TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

From All Parts of the World.

THE EASTERN CONFERENCE.

Favorable Result of the Preliminary Meeting.

WILL THERE BE PEACE?

Proposed Cession of Territory—A New Governor for Bulgaria.

OCCUPATION BY NEUTRALS.

Reported Ending of the French Ministerial Difficulty.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, Dec. 13, 1876.

The news from the East this morning is decidedly pacific, and those who had been looking hopefully forward to the meeting of the Conference are now congratulating themselves on their success as political prophets. All the despatches received here from various parts of the Continent speak in a hopeful tone of the probable success of the Conference in arriving at some kind of a settlement that will prevent the immediate outbreak of war. But that this Conference, or any other body that may meet to consider the state of things in the Turkish provinces will be able to finally settle the Eastern question without a great European war is doubted by all who have carefully studied the situation and who know the enormous difficulties which surround it. But even a temporary peace would be looked upon as a boon, and therefore the hopes of peace held out by this morning's news have produced a very favorable effect on the public mind.

A NEW GOVERNOR OF BULGARIA.

A special despatch from the HERALD correspondent at Paris, this morning, announces that he has received reliable information from Constantinople that Nubar Pacha has been appointed Governor of Bulgaria by the Porte. From the peculiar difficulties which beset the Turkish authorities in that province as a consequence of the late massacres and the public attention called to them, the position of Governor is a very important one and requires a man of tact and judgment.

THE CONFERENCE.

A telegram from Paris, received last night, says the following despatch was received there from Constantinople yesterday:—"At the preliminary meeting of the Conference yesterday, under the presidency of General Ignatieff, the Russian Ambassador, the Plenipotentiaries commenced by discussing the questions concerning Servia and Montenegro, and agreed upon the following points, which will be officially sanctioned later:—The Conference admitted the expediency of a rectification of the Montenegrin frontier to be determined by an international meeting at Ragusa.

CONCESSION TO MONTENEGRO AND SERVIA

would comprise the addition of eleven districts, all named, to Montenegro. The Prince of Montenegro would go to Constantinople to do homage to the Sultan for the new territories conceded to him. The Conference admitted that Servian territory should be evacuated by the Turks, the prisoners on both sides returned and the armistice prolonged until the conclusion of peace. It was further agreed that the valley of the Drina should be considered as the western frontier of Servia, this rectification implying the definitive cession of Little Zwornik to Servia.

OCCUPATION BY A NEUTRAL POWER.

These first results confirm the expectation of an understanding between the Powers. General Ignatieff, in his last interview with the Marquis of Salisbury, is reported to have declared that he would accept the occupation of Bulgaria by a neutral State, such as Belgium or Switzerland.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEWS.

A Vienna despatch says:—"The *Political Correspondence* publishes semi-official intelligence from Constantinople to the effect that it is more than probable that the European Plenipotentiaries will arrive at a complete understanding during the preliminary conferences. A Constantinople despatch, dated Tuesday evening, says it is reported that an understanding has been established in principle on the chief points."

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND SAID TO BE IN ACCORD.

A Vienna despatch, received this morning, states that confirmation comes from Constantinople that quite an unexpected and marked approach has been effected between the views of Russia and those of England. This seems due, above all, to assurances given by General Ignatieff concerning the aims of Russian policy.

TURKEY OBDURATE.

In the face of this it appears that Turkey felt it necessary to make known its views. Several Vienna papers publish a sort of *communiqué* derived from sources which they allege to be Turkish. The said *communiqué* declares that the Porte will adhere to the Treaty of Paris, and consider every project of occupation a *casus belli*.

THE AUSTRO-SERVIAN DIFFICULTY.

A despatch from Pesth reports that the Austrian representative has been instructed to quit Belgrade if Servia refuses satisfaction for the forcible detention and searching of an Austrian mail steamer by the Servian police.

THE HUNGARIAN MINISTRY RESIGNS.

A despatch from Pesth Tuesday night says it is reported that the Hungarian Cabinet have tendered their resignation on account of the Austro-Hungarian bank question.

THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

The present Ministerial crisis has lasted longer than any that has taken place for some time, and the friends of the Republic here are becoming rather anxious. But French political parties of late have shown such an aptitude for compromises and the leaders of the republican party have shown such good sense and moderation for the last few years that those who know France best have every confidence that this latest difficulty will be tided over as easily as those which have preceded it. The first despatches received yesterday evening were unfavorable, but the latest news was of an entirely satisfactory nature. Early in the evening a telegram was received here which said:—"The political situation is one of great tension. It is believed President MacMahon has abandoned the idea of trying to satisfy the demands of the Left, and the formation of a Cabinet from the Right is regarded as probable."

THE CRISIS ENDED.

A despatch received late last night said:—"The Ministerial crisis is ended. M. Simon has been appointed President of the Council and Minister of the Interior, and M. Martel Minister of Justice. MM. Dufaure and Marcere retire; the other Ministers remain as at present. Another despatch stated that the *Journal Officiel* would announce the foregoing changes to-day.

END OF THE ARGENTINE REBELLION.

The Argentine Consul in London has received a telegram from the Finance Minister of the Argentine Republic, announcing that the rebellion in Entre Rios has terminated, and that the Republic is pacific. Statements telegraphed to London about a general insurrection are false.

WET WEATHER.

The weather yesterday was wet.

CUBA.

MORE TROOPS ARRIVED FROM SPAIN.

HAVANA, Dec. 12, 1876.

One Spanish man-of-war and one transport steamer have arrived here with 1,500 troops.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

THE AMERICAN BARK WHITMORE WATCHED BY THE UNITED STATES SHIP KEARSAGE—CHARGES OF CRUELTY AGAINST THE OFFICERS—CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12, 1876.

The Pacific Mail steamer City of Peking, sixteen days from Yokohama, arrived to-night and brings the following advices:—

SHANGHAI, Nov. 17, 1876.

The American bark C. O. Whitmore, now lying in the harbor of Hong Kong, is watched by the United States ship Kearsage. There is great excitement because Captain Peabody, First Mate Snow and Second Mate Stafford, of the Whitmore, cannot be held to answer for their alleged crimes, in consequence of the abrogation of the Extradition Treaty between England and America. The evidence appears conclusive that they practiced unprecedented cruelties on the crew during their recent voyage from Cardiff and tortured another mate, named Ellwood, to death. At an indignation meeting of the citizens, a resolution was passed requesting the Governor of Hong Kong to telegraph for permission to surrender the accused to the United States authorities. It is supposed that if the Whitmore attempts to escape the Kearsage will follow and secure her in some port where no technical difficulties will interfere.

CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC NEWS.

The Chinese Envoy to England received final orders to sail for his post within a few weeks. The British consular service in China is to be redistributed next year. The names of the members of the Chinese Embassy to the United States have been published, apparently by authority, as follows:—Chief, Chan Yung Wing, salary 8,000 taels; First Secretary, Wong Ching, salary 3,600 taels. Consuls are to be sent to San Francisco and Lima at 4,000 taels each.

A CHINESE LITTLE WAR.

There have been renewed conflicts between the Chinese troops and the aborigines of Formosa, in which the latter were, as usual, victorious.

JAPAN.

MOVEMENTS OF THE MIKADO AND THE EMPRESS—POSTAGE REGULATIONS IN COREA.

YOKOHAMA, Nov. 26, 1876.

The visit of the Mikado to Kioto, the former capital, is announced to take place January next. The Empress is now making an overland journey to the same place. Kindergartens have been introduced in the government schools for girls. The rate of postage to open ports in Corea has been made the same as for the interior of Japan. The Corean government have applied for Japanese surgeons trained in foreign methods of practice.

A RISE IN THE MISSISSIPPI.

MOVEMENT OF THE ICE IN THE CHANNEL NEAR THE MISSOURI—A NUMBER OF VESSELS CARRIED AWAY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 12, 1876.

This morning about one o'clock, after a rise in the Mississippi River, caused by the backwater from the gorge at Carondelet, which raised the river in the St. Louis harbor about three feet, the ice in the channel near the Missouri shore commenced to move and came rushing down with terrific force, catching a number of vessels unprepared and carrying them away. Distress whistles were blown and great excitement prevailed on the levees. The course of the ice was somewhat singular. It came down suddenly and almost as suddenly disappeared, being seemingly sucked under the solid ice, which extended as far up as beyond Jefferson Barracks. The loss sustained, though not fully estimated, will be enormous, at least four steamers having already gone down.

