THE OLD WORLD AS IT IS.

Present Condition of the Principalities, Prelacies and Peoples.

Silent Struggle of the Democracy with the Imperialisms.

The Pressure of Taxation and the Military Armaments.

Chinese Liberalism—Its Mode of Political Action and Purpose.

PARIS, Jan. 31, 1875.

It is on Spain that the eyes of Europe have been fixed during the present month. The young King is firmly seated in the saddle; even Señor Castelar having given in his adhesion to the new monarchy. The restoration has had a good though slight effect on the value of Spanish securities. The truth is till the statesmen of the Peninsula adopt very vigorously that policy of retrenchment for which the English radical party has been content to incur so much obloquy, Spanish budgets will contine with scientific certainty to exhibit, year after year, a succession of deficits. The pension list especially requires revision. Not unfrequently a Spanish official receives a pension of $2,000 or $3,000 for not more than a month's service in his department. Worse than this, the ex-official has not even the poor patriotism to spend the earnings of his jobbery at home, but prefers to amuse himself abroad.

THE CURSE OF SPAIN

is absenteeism. You may drive for hours in the heart of the country over uncultivated land belonging to an emigrant noble. A false political economy, too, has stifled commerce by the undue taxation of wealth. Another serious impediment to industrial development lies in the circumstance that the priests are opposed to the use of machinery. Prices, of course, are constantly increasing, articles of luxury alone being cheap, as there are so few persons to buy them. A diplomatist recently sold a fine Irish horse worth about $1,000 for $125. Generally speaking the expenses of living at Madrid are as great as at New York.

THE CARLIST REBELLION

is dying out, through the disinclination of the Carlist officers to bear arms against Alfonso XII. But the flower of the Spanish population is still arrayed under the banner of legitimism. The Southerners who fought for the Republic and are now fighting for the constitutional monarchy are described by those who should know them as miserable soldiers. One of the republican generals who fell not long since is believed to have met his death at the hands of his own soldiers, who were furious at his inflicting on them the hardship of real fighting. They evidently dreaded their own commander as much as the enemy.

A good instance of the altered relations between European States since the last war is furnished by the fact that

FRANCE

is said to be unwilling to recognize the new government of Spain lest she should give offence to Germany by appearing anxious to take the initiative. It is not to be wondered at that the latter Power should be somewhat overbearing, when everywhere she finds the nations prostrate at her feet. Recently her Consul General in Servia claimed precedence by right of seniority over another Consul General, who, however, was also a political agent from his government. A difficulty ensued, and the Cabinet of Berlin announced that it could not recognize the rank of "agent," as it had not been recognized by the Congress of Vienna in 1815. Thereupon all the Consuls General of the great Powers at Belgrade, who were also agents, agreed to drop their diplomatic titles to humor the Consular representative of Prussia. The consequences may be extremely inconvenient to themselves, for the Servian government will, in all probability, refuse henceforth to treat with them on political questions and refuse them political information.

GERMANY.

But, if reports from Berlin are true, Germany is about to lose her right arm, for Bismarck is tottering to his fall and his power is not even expected to last out the year. The court, the aristocracy, the independent press, the Catholics are all against and too strong for him. The bankers, on the other hand, support him, thus showing how intimately they consider the material prosperity of the Empire to be bound up with the domination of its iron Chancellor. It still remains to be seen whether the principle of federalism will succeed in Germany. Thus the Bavarian bishops have presented to their King a protest against the introduction of the Civil Marriage law into Bavaria, but the imperial government is not likely to allow King Ludwig much liberty of action in the matter. The defeat of the bill in the Bavarian Parliament would be a victory for the Church over the Empire, and the Empire is not in a mood to brook defeats, least of all at the hands of the Roman Catholic clergy. Herr Von Treitscke, the celebrated German publicist, has just put forth a volume, in which he advocates the

MORE COMPLETE UNIFICATION OF THE FATHERLAND,

and hints that he would not be sorry to see all the tributary kings and grand dukes swept away. In conjunction with Herr Treitscke's proposals may be taken the refusal of Emperor William to sanction the succession of the Crown Prince of Hanover to the ducal crown of Brunswick, which will be his, or rather his father's, by right of inheritance on the death of the reigning Duke. The next heir, by the Salic law, after the family of ex-King Ernest, is the Duke of Cambridge, and it is believed that the claims of the English Commander-in-Chief were at one time favorably considered at Potsdam. But public opinion will probably urge the Emperor-King to annex the province to Prussia. Whether such public opinion will be manufactured or not is another affair. The "reptile fund," as Prince Bismarck terms the secret service money placed at his disposal for the corruption of journalists, amounts to $750,000, with which a good deal may be done in this world.

