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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

BROADWAY THEATRE—MEDRA. GRAND OPERA HOUSE—TWO OPERAS. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—LONDON ASSURANCE. PARK THEATRE—OUR BOARDING HOUSE. WALLACK'S THEATRE—MY ANGEL DAB. OLYMPIC THEATRE—PANTOMIME. UNION SQUARE THEATRE—THE DANCIERS. ACADEMY OF MUSIC—LOHENGELIN. BOOTH'S THEATRE—A TRIP TO THE MOON. HELLER'S THEATRE—PRESTIDIGITATION. EAGLE THEATRE—AMER. GERMANIA THEATRE—O DIESE MANNEN. BOWERY THEATRE—NIRKIN JIM. GILMORE'S GARDEN—ATHLETIC SPORTS. TIVOLI THEATRE—VARIETY. SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. NEW YORK AQUARIUM. EGYPTIAN HALL—SEASONAL VARIETY. PARISIAN VARIETIES. COLUMBIA OPERA HOUSE—VARIETY. THEATRE COMIQUE—VARIETY. NEW AMERICAN MUSEUM—GUILDISTS. TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE—VARIETY.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 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 arriving in New York at 10 o'clock, and returning from New York at 10 o'clock, and arriving in Jersey City at a quarter past six A. M. and Washington at a quarter past six A. M. and Washington at 10 o'clock.

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

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The market was active, particularly in the dealings in the coal stocks, which were higher than yesterday. Gold was steady at 104 1/4 to 104 1/2, opening and closing at the same figure. Investment securities were quiet, with but little doing. Money opened easy at 2 1/2 per cent on call, rose to 3 1/2 and closed at 2 3/4 per cent on call.

WONDER OF WONDERS.—Worcester (Mass.) has a mad dog which is not of the Spitz family.

THANKS TO THE LAW Northampton is still deprived of the presence of a suspected bank robber whom she wishes to try according to law.

THE NEWCOMB-BUTLER CASE ends in a general acquittal by a coroner's jury. A threatened deluge of scandal is thereby averted, for which deliverance Heaven be devoutly praised.

THE REPUBLICAN SENATORS resolved in caucus last night to reject the nomination of General McClellan as Superintendent of Public Works, which action works utter ruin to a large amount of talk upon dead issues.

THE GREAT COAL SALE yesterday exhibited a further decline in anthracite, and set the curious to wondering anew how the companies succeeded in getting rid of the profits they must have derived at old time figures.

THE WEEKLY MORTALITY TABLE shows a marked improvement of the public health over that of the corresponding week of last year. But then the public health is not subject to department control or Legislative enactment.

THE GREAT SILK WAR at the Custom House is practically at an end, to the great disgust of those heads of families who fondly hoped the goods might be retained by the government until times should improve or ladies take a sudden fancy for cheaper fabrics.

THE PERCEPTIBLE INCREASE in divorce litigation within the past few weeks suggests the question whether the much-abused Continental system of long courtships and rigid inquiries as to the reputation of the contracting parties has not its good points after all. Certainly no plan could yield results much worse than that which is filling the papers with unsavory court reports at present.

AN OLD METHOD of ascertaining character and capabilities was applied yesterday in the case of the Rev. Phoebe Hanford, and if the satisfaction rendered was as great as reported we may yet see the civil service reformed by a hitherto unemployed agency. The President of the United States, instead of crazing his brain over the comparative value of the recommendations of rivals for any desirable office, need only tap his bell for his private phrenologist and straightway the best man will be designated. If all postmasters and collectors have phrenologists assigned to them for duty the unscrupulous will know better than to apply for positions. Slate makers in local politics will find the same plan useful; for, in spite of their experience, they do not always nominate as incompetent and dishonest men as a careful phrenological researcher might discover. In New York, however, the system would be doomed to failure; for the club of the policeman, like the rain from heaven, falls upon the just and the unjust and creates cranial protuberances which would drive any conscientious phrenologist to the lunatic asylum.