SUNKEN STEAMERS.

Chief among the boats sunk is the steamer Fannie Keener, carried away from her moorings and sunk opposite the Arsenal wall. She is apparently partly sustained by the ice, but lies in probably not less than forty feet of water.

The value of the Keener may be roughly estimated at from $15,000 to $20,000.

The next boat reported sunk is the Southern Belle, now lying abreast of the Arsenal wall. Her exact position cannot yet be described.

The boats taken away by the ice were carried out in a group, and those not yet sunk are said to be still near together. Another boat announced sunk is the Jennie Baldwin; the Baldwin is worth somewhere between $5,000 and $10,000.

BOATS AND BARGES DAMAGED.

Among the boats carried out into the river, but not yet reported as seriously injured, are the Minnesota, the Bayard and others. In addition to a large number of barges the Savannah has gone down.

The Little South Shore, belonging to Captain Simeon Mayo, which was moored at the head of the island, was raised out of the river and cast on shore, where she is at present lying, high and dry, and careening over to the leeward, with her larboard guard in the ice, caused by the falling of the river. There is no chance for her to be saved from considerable damage, unless the river should again rise sufficiently to set her afloat. The Golden Eagle was shoved up on the bank, and is almost entirely out of water. The Utah and her freight are safe. The Storm No. 3 is also in a good harbor.

THE RIVER GORGED.

Captain Smith, just arrived from Stegenevieve reports that the river is gorged from there to Chester Ill., a distance of about thirty miles.

The following named boats lying at the foot of the Arsenal were badly damaged, and will sink as soon as the ice again moves:—Alexander Mitchell, Centennial, Rocky Island, Andy Johnson, War Eagle, Davenport, Lake Superior and Jacob Tamm.

MIDNIGHT WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—1 A. M.

Probabilities.

For New England slightly warmer, cloudy weather, winds shifting to easterly and southerly, falling barometer during the day, and during the evening threatening weather and possibly snow.

For the Middle States, warmer southerly to westerly winds, with clear or fair weather in the southern portion, and with threatening weather and snow in the northern portion, and falling barometer.

For the South Atlantic States, generally clear and warmer weather, with southerly to westerly winds and slowly falling barometer.

For the Gulf States, clear or fair weather, and warm, southerly winds during the day, with falling barometer.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, the temperature continues above freezing, with southerly to westerly winds, clear or fair weather, and falling, followed by rising barometer

For the lower lake region brisk southwest to northwest winds, warmer partly cloudy weather and falling barometer during the day, followed during the night by rising barometer, threatening weather and areas of snow.

Cautionary signals continue at the lake stations.

The display of cautionary signals will be discontinued on the lakes after December 20, except at Milwaukee and Grand Haven.

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY.

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

	1875.	1876.		1875.	1876.
3 A. M.	36	22	3:30 P. M.	43	33
6 A. M.	35	24	6 P. M.	39	32
9 A. M.	36	26	9 P. M.	36	33
12 M.	42	29	12 P. M.	33	35

Average temperature yesterday 29¼
Average temperature for corresponding date last year 37½

FIRE IN THE BOWERY.

NARROW ESCAPE OF A FAMILY FROM A TERRIBLE DEATH.

Shortly after eleven o'clock last night a fire broke out in the second story brick building No. 138 Bowery, occupied by Gordon & Orr as a dry goods store. The flames rapidly spread, but the firemen succeeded in keeping the fire to the building, and, after some hard work, the flames were extinguished. The damage to stock by fire and water is estimated at between $8,000 and $10,000. The building is damaged to the extent of $3,000. The cause of the fire is unknown.

The fire attracted a large crowd of spectators, and great excitement was manifested, as it was rumored that persons living in the building had had a narrow escape. A Mr. Crager, who resided on the third floor over the store, had barely time to rescue his family of six children, who were asleep in bed at the time. A friend of his, Mr. Gresham, also assisted in getting the children out of the burning building. The firemen worked well and confined the damage to the first and second floors. At midnight the flames were subdued and traffic was resumed.

