NOT ANXIOUS FOR PEACE.

ENGLAND'S PACIFIC NOTES TO RUSSIA DISAPPROVED IN INDIA.

The Arabs of the Indian Prisons Filled with Military Ardor, and Do Not Wish to Go Home Without a Fight—Fears That They May Take to Pipeclay Among Themselves.

LONDON, April 3.—The British Foreign Office has replied to Lord Dufferin, the Russian envoy to Lord Granville's note. Lord Dufferin's decision of the reply, and of the situation generally, is awaited with some solicitude. There is an uneasy feeling in military circles that England may have lighted too big a torch in India. The arrival of the Indian prisoners have been filled with ardor, and may take to fighting each other. The British prisoners are decorously insignificant, and they would have their hands full in the event of a conflict between any two of the leading potentates.

A despatch from Rawalpindi says: "The Ameer is highly pleased at the presence of the Duke of Abercorn, and expresses his intention to visit England to pay his respects to the Queen. The war preparations in India were the result of information that Russia intended to send a large force to Herat in the spring, but the activity of Sir Peter Lumsden has halted that project. England's pacific telegrams to Russia are disapproved here. It is the desired opinion that the Afghan question will not be settled without a war, and the sooner it comes the better. Every day's delay is a disadvantage to Russia."

A despatch from Calcutta says the Indian troops now in the field openly express their lamentation at the prospect of a peaceful settlement of the dispute between Russia and England. They are in high mettle, and do not want to return to their homes without a fight.

A great sensation has been caused in India by Gen. Sir Peter Lumsden's alleged proposal of a new frontier line, which will give Chaman-i-Baldh to the Russians. This town is many miles south of the lowest boundary of Turkestan which Russia has yet claimed. It is the principal town on the Kowsh River, which is the largest affluent of Sarghab. The Kowsh flows through a narrow valley, which affords the only practicable approach for troops from the north to Herat. Chaman-i-Baldh is already well fortified, and if held by an Afghan or British garrison it would be impossible for a Russian army to march through the Kowsh valley. The only other approach to Herat from Merv is practicable for artillery or even cavalry is by way of Meshed through the northeastern corner of Persia. The consent of the Shah to a movement of Russian troops through Persia for an attack on Herat might be difficult to obtain. These considerations make it apparent that Chaman-i-Baldh is the key of Herat, and the Indian potentates say that if England proposes to give up Chaman-i-Baldh she might as well surrender Herat at the same time.

An officer who occupied a prominent position under Gen. Roberts in the last Afghan war said to-night: "If Gen. Lumsden has recommended such a frontier line, his work for the past seven months has been worse than wasted. England would do better to accept the lines laid down in the Russian general staff map. They are far more favorable to Afghanistan."

According to official returns the number of men in active service in the Russian army at the beginning of the year was 662,449, exclusive of Cossacks. The officers numbered 36,369. The Fifteenth Army Division, stationed at Odessa, has been ordered to the Caucasus.

LONDON, April 4.—The Cabinet has been summoned to meet to-day to consider the reply of M. de Giers, the Russian Foreign Minister, to England's proposals regarding outposts on the Russo-Afghan frontier.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 3.—Reports were current to-day that the Afghans had attacked the Russians at Pul-i-khisti, and that a fight ensued. The reports, however, proved to be untrue.

The Fortieth Army Division has moved from Saratof to Astrachan in readiness to embark for Krasnovodsk, on the east shore of the Caspian Sea.

OSMAN DIGMA RETREATS.

The British Occupy Tamai with Little Opposition and Burn the Village.

LONDON, April 3.—Despatches received from Suakim this morning give the following account of the progress of events at the front:

Gen. Graham occupied with his forces all the heights above Tamai last evening. During the night the rebels fired into the zereba, and some of their shots took effect. One soldier was killed outright and two others were wounded. Early this morning Gen. Graham advanced toward Tamai. He had not proceeded far before he found the enemy strongly intrenched just beyond the village. Gen. Graham immediately attacked the Arab position. The enemy finally retreated in the direction of Tamanieb. The British then burned Tamai. Gen. Graham lost one man killed and twelve men wounded in the fight. The British found the water at Tamai bad in quality and insufficient in quantity, and, after setting fire to the village, returned to the zereba from which they set out in the morning. Gen. Graham telegraphs as follows:

The hills around the zereba were occupied last night by a clan of picked men, supported by a special reserve force. The enemy's fire was silenced at 1 this morning by a volley from our advanced picket of Grenadiers and by a shell from a thirty-pounder. The rest of the night was quiet. The troops are in good condition. Only seven fell out of the ranks yesterday during the fifteen hours' march. We occupied the springs this morning. Our forces advanced at 6 A. M. and occupied Tamai and Khor. We encountered slight opposition. We found very little water, and, what there was of very bad quality. Am going to return with my whole force to the first zereba. Four soldiers were wounded in occupying the village. Of these two belonged to the Australian contingent.

