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THE NEWS OF EUROPE.

ANARCHIST ACTIVITIES ON THE CONTINENT.

PRUSSIAN CABINET DISSENSIONS—THE PRESS PROSECUTIONS—BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS—SENTIMENT OVER TWO MURDERERS—MUNICIPAL POLITICS—LORD HAMPDEN—MR. FREEMAN.

[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

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London, March 19.—It would seem to be in favor of the anniversary of the Commune that the Anarchists of the Continent have resumed their experiments with dynamite. Both the explosions in Paris, one in the Boulevard St. Germain and one in the Lobau barracks, are believed by the police to be due to the zeal of these Radical Socialists, or Socialistic Radicals. No one was killed, and there is no known clue to the authors of the outrages. The French police, acting after their manner, have arrested a number of persons on suspicion, searched the houses of known Anarchists all over Paris, and discovered some documents but no dynamite. The documents are said to indicate the existence of an Anarchist league, which is highly probable. At no time since 1871 has Paris or any chief European city been free from such a league.

A bill making such explosions punishable by death has been introduced in the French Chamber, and elaborate police precautions are taken; and the Extreme Left, to the number of thirty, think this a good time for reorganizing themselves and declaring war on the Government. Their pretext is fear of Clerical encroachment. Other outrages are reported from Liege, from Brussels and from other less important places, and a Socialist Democrat has been elected to the Reichstag from Auerbach-Reichenbach by rather more than 3,000 majority.

If this morning's telegrams may be trusted, a Cabinet crisis has broken out in Berlin. The Emperor, who so recently announced that opposition only made him more resolved to carry his Prussian Educational bill, has changed his mind. He declared quite suddenly to his Cabinet that he did not wish the bill forced through the Diet by a mere majority of Conservative and Catholic votes. He has discovered that there is such a thing as public opinion, and that even emperors must at times reckon with it. Count Zedlitz, the Minister of Education, thereupon resigned. Count von Caprivi is said to have resigned also, which seems unlikely. True, he said he should stand or fall with this Education bill, and he may have resigned as Prussian Prime Minister while retaining office as Chancellor of the German Empire.

The situation is one that could occur nowhere but in Germany. This Education bill was first an Imperial measure, and second a Cabinet measure. All the Ministers approved it except Herr Miquel, who objected to it on financial grounds and offered his resignation, which was not accepted. If there were a real parliamentary government in Prussia, the fate of the bill could not be affected by a change of the Emperor's mind. If it were, the whole Cabinet would resign. But since the Cabinet has a majority in the Diet, means would be found to prevent any such resignation. These speculations have no relevancy to the actual state of things in Prussia, where, as the world has been so often informed, the will of the King is the supreme law. Anything may happen under arbitrary rule disguised but hardly limited by constitutional forms. The Emperor is acting prudently in deferring to the overwhelming public opinion against his so-called Education bill, which is simply a bill to put elementary education in Prussia under clerical control. His surrender is nevertheless fatal to his oft-repeated claim to infallibility, and exasperates his own party without conciliating the opposition.

Fresh reports of his illness have been afloat all the week, and the Emperor left Berlin yesterday to spend some days at Hubertusstock, in search of health.

An obliging correspondent at Berlin gives currency to the statement that the German Emperor disapproves of the prosecutions of those seven or eight papers which presumed to comment on His Imperial Majesty's Brandenburg speech. He adds that neither the Chancellor nor the Minister of Justice knew of them beforehand. It only remains to explain that the public prosecutors, in whose names these proceedings were begun, were not personally consulted about them. The law would have been set in motion by their managing clerks, but as all the clerks were just then taking their holidays, the true author of the prosecutions was the office boy, and he has run away and cannot be found. It is not alleged, however, that any of the prosecutions have been quashed. What we are told is that they would be withdrawn if some responsible Minister would say he disapproved of them. The responsible Minister has thus far omitted to make this remark.

This week in the House of Commons, like last, has been one of much confusion, but business has made some progress, and some money has been voted. There has been a naval debate, from which two things clearly appear: First, that England has neither ships of war nor guns; and second, that she has the best possible ships and the best possible guns. The truth, as usual, lies midway between these two extremes. It has long been know that the Admiralty has a genius for meddling, of which the great breakdown of boilers is the latest expression. But it spends $70,000,000 a year, and gets something for the money; perhaps about two-thirds of what it ought. The most important debate was that on Mr. Ellis's Welsh Agrarian bill, on which remarks will be found under its proper head of English Socialism.

The heckling of the Home Secretary about the just hanging of two peculiar brutal murderers was continued for several sittings. Mr. Conybeare, who maintains his rightful pre-eminence in unpopularity, described the Home Secretary as a judicial murderer; language which, had it been used in Washington, might have been censured as unparliamentary. Under gentle pressure from the Speaker, Mr. Conybeare withdrew the phrase and subsequently repeated it.

