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FRIDAY : : JANUARY, 21, 1881

EDWIN BOOTH made a great success in London as "Othello." He was frequently applauded, and was called before the curtain three times.

BY THE time the Whittaker case has been concluded according to the cut-and-dried verdict of a packed court-martial, the colored cadet's ear-hacking will have cost the country about $10,000, just $9000 more than he is worth.

A BILL was introduced in the Missouri legislature yesterday which makes the keeping of a gamblinghouse a felony, and punishes the offense by a term of imprisonment in the penitentiary. It is too sweeping and will not pass, or, if it passes, will never be enforced.

MORGAN BALLARD and Alex. Kincaid were yesterday confirmed by the Missouri State senate as police commissioners of St. Louis. Ballard is the fellow who assaulted Ex-Senator Armstrong at the Planters house the other night for some real or fancied grievance.

A TRAMP, according to the construction of the legislature of Vermont, is "a male person over sixteen years of age (not a blind person), going about from place to place, and asking or subsisting upon charity, or who is without ascertainable means of legitimate subsistence."

MR. NORDHOFF, the Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald*, thinks it "no wonder Mr. Platt was elected senator from New York, when men like George William Curtis, who have desired to separate politics from self-interest, chose a railroad attorney like Chauncey Depew as their candidate for senator."

THE very heavy rain which prevailed all through Wednesday night was, it was hoped, an indication of the break-up of the excessively severe winter. Vain hope. It was followed by perhaps the heaviest snow of the season. We have surrendered at discretion to both Vennor and Tice. They are bound to have it all their own way.

THE belief is daily gaining strength and very earnest advocates throughout the State that the county court system is cumbersome and in most cases too costly, and that it ought to give way to something like the admirable government of the Taxing-District, which is both economical and rich in positive improvement.

THE Chicago *Times* remarks that the North Carolina negroes, who exodusted to Ohio and Indiana, are going back with a more exalted opinion of the State in which they were raised, and the feeling that they are of no more account in the opinion of a northern Republican than of a southern Democrat, except, of course, as a peg to hang a howl on.

THE proposition to make of East Tennessee a new State should be treated with contempt, because it is not desired by the people and is a movement in the interest of a few politicians, whose opinion of themselves is far beyond anything they can ever reach in public estimation. We have already too many small States. Instead of increasing we should be thinking of decreasing them.

NEW YORK has joined the Pacific in a demand for an extension of the trade with Japan and China, both which nations have recently been quickened into unusual activity by the adoption of European methods of business and the employment of several fleets of steamships, owned and manned by native merchants and seamen, and managed by native agents. Commerce has brought the east and the west together.

IN Mobile they manage Mardi-Gras matters better than we do here. There the public is united in the belief that it is a good thing to have one day for laughing out of the 365 that otherwise in this work-a-day world are very sombre. Acting on this belief a committee is organized to make collections for the display, the character of which depends upon the amount collected. This plan should be adopted here. The maintenance of public spirit ought not to devolve upon a few.

TWO NEW plays were recently produced in New York. One of them, *Bigamy*, is said to closely resemble *Camilla's Husband*. It was not successful—indeed, is a failure—though well mounted, and, as the bills say, "powerfully" cast. Of the other, *The Creole*, the *Tribune* says, that it is a play of "situation, and at least three of the situations are impressibly strong—that of the murder, that of the discovery of the murder, and that of the colloquy between the father who has unconsciously committed the bloody deed for which his son has offered to make self-sacrifice. The comic element is very weak, and, toward the last, farcical and out of place. The termination of the drama is painfully tame, and serves to break the spell of whatever illusion has previously been created." It is evident from this that New York is in want of a dramatist. The slop that Bartley Campbell has been pouring out lately, and the make-shifts of other cobblers is below even a vitiated public taste.

THE prayer tests that come to us now-a-days are very confusing. They are so contradictory that they incline one to believe that, after all, the Lord is a respector of persons. For instance, a New York tramp, whom the world regarded and the magistrate was convinced was a worthless vagabond, stated, in extenuation of his inveterate idleness, that he had prayed six hours each day for ten years, believing in the efficacy of prayer, but that no answer had been received. In this his wife supported him by a sworn statement; and now here comes Miss Jennie Smith, who did not make a pilgrimage to Lourdes nor yet to Knock, but had some Protestant preachers come to her room and pray for her, and presently she felt what she describes as a baptism of strength fall upon her, and it passed from her head to her feet, and she rose up and walked for the first time in sixteen years. Miss Jennie Smith is convinced that she has been miraculously cured in answer to prayer.