WASHINGTON.

The Wrangle Over the Twenty-Second Joint Rule.

SPEAKER RANDALL'S POSITION CONDEMNED.

Opportunity for a Great Democratic Blunder.

THE BLAND SILVER BILL BEFORE THE HOUSE.

Attitude of Southern Representatives on the Electoral Issue.

INTERVIEW WITH BEN HILL, OF GEORGIA.

An Interesting Episode in the Wanderings of Boss Tweed.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1876.

THE BLAND SILVER BILL AGAIN TO THE FRONT—INCIDENTAL DISCUSSION ON THE JOINT RULES—SPEAKER RANDALL'S ATTITUDE—PROPOSED ACTION IN THE HOUSE FOR COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE—CHANCE FOR A DEMOCRATIC BLUNDER.

Mr. Bland got his notorious Silver bill before the House to-day, and having got the previous question seconded there will be a debate of two hours on it to-morrow, whereupon it will come to a vote. It is thought by many persons that it would have been only decent in the friends of this measure to wait the report of the Silver Commission, which sat during the summer by authority of Congress. Mr. Bland appears to be afraid to wait for the facts it may have collected. The bill has no chance of becoming a law. It is not at all likely to pass the Senate, and, if it should, the President would veto it. It is, in its present shape and in its present hands, mere buncombe.

In introducing the bill the question of the twenty-second joint rule came up once more, and the Speaker again committed himself to the position that the rule still exists. He is a good deal ridiculed for this by democrats, the greater part of whom see that the question is of no importance and that the Speaker's decision cannot in any case enforce the rule. It is supposed that Mr. Randall, who is counted among the hotheads here, believes that in some contingency his ruling may be important on the count of the vote. Very few people of his own side agree with him. It is more generally held by the democrats that the twenty-second joint rule was only a method of procedure under the constitution for counting the electoral vote; that if either house wishes to change this method of procedure under the constitution it has the power to abrogate the rule, as the Senate has done by an almost unanimous vote, and that in due time a new rule, a method of procedure to take the place of the twenty-second rule, will be agreed on by both houses, as has been the uniform practice before every count. The democrats hold that, if the republicans shall oppose the adoption of such a new rule, they will put themselves clearly in the wrong before the country. It has been the regular practice of both houses to appoint a joint committee early in February, before the electoral count was to take place, to "ascertain and report a mode for examining the votes for President and Vice President, and the twenty-second joint rule itself was framed and reported by such a committee acting under the instructions conveyed in the words above quoted. Mr. McCrary, an able republican in the House, has already asked for a joint committee to do the same thing. The House Judiciary Committee, it is to-day said, will substitute for his eminently proper resolution another forming a committee of the House alone to report on its powers under the constitution in counting the votes. If they do this they will, undoubtedly, commit a blunder, and a very needless one, for they will relieve the republicans in the Senate of their responsibility for the time in the matter and will assume an attitude themselves apparently hostile to a concurrent settlement.

DON CAMERON'S RULE IN PENNSYLVANIA—POLITICAL DEFECTION NOT TO BE TOLERATED.

Secretary Cameron evidently means to boss both South Carolina and Pennsylvania. He made so vigorous a fight for the removal of the Postmaster at Philadelphia that he carried the day against the merchants, who wished Mr. Fairman continued in office on the ground of his efficiency. Mr. Cameron's excuse was that Fairman had had the place four years and that it is now somebody else's turn. People wonder here whether this is what Governor Hayes meant by civil service reform. But on the other hand Mr. Cameron is said to have declared that, though his father might forgive political opposition, he would not, and that he meant to read the riot act to the Pennsylvania office-holders. It may be said that it does not yet look much like civil service reform about here.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1876.

AN INTERVIEW WITH BEN HILL, OF GEORGIA, ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION—FEELING OF THE SOUTHERN REPRESENTATIVES—ATTITUDE OF SOUTHERNERS TOWARD THE NEGRO—PRESIDENT GRANT'S PARTISAN ATTITUDE DEPLORED.

