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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

- BOWERY THEATRE.—THE TWO ORPHANS. GILMORE'S GARDEN.—GRAND EUROPEAN FESTIVAL. GERMANIA THEATRE.—JANE EYRE. HELLER'S THEATRE.—DIE HELGENTEN STUENDEN. GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—DIPLOME. LYCEUM THEATRE.—RICHIEUR. PARK THEATRE.—THE MAUREL HEART. FAMILIAR SKATING DAILY, BROOKLYN RINK. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—LEMONS. WALLACK'S THEATRE.—FORNISHED PART. BROADWAY THEATRE.—ENGLISCH TON'S CABARET. UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—MISS MELTON. NIBLO'S GARDEN.—AZURINE. BOOTH'S THEATRE.—DAN'S DEUCE. EPIFANIA HALL.—SEASONAL VARIETY. COLUMBIA OPERA HOUSE.—VARIETY. THEATRE COMIQUE.—VARIETY. FORTY FIFTH STREET THEATRE.—VARIETY. TIGOLI THEATRE.—VARIETY. EAGLE THEATRE.—PANTOMIME. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS. NEW YORK AQUARIUM.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1877.

NOTICE TO COUNTRY DEALERS.

The Adams Express Company run a special newspaper train over the Pennsylvania Railroad and its connections, leaving Jersey City at a quarter past four A. M., daily and Sunday, carrying the regular edition of the Herald as far West as Harrisburg and South to Washington, reaching Philadelphia at a quarter past six A. M. and Washington at one P. M.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather in New York to-day will be warmer and partly cloudy or cloudy, possibly with very light rain.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The stock speculation was moderately active, with firmness in Western, Michigan Central and Lake Shore, and weakness in St. Paul stocks. Money on call was supplied at 4 and 5 per cent, closing at the first named figure. Gold opened at 106 1/2 and closed at 106 3/4, selling meanwhile at 106 3/4. Government and railway bonds were active and firm.

GOOD LORD, DELIVER US.—Another theological discussion between Catholics and Protestants is proposed.

UNMARRIED LADIES with souls not above business will be interested in "Marrying for Money" in our Court reports.

IN "A STARTLING STORY," published to-day, there is material for a strong romance and a heavy legal sentence.

THE POOL SELLERS' ESTIMATE of grand juries to-day is terribly depressing to those who regard these bodies as guardians of society's welfare.

PACKARD, OF LOUISIANA, will hardly write another letter to General Aungier; he is not the first man who has found a soldier's pen as sharp as his sword.

IT IS ODD that a jury is unable to agree promptly on a verdict in the Jersey ferry conspiracy case. Were the case their own, coming in the ordinary course of business, there would scarcely be two opinions.

COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL OBJECTS to the throwing of snow into sewer manholes, on the ground that but little of it would melt. If the Board of Public Works were a private corporation it would overcome that difficulty within twenty-four hours.

THE SOCIETY for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is exerting a reformatory influence upon parents. The father of one set of juvenile acrobats wants to take his children out of business—and the custody of the society—and send them abroad to be educated.

IT DOES SEEM RATHER STRANGE, as Mr. Furber hinted to a committee of the Connecticut Legislature yesterday, that although the petition of certain policy holders for an investigation of the Charter Oak Life Insurance Company's affairs was prepared last spring, the petitioners did not have their case ready yesterday.

THERE NEEDS NO END to the succession of sickening stories about brutality in institutions for the unfortunate. The case of Mrs. Norton is still fresh in the public memory, the Children's Fold is only just rid of its wolf, and now come details of abuses of the inmates of the Westchester Poor House. An investigation is going on, of course, but, as in the other cases mentioned, no one explains why the brutality was not prevented by vigilant inspection. Autocrats are not tolerated elsewhere by the State. Why should they be allowed to work their own will upon the poor beings who most deserve careful protection?

