New-York Tribune.

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UNITED STATES NEUTRAL.

WILL TAKE NO PART IN THE PARTITION OF CHINA.

POLICY OF THIS GOVERNMENT MADE CLEAR WHEN SOUNDED BY ITALY IN REGARD TO SAN-MOON BAY.

Washington, March 9.—The Italian Government, through its representatives in Washington, lately laid before the authorities here its purpose to ask of China a port on San-Moon Bay, and invited an expression from this Government as to its attitude. In response it is understood that Secretary Hay, as well as the President, made it clear that the United States would pursue the same course as toward the Russian, British and German occupation of Chinese ports, namely, disinterested neutrality.

The exchanges have been verbal and rather informal, more in the nature of diplomatic soundings than direct propositions. They have given occasion for erroneous publications to the effect that Italy had asked the United States to support her demands on China, and that this Government, in a pointed note from Secretary Hay, had refused. It is said in an eminent and authoritative quarter that Italy made no such request for American support, and that there was no declination from this Government. The circumstances of the negotiations, as explained in this authoritative quarter, are as follows:

When Italy determined to seek a port on the Chinese coast she addressed the Powers having large interests in China, informing them of her purpose. Owing to the goodwill between Italy and this country, as well as to American interests in China, a notification was presented to the State Department here. While Italy is said to have had no desire through this notification to enlist the support of the United States, she was desirous of pursuing the usual diplomatic course when a move of this character is contemplated—that is, to learn whether the United States would be, first, favorable; second, disinterested; third, oposed. In short, before proceeding, Italy desired to know what attitude the United States would take as to the Italian demand on China.

The reply of Secretary Hay, which is said to have been verbal, was in response to this notification from the Italian authorities. In this reply the President is said to have given his personal concurrence. In substance, it was an announcement that the United States would in no way change the attitude it had maintained when Great Britain, Germany and Russia made advances toward China, but would continue to observe a position of disinterestedness. Instead of being a denial of any request, the reply was accepted by the Italian Government as entirely satisfactory, and as placing it in the same position as other European Powers which had sought ports in China.

This, it is said, brings the negotiations at Washington to a close in a manner entirely satisfactory to the Italian authorities. The reported action of Italy in making its demand on China and following it up with threats of a demonstration has not been officially communicated here.

CHINESE TROUBLE SETTLED.

RUSSIA AND GREAT BRITAIN REPORTED TO HAVE REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING.

London, March 10.—"The Daily Graphic" makes the following announcement this morning:

"The Niu-Chwang loan contract crisis has been amicably settled by a direct exchange of views between the British and Russian Governments. The Russian assurances are completely satisfactory. The whole difficulty is ended, and the two Governments are arranging a scheme by which their relations in the Far East may be permanently regulated."

BRITISH SUPPORT OF CHINA.

A STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

London, March 9.—In the House of Commons to-day, replying to a question on the subject, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, the Right Hon. William St. John Brodrick, said Her Majesty's Government had not modified its undertaking to support China against a Power committing aggression in China because the latter had granted British subjects permission to make or support a railroad or public work. But, he added, the Government did not anticipate that a question of this description would arise with respect to the British contract for the Northern railroads.

The foregoing question and answer arose from the Russian protest against the British railroad contract, and the statement of the British Minister at Peking, Sir Claude M. MacDonald, that any attempt to repudiate the contract will be regarded as a breach of faith meriting retributive measures. He at the same time recalled Lord Salisbury's assurances of support for China if another Power attempted to force her to repudiate the contract.

JAPAN SUPPORTING CHINA.

London, March 10.—The Shanghai correspondent of "The Daily Mail" says that Japan is supporting China in her resistance to the Italian demands for a concession at San-Moon.

ITALY HAS NOT SEIZED SAN-MOON.

Peking, March 9.—The report that the Italians have seized San-Moon, on San-Moon Bay, Province of Che-Kiang, which the Italian Minister, Signor Martino, had demanded as a naval base and coaling station, is officially declared unfounded.

London, March 10.—The Peking correspondent of "The Times says: "The Tsung-li-Yamen (Chinese Foreign Office) has given notice to Signor Martino, the Italian Minister, that his dispatch asking for a concession at San-Moon was returned to him because it was impossible to comply with the request, and because a refusal might have endangered the relations between Italy and China; but, it was added, as the action had been misunderstood, the Chinese Minister in Rome had been instructed to express the Tsung-li-Yamen's regrets."

CHINESE COMMERCIAL MISSION.