THE history of the Ponca swindle, in effecting which Carl Schurz played the leading part, is one of the most disgraceful chapters in the disgraceful Indian annals of this country. It is hightened by murder, murder deliberately committed, in order that the tribe might be terrorized and prevented from making trouble over the robbery of their homes. As the New York *Sun* puts it, "The chief Big Snake was reported to have been 'accidentally' shot, when he was murdered in a cowardly way to terrorize the rest of the band; and Schurz himself drew a picture of the pastoral felicity of the tribe when they were 'shamefully treated, half fed, living in tents where disease and death carried off victims at a fearful rate.'" And after all, this Ponca business is really one of the most defensible of the instances of official obstinacy, incompetency and crime that have marked Hayes's Indian policy.

JAY GOULD and R. T. Wilson are to have competitors for the purchase of the Atlantic and Ohio railroad. It is reported that the Pennsylvania railroad main stem will be unable to carry its freights after the connection with the Texas Pacific is made, unless it puts down four tracks, a work of vast expense in its mountain line, with frequent rock tunnels and precipice cuttings. Therefore they mean to make a through freight road by the Shenandoah valley, and carry a part of their business over it, and will probably be a competitor for the purchase of the Atlantic and Ohio railroad, from Lynchburg to Chattanooga, and thus make their way to Texas by the Memphis and Charleston and the Memphis and Little Rock railroads. The Atlantic and Ohio railroad is soon to be sold. The Baltimore and Ohio railroad will be a bidder for it, and also the bondholders. The Virginians see that they will not be able to hold it for the benefit of Norfolk, as heretofore, and say that its business will be led off to Baltimore or New York, and they do not care to which.

THE always reliable and intelligent Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* states that since the November election Mr. Conkling, the first of the Grant triumvirate at Chicago, has had neither oral nor written communication with General Garfield, but he has not failed, through the medium of others, to have the latter fully informed of his views and desires. General Garfield is anxious, the correspondent continues, to do anything that he reasonably can to oblige Senator Conkling, but he does not propose to let him run his administration or to inveigle him into taking sides in the faction fights among the New York Republicans. With regard to the two other members of the triumvirate, General Logan and Don Cameron, General Garfield has made the direct offer of the secretaryship of war to Don Cameron, but it has been declined, with thanks. He has also, so far as cabinet positions are concerned, declined to make any suggestions, although requested to do so. General Logan has also received assurances from General Garfield that his views will receive consideration, and it is understood that the incumbents for one or more prominent positions in Washington can be named by him.

WE have received Watts & Co.'s Liverpool *Cotton Report* for the week ending January 7th, which informs us that there was great briskness at Manchester, owing to favorable accounts from India, China and Japan, and at firm prices. The week's business in the Liverpool cotton market was good, and holders were offering their stocks freely. There had been an expectation that when American receipts fall off prices would advance; a falling off beyond anticipation had taken place, but the consequent advance had not followed, what improvement there was was owing to Manchester influences. The abrupt decline in the movement had aroused suspicion, and the fear of larger figures in the future checked speculation. The wavering position of the New York market had great influence, as short receipts were expected to make their first impression there. The estimate of the crop was from 5,750,000 to 6,000,000 bales, which was a cause for a pause in speculation and an awaiting of developments, especially as holders showed a strong desire to sell. Large tenders for January contracts was also an adverse influence, few care to take deliveries, which are therefore rather pressed upon the market. The stock held by English spinners was estimated at 185,000 bales, against 130,000 at the same date last year.

GOOD ROADS WANTED.

If the legislature will hurry and get through with the senatorial election and give attention to needed legislation, it will better subserve the general interest than by wrangling over the petty ambitions of interested politicians. For instance, we need a road law that will enable the counties to build turnpikes which are quite as essential to progress and growth as railroads. As the Knoxville *Chronicle* forcibly puts it, the roads of the State are generally in so dilapidated a condition that they are entirely unfit for travel. In the winter season they are altogether impassable in many places, and numbers of poor farmers are compelled to go miles out of their way in order to market their produce. On this account, too, children are forced to remain away from the free schools, which are the only means they have of securing an education, and which last only during the winter months. Immigrants pass us by because of the general worthlessness of the land, caused by the fact that it is almost, if not impossible to find proper and suitable means of ingress to' and egress from it. Good roadways are essential to our well-being, and during this session of the legislature a law ought to be passed that will secure them to every county in the State.

A FAIR IN THE GLAD SPRING-TIME.

At their annual meeting on Tuesday last the stockholders of the Shelby County Fair association agreed upon laying before the public a proposition to hold a spring as well as a fall fair. We think a little reflection will show the excellence of this project. The fall fair exhibits the products of the latter portion of the year; but how much there is in spring that, in many cases, would be still more attractive. Then nature has put on her new garb and manifests all the beauty of her youth. The young fruits are giving their early promise, the vegetable world is presenting its choicests gifts, and the flowers are decked in their most delicate hues and displaying their most seductive colors. The breezes are perfumed with rich odors, all nature is smiling in vernal gladness, and the country and country products have allurements that create a longing—after the gloom of winter has been endured—to go and bask in all the treasures of the garden and the field. The poultry, the stock with their young, and the culinary products of the farm have at this time of the year a special charm. We are sure the denizens of the city will welcome such an opportunity, and our artisans and mechanics will have no lack of attendance to see what they have to exhibit. A fair in the spring-time, is a fair at a right time, when the birds are fluttering from tree to tree, and the young lambs skipping in the fields, and the fresh verdure and the emerald foilage are showing all nature's charms at their best. Who will not welcome joyfully a Shelby County Spring Fair, and be grateful to those who projected so delightful an occasion?