Thursday and Friday were chiefly occupied with obstruction. Mr. Gladstone, as usual on such occasions, was elsewhere engaged, and Sir William Harcourt divided the functions of leadership with Messrs. Sexton and Labouchere. Critics who dislike obstruction have applied the word buffoonery to Mr. Labouchere. There are other words which in a case of systematic obstruction would seem more descriptive. The business of the House is confessedly in arrears, and the Opposition think it their duty to hinder the clearing off of these arrears; a process on which the financial system of this country really depends.

Their present object is to discredit Mr. Balfour. He is loudly proclaimed a failure as leader of the House, and those who proclaim it hold themselves bound to make their words good. Mr. Labouchere lectured him on his incompetence, and desired to know when he meant to dissolve Parliament and appeal to the country. Mr. Balfour, much to the surprise of the House, thought proper to take notice of this attack and this question. He observed that when holding a different office he had been abused into a reputation far above his merits. Now his opponents seemed in a fair way to abuse him into a still better reputation in connection with his present office. He could not object to a process from which he profited greatly. As to dissolution, the Ministry had submitted to the House a programme of legislation for the present session, which they thought useful and beneficial. He saw no reason why that programme should not be carried out. It would be time enough to consider the question of dissolution when it had been.

Then the House discussed such high constitutional matters as the presence of a refreshment bar in the lobby of the House, the merits of the House steward, and the arrangements of the kitchen; and then, by help of closure, voted a comfortable sum of money for Irish education.

Last evening brought Scotland to the front in the person of Mr. Marjoribanks, who announced that the Scotch were going to take a leaf out of the Irish book and obstruct till Scotch matters were properly attended to. Mr. Marjoribanks is the second Gladstonian whip, responsible in part for the conduct of business by the Opposition; and this is the line he takes, Sir William Harcourt being present and not objecting. So far was he from objecting that he led a fresh attack on the Ministry with reference to order and the conduct of business. Altogether, there is a good prospect of more sport next week.

The effort to save Rayner and Eggleton from hanging is a good enough sample of the confusion of mind into which the sentimental reformer is apt to fall. The confusion sometimes seems wilful. These men were poachers. The modern Radical is opposed to the game laws. The men whom the poachers murdered were gamekeepers endeavoring to enforce these obnoxious game laws. The poachers were first attacked. They were only practising the sacred right of self-defence. And so on. These arguments, if arguments they can be called, impose on those who wish to be imposed on. It is useless to point out to them that if a man chooses to combine murder with poaching, he cannot be absolved from the former offence because he has been guilty of the latter. Down with the game-laws, is a cry which seems to involve the other cry, down with those who enforce them.

The Gladstonian organ sums up the matter in its own inimitable way. "Here are two men killed in a fight, two men hanged, four women widowed, four families orphaned, and one man condemned to shameful slavery for twenty years, lest the pleasures of the rich should be diminished and the prospects of sport be impaired." Such is the Radical view. It is not the least affected by the fact that the two gamekeepers, after being overpowered, were deliberately beaten to death by the poachers; not at all in hot blood, for their victims could no longer resist, but in order to destroy evidence against themselves. One of the gamekeepers ran away and was pursued and killed. But that does not matter, either, if a point can be scored against an unpopular law. We shall presently hear of Rayner and Eggleton as martyrs in a good cause.

Municipal politics continue to be interesting. The new London County Council has held its first meeting, elected Lord Rosebery chairman, elected a vice-chairman and deputy chairman, elected ten new Aldermen, and unexpectedly heard itself described by one of the minority as a happy family. Lord Rosebery takes office, he explains, solely to preside over the reorganization of the Council. That accomplished, he departs, or means to depart.

Reorganization is a pressing matter. Heretofore the Council has conducted its business by committees. Now, in pursuance of those parliamentary analogies so dear to these parochial authorities, there is talk of a Prime Minister and Cabinet, each other Minister conducting a separate department, each responsible, and all jointly responsible, to the Council itself. This is Lord Rosebery's scheme. He, like most able men, has a fancy for seeing things done. He knows a committee is not a good executive, and wants individual wills and energies set at work. He asks much, however, when he asks his new Cabinet to work without pay. The modern tendency is all in the other direction. The masses in this country have begun to perceive that public duties without salary can only be discharged by the rich. The poor, on their way, as they think, to become rich, are clamorous for a share in these public duties, and for the pay which shall make their participation in public life, whether parliamentary or municipal, possible. They are opposed to high salaries, but in favor of salaries. High salaries are a temptation, even to the rich. Salaries on which poor men can live comfortably are their ideal. Mr. John Burns, that profound student of social problems, has announced that no man is worth more than $2,500 a year. The Council which he adorns agrees with him in principle, but does not quite draw the line at his figure. They pay twice, even thrice, that sum in certain cases. But their rule is to limit salaries to a point which excludes really able men.