THE WEATHER.—The rapid succession of depressions that is now occurring in the United States renders the weather very variable. On Monday we had cold, clouds and snow. Yesterday comparative warmth and clear skies. To-day we are likely to have a rising temperature, cloudiness, and possibly rain or snow again. The transitions are due to the movements of areas of high and low pressure over the continent. Yesterday the area of high pressure which extended over the lake region and the Middle States moved southward to the coast, bringing us clear weather and warmer winds from southern points. To-day the depression which has been in the Missouri and Mississippi valleys will have advanced to the Alleghenies and over the Ohio Valley and lower lake region. The attendant areas of precipitation extend to the northward and southwestward, and, to some extent, on the southern margin of the depression. High winds prevail west of the Missouri, while a general rise of temperature throughout the country has taken place. In the South it is very warm. The storms that have passed off the coast are now moving in a northwesterly direction over the Atlantic, and will strike the Norwegian coast of Europe by Thursday or Friday next. The Lower Mississippi and Missouri rivers have risen somewhat. All others have fallen. The development of storms in the southern latitudes of the Atlantic may be looked for during the next week.

Machine Politics.

When President Hayes, in his inaugural message, declared his intention to reform the civil service, the republican politicians at once exclaimed, "He is going to break the machine;" and some of them now assert that he has already "destroyed the party." Now, there are several hundred thousand republicans in the country who probably do not regard their party and "the machine" as synonymous; and there are even people who believe that a party may be the stronger for not being controlled, managed and used as a "machine" by "machine politicians." There has been a good deal of talk for several years among republicans about "reform within the party." Thoughtful republicans confessed that such reform was needed, but they did not quite know how to get it; and a good many, after waiting until Secretary Chandler made himself chairman of the National Committee and Attorney General Taft became commander in chief of the troops in the South without a word of protest from leading republicans, serenely abandoned their party and voted last November with the democrats. In our judgment they did wisely. They took the true way to compel "reform within the party," by leaving it in a minority in one and, perhaps, in both houses of Congress.

Reform within the party means getting rid of "the machine," and that is what President Hayes has promised to do. If he succeeds in reconstructing the civil service according to the ideas he has developed he will certainly have "broken the machine," but it may happen that he will have strengthened and reinvigorated his party at the same time. What is "the machine?" Under the constitution the President nominates and the Senate confirms a considerable number of the chief officers of the government—collectors of revenue, marshals, postmasters, Indian agents, district attorneys and others. The President selects these, according to the theory of the constitution, and the Senate has a veto power on the selection; it may, by refusing to confirm, say to the President, "Not this man, give us another," but it has no constitutional power of nomination.

In point of fact, however, the practice has been for a good many years very different. Senators and Representatives have actually selected their favorites for these positions; they have given the names to the President, and they have come to feel themselves offended and insulted if he did not obediently appoint their men. Thus Congress had come to be mainly an immense office-seeking body, and the patronage of the administration was systematically divided between the Senators and Representatives in each State—or rather those belonging to the party in power—like so much plunder, the Senators claiming a right to certain appointments and the Representatives taking the rest. Simple-hearted people wonder why Congressmen should want to perpetuate a system which is not only injurious to the public service, but, as they imagine, troublesome to the Senators and Representatives. To a man of real ability, who is worthy of serving in Congress, this business is no doubt an unmitigated nuisance, and such men seem to trouble themselves about it. But this political machinery is absolutely indispensable to the machine politicians. They make their political careers by its help. Their sole anxiety when they get into Congress is to secure offices for their allies and supporters, and when a machine Congressman has stuffed all the federal places in his district with his own adherents then he feels sure of a re-nomination. It would ruin him if he could not do so. Thus, a Western Senator complained the other day that President Hayes had not appointed a single friend of his to office—had not even consulted him about the appointments in his State; "And how am I to be re-elected, I'd like to know?" he exclaimed.

Congress is supposed to be a representative body—members of the lower House representing the people by districts, Senators the people by States. But when the party in power has once fallen into possession of the machine politicians the case is altered. Congress is still a representative body, but it represents no longer the people, but the members of the machine. It is to the interest of these to crush out every independent member—every one having natural ability and genius for public life enough to stand alone and to win votes by the value of his public services. Such men are of no use to the machine. In their places and in all the places, so far as possible, the machine puts men of small ability, who will be sure to vote right and will pertinaciously secure their share of the patronage to the "workers" of the party at home, and "push the claims" of the machine's men. Hence, when the machine gets control the party ceases to be useful to the people. Its object is not to serve the country, not to bring able men into public life, but to maintain the ascendancy of a limited number of men who form a "Ring." Therefore public questions are trifled with or evaded; there is promise of reform, but no performance, because to do anything would be to "disturb the harmony of the party;" and if the machine can elect to the Presidency a man who is too ignorant or timid to grasp public questions and to carry out a policy it is happy and secure, because then everything except office-seeking is safely put off, and from one four years' end to the other the whole power of the machine can be devoted to the single object of perpetuating itself.