Most of the troops under Gen. Graham will return to Suakim, and will make no attempt to pursue Osman Digma to his strongholds in the hills. Gen. Graham will probably occupy Tokar after capturing Trinkitat. He will also send an infantry force to Handub to protect the workmen who are to lay the first section of the railway toward Berber. If Tokar is captured, it will be the final blow to Osman Digma, as that town is his storehouse and treasury.

Spies report daily large desertions from Osman Digma's forces. Gen. Graham will await orders from Gen. Wolseley before resuming operations.

DONGOLA, April 3.—The Mudir of Dongola and his staff started for Cairo to-day. A large number of persons assembled to witness their departure. The farewell was cold, and some natives threw mud at the Mudir. A testimonial bearing witness to the Mudir's loyalty and influence which was circulated among the natives proved a complete failure.

The Emir of Berber has joined the Emir of the Desert at Bersani, fifty miles beyond Handub, on the Berber road.

The advance to Tamai was made over broken ground and through deep ravines. Few rebels were about, and they retired after the exchange of a few shots. The British loss during the day was one killed and eleven wounded. The enemy's loss was slight.

Gen. Graham intends to push the railway as far as Handoub and to move his camp thither. It is feared that the scarcity of water at Tamai indicates a similar want at other places in the hills.

INTENSE UNEASINESS IN PARIS.

M. de Freycinet Unable to Form a Ministry—M. Constans Undertaking the Task.

PARIS, April 3.—President Grévy to-day insists on M. de Freycinet assuming the office of President of the Council and forming a new Cabinet.

Both M. de Freycinet and M. Brisson have declined the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. M. Constans has undertaken to form a Cabinet.

The party conflicts are increasing in bitterness. M. de Freycinet attributes his failure to form a Ministry to the partisan spirit of the leaders of the Republican sections; especially the Republican Union, in claiming the balance of power in the Cabinet. President Grévy proposes to obtain an *ad interim* Ministry of Moderates, to act in the interval between the dissolution of the Chambers and the general election. MM. Spuller and Legrand and other Opportunists oppose the dissolving of the Chambers, on the ground that it is a manœuvre for restoring M. Ferry to power. In an interview with President Grévy to-day M. Spuller said that the majority of those who had overturned M. Ferry had repented, and wished to repair their error. The Extreme Left favors the dissolution of the Chambers. M. Rochefort, replying to a threat in Opportunist papers, that the Ferryist majority in the Senate will refuse to vote for dissolution, says that 10,000 men await the signal to march to sweep away the Senate. Intense uneasiness prevails among the people in Paris and throughout the country.

Good Friday in London.

LONDON, April 3.—Good Friday was one of the most beautiful holidays ever seen in and around London. There was no fog, the sun was never brighter in London, and even the sailors, who had been given shore leave before going on active service, kept sober. Enormous crowds of holiday makers enjoyed their outing on the upper stretches of the Thames and on all the suburbs. Many minor sporting events took place.

An Emperor Washing the Feet of Beggars.

VIENNA, April 3.—Mr. John M. Francis, the United States Minister to Austria, was among the number who witnessed yesterday the annual ceremony of washing the feet of the poor. Twelve beggars had their feet touched with a sponge held by Emperor Francis Joseph. The feet were subsequently wiped by archdukes of the empire.

FRANCE'S PEACE PROPOSALS.

Chinese Diplomats Denied the Report that China Has Made Concessions.

LONDON, April 3.—*Le Temps*, which is perhaps the most trustworthy of the Paris newspapers at critical times, asserts that delegates from France and China have agreed to a preliminary convention to initiate terms of peace. It says that China will agree to forbidden access the Tonquin tariff, giving Tonquin to France, and will withdraw her troops from Tonquin as soon as a treaty of peace is signed by responsible officials. France, in the mean time, is to maintain the blockade of Pe-Chi-Li and to continue to treat this as equivalent of war until the complete execution of the Tonquin treaty. These statements are made by *Le Temps* with an air of authoritativeness which is intended to carry conviction, and they are apparently corroborated by an array of circumstantial details. Your correspondent sought for information at the Chinese Embassy and was informed by Wang Tseng Tsang Pu, H. Wangtsey, the English Secretary of the Legation, Dr. Wantsey said:

It is possible that negotiations have been begun as is stated by *Le Temps*.

The correspondent asked if the pursuing war of recent date of Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, was disapproved by the friends of M. Ferry.

Dr. Wantsey replied: "If there has been any quarreling of anyone it began some time ago. The Peking Government is well versed in Oriental methods of diplomacy, and it does not trust important negotiations to telegraph companies which are manned almost wholly by Frenchmen and Germans. Any despatches so important as those mentioned by *Le Temps* would be carried from Peking to Paris by imperial messengers."

"Do you believe that China would submit to a blockade of the approaches to Pe-Chi-Li pending the peace negotiations?"