AUSTRIA

will never more give trouble to Prussia and the Germans of the new Empire must have heard with sincere pleasure that the Austrian Minister of Finance is actually enabled to show an excess of income over expenditure during the past year. For the first time since 1789 Austria has a surplus. It amounts to $2,750,000, but is unfortunately more than counterbalanced by a Hungarian deficit of $12,500,000, which will necessitate the imposition of an income tax of four per cent in the Transleithan portion of the monarchy. No position can be harder than that of the Austrian Germans, whose destinies are linked with those of the thriftless Magyars. It is as though a steady and hardworking Scotchman were compelled to take a gypsy into partnership, with a privilege reserved to the gypsy of working as little as he liked and drawing to an unlimited extent on the Scotchman.

RUSSIA.

Another sham surplus is that recently announced by Russia, against the deception of which would-be investors in Russian securities ought to be warned. Although the estimate of revenue and expenditure, as Mr. Frederick Martin points out, are always exactly balanced in the Russian official returns, there has been in reality no financial period during the last forty years without a large deficit. These deficits are chiefly covered by foreign loans. In contrast to Russia, France has a nominal deficit and a real surplus, the former being occasioned by the honorable resolution of her statesmen to devote not less than $40,000,000 yearly to the payment of a certain portion of her debt. There ought, however, to be no doubt about the ultimate solvency of Russia, provided a corrupt bureaucracy is not allowed to squander and steal too much. The railway from Sebastopol to Simpheropol has just been opened for traffic, and in other ways her resources continue to be developed.

POLAND.

From Poland comes intelligence which must have gladdened the heart of the Czar. Forty-five parishes of the diocese of Siedletz, containing about 50,000 inhabitants, with the whole of their clergy, have bodily joined the orthodox (Greek) church. The ceremony of reception was performed by the orthodox Archbishop of Warsaw. This secession of Polish Catholics is more important from a political than an ecclesiastical point of view and must be regarded as a sign that the Russian administration of the land of Kosciusko is not so dark as rumor would paint it.

"THE SICK MAN"

still shows signs of life, and the completion of the underground railway at Constantinople is a substantial guarantee that the nerves and sinews of war may yet be found in the Sultan's dominions. But civilization, in its highest sense, is wanting. True civil and religious freedom does not exist. The Counsel of State, for example, has just drawn up a law forbidding marriages between Turks and Persians, thus striving to keep alive the bitterness of religious animosity between the two nations, for I need not remind Americans that the people of either country regard the people of the other as dissenters from the true faith. One article of the law declares that if a female Ottoman subject shall marry a Persian the children of such marriage shall be regarded as Ottoman subjects, and the sons liable to the conscription. This provision is remarkable for the sublime indifference it displays to the rules of international law, which of course decide that the children's nationality is that of their father. With respect to

THE MONTENEGRIN DIFFICULTY,

it has happily been arranged without setting the East in flames. A few officials are to be hung on either side the frontier—let us hope with satisfaction to all parties concerned.

GREECE

continues to illustrate the failure of artificial royalty. The Deputies to the Assembly, according to a practice too common in Europe, are rendering legislation impossible by deliberate absence from the debates. The session of the Chamber, lately, had to be closed, owing to a permanent count out. Parliament will be convoked next month in "extraordinary session" to vote the taxes, which are absolutely necessary; but meanwhile there is no doubt that King George would receive plenty of moral support, whatever may be its value, from his neighbors if he were summarily to suppress parliamentary institutions in Hellas. There are precedents in the golden period of Greek history for the appointment of an Aisumnetes, or Dictator, and it is such a person who is wanted at the present moment—a man who, like the tyrant of the Chersonese—that tyrant was Miltiades—would be "freedom's best and bravest friend."

ITALY.

The sister kingdom of Italy is just now chiefly occupied in welcoming Garibaldi to Rome and listening with rapture to the accents which fall from his lips, as he philosophically and charitably stigmatizes most gentlemen who differ with him as thieves and rogues. He has declined a private audience which Victor Emmanuel offered him—an honor which, on the other hand, Prince Tarlonia has eagerly sought, to thank His Majesty personally for the gift of a gold medal. This gold medal was awarded the Prince to commemorate the splendid service he has rendered the State in draining Lake Fucino, and by which he would almost appear to have impaired his private fortune, his fine collection of pictures having been announced for sale. The homage which Prince Torlonia renders to "the Sub-Alpine King," as he is still designated at the Vatican, is significant of the change of sentiment which is coming over the Roman nobility and inducing them to accept the revolution of 1870 as an accomplished fact. But throughout Europe the religious conflict is only beginning. In

SWITZERLAND

the third marriage of an Old Catholic priest has just been celebrated, while the baptism of some Old Catholic children has been the occasion of serious disturbance in the canton of Geneva. Villages have been occupied by the military, and the Mayors of two communes have been arrested. The action of the Swiss authorities makes one recall with a sign Lord Melbourne's oft-repeated because off-appropriate question, "Why can't you let it alone?"

Of the other smaller States there is little to chronicle, except that they are all arming to the teeth,

DENMARK

especially looking to her fortifications, while in

BELGIUM

the adoption of compulsory military service is probably but a question of time. The Belgian Chamber of Deputies has, however, done good work in solemnly recording a vote in favor of arbitration as a means of settling international quarrels.