THE WEATHER.—Throughout the West and South few changes have occurred in the river levels to attract much notice, but in the Middle and Eastern States, and particularly in the Ohio Valley region, the variations have been decided. The following changes occurred within the past twenty-four hours:—At Pittsburg the Ohio has fallen seven feet six inches, being now fourteen feet seven inches above low water; danger line twenty feet. At Cincinnati the river has risen three feet ten inches, being now fifty-two feet seven inches above low water, or two feet seven inches above the danger line. At Louisville the rise has been three feet four inches, the present height being twenty-five feet six inches, or one foot six inches above the danger line. The Mississippi at Cairo has risen six feet five inches, and is now twenty-two feet two inches above low water, or seventeen feet ten inches above the danger line. At Vicksburg the rise has been only seven inches, with a present height of five feet eight inches, the danger line being forty-one feet. The Cumberland River at Nashville has risen two feet one inch and is now thirty-six feet seven inches high; danger line forty-two feet. Rain has fallen at Knoxville, Washington and Baltimore, and on the Gulf and South Atlantic coasts, and snow at Milwaukee and Grand Haven. The temperature in the Middle and Southern States continues comparatively high, but is low in the West, Northwest and Northeast. The prevailing pressure is considerably above the mean in the regions south of the lakes and the St. Lawrence, and is very high in the Northwest. On the Pacific coast the barometer is low. Fogs prevail over the Gulf and the South Atlantic States and in the Ohio and Upper Mississippi valleys. The winds are very moderate throughout the country.

Plan of the Joint Committee—Dawn of Brighter Hopes.

We have strong confidence that the judicious plan of the joint committee for counting the electoral votes will be indorsed by the American people, and that its few partisan opponents will become as odious as the small body of Northern copperheads were during the civil war. The committee have discharged their duty in a spirit of justice and conciliation and with a degree of practical wisdom which protects their plan from every species of criticism except captious partisan cavils. All specious grounds of cavil are also removed by a wise modification of the process for selecting the five Supreme Court judges who are to serve on the commission. There is an excellent prospect that Congress will pass the bill and the President promptly approve it; and from the moment that it receives his signature the country will be perfectly safe, as it is already greatly reassured.

In framing their plan the committee had before them those, among other elements, to be met:—First, to devise a scheme which should really and finally decide the election within a brief time, say two or three days, after the meeting of the two houses to count the vote, so that neither Congress nor the country should be too long exposed to an unnatural and injurious excitement; second, to form such a plan as should not by its mere adoption declare the President in advance, for it is evident that no plan doing this could hope to pass both houses—one democratic, the other republican; third, to remit the decision to such a commission as would command the confidence of the country, whatever its decision might be, and thus secure a preponderating public sentiment in favor of contentment with the result; and, finally, to propose something clearly constitutional.

Comparing these elements of the problem with the solution attained it is our opinion that the committee have done wisely, and have been extremely fortunate in their plan. Take, first, the last of the conditions we have recited above, and it is clear that the plan is entirely constitutional. There are abundant precedents for such a committee as is proposed, composed in part of members of both houses and in part of experts. The last session of Congress furnished such a precedent in the appointment of the well-known Silver Commission, which was composed in part of members of both houses and in part of experts. It would have been a mistake to put upon this committee the duty of actually and finally deciding the questions submitted to it. That might seem to give into other hands questions which, as everybody is now agreed, belong to the two houses or to the lawmaking power. Hence it is wisely required that disputed questions shall be referred to the committee and its decision shall be reported to the two houses; but the decision is to stand unless the two houses concur in reversing it.

Of course if one House could reverse the decision of the committee the settlement would not be advanced an iota by the committee's labors. Hence the concurrence of the two houses is required to reverse the commission's decision of any case; but this power of reversal not only keeps the whole matter within the power of the two houses, but is also a safeguard against any decision of the committee which should be plainly repugnant to justice.

It would be competent for Congress, in forming such a commission, to select any persons it chose to act as experts; and the selection of judges of the Supreme Court is the wisest that could be made, because they are experts, and for other reasons. These high officers are perhaps the most independent men in the world. They hold their places for life; they are entirely independent of Congress and of political parties, removed from the strife and turmoil of partisan politics, members of the most august tribunal known to this continent, and all men of blameless and exalted character. In the general and progressive degradation of our politics the Supreme Court has maintained unspotted its high character, and retains, undiminished, the affectionate confidence and veneration of the people. To have placed the responsibility of a decision upon the Supreme Court as such, as was proposed at the last session, would have been an error; it was generally felt to be so when it was suggested, for, as was said, "it would drag the Court into politics." But to choose certain members of the Court to act as experts in helping to decide questions which involve the just interpretation of the constitution, as well as matters of law and evidence, is a different thing entirely. To this the judges can consent, and their high and venerable character and independent position, as well as their technical abilities as the highest expounders of constitutional law in the country, will secure for any decision in which they take part a degree of confidence and satisfaction among the people at large which could not otherwise be obtained.