"No. It is doubtful if China is willing to make any concessions, except perhaps, the abandonment of Tonquin."

"Will China consent to continuing the French embargo on rice?"

"That question is too absurd to be answered."

A despatch from Paris to the *Times* says: "M. Ferry was reluctant to use the pending peace settlement for the Franco-Chinese question as a means of retaining office, because the negotiations had been conducted through a subordinate Chinese official. A Chinese attaché at Berlin to-day telegraphed to a friend announcing that he was about to come to Paris to conclude the negotiations. M. Ferry construed this as a proof that China was acting in good faith, and he therefore desires to conduct the business himself."

RIVERS GORGED WITH ICE.

Piled Up 20 to 30 Feet High in the Delaware—The Susquehanna Rising.

PORT JERVIS, April 3.—The ice gorge in the Delaware at Callicoon is still solid, and the water is falling. The ice is piled up twenty and in some places thirty feet high, extending back several miles. The river below Callicoon as far as Narrowsburg is reported as solid as a rock. Below Narrowsburg it is free of ice. At Cochecton this morning some alarm was felt when the water which filtered through the gorge at Callicoon raised the river and began to overflow the bank. For half an hour the scene was described as lively, but the ice did not break, and the water found easy passage over it, and no damage was done.

EASTON, Pa., April 3.—The ice gorge at the Delaware Water Gap broke last night and arrived here early this morning. The ice is now running pretty lively. Some of the cakes are two feet thick. The river has risen twelve feet, and is slowly rising. The Lehigh is up six feet, but is free from ice.

WILKESBARRE, April 3.—The water in the Susquehanna River has continued to rise since yesterday, and is now twenty-five feet above low water mark. The lowlands on the west side from here to Kingston are submerged, the overflow being nearly a mile wide. The ice jam between here and Nanticoke broke this afternoon, and the ice is now running out very slowly. The river has reported clear of ice from Pittston to Tunkhannock.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., April 3.—The ice jam from Linden, the upper end of this city, is passing out this evening without damage. At Blackwells a heavy jam exists, the water being up to the doors of houses. The big jam at Ferney moved slightly to-day, but was still above the bridge at the last report. The railroad officials are using extra vigilance.

LOCK HAVEN, Pa., April 3.—There is great anxiety here on account of the ice jam in the Susquehanna, which extends from a boom two miles above the city to Westham, a distance of sixteen miles. All trains west on the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad have been held here since yesterday morning, as several miles of the track is covered by ice and water. Fears are entertained for the safety of the railroad bridge at Queen's Run should the jam break.

The Suffering in West Virginia.

POINT PLEASANT, W. Va., April 3.—In view of the attempts made to belittle the suffering in this State, the following from the Mason county *Gazette* of April 3 is pertinent:

"The County Court should take immediate steps to assist the needy citizens of the county. It will do no good to anybody to attempt to disguise the fact that there is a large number of persons in the county without food or the means of getting it; good, honest, hard working people, who in years of the failure of the crops last year, the extremely hard winter and the dullness of business have exhausted all their resources and are now destitute. There are doubtless some worthless, indolent creatures among the sufferers, but they are, nevertheless, starving, and it is the duty of the county to provide for them. It is a duty, too, which should be borne by caring for them shall fall more equally on all. We are informed that over 600 persons are receiving assistance from the county, and that in one locality in the Clendenen district more than one hundred families are suffering."

Mayor Smith Vindicates His Reputation.

PHILADELPHIA, April 2.—Mayor Smith this morning received a letter from Samuel S. Hoey, Esq., calling upon him to deny the widespread rumor that he had consented to the Sullivan-McCaffrey fight for a money consideration. "As you value your personal reputation and political future," Mr. Hoey writes, "you must act at once, and speak in no uncertain terms."

The Mayor sent a reply this afternoon, saying: "I can most positively, and without a particle of reservation or equivocation, assure you that there never had been, nor are there at present, any relations in which I have either as an individual or as Mayor been interested with any gambler or sporting man in this city or elsewhere. If any man living can produce to your satisfaction or the community my guilt as so charged, I would feel myself unworthy of the position I have the honor to occupy, and would most certainly surrender the office."

An Exciting Scene in Court.

LYNCHBURG, Va., April 3.—A scene occurred in court here to-day which created much excitement, and, for a time, a general fight seemed imminent. D. A. Black, had procured a writ of habeas corpus to compel the surrender of his daughter, aged 6 years, who had been adopted in babyhood by an aunt at the request of the child's dying mother. The case being decided against Black he snatched the child from its foster mother's arms, and tried to make off with it. The girl screamed and the woman grappled with Black, and in an instant a dozen men had taken sides and were gathered in an excited crowd around the child. The Judge's coolness alone prevented serious consequences, and Black was sent to jail for contempt of court.