PHLEGMATIC HOLLAND

has started a cremation society of its own, which already numbers 1,000 members, just as the idea is beginning to get out of fashion in

ENGLAND,

where the more reverent plan of burial has been suggested by Dr. Seymour Haden, and has met with considerable (theoretic) approval. For the Old Country the month has been fruitful of events not of a cheerful kind. Kingsley is dead, and Gladstone's retirement has revealed the unpleasant truth that the liberal party is more hopelessly disorganized than was supposed, and that a man of talent to lead it cannot be found. The programme of Ministers for the coming session appears to be more iron-clads and more bishops. Mr. Ward Hunt, if rumor speaks true, is to propose an addition of $5,000,000 to the naval estimates, and Lord Lyttelton's bill for the increase of the episcopate will be supported by the Duke of Richmond and Mr. Disraeli. If any one wishes to gauge the strength of local feeling in England he may learn that the news of a scheme for incorporating the diocese of Sodor and Man into a new

BISHOPRIC OF LIVERPOOL

threw the Manx people into a state of the most uncontrollable emotion. The "House of Keys" or Manx Parliament passed energetic resolutions against the contemplated measure, which, it is needless to say, will be abandoned, for the Cabinet has not the slightest wish to hurt the feelings of the Manx people.

The continuance of England's empire in

INDIA

does not exactly depend, as some of her prophets inform her, on the forbearance of Russia; but whatever tends to delay the era of border wars on the Indian frontier is a gain to humanity at large. There are one is not sorry to hear that M. de Lesseps' scheme for a Central Asiatic Railway has been almost contemptuously rejected by the Russian government as not being a practical necessity. Yet it is difficult to believe that Russia would not have drawn nearer to Peshawur by its adoption.

THE KHAN OF KHIVA

has paid another portion of the "indemnity," as it is facetiously termed, which he owes the Czar for having given His Majesty's General the trouble to annex his dominions.

The two kings of

SIAM

are fighting each other, what for they best know themselves, being father and son, a circumstance which perhaps explains of itself their hostility. The father, Chau Fa Chula Lougkorn by name, is First King and exercises the real authority, to which the Second King aspires. Kromamum Bawarawichai Chau is the designation of the latter potentate. It is said, however, that the hereditary chieftains or landed aristocracy of Siam are more powerful than either.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

has made an important concession to foreigners in allowing them henceforth, if duly provided with passports, to travel in the interior. I may observe, in passing, that Japan is usually regarded in Europe as destined ultimately to be a dependency of the United States. There might certainly be a worse fate in store for that active and ingenious people.

PERSIA,

for instance, has taken the first step toward her ultimate absorption in the Muscovite Empire by coolly transferring to the Russian General Falkenhagen the powers lately granted to Baron Reuter, a curiously Oriental method of procedure.

But the centre of Asiatic interest during the month has been

CHINA,

the death of the young Emperor being, it must frankly be confessed, no loss to the world at large, but the reverse. He represented a reactionary and fanatical policy, and had a few months since degraded the liberal Prince Kung, though he subsequently restored him to favor. Chinese liberals, unfortunately, cannot rely in their country upon the action of the ballot box, and it is darkly hinted that they sought other means for influencing the course of events. The luckless Emperor could not understand what it was that disagreed with him so. Foreign doctors offered their services, but Noua-tzen, the court physician, stood on his rights and claimed the exclusive privilege of curing his sovereign. On the termination of the illness by the removal of Toung-chi to a world (it is to be hoped) of less ceremony, Noua-tzen was, perhaps, with more justice than we fancy, beheaded. Eastern history is still, in its simplicity, like a fairy tale, but with all the beauty struck out and the marvellous fast disappearing.

STATEN ISLAND ELECTION FRAUD.

MASS MEETING AT STAPLETON—THE INSPECTORS TO BE INDICTED.

An indignation meeting was held on Saturday at Giezer's Hotel, at Stapleton, to take into consideration the illegal and fraudulent action of the town justices and town canvassers of the Fourth district of Middletown, in rejecting the votes of 355 electors in the late election for Supervisor. By that action Mr. Theodore Trean, the people's candidate for Supervisor, was counted out, and Mr. Henry West, the regular democratic nominee, was declared elected; but all the votes of the Fourth district, for all other officers, were counted and canvassed. Fully 500 people were present at the meeting. Mr. James Anketel was called to the chair and briefly stated the object of the meeting, denouncing the action of the canvassers and urging for their own protection as electors that the fraud should be brought home to the perpetrators and they punished. Mr. Theodore Trean was then called upon and addressed the meeting at length, detailing the frauds committed and the consequent violation of the voters' rights. He was frequently applauded during his address.

Mr. Charles Morgan, Trustee of Edgewater, offered a preamble and resolution denouncing the frauds and protesting against the illegal acts of the town canvassers in disfranchising 355 voters of the Fourth district, which was carried unanimously.

A committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Philip Woll, Charles Alexander, Michael Oats, Joseph M. Semicoff and Charles Morgan, was then appointed to bring the matter before the District Attorney, in order to have the guilty parties indicted at the sitting of the Grand Jury at the County Court and Court of Sessions, which convenes at the Court House, Richmond, to-morrow.

LONDON GOSSIP.

Fashionable Life in the Metropolis—"Eighty Per Cent Interest"—Journalistic and Theatrical Notes.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1875.

With the opening of Parliament to-morrow the London season may virtually be said to commence, though many of our fashionable ladies will not come up from their country homes until after Easter, which this year falls unusually early. It was the Queen's intention to open the session in person; but the illness of Prince Leopold has compelled her to forego the idea. The Prince of Wales has gone over to Brussels on a flying visit to be present at the marriage of the Princess Louise, of Belgium. The Princess remains at Sandringham during her husband's absence. Prince Leopold is so much better that any fatal termination to his present illness is no longer looked for; and the fear which beset the great world, and the milliners, tailors, florists and others who minister to its pleasures, that a court mourning might put a stop to the festivities of the season has been dispelled. House agents and those interested in such matters affirm that the forthcoming season will be specially gay and lively, though we do not as yet near of any Continental or Eastern potentates (with the exception of our old friend, Sir Jung Bahadoor, of Nepaul) who are coming to visit us.

THE VACANT JUDGESHIP.

This event did not after all go to Mr. Huddlestone, as I anticipated, but to Mr. Field, Q. C., the leader of the Midland Circuit. Mr. Huddlestone's friends are greatly annoyed, but Lord Cairns' excuse is said to be that he dared not imperil the seat for Norwich, which Mr. Huddlestone now holds. At present there are no more vacancies in the judicial Bench, though several are expected. A rumor is current that Chief Baron Kelly intends resigning, in which case he will probably be succeeded by Sir John Holker, the Solicitor General. This will make room for Mr. Hardinge Giffard, Q. C., who is one of the truest and ablest supporters of his party.

EIGHTY PER CENT.

On Friday last the publisher of the London *World* newspaper was summoned before Sir Thomas Gabriel, one of the city aldermen, to answer a charge of having published in that newspaper a libel on Messrs. Bass and Beyfus, of Sackville street. A series of articles on "West-End Usurers," in which the names, real and assumed, the addresses, and the previous occupations of the harpies who prey upon young men by lending money at enormous interest, has appeared in the *World*, and caused a remarkable sensation throughout the country. The prosecutors claim that, having been mentioned in this list, their characters for respectability have suffered harm; and in his opening speech their counsel gave vent to a large amount of tall talk. But when Mr. Bass was placed in the witness box, Mr. George Lewis, who appeared for the *World*, elicited from him in cross-examination avowals so damaging and so extraordinary that even the ordinary frequenters of the Court, who are accustomed to such scenes, were astonished. This man confessed that he had charged as much as eighty per cent; that he had been in the habit of lending money to young men under twenty years of age at college; that he had sworn affidavits as an army agent, he having no claim to the title; that he had induced army officers to pawn their commissions, he advancing money at a frightful percentage upon them; that an unfortunate victim had been pursued by him in one Court and by his partner in another for the same debt, and, finally, that not merely had they been usurers themselves, but they had found the money for most of the notorious scoundrels who, as usurers, play upon the young and foolish. The further hearing of the case is adjourned until to-morrow, but there seems no doubt which way the decision will be. I may say that, to my own certain knowledge, the editor of the *World* has received hundreds of letters from men in all classes of society thanking him for this much needed exposure.

THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON TIMES—THE NEW BUILDING.

Mr. Delane, the editor of the *Times*—the man who really wields "Jove's thunder"—is stated to be much out of health. His medical attendants and his friends are anxious that he should retire for a time from his arduous labors and seek rest and change of air; but he declares that, with the Parliamentary session just coming on, this is impossible, and has determined to stick to his post. The squat, dumpy building in Printing House square, known to visitors as "the *Times* office," is now but a small part of the gigantic whole. A fine pile of building has been erected, abutting on Queen Victoria street, in which are the editorial and managerial rooms. Since the escapade of Mr. Sampson the city offices of the *Times* have been abolished, and the city editor has rooms in this building, where he is more immediately under control. Within the last twelve months a great change has come over the spirit of the *Times*, which seems to have aroused itself from the lethargic state into which it had fallen, and to be using the enormous resources which, far beyond any of its contemporaries, it undoubtedly possesses. This change may be ascribed to the advent to increased power of Mr. John Macdonald, a shrewd Scotchman, who is now the general manager of the paper. Mr. Walter, Jr., son of John Walter, M. P., for Berks, and the largest owner of the journal, is now taking a leading part in its conduct, and is looked forward to as its future editor.

AN AMERICAN CLUB.