The joint committee's plan has the crowning merit of being so framed that its adoption does not of itself decide the election. It is neither a "jury to acquit" nor a "court to convict." It appeals thus to the sense of fairness of even honest partisans. Suppose the plan adopted, the commission formed and the day of counting arrived, can any one foretell upon whom the election will fall? Plainly not. It may be said that the five democrats on the committee will decide every question, right or wrong, for Mr. Tilden, and that the five republicans will as dishonorably decide, right or wrong, for Governor Hayes. We do not believe this. We believe that, whatever partisans may say or do in the heat of discussion, when American public men come face to face with so grave a question, which they will be solemnly sworn to decide according to law and the evidence, they will do justice. But suppose we are over-confident in this, and that the committee shall really contain ten men so lost to all sense of right and patriotism as to be moved only by narrow partisan considerations, then at least the country rests in the assurance that there are five other men on the commission whose lives and character, whose exalted position and legal attainments make it, humanly speaking, im-

possible that they should not prefer law and justice to partisan wrong, from which they, at least, have absolutely nothing to gain.

The adoption of this plan will get the country safely out of the turmoil in which it has been forced to live since last June, and especially since November, and which has depressed all industry and enormously increased poverty and pauperism everywhere. It gives the best assurance of a just settlement that can be had. It relieves us from all apprehensions of a stormy 4th of March and of the vague dangers which every man feels may easily become but too real. It provides for a settlement which all honest citizens of whatever party would consider final, and immediate and cheerful acquiescence in which will be imperatively demanded by public opinion. What more can be asked? Men may shout and asseverate "Hayes is elected," "Tilden is elected," to the end of time; but mere assertion amounts to nothing and convinces no one of the opposite belief. Almost any way of getting a decision would have been better than continued uncertainty and turmoil. Here is a method all the elements of which are constitutional and promise an honest and legal result. If this plan should be rejected by Congress no other can be contrived, for there is no time. The country would then be left to a fate we do not like to contemplate—to a wrangling and furious Congress; to the secret intrigues and bolder strokes of demagogues; to an increasing excitement among the people, all ending probably in violence and perhaps in civil war, or at the best in lasting discontent on one side or the other. Is that a desirable prospect?

Turkey Rejects the Ultimatum.

But for the doubt that has recently been thrown upon the possible conduct of Russia immediate war in Europe would now seem imminent, since Turkey is in the way to prepare that condition of facts which it was at one time destined would compel the movement of the Russian army across the Danube. The decision of the grand council against the final demand of the governments represented in the Conference is of course only a formal preliminary to the rejection of that demand; for in the sudden assumption of the character of a constitutional sovereign the Sultan puts upon the shoulders of advisory bodies the responsibility for all those acts that were before constructively his own, and it would not be constitutional for him to adopt in an emergency like the present a course contrary to the one advised. As this is a constitutional era in Constantinople this reasoning is, doubtless, to be applied to the judgment of the grand council, though no such body is known to the Turkish constitution recently promulgated. All that Europe has proposed as wise and expedient in the present circumstances is rejected as "contrary to the dignity, integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire." Turkey, therefore, assumes an attitude of defiance. She is with regard to the other nations, her neighbors, in the position of a man who keeps dangerous combustibles on his premises, and, being remonstrated with by the occupants of adjoining houses, declares that it is impertinent for them to pretend to dictate what he shall keep in his house, and contrary to his dignity to listen to their propositions for making the combustibles less dangerous. Meantime they live in hourly peril of explosions more or less ruinous. Evidently their only recourse is to the police. Will an analogous step be taken with regard to the Sultan? There seems a little doubt of this, and yet it is difficult to see how Europe can admit that it was prepared to intervene in the Ottoman affairs until forced by the circumstances, or that, being forced by the circumstances, it can relinquish the case without having secured a remedy. Russia is the Power depended upon to move, and the doubt as to her intentions will be solved in a few days.

Steadying the Price of Silver.

