FRANCE.

An Important Debate Postponed by Assembly Vote.

The Question of Parliamentary Prorogation.

MacMahon's Opportunity Amidst the Division of Parties.

PARIS, July 24, 1874.

In the Assembly to-day M. Batbie presented the report of the Committee of Thirty on the General Electoral bill.

The Marquis of Castellane moved that the consideration of the constitutional bills be postponed until after the recess.

M. Malatre, a Bonapartist and extensive industrial proprietor, moved that the Assembly, after voting the Budget, be prorogued until January 5, 1875. A recess, he said, would do no harm to trade.

M. Chabaud La Tour, the Minister of the Interior, said the government was still desirous of having a vote on the constitutional bills, but would submit to the decision of the Assembly.

Marquis de Castellane's motion was carried, and that of M. Malatre was declared urgent by a vote of 395 yeas to 308 nays.

The House then appointed Tuesday next for debate on the latter motion, and proceeded to the consideration of the Budget.

THE POLITICAL PARTY OUTLOOK.

The general impression is that none of the constitutional bills is able to command a majority in the Assembly. The Right feared the fate of their project would demonstrate the powerlessness of the Assembly and render dissolution inevitable; it therefore voted for a postponement of the bills.

The Left is deeply irritated at the result.

A COMPLIMENT FROM THE PRESIDENT.

President MacMahon has congratulated the Duke de Broglie on his speech of yesterday.

SPAIN.

Political Effort for the Establishment of the Republic.

MADRID, July 24, 1874.

It is stated that Señors Castelar and Zorilla are preparing to act in concert for the definitive establishment of a conservative Republic.

Report of a Republican Victory.

LONDON, July 24, 1874.

It is reported from Spain that General Moriones has won a great victory in Navarre, taking 1,500 Carlist prisoners.

ENGLAND.

Earl Russell Advocates the Recognition of the Spanish Government—The Cabinet Idea of a Collective European Act.

LONDON, July 24, 1874.

In the House of Lords this evening Earl Russell asked whether the government had made any remonstrance to France against the connivance of her authorities in the violation of the Spanish frontier by the Carlists. He especially referred to rumors that the French government had interferred with Spain in a manner contrary to friendly relations and the law of nations; that Carlists escaping into France, instead of being returned, had been furnished with passports and permitted to cross and recross the frontier. He urged that in according an ordinary courtesy due from one civilized nation to another there should be no unnecessary delay in the formal recognition of the Spanish government by that of Great Britain.

The Earl of Derby, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replied that Spain had not asked England to interfere. He considered recognition of the Spanish government at present would be premature. When the time arrived it would be better that such recognition should be the collective act of the European Powers.

The Premier Announces the Day of Prorogation.

LONDON, July 24, 1874.

In the House of Commons this evening Mr. Disraeli announced that the Land Transfer, the Judicature and the Endowed Schools bills would be withdrawn and Parliament prorogued on the 8th of August.

SMALLPOX AT NEWMARKET.

There is an alarming outbreak of smallpox at Newmarket. Upwards of sixty cases are already reported.

The authorities of the town have asked the Jockey Club to permit them to convert their grand stand into a hospital, where infected persons may be quartered.

WEATHER REPORT.

The weather throughout England to-day is wet.

THE HOLY SEE.

Private Chaplain to the Pope.

ROME, July 24, 1874.

The announcement that Father Howard would succeed Mgr. de Mérode as the Pope's private chaplain was incorrect. Mgr. Sanminiatelli, until now one of the private chamberlains of His Holiness, has been appointed to the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mgr. de Mérode.

THE STEAMSHIP MINERVA.

Eight Persons Dead Since the Boiler Explosion.

HAVANA, July 24, 1874.

Six persons wounded by the boiler explosion on the Spanish steamship Minerva have died. This makes eight deaths in all by the disaster.

CUBA.

A Financial Decree by Concha.

HAVANA, July 24, 1874.

The Captain General has issued the following decree:—

In order to promote the circulation of the Treasury bills, $5,000,000 in amount, the issue of which was authorized by the decree of June 8, 1874, and in view of the indications given by the banks and principal capitalists of Havana, I decree that from the date of the publication hereof corporations and local administrations of the customs may receive in payment of taxes and duties the said Treasury bills of the issue of June 8, in all cases and to any amount, the same as bank bills of the Spanish Bank of Havana.

CONCHA.

BANKRUPTCY OF JAY COOKE & CO.

The Examination Before the Register—Accumulation of Funds—The Dividend To Be Paid.

PHILADELPHIA, July 24, 1874.

The several members of the firm of Jay Cooke & Co. appeared before Register Mason this morning and filed certain papers, containing an exhibit of the receipts and expenditures of their firm from the date of the organization of it until its suspension. These papers had been called for by some of the creditors, but none of them appearing this morning to examine Mr. Cooke or his partners these gentlemen simply signed the exhibits and swore to their truth, when the Register adjourned further proceedings in the matter until the 25th of September next.