The long felt want of an American club in London is, it is said, about to be supplied. A proposition is afloat to engage a house in the best portion of Piccadilly, and to form a club which, though not exclusively composed of Americans, will have for the majority of its members citizens of the United States. Many of the leading Americans in London are said to look favorably upon the project, and there would seem to be no reason why such an establishment should not be as successful as the Washington in Paris.

HONORS TO LITERATURE.

You will have heard by cable that Mr. Disraeli, with a natural and proper appreciation of the world of literature, proposed to recognize the merits of two of its most distinguished living professors, and offered a Grand Companionship of the Bath to Thomas Carlyle and a baronetcy to Alfred Tennyson. The honors thus tendered were in both instances declined, as might have been expected by those who knew the men. Mr. Carlyle is now in his eightieth year. For at least forty years he has been inveighing with crushing irony against titular ranks and distinctions as windbags and shams, and it was not likely in his old age he would allow his name to be added to the list of the "flunkies," "corked radishes" and "dismal creatures having the honor to be," as he calls them. With the Poet Laureate the case was different. He has children, and his eldest son, Harold Tennyson, is said to be a bright, capable young man. But a baronetcy is not now the honor it was half a century ago. It has recently been given as a reward for political services, to rich bankers and *parvenus* of many kinds, to the doctors who attended the Prince of Wales in his illness, to the city merchant who happened to be Lord Mayor at the time when any royal visitor was received by the city of London. This may have had something to do with the reason which induced Mr. Tennyson to decline the offer. Certainly he could not have pleaded want of funds to sustain the dignity, as he is understood to be a rich man, and if he has not, like his own Sir Robert, lands in Kent and messuages in York, he has a very pretty estate in Surrey and another in the Isle of Wight.

CLERICO-POLEMICAL LITERATURE

is undoubtedly pecuniarily profitable. Twelve thousand copies of Father Newman's reply to Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet were sold at once, and the demand still continues.

DEATH

has been busy among us during the last week, and has carried off two distinguished victims in the persons of the Countess of Carnarvon and Canon Kingsley. Of Mr. Kingsley it is scarcely necessary for me to speak to your readers, so well known was he in America, personally, as well as by his books. It was only last year that he was in the United States, and, indeed, it is said that the bronchitis from which sprung the illness which finally carried him off came upon him first in Colorado. He was intensely attached to the country and its pursuits, and until he became a canon of Westminster, not more than two years ago, was seldom seen in London society. By those who knew him intimately he was held in the highest regard, but his appearance and manner were such as to cause disappointment on first meeting him. Lady Carnarvon, wife of the Colonial Secretary, was forty years of age. She was the only daughter of the Lord Chesterfield, the intimate companion of D'Orsay and Waterford and men of that time, and sister of the Lord Chesterfield whose death from a typhoid fever, at the time when the Prince of Wales was lying stricken with the same disease, caused some excitement. Lady Carnarvon was very popular in her circle and conducted the hospitalities of Highclere Castle with much tact and grace.

The war between

CAPITAL AND LABOR

has been brought to a head in South Wales. What was to have been a strike of the colliers has now become a lockout by the masters. This is to take place on the 1st of February, and from trustworthy information gathered upon the spot I am inclined to believe that the men will not give way, declaring that they intend this time to fight it out with the Masters' Association. If this be the case the state of things will be very fearful, and the war will be fought to the death. The coal owners are indignant at the ingratitude with which their kind treatment of the men has been received, and declare that they are now determined to fight out the issue whether they or the irascible workingmen's delegates are to manage their property. The state of trade, they say, renders a ten per cent reduction of wages imperative, and that reduction they are bent upon carrying out.

AMERICAN CELEBRITIES.

Londoners saw a strange sight the other day: nothing less than the American champion, Captain Boynton, who, in his diving dress, calmly paddled himself from Wapping to Westminster, with the American flag flying at the head of the mast, which was stuck in his belt. His progress created a fair amount of enthusiasm, and scientific men who have examined the dress declare that it is perfect in its way. Sergeant Bates was a nuisance, but Captain Boynton is a practical man, who has turned his talents to a useful purpose, and ought to be encouraged.

The last number of *Vanity Fair* has a wonderful portrait by Mr. Pellegrine of

THE AMERICAN MINISTER,

in which General Schenck's peculiarities are admirably hit off.

THEATRICAL.

Dundreary, having run his hundred nights, has been withdrawn, and on Saturday night Mr. Sothern made his appearance at the Haymarket in "Home." He has played the character of Colonel John White so often throughout America that no dissertation upon it is necessary. The event of the evening was the début in London of his son, Mr. Lytton Sothern, whose bright, handsome face, easy bearing and fund of animal spirits rendered him at once a favorite with the audience.

Mr. Hollingshead has addressed a spirited remonstrance to the Lord Chamberlain, pointing out the absurdity of the law which compels certain theatres to close on Ash Wednesday, while other theatrical establishments, music halls, nigger minstrels, conjurors, &c., are allowed full swing. Mr. Hollingshead writes very curtly and defiantly, but with plenty of vigor and common sense, and it is possible that he will bring about the abrogation of this ridiculous edict.