If, as seems probable, silver is to form a considerable portion of our metallic currency after the resumption of specie payments, a large coinage of silver will be necessary within the ensuing two years, and it seems important that its mint value and its market value should not materially differ. Its market value has undergone such violent fluctuations within the last ten months as to supply the opponents of silver money with their strongest argument. M. Allard, the Director of the Belgian Royal Mint for a long period, has addressed a letter to Dr. Linderman, in which he sketches an ingenious plan for rendering the market value of silver more uniform and keeping it always very nearly at par with gold. We direct attention to his letter, which is first published in our columns to-day. His leading idea is to establish the coinage of American dollars and subsidiary coins in Europe. The consequence, as he thinks, would be to furnish a steady market for silver in that quarter of the world, since it could never fall below the price paid for it at the mint where it is received for coinage, whereas at present a great quantity is poured into the market whenever there is a temporary demand, and a glut immediately ensues, which depresses the price of silver far below its average value. The Royal Mint at Brussels is ready to change silver into American coins at a cheaper rate than it costs at our own mints, and M. Allard's proposition deserves the examination of Dr. Linderman.

Smallpox Cures.

It is not uncommon for people to discover specific remedies that will infallibly cure smallpox; and as this disease has been extremely prevalent this winter at Detroit it is scarcely surprising that the latest discovery has been made there. An account of it will be found in another part of the paper. This discovery is deemed of so much consequence in Michigan that the chronicler feels justified in a defiant reference to Jenner as not the only man who could help the world in respect to this scourge. There are, however, some points in his narrative over which the judicious will give as indications that the rest is not worthy the highest possible confidence. It

is said that a man on whom the eruption of smallpox had already appeared lay three nights and two days helpless in a cow yard, and that when he came out on the morning of the third day and was washed every pustule had disappeared. One of the most certain facts in nature is the period required for the evolution of a smallpox pustule, and it cannot be less than eight days, so that those recorded as already apparent on this patient had not disappeared in sixty hours, or it was an error to suppose they were smallpox pustules. There appears to be no evidence that they were except the story of a panic stricken Pole, frightened half to death with fear of the disease.

The Proposed Mass Meeting.

Mayor Ely disapproves of the proposed mass meeting to give expression to the sentiments of the people of New York on the question of counting the electoral vote: first, because he does not think such a meeting necessary; and, next, because he fears it might obstruct an amicable settlement of the difficulty. The movement was commenced before the satisfactory conclusion of the joint Congressional committee had been reached. If both the Senate and House of Representatives accept the plan submitted by the committee there certainly will be no occasion for the proposed demonstration. But if either the republican Senate or the democratic House should endeavor to defeat the settlement or to throw obstructions in its way in the shape of mischievous amendments the people cannot too promptly or too emphatically condemn the act. In such a case and for such a purpose public meetings all over the country, and especially in the great commercial metropolis, might be desirable. But to make them effective they should be held, not under the auspices of the Democratic National Committee or of any other political organization, but at the call of prominent citizens of all parties. It is to be hoped that both the Senate and the House will so significantly foreshadow their approval of the joint committee's plan of settlement that no such demonstrations will be needed, and we agree with the Mayor that at this time any purely political mass meeting here or elsewhere would be ill-advised.

Another Freezing Week.

No official action regarding car-heating can now be expected until next Thursday, by which time midwinter will have passed. This delay suits the car companies exactly, and promises plenty of business to doctors and gravediggers; but the fact remains that society does not exist for the sole benefit of these three classes. The request for an opinion from the Board of Health will, unless persistently followed up, be made the excuse for still further delay, and for more ventilation of the peculiar sanitary ideas which entitle the street car autocrats to the highest places on the roll of great American humorists. All this delay may be perfectly legal, but it is at the same time utterly inexcusable, nonsensical and dangerous. No sane and unprejudiced person can doubt for a moment that the only real objection to warming the cars has its source in the avarice of the companies upon whom the expense would fall. The case is that of the many against the few and the suffering against the heartless, and all such cases demand instant attention. All talk about possible danger to health by the use of warmed cars is utter nonsense while the real dangers of the present system are so apparent to every one who rides over the rails in our city streets. Further deliberation is uncalled for; prompt action is demanded by the facts which every one but car owners admit; the Aldermanic committee has ample power, and the whole body of the people will refuse to accept any excuse for further delay.

