



THE NEWS OF EUROPE.

POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE'S DEATH.

A NOBLEMAN WITHOUT REPROACH—LORD HARTINGTON'S NEW POSITION—THE FRANCO-BULGARIAN INCIDENT—BISHOP FREPPEL—THE ORLEANIST—MR. GLADSTONE—OCEAN MAILS—THE FOG.

whose grievance M. Ribot has made his own, has addressed a long letter in French to "The Times." It is not likely to improve his position or to convince the public that he has given a true account of affairs in Bulgaria.

The two chief events in the French Chamber are the passing of the mutilated Blosset's convention against the slave trade, and M. Floquet's eulogy on the late Bishop Freppel. As passed, this convention is of little avail. Vessels flying the French flag may bid defiance to the cruisers of other nations.

A London paper started the story this week that the Comte de Paris had abandoned or presently would abandon his pretensions to the throne of France, break up his party organization, dissolve his committees, renounce what he calls his claims, petition the Government for leave to return to French soil, and become a good citizen of the Republic.

There was no relation of life in which this great nobleman, although a nobleman, was not admirable. His charities and his public spirit were alike without stint. By his rank, his wealth, his position, he had every title to the enmity of those new Radicals whose gospel is a gospel of hatred, and he goes to his grave without one word of detraction.

The death of the Duke of Devonshire is a great political event. The Duke was not himself active in politics, but he did the State service by living. While he lived, Lord Hartington could sit in the House of Commons.

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The London County Council recomposed itself for the concessions to common-sense in finance by a fresh display of stubborn intolerance of licensing questions.

The Cunard Line signifies its desire for American patronage by once more putting on its regular Atlantic service the venerable Bothnia. This is the ship which led one of the liveliest of your contemporaries to bestow on this line a name more pungent than politics.

The accident to the Germanic at Queenstown brings into strong relief the incapacity of the present system of despatching British mail to the America. She had 900 sacks on board.

The Pearl case attracted, on the whole, as much attention as if the parties to it had been ornaments of society or ornaments of the stage.

There is still strong feeling for her husband, who is thought to have deserved even the eulogies of Sir Charles Russell. Nobody cares about the Hargreaves family, whose position in Torquay, owing to circumstances which came out in the trial, is not all they could wish.

This has been the worst Christmas week on record. London has surpassed itself in fogs. It had nothing else left to surpass. There has been since Sunday last one continuous fog, day and night, with never an intermission.

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WHAT WILL HILL DO NOW?

THE LAW'S HAND CLOSING AROUND HIM.

AN ORDER FROM JUSTICE CULLEN FOR THE STATE CANVASSERS—EMANS, THE DUTCHESS COUNTY CLERK, MUST SHOW THAT HE IS NOT IN CONTEMPT.

In their fight against David B. Hill and the gang of thieves and political plunderers associated with him, the Republicans, who are determined to see justice done in connection with the counting of the vote for Senator in Dutchess County, won yesterday an important victory.

This was not the only thing that Judge Cullen did to find out whether or not the law and the orders of the courts should be obeyed. He, too, is evidently becoming wearied and disgusted with Hill's juggling with the courts and his discourtesy toward judges and disobedience of their orders.

Judge Barnard, of Poughkeepsie, also took a hand yesterday in trying to find out whether or not this young man thinks more of the wishes of a corrupt politician than he does of the courts and the law.

How David B. Hill will get around Judge Cullen's latest order remains to be seen. It is known that he is as rich in expedients as he is devoid of principle, and before retiring from the office which he has held for the last seven years, he has planned some scheme that will prevent justice being done.

A week ago Justice Cullen granted an order on an agreement by representatives of both sides that the corrected Dutchess returns should be at once forwarded to the State Board of Canvassers and at the same time to prevent the Republicans by any possibility from having an undue advantage, he stayed the State Board from canvassing those returns until the Court of Appeals had decided whether the Mylod or the corrected returns were the legal one.

Colonel George Bliss, for the Republicans, in reply to Mr. Ridgway's request to withdraw his motion to vacate Judge Ingraham's order, said that he supposed Mr. Ridgway meant to withdraw the order to show cause granted by Justice Ingraham and leave the order of December 19 standing as made by Justice Cullen.

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FLAMES IN AN ASYLUM.

FIVE HUNDRED TERRIFIED LUNATICS.

DESTRUCTION OF THE WOMEN'S WING OF THE MICHIGAN INSANE ASYLUM AT PONTIAC—UNCONFIRMED RUMORS OF LOSS OF LIFE.

Pontiac, Mich., Dec. 26.—Fire was discovered in the north wing of the Eastern Michigan Insane Asylum at 11 o'clock this morning. The flames spread rapidly, and with the limited facilities at hand, the firemen were powerless.

Supervisor Barr and his assistants on the medical staff gave directions for the removal of the inmates and by their labors all, it is believed, were rescued alive. But the report is heard that several women were seen at the windows after the patients were supposed to be all out.

On the first discovery of the fire the Pontiac department was informed. When the first stream was turned upon the building the north wing was seen to be doomed and every effort was made to stop the flames at the center.

The fire filled them with a terrible ecstasy. A few appreciated the danger and their terror was pitiful. At 1 o'clock the firemen were confident they had the flames under control.

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TO USE BLOCK SIGNALS.

THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL STIRRED TO ACTION.

OFFICERS OF THE ROAD SAY THAT THERE WILL BE NO MORE DELAYS IN ADOPTING THEM, MOST APPROVED DEVICES.

Chauncey M. Depew, president of the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad, declined to have anything to say for publication yesterday about the shocking collision near Hastings.

The officers of the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad deplore the sad accident that took place on Christmas Eve as much as anybody else, said Mr. Webb to a reporter of The Tribune yesterday.

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SOLDIERS SMUGGLING IN CHINAMEN.

PRIVATE AT FORT NIAGARA ENGAGED IN VIOLATING THE LAW.

Lockport, N. Y., Dec. 26 (Special).—A pretty state of affairs has been discovered at Fort Niagara. For some time privates in the 11th United States Infantry, four companies of which are located here, have been engaged in smuggling Chinamen at the mouth of the Niagara River.

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TWELVE NOW ON THE DEATH ROLL.

ANOTHER LIFE LOST THROUGH THE WRECK—THE SEARCH FOR HERRICK, THE BRAKEMAN.

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FREIGHT BLOCKADE CONTINUES.

CHICAGO, DEC. 26.—THE SITUATION REGARDING THE EASTBOUND GRAIN MOVEMENT IS AS SERIOUS AS EVER.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—The situation regarding the eastbound grain movement is as serious as ever. For two or three days, the Lake Shore and Nickel Plate roads were comparatively free, and some invasions of the blocked yards here were made.