London, March 10.—The Vienna correspondent of "The Times" says: "China is about to send a commercial mission to the European and American trade centres, with a view to the promotion of Chinese commerce. If the mission proves successful, the Government proposes to found Chinese trading firms in the great commercial towns of the world."

SOLDIERS FIRE ON CONVICTS.

Madrid, March 9.—In a conflict to-day between the Spanish soldiery and a number of mutinous convicts at Santona, sixteen miles east of Santander, the site of an important arsenal and of several military magazines, one convict was killed and seven were wounded.

SCHOONER ABANDONED AT SEA.

London, March 9.—The British three-masted schooner Delight, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., Captain McDonald, from St. John's, N. F., January 22, for Pernambuco, has been abandoned at sea. The captain and six of the crew have been landed at Lisbon by the Portuguese bark Neptune.

SQUADRON TO LEAVE HAVANA.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON WILL SAIL TO-DAY—NOTES FROM CUBA'S CAPITAL.

Havana, March 9.—The North Atlantic Squadron, under Rear-Admiral Sampson, will sail at 1 o'clock to-morrow, proceeding by way of Cienfuegos, Guantanamo and Kingston, Jamaica, to Porto Rico. Major-General Lee, commander of the Seventh Army Corps, will go on the battleship Texas to Cienfuegos, returning from that point by rail. As Major-General J. Warren Keifer, commander of the First Division of the corps, has received a dispatch announcing the dangerous illness of his wife, he will probably sail for the United States to-morrow, thus leaving General Arnold, commander of the Second Division, in temporary command of the Seventh Corps.

Governor-General Brooke has received a suggestion from Secretary Alger to give notice to the Cuban Military Assembly that the United States Government will not recognize any financial obligation entered into by any persons claiming to represent the people of Cuba without the authorization of President McKinley. He will comply with the suggestion, and will publish a statement to the same effect in the newspapers of Havana.

In connection with the question of taxes General Brooke is considering the abolition of the stamped paper required by the old Spanish law to be used for all documents in civil suits. All parties to such litigation are compelled to use paper varying in price according to the amount involved. Major-General Wilson, Military Governor of the Department of Matanzas, has reported a case which came before the Audiencia Territorial, at Matanzas, where the amount involved was $100,000, and the stamped paper exceeded three hundred sheets at $3 a sheet. The stamped paper for use in deeds and wills costs as much as $37 a sheet, and there is a fine for neglecting to use it in the preparation of such documents.

Forty-two sugar mills are now grinding in Havana Province, and fifty-five in the Province of Matanzas, where the capacity of the mills is largely in excess of the crop, which is only one-third of the normal yield. A refinery at Matanzas and another at Cardenas will start shortly, and General Wilson predicts that the industry will be re-established in three or four years.

Michael J. Dady, with his counsel, Mr. Hecker, arrived to-day from New-York, and will present a case in support of his claim to a contract for the sewerage system of the city.

The United States transport Michigan sailed this morning for the United States.

The United States cruiser Chicago arrived here this morning from Hampton Roads. The flagship New-York is coaling from lighters.

Regarding the alleged conflict between bandits and Cuban forces in the Province of Santa Clara, it was reported that Padrone, the bandit leader and a former lieutenant of Spanish guerillas, was killed by the Cubans ten days ago, but news has now been received to the effect that Padrone has just been arrested.

A large part of the reconcentrado quarter of Guines was destroyed by fire this morning, three children being burned to death.

SANTIAGO GETS ITS MONEY.

Santiago de Cuba, March 9.—The remainder of the funds for February was formally allowed to-day from Havana, and it is expected that the estimate for March will be allowed by cable to-morrow, in which case the work on public improvements will be immediately resumed.

Major Duncan Harrison, who had been defending before the court-martial one of the men charged with complicity in the outrage at San Luis, has been debarred from further connection with the defence, owing to contempt of court, incompetency and his apparent efforts to justify his own conduct on the occasion of the outrage, instead of defending his client.

NO DISTURBANCE IN SANTIAGO.

Washington, March 9.—So many sensational reports have been published concerning alleged disturbances in Santiago that the Secretary of War asked General Wood for information. General Wood has replied that there is absolutely no ground for apprehension or anxiety.

F. W. HAWLEY'S REPORTED CONTRACT.

Reports from Havana have declared that a contract for repaving the streets of that city, at a cost of about $7,000,000, has been obtained by F. W. Hawley, of New-York; that the contract has been acquired from the heirs of Richard Taylor, who got it originally from the Spanish officials, and that Mr. Hawley has been acting for a syndicate of capitalists in this city, in which the Barber Asphalt Company has an interest. Mr. Hawley's address in the city directory is at No. 32 Nassau-st., in the office of a company of which he is a director; but it was said there yesterday that he had not been in the office for nearly a year, and he was supposed to be abroad. No verification of the reports could be obtained at the office of the Barber Asphalt Company.