Mr. Richard Mansell is writing indignantly to the newspapers in consequence o the Lord Chamberlain having declared that he will grant no license to any theatre in which Mr. Mansell may hold a position. Mr. Mansell, it may be remembered, was stage manager at the St. James at the time of the production of "Vert-Vert."

THE ARKANSAS MESSAGE.

ELEGANT EXTRACTS—THE PRESIDENT'S IDEA OF "INFORMATION."

The celebrated Arkansas Message, destined to be the most famous document issued by General Grant, begins with these words:—

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:—

Herewith I have the honor to send, in accordance with the resolution of the Senate of the 3d inst., all the information in my possession, not heretofore furnished, relating to affairs in the State of Arkansas.

Appended to the brief Message, in which His Excellency "ventures to express the opinion" that "all the testimony shows" Joseph Brooks to be the lawfully elected Governor, and that the present government must be overthrown, is the strangest lot of documents which ever an American Senate had gravely referred to it by a President. On page 23 is a letter from an ardent Brooks man, who writes to "His Excellency U. S. Grant":—

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Lee County, Ark., MARIANNA, May 28, 1874.

SIR—In brief let me state a few facts in regard to matters in this state. In the first place, there is not a man in the State that has as much political sense as an oyster. There is no State in the Union so easily handled, so easily controlled as Arkansas. Arkansas, in 1872, was looking for a leader; she had none until Senator Dorsey came here and made a good showing, and we fell upon him as the man. He built a railroad that was never built, and made the party believe that he possessed both money and ability, all of which he never had. Now remember, I am a republican, and black at that. He went into the most stupendous frauds that was ever perpetrated upon a people, and he is not the only one in Washington now representing the people that is guilty of the same thing. The great Arkansas combination was formed. Baxter was the figurehead. They all worked for him, and most undoubtedly counted out Brooks. Secretary Jonnson was bought up to make false showing; he, the Senate, &c., and in fact every man that was troublesome, was either bought, or, as they term it, killed off. The carpet-bag election, Dorsey secured his seat in the senate of the United States, which was the grand object in view. Governor Baxter and he could not agree, and hence our troubles. It made no material difference who was Governor to us, if we only could have went along in peace and safety. * * * They have come from here to have me impeached, not because I was a Brooks man, but because I was a republican. You will remember, by my despatch to you in regard to the troubles, that I did not care as to the Governorship; but so it went. You have the respect of all the people in the State, and a word from you is worth more than an army. You have spoken, but they have mistook what you have said, and think that you mean for them to take the State government in their own hands and do as they please without any regard to the constitution of the United States or state. I have never seen such bitterness in the state since I have been here. Now, to settle the difficulties, let Congress investigate and put in the proper men, the men that were elected, and the troubles will end. I have had to be a political slave ever since I have been in the State, either to Clayton or Dorsey. I know of all the trouble in the state, and how it came about. I hope you will pardon me for troubling you with this letter, but I am anxious to know our future. Your humble servant,

W. H. FURBUSH.

His Excellency U. S. GRANT, Washington, D. C.

Furbush is a good man to have for a correspondent. He don't amount to much on grammar; but he speaks out like a little man, and when His Excellency read Furbush's letter no doubt he saw that there was at least one man in Arkansas who has "as much political sense as an oyster."

Next comes an appeal from one who writes:—

We, who are laboring men want neither Brooks nor Baxter for our ruler, for we have considered that neither are fit for the office of Governor; but some man who digs his living out of the ground. Hoping that you will at least condescend to answer us, we are some of your obedient soldiers of the Sixty-second O. V. L., and others of different regiments, and many Southern friends.

No doubt "your obedient soldiers" pleased His Excellency. Next comes a letter from D. F. McKibben, President of the Supervisors of Sebastian county, in relation to one of His Excellency's friends and appointees, Marshal Fagan:—

When he assumed control of the office it was expected that we were to have an honest administration of the affairs of this district; but, on the contrary, we find him in collusion with the very men whom the law officers of the government are endeavoring to expose and punish. The utter failure of the United States grand jury, which has been in session at this place for the past four weeks, in bringing to light the frauds perpetrated in this district and exposing the guilty parties, is a matter of no little surprise to almost everybody except those directly interested. Facts have lately come into my possession which fasten the entire responsibility of this matter upon Marshal Fagan, who signed blank summonses to grand jurors, and directed the same to R. C. Kerns, Roots' old chief deputy, who filled in the names of such persons as he knew were friendly to him, and others upon whom suspicion of fraud rested, and thus the action of that Grand Jury was controlled completely by the men whom the government was endeavoring to expose, and who kept up a constant communication with the members of the jury. One indictment was found, and in less than one hour thereafter the party was notified and left town. J. W. Donalley, chief clerk under Britton and Roots, although not to be seen in the Marshal's office, makes up all the returns for deputies, and, in short, manipulates Fagan's accounts the same as under Britton and Roots. These are facts which can be substantiated if necessary. A very large number of deputies have been commissioned, and among them some of the most disreputable characters that ever infested this country.