Senatorial Honors.

The elections thus far decided send to the Senate of the United States for the next terms Governor A. H. Garland, from Arkansas; James G. Blaine, from Maine; ex-Governor Alvin Saunders, from Nebraska, and Ferry and Windom, the present Senators from Michigan and Minnesota. Mr. Blaine is the most valuable acquisition on the republican side, so far as legislative ability and partisan zeal are concerned, while the democrats gain a point in securing the services of Governor Garland. In Massachusetts and Illinois no result has yet been reached. In the former State Mr. Hoar, who commenced with ninety-three votes, has run up to one hundred and four, lacking still thirty-four to elect, while Mr. Boutwell, commencing with ninety-eight votes, has run down to eighty. The chances therefore favor Mr. Hoar's success. In Illinois Logan leads, and lacks only three of an election, which he expects to gain from the so-called "independents." As the "independents" were elected in opposition to Logan and the principles he represents their action draws forth unenviable comment, and they certainly occupy a suspicious position, considering that probably not one of them could have been elected as an avowed supporter of Logan for United States Senator.

Questions of Privilege.

The refusal of the two Chancellors to answer questions put to them by the Investigating Committee is stated to have excited much dissatisfaction among republicans. Mr. W. E. Chandler states that while in Florida he became counsel for Governor Stearns and for the republican electors and candidates for Congress, and that any information he possesses came to him in the shape of privileged communications between attorney and clients. Mr. Chandler went to Florida as one of a number of gentlemen selected by the President to see that there was a fair and honest count of the electoral votes actually cast. Was he in a position to act as counsel to the republican electors? If he really accepted that position was not the act of itself a condemnation of the President's commission—a reflection on the motives that prompted its appointment and on the work it was expected to do? Was Mr. Chandler justified in sending out before the world protestation after protestation of the success of the republicans in Florida, and of the unassailable honesty of the count, in the

assumed character of one of the President's commissioners, when he was all the while the secret "counsel" of the republican electors, Governor and Congressmen? Secretary Chandler pleads his privilege as a Cabinet Minister to avoid answering the committee's questions. But did he act in his capacity as Minister while managing the republican Presidential campaign? Both pleas are unfortunate and likely to damage the cause the witnesses support.

Crime or Folly—Which?

A singular story is related in our columns this morning of the disappearance and supposed murder of a Brooklyn drug clerk named Jousset. As regards the murder of this young man the supposition may be dismissed as improbable. The reasons for Jousset's disappearance are in themselves sufficiently strong, but it is not easy to understand why he should invent such a remarkable story as that of the impending duel to account for an act which needed no explanation. If it was for the purpose of deluding his wife he was committing the extreme folly of inviting police investigation into every act of his life. The newspapers, too, he was well aware, would give all these stories the widest publicity, and yet he even asks his wife to learn his fate from the public prints. Take it as we may his action was illogical, for it is not to be supposed that he took both his wife and her brother into his confidence and induced them to assist him in perpetrating a stupendous folly, which, in any event, would make his ruin irremediable. The question, then, is whether there was a third party in this case and who was the mysterious Frenchman with whom Jousset once fought a duel. If there was such a person there may have been a conflict in which it was the mask who was made to suffer. In such a case the device would be a French masterpiece, but what motive even a Frenchman could have to put the police on his tracks when his only purpose was to run away is one of those things to which Dunreary refers as beyond the power of the philosophical vision.

It is not impossible, however, that, as has been reported, the whole thing is a hoax. But, then, again, the motive which could induce a man to commit such an offence is not so much a subject of wonder as the readiness of his wife and her brother to enter into his plans. The whole thing, evidently, in some way is a trick; but as a trick it is clumsy, and without adequate motive in any direction. The police theory, that it is a device aimed at the wife, is even more puerile than the folly itself.

Unjust Attacks.