THE MONEY FOR THE CUBAN TROOPS.

It is believed that the $3,000,000 which is to be shipped from the Sub-Treasury here for distribution among the troops composing the Cuban Army will be placed on a steamer sailing to-morrow, although no details regarding the shipment could be obtained yesterday. About six hundred stout wooden boxes of various sizes, which boxes formerly contained shells for rapid-fire guns, are piled in the corridor and adjoining rooms of the Sub-Treasury, and all day yesterday the work of placing the coin in them went on, the nails, after being driven home, being covered with sealing-wax and the seal of the Paymaster-General of the Army being impressed on each box. Many guards were on duty near the place where the boxes were stacked, and two or three young Army officers supervised the work of placing the bags of coin in the boxes.

CARLISTS ORDERED NOT TO VOTE.

THE PRETENDER FORBIDS HIS FOLLOWERS TO TAKE PART IN THE ELECTIONS.

London, March 10.—The Madrid correspondent of "The Daily Chronicle" says that Don Carlos, the Pretender, has forbidden the Carlists to take part in the forthcoming elections to the new Cortes.

CONDITION OF THE POPE.

HIS WOUND MAKING FAVORABLE PROGRESS—ALARMIST REPORTS DENIED.

Rome, March 9.—An examination of the Pope's wound was made to-day by Dr. Mazzoni, who found it was making excellent progress. His Holiness hopes to begin again his receptions speedily.

The fact that Dr. Lapponi is again sleeping at the Vatican has developed a fresh crop of rumors, including one to the effect that the Pope is suffering from a senile cancer. But his physicians unequivocally deny this. They say the patient has a good appetite and is convalescing rapidly.

PAPAL NUNCIO AT PARIS DEAD.

Paris, March 9.—Monsignor Clari, the Papal Nuncio here, who was stricken with apoplexy yesterday, is dead.

LAST HOURS OF CANADIAN MURDERERS.

St. Scholastique, Quebec, March 9.—Samuel Parslow, who is to be hanged with Mrs. Cordelia Pelrier to-morrow morning for the murder of the latter's husband, tried to escape last night, and had actually gotten out of his cell when the guards were absent, thinking him asleep.

His accomplice, who was the organist at St. Canut Church, has asked as a last favor that her parlor organ be brought into the jail so that she can play and sing the musical part of her own death service.

ELEVEN KILLED BY A FALL OF ROCK.

Madrid, March 9.—A vast quantity of rock, overhanging the village of Rucuorja, near Albacete, in the province of that name, fell to-day, destroying many houses and killing eleven people.

BRITAIN'S GREAT NAVY.

MR. GOSCHEN EXPLAINS THE INCREASE IN THE YEAR'S ESTIMATES.

FORCED BY RIVAL POWERS INTO VAST EXPENDITURE, BUT HOPING FOR RELIEF FROM THE CZAR'S CONFERENCE.

London, March 9.—In introducing the navy estimates in the House of Commons to-day the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Right Hon. George J. Goschen, said that never had estimates been submitted under more unique circumstances. Ahead was the conference for international disarmament, while behind were the incidents of last November, and when a comparison of the naval strength of the various countries was in everybody's mouth the most striking confidence was shown in British preparedness to meet all emergencies.

The Continental Powers, he further said, were disturbed by the allegation that Great Britain was preparing with a particular purpose for aggressive action, but, the Minister asserted, the idea never entered the mind of the Government. He then proceeded to detail the naval programme.

WEI-HAI-WEI A NAVAL BASE.

Mr. Goschen said Her Majesty's Government proposed to make Wei-Hai-Wei (the warport on the northern coast of the Shan-Tung Peninsula) a secondary naval base, pointing out that it would be a most valuable anchorage, and of the greatest importance in any operations in Chinese waters, and adding that it was proposed to expend £1,300,000 on Wei-Hai-Wei during the present year and £1,500,000 next year.

Continuing, the First Lord of the Admiralty informed the House that the personnel of the navy for the coming year would be increased by 4,250 men, making a total of 110,640, at a cost of £7,474,000. Comparing the pay of the personnel, Mr. Goschen said that while Great Britain paid £7,000,000 and France £3,000,000 Russia only paid £445,000. He could not understand how that was, but that was all the estimates revealed.

