

IMPORTANT NEWS.

American Congressional Action on the Subject of the Alabama Claims.

General Banks in Interview with Secretary Fish.

The Peters Resolution and Its Results.

Presidential and Cabinet Resolution in Support of Our First Position in Geneva.

United in Sentiment and No Recession.

ENGLISH VIEW OF THE SITUATION.

WASHINGTON, April 19, 1872.

General Banks called on Secretary Fish today, and had a long conference on the policy of our government in regard to the claim for consequential damages before the Geneva tribunal.

The immediate cause of this interview was the instructions of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the House, to ascertain the views of the State Department on the question before any action was taken on the resolution introduced by Mr. Peters some days ago.

It will be remembered that this resolution was brought before Congress through instrumentalities of the worst character and for the basest purposes. A very strong pressure is being brought to bear upon Congress and upon the Executive in the interest of persons who expect to profit by the award on the claims for direct losses, and the men thus interested are using everything which they can call to aid to secure a withdrawal of the demand and bring about the humiliation of the country.

It was in their interest that Mr. Peters' resolution was introduced into Congress, and a broken down gambling house runner is the reputed author and chief champion of it.

It was never worthy of notice either from Congress or the American people, but it has served a good purpose in bringing from the Secretary of State a distinct avowal that the policy of our government has not changed in regard to the case before the Geneva tribunal.

The Secretary assured General Banks, in the most positive terms, that the President and his Cabinet were thoroughly united in support of the position taken by the Department, and that so far as the Executive was concerned, there was not even the possibility of our government receding from its undeniably just and authorized demands.

This information General Banks was desired to communicate to the committee, in order that whatever action might be taken upon the resolution should be based upon a full knowledge of the sentiment of the Executive, as represented by the Department of State.

At the Cabinet meeting, which immediately followed the interview between General Banks and Mr. Fish, the latter communicated to the President and his colleagues the substance of the conference, and received their unqualified assent to what he had said in their own and the President's behalf.

Charles Francis Adams, our representative at the Geneva Conference, will sail from New York on Wednesday next.

THE QUESTION IN ENGLAND.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD. British Popular Canvass of the Counter Cases—A Withdrawal of the Indirect Claims Hoped For.

LONDON, April 19, 1872.

The journals of this city continue to discuss the counter cases presented by the British and American governments at Geneva, drawing contrasts between them very unfavorable to the American case.

Intimations have been received here of the probability of the withdrawal of the indirect claims. These are favorably commented on by the English newspapers, and the government and people of the United States praised for this apparent disposition to render possible the fulfillment of the terms of the Treaty of Washington.

Earl Russell's Motion for Suspension of the Arbitration.

LONDON, April 19, 1872.

Earl Russell gave notice in the House of Lords last night that he should defer until the 20th instant the introduction of his motion for an address to the Crown for the suspension of proceedings on the part of Great Britain before the Geneva Tribunal until the United States withdraw their claims for indirect damages.

The American Agent in Berlin from Geneva—Preparation for a Princely Reception.

LONDON, April 19, 1872.

A special despatch to the London Echo from Berlin says:—Mr. J. Bancroft Davis, agent of the United States before the Geneva Board of Arbitration, has arrived in this city on a visit to Mr. Bancroft, the American Minister.

During his stay here a dinner will be given at the Legation of the United States, to which Prince Bismarck and a number of leading diplomats are invited.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

Denials of the English Newspaper Proclamation of a Prussian Plan of War.

Bismarck's Message to Versailles—The Chancellor's Commendation of Thiers' Executive—French Popular Distrust a Cause of Official Plain.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, April 19, 1872.

A special despatch to the London Daily News from Berlin says no ultimatum, as alleged by the Daily Telegraph yesterday, has been sent to the French government by Prince Bismarck.

Count Von Arnim, the German Ambassador to France, did convey a despatch from Prince Bismarck to the government at Versailles, but its tone was very pacific and highly flattering to President Thiers. The Prussian Premier in the despatch stated that he was convinced that peace was secured between the two nations so long as the present Executive of France remained in power.

In the same despatch Prince Bismarck complains of the distrust of the good intentions of Germany manifested by the people of France.

Prussian Pronouncement Against the English Publication.

BERLIN, April 19, 1872.

The North German Gazette positively denies the truth of the statements made by the London Daily Telegraph in regard to the relations of Germany and France, and pronounces the rumors of grave complications between the two countries wholly without foundation.