It ought not to impair the satisfaction felt by the members of the joint committee at the happy result of their responsible labors to discover that the extreme men of both parties are dissatisfied with their proposed method of counting the electoral vote, since it is the best evidence that could be offered of the fairness and impartiality of their plan. It appears from our special despatches that the wrath of inconsiderate republicans is mainly directed toward Senator Conkling, who is credited at Columbus with being "the leading spirit in bringing about this result." This is a high compliment to Mr. Conkling, who is thus distinguished in his own party above statesmen of riper years and longer experience. He may well feel gratified at the distinction accorded him, especially as he can afford to smile at attempts to impeach his motives while he acts in harmony with such republicans as Senators Edmunds and Frelinghuysen and Congressmen McCrary, Hoar and Willard. Mr. Conkling was not appointed on the joint committee until the retirement of Mr. Logan, and was only one of seven republican members five of whom voted with him in favor of the proposed settlement. The earnest republicanism of his five associates and of Mr. Ferry, from whom he received his appointment, cannot be questioned; hence these malicious attacks upon him are as absurd as they are unjust. Indeed, all the members of the committee who unite in the report may well rest satisfied with the conclusion of the fair men of both parties in Washington, who say, "If we believe we have a case we cannot refuse to submit it to such a tribunal as the one proposed by the joint committee."

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

- Alexis is twenty-seven. Mr. Chandler will not tell of grams. Mils, the pianist, is staying at Pateron, N. J. Macaulay liked the sincere sociability of breakfast parties. A Philadelphia politician never works for glory; he works for office. What Talmage really needs is a map of himself, with descriptive notes. Mr. Burner is a stump orator in Missouri—in fact, a sort of gas burner. Charles Kingsley advised workmen to study, not history, but science. Charles Francis Adams' daughter, Mary, is to marry Dr. Henry F. Quincy. Captain Glazier rode horseback from Boston to San Francisco in 144 days. Rear Admiral A. Crown, of the Russian Navy, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Captain Luiz de Saladanha, of the Brazilian Navy, is at the Buckingham Hotel. Major General Joseph Hooker, United States Army, is at the Stratford House. Governor Fairbanks, of Vermont, is so ill that he has been ordered by his physician to winter in the South. In Montana the winter is nine months long, and it is there that churches are built from the proceeds of public dances. Heinrich Heine declares that had he been consulted about the creation of flowers he would have advised the omission of the tulip. Lost is tall, swarthy and ascetic, breakfasts on oysters and ham, has a fine, fantastic style of penmanship and is coldly mystical. Danbury News.—"Competition is the life of trade. Since Professor Tree started in the business out West weather is becoming more plentiful and much cheaper." Ash Wednesday this year falls on the 14th February, which is also St. Valentine's Day and the date fixed for counting the Electoral vote. Religion, love and politics all mixed up on the same day. Evening Telegram.—"A Memphis (Tenn.) telegraph operator, who has been making New Year's calls ever since the 1st of January, wishes over the country an account of a shower of snakes beheld by him." It is claimed that if you cut off the spray of a lilac bush and put it into warm water, so as to force it, there will be a perfect bloom. This is probably another election lie. Don't spoil your bushes. The Boston Globe, in the regular Boston style, says that the balloting for United States Senator was "a tentative process." We begin to understand now why people are refreshed by having Ben Butler crawl under the tentative process.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

From All Parts of the World.

THE MENACING EAST

The Turkish Grand Council Rejects the Proposals of the Conference.

"DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR!"

Defiant Attitude of the Turks—Strange Action of the Christians.

HOW WAR RUMORS AFFECT ENGLISH TRADE

Troubles in Spain—The Basques Excited Over the Fuegos.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, Jan. 19, 1877.

A decisive point in the Eastern negotiations has at last been reached, and the most enthusiastic advocate of peace must now give up all hope of averting war. The Turkish Grand Council has met, and after a full discussion of the modified proposals of the Conference unanimously decided to reject them. Warned by Midhat Pacha of the consequences of a rejection of the European demands, and of the impossibility of raising funds to meet the expenses of a war, the Council voted the rejection amid cries of "Death before dishonor," and thus destroyed the last chance of a peaceful settlement of the difficulty.

STRANGE ACTION OF THE CHRISTIANS.

The most unaccountable part of the whole affair is the reported action of the Christians present at the Council. Whether or not their action was dictated by fear of massacres by the infuriated Turkish populace on the outbreak of war remains yet to be seen; but few who know Turkey can believe that the Greek and Armenian patriarchs expressed the real sentiments of the Christian population when they voted for the rejection of the proposals of the Conference.

THE GRAND COUNCIL REJECTS THE PROPOSALS.