It is not surprising that the course of President Hayes has struck terror into the hearts of the machine politicians. He has defied all their commands and precedents. The grand maxim of the machine men is that "it is the hay at the end of the pole which makes the horse pull." But the President has taken away the hay from the end of the pole. He has not rewarded the "workers." He does not favor the men who have "claims." He is not afraid of delegations nor respectful toward deputations. He does not remove and appoint place-holders at the request or demand of Congressmen. He has not asked Senators whom they would like to have put out or in. He has kept in faithful officers, even where they were not political workers; and, in short, he has shown a contempt for patronage and a

dislike of patronage-mongers which, while it is delightful to the country, is of course very hateful to the machine men, who see him treat carelessly the things which are most sacred to them.

To introduce permanence into the civil service; to make appointments only to fill vacancies, and only for character and merit; to refuse to reward the "workers" and to regard "claims" and delegations with contempt—what can be more awful or embarrassing to the machine men? We see it stated as part of the outrageous conduct of the President that he has not put into the Cabinet or sent to a foreign mission a single member of the Republican National Committee. Evidently it was the hay at the end of the pole which made these horses pull; and alas! they see the hay now disappearing around the corner. The Cabinet actually does not contain a single representative of the "workers," unless Mr. Sherman be counted one. It is truly awful, but the country looks with pleased amusement at the disappointment of the machine men, and it will support the President if only he will stand firm and resolutely break the machine. He has engaged himself to the people to reform the civil service. He cannot do this without "breaking the machine," and he cannot do a better thing for the country.

"My Awful Dad."

Something like a year and a half ago that pre-eminent English comedian, Mr. Mathews, wrote and produced a light and amusing play which he christened "My Awful Dad." By the perfection of his own acting in the title role and the happy adaptation of the piece to the requirements of the stage Mr. Mathews succeeded in making "My Awful Dad" the reigning favorite in London, and now the Mathews of our own stage has undertaken to introduce the terrible papa to New York, where he promises to establish himself in as great favor as he did on his natal soil. In his latest character Mr. Wallack has made something of a new departure. He has been identified hitherto with the young heroes of romance and comedy, but in "My Awful Dad" he shows that he can be not less effective and at the same time true to nature in depicting a rather elderly bean. The thorough training which the old school of actors received gave them a versatility to which the modern never attain. In the old days, known to the general public as "palmy," the best actor was the man who could most completely sink his own individuality and assume with ease and truth a number of distinctly different characters. At the present time the best young actors are specialists who must have parts written to fit them. During the present season Mr. Wallack has shown us how admirably he can play such diverse roles as the rollicking Rover, the alternately bashful and impudent Young Marlowe, the modern English swell, Sir Edward Ardent, and the reckless, earnest, passionate and self-sacrificing Hugh Trevor. Now he offers, in Adonis Evergreen, something distinct from all these, and from anything in which we can remember him. His triumph, which has been ungrudgingly recorded by all the critics, is the best proof of the efficacy of the old system of professional training. The lesson is one that may with advantage be taken to heart by those who value their art and hope to retain their hold of the public up to the last day of their appearance upon the mimic stage.

Making Rome Howl.

It is a queer story that is telegraphed from Rome and has somewhat the aspect of a discovery of one of those famous curiosities known as mare's nests. By this report it appears that several Jesuits have just rushed to Rome from Florence with the intention of restoring the temporal power of the Pope. They are instructed to avoid collision with the civil authorities, but have "lists of volunteers prepared to serve under the Papal flag," which would seem to imply that they are not to avoid collision with the military authorities. Large sums of money have been collected; everybody has been written to and has promised to co-operate, and finally "there is no doubt that steps in this direction have long been preparing." One is tempted to wonder why, if the restoration of the temporal power is so easy as all this, somebody did not restore it several months since. In this country when anybody proposes a new Fenian campaign we know precisely what it means. All the bands are to play "The Wearing of the Green," the boys are to drink to the downfall of England, and the girls are to come out with their little subscription. If we could believe that this wretched kind of plunder had made its way so far as the Eternal City we might fancy the story reported covered an assault on the pockets of the faithful rather than on the Italian army. But we incline to the opinion that the head of the Order of Jesuits is not a man of so little sense as pictured by the despatch, and in short that the despatch has not many facts in it.