Referring to shipbuilding, he said the coming programme had been framed after consideration of the programmes of the other Powers. A study of these programmes, he pointed out, was not reassuring. The United States, Russia, France, Japan, Italy and Germany had under construction 685,000 tons of warships, or 225,000 tons more than was contemplated in the present estimates. Therefore, this had forced the Government to draw up a new programme. Excluding last year's supplemental programme, it provided for two ironclads, two armored cruisers and three smaller cruisers of a specially high speed. The money required, therefore, for the coming financial year was £550,000, and the total under the shipbuilding vote, including the liabilities for last year's original and supplementary programmes, would be £12,817,000, an increase of over £2,000,000. The total estimates were £26,594,000 ($132,770,000).

MORE AMMUNITION FOR PRACTICE.

For armament Mr. Goschen asked an increase of £161,000, chiefly for the construction of guns, but also for more ammunition for practice, which, he asserted, was a matter of enormous importance, as shown by the late war.

After speaking of the necessity for an increased shipbuilding vote, he said these were the votes required by the present situation.

"But," he added, "would that the action of other nations, resulting from the coming international conference, could make it possible for us to diminish or modify the programme, while, of course, maintaining our standard and relative position."

Mr. Goschen then announced in behalf of Her Majesty's Government that if the other great naval Powers were prepared to diminish their programmes Great Britain was prepared to modify hers. But, if the Czar's hopes were not realized, the programme would have to stand, and he (Mr. Goschen) expressed the hope that those who were proposing to attack the country's expenditure would not attempt to dissuade the people from bearing the taxation necessary to carry on the duties of the Empire.

In conclusion, the First Lord of the Admiralty said the estimates were "simply the embodiment of the feelings of a peace-loving, determined nation." (Cheers.)

Mr. Goschen emphasized the purely defensive objects of the naval increase, but said that, in view of the construction by her rivals of fast cruisers, with the avowed purpose of preying upon British commerce and Great Britain's food supply in the event of war, England was forced to build five new cruisers, particularly swift, in order to circumvent these schemes. He also said that the four armored cruisers now being built under the original programme would be the most powerful ships in the world.

OWED MUCH TO THEIR NAVY.

LONDON PRESS COMMENT ON THE DISCUSSION OF THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.

London, March 10.—"The Times," referring editorially to the statement of the First Lord of the Admiralty in the House of Commons yesterday, says:

"It is betraying no State secret to affirm that nothing but the strength of our navy saved us from having to choose between the loss of what our arms had won in the Soudan and a war which would speedily have cost fifty times what we spent in averting it."

PEACE CONGRESS TO MEET MAY 18.

The Hague, March 9.—The Peace Conference called by the Czar to discuss the possibility of taking steps toward a general disarmament will meet here on May 18.

London, March 10.—"The Daily Graphic" says this morning it understands that Sir Julian Pauncefote, British Ambassador at Washington, has been appointed to represent Great Britain at the forthcoming Peace Conference.

CASTELLANOS'S NEW APPOINTMENT.

Madrid, March 9.—General Jiminez Castellanos, the last Governor-General of Cuba, has been appointed Captain-General of Madrid.

THE TOULON EXPLOSION.

PLACING OF CARTRIDGES NEAR THE ARSENAL SAID TO HAVE BEEN A JOKE.

Paris, March 9.—The "Gaulois" says the dynamite cartridges found near the Toulon Arsenal were placed there as a practical joke, and adds that they contained a harmless blasting powder.

The "Gaulois" may be correct, but the real truth will not be known until the official inquiry is concluded.

AN INCREASED LIBERAL MAJORITY.

London, March 9.—In the election yesterday in the Elland Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire for a successor in Parliament to Thomas Wayman (Liberal), resigned, the Liberal candidate was successful. The result in detail was as follows: Charles P. Trevelyan, Liberal, 6,941; Philip Staveley Foster, Conservative, 5,957; Liberal majority, 984.

At the last election the Liberal majority was 306.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY ANNOUNCES

a new train to the South and Southwest with through sleeping-cars to New-Orleans and Memphis via Washington, Southern Railway and Norfolk & Western Railway; also to Aiken and Tampa via Southern Railway and F. C. & P. R. R., leaving New-York at 2:50 p. m. daily commencing March 12.—Advt.

H. C. FAHNESTOCK'S BIG GIFT

NEW TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES AT THE POST-GRADUATE.

TO BE ERECTED IN MEMORY OF THE GIVER'S WIFE—IT WILL COST $100,000, AND BE ONE OF THE MOST COMPLETE OF ITS KIND IN THE COUNTRY.