But everything at present is experimental. Lord Rosebery will have his way up to a certain point. His colleagues are well aware that the confidence of most intelligent citizens of this city is given to him, not to them. He has been asking them and himself how their victory is to be used. He has large views, perhaps too large. He wants to unify London. So do most people who do not profit by the perpetuation of existing abuses. He wants to better the condition of the population, and he looks forward complacently to dealing with huge and unprecedented problems, the nature of which he omits to specify. Possibly he may find "the politics of the poor," which he invented, or adopted, interesting enough to retain him in his present post till he is once more summoned to Downing Street, and has to give up domestic for foreign affairs, and the parish for the Empire.

Lord Hampden, who died on Monday, will long be remembered as Speaker of the House of Commons during one of the most critical periods in its history. It was in his time that organized obstruction took its rise. Its inventor and chief practitioner was Mr. Parnell. His following was then small, but sufficient for his purpose, and his method was simplicity itself. Motions for adjournment were debatable, and Mr. Parnell, with his little band of Irishmen, had only to move adjournments and speak on these motions till they wore out themselves or the House. His minority often consisted of five or seven members. It was enough. Time after time he kept the House sitting all night and well into the next day. This went on for four years.

Then in 1881 came the great struggle on Forster's bill for the protection of persons and property in Ireland, and the Arms bill. They were what are commonly called coercion bills, far more stringent and arbitrary than those by the help of which the present Government has restored order and prosperity to Ireland. Mr. Gladstone was Prime Minister. He was then as eager for coercion as he is now for Home Rule. The House sat continuously from Monday till Wednesday; the Irish, now somewhat increased in numbers, continuously and successfully obstructing. On Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, the Speaker—he was then Mr. Brand—announced to the House that he thought he should best carry out the will of the House by declining to call on any more members to speak, and putting the question at once. Mr. Parnell was absent. The Irish, without resource, quitted the House. The motion was put and carried, and once more the House proved itself stronger than the minority bent on making the will of the minority prevail over the will of the majority. It was called a coup d'etat. It was in fact the creation of a precedent, the assertion of the just authority of the whole House over a small group of members resolved to defy the whole House, and using the rules of the House to that end.

Down to that time Mr. Brand had shown immense patience. When patience ceased to be the right virtue, he showed high courage, high good sense, and clear perception of circumstances. To few men has it been given to do greater service to his country. Few have seized the offered occasion more firmly or more wisely. Lord Hampden's career was a long one. His other services were in fact many. But this is the great act by which he will be held in memory and in honor while Parliament itself is remembered.

The English-speaking world loses in Mr. Freeman a student who had two or three of the qualities which make a great historian. Yet he was not a great historian. He was at most a great historical scholar. His learning was vast. His views of the historical method were those now generally accepted, and he himself had done much to insure their acceptance. He had patience and he had accuracy. What he lacked was the sense of perspective and the sense of proportion, both of which are necessary to the historian. He allowed himself to be flooded by particulars, and his books are books of detail. This is true of the History of the Norman Conquest, which he meant to be his great work; true of the History of Sicily, of which he had lately published two volumes wholly occupied with preliminary inquiries into the pre-Roman period; true of each one of the long list of volumes on various historical subjects, and of the endless list of his historical and archaeological writings in periodicals. He never grasped his subject as a whole. His books are so many heaps of the raw material of history. Not one of them is history in the best sense.

Nor did his historical method, sound as it was in some respects, include a philosophical handling of historical problems. Perhaps nobody who has written so much has been so little read. It is the student of history, not the general reader, who has chiefly profited by Mr. Freeman's works, and who will profit by them hereafter. He was not a great writer, hardly a good writer. His style had clearness without charm. Indeed, it was hardly a style at all, and his defects of temper were only too visible in his critical writings. He will be remembered as a conscientious investigator, whose facts come from original sources. His devotion to what he thought historical truth would have been beyond praise had it not been alloyed with love of paradox, which led him to take views of many historical questions which can only be called fantastic. G. W. S.

A PARIS BANK SUSPENDS.

ONE DIRECTOR KILLS HIMSELF, TWO ESCAPE AND ONE IS ARRESTED.

Paris, March 19.—The Banque Generale Chemin de Fer et Industrie suspended to-day. One of the directors has committed sucide, two have absconded and one has been arrested. The bank speculated in French, Spanish and Russian securities. The liabilities amount to 24,000,000 francs, and the assets to 5,000,000. The failure had no effect on the bourse. The authorities were about to institute legal proceedings against the directors on the charge of fraudulent bankruptcy and of obtaining money under false pretences.

The bank did a considerable business, its operations being spread over a large part of the country. It had branches in sixteen provincial towns, and had two branches, besides the central office, in this city. Its clientage was extensive, and the suspension has caused much excitement.

MANY CHICAGO ALDERMEN SUBPOENAED.

THE GRAND JURY VIGOROUSLY INVESTIGATING THE "BOODLE" CHARGES—A NEWSPAPER'S GRAVE ACCUSATIONS.