Revenue on Tap.

It is proposed in Virginia that the thirsty citizens of that old Commonwealth shall drink the State out of debt. This is a sublime fancy and will give great impetus to the consumption of ardent spirits; for there breathes not a man in that community who, finding that it has become a sort of patriotic duty to indulge the frequent tippie, will not lend his throat and bend his elbow for the salvation of the old State. Two cents and a half to the State every time a man takes his whiskey at the bar, and half a cent every time he takes beer. That is the proposed form of the law. Its first effect will be on the language. Men will invite one another to "pay the State debt," or to "contribute to the revenue," or to "swell the burden of the tax collector." Fifty more or less picturesque phrases of this sort will take the place immediately of the prosy "take something" of other days. But its financial effect will be substantial. It is estimated that there are now just three hundred thousand tumbler in that State, and that these are in constant use at all the bars, moving forever from the counters to the mouths of thirsty citizens. Between beer and whiskee every tumbler will net the

State a dollar a day, and at the end of the year the Virginia treasury will own all the money there is in the United States. It is proposed to keep the accounts with the bell punch, and we observe that it is said the making of these instruments will be thrown open to competition. Are they not aware in Virginia that the manufacture of that great instrument of civilization is covered by letters patent?

President Hayes and the South.

The country will regret the failure of the Cabinet to reach any definite conclusion yesterday respecting the unfortunate political condition of Louisiana and South Carolina. We trust this appearance of vacillation will not continue much longer, because it tends to undermine confidence, not indeed in the sincerity, but in the steadiness, of President Hayes. It will not do for him to let the country get the impression that, having decided on a course of action as right, he quails before obstacles, "letting I dare not wait upon I would." The easiest way to dispose of opposition is to meet it on the frontier and annihilate it before it has time to gather recruits. The Southern problem is simple enough. The President has only to withdraw the federal troops from Columbia and New Orleans on the engagements of Governors Hampton and Nicholls that they will preserve the peace and maintain order. They have every motive to keep their pledges, and the President has no good reason to doubt their ability. The more promptly he acts the less formidable will be the preparations of the recalcitrants. Chamberlain and Packard are making an industrious use of this period of delay. They are marshalling and combining their abettors both at home and in Washington. They are able to diffuse an impression that the President wavers and that a resolute onset may cause him to abandon, or at least modify, his declared policy. All this delay gives them hope and courage and assists them in organizing a body of allies. They think they have accomplished a great deal in getting him to consult and deliberate on a question upon which his mind was made up before he came to Washington and proclaimed to the country in his inaugural address. Politicians are too apt to reason like adventurous lovers, and think their suit is substantially gained when the object of their importunities begins to hesitate. As the lady says in the play:—

When love once pleads admission to our hearts, In spite of all the virtues we may boast The woman that deliberates is lost.

The true sentiment of a virtuous woman is, "He comes too near that comes to be denied;" in other words, the true course is to listen to no proposals. We think President Hayes would have done better had he turned a deaf ear to Packard and Chamberlain after the public declarations in his inaugural. If his mind was not fully made up he should not have made so public a pledge; if his mind was fully made up on this most important of all the questions which met him at the threshold, he should not have strengthened the opponents of his policy by signs of vacillation.

The menace of Packard to precipitate a conflict with the Nicholls government is a natural fruit of the President's delay and indecision. Had the President "taken time by the forelock" and acted at once the trouble would have been all over more than a week ago. Every day's procrastination will increase the difficulties of the situation. "There is a tide in the affairs of men," and it behooves Mr. Hayes to take advantage of the great flood tide of popularity which sets so strongly in his favor to float him over obstacles on which he will get aground if he waits for it to recede. Packard acts on the maxim that while there is life there is hope; but when the troops are once withdrawn he will subside.

Defeat of Canadian Protectionists.