A good deal of random gossip has been afloat here for some days as to the sentiments said to be entertained by the Southern Congressmen with reference to Governor Hayes and as to their liking for him. To ascertain the real nature of this feeling Mr. Ben Hill, of Georgia, who was foremost in the caucus in deprecating the Presidential impeachment proposition and who has been classed among the many Southern Congressmen said to be almost indifferent whether Hayes or Tilden is next President so long as the Southern States secure good local government, was this evening asked to give a statement of his views of the situation and his opinion regarding Governor Hayes:—

Mr. Hill, in answer to the first question put to him, said:—

"I regarded General Hayes' nomination from the beginning as a victory over the ultraisms of the republican party. It was a defeat, in my judgment, of the military element, so much to be dreaded in the civil administration of all free governments. It was also a defeat of the political, belligerent element of the republican party, which seems to have no place for statesmanship or policy except to foment sectional hates and passions. The South, above all things, wants an honest administration of the general government, according to the constitution. I do not know Governor Hayes personally, but from the information I get concerning him I believe he is an honest and a fair man. Being a lawyer he is also familiar with civil matters, and will naturally have respect for the constitution and civil methods. These things being true he must necessarily discontinue the unwarrantable interferences in the affairs of the South; he will also naturally desire the co-operation of the best men in the South. If this be true his administration will be a great gain and improvement to the Southern people. The Southern people have no desire to resist the federal government, but they do desire to be regarded as a portion of this common country, and entitled to the administration in the South exactly as that administration is extended to other portions of the country, and if she can get this plain, honest administration and her best people can be recognized by the federal administration as the proper representatives of Southern interest and sentiment, the whole country will perceive at once that the ultraisms charged upon the South will have no foundation in fact."

CORRESPONDENT—Do you anticipate that there would be any trouble in the final disposition of this Presidential question?

Mr. HILL—There is, in my opinion, neither necessity nor excuse for trouble in the settlement of the Presidential question. If we are as patriotic as the men who framed the constitution we shall find no difficulty whatever in its fair and true interpretation. There can be no possible apology for a breach of the peace, nor for any physical collision, much less for a civil war. I must be permitted to say that the chief trouble of the present situation lies in the deplorable fact that too many of the prominent leaders of both parties seem to be exerting all their ingenuity, not in discovering the truth about the election, but in devising ways to secure a mere party triumph, and I am afraid they are only too willing to secure a mere party triumph by any means, foul or fair. I do wish some means could be adopted to make General Grant realize that he is the President of the whole country and not the President of the republican party. I must confess that no feature of the situation gives me so much uneasiness as the evidences I daily see that General Grant seems to think that he is under some obligation to use his office to secure the success of the republican party. If my fears in this respects are well grounded and General Grant should persist in such a partisan administration of the government, then I do fear the most serious consequences will result.

CORRESPONDENT—In what form or shape would these serious consequences be likely to come up?

Mr. HILL—Well, if I understand the position of the republican party they will insist that the President of the Senate alone shall not only count the votes as the organ of the two houses, but that he should determine all questions arising in the count. This position is manifestly absurd. He is a presiding officer; he announces results, but he must announce them as the mouthpiece of the two houses. According to the position of the republicans this mouthpiece is not only judge, but he is an absolute judge and must determine all questions which, from their nature, can only be determined by the two houses. If he refuses to entertain objections and takes upon himself, not only to count the vote, but to determine also what vote shall be counted, he will simply declare Hayes elected President. The House may deem it its duty to enter a protest against such arbitrary adjudication by this mere presiding officer, and if the House shall honestly conclude that Governor Hayes is not elected and proceed to elect Tilden, as they are required to do by the constitution, I suppose General Grant, with his idea that he is administering the government for the success of the republican party only, will seek to use the military to inaugurate Governor Hayes. Of course no man can foresee the results of such a policy. They cannot be otherwise than disastrous to the whole country. One thing is certain, the Southern people want peace; they know well what war means; they know that civil war is the remedy for no wrong, but an aggravation of all wrongs. Their Representatives in Congress will use all their best exertions to secure a peaceable solution of all these troubles.