THE DIVIDEND

of five per cent authorized by the Committee of Creditors has not yet been paid, the Register having doubts as to its binding effect upon him. He has, however, proceeded with the necessary calculation, so that there should be no delay if the Court ordered him to proceed. In the meantime the funds in his hands have increased to such an amount as will warrant the payment of seven instead of five per cent. It is expected that he will bring the matter before the Court when its opinion can be obtained, and, if the proper order is made, the payment will be proceeded with as early as possible.

THE SEASIDE CAPITAL.

Grand Review of the Fifth Maryland Regiment—Visit of the President and Party to Atlantic City.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., July 24, 1874.

Fully 4,000 people assembled on the beach of Long Branch this evening, to witness the grand review of the Fifth Maryland regiment of Baltimore. The platform, richly carpeted, was erected in front of the Ocean Hotel. President Grant arrived at the Ocean Hotel at six o'clock, and was lustily cheered by the assemblage as he alighted from his carriage. A salute of thirty-one guns was fired in his honor. Upon the platform to review the regiment were President Grant; Governor Joel Parker, of New Jersey; Governor Groome, of Maryland; Adjutant General Bond, of Maryland; Generals Benjamin F. Blanchard, Henry Heath, Knox, Knapp and N. Gano Dunn, of Governor Dix's staff, and Major General Patterson. The regiment marched very well, presenting a good front and the officers saluted in true military style. The President remained uncovered during the review. He was escorted to the rooms of Governor Groome, where he remained for a short time, after which he was driven to his "cottage by the sea."

THE PRESIDENT'S MOVEMENTS.

The President leaves here to-morrow morning for Atlantic City. He will be accompanied by his wife and son, General Babcock, Mr. and Mrs. Paul, Hon. A. W. Markley, wife and daughter. They leave Long Branch at half-past eight and stop at Grands at eleven A. M. to lunch with Ex-Consul Dudley. They go over the New Jersey Southern to Pemberton, thence over the Pennsylvania Central to Camden, thence to their destination.

RECEPTION ON THE ROUTE.

At Egg Harbor City the distinguished party will remain a few hours, to afford the population of that place an opportunity of extending their hospitality to the visitors. On their arrival at Atlantic City they will sojourn at the United States Hotel, where in the evening a grand display of fireworks and a hop have been arranged. The Mayor of the city, Hon. William Souder will make a speech of welcome. Hon. A. W. Markley has arrived with a special train for the party.

THE FIFTH REGIMENT BALL.

Immense Gathering of Fair Women and Brave men—The Uniforms and the Toilets—Distinguished Ladies Present.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., July 24, 1874.

The grand military ball of the Fifth Maryland regiment took place in the great dining hall of the Ocean Hotel to-night, and for interest and brilliancy was unsurpassed by anything of the kind ever given at Long Branch. President Grant, and the military dignitaries present at the review in full uniform, entered the ballroom at eleven o'clock, as the Marine Band was playing the opening promenade. Orchestral music and dancing followed, twenty-nine pieces being announced on the programme, closing with the "Railroad Galop."

At midnight there was an hour's intermission, during which refreshments were served to the 2,000 guests present. All present were in full dress. The ladies' toilets were of a most elegant and elaborate character—sweeping trains, powdered coiffeures and low corsage being the prevailing styles. The Fifth regiment, numbering 400—officers and men—were in full uniform, and the variety of uniforms in the room, together with the conventional dress of the civilians and rich toilets of the ladies, made up a scene of dazzling beauty. Among

THE LADIES PRESENT

from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other cities were the following:—Mrs. General B. F. Blanchard, Mrs. Theodore R. B. Degroot, Mrs. Longman, of Brooklyn; Miss Hastings, Mrs. H. V. Bemis, Miss Nellie Murphy, Miss Ella T. Drake, Mrs. A. B. Baker, Mrs. F. Kniffer, Mrs. George Lincoln, Mrs. Dr. Heany, Miss Drexel and Mrs. Theodore Moss and daughter. The President in conversation this evening, speaking of the review, said, "Those men have carried muskets before."

ARKANSAS.

Deposed Officials Before the Congressional Committee—Important Testimony Taken—The Baxter Militia.

LITTLE ROCK, July 24, 1874.

Before the Congressional Committee to-day, Wheeler, State Auditor; Page, State Treasurer; Robinson, Superintendent of the Penitentiary, and Gray, Commissioner of State Lands, all elected on the ticket with Baxter, but who recognized Brooks after the decision of the Circuit Court, testified to the illegal seizure of their offices by military force and their expulsion from office, and the appointment of new officials. Oliver, Sherin, and Roland, Clerk of the county, also testified to similar action with regard to themselves. Mr. Page, the State Treasurer, testified that, soon after the surrender, Baxter said he would jail the whole lot for treason, from Brooks down, if they didn't leave the country. Mr. Gallagher, Sheriff of Monroe country, testified to Baxter's making him sign and hand in a resignation, in blank as to date, before he was commissioned; that Baxter told him he made it a rule to do so. Mr. Gallagher and Sheriff Oliver, of this county, testified to Baxter's telling them he had saved up several thousand dollars in scrip from his salary, and requesting them each, as officeholders under him, to take a thousand from him at par, scrip being worth at the time fifty cents on a dollar.