The question of a high tariff for the supposed "protection" of Canadian manufactures was brought to an issue in the Lower House of the Dominion Parliament last week, and the "isolationists"—if we may invent a title for them—suffered a signal defeat. The policy of the present administration is a tariff for revenue purposes, and an amendment favoring an increase of the duties on manufactures was lost by a vote of seventy-eight in its favor to one hundred and nine against it—an adverse majority of thirty-one. This result is gratifying enough; but the Toronto Globe, in analyzing the vote, taking into account and classifying the absences, states that it shows the total ministerial strength to be one hundred and twenty-nine and the total opposition seventy-five, or a ministerial majority of fifty-four. Eight ministerialists who represent strong protection districts voted for the amendment, but will be with the government in the final support of its revenue policy. There are other amendments yet to be disposed of, but it is not thought that any of them will fare even as well as that which was killed on Thursday last.

Our Canadian neighbors are suffering, as we are suffering on this side of the dividing line, from the general depression of all kinds of business. The lumber, shipping, manufacturing, mining and agricultural interests all feel the effect of the temporary stagnation which paralyzes the industries on both sides of the Atlantic. Every circumstance tends to encourage the belief that the worst of the trouble is now over and that a more cheering prospect opens before us. Better times are approaching. The dangers which seemed to threaten our own peace have been happily averted. The prosperity of the Southern States is about to be restored. Gold is at so low a premium as to promise a speedy and natural resumption. The war cloud in Europe is less dark and threatening than it was a few months ago. Canada will share in the general revival, provided her people are sensible enough to adopt a broad, liberal policy. They could not look for the growth of their splendid country if they should tear up all their railroads, destroy their telegraph lines and return to the old stage coaches and the slow mails. They cannot hope to share in the returning business activity and to become prosperous and wealthy if they creep back into the old "protection" errors and shut themselves out from the rest of the world.

Let them meet the United States as a friendly ally and not as a jealous rival, and the two countries will pursue, side by side, their onward progress, each an aid and encouragement to the other.

Not Petrified.

We are glad that the Father of His Country is not petrified as it was reported that he was; glad that the report to that effect is contradicted on the authority of a man whose word may be taken as to a cadaver, but who may not be a lapidary. There have, no doubt, been facts in our recent history that would have justified the spontaneous conversion into stone of anything that was left of George Washington, but it would have been an undignified proceeding on George's part to have taken any such notice of them; and George was never found wanting on the side of dignity. Moreover, it would have been unworthy of George's character and his name for anything to have been left of him at this time to turn into stone. One of the first duties of a well conducted corpse, once buried, is to resolve itself into the original elements. Any other line of conduct is ill bred and vulgar. "A tanner," it is true, "will last you nine years," and that is the extreme limit to which ultimate dissolution may be deferred—even for a tanner. But, then, who and what is a tanner that the grandest gentleman of the New World should imitate him? Extravagance is always avoided by modest men who regard their dignity as George did, and the indulgence in petrification is an extravagance of demeanor of which he could never have been guilty. This turning into stone is a kind of post-mortem unquiet—an eager grasping at the retention of the semblance of life by which the corpse, so to speak, "gives himself away," and proves that he loved life more than a hero should, and that he would not have died if he could have helped it. We rejoice that George has not been found guilty of such weakness. It is with great satisfaction that we find ourselves fully relieved from the apprehension that we should some day or another have met George Washington in an anatomical museum.

Temperance and the Drama.

The influence of the stage has been always on the side of temperance; for although the elder Kean, the elder Booth, George Frederick Cooke and many other great actors occasionally yielded to those temptations which seem to beset fiery and impassioned genius, they are but exceptions to the rule. The actor's profession is one which requires hard and constant study, and good habits are indispensable to success. The result is that on the modern stage inebriety is almost entirely unknown. Yet the theatre, we think, is responsible for much of the hilarity of its warmest admirers. The complaint is made that between the acts of plays young men, and indeed their awful dads, leave the theatre to indulge in beer, brandy, whiskey, cloves, crackers, apple-jack and other intoxicating beverages. The example, however, is set them on the stage. Bacchus and the vine have been celebrated in the English comedies ever since Autolycus sang their praise in the "Winter's Tale." Who but an anchorite could fail to appreciate the spirit with which, in "She Stoops to Conquer," Messrs. Gilbert, Wallack and Stevenson drain among themselves a tankard, one foot deep, and supposed to contain hot water, sugar, Jamaica rum and nutmeg? In the "School for Scandal" our old friend Mr. Careless carols a song, of which the moral is that a toast to any woman, young or old, is a good enough excuse for a glass. When Mlle. Aimée in "Giroflé-Girofla" sings her enchanting song and brews her Circean flaming bowl of punch every one who listens has an immediate desire to drink. Then we have Falstaff, the great intellectual drinker, who sanctified sack and gave to English literature the flavor of cakes and ale. The operas are also full of drinking songs from the "Don Juan" of Mozart to the "Traviata" of Verdi. It is true that dramatists are more responsible than the actors for this apotheosis of wine, but the effect upon the public is the same. Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Coghlan, no doubt, quaff goblets of air and enjoy imaginary Barmecide banquets; but the results of these illusions are seductive to the spectator, and who can blame him if sometimes he attempts to realize for himself the pleasures he sees upon the stage?