CORRESPONDENT—Will not those Representatives now in Congress who have seen service in the ex-Confederate army, by the calmness, moderation and counsels, as shown in the House, exercise a good influence in the peaceful solution of the present difficulties?

Mr. HILL—I certainly think so. These Representatives feel, and feel keenly, the embarrassments of their situation. They are the subjects of suspicion. This suspicion may be considered somewhat natural. As a result of this feeling they are not inclined to make themselves prominent or conspicuous in directing events, but you may rely upon it that they will be calm, self-poised and determined to do whatever they can to secure a peaceable solution of the present difficulties. If war must come it will not be their fault. And now let me add emphatically that, come what may, the Southern people will remain in the Union and true to the Union. They have tried secession, and they know it bore no fruit but bitterness. They will never try it again. The people of the North, too, should know that the negro will receive from the Southern people absolute protection in all his civil and political rights. The South has no prejudices against the negro; we charge none of our wrongs to the negro; it is our interest not only to protect the negro, but to do all we can to educate and improve him; he is a citizen, and it is our interest to make him an intelligent citizen; he is a freeman, and it is our interest to make him a worthy freeman; he is a voter, and it is our interest to make him a wise voter. This is especially true because the fourteenth amendment increases the power of the South in the Electoral College and in Congress. We would not, therefore, if we could, take the right of suffrage away from the negro. The South is not afraid of the negro; when sinister influences are removed from him he is docile and easily governed, and, being a necessary element in our society, we are also desirous that he should be an element of power with us."

AN EPISODE IN THE ESCAPE OF TWEED—THE RECENTLY REMOVED CONSUL AT SANTIAGO DE CUBA CHARGED WITH BEING IN COMPLICITY WITH THE FUGITIVES—THE FACTS AS DETAILED AND HOW THEY BECAME KNOWN.

The Senate, in Executive session this afternoon, confirmed the President's nomination of John C. Landreau to be Consul at Santiago de Cuba, and hereby hangs a tale. Santiago, it will be remembered, is the port from which Tweed, upon his release by the Spanish naval authorities of the island of Cuba, sailed for Vigo in the bark Carmen. Just after the departure of the vessel orders for his rearrest by the military authorities of Santiago were transmitted by Captain General Jovellar, through the American Consul General, Mr. Hall, at Havana, who had learned meantime that the released man was none other than the fugitive William M. Tweed, his identity being established by a photograph with which our Consul at Santiago had been furnished by Mr. Hall for the purpose of comparison. But the execution of these later orders was frustrated by the hasty departure of Tweed on the Carmen early on the morning of the day on which they were communicated to the military commandant at Santiago. It is now charged that Mr. Young, the Consul at Santiago, has been guilty of a grave dereliction of duty in this whole matter, so serious, indeed, that when the facts were reported to President Grant he ordered the peremptory dismissal of Mr. Young.

The facts as they transpire here are as follows, the information coming from the military commandant referred to, General Sabal Marin, who passed through Washington recently, on his way home from the Centennial, where he had been doing service for his government as one of the Spanish Commissioners. General Marin stated that he had become acquainted with certain facts in regard to the escape of Tweed and his complicity therewith, of which it had been his duty to make complaint to his government. He found that Mr. Young had personally bought the passage ticket for Tweed on the Carmen; that he had had him living in his own apartments at the Consulate, and that when he telegraphed to Consul General Hall the release of Tweed the despatch was so postponed that before the answer could reach him to hold Tweed and send him back to Havana under arrest the Carmen had already sailed and Tweed escaped. General Marin made an investigation of these and other facts, which led him to believe that there were some suspicious money transactions between Tweed and Young, and that it was, in fine, nothing but a case of collusion to assist the flight of Tweed. He decided to embody these facts and suspicions in a report which he forwarded through the regular diplomatic channels from Cuba to Madrid, whence they came back to the State Department of the United States. Immediately upon their receipt the showing was so bad for Mr. Young that his removal was promptly decided upon and made. General Marin expressed himself, while in Washington, as very indignant about the affair. A part of the tactics resorted to also for the purpose of extricating Tweed from the custody of the Cuban officers of the law was a dispute between the military and naval authorities as to whether Tweed was properly a prisoner of one or the other, which ended in his slipping from the grasp of both. It is understood that Consul Young contended that Tweed was all right and that his passport was in order.