A despatch from Constantinople announces that the grand council yesterday, after an animated debate, unanimously rejected the last proposals of the European Powers as contrary to the dignity, integrity and independence of the Empire. Several speeches were made, but perfect agreement prevailed.

DECIDED ACTION.

Another despatch says sixty Christians participated in the grand council. After the proposals of the European Powers had been unanimously rejected Midhat Pacha asked whether the Porte might not, nevertheless, enter upon negotiations with the Powers respecting the rejected points. The council answered no, and declared that the Turkish counter proposals were the only subject upon which the discussions of the Conference could be further carried on.

THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE GRAND COUNCIL.

A third despatch gives the following account of the proceedings of the grand council:—The first three hours of the sitting were occupied by the reading of a statement of the events which have occurred since the outbreak of the insurrection in Herzegovina. Midhat Pacha then made a long speech, in the course of which he gave an account of the Turkish counter proposals and the concessions which the Porte, in a spirit of conciliation, had made upon points where the constitution would not thereby be infringed. He dwelt on the gravity of the situation. He spoke of the departure of the Plenipotentiaries, the possibility of war, the horrors attending it, the injury it would do to the internal affairs of the country, the impossibility of procuring funds for a war and the fact that Turkey could not rely upon any alliance.

SEVERAL SPEECHES FOLLOWED.

Several speeches followed, the most noteworthy being made by the Greek and Armenian Patriarchs. All the speakers repelled the idea of accepting the European proposals. Midhat Pacha again pointed out the gravity of the crisis and the distress which would result from a war. The council, after hearing all the speakers, unanimously rejected the proposals amid shouts of "Death before dishonor."

THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE ABOUT TO LEAVE.

The French man-of-war Chateau Renaud will arrive on Friday to take on board Count Chandordy, the Plenipotentiary of France.

TURKISH PAPER MONEY.

A Constantinople despatch says:—It is understood that 1,000,000 or 2,000,000 Turkish pounds paper money will be issued.

ROMANIA TO REMAIN NEUTRAL.

A Vienna correspondent telegraphs that advices have been received from Bucharest that the Rumanian government has resolved to declare that it will remain neutral in the event of a war between Russia and Turkey.

AN IMPROBABLE RUMOR.

A telegram from Berlin says that Prince Gortschakoff has issued a circular to the Russian representatives abroad expressing his belief that Turkey will reject the Conference proposals and declaring that Russia cannot undertake a warlike policy because Europe would not support her and might form a coalition against her.

HOW THE WAR RUMORS AFFECT ENGLISH TRADE.

The Times in its financial article says:—"Private advices from Russia continue to afford strong evidence of the injury already done the mercantile community by the apprehensions of war. One firm of cotton spinners, employing 12,000 hands, has lost so heavily since Russia assumed a warlike attitude that the establishment would have been compelled to close had it not been obtained assistance. It is said, from the government, which was unwilling to suffer such a catastrophe to involve so large a number of employes."

GERMAN ELECTION.

A telegram from Frankfurt says that Herr Tscholch, the candidate of the national liberals, was yesterday elected to the Reichstag by a 4000 majority.

TROUBLES IN THE COTTON TRADE.

At a meeting of the Masters' and Operatives' committees of the Lancashire Cotton Trade, yesterday, the masters unconditionally rejected all the operative's conditions because they would result in a general advance of wages. A meeting of the operatives will be held. A rupture is expected.

THE FUEGOS QUESTION IN SPAIN.

A despatch from Bilbao says that the Governor has forbidden the Biscayan journals from discussing the question of the Fuegos under pain of suspension. It is probable that the municipality of this city will resign in a body.

STOCKS FALLING IN THE BASQUE PROVINCES.

A Madrid despatch reports a deep sensation throughout the Basque provinces in consequence of the promulgation of orders appointing the 1st of March as the date for the beginning of military conscription in each Basque province. General Quasada remains at Victoria. The occupying army of 30,000 men will support the civil authorities. Perfect tranquillity prevails up to the present hour.

THE EUROPEAN BANK.

The bullion in the Bank of England has decreased 2643,000 during the past week. The specie in the Bank of France has increased 25,103,000 francs during the past week. The weekly statement of the Imperial Bank of Germany shows an increase in specie of 18,658,000 marks.

THE PRICE OF SILVER.

Silver was quoted yesterday at 88 1/2 per ounce.