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

San Francisco people are eating strawberries. Pale blue is trimmed with flowers of pink. There are trimmings of cherry for brilliant white. It is predicted that ladies' boots this spring will, in color, match their costumes. Farmers in Bergen county, N. J., are informed that now is the time to set muskies. Outside pockets are still declared fashionable. They are too convenient to be dispensed with. Senator Lafayette F. Grover, of Oregon, arrived at the St. Nicholas yesterday, from Washington. Mr. Moody denies that he was born in Illinois; but they have discovered the very windmill that he used to blow round. Among the new parrots is one of black silk, trimmed with a deep floss of lace, and having a gayly colored butterfly embroidered on it. Light blue crepe vails, having long ends tied around the neck and fastened in front with a pin or a brooch, are particularly becoming to blondes. St. Louis Republicans:—"Monograms on garters are going out of style, and it's just as well. The country is being flooded with too much light literature anyhow." Josh Billings says:—"The mowl is a larger bird than the guse or turkey. It has two legs to walk with, and two more to kick with, and wears its wings on the side of its head." When streamers are worn on bonnets they will be longer than ever. Although long streamers are the more graceful, by being carried to the extremes they are often made to appear ridiculous. The furniture of the House of Representatives is in bright yellow oak and case, very much the color of pulled taffy; while that of the Senate is in dark mahogany and black horse hair, like burnt caramels. The Grecian knot at the back of the head is seldom seen now. The hair is rolled in many puffs high on the head. The Grecian was a style becoming to few, making pretty girls look plain and plain ones positively ugly. Evening Telegram:—"Mr. Beecher receives the Cabinet. He says that Mr. Everts is a delightful talker, but talks too much about himself. This is not quite kind, considering that he once talked about Beecher the larger part of a fortnight." New purses, very useful for carrying the troublesome silver coins, are made of small rings of steel or silver wire. They have long chains and may be either suspended from the belt or held in the hand. The price of them varies, according to the size, from fifty cents to \$2.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

From All Parts of the World.

THE EASTERN SYLLOGISM.

All Negotiations Subordinate to a Settlement of the Montenegrin Question.

RUSSIA'S MYSTERIOUS POWER.

London in Suspense Over New War Mutterings.

THE APPEAL OF THE POPE.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.] LONDON, March 21, 1877.

The general opinion in the best informed circles is that the signing of the protocol by England will not alter the situation unless Russia at once disbands her armies; but she cannot demobilize until Turkey disarms. Turkey cannot disarm until the conclusion of peace with Montenegro. Montenegro does not intend to conclude peace, and if she did Russia would not permit her. England finds that Montenegro is a condition which she had not taken into account. Everything depends on Montenegro; Montenegro depends on Russia. Thus we get back to first principles. There will be a Cabinet meeting in Downing street to-day. The business immediately before it is the consideration of the latest edition of the protocol. This document originally spoke of action in the event of the Porte not carrying out reforms. The word "action" was altered, however, to more vague and general terms. But these terms have not found favor at St. Petersburg. Gortschakoff now suggests a new wording—viz., "That the Powers shall consent together to insist," &c. It will be for the Cabinet to determine whether the word "insist" implies pledges which they don't mean to incur. If they see no danger in it and some other trifling variations the next protocol may be considered accepted as a proposition. If England objects to the phraseology there is no reason to believe that Russia will raise any serious difficulty. But the important matter which now prevents the signing of the protocol is the question of demobilization. Our government is understood to require an assurance from Russia that she will demobilize. Russia maintains that it is contrary to her dignity to give such assurance. She asserts she is bound by honor and interest to demobilize; but she declines to give a positive pledge, and, moreover, requires that the protocol be signed, peace concluded with Montenegro and the disarmament of Turkey begun before she will demobilize.