Chicago, March 19.—The investigation into the Chicago Aldermen's boodle methods was begun by the Grand Jury in earnest to-day. State's Attorney Longenecker and Foreman Lich held a conference, which resulted in a determination to drop everything else and push the investigation as rapidly as possible. Subpoenas were issued, and the bailiffs were sent scurrying around for the following witnesses and suspects: Alderman Conway, ex-Alderman Heidrich, Aldermen Sigler, Dorman, J. Chasey, Virling, Mills and Schwarin; City Clerk Van Cleve, C. B. Bryant and G. O. Knapp, of the Gas Trust; G. A. Yuille, of the Gaslight and Coke Company; H. J. Jones, of the People's Gaslight and Coke Company, and J. S. Zimmerman, secretary of the latter corporation. Soon nearly all these men had ascended the stairs leading to the Grand Jury room.

As the investigation proceeds its scope broadens. Another ordinance has been added to the list of those to be inquired into. It is the Jefferson and Urban electric franchise, which, it is said, was "sandbagged" for $75,000 in the interest of the Yerkes cable system. Alderman Kunz, the supposed intermediary, testified yesterday, was again among the witnesses examined to-day. The ward statesmen held high carnival while waiting for their turn, and cracked many a forced joke. Alderman Kunz was on the rack for an hour, and looked crestfallen when he emerged from the jury room. Considerable heated talk was caused in the jury room by the failure of the gas company officials to bring their books, notwithstanding distinct instructions in the subpoenas.

Before adjournment for the day the jury decided to take up among other things the Aldermanic sale of places to would-be employes of the city government. It is said that some of the Aldermen went so far as to have printed blanks prepared, by which applicants bound themselves each to pay the Alderman from the salary of the coveted place, when secured, sums ranging from $8 to $10.

"The Tribune" this morning says: "Fifty $1,000 bills were drawn from the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank by a manufacturing concern a few days after the passage of the compressed air ordinance. A man interested in a street railway franchise says—and 'The Tribune' is authorized to give his name to the Grand Jury—that he went to see a certain Alderman—whose name 'The Tribune' has to make a legitimate offer of a large sum to the city for a franchise. The Alderman said he had 'talked it over with the boys,' and that it would cost the company $75,000; but that the money must go 'to the Aldermen, and not to the city.'

"In the presence of witnesses—whose names 'The Tribune' has—an Alderman demanded $5,000 as the price of getting an ordinance out of a committee's pigeon-hole. There is said to be from $150,000 to $250,000 in certain hands to be paid certain Aldermen, provided the Mayor signs the Yerkes Omnibus ordinance. The sum of $1,750, offered as a bribe and accepted on the advice of counsel, has been turned over to a newspaper by Alderman Roth to be used as evidence. 'It costs a good deal of money some times to buy the City Council,' said an attorney who is closely connected with the State Attorney. 'The Northern Pacific had all the worst of it in the last three big deals the Aldermen have made. The figures for these three sales of city franchises are just these: Northern Pacific, $250,000; Economic Gas, $150,000; Compressed Air, $130,000. These are the amounts the members of the Council received in those three deals.'

"A lawyer of this city, when in his cups, confided to an acquaintance that he had paid eleven $1,000 bills to as many Aldermen in connection with the Northern Pacific ordinance. An Alderman said in committee meeting that an offer of $50,000 'to the city' for a franchise was 'perpetrating blackmail upon the Aldermen.' 'Behind every contractor who receives a city contract for sewers, street cleaning, scavenger work and many other things is an Alderman or Aldermen,' said an ex-city official yesterday.

"When the Gas Trust and the Economic were at war an honest Alderman was told by a man interested in the outcome of the fight that, no matter how much money the trust put up to prevent the granting of the Economic franchise, the Economic would 'go it one better.' It will be noticed that the Economic got there."

A rumor to the effect that last night a plan to bribe the Grand Jurors was perfected by certain Aldermen was circulated about the Court building to-day. It was stated that the "Clearing-House Aldermen" had held a session last night, and had decided that it was absolutely necessary that some of the Grand Jurors who possessed property be seen, and a plan to purchase it be made. Among the numerous stories which have cropped out is one about the ring Aldermen having keys to compartments in a safe-deposit institution. These depositories they visited at certain times and secured envelopes containing instalments on their purchase money. This was notably the case after the passage of the Northern Pacific ordinance, when Alderman secured from a box in the safe-deposit vaults envelopes marked with their names and containing bills of large denominations.

St. Paul, March 19.—President Oakes, of the Northern Pacific, arrived in this city last night, and in an interview denied that his road was in any way connected with the Chicago "boodling" scandal. He spoke of the alleged bribery of the Chicago Council by the Northern Pacific as "gross exaggeration; and not only that, but an absurdity. There is not a word of truth in the entire story." He did not consider it necessary to make any defence, since, he said, "the charge is so gigantically foolish."

DECLINE POLICE COMMISSIONERSHIPS.