OUTRAGE BY BAXTER'S MILITIA.

During the adjournment of the committee for dinner a black boy in the employment of the Sergeant-at-Arms was beaten over the head by two of Baxter's militia and his clothes nearly torn off him because he refused to turn over to them a pail of ice water he was taking to the investigation room for the use of the committee. Immediately after the committee met in the afternoon the boy was introduced by Brooks' counsel and testified to the facts. The testimony of several witnesses showed that the active

PERSECUTION OF BROOKS' MEN

ceased as soon as news of the appointment of the committee reached here. Testimony was also given as to the maltreating of negroes by Baxter's militia since the surrender of Gibbons. A Brooks captain testified to having been driven from this county and a reward offered for his assassination.

A Grand Torchlight Procession—Fears of a Disturbance.

LITTLE ROCK, July 24, 1874—9 P. M.

A grand torchlight procession gotten up by Brooks' men takes place to-night. The negroes are in from all the townships of the county. The Hallie Rifles have just marched up to the State House to reinforce the command there. A vague uneasiness prevails generally, and fears of a disturbance are entertained.

THE VICKSBURG TROUBLES.

Another Protest Against Armed Intervention.

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1874.

Another telegram was received at the White House this morning from the committee of citizens of Vicksburg, protesting against ordering any troops there and declaring that no necessity existed for such action. It was referred to the Secretary of War, who has already countermanded the order.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

Von Bulow calls Verdi the "Attila of the gullet."

Verdi attended the late Handel Festival in London.

Frezzolini has appeared in Florence with great success.

Mlle. Liebhart and Nelson Varley are in the concert field in London.

Theodore Thomas has a splendid programme at Central Park Garden for this evening.

Mlle. Sanz, formerly contralto of the Maretzek opera troupe, is engaged in Rome (Teatro Apollo).

Mlle. Emma Albani, the young American prima donna, has made a prodigious success at Covent Garden in Thomas' "Mignon."

Mlle. Oppenheim and Mme. Blume Santer will probably sing at the Fest performance at Baireuth, under Wagner's direction.

Neuendorff's operatic and dramatic entertainments at Terrace Garden have been well patronized since the beginning of the season.

Gounod's "Funeral March of a Marionette" is a sterling favorite at the Crystal Palace concerts, London. Mr. Thomas should present it at the Central Park Garden.

Nilsson had her benefit at Drury Lane, London, on the 16th inst., as Valentine, in "Les Huguenots." Albani had a benefit at Covent Garden on the following evening.

Miss Rose Hersee and Aynsley Cook, formerly connected with the Parepa Rosa troupe, have been singing in English opera at Leicester and Birmingham.

The London correspondent of the *Ménestrel* came across a man at the first performance of "Il Talismano" who reproached Balfe as a wholesale plagiary. "Ce diable de Balfe, même après sa mort il a des réminiscences; ne trouvez vous pas qu'il y a là-dedans un peu de 'la Fille de Mme. Angot?'"

THE KIDNAPPING CONSPIRACY

Strange Questions Arising Out of the Case.

WAS THE CHILD STOLEN?

Remarkable Discrepancies and Contradictions.

STARTLING SUSPICIONS

PHILADELPHIA, July 24, 1874.

The circumstances of the Ross case are peculiar, and as yet the police have done nothing to quiet the popular mind. A few special officers, not detectives, have been rendered familiar with all the details of the case, and while old, well schooled and veteran detectives have been kept in the dark grave suspicions begin to influence the community, but they are of such a foul and unnatural character that nothing but the most conclusive proof that they were true could force your correspondent to transfer them to paper. A few days since the writer entered into counsel with the correspondents of several other New York newspapers, and all, upon comparing notes, discovered, as the result of many long interviews with numerous people in Germantown that they were in possession of precisely the same rumors, which were of such an extraordinary nature that they seemed to be in the fullest sense of the term improbable. If little Charley Ross has been abducted, and if all the circumstances of the case previously reported are correct, the communication of these rumors would be

HEARTLESS AND CRUEL;

but, if these rumors are not false, they are of such a nature that they ought to be published broadcast to the world. The Philadelphia newspapers have also heard these rumors, but their action has been strange and peculiar throughout from the time the news of the abduction first appeared until the present. A full *exposé* of the action of the authorities as well as of the designs of the kidnappers was submitted several days ago to a newspaper of this city, but its management refused to allow it to appear in print until the copy had been referred to the Mayor. The result is that the HERALD published this *exposé* in full, and the only resort left the sheet referred to above was to copy the HERALD'S article, word for word. All that is known is that the detectives, who have been absent for several days, have returned, the lieutenants have all gone back to their regular duties and the case is virtually in *statu quo*.