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

The Paris correspondent of the New York *Sun*, upon making a careful review of French affairs, expresses the belief that the republic is no longer in danger, is no longer threatened by rival ambitions, whether legitimist, Orleanist or imperialist. Gambetta is master of the situation. His moderation and firmness have saved France from internal feud and perhaps another bloody revolution. The most sanguine royalist has long since abandoned all hope for the restoration of the Count de Chambord; the Orleanist party is limited to the members of the Orleanist family; and the imperialists are divided among themselves and ruined politically by the unpopularity of their leader. All the dangers which threatened the republic from without a few years ago having disappeared, French statesmen have only to consider its internal condition. Its most bitter opponents are, in effect, the Irreconcilables, or extreme radicals, represented by Rochefort, Clemenceau, and others. Opportunists is the name given the Gambettists, and the new chamber will contain an immense majority of them, of men pledged to support the republic of Gambetta. France has always needed in its elections a name to act as a political talisman. The country has ever considered men, or a man, rather than measures. The country has thrown itself into the arms of a Napoleon and a Thiers, and now it is longing to fling itself into the embrace of a Gambetta. It has, it is true, its Grevy, but the unambitious president has practically and wisely removed himself from the sphere of active politics, and his constitutional position would probably not be affected by the triumph of Gambetta. He is the representative of France. He is the expression of the popular will. Even the conservatives have flocked to his standard, because they regard him the representative of order, peace and security. Since he has been so violently attacked by the extreme radicals, by Rochefort and Louise Michel, and since the country by its numerous manifestations has declared so unanimously in his favor, many have come to regard him as their only barrier against the flood of communism, which they dread more than anything else. Though the expulsion of the religious orders created a great uproar of remonstrance in Paris, it has been very slightly resented by the country at large; and unless some very untoward event occurs, the form of republicanism represented by Gambetta will undoubtedly be indorsed at the elections by the great majority of the nation. France has prospered under the republic as she never did before, and she has developed a healthful public sentiment and an unselfish patriotism that are her best guarantees for the future.

GARFIELD AND THE COLOR LINE.

The colored people of the south, and particularly here in Memphis, are much disgruntled at the tone of Garfield's recent speech in reply to the committee of colored office-seekers who visited Mentor for the purpose of claiming their proportionate share of the spoils in the division of the offices. It is about time for the colored people of Memphis to hold another meeting, and to pass a new batch of resolutions, and to issue a new address, claiming their rights. The Republican party is evidently preparing to sit down on the negro. Garfield's recent speech to the committee of colored citizens who called upon him was not only freezing in its coldness, but a stinging rebuke to the presumptuous arrogance of an ignorant race. General William Henry Harrison, in his inaugural address forty years ago, spoke wisely and truthfully when he said that there was a "remarkable contrast observable in the conduct of candidates before and after the election, as in the latter case they seldom carried out the promises made in the former." This is fully illustrated by the promises of the Republican party before the election and General Garfield's speech since the election. Only a few months since the blacks were considered "the wards of the nation." They were to be elevated and fed at the public crib. Forgetting the Freedman's bank swindle and the promises of "a mule and forty acres of land," the blacks were deluded by these promises and cast a solid vote for Garfield. So soon as it was announced that he was elected, the colored people of this congressional district held a meeting in Memphis and insisted on the fulfillment of the promises that had been made them. An able address was issued, replete with facts and figures showing that the Republican party had been saved from annihilation by the colored vote, and that if Carl Schurz had been placed in the cabinet to appease and conciliate a few thousand German votes, it was right and proper that the million of colored Republicans who saved the party from defeat should be represented in the cabinet and receive their proportionate share of the offices. This was the natural logic of events. But now that the Republican party has been given a new lease of power by the fidelity of the colored voters, Garfield verifies the remark of President Harrison by showing a determination to kick over the ladder by which he ascended to power. Indeed, Garfield's recent speech to the colored committee was nothing but a repetition of the teachings of the Democratic party. The whole tone of Garfield's speech shows that he believes that a country, to be prosperous, must be ruled by the educated intelligence of that country, and that the time has not come for the colored people to hold office. He said that "the education of their children was the foremost duty of all the American people, and assuring them that what could be done would not fail. He urged them to avoid raising the color-line, and not separate themselves as a class from the mass of citizens." In contrasting this utterance since the election with the teachings of the Republican party before the election, well may the colored people ask: "Is this the feast to