Troy, N. Y., March 19.—Herman L. Waterbury and J. Augustus Smith, yesterday appointed Police Commissioners at Saratoga, declined to accept.

ATTACKED BY AN ELEPHANT

NARROW ESCAPE IN CENTRAL PARK.

VICIOUS "TOM" KNOCKS A KEEPER DOWN AND TRIES TO GORE HIM—A BRAVE RESCUE.

Frank Fisher, aged twenty-seven, of No. 200 East Twenty-eighth-st., had a narrow escape from death early yesterday morning at the Central Park Menagerie.

Fisher, who had been with Barnum & Bailey's show for some years, was employed by W. W. Coles, who is the real owner of the elephants Tom and Lizzie, who have had a temporary home in the Central Park Menagerie for some time, to take charge of "Tom," who is to go East on April 1. With a view to making "Tom" acquainted with his new and future keeper, Fisher was detailed to look after the animal for the few remaining days that the elephant would spend in the "Zoo." Fisher came on duty Friday morning and all went smoothly on that day.

Yesterday's experience was quite another tale. Fisher, in company with William Snyder, the regular attendant of the elephants, entered the elephant house shortly after 7 o'clock, and after cleaning out "Tip's" pen, proceeded to clear out the one shared by "Alice" and "Tom." "Tom," who has already been described in these columns as nearly as wicked a brute as "Tip," has his off hind leg chained to a staple near the back entrance to the enclosure. He showed no signs of mischief when the two men entered the enclosure and both were soon busy raking out the trampled hay. Snyder had his back turned to his companion, when he heard a sudden cry from Fisher, "Help, Billy, help!" and at the same moment there was a heavy thud, as Fisher's body was dashed against the northern partition of the pen. "Tom" had evidently been looking out for a good opportunity, and with one thwack of his powerful trunk sent the man in a heap into the northwest corner of the pen.

Snyder had been in such predicaments before, but was horrified to see "Tom" get down on his knees and, opening his mouth, try to jab at the prostrate man with the stumps of his tusks.

The scene is best described in Snyder's own words. "I was raking out the cage and was at the far end of it, nearest the alleyway, when I heard Frank call out and saw him all curled up in the corner, with old 'Tom,' looking as wicked as an elephant can, stooping over him. I called to 'Tom' to come away, but he would not obey me, and dropped on his knees and tried to jab Frank with what is left of his tusks. Luckily the brute's head is so big that when his forehead came against the partition he was not able to get his mouth near enough to the man actually to hurt him. The brute had got his trunk up in the air and was doing his utmost to get at Frank. At first I thought of dragging the man toward the alleyway, but was afraid if I did so that the brute would turn on me also, and we should both be dead men. I had with me, luckily, my elephant hook (really a mahout stick), and I plunged it into 'Tom's' hide in the stomach just behind the right foreleg. This made the brute get up, and he obeyed my command to move over. In the meantime I was yelling for help, but none came. I also told Frank to crawl out of the back door, which was luckily open. He did so, and I saw him tumble over into the show outside and knew that he was safe. 'Tom' knows me too well to try any monkey tricks with me, but I will own that I was fairly scared when I saw Frank down and that wicked old brute over him. Frank is the third man whose life I think I have saved from the elephants in this menagerie. Tom Lee was nearly done for by 'Old Dutchy' in 1887, when I came to his rescue, and only in July, 1891, I saved Tom McGuiness, who would have certainly been killed by this same rascal 'Tom,' had I not been around."

A Tribune reporter went into the enclosure and saw where "Tom's" hard forehead had rubbed away the paint from the boards, leaving them plain white deal, in his vicious attempts to get at his victim, and outside in the snow was the imprint of the man who had only had strength enough to roll out of the pen. An ambulance was sent for, and Fisher was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital, where it was learned that he was suffering from severe contusions of the thigh, but would probably be discharged in a few days.

Superintendent Conklin was high in his praise of Snyder, and said that had it not been for the man's pluck and presence of mind Fisher would undoubtedly have been killed.

A CATTLEMAN SEES A METEOR FALL.

Denison, Tex., March 19.—Frank Newell, a cattleman of Eagle County, Choctaw Nation, who was in the city yesterday, reports that a large meteor fell on the prairie last Saturday. It was imbedded at least twenty feet in the earth and protrudes twelve feet in the air. The meteor when seen by Newell appeared in the air like a monster ball of fire. When the earth was struck it fairly trembled, and there was a spluttering and sizzing like unto a piece of hot iron dipped into water. The meteoric stone was as hot as a furnace several hours after it descended to the earth. Newell estimates the weight at several tons. The meteor fell about 8 o'clock on the prairie near a small water course called Frick's Creek. Newell was on horseback, about 500 yards distant. Newell's horse trembled with terror, causing him to dismount. It was not until the following morning that Newell and his neighbors could approach near the meteor, and then only to within a distance of about fifty yards.

AN ITALIAN FOREMAN PROBABLY LYNCHED.