THE PHILADELPHIA POSTMASTERSHIP—REASONS WHICH ACTUATED PRESIDENT GRANT IN THE REMOVAL OF MR. FAIRMAN—DON CAMERON'S LESSON TO THE YOUNG MEN OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In the matter of the Philadelphia Postmastership, which had been discussed at the special Cabinet session last Saturday, and was taken charge of by the President without decision until yesterday morning, it appears that the President was induced to listen to the persuasion of Secretary Chandler, and finally to be convinced by him just in time to send Mr. Snowden's name to the Senate. Secretary Cameron saw the President frequently since the latter was supposed to take the position that he would not yield to the importunings of Governor Hartranft and himself, but the Secretary of War persisted in his demand for the removal of Postmaster Fairman. Eventually the President was told that the interests of the republican party and its discipline in the State of Pennsylvania absolutely demanded that the official head of Mr. Fairman should be forfeited to the Camerons. President Grant was loth to injure the republican party, but found himself hemmed in on all sides and at last he determined to solve the problem himself. He did this reluctantly, because his best friends were solicitous for the retention of Mr. Fairman, and not until the last moment could the President bring himself to do as he was asked by the Messrs. Cameron and Governor Hartranft, but yesterday morning he yielded and decided to make the removal. Without, it is said, consulting any one he selected A. L. Snowden for the position to replace General Fairman. This proved acceptable, in a measure, to Fairman, because Snowden is not the appointee whom Governor Hartranft and Secretary Cameron wanted, and they, in turn, are satisfied with Snowden because the removal of Fairman is all they were determined to effect.

It is understood that Secretary Cameron said of Fairman's case that he intended to teach the young men of Pennsylvania a lesson; that when they were intractable politically they should suffer for it.

SECRETARY ROBESON'S ACCOUNTS TO BE INVESTIGATED—A PROPOSITION FOR A BOARD OF ADMIRALTY.

The House Naval Committee will not allow the navy accounts of Secretary Robeson to go without an investigation. Under a resolution of the committee a subcommittee was appointed to-day to inquire into the circumstances attending Mr. Robeson's demand for $1,500,000 to make up the deficit in the pay of the navy for this year. The committee has considerable evidence going to show that this deficit is not really in the pay of the navy, but that the money has been used for other purposes.

Mr. Whitthorne, the chairman, intends to have the committee report favorably a bill to provide for a mixed commission to determine the best naval system and policy for the United States, and also a bill for a Board of Admiralty to govern the administration of the navy.

THE FURLOUGH PAY ORDER IN THE NAVY—INCONVENIENCES RESULTING TO THE OFFICERS—EFFORTS MADE TO HAVE IT RESCINDED.

There has been so much suffering and embarassment among naval officers of the lower grades of rank, on account of the furlough pay order issued by Secretary Robeson, that a combined effort is being made by those affected to induce Congress to enact a law allowing them full pay for the time they have been subjected to the rigors of the Secretary's order, which they are loud in denouncing and saying there was no necessity for. Some of them have been obliged to discharge their servants and deprive themselves of the ordinary comforts of plain living. Their wives, in some cases, where they have large families and where the officer's income is not more than $1,000 a year, have been obliged to go out and teach music or do drudgery at home. Commodore Howell and other officers of the Navy Department are lending their influence to get Congress to repair the damage done to officers of the navy by the unfortunate furlough pay order. The House Naval Committee has the matter under consideration.

RUMORED MILITARY CHANGES DENIED BY GENERAL SHERMAN.

General Sherman authorizes the statement that there is no truth in the report that General Sheridan has been ordered to take up his headquarters at New York and that General Hancock had been sent West.

NO SIGNIFICANCE IN THE PRESENCE OF NAVAL VESSELS AT NEW YORK.

A Navy Department official says that there is no significance in the presence of the Franklin and Swatara at New York city.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1876.

THE POSTAL APPROPRIATION BILL—THE SYSTEM OF RETRENCHMENT PURSUED BY THE COMMITTEE.