FRANCE.

Canvass for the Ambassadorship to the Court of St. James—Flow of Bullion to the Bank.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, April 19, 1872.

M. Perreire has declined the offer of the Ambassadorship to London, and the Duke d'Harcourt will probably be appointed to that place.

FLOW OF BULLION TO THE BANK.

The specie in the Bank of France has increased 6,000,000 francs during the week.

GERMANY.

Church Discipline by Excommunication Controlled by the Civil Power.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BERLIN, April 19, 1872.

The Minister of Public Worship has given formal notice to the Bishop of Ermeland that, as sentences of excommunication against German subjects clash with the civil law and affect unfavorably the social status, therefore the consent of the government must be obtained before such sentences are pronounced. The Minister insists on obedience to the laws as a duty incumbent on all, and intimates that failure in that duty on the part of the Bishop will lead to the withdrawal by the government of its official recognition of his ecclesiastical functions.

The Bishop of Ermeland answers apologetically, affirming that civil honor is in no way affected by excommunication.

EMPEROR WILLIAM.

Painful Accident to the German Potentate.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BERLIN, April 19, 1872.

His Majesty the Emperor William is suffering from the effect of a painful accident—a sprain of the knee joint—which causes him considerable uneasiness.

SPAIN.

The Cabinet a Unit as at Present Constituted—Capture of Carlists.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MADRID, April 19, 1872.

Reports which gained currency in Europe that a new Ministry was contemplated, with Marshal Serrano at its head, are authoritatively contradicted.

CONQUEST OF CARLISTS.

The troops have encountered some Carlists in Catalonia this week and taken several prisoners. A STATESMAN EXPECTED.

Señor Zorrilla is expected in the city in a day or two.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S TOUR.

Imperial Honors to the American Party.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 19, 1872.

His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has sent one of his steam yachts to Odessa to convey General Sherman and Lieutenant Grant and friends to Sebastopol.

A. W. Thayer, the United States Consul at Trieste, has joined the party.

MORE TROOPS FOR CUBA.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

HAVANA, April 19, 1872.

The last steamer from Spain brought 800 troops to reinforce the Spanish army in Cuba.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 20—1 A. M.

Synopsis for the Past Twenty-four Hours.

The barometer has risen from the lower lakes to the Eastern Gulf and eastward, where clear weather continues very generally, with light winds. The pressure has diminished somewhat throughout the Mississippi Valley and westward, with increased cloudiness, and rain is now prevailing from Iowa to Louisiana.

Probabilities.

Clear and pleasant weather will prevail very generally on Saturday from the lower lakes to the South Atlantic and eastward, with light southerly winds and diminishing pressure. Increased cloudiness will prevail from the upper lakes to the Gulf, with very probably rain and southerly winds veering to westerly. Dangerous winds are not anticipated.

The Weather in This City Yesterday.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudson's Pharmacy, Herald Building:—

Table with 4 columns: Year, Time, Temperature, and other weather-related data.

GREAT FIRE IN MICHIGAN.

DETROIT, Mich., April 19, 1872. The entire business portion of the town of Ferndale, Mich., was destroyed by fire on Wednesday night. The loss is \$43,000. Insurance about \$9,000.

ENGLAND.

Slavery in Cuba and the Slave Trade for Cuba Debated in the Commons.

THE OBLIGATIONS OF SPAIN AND PLAIN RIGHTS TO AMADON—How the Gem of the Antilles is Governed—The Birthplace of the Alabama on Fire—The Maine Law and Temperance Movement—A New Feat in Prospect.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, April 19, 1872.

In the House of Commons this evening Mr. THOMAS HUGHES, member for Frome, moved an address to the Queen praying her to urge upon the Spanish government the prompt fulfillment of its treaty obligations, so long neglected, in regard to slavery and the slave trade in the island of Cuba. In support of his motion Mr. Hughes noticed the origin and progress of the war in Cuba and its connection with the slavery question. He quoted from and commented strongly upon what he styled the atrocious proclamation of the Captain General, and condemned the ruthless and savage manner in which the war had been carried on, not, he said, on the part of the regular army, but by the dregs of Europe, called "the Cuban Volunteers," men hired for a war of rapine and extermination. While Spain was pouring her troops into Cuba that island was pouring her meritorious refugees into the adjacent colonies of Great Britain. "America had already proposed against the policy of Spain, and he hoped that Great Britain and other Powers would join in the protest." In conclusion, Mr. Hughes declared that Spain really desired the abolition of slavery, and refused to consummate it only on account of the supposed interests of this dependency of Cuba.