The New-York Post-Graduate Hospital, at Second-ave. and Twentieth-st., is to have a new training school for nurses. The new school, which is to supplant the present one, the latter being rather inadequate for the needs of the hospital, will cost $100,000. It will be in many ways the finest, best equipped, most commodious and thoroughly useful school of its kind in the country. It is to be the gift of Harris C. Fahnestock. For years, in fact ever since it was founded, Mr. Fahnestock has been a friend of the New-York Post-Graduate Hospital, and has shown his appreciation of the work done there in substantial ways, but this present to the hospital eclipses everything that he has done for the institution in the past. Announcement was made of the gift by Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa, president of the corporation and faculty.

The new school will be known as the Margaret Fahnestock Training School for Nurses of the New-York Post-Graduate Hospital. Mr. Fahnestock is founding the school in memory of his wife, and it is to bear her name. The last days of Mrs. Fahnestock's life were cheered and brightened by the tender care and ministrations of two trained nurses. Mr. Fahnestock took a deep interest in their work, and realized how much they had done to make the last days of his wife less of a burden, and this gift is a tribute to them and their calling, and in memory of Mrs. Fahnestock.

The ground for the new school has already been purchased. It consists of three lots in East Twentieth-st., directly across from the entrance to the Post-Graduate Hospital, having a frontage of forty-eight feet and a depth of about one hundred feet. It is a part of the old Stuyvesant farm. Work will be begun on the building at once, and inside of the year it is expected that it will be completed. The new building will contain rooms for seventy or more nurses. Aside from these, there will be a diet kitchen, lecture-rooms, sitting-rooms and other apartments. Each nurse will have an individual room. This will be greatly appreciated, and is not provided for in other schools of the kind here. The nurses all serve a three years' course, and when this is completed they are judged worthy to undertake the work of a trained nurse. In this hospital there is an average of about one hundred and sixty patients, babies, children and adults, and so the nurses in their three years' course get a broad education; and then the field is widened by a term of service at the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, the Lying-In Hospital and other institutions. The present training school, which was established in 1884, is in a fireproof building opposite the hospital. The lease on the present building runs for a year yet, so that the operation of the school will not be interfered with while the new school is going up.

This is the first really large and substantial gift that the New-York Post-Graduate Hospital has received, and the members of the corporation are deeply gratified. The hospital has received many small gifts in the past, but it is hoped that this will be the forerunner of other substantial presents to the institution. The medical school, the hospital and the new training school together are all modern and efficient, but the hospital sadly needs a few improvements in several directions. Perhaps the greatest need is for a complete and well-equipped laboratory. The present laboratory is well enough in its way and meets all the present demands upon it, but with the expenditure of some money a great improvement would be achieved. The laboratory does not begin to compare with such as the one in the Johns Hopkins University, in Baltimore. If a new laboratory could be secured it would do away with a great deal of overcrowding and overwork. The members of the corporation feel confident that in time a complete laboratory will be provided.

Another thing that the hospital needs, and one that would probably not require a very great outlay of money, is an annex for a lying-in ward. Just at present the physicians of the hospital, accompanied by two graduates, make visits in the neighborhood, and do all they can for the women who are in need of their ministrations. Dr. Roosa said yesterday that such an annex would do an immense amount of good.

RACED FOUR MILES TO A FIRE.

VOLUNTEERS SAVED THE HOME OF C. RAOUL DUVAL, AT THE WHEATLEY HILLS, LONG ISLAND.

Fire destroyed a wing of the C. Raoul Duval house, at the Wheatley Hills, Long Island, yesterday afternoon. The fire for a time threatened to extend to the main portion of the building, but the volunteer firemen of Mineola and Westbury, by quenching part of the flames and tearing down the corridor which connected the burning wing with the main portion of the building, saved the larger part.

Mr. Duval, who is one of the leaders in the Hempstead set, a well-known cross-country rider, and owns a string of horses, is at present in Europe, and, it is said, is to marry soon. The house was being overhauled and redecorated in expectation of its having a mistress. The work is nearly completed.

The wing in which the fire started and which was destroyed was used by the contractors as working-rooms, from which to operate on the rest of the house. It is thought a carelessly thrown match set fire to some of the inflammable oils, which were stored in quantities for use as needed. The fire had worked into the walls of the building before it was discovered. Then the painters, decorators, joiners and laborers set to work to hold the flames in check until the arrival of the firemen. Roslyn, which is the nearest village, has no fire-fighting apparatus, so the firemen from Mineola and Westbury were summoned. Horses were procured and raced the apparatus over the four miles which intervened in record-breaking time. The report received at first said the whole mansion was being destroyed. When the firemen arrived they were hampered by lack of water, and had to let the burning wing go. The connecting link was torn down, and what water could be obtained was thrown on the main structure to keep it from catching fire.