No one doubts that Captain Heins personally did all he could to find the child; but the same means he employed to do this—viz., the employment of the weakest men on his force—were such as to afford the greatest protection to the kidnappers, if, indeed, there were any kidnappers in the first place. The peculiar manner in which he has handled this case and the strait to which he has brought it are such as to convince the public that he has already done his best. In the first place he has refused to communicate with the very agency which would have assisted him the most in finding the child reported to have been lost, viz., the newspapers. Again, both he and the father have refused to allow

THE PICTURE OF THE INFANT

to be issued in the illustrated journals. A correspondent addressing a local sheet speaks as follows:—

Sometime ago an effort was made to have the photograph of the abducted child, Charley Brewster Ross, reproduced in the illustrated papers, but for some reason or other this effort was frustrated by the interference of the detectives. Now that a reward has been offered for the recovery of the child and the detection of the scoundrels who kidnapped him, and a full description of the child has been published, would it not be well to have the photograph of the child engraved and a sufficient number of electrotypes cast for insertion in the leading newspapers of the land? Certainly by this means a much better idea of the appearance of the child can be given to the public than by any verbal description, however complete it may be. I think that in consideration of the extraordinary importance of the case, and the necessity of an early detection of the criminals, no paper to whom this electrotype may be sent will refuse it place. The suggestion, at all events, is worthy the consideration of the authorities.

J. P. WILLIS.

A subscriber of an afternoon paper, who is probably connected with the municipal government, seeing that it charges the detective management under Mr. Heins with gross mismanagement, asks—

MISMANAGEMENT, OR WHAT?

"How have the detectives mismanaged it?" The editor answers as follows:—

We can tell him. It was two weeks after the abduction before the police would give any publicity, and then only to police officers, as to the parties who stole the child, their appearance and that of the horse and wagon. Within twenty-four hours after the child was stolen every newspaper in the city and vicinity would have cheerfully printed the description that the Chief of Police thought advisable to give through the public prints but two days ago, and twenty-two days after the crime was perpetrated. It was their duty to arouse the people to a full realization of the crime, and how could that have better been accomplished than by giving to the world the cold-blooded letters of the abductors which the police have in their possession. Again, some of the oldest detectives in the city were not allowed to participate in the hunt for the child. Those who were hunting are acknowledged to be faithful and wise detectives, but there are others who are fully their equal. These latter have easy office duty and the privilege of promenading the streets, with the expectation that a stray thief will drop into their hands.

Articles like the above along with rumors that are continually afloat, are sufficient to render all correspondents nervous, and to force them to put in print stories of a nature so unpleasant that they turn from them with loathing and disgust.

Letter from a Suspicious Citizen—Singular Rumors Embodied in Startling Queries—A New Phase of the Abduction Conspiracy.

PHILADELPHIA, July 24, 1874.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

It would, of course, be ridiculous for any one to suppose that the full facts, so far as they exist, in regard to the abduction of Charles Brewster Ross on the 1st inst., are not known to your very efficient correspondent in this city. The articles upon the subject—a subject which concerns the hearth and home of every parent in the land—have been singularly correct and accurate, but have avoided what a large number of the citizens of this town regard as the most vital in the whole machinery of the abduction.

It has been mooted in the family circle; it has been spoken of upon the street; it has been discussed, pro and con, by the representatives of every newspaper in the city, and yet no newspaper or its representative has as yet walked up to "the ghost" stalking in the midst of the city of homes and taken it by the throat. The sounds heard on every side are calculated to remind one of the "Whispering Gallery," or of that time when, with "bated breath," it must be said, "I am Sir Oracle, let no dog bark."

CONDUCT OF THE DETECTIVES.

There has been a great deal of talk in this goodly city of ours about the vim and energy of the detective force, so called, in their conduct of the case. But they have from the first studiously and, if you will allow me the expression, stupidly ignored that grand engine of the times, the newspaper press. The correspondents, reporters and others, who, as has been well said, are the brief chroniclers of the times, have been baffled at the Central Office in their endeavors to get news, have been snubbed by the highest officials when they became persistent, and insulted when adverse opinions were advanced to those held by "the powers that be."

In no single instance has any word been given by those in charge of the case, except to a "clique" who assumed to dictate to all around them what their opinions shall be. The "namby pamby" process has been pursued for three weeks, and has resulted in nothing, nor is it likely to, for we have the significant fact, as sent you by your correspondent, that all the detectives have returned to their wonted spheres of labor, and after the heat of the day rest upon their laurels. So be it. Wooster, who declares his name is Worcester, and who is anxious to make the acquaintance of the reporters at the Central Office who have written his history, has been "turned out," and walks on fashionable Chestnut street a free man. Thus the last link in the detective chain has been dropped, and that by one of the shrewdest in our midst. No one in Philadelphia would ever question Josh Taggart's ability, certainly not your correspondent, who has known him for some years and remembers distinctly that journey of his into the Canadas after a celebrated "Koniacker," when he dumbed the accomplice driver of the sleigh into the snow and allowed him the privilege of walking back several miles to strike connection for his home.