Mr. CHARLES GILPIN, member for Northampton, seconded the motion of Mr. Hughes. He said that the chief object of the insurrection in Cuba was the abolition of slavery. The course of action proposed in this motion was, therefore, in reality friendly to Spain.

Mr. ARBUTHNOT opposed the motion. He said that he had visited the island of Cuba, and was able, from personal observation, to deny the stories of cruelty which had been spread abroad. He hinted at the propriety of reticence on the subject of the evils which might exist in Cuba, in the presence of events in the island of Jamaica within the remembrance of every gentleman present.

Viscount SANDON, member for Liverpool, supported the motion. He said that he, too, had been in Cuba, and was able, as an eye-witness, to testify to the atrocities detailed by the honorable member for Frome. There could be no doubt that the people of Cuba detested the rule of the Spaniards.

Mr. POWELL, member for Penryn, and Mr. CLAY, member for Barnstaple, spoke in support of the motion.

Sir CHARLES WINGFIELD followed in opposition. Finally Viscount EXETER, while sympathizing with Mr. Hughes in his effort to obtain action on this matter, expressed grave doubts of the propriety of pressing the motion. He said the British government had already done much to mitigate the hard sufferings of the Cubans and the hardships of slavery in the Spanish colonies, and would be ready to do more as soon as the suppression of the insurrection afforded the proper opportunity.

Mr. HUGHES withdrew his motion.

PROSPECTS FOR THE PERMELAGE.

It is said that the Hon. Russell Gurney, late Recorder of London and now member of the Mixed Commission at Washington, is to be elevated to the Peerage.

THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE AND MAINE LAW MOVEMENT.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at Exeter Hall last night, by the friends of the Permissive Prohibitory Liquor Bill. Mr. J. B. Gould, the American Consul at Birmingham, gave an account of temperance legislation in the United States and success and beneficent effects of the Liquor law in Maine and Massachusetts.

THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE ALABAMA IN DANGER FROM FIRE.

LIVERPOOL, April 19, 1872.

Fire broke out in the extensive shipbuilding yards of the Messrs. Lairds, in Birkenhead, opposite this city, at six o'clock this morning, and is still burning. The conflagration was among the timber. The loss amounts to over £15,000.

VICTORIA AND NAPOLEON.

Royal English Visit to the Imperial Exile.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, April 19, 1872.

The visit of Her Majesty Queen Victoria to the ex-Emperor Napoleon, at Chislehurst, will be made tomorrow, the 20th inst., the arrangements for the royal journey to-day having been postponed.

THE MORMON REVOLUTION.

The Situation Very Grave—No Jail Delivery of Mormon Prisoners—Life of a Hunter Threatened—Return of a Great Rowdy—The Brigham's Counsel Must Wait.

SALT LAKE, April 19, 1872.

Efforts having been made by ex-United States Attorney Bates, Hempstead and other counsel of the Mormon prisoners to obtain their discharge on unofficial telegrams and press reports, the Attorney General was consulted, and he orders that no discharge be made on habeas corpus except in proper form. Marshal Patrick will therefore detain the prisoners. The Mormon police last night threatened the life of the Associated Press reporter, A. S. Gould, asserting they would cut his heart out and using most abusive language, and they being backed by many comrades. Gould's offense is sending reports touching the situation here, which are not favorable to the Mormon cause.

Nearly all the persons under indictment have appeared publicly in the streets after a month's seclusion.

Since the United States Supreme Court has decided that the Mormon law, practically governs here, the political situation has been exceedingly feverish.

Porter Rockwell, the chief of the old Mormon "Danites," who disappeared some months ago for fear of arrest for high crimes, turned up last night, and for hours made saloons and streets resound with exultant yells and vile expressions. A citizen, remarking that if a Gentile was dragged to prison, Rockwell would at once be taken to his heart out, a general excitement ensued. Many Gentiles hurriedly armed themselves, and for a while a serious collision was imminent; the first blow, however, was not struck, and at a late hour quiet was restored.

It is thought now that no further effort will be made to release Brigham Young and the other prisoners until the official copy of the Supreme Court decision arrives.