Bridges Swept Away in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, April 3.—The storm which swept over part of western Missouri on Wednesday night was much more disastrous than first reported. A heavy rain fell over a large area of country, and all the streams were greatly swollen. Bridges were swept away and other damage done. The Missouri Pacific Railroad was a heavy sufferer. Reports from Sedalia and other points say that four bridges were swept away on the main line west and one on the Lamoille and Sedalia branch. Trains are running via the Lexington branch. Several washouts are also reported.

A Cheap Work Horse Pacing in 2:01.

CASTLETON, Vt., April 3.—Bolger Bros., slate quarrymen, bought a cheap horse last fall for use on the derricks. He proved no good, and one evening was harnessed single, and began pacing. As soon as the lake was frozen over he was put to work on the ice track, and has paced a mile in 2:01. He has been named Hiram Hamilton. He was sired by Blackstone, he by Rysdyk's Hambletonian; dam sired by Gen. Sherman, he by Columbus—good blood on both sides. This animal was bred by H. Hamilton of Fairhaven. The horse is tall and handsome.

Vogel Brothers.

The Vogel Brothers are making special Easter offerings in reliable clothing for men and boys, the distinguishing feature of the goods being that they are all of new styles made for this spring's trade. The prices are the lowest that the Vogel Brothers have ever reached in the twenty-five years that they have been in the trade. Their stores are at Broadway and Houston and Eighth avenue and Forty-second street.

Spain and Morocco Make Up.

MADRID, April 3.—The difficulty between Morocco and Spain has been adjusted. The batteries at Tangier have saluted the Spanish flag. The Sultan has apologized for the attacks made upon Spaniards by Moors along the Reef coast, and he has promised to have the Governor severely punished.

The Plot Against Alfonso.

MADRID, April 3.—The *Correspondencia* asserts that five persons have been arrested for complicity in the alleged plot to assassinate King Alfonso. The government officials declare that the reports about the rumored plot are all exaggerated.

Killed by an Infernal Machine.

TRIESTE, April 3.—An infernal machine exploded in the office of Lloyd's Agency here yesterday, and one man was mortally wounded. It is impossible now to ascertain who sent the machine.

Sardou's Sensation.

"Theodora; or, From Theatre to Throne," the new story and play which is thrilling all Paris. See to-morrow's *Sunday Mercury*.—Adv.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

An American's Impressions of the Boers and their Nation.

A recent despatch from Cape Town having stated that Vice-President Joubert of the Transvaal has resigned his office because Gen Boers have applied for German protection, it has seemed to me that there is a probability of Anglo-German complications in South Africa, and that some personal impressions of the most native and most remarkable of the sisterhood of republics may be of interest.

By the labors of its history no one unfamiliar almost anything else than a republic constituted republics in the Transvaal. Because of its history, its patriotic, and its situation, it is a mythic country. By the resources and its prospects it is an interesting country. By its worth and by its interest it is a country that Bismarck will not permit the Germans Britisers to discover attractive soon. It may therefore come to Berlin and London as matter for inquiry in the coming year. It is of consequence enough for this for not only Germany and England, but all of the world know its position, politically, as a well-made inclosure of the three-in-the-deep kind.

Its opinions were begun as imitation of Britain. But they shortly had inaugurated a struggle for individuality more worthy of Germans than Africans. After independence had acquired there began a greater struggle, that had for its attainments education and civilization. Formerly England and the English language made the priestly which everything turned. English was the language of the courts of the office, and of the law. The men were educated in England, and by the English standard. After independence was recognized the people felt that they were not altogether free until they had thrown off the language that some itself. Now in the schools and in the law the Dutch is the language spoken. Though one hundred Transvaal youth are now being educated in England, the Superintendent of Education, Mr. [illegible] Du Toit, says: "To enjoy a good education and to draw intellectual attainments I hope that we shall send our sons to Holland. The people are Dutch born and want to be Dutch bred, that it is a hard study to Englishmen still monopolize the trade and industry of the significant State. English capital has in its hands the railways and the mines.

In 1878, when the country was one of England's flourishing colonies, it gave an income of $125,000. In 1893 the state income was $1,562,210. Thus, in the space of five brief years, the income has trebled. The national debt is $1,800,000, and the annual interest is $110,000—not bad figures compared to some things in South America. The country is as large as France, and some 60,000 white men tow the land for agriculture and stock raising, as for a long time the Boers have done. President Kruger says: "We have land enough, and to spare." There are no industries, but trade flourishes. A recent report places the value of the imports at $5,000,000 a year. There is wealth of gold, silver, copper, lead, and iron. Taxes are low, and the mines must some time come alongside of farming land.