Pittsburg, Penn., March 19.—"The Dispatch" publishes a story of a probable lynching in West Virginia. James Abilo, an Italian employment agent, who recently sent a party of twenty-five Italians down to Dingess, Logan County, W. Va., to work for the railroad contractors, on the Norfolk & Western Railroad. The men objected to the company store prices and made a vigorous kick. On the night of March 10 a party of masked mountaineers, armed with rifles, went to the Dingess House and called out the proprietor. They demanded that Ambrose, the foreman, be put out of the house, with the others, and that he immediately leave town. Mr. Dinges refused. A dozen Winchesters were levelled at his head, and the marauders marched in and dragged the Italian from his bed. He was bound and dragged screaming from the house, and was carried off to the mountains and probably to death. The other Italians were so terrified that they immediately fled, and came back to Pittsburg.

POLICE QUELL A FIGHT IN A CHURCH.

Chicago, March 19.—The factional difference that has for time existed in the German Evangelical congregation culminated last night in a general row. A disturbance between the Esher and Dubs factions, one of which gained control of the church building and locked the other out, became so boisterous that the police were forced to take a hand. As a result some twenty of the two factions, all more or less cut and bruised by sticks, stones and coal, are locked up at the police station, and the church building looks as though a cyclone had struck it.

ANOTHER POLICE RAID ON BUCKET-SHOPS.

Chicago, March 19.—The police continued the attack on the bucket-shops yesterday afternoon by taking possession of the Stock Exchange run by Shakel & Maher. Attached to the ticker were found seventy different wires, which the proprietors assert were connected with different mining and stock exchanges throughout the country.

LAND TO BE CEDED BY MEXICO.

Albuquerque, N. M., March 19.—An officer of the United States Army who returned here yesterday from a visit to the Joint Commissioners who are determining the boundary line between the United States and Mexico says that Uncle Sam has everything to gain and nothing to lose. Southern California, Arizona and New-Mexico will remain intact, and it is possible that many thousand acres of valuable land will have to be ceded by Mexico.

EVIDENCE FAVORABLE TO GOULD.

Utica, N. Y., March 19.—Bookkeeper Whitney was on the stand again to-day in the trial of Gould in the United States Court for aiding in the robbing of the Albany City National Bank. His cross-examination was searching, but nothing startling was brought out, although some important details were brought to light favorable to the defendant.

VAIN EXCUSES FOR HILL.

ATTEMPTS TO AROUSE SYMPATHY FOR HIS CONDUCT.

HIS UNSCRUPULOUS INTERFERENCE WITH THE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE UNPRECEDENTED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, March 19.—Some of Senator Hill's injudicious friends in the House of Representatives, despite his reprehensible conduct in the Noyes-Rockwell election contest and the judgment of the majority of the Democratic Committee on Elections in favor of Colonel Noyes, signify their intention to stand by Rockwell when the case is brought before the House. Several of these men to-day said to a Tribune correspondent that they proposed "to imitate the example of the Republicans in the last Congress, when every Republican contestant was seated and every Democratic contestee ousted." This remark shows how a lie will stick, despite the efforts of truth to dislodge it. These men were surprised to hear that the Elections Committee in the last Congress reported in favor of five Democrats whose seats were contested by Republicans, and that of eighteen Democrats whose seats were contested only nine were ousted, while only seven Republicans were seated. In no case did the Elections Committee of the 51st Congress recommend the ousting of a Democrat, and in no case did the House seat a Republican, or an Independent, except where the proof to justify the action was conclusive as well as overwhelming.

The only Republican member of the present Elections Committee who was also a member of the last one is Mr. Haugen, of Wisconsin. In the first election contest tried in this Congress, that of Craig against Stewart, Mr. Haugen and another Republican member of the committee—Mr. Doan, of Ohio—agreed with the Democratic members that Craig, the Democratic contestant, was entitled to the seat, and he was seated. In that case, as in the case in the last Congress, Mr. Haugen acted according to his convictions of duty and the evidence.

So much for false assertions of the Hill Democrats as to the action of the last House and its Elections Committee. It is thoroughly characteristic of them, as it is of their "Boss," David B. Hill, that they should seek refuge in such an excuse for their determination to vote for Rockwell in the pending case. By so doing they admit that they propose to vote for Rockwell, not because he was honestly elected, but simply and solely because he is a Democrat and a chum of David B. Hill.

Some of Hill's friends were extremely busy to-day trying to break the force of the exposure of his conduct, by asserting that the account of it in these dispatches was exaggerated and untrue. If they knew the facts, they knew better; if they did not, they can ascertain the facts from Senator Hill himself, if he will tell them the truth. He will not deny that he strove to influence the action of the Democratic members of the Elections Committee in behalf of Rockwell; he will not deny that he invited them to meet him at his hotel for that purpose; he will not deny that the account given in The Tribune to-day of his interview with a Democratic member of the Elections Committee, a few minutes prior to a meeting of that committee, is substantially correct; least of all will he deny that he endeavored to warp the judgment of Democratic members of the committee by appealing to their partisan feelings and preferences.