A CITIZEN'S IDEAS.

All police arrangements having then failed, the people should lay hold, and as one of the people, and a parent at that, I propose to send you a few questions which are no secret but which may not have struck some of the readers of your widely circulated journal. Diligent inquiry has been made as to what has been done in reference to those who are most closely and intimately acquainted with the circumstances of the loss of the child; but on this point, as on all others, the word is like that of the Egyptian Sphinx, seldom heard, and signifying nothing when heard.

The following series of questions have suggested themselves to me, as they have doubtless to many others, and with the hope that the replies made to them by me and by others will point the way to some solution of the problem I beg leave to submit them to you and through you to the public:—

Charley Brewster Ross was alleged to have been abducted on the 1st of July. It is a fixed fact that so far as the outside world was concerned he disappeared, apparently as effectually being hidden from sight as if he had been buried a thousand fathoms deep. The first official notice of his loss was made known on the 3d of July, as you will readily perceive, two days afterwards, a fearfully long start for any two villains who would be guilty of snatching a child from its parents and filling a home with anguish. This point of itself is a peculiar one, and it will appear more so before this communication is concluded. The official notice referred to was in the shape of a reward of $500 offered for the return of the child, certainly a very small valuation on a charming, flaxen-haired prattler of four years, and not at all calculated to tempt the cupidity of the rascals who "stole" him to make money.

IS THE KIDNAPPING A FARCE?

Here the first notion of a conspiracy to which the relatives might have been parties arises.

It is not necessary, it is not intended, to make any assertions as to whether such a conspiracy did or does exist, but merely, as the detectives say, to place the thing before the public and "let it work itself out." The house of Mr. Ross has never been searched since the child was said to have been stolen, and it is stated on good authority that the changes in the menial service of the house have been frequent. It is suggested that there might be a possibility of learning something by "shadowing" the relatives of the child, even if that extended to the father himself. This may at the first blush seem absolutely cruel; possibly it is; but the citizens of Philadelphia, in common with the entire country, are dealing with the bare, bald and naked fact that in their midst, in broad daylight, it is possible for a child to disappear as suddenly as the lightning's flash, and all the efforts of officers, detectives, Post Office carriers and citizens fail to get a trace of it in three weeks, aided by the sympathy and the energy that the whitened hairs of mothers and the indignant hearts and arms of fathers could inspire. The child vanishing,

Like the baseless fabric of a vision
Left not a wreck behind.

This state of affairs is, as you have nobly said, a personal matter; let us look at it personally and without flinching.

THE TELEGRAMS.

First Query—If you were the father of a child four years of age, the dear and petted darling of your heart, and it should disappear on the 1st of July, in the full glare of the sun, would you wait until the 3d, two full days, before you officially gave notice of the loss you had sustained; especially when an elder brother who had been with the child had returned to your home two hours before dark on the day of the occurrence?

The answer from every parent's heart in the land is an unhesitating "No!" The offices of kind friends, the buzzing inquiry of tongues, the sharp click of the telegraph, the services of the police would have been called in at once. "Not a moment," says the agonized mother, "will I wait." The father exclaims, "I will neither eat, drink nor sleep until the child is found."

All that was sent on the 1st of July was a despatch at four minutes after nine P. M. from the Germantown station to the Central office:—

"Have you a lost child (this in figures), white slip pants? Have you description?"

On the 2d of July the following from Germantown, "Have you heard anything of that child. Ross."

Answer, "No."

It is a pity that the whole of the despatches cannot be laid before the public, and the readers of the HERALD may want to know the reason. The interview with Chief Jones will explain it. Your correspondent, "for the nonce," waited upon a very gentlemanly operator of the local and police telegraph at Fifth and Chestnut streets and asked him to see the despatches in relation to the Ross case. The operator, a careful and reliable young fellow, refused to show them unless on the order of the Chief. The "searcher after news" skipped away in search of the Chief, and found him up stairs in the Mayor's office taking care of the vast interests of the city. The colloquy was as follows:—

SEARCHER AFTER NEWS (after the usual salaam)—Chief, I want to see the original despatches in regard to the Ross child, and the operator (mentioning name) refuses to give them without an order from you.

CHIEF JONES—You can have them. (He whistles down the pipe. Let —— see those despatches.

OPERATOR (up the pipe)—All of them?

SEARCHER—No, Chief, I don't want them all; only the first two or three days.

CHIEF (down the pipe)—First three or four days.

OPERATOR (up the pipe)—All right.

Searcher after news hies him down stairs again to the telegraph office and finds—the two despatches above given. He has just scribbled them down, when, presto, a change comes o'er the spirit of his dream and stops his inward chuckling "that now we will know how these detectives do," the change being produced by a whistle from the pipe.