The Post points out this morning that if England signs the protocol, her first duty will be to ask the Porte to disarm. The Turks would certainly refuse to do so while the Russian troops remain on the frontier. England would thus be placed in a painfully ridiculous position.

DRIFT OF OPINION IN THE CAPITAL.

It now seems certain that the protocol will be signed on Thursday. It is reported in Paris that a courier has started for London with a despatch relative to demobilization. The demobilization can be carried out very speedily, as the mobilized regiments are mostly stationed at posts constituting their usual garrison quarters. A Berlin despatch says a settlement is thought to be at hand. A Vienna correspondent notices the reaction from recent confidence, and says fear is expressed that after all the protocol will prove deceptive. He alludes to the disarmament difficulty, and to grave doubts which are current, that the Porte will agree to the protocol in any shape. This opinion finds startling strength in a special despatch to the Daily News from its correspondent at Pesh which says:—"I hear by telegraph from Constantinople that the Porte is determined not to accept the international protocol in any form whatever." The Telegraph's Vienna special, on the other hand, says that according to advices from Russian Poland all transportation of troops southward has been suspended by orders from St. Petersburg.

NOT SO VERY REASSURED.

The outlook has not been so hopeful during the past twenty-four hours. The Daily Mail Gazette of last evening in a leading article says:—"The silent truce of events seems to point more and more directly to war, or at any rate to the ever progressing accumulation of material of which wars are made. There is no pause in military preparations on either side. The disturbances in Bosnia are spreading. The Montenegrin envoys have their answer from the Porte, difficulty has arisen with Russia about presenting a firm and from all sides comes grave news of discontent in the Turkish capital. While diplomacy thinks only of the necessity of making concessions to the Czar to enable him to restrain his people, it may suddenly find all its calculations overturned by being confronted with a counter necessity of making concession to the Porte to enable it, too, to hold its subjects in check."

TURKEY AND HER CAUSE.

According to accounts from Constantinople the despondency caused by Mifidat Pacha's fall has been succeeded by exasperation, which seems almost ready for anything. The hope in Mifidat Pacha's ability to save Turkey may have proved illusory, but it certainly was exceedingly strong. Edhem Pacha and his colleagues vainly endeavor to do the best according to their abilities. No one believes in them; they cannot carry popular feeling with them; discontent grows daily; the police are kept constantly searching after the authors of the placards, which are posted by night, even on public buildings guarded by sentries, and anonymous letters to the Minister full of invectives against the "incapable government which takes all able bodied Mohammedans for soldiers, grinds down the people by war taxes and yet makes humiliating peace with Serbia and even talks of ceding territory to the Montenegrin robbers." Ulemas and Sultans are transported to St. Jean d'Acre, but that does little good, as the same language that appears on the placards is current among the people, being openly spoken in every cafe and even in the government offices and military schools. Arrests are made, houses searched and conspiracies against which do not exist, as all except those actually in possession of power are more or less of the same mind.

THE MONTENEGRIN DIFFICULTY.

In this condition of the popular mind the prospects of negotiations with Montenegro cause great anxiety; but what is feared above all by all reflecting persons at Constantinople is the eventual disbanding of the army. The people have been disturbed from their normal avocations throughout the Empire to defend their country and religion, and now these thousands of Albanians, Circassians, Arabs and Kurds are to go home again, probably unpaid, to find their lands untilled and homes destitute. Every letter from the outlying provinces is full of apprehensions of the possible consequences of a wholesale disbanding of this kind. The difficulty of communicating with the Prince at Cetinje renders the position of the Montenegrin delegates a very unpleasant one. Having telegraphed from Constantinople on Sunday for a repetition of the Prince's despatch, which was undecipherable, they received yesterday a fresh telegram, which was likewise undecipherable. They have again asked for a repetition. The Turkish and Montenegrin armies will remain on the defensive, the negotiations not having been ruptured. The Sul-