This was successful and the house was saved. The loss will be about $5,000.

STORM RAGES OVER THE BLACK SEA.

TWO ENGLISH STEAMERS ASHORE AND OTHER SHIPPING DISASTERS.

St. Petersburg, March 9.—A hurricane has raged over the Black Sea for the last four days and numerous casualties among shipping have been reported. Two English steamers are ashore near Poti, a Turkish steamer has been wrecked and a sailing ship bound for Thedosia has been sunk. The crew of the latter perished.

HURRICANE IN AUSTRALIA.

FEARS FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PEARL SHELLING FLEET WITH A THOUSAND MEN.

Brisbane, Queensland, March 9.—The northeast coast is now being swept by a severe hurricane. Already there has been much loss of life and property, and serious fears are entertained regarding the safety of the pearl shelling fleet, which employs a thousand men.

NAVAL ENLISTMENT LENGTHENED.

Boston, March 9.—The term of enlistment for general service in the United State Navy has been increased from three to four years. Orders from the Navy Department to this effect were received at the Navy Yard this morning.

MRS. CODY FOUND GUILTY.

CONVICTION OF THE WOMAN WHO TRIED TO BLACKMAIL THE GOULDS.

Albany, March 9.—After being out eight hours the jury brought in a verdict of guilty at 8:15 o'clock to-night in the case of Mrs. Margaret E. Cody, who had been on trial here since last Thursday charged with attempting to blackmail George J. and Helen M. Gould. A recommendation of mercy was made. The court will convene at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, when sentence will be passed. It is likely that Mrs. Cody will receive a light sentence on account of her age. The jury balloted seven times before agreeing, the first ballot standing: Guilty, 8; not guilty, 3; blank, 1.

Mrs. Cody, who had remained in her chair in the courtroom most of the afternoon after the court adjourned, gasped and all but fainted when she heard the verdict of guilty. It was a quarter of an hour before she had recovered sufficiently to be conducted back to the jail.

DR. TALMAGE RESIGNS.

RETIRES FROM THE PULPIT TO DEVOTE HIMSELF TO LITERARY WORK.

Washington, March 9.—The Rev. Dr. T. De Witt Talmage, who for nearly four years has been the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city, to-day sent a letter to the Session of that church tendering his resignation. The explanation made in the letter is as follows:

"The increasing demands made upon me by religious journalism and the continuous calls for more general work in the cities have of late years caused frequent interruption to my pastoral work. It is not right that this condition of affairs should further continue. Besides this, it is desirable that I have more opportunity to meet face to face in religious assemblage those in this country and other countries to whom I have, through the kindness of the printing-press, been permitted to preach week by week, and without the exception of a week, for about thirty years. Therefore, though very reluctantly, I have concluded, after serving you nearly four years in the pastoral relation, to send this letter of resignation."

It is the intention of Dr. Talmage to continue his residence in this city. He will devote most of his time to literary pursuits.

A LOVING-CUP FOR DR. COE.

THE PEOPLE OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH GIVE A TESTIMONIAL TO THEIR FORMER PASTOR.

The congregation of the Forty-eighth Street Collegiate Church last evening testified their appreciation of and affection for their former pastor, the Rev. Edward B. Coe, by presenting to him a handsome loving-cup and a beautifully engrossed testimonial signed by over two hundred members of the congregation. The presentation took place at the home of Alfred Van Santvoord, No. 38 West Thirty-ninth-st., and was attended by two hundred or more of Dr. Coe's former congregation.

Judge Henry W. Bookstaver spoke eloquently of the love and respect which Dr. Coe had won since he became the pastor of the church in 1879, and said that the testimonial which he presented was only a meagre token of the esteem and affection in which Dr. Coe was still held. Judge Bookstaver recited the work of the pastor in a tone of deep feeling, and with warm and earnest praise for Dr. Coe.

In his speech of thanks Dr. Coe seemed deeply touched by this evidence of his congregation's love for him, and at times could not hide his emotion. He spoke of his long acquaintance with the people of the Forty-eighth Street Church, and said that he had always enjoyed the heartiest support and co-operation from them. He referred to his resignation of the pastorate, and hoped that in his new and larger sphere of usefulness he might prove worthy of the honor.

The Rev. Donald Sage MacKay, who has just left a pastorate in Newark, to take charge of the Collegiate Church, had a few graceful words in praise of Dr. Coe. The evening ended with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

The loving-cup was a handsome affair, covered with an artistic design of ivy leaves. The movement to give some sort of a testimonial to Dr. Coe started about two weeks ago, and met with such a ready and enthusiastic response that the $300 necessary for a loving-cup was obtained in a day or two, and a few days later had been raised to $1,000. A tea service of silver was presented to Mrs. Coe.