CHIEF (down the pipe)—How many have you given?

OPERATOR (up the pipe)—Two.

CHIEF (down the pipe)—(Words not understood. Operator won't give them, but the order was countermanded).

The searcher after news was very much disgusted and waited until the Chief came down stairs, when he saluted him again and said:—

"Chief, why did you withdraw your permission for me to see those despatches?"

CHIEF—Why, you got two, didn't you.

SEARCHER—Yes, but you said I should have them for two or three days.

CHIEF—Well, you have got enough.

SEARCHER—Yes; but why did you countermand the order?

CHIEF—Well, I did; that's all. I don't care about having the matter paraded in the newspapers.

He would not say any more, but fell back on his dignity. This, remember, three weeks after the child had disappeared. It only shows how reticent a great detective and chief should be on the momentous questions of the day, because, you know, it might "spoil the game" and interfere with the course of justice.

CHANGE IN DESCRIPTION OF THE CHILD.

Another despatch was, however, obtained from another source, something in this tenor, and signed by Detective Joyce. This was on the night of the 2d of July:—

"Tell the reporters about that boy, but do not give the name of Christian Ross." It was not given, and the next day the description was published; but here was the first error, instead of a white linen slip and pants, straw hat, the little fellow had changed his clothing and was dressed in a "brown linen suit, short skirt, unbleached Panama hat." It is humbly submitted that white is not brown and straw is not Panama; and this little point threw many a one off his guard at once. It is likely, Mr. Editor, the father did not know the dress the child wore until two days after it was lost!

RETICENCE TOWARD THE PRESS.

Second Query.—Would you as the father of a child notify the police authorities not to let the newspapers know of the loss of the child when that was the only method to give it the widest publicity?

It is stated that Mr. Ross has since seen the error he committed; but notwithstanding this the Philadelphia newspapers publish nothing of the facts of the case; the citizens hold their meetings in secret to raise a reward to condone a crime, and nothing is known except "personals" in the *Ledger*, which force one to the irresistible conclusion that the father of the child is willing to condone the most monstrous crime of the day. It is lost sight of that, whether stolen or hidden, Mr. Ross is the representative of every parent in the land, and he or any one else has no right to make any bargain except one that will bring the abductors to justice and restore the child. It is the lesson of the case, the necessity of the occasion, that the crime should be crushed at once and forever.

MR. ROSS' APATHY.

Third Query.—If you saw in the newspapers that a person had been arrested on the charge of being concerned in the theft of your child (and you knew it was stolen and not hid) would you not see that man?

Wooster was arrested by Detective Taggart and was in jail for some time, and yet, so far as can be ascertained, Mr. Ross did not go to see him, nor did he, so far as learned, have any interview with Taggart, nor has he seen Wooster since his release yesterday, so far as I am informed. Taggart began and continued his work in the case as a pure labor of love, and certainly knew as much and more than Fifth and Chestnut combined. He was the only one who made any arrest wherein the party was not released on the instant, and yet Mr. Ross, as informed, "never went near him" and held no consultation with any of his colleagues.

THE TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Fourth Query.—If you, as the father, &c., were anxious to regain possession of the child, and you had been offered pecuniary assistance, would you not have availed yourself of the tender in less than three weeks?

It has been stated that a brother-in-law of Mr. Ross offered him $10,000 for use in the recovery of the child when the letter was received which demanded $20,000 as the ransom for the child. There is a peculiar ring about that $20,000 business which is significant. At no time has a less sum been mentioned, but several times it went over that amount. In the plan as laid down by your regular correspondent, which was correct substantially, for the payment of this money, that is the figure named. It would be a fair sum for a division in case there was any "divvy" in it. But Fifth and Chestnut is infallible, and there could be "nothing in it."

THE THREATENING LETTERS DESTROYED.

Fifth Query.—When your wife, the mother of the child, received threatening letters would you allow her to destroy them, and thus destroy all clew to the writers thereof?

It has been asserted over and over again that threats of personal violence to the child had been received by Mrs. Ross; but, so far as known, no one has seen them, unless it were the parties themselves, and the doubt has arisen in many minds whether any such letters were ever received. Would it or could it do any possible harm to a "detective case," even though he be the chief, to produce letters threatening three weeks ago to injure the child unless the money was paid?

A SINGULAR CASE OF SICKNESS.

Sixth Query—You, being the father, &c., would you, in your intercourse with detectives and others, after three days had elapsed since the loss of the child, say that your wife was ill, and you could get no information from her for fear it would kill her, when at that moment in reality your wife was at Atlantic City and had taken a bath on the beach that same day, the 4th of July?