In relation to the interview of March 1, it is pertinent to remark that Senator Hill made his way to the Capitol at an unusually early hour—some two hours, in fact, before the Senate was to assemble—and made his appearance at a committee-room of the House of Representatives before 10:30 a. m. His business was so urgent that it would brook no delay, and the chairman of the Elections Committee, for whom he sent, was so informed, although he was not at the same time informed who his urgent visitor was or the nature of his business. The would-be boss of the Democratic party apparently thought that he had only to issue his mandate in order to have it obeyed, and he was no doubt surprised and disappointed, as he is known to have been angry when he discovered that a Southern Democratic Congressman was not as subservient as a Tammany Assemblyman.

An attempt was made to-day to arouse some sympathy for Hill by the assertion that he "had appeared before the Elections Committee only out of sympathy for a fellow-townsman, who is a member of the same party." David B. Hill never appeared before the Elections Committee in any capacity, either as a sympathizing friend or otherwise. His approaches and appeals were all of a covert nature and were made solely to Democrats, upon whose honesty and conscientiousness he appears naturally to have placed an extremely low estimate. In the last Congress, when the case of Mr. Breckinridge, of Arkansas, was argued, both of the Senators from his State—Messrs. Jones and Berry—testified their sympathy for him in open, manly fashion by their presence in the committee-room. Of course, David B. Hill did nothing of the sort in his friend's case.

There was some discussion among Republican Representatives to-day as to the propriety of offering a resolution to investigate Senator Hill's conduct in regard to the Noyes-Rockwell case, but no conclusion was reached. So far as has been ascertained, this is the first time that a Senator of the United States has been guilty of such conduct; and while there is no difference of opinion as to its impropriety among Republicans, as well as among many of the Democratic Representatives, no action will be taken without careful deliberation. Whether an investigation be asked for or not, there is no doubt that the performances of Senator Hill will be thoroughly ventilated when the election case is brought before the House for consideration and action. It is understood that the report in the case will be prepared by Chairman O'Ferrall, and that the views of the minority will be formulated by Mr. Gillespie, the minority representative from Pennsylvania.

SENATOR HILL STARTS FOR WASHINGTON.

Augusta, Ga., March 19.—A committee of leading Augusta Democrats headed by the Hon. Patrick Walsh, took Senator Hill and his party in charge this morning and gave them an interesting drive throughout the city and suburbs. At 1 o'clock this afternoon the party started on the regular Richmond and Danville train for Washington. No stops or speeches are contemplated on the route and Senator Hill and his friends will reach Washington at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Rock Hill, S. C., March 19.—Senator Hill reached Columbia at 4 o'clock. Mr. Hill made a brief speech, saying, in part:

"Fellow-citizens of Columbia: I am rejoiced to know that I am in the capital of the great state of South Carolina. It is a state which has contributed much to the renown and greatness of our common country. A state which was the home of your great statesman Calhoun. (Applause.) You are blessed with a most magnificent climate. You have a most excellent soil. I know of no reason why south Carolina cannot be made a most pleasant winter home for Northern tourists. In my judgment this state has a great future before it, if you are true to yourself and true to the best interests of your State. I am pleased to know that in the approaching campaign you propose to stand by the party of the Constitution. This is not a time for third parties."

THE WIDOW DISSATISFIED WITH $100,000.

Philadelphia, March 19.—A dispatch to "The Press" from Wilkesbarre says: "Mrs. A. Marie Hoyt, accompanied by Mrs. G. Alexander and her attorney, L. H. Quimby, all of Denver, are here in an effort to get for Mrs. Hoyt $150,000 from her husband's estate. Mrs. Hoyt is the widow of the late George Hoyt, of Kingston, who died in Hanover two years ago. She was a member of an opera troupe when he married her. Soon after his death she came here, when his relatives gave her $100,000, and she signed a paper releasing the estate from further liability. Mrs. Hoyt now asserts that she was sick at the time, and did not pay proper attention to the matter. Instead of the $100,000, she claims $250,000, as her husband's property was valued at nearly $1,000,000. Attorney Quimby will file a bill in equity in a few days, praying that Mrs. Hoyt receive her rightful share."

SHE WALKED INTO THE ELEVATOR WELL.

Rochester, N. Y., March 19.—Miss Lillian Spuble, a young stenographer employed on the sixth floor of the Cox Building, had a strange experience yesterday. She started out of the office, and as she approached the elevator well noticed that the door was open. Thinking the elevator was in waiting, she stepped into the shaft. She reached out to catch hold of something to save herself, and happened to catch hold of the bell. Her weight tore the bell from its fastenings, but the wire still held her, and she bravely pulled herself up to the floor and escaped death.

FOR VIOLATING THE ANTI-LOTTERY LAW.