Dr. Coe resigned from the pastorate of the Collegiate Church a short time ago to become senior pastor of the churches and chapels of that denomination in this city. There has been some talk of Dr. Coe as the next president of Yale University, but he is known to be happy in his present place and desirous of remaining there. He was graduated from Yale in the class of '62, and in 1879 left a professorship in French to become the pastor of the Collegiate Church, in Forty-eighth-st.

FOUND BURGLARS IN THE HALLWAY.

PURSUED BY AN UNARMED MAN THEY CRIPPLED HIM AND ESCAPED.

Providence, R. I., March 9.—The police since midnight have been searching in vain for three burglars who were found in the hall of Dr. E. M. Harris's house, in this city, by Miss Marion McNear at about 11 o'clock last night, and who, in making their escape, assaulted the young woman and shot Frederick Roy Martin, of "The Providence Journal." Mr. Martin had just left Miss McNear after escorting her home from a theatre party.

Miss McNear surprised the men at their work while passing to her room. She screamed, and tried to pass them. One of the men seized her, and she received a blow on the head from a bludgeon. Then a man held a dagger over her, ordering her to keep quiet. Her scream was heard by Mr. Martin as he was passing out of the grounds to Broadway. He ran back, and encountered three burglars as they fled from the house. Without a word they began shooting. Mr. Martin was unarmed, but the burglars fired nearly a dozen shots. One bullet struck him in the right hand and glanced over it, so that only an abrasion resulted. Another grazed the right side just above the hip.

Mr. Martin still pursued the men, and when they reached Broadway one turned, and with deliberate aim planted a bullet in his right leg. It passed through the muscles in the calf of the leg and lodged under the skin.

The burglars then turned into a side street, where they encountered William Fuller, a bookkeeper, on his way home. They ordered him to hold up his hands, and on his failing to obey several shots were fired at him, one of which cut through the right shoulder of his overcoat. Then they disappeared.

The wound in Martin's leg is the only one that will inconvenience him. Miss McNear was not seriously hurt.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Concord, N. H., March 9.—The New-Hampshire Legislature to-day elected Edward N. Pearson, of Concord, Secretary of State, to succeed Ezra S. Stearns, resigned.

GOLD NUGGET WEIGHING TWENTY POUNDS.

San Francisco, March 9.—The steamer Alameda brings news of the finding of a gold nugget in Western Australia weighing twenty and a half pounds avoirdupois. The strike was made early in February by McFie brothers and a man named Parkes about twenty miles from Marble Bar, in the Pilbarra gold field. The massive nugget, together with over two hundred ounces of smaller sizes, was uncovered just two miles north of where the Pantomime nugget, weighing thirty-four ounces, was found by a man named Boyle nine years ago.

NEW LINE OF SLEEPING-CARS TO KNOXVILLE VIA PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

Through buffet sleeping-car will commence running March 12, between Jersey City and Knoxville, Tenn., via Harrisburg and Cumberland Valley R.R., thence Norfolk & Western and Southern Railway, leaving New-York daily at 7:40 p. m.—Advt.

PEOPLE VS. THE RASCALS.

FIELD DAY FOR THE AMSTERDAM AVENUE RAILROAD BILL.

WAYLAID BY HOSTILE SENATORS, BUT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE ASSEMBLY—A PARADOX AT ALBANY.

Albany, March 9 (Special).—The Assembly to-day passed the Amsterdam-ave. Railroad bill unamended, while the amendment made to it in committee last night was virtually adopted by the Senate by the defeat of a motion of Senator Ford to restore it to its original form. The amendment provides substantially that damages shall be awarded to the Metropolitan Street Railway Company and the Third Avenue Railway Company by the city of New-York if they can prove that they suffer at all through the operation of the proposed law. The opinion of many lawyers in the Senate is that the amendment also throws into the courts for at least five years the question as to whether or not the tracks shall be arranged as the bill contemplates that they shall be. Will the Third-ave. railway be able to operate its two tracks near the curb of Amsterdam-ave. while the courts are settling this question? Some Senators think it will, and some think it will not, so the courts possibly will have to interpret this matter also if the bill is passed with the amendment included.

A NOTABLE DELEGATION.