The proclamation of $500 was placarded on the morning of the 4th or night of the 3d; and it is stated on reliable authority that Mrs. Ross was not near so ill at Atlantic City as she was said to be, as it did not interfere with her bathing; nor has she been so ill since. A correspondent of a New York journal, unwittingly at the time, had an interview with Mrs. Ross at her house in Germantown a week or ten days ago. He went there in search of items, of course, and was received by a lady in black, who spoke of the loss of the child with great philosophy, stating "it would not be harmed; would be returned;" such things had to be borne in this world, &c., and the correspondent, anxious to know who spoke with him, asked her name, and was told, "I am Mr. Ross' wife." To say he was aghast is drawing it very mildly indeed. He felt that locality, and repeated the conversation to several brother chips at Central Headquarters, I believe, substantially as I have related it.

INABILITY TO DESCRIBE THE CHILD.

Seventh Query—Is it possible that you, as the father of a four year old "darling," could not give a description of the babe, "mother's marks" and all, without recourse to the mother, even if she were not ill?"

That question will answer itself.

"ALONE IN THE HOUSE."

Eighth Query—Would you, as the father, &c., undertake to take charge of two children, one four, the other six years of age, while the mother was at a watering place? or is it likely that a mother would go away and leave the children to his charge, when the father had a business difficulty to straighten out that had been produced through a financial crisis?

A PECULIAR LINK.

Ninth Query—Why was the description of the child telegraphed "twice" "white linen slip" on two days, when on the third it was discovered that it was "brown?" The excitement of the moment could have accounted for this; but, with all the mysterious surroundings of this most mysterious case, it is a peculiar link in what hundreds consider a peculiar chain of circumstances.

A BLINDFOLDING POLICY.

Tenth Query—Would you, as the chief of a force of detectives, and claiming to have any brains whatever, send out on a case of genuine child stealing "the weakest men you had on the force, and keep all the old veterans in the office at Police Headquarters," unless you were afraid they might find something out and "pipe" in the wrong quarter?

Chief Heins, whose reputation rests principally on his accidental discovery that a man named Harris was Hanion, the wretch who murdered little Mary Monrman, selected, as the first one to be started in this case, the very weakest man he had under him. This policy was followed all the way through, up to the time of his virtual abandonment of the case, by recalling his men. Such veterans as Callanan, Franks, Levy and Tryon may have found something it started sooner, but they were wanted for "office duty." Well trained and keen eyed, they would doubtless have come to the same conclusion as Josh Taggart, that there was something behind all this that will come out in time. Says Taggart to a newspaper man, "I know more about this case than you do, if I could only tell you now, but I can't. Can it be possible there is an American citizen of African descent in the wood pile?"

A NOVEL WAY OF RAISING FUNDS.

Eleventh Query—When the talk became both loud and deep that there was a possibility of a conspiracy, and you could get no information from those tacitly referred to, would you not think a little investigation that way might do good, even if it entered the precincts of the family?

It is merely given as one of the rumors of the city that in this day of stupendous crimes, at which the world stands aghast, in this day of widespread financial ruin, in this day of Jay Cooke embarrassments and Franklin Saving Fund frauds, it would be a possible thing for a person who had been in financial difficulty and compromised with his creditors at three, six, nine and twelve months, to go into a conspiracy of this very character to raise the wind and start anew.

AN INGENIOUS PLOT.

The plan is not such a difficult one as at first appears. I am in business, a member of a firm. I find I am going to smash up; most business men know of such a catastrophe some time before the crash really comes. I compromise with my creditors and by good management or good luck—call it what you will—am able to pay the three months' notes; I find I cannot pay the six months' and I do not choose, for various reasons, to go to my relatives for money, though I would not hesitate to go to them for sympathy in case I lost my child. I make an arrangement with certain parties to abduct the child, take it to a place of safety, giving them twenty-four—yes, say thirty-six hours start. The people are appalled by such a crime as child stealing, known only among the Gitana and Bohemians—it strikes terror to the hearts of all parents, and touches them right at hearth and home. A blaze of indignation follows, a meeting is called and money raised for the purpose of securing the child's return. The sum is a large one, say $20,000, and as soon as it is raised a detective, whom I have arranged with, walks home with the child and pockets the reward, or a share of it, as per agreement. This is a possible thing, even in our day of immaculate detective purity.

CONCLUSION.

This cannot be the case in the Ross abduction. The reward of $20,000 offered by the citizens, over the signature of the Mayor, by proclamation, is so guarded that it will avail nothing unless the abductors are produced. The project for cash by outside parties has failed here, and will continue to fail. The people will tolerate no tampering with a crime of this kind, and as trips to Bellair, Md., and other out of the way places have failed, would it not be a good idea for the police authorities of the city to look a little closer home instead of going so far "afield?" Many a child, wept and cried over as lost in the early twilight, has been found coolly asleep and in bed.

The above is merely sent as a series of questions which are asked every day in the city of Philadelphia and pass from mouth to mouth. They are asked in the interest of truth and in the cause of humanity. They show the feeling as it exists in this community, and as they have not heretofore been asked publicly, their appearance in your columns may spur those who are working for that end. To recover the child at all hazards, without any compromise whatever, is the sincere desire of yours,

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OBITUARY.

George Knorr, Ship News Editor.