The House Committee on Appropriations to-day completed the Postal Appropriation bill, and Mr. Holman was authorized to report it. Its total is $32,983,625, showing a reduction of about $1,300,000 from the amount of last session's Postal bill, and a reduction of some $3,600,000 from departmental estimates of the amount required for the next fiscal year. It is estimated that the postal receipts during the same period will be $30,645,165, and the bill therefore contemplates an actual appropriation of only $2,338,460.

The postal expenditures last year exceeded the receipts by $3,637,498. The appropriation for mail depredations and special agents is reduced from $150,000, granted last session, to $120,500 for the next fiscal year. The amount for compensation of letter carriers is reduced from $1,900,000 to $1,750,000. The amount for inland mail transportation by star routes, steamboat and all other means of transportation except railroads, is reduced from $6,737,850 to $6,000,000, and for railroad service, from $9,100,000 to $9,000,000.

The bill also provides for a reduction in the salaries of railway postal clerks, route agents and other employés of that branch of the service.

The appropriation for the transportation of foreign mails has been increased from $220,000 to $230,000.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF NAVAL OFFICERS ON THE PROPRIETY OF RETAINING EXISTING NAVY YARDS.

The Board of Naval officers, consisting of Admiral Porter, Vice Admiral Rowan, Rear Admiral Davis, Chief Engineer King and Naval Constructor Easby, appointed by the authority of Congress for the examination of navy yards, and to determine whether, in their opinion, any of the navy yards can be dispensed with, abandoned, etc., have made their report to the Secretary of the Navy, recommending that the following navy yards and stations be not abandoned or dispensed with:—Kittery, Boston, Brooklyn, League Island, Washington, Norfolk, Pensacola and Mare Island and the naval stations at Key West and Sackett's Harbor. The Board further recommend that the following places be abandoned and dispensed with:—The Navy Yard at New London, the naval grounds at New Orleans and the naval property at Brunswick, Ga. The Board say the harbor of Port Royal, S. C., and its tributaries present great advantages and offer the necessary depth of water and facilities for entry into port without risk to vessels of war, and that Port Royal Bay is a noble sheet of water—undoubtedly the finest harbor on our Southern coast—and that the wonder is that the place was so little known or appreciated prior to 1861. There are several favorable sites for a naval station at Port Royal, all of which must be carefully studied and compared before the best one can be determined. In the meantime the Board recommend that Port Royal be used as a temporary fitting and coaling station for vessels stationed in the West Indies.

NO FINANCIAL LEGISLATION TO BE ATTEMPTED THIS SESSION.

The Committee on Ways and Means to-day had a short session for the purpose of making a distribution of the various items in the President's Message to the proper committees of the House. It is understood that the committee have no important financial matters before them, and unless the Secretary of the Treasury makes some recommendation in that quarter there will be no financial legislation attempted this session.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Professor Francis A. Walker, of Yale College; Dewitt C. Ellis, Superintendent of the New York Bank Department; Edward Atkinson, of Boston, and ex-Congressman F. E. Woodbridge, of Vermont, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Professor M. B. Anderson, President of Rochester University, and Pay Inspector J. George Harris, United States Navy, are at the Everett House. Ex-Senator Cornelius Cole, of California, is at the Windsor Hotel. Colonel William H. Lewis, United States Army, is at the Sturtevant House. Professor O. C. Marsh, of Yale College, and General J. B. Frisbie, of California, are at the Hoffman House. General J. B. Stonehouse, of Albany, is at the Hotel Brunswick. Willard Johnson, of Fulton, N. Y., is at the Metropolitan Hotel. Ex-Congressman James F. Wilson, of Iowa, is at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Robert Garrett, of Baltimore, is at the Brevoort House. Professor L. H. Atwater, of Princeton College, is at the Coleman House. Professor E. E. Salisbury, of New Haven, is at the Westminster Hotel.

MAILS FOR EUROPE.

The steamship Algeria will leave this port on Wednesday for Queenstown and Liverpool.

The mails for Europe will close at the Post Office at eleven o'clock A. M.

THE NEW YORK HERALD—Edition for Europe—will be ready at half-past eight o'clock in the morning.

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