The people disclaim the calumny that original sin of the Land Bill, the Uitlander of London last spring, when that functionary proposed to the Transvaalese of owning slaves. Some 700,000 Kaffirs reside in the territory, but every man of them is free. From ten to twenty thousand of their number are employed at high wages in the diamond fields, and trade with them and all of the white kind has doubled since 1891. The Kaffirs are actually beginning to wear clothes, and there is likelihood of a law being soon passed that shall require that they must do it. The ready-made clothing man has his eyes that way, and, with such a law, it is thought that the dry goods trade will double. Upon the Kaffir the Dutch are as the Southern Negro. In his mind the black man is a creature who must work, be contented, and have no need of money. Of course, it is not slavery as we understand the term; but living in a Dutch house instead of a Kaffir kraal is a species of bondage to him. It is no more to the Dutch than is an Englishman than he does of a Boer. The latter is at times cruel to him, but on the whole the Boer treats him better than the ordinary colonist does the Natal native. Neither colonist is apt to pay wages. But the Boer is politic, and is generally kind to the Kaffir, for fear that if he is not kind the black will kill his cattle, steal his horses, and burn his buildings.

The Kaffir recognizes as well as any one that the republic is well governed. In a time not so long ago the country was ruled by Governors, and in a time still later by telegraph. Now his ruler (meaning the Boer) is the farmer, or squatter, who raises enough stock for himself, buys all the coffee, sugar, and flour he needs, goes to town twice a year, dresses his wife in finery, and has enough to eat and drink. Such a master wants to be left alone as lord of himself and his blacks. He objects to paying taxes to supporting schools he reads and to paying church dues except when he rarely attends worship. Perhaps he has been to England or Holland; he can read; he subscribes for a Natal paper; he has money, and knows its worth; the laudrots are his friends; his farms are many; land, above all, his cry is the land, the non-euphonious "Africa for the Africander!"

The poorer Boer is the "poor white" of the States. He is roughly dressed, shaggy, and never clean. He does not know what business is, and does not want to. He is habitually cheated in town, and carves his wrongs as he sees is all the liquor that he can drink, and he is so childish that he will sit all day and play with delight with an infant's toys.

It is amusing to see a Boer go to town. In the early morning he puts eight or ten yoke of oxen before his light cart, and has a Kaffir to walk alongside each yoke. His wife and children are stowed in the tilt, and up in front, armed with a long whip, he sits in state. The wife kolts, the children sleep and play, and the Boer smokes and cracks his whip. When the sun is hot he takes his rifle and shoots a buck. While the boys unyoke the oxen they gather fuel with which madame boils venison stew and coffee. When all is ready they feast, the Kaffirs meanwhile eating their humble meal of skoff and sleeping. In the afternoon the tilt cart sets out again in its easy, patriarchal way, and at sunset the boys unyoke the oxen and the pitching of a camp. Twice a year is this done.

Arrived at the capital, he finds Dutch gentry to give him Dutch welcome. President Kruger is not adverse to a hand-shaking with any Boer. He is a clerical-looking man, and strikingly pious. In the superior class of Transvaalese are men of good appearance. Vice-President Joubert is clever and pleasant-faced. Gen. Pretorius is markedly handsome, and Gen. Smit is a ruddy little burgher. For my part I cannot understand why the country Boer is a *boer*, and the townsman a gentleman. I have seen some into Heidelberg some of the strangest looking, most uncouth of men, unkempt, greasy, and hideous. They were Laerosters, cruel, ferocious, and boastful, hating the *dom yoei batzee* of Englishman as they do snakes. They are insanely profane, but for the matter they have heard frightful oaths from the lips of such a fine gentleman as Mr. Joubert, whose religion is notably *sans reproche*. Everybody respects the preachers, but the man of all men who is revered is the doctor. He is an unqualified quack, and rapacious to the utmost, but the people give him reverence.

The Transvaal is a strange country. There are no trees save those on the seashore, and the bushes of the *cloofs*. You can travel a hundred miles and see no trees, and hills are as rare. Farm houses are ugly cottages, miles apart, almost always surrounded by hog pens and gum trees, the whole establishment looking best at a distance. The roads are *treks* (tracks), a wandering, winding series of ways, now running on a swell, now in a black and muddy swamp. The land is laid out in farms. The average size of a farm is 6,000 acres, and I know dozens of men who own over 100 farms each. This is explained by the old Dutch system which provided a farm for every citizen.

Naturally this enormous land tenure makes for feudalism, and the Boers are apt to be feudal lords. There is some matter of antagonism, and if civil war is not possible, there is a perennial struggle as to who is to be the foremost man in the State. Of course, the present Government is stable, but a half dozen men want Kruger's place. Notable aspirants are Gen. Marais of Heidelberg and Mr. Cronje of Potchefstroom, both of them with good followings, but neither of them the leader that the President is. They are amicable in their pretensions, but Solomon Prinslow, renowned as a rebel against the English, is an opponent with bitter blood.

In Prinslow's neighborhood, at De Kaap, are the principal gold placers. Large quantities of the yellow metal have been found there, and enough exists to make the republic the rival of California or Australia. The gold land is all owned by G. P. Moolie, a Scotchman of 78 years. To reach there the miner must travel 158 miles from Delagoa Bay, half of the way through a pestilential swamp. You will pardon me for not discussing the "South Africa gold fields" question. There are those there who have been lucky, and there are others, Americans among them, waiting for remittances to take them home. The Kaffir is the ideal gold digger, the ideal man of the diggings. The Kaffir pays spot cash for all that he buys, and in this particular comes in away ahead of our savages. The people do not now fear them.

The matter of fear at the present time has to deal with the Portuguese. Last spring President Kruger, Gen. Smit, and Superintendent Dutoit visited Europe to negotiate new conventions, and were received with honors that were of such a character as to surpass their expectations. After talking up their business they asked and received from bankers and capitalists financial aid to open up a railroad of some pretensions from Pretoria, their capital, to the seaboard at Delagoa Bay. A company was formed, and a capital of $2,500,000 pledged. By a prior understanding, Portugal was to permit fifty miles of the road built through territory owned by her. Nothing, however, was said at the time of the visit of the deputation, and it is seriously feared that the powers that be at Lisbon may put obstructions in the way. Just now, when the same Government is blocking things in the Congo, the people of the Transvaal stand in fear of some discouragement, though Mr. Dutoit says he does not think Portugal will withdraw any of the advantages promised.

When it is settled as to whether the Transvaal is to be eaten up or not by Portugal or England it may not seem unwise for the United States to recognize that far-off Government by a Consul or a commercial agent. All of these little republics have got to live, and it is well for us to think of sustaining them in their dearly bought independence. The time may come when the South African republics will develop a United States of Africa! Who knows?

M. C. C.

$40,000 TO REPAIR THE CAPITOL.

Speech Abundance Hope for This Year—Appropriations by the Governor.

TRENTON, April 3.—The State Capitol question was settled to-day in the Assembly by a compromise in the shape of a bill appropriating $40,000 for the work of restoring the part of the building that was burned. The south Jerseymen think that this is a sum large enough to keep the capital from being removed next year. The Essex men are satisfied that the repairs will be commenced at once, and will be performed with their finishing the Capitol up to Newark next winter.

The Governor sent to the Senate the following nominations: Judge of Court of Errors and Appeals, John Hetringer of Essex; Commissioner of the Sinking Fund, Jonathan H. Hoagland of Passaic; Presiding Judge of Middlesex county, Charles Corlies; Prosecutor of Pleas of Burlington county, Charles F. Hendrickson; Commissioner of Pilotage, Benjamin Warner of Middlesex; Pilots, Curtis of Monmouth, Francis B. Tilton of Essex, Thomas Gaskill of Salem, Wm. Bright, Joseph W. Flynn of Essex; Inspectors of the Second Brigade, with the usual rank of Colonel, Lieut.-Col. Daniel B. Murphy of Camden, Wesley Horner of Hunterdon, Charles Reiter.

Mr. Hardwick was confirmed as Assessing Fund Commissioner. The Senate rejected the nomination of Charles H. Manson for Judge in Hunterdon county.

The assembly spent most of this evening in taking recessions and waiting for the Senate to furnish it something to do. Its own calendars were cleared in the afternoon. The Senate has amended the state capital bill in unimportant particulars and will undoubtedly pass it. There is no doubt of sine die adjournment at noon to-morrow.

THE ILLINOIS SENATOR.

Col. Morrison to Withdraw from the Race in Favor of Gen. John C. Black.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—A friend of Col. Morrison has arrived here from Springfield to consult with Illinois Democrats on the Senatorial situation. He reports that Morrison stock is greatly depressed, and that there is no prospect of his election. Col. Morrison, it is said, is now satisfied to withdraw from the race and to do all he can to elect the candidate upon whom the party can unite. It has been practically decided to-day that Gen. John C. Black, the new Commissioner of Pensions, is the most available man, and it is understood that all hands will rally at Springfield next week to make him the caucus nominee, and to press the voting to a conclusion. Gen. Black's friends believe he will get the votes of one or two anti-Logan Republicans.

"THE LAST MAN TAKES THE CAKE" IN THE TRANSLATION LAWYER BEAMAN OFFERS.

David P. Fackler, an actuary not connected with the Equitable Life, testified yesterday before the Assembly Committee on tontine insurance which met at the Equitable building. His definition of the tontine plan was that it is a fund to which many contribute money with the understanding that the income of the fund is to be shared by the survivors year by year, and also with the possible understanding that at the end of a fixed term of years the reserve fund should be shared. This reserve fund or surplus is the accumulation of the money of those who have dropped out of the race, and it was also from the income of money paid in.

Mr. Raines asked the witness what he understood by the phrase "the last man in the race." Mr. Miller said he had found that expression in a circular of the Equitable Society. Mr. Fackler said he could not tell.

Lawyer Beaman—It seems to mean that the last man takes the cake.

Mr. Raines—Isn't it that the man who takes a hand in the game takes in the pot, if he lives long enough?

Mr. Fackler—I don't understand that. I was told that an agent of the Equitable Life had told him not long ago that a man with heart disease was insured by him in the twenty-year tontine plan, and that the society consented to insure him on this plan, but on no other plan.

Mr. Beaman, for the Equitable—Who was the man and who was the agent?

Mr. Fackler—I haven't authority to give their names. The names are to be had, if possible, for to-day's investigation.

Cadetships for Tenth District Boys.

A cadetship at West Point, and another at Annapolis, both in the gift of Congressman Abram S. Hewitt, are to be filled by a competitive examination, which will be held at the College of the City of New York on Saturday, April 25, beginning at 9½ o'clock A. M. The boys who compete must live in the Tenth Congress district, which is bounded by the East River, Fourteenth street, Third avenue, Twenty-third street, Sixth avenue, Twenty-fifth street, Seventh avenue, Forty-fifth street, Lexington avenue, and Forty-second street. For the West Point cadetship candidates must be between 17 and 22 years of age, unmarried, at least 5 feet tall, and sound in body; must be able to read, write, spell, and cipher well, in addition to a knowledge of English grammar, of descriptive geography, particularly of this country, and of the history of the United States. Candidates for the United States Naval Academy must be over 14 and under 18 years of age, and be examined on the subjects above enumerated. All hands must report at the President's room at the college on Saturday, April 25, at 9 A. M. for physical examination. Those who are passed by the surgeon will be examined in the academic branches on the succeeding Saturday. The examinations will be conducted with a view to the selection of appointees who shall seem to be benefitted, mentally and physically, for the public service.

Are These Wires Going Under Ground or Not?

The Health Board has announced that in its opinion, and in view of the expected cholera, so extensive a piece of work as the laying of all telegraph wires in the city under ground in one season, or to make extensive excavations in the streets for any purpose, would prove highly detrimental to the health of the city, through the exposure to the atmosphere of so much subsoil, saturated, as most of it is, with noxious gases, and that it would be wise for all parties, officials and others, to avoid as far as possible during the approaching summer making any street excavations not imperatively needed. The Board requests the municipal departments to do their street excavations hereafter between Oct. 1 and May 1.

If this advice is taken, it will leave the telegraph, telephone, and electric light companies, under the law of 1886, three carnival months in April and the month of October to get those wires under ground in.

Police Transfers.

Sergeant George B. Kass from the City Hall to Inspector Steers's staff, Sergeant Philip M. Griffith from Union Market to Delancey street; Roundsmen Wm. B. Coffee of the Thirty-fifth street squad and Ezra D. Strope of the Charles street exchange places; Policemen Thomas Sheehan of the Morrisania squad and Henry Schorsk of the Prince street, and Wm. J. Norton of the Harlem and John O'Leary of the Thirty-fifth street also exchange places; Edward M. McLaughlin of the Thirty-fifth street squad transferred to the Thirty-eighth street; Edward Meaks from Tremont West 126th street; Doorman James Smith to the Fifty-ninth street station. Eighteen P. B.'s were appointed. Policeman H. L. Holly of the Old slip squad was retired.

A Stylish Negro Arrested.

A stylish-looking negro whom Detective McGowan has seen pawning cashmere shawls in several pawnshops lately was arrested yesterday, and proved to be William R. Johnson, porter for Miller, Kaster & Co., importers of dry goods at 32 Greene street. It is alleged that he has been stealing shawls for two years. He had been employed ten years by the house, and had frequently been intrusted with thousands of dollars to deposit in bank. "He is well educated," Mr. Miller said yesterday, "and moves in the best colored society. His salary was $15 a week." Johnson pleaded not guilty.

Spotting Non-Union Hats.

Sylvester Kelly was arrested yesterday on complaint of Charles S. Potts, a Williamsburgh boss truckman, who said that Kelly had followed his trucks for three weeks, annoyed his drivers, and interfered with his business. Kelly said he had been employed to follow the trucks "to, he said, was carting cases of hats manufactured by the lockout hatters in South Norwalk to firms in this city, and Kelly's business was to locate the firms that bought these hats, so that they might be boycotted. Justice Duffy discharged Kelly.

A Dive Keeper's Sentence.

Charles Larsen, proprietor of a sailors' boarding house at 97 James street, was tried in the Court of Special Sessions yesterday for assaulting Charles Winther with a club. He was found guilty and was sentenced by Recorder Smith to the Penitentiary for six months, and to pay a fine of $50. Owing to the evil reputation of the place, the Board of Excise refused to give Larsen a license, and Winther says Larsen wanted him to sell liquor from a hole in the basement, which he refused to do.

Rabbits and Birds for Easter Presents.

"The latest thing in Easter presents," said an animal dealer yesterday, "is a live rabbit or dove. They must be pure white, the rabbit having pink eyes and transparent ears. They are sent out in all kinds of fancy boxes made for the purpose, and are not very often sent far from the city, as great care must be taken in handling them. Fine song birds are also sent in fancy paper boxes."

Max Stadler & Co.

The handsomely illustrated catalogue which describes the new spring stock prepared especially for the clothing trade of Max Stadler & Co. will be ready for distribution at the spring opening of this firm this morning. It is called the Bartholdi statue catalogue. Every lady who visits the store to-day will receive a souvenir. Especial attention is called to their suits for young men.

Locomotives in Collision.

The Elizabeth accommodation train bound for Jersey City ran into a drill engine at the round house of the New Jersey Central Railroad in Jersey City at 7½ o'clock yesterday morning. The passenger locomotive crashed into the driller and swung it clear off the track. None of the passengers on the train was hurt.

There are More of Them at Large.

Thomas Kehoe, 25 years old, sold a couple of dozen evening papers at five cents apiece to a crowd at Twenty ninth street and Broadway, yesterday, by yelling: "Extra! Full account of the death of Gen. Grant!" He was arrested and sent to prison for five days.

THE DOG HEARD HER CRY.

Springing Between his Young Mistress and a Negro Just in Time to Save her Life.

BALTIMORE, April 3.—Forty armed and mounted men ransacked all Baltimore county last night searching for Howard Cooper, the young negro who feloniously assaulted Miss Kate Gray, the 20-year-old daughter of Mr. D. C. Gray, a farmer living near Rockland. The pursuers are all young farmers, and they carry with them twenty feet of hemp, with which they do not hesitate to say they will hang Cooper as soon as they get hold him. The Sheriff's officers are with them, but it is not probable that they can arrest the vengeance of the pursuing party. Cooper's crime was an atrocious one. His victim is a bright and pretty young woman, a school teacher, and the belle of the rural district in which she lives.

Yesterday afternoon Miss Kate Gray, in company with her sister Rosie, went to the railroad station, one mile from the house, where Rosie took a train. Kate then started homeward alone. When she had reached a retired spot about half way between the station and her home she saw a colored man get over the fence. He made a circuit her, and she began to walk on more quickly. The negro also quickened his pace and coming up with her made insulting proposals. Although nearly frightened, she pressed up a large stone and hurled it at the negro, striking him in the face. He then seized her and a desperate struggle ensued. He dragged her by the hair, some of which he threw her, and at once attempted an assault. Her resistance was so great that, fearing some one would hear her, he dragged her 200 yards into the woods, down a hill, and into a secluded ravine about 300 yards from Bentzfather's gate, where he again attempted an assault. After a struggle of about an hour, he let her go a stream of water, where he ordered her to wash the blood from her face and hands. She did so. He then proposed to let her go if she would promise not to tell of the assault. She made the promise, but he immediately repeated the attempt, and she fainted. When she recovered he threatened to kill her, and, picking up a heavy stick, raised it over her. She thought he meant to fell his throat, and she knelt down at his feet and prayed to God to pity her. Then, she had finished, he again raised the club. This time gave one last despairing shriek, which was heard at her home, but was not understood by any one.

Her large Scotch shepherd dog heard the cry, and sprang across an intervening cornfield at breakneck speed, bounding down the ravine the dog dashed in the direction of his mistress, who caught sight of him at the moment the club was raised in air. She sprang to one side, and with a last effort ran toward her protector. The negro followed, but the dog sprang between them, and the girl shrieked incessantly. Becoming alarmed, Cooper threw his club at the dog, and fled down the ravine. The girl tottered across the cornfield, fainting twice. The barking of her dog called the family to the front porch, where she was found insensible.

Mr. Gray seized his shotgun, and, riding into the village, called for volunteers to search for the negro. Every able-bodied man responded. At about 9 o'clock last night the Sheriff and his deputy traced Cooper to a hut in the woods near Towson. One approached from the rear and the others from the front. The night being dark, Cooper managed to escape by jumping from a side window. Eight shots were fired at his retreating figure without effect. He was traced for several hundred yards, and then his track was lost. His cap and vest were found in the hut.

The National Game.

Nearly a thousand people went to the Polo Grounds yesterday to see a practice game between the New York League team and the Monitor nine of this city. The game was entirely devoid of interest from its one-sided character, the New Yorkers playing very lazily, while their opponents failed to play up to even the ordinary amateur mark. Dorgan pitched for the home team, and Brill for the visitors, and neither were effective. McCabe's second base play and Connor's third base play were the fielding features of the game. The score was:

NEW YORK.	s.	b.	po.	a.	e.	MONITOR.	s.	b.	po.	a.	e.
Ewing, c	0	1	5	0	0	Waters, c. f	0	0	1	0	0
O'Rourke, c. f	2	1	1	0	0	Dwyer, lb	0	0	16	0	1
Connor, 3b	0	1	2	4	0	Wade, s. s	2	2	0	2	2
Williams, l. f	2	2	0	0	0	Gilleaudeau, 2b	0	1	2	3	1
Dorgan, p	2	4	1