St. Paul, Minn., March 19.—A "Pioneer Press" Grand Forks, N. D., dispatch says: "George Reichter, postmaster at Emerald, Iowa, a village about fifteen miles west of this city, was arrested yesterday on complaint of the Rev. H. Baker for violation of the anti-lottery law in disposing of a music box by a raffle. He gave bond to appear before the District Court. Great excitement exists at Emerald over the matter."

CAPRIVI STILL PREMIER

THE RETIREMENT OF COUNT VON ZEDLITZ UNDECIDED.

EMPEROR WILLIAM RETIRES TO THE WOODS TO THINK OVER THE SUBJECT—THE LIBERAL VICTORY DOUBTFUL.

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Berlin, March 19.—A calmer view of the Ministerial situation prevails everywhere to-night. It is positively known that Chancellor von Caprivi has not resigned, and that the retirement of Count von Zedlitz, the Prussian Minister of Ecclestical Affairs, Instruction and Medicinal Affairs, is still undecided. It depends on the result of Emperor William's deliberations in the solitude of Hubertustock. Now that the nature of the crisis is better understood it is seen that at no time had it been of the suddenly momentous character that rumor gave to it. Chancellor von Caprivi and Count von Zedlitz have been offering liberal opposition to the tentative amendments to the Educational bill. Herr Miquel, the Prussian Minister of Finance, was empowered by Herr von Bennigsen, the National Liberal leader, to inform the Emperor that his party entertained no hope that the negotiations would result successfully unless the bill should be so altered as to deprive the Catholic and Lutheran clergy of the special rights given them to control religious teaching in the elementary schools. The Emperor, therefore, had to face the loss of his ablest Minister—Herr Miquel—and the intended popular agitation against the bill, or to get Count von Zedlitz to offer an acceptable compromise. On Thursday last, he instructed Count von Zedlitz to prepare a compromise measure on the basis of the demands of the National Liberals.

On consulting with the Chancellor, who urged that an attempt be made to meet the Emperor's wishes, Count von Zedlitz found that an attempt to satisfy the National Liberals would involve such radical changes as to make the measure impossible of acceptance by the Conservative and Centrist majority, and that his only way out of the difficulty was to resign. He will adhere to his resolution to retire from the Ministry if the Emperor persists in his surrender to the National Liberals.

In order to think over the difficulty in complete seclusion, His Majesty left Berlin for his shooting seat, an hour's journey by rail from Berlin. The date of his return is uncertain. Persons who are acquainted with the Emperor's moods will not be surprised to see him in Berlin any day brimful of some solution of the existing difficulty reached by him through his reflections amid the forest solitudes. Meanwhile the members of the National Liberal and Freisinnige parties are crowing over their temporary success. The "Post," however, admits that the victory is doubtful. "It is necessary for the opposition to rest upon its arms," says the "Post." "If anything has been won, it is due alone to the energy and persistence of the protests made against the bill, and we must continue the same tactics in order to obtain a solution of the difficulty consonant with the interests of the country."

The "Tageblatt" advises the National Liberals to remain deaf to all solicitations; to surrender nothing, but rather to draw strength from the promising situation.

The "Vossiche Zeitung" hails the resignation of Count von Zedlitz as a triumph of the public conscience, and says that the education proposals must be dropped.

The "Kreuz Zeitung" still hopes that the Emperor will not abandon the religious clauses of the bill, thus ruining the hopes of the Conservatives and Catholics.

The crisis has not caused any trouble upon the bourse, and financial houses have not given credence to the rumors of the Chancellor's resignation, nor have they attached any importance to the retirement of Count von Zedlitz.

London, March 19.—"The Times" to-day, commenting on the rumors from Berlin, especially those professing to recount what happened during the confidential intercourse on Thursday between Emperor William and his Ministers, says that all such reports must be received with due caution. Other German ministerial resignations are predicted or have been prematurely announced, including even that of Chancellor von Caprivi himself; but there is no reason to believe that the Chancellor will resign in consequence of the ill-success of a measure that affects only one German State and that is of distinctly departmental origin.

DESTRUCTION OF A DEPOT AT NEW-HAVEN.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW-YORK AND NEW-HAVEN ROAD BURNED—LOSS, $300,000.

New-Haven, Conn., March 19 (Special).—The depot of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad in this city was almost destroyed by fire to-night. The building was about 400 feet long, built of brick, and cost about $400,000. The fire was discovered in the attic, where was stored over a ton of valuable papers, maps, etc. At 6 o'clock a general alarm was sounded and the entire fire department responded. It was impossible for the firemen to control the flames, owing to the high wind. The stock transfer books and books of account were saved, but everything else of value is gone. The building was erected in 1874. For the last four years it has not been large enough to accommodate the immense business of the road, and it is probable that a much finer and larger building will be built a few rods south of the burned building. The loss is estimated at $300,000, but it may be more. It is fully insured. There was no delay to trains.

THE YALE INFIR