This Fagan was appointed United States Marshal of the Western District of Arkansas by the President, confirmed by the Senate and still holds the office. McKibben's letter is dated December 10, 1874.

We find also an opinion of Attorney General Williams, which clearly puts Brooks out of court. Mr. Williams says:—

Respecting the claim that Brooks received a majority of the votes at the election, it must be said that the President has no way to verify that claim. If he had, it would not, in my opinion, under the circumstances of this case, be a proper subject for his consideration. Perhaps if everything about the election was in confusion and there had been no legal count of the votes the question of majorities might form an element of discussion; but where, as in this case, there has been a legal count of the votes, and the tribunal organized by the constitution of the State for that purpose has declared the election the President, in my judgment, ought not to go behind that action to look into the state of the vote. Frauds may have been committed there to the prejudice of Brooks; but, unhappily, there are few elections where partisan zeal runs high in which the victorious party, with more or less truth, is not charged with acts of fraud. There must, however, be an end to controversy upon the subject. Somebody must be trusted to count votes and declare elections. Unconstitutional methods of filling offices cannot be resorted to because there is some real or imagined unfairness about the election. Ambitious and selfish aspirants for office generally create the disturbance about this matter, for the people are more interested in the preservation of the peace than in the political fortunes of any man. Either of the contestants, with law and order, is better than the other with discord and violence. I think it would be disastrous to allow the proceedings by which Brooks obtained possession of the office to be drawn into precedent. There is not a state in the Union in which they would not produce a conflict, and, probably, bloodshed. They cannot be upheld or justified upon any ground, and in my opinion Elisha Baxter should be recognized as the lawful Executive of the State of Arkansas.

Also a Message of Governor Garland, in which he says:—

The platform of the party that nominated me had as its main feature the constitution I have sworn to support, and promised an administration of the government just and liberal to all, oppressive and proscriptive to none. In accepting the nomination I unreservedly committed myself to this policy, and now again, in taking the oath of office, I repeat the solemn avowal that I shall strive to so administer the government under our constitution that "the protection of the rights of the whole people shall be complete."

Here is a despatch from Senator Clayton and Representative Snider, who were in November, it seems, fiery Smith men, and are now, three months later, equally fiery Brooks men:—

[Telegram from Little Rock, November 19, 1874. Received 9:45, November 20, 1874.]

To U. S. GRANT, President United States, Washington, D. C.:—

The republicans of the State regard the government of 1868 as the lawful one, and Garland as revolutionary. They consider the recognition of Governor Smith as being not only demanded by law, but necessary for their protection. They confidently rely upon you to afford the aid necessary to re-establish the legitimate government, which, when done, they are amply able to maintain without further assistance. Messrs. Hines and Hodges are absent from the State, but concur with us in these views.

POWELL CLAYTON.
O. P. SNIDER.

OUR GREAT EXPOSITION.

Rapid Transport of Exhibits to the Centennial Buildings.

The New Union Depot and the Grand Hotel.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20, 1875.

Inasmuch as the appropriate celebration of our first Centenary is now a foregone conclusion, and owing to the fact that the plans of all the buildings will be consummated many days before the prescribed time for their formal opening, the facilities for the rapid transport of all the exhibits of other States have become matters of grave import, and are, of course, subjects of more than ordinary interest to our leading merchants and manufacturers.

OUR PRESENT FACILITIES.

It must be admitted that our present facilities for the shipment of exhibits from New York and neighboring cities are exceedingly unsatisfactory. It consumes at least three hours for the ordinary express train to lap the space intervening between New York and Philadelphia, while the average freight train travelling between the same two points consumes almost double this amount of time. For this slow rate of speed there is really no excuse, while the tariff charged at present for freight and passenger travel is exorbitant and beyond all reason.

The locomotives built years ago, especially designed to whirl the ordinary light and jolting passenger cars, now endeavor to drag a train of heavy Pullman cars over the same route in the same time—an effort which is simply impossible of accomplishment. I venture to say that there has not been within a year past a single express train, to which Pullman parlor or sleeping cars were attached, that has arrived in West Philadelphia at the time designated in the published time table. There is no section of the Pennsylvania Railroad rougher or more in need of repair than the long stretch intervening between Philadelphia and New York. No man could well have his intestines more thoroughly shaken than he who, too poor to purchase a seat in a Pullman, is compelled to endure in the average passenger car. Nor is there another stretch of road under control of the company where, taking into consideration the immense amount of patronage, it consumes so much time to travel over a given limit of miles. Hence it is that where there is the largest number of passengers travelling the accommodations are the worst, and that where there is the greatest demand for rapid transit the facilities for the same are the most inadequate.

RAILROADS AND THE CENTENNIAL.

