and also H. Coguenham's residence and furniture stores and half a dozen other buildings. The fire was past control at 9:30 p. m. The loss will be heavy. As the fire reached the telegraph office the operators were obliged to leave the building. Joseph Reynolds, foreman of Fire Company No. 1, was killed by an iron shutter falling on him. The origin of the fire was accidental.

THE WINSLOW LABORATORY DESTROYED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

TROY, Aug. 27.—A mysterious fire at an early hour this morning totally destroyed the Winslow Laboratory of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Professor H. B. Mason's entire collection of chemicals, minerals and apparatus was destroyed. He is now in Europe. The geographical specimens were saved. The loss will reach $10,000; insured.

SAVING ICE HOUSES WITH DIFFICULTY.

A barn belonging to Henry Webb, of Greenwich, Conn., was burned with its contents yesterday. It was valued at $3,000, insured for $1,500. The Amogerone Fire Company, by hard work, succeeded in saving three houses not far away which had caught from sparks. The barn is thought to have been set on fire.

LOSSES IN VARIOUS PLACES.

URICHSVILLE, Ohio, Aug. 27.—An explosion of gasoline in the hardware store of Mr. Kloebetz last night set fire to the building and destroyed it, and also the stores of Frisley & Kummer, Hardman, and of Urich & Smith. Loss, $35,000; insurance, $26,000.

SCRANTON, Penn., Aug. 27.—The fire which yesterday morning destroyed the Ansley planing mill and lumber yard caused a loss estimated at $75,000. Mr. Ansley carried only $7,000 insurance in the following companies: Liverpool and London and Globe, $1,000; Girard Insurance Company of Philadelphia, $1,000; Hamburg-Bremen of Germany, $2,000; British American, $2,000, and Sun Fire Office of London, $1,000.

NEW STEAMSHIP LINE PROJECTED.

A MOVEMENT TO MAKE SAVANNAH A GREAT SHIPPING PORT.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Aug. 27.—A prominent business firm of this city has announced that a line of ocean steamers, to ply between Savannah and the various English and French ports, will be opened at an early day this fall. The ships are already purchased and the line will begin business before October 1. The establishment of a new through line from Cincinnati to the seaboard, by the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad, as foreshadowed by dispatches from Chattanooga and Knoxville, together with this new line of steamships to Europe, may result in commercial enterprises the like of which the South has never imagined. There is much capital in this city awaiting investment, and the opening of the new rail line from Chicago and Cincinnati will no doubt pave the way here for gigantic commercial operations in breadstuffs and provisions.

A SMALL BUT FINE HOP CROP.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Aug. 27.—Reports in *The New-England Homestead* from 200 hop-growing towns in New-York, Maine and the Province of Quebec indicate that the crop is at least one-fourth short of the average, but this is believed to be an under-estimate. The averages for each State are as follows: Maine, 78; Vermont, 80; Quebec, 70; New-York, 70. Buyers have been prospecting and are offering 25 to 30 cents a pound. The growers, however, are generally confident of higher prices and are disposed to hold for from 35 to 50 cents. Especially is this the case in New-York, where 40 and even 50 cents have been offered in a few instances for new hops, and where the growers are well posted. Old hops are pretty much out of the growers' hands, only an occasional small lot being reported in New-York. The new crop is of extraordinarily fine quality.

THE LADNER BROTHERS ARRESTED.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 27.—No statement has yet been made of the collapsed banking firm of Ladner Brothers. Several creditors to-day secured warrants for the arrest of William H. and Louis J. Lad