Eleven carloads of residents of Amsterdam-ave. and its vicinity came to Albany to-day to listen to the first debate on the measure. There were probably six hundred or seven hundred men and women in the delegation. Albany has seen numerous big demonstrations, but this was the most impressive in many years. The delegation marched up the hill to the Capitol, and then filled the lobby, the galleries of the Senate Chamber and all the floor space back of the Senators' desks. Senator Ford said that ordinarily a Senator could ask the privilege of the floor for a constituent, but this "eleven carloads" of constituents could not receive that courtesy. He therefore moved that the Senate adjourn for five minutes, and the delegation be admitted to the floor of the Senate. The motion was carried, and a large number of the visitors entered the chamber and had talks with the Senators.

On the coat of each of the visitors was a white ribbon, inscribed with red and black letters as follows: "Life and Limb versus Railroad." "Amsterdam-ave. Anti-Grab."

Among those in the delegation were Thomas A. Fulton, president of the Amsterdam Avenue Property Owners' Association; J. Van Vechten Olcott and John C. Coleman, counsel for the association; Miss Grace Dodge and a number of teachers and students from Teachers College, John B. Pine, secretary of the Board of Trustees of Columbia University; the Rev. Dr. John P. Peters, rector of St. Michael's Protestant Episcopal Church; the Rev. John Balcom Shaw, of the West Side Presbyterian Church; John Stewart, president of the New-Amsterdam Club, and a large number of the members of the club; the Rev. James M. Galligan, of the Holy Name Church; John F. Doyle, De Peyster Foster, Dr. David Marshall, James F. Barcus, J. Clarence Davies, E. J. Luckings, S. P. Carmichael, Charles H. Israel and Judson Lawson.

RAINES OPENS THE BALL.

Senator Raines handed up the report of the Railroad Committee, he being its chairman, and Senator Ford asked that the amendment should be stricken out.

Senator Grady asked if Senator Ford had not himself proposed to amend the bill.

"I did two weeks ago," he replied, "but I do not now, and I want the bill to pass just as it is."

Senator Ford said the amendment had been shown to him two days ago, and he had taken it under consideration in a liberal spirit. He was willing to wager that not a Senator who had seen it could tell what it meant. He could not tell a thing about it. He had consulted lawyers regarding it, and they had all come to the conclusion that the amendment would be harmful. He felt that his bill covered the ground sufficiently by its fourth section, providing that a jury should be called on to assess damages.

The bill had lain two months in committee. It might have been amended six weeks ago. The only reason why it had been amended now, he believed, was a desire to delay its passage and kill it. Senator Featherson, who offered the amendment, he considered an enemy to the bill. The manner in which it had been offered he considered an indication of the hostility of the committee to the bill. It would emasculate the measure by inserting provisions which would warrant the Mayor in vetoing it, because it would impose burdens on the city of New-York which the city ought not to bear.

ISSUE JOINED BY FORD.

Senator Ford then moved that the Senate disagree with the report and recommit the bill to the committee with instructions that the amendment be stricken out. No compensation should be made, he said, to the railroads which were killing children, and causing a depreciation of property all along Amsterdam-ave.

The Senators, he declared, were face to face with a grave situation. It was the struggle between the corporations on one hand and the people and their rights on the other, and he had never known an instance where the issue had been so sharply defined.

Senator Grady said the motion to strike out the amendment was the most unusual and extraordinary proceeding he had known during the twenty-two years of his familiarity with legislation. He wanted the strangers to understand it so. The ordinary procedure of the Senate made it proper to consider such an amendment after the bill had been reprinted and placed on file. If, after two days' examination of the amendment, the Senator from the XIXth could not tell what it meant, he ought not to expect that after a mere reading by the clerk the other Senators would be able to determine whether it was good or bad.

The truth was, he (Grady) had himself brought the amendment from New-York. He had given one copy to Senator Ford, another to Senator Raines, and a third to Senator Ellsworth. He had tried to give them out to every man he met. In his opinion, the amendment was much more against the corporations than the present Section 4.

TRICKERY? PERISH THE THOUGHT!

He had read in the newspapers that trickery was intended in the Senate against the bill. Having given out copies of the amendment to Senators Ellsworth, Ford and Raines, whom could he get to offer it except Senator Featherson, the only member of the Railroads Committee from the Borough of Manhattan.

Senator Elon R. Brown asked Senator Grady if he had not himself this morning made a similar motion to recommit a bill. He referred to the bill to provide a lighting plant for the Capitol.

Senator Grady tried to make out a difference in the two cases. Of course, with eleven carloads of people here and the Senate adjourned while they got off the train, Senator Ford must do something unusual. As for himself, he would consider the bill just as he would any other. He was opposed to turning over the rules of the Senate.

"I appeal," he said, "to have this bill consid-