It will be impossible for the exhibitors of New York to ship their goods by any other than the Pennsylvania Railroad. The time consumed by the most rapid express trains, running between the two cities, is ridiculously slow, and only about half the rate that engines adapted to the character of the trains they are compelled to draw could accomplish. The tariff charged each passenger is exorbitant, and is more than double that which the line would charge did they have the least competition. There has not been a single passenger riding between New York and Philadelphia during the last two years who has not been greatly overcharged, and who could not travel double the distance on any other railroad in the United States at less than the same price.

INTERVIEW WITH TOM SCOTT.

Your correspondent, through the medium of a gentleman prominently connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad, held an interview with Mr. Scott, from which I learned many important facts to offset the statements mentioned above, which facts are of the greatest interest to all who intend sending exhibits to the Centennial and all who expect to visit the Quaker City while the Exposition is in progress. In the first place, Mr. Scott assures your correspondent that the rolling stock of the road will be greatly augmented, and that new and powerful engines are now in progress of construction which are calculated to draw, at the most rapid speed, the longest trains made up of the heaviest and most over-freighted cars. He assures me that he will place upon the road between Philadelphia and New York a series of elegantly upholstered and rapidly flying trains that will lap the distance in about one-half the time now consumed by his swiftest expresses. He intends, he says, to accomplish this result by a thorough repair of the track, by the laying of new rails and by the introduction of heavier and more powerful engines. He says that the question of rapid transit between the two cities is one of the most important that has ever occurred since he has been connected with the road; that at the same time it is one of the results which the road is determined at any cost to bring about. In order to test the speed of his swiftest locomotives he states that a few months ago he rode between New York and Philadelphia, making the lowest stoppages and at the rapidest rate possible, and that he is convinced that now and more powerful locomotives must be put upon the road before his anticipations can be realized. He informs me that such engines as are necessary to fulfil his purposes are now being constructed in the shops of the company, and that they shall be ready before the required time to convey all exhibits carefully, rapidly and satisfactorily to the Centennial buildings.

DIRECT TO THE MAIN BUILDINGS.

"You may tell the people of New York," said he, "they may rest assured of one thing, viz:—When they are ready to send their exhibits, or when they personally are anxious to visit the scene of the great Exposition the transit afforded their goods and themselves will be as perfect and as rapid as they could desire. We are now building, in anticipation of the magnitude of the undertaking, 'siding's' along the entire line between New York and Philadelphia, and there can be no rush nor any demand upon us for freight or passenger accommodation to which we cannot adequately respond."

THE GREAT DEPOT.

In addition to the above facts I am informed that, just at the intersection of Belmont and Elm avenues, near the main entrance to the Centennial buildings, a grand depot is to be erected covering an immense area, and underneath the roof of which can be accommodated 14,000 souls; that the branch track, to prevent accident, will be spanned over by an immense bridge, which will serve as a grand promenade, and from which steps will descend upon either side to the depot proper.

A GRAND HOTEL.

Your correspondent is also informed that directly opposite this grand depot the Pennsylvania Railroad Company intend constructing a mammoth hotel, capable of accommodating more than 2,000 guests, its location being near the Centennial buildings and within the Centennial grounds. The hotel will be a perfect although a temporary structure, being made up of a series of frame works, which, after the Exposition, can be disposed of for private cottages.

PERFECT ACCOMMODATIONS.

Thus it will be seen that the railroad companies are not only awake to the question of rapid and satisfactory transit for passengers and freight, but that they are also making plans for the accommodation of the guests themselves. The above facts are of great interest to New York exhibitors, and assures them that they can consign their goods with safety, speed and despatch.

BELGIUM RESPONDS.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20, 1875.

Director General Goshorn was officially informed to-day by the Interior Department of the appointment of commissioners to represent Belgium at the International Exhibition. The following is a copy of the official notice of appointment:—

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHILADELPHIA.—Appointment of the Members of the Commission—Leopold II., King of the Belgians—To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:—Considering that it is necessary to appoint a commission having the charge of organizing and managing the participation of the Belgian productors and artists at the International Exhibition of Fine Arts, Agriculture and Industry to be held in 1876, at Philadelphia, United States of America, upon the proposition of our Minister of the Interior, we have decreed:—

ARTICLE 1.—Are appointed members of the Belgian Commission of the International Exhibition of Philadelphia in 1876:—

Ancion, Alfred, manufacturer of arms at Liège.
De Curte, architect, at Brussels.
De Smet-De Smet, Ch., manufacturer, President of the Commercial and Industrial Society of Ghent.
Duhayon, Felix, manufacturer of laces at Brussels.
Duisberg, director of the paper manufactories of Messrs. Godin & Co. at Huy.
Goffin, Jesse, manufacturer of iron at Brussels.
Havenith, Jules, shipowner at Antwerp.
Lambert, Chs., Member of the House of Representatives and glass manufacturer at Charleroy.
Lequot, R., director of lead mines at Bleyberg.
Paur