George Knorr, the veteran American editor of ship news, so long and favorably known during his employment in that capacity in the office of the *North American and United States Gazette*, of Philadelphia, died in Philadelphia on the morning of the 23d instant at the age of eighty-one years. He entered the office of the *Gazette of the United States* in 1802, and continued without interruption in one or other of the various journals that were successively merged in the present one down to the time of his death, and during all that period labored industriously at his calling with a rare fidelity, intelligence and devotion. He was for twenty years foreman of the Philadelphia *Gazette*, and when he turned his attention to the preparation of the marine intelligence it became in his hands a specialty, winning celebrity for himself and credit for the journal to which he was attached. He was so fond of his work that he was at it from nine o'clock in the morning until after the last mail was received at night, with only the intermissions for his meals. His remarkably robust frame and naturally excellent health enabled him to stand this protracted labor for a period that few men could have endured, as he was seldom away from his post even in the severest heats of midsummer

John H. Jesse.

The European mail of July 14 brings the announcement of the death, at London, of John Heneage Jesse, late of the English Admiralty, and son of Mr. Edward Jesse, the eminent naturalist. Inheriting his father's literary tastes, Mr. Jesse soon made his name known as the author of several historical works of importance. The first, "Memoirs of the Court of England During the Reign of the Stuarts," published in 1839-40, gave evidence of his study of the records of the period, and was drawn both from English and French sources. His next work was his "Memoirs of the Court of London from the Revolution in 1688 to the Death of George II." Only a year elapsed when he brought out his memoir of "George Selwyn and His Contemporaries," which was followed in 1845 by his "Memoirs of the Pretenders and Their Adherents." Turning his attention next to the history of the British metropolis and its distinguished men, Mr. Jesse produced in 1847 his "Literary and Historical Memoirs of London," which was succeeded in 1850 by a second series of papers of the same character, with the shorter title of "London and Its Celebrities." He published in 1861 his "Richard the Third and His Contemporaries," a work dealing largely with the personal character of the King, and in 1867 he issued his "Memoirs of the Life and Reign of King George the Third," in which he introduced some of His Majesty's original letters and other unpublished manuscripts.

M. Franz Bendel.

M. Franz Bendel, one of the most celebrated pianists in Germany, died at Berlin, July 14, of congestion of the brain. He was forty-one years of age.

DROWNED AT LAKE GEORGE.

LAKE GEORGE, N. Y., July 24, 1874.

Louis Schesinger, of New York, was drowned while bathing here to-day.

UP IN A BALLOON.

Mr. Donaldson and Five Friends on a Mid-Air Voyage in the New Balloon Barnum.

Curiosity to witness the ascension of Mr. Washington H. Donaldson in the new balloon drew an immense throng to the Hippodrome yesterday afternoon. This new vehicle for experiment in aerial navigation is of large size, and has been constructed with great care, of selected materials, upon Mr. Donaldson's own plans and under his direct supervision. He has made the gas holder from a strong, fine muslin, expressly manufactured for the purpose, light, close and strong. In its ascent it sustained a wicker basket, strong but light, eight feet long by five broad and four feet high, arranged to comfortably seat six persons and to carry stores ample for two days' subsistence, besides all requisites for the convenience and safety of the mid-air journey.

THE START OVER THE STEEPLES.

At the close of the regular performance, the immense pouch being fully inflated with illuminating gas from street pipes, Mr. Donaldson stepped lightly into the basket, accompanied by five journalists. When his guests were properly seated and prepared for their upward exit the bold aeronaut gave the requisite directions to the assistants for severing the ties which had bound the balloon to the earth at a quarter past four o'clock, and the next instant the vast machine, with its load of daring men, rose smoothly, easily but with considerable rapidity and with no hitch or entanglement straight above the roof of the Hippodrome. The cheers which saluted Mr. Donaldson were almost deafening, and as the vehicle cleared the Hippodrome walls, bringing it into view from all the neighboring streets, the shouts and wild huzzas of many thousands who crowded every open space in the vicinity greeted the aspiring voyagers. Ascending quickly above all the surrounding roofs and spires the balloon was at once caught by the brisk current of a southeast wind blowing a moderate breeze.

ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND.

This swept it rapidly, as it ascended in the direction of Washington Heights, and as it sailed over the upper portion of the city it appeared to attain an altitude of 2,500 to 3,000 feet. Continuing its flight toward the northwest, it was watched with interest till, after about fifteen minutes, its rapidly increasing distance from its starting place reduced its apparent size to a hardly perceptible speck in the blue sky, twenty degrees above the horizon. Long after the eye could no longer follow the voyagers the crowds lingered in the streets gazing intently after them, as though expecting that some chance would again bring them into view.

DIRECTION OF THE VOYAGE.

Mr. Donaldson was provided for staying in the air forty-eight hours, which he wishes to do in order to make certain observations which may assist to solve the long vexed problem of an aerial navigation in which the voyager may expect to control the direction of his fl