The meeting last night to form an organization in union with the so-called "national party" East amounted to little or nothing. A committee was appointed to secure the co-operation of the women and the meeting adjourned.

EMIGRATION TO UTAH.

NASHVILLE, April 19, 1872.

Nineteen emigrants for Salt Lake City left here this afternoon. They are from Virginia and North Carolina.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

Parts of California Still Agitated—Houses Thrown Down and the Earth Opened in Many Places.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 19, 1872.

Violent shocks of earthquake continue in Inyo county, California, but are not felt on the western side of the Sierra Nevada. An island is rising in Mono Lake.

Houses were thrown down on Friday last at Round Valley Camp, Inyo county; the earth opened in many places, but no lives were lost.

YACHTING NOTE.

At a meeting of the Flushing Yacht Club to reorganize for the coming season several new members were enrolled. After the report from the Secretary and statement of the Treasurer, both of whom were very satisfactory, the election of officers took place, resulting in W. Chestnut, Commodore; J. A. Schmeidel, Vice Commodore; Charles A. Roe, Treasurer; James W. Covert, Secretary. Three new boats have been added to the fleet, one of which, the cutter-rigged Spry, promises to make a name for herself in the yachting world.

TRAGEDY IN BOSTON.

Death of a Woman Under Suspicious Circumstances.

Her Brother-in-Law Charged with the Murder.

BOSTON, April 19, 1872.

One of those mysterious deaths, the cause of which is at first difficult to ascertain, occurred at the boarding house of Mrs. O'Brien, at 559 Harrison avenue, last evening. The circumstances of the case, stripped of the romance which was given them in some of the morning papers, are about as follows:—It was about a year ago that Thomas Mayne, with his wife and brother James, came to Boston from New York and secured employment at their trade of stenciling. Both are good workmen and reliable men. The second evening at the house of Mrs. O'Brien, as stated above, and he and his brother James, so far as their relations to the outside world were concerned, Mrs. Mayne, however, seemed to have had an uncontrollable love for strong drink. Instead of using it she abused it, and her greatest pleasure was to be locked up in a room with a bottle of liquor, which she would drink from until she fell in a stupor from her chair. In appearance she was a fine-looking woman of about twenty-eight years of age, comely in proportion, and was capable of being a comfort to her husband, instead of being what she was—an unavoidable nuisance. Her habits were such as to render home a perfect bedlam and drive her husband out of doors. In the evening Mrs. Mayne frequently has been in the custody of the police on a charge of drunkenness, and at one time she was sent to Deer Island at his instigation, returning therefrom about four weeks ago. When she got back again she

PROMISED TO LEAD A BETTER LIFE. A promise which, however, she was unable to keep. She continued to go from bad to worse. Last Sunday her husband threatened to fog her if she did not reform, and was about to put his threat into practical execution when outsiders interfered and prevented it. Yesterday morning John O'Brien, also a stonemason, who lives in Charlestown, came over to the house, and with the Mayne brothers joined in a great drink. The boarding mistress, Mrs. O'Brien, together with Mrs. Mayne, occupied a portion of the party, and all hands endeavored to enjoy themselves by drinking liquor. After a while Mrs. O'Brien left the party, which occupied a room on the second floor, and was followed soon after by Mrs. Mayne, who retired to her own room, a rear apartment on the first floor. Mrs. Mayne was then somewhat intoxicated. Nothing more was heard of her till eleven o'clock, when Mrs. O'Brien looked into the room and saw her lying on the bed. In the afternoon James, who had been in the room, as he expressed it, "in and out" several times during the day. At about five o'clock Mrs. O'Brien called at the room again and found the door closed. She attempted to open it, but was resisted by some power from the inside, as if there was a man pressing against it. She called the name of Mrs. Mayne, who was holding the door, told her to go away, and she went. Mrs. O'Brien then went to the stairs and screamed, "Thomas, come down here, for your wife is dead."

Thomas hastened into the room with the others and found that her assertion was correct. Mrs. Mayne had evidently just expired. As a very notable case, the coroner's jury returned a verdict of giving Mrs. Mayne a cup of tea, and found her lying on her side with her head in a washpan of water. The room was quite empty, and there was almost cold. Mrs. O'Brien then went to the stairs and screamed, "Thomas, come down here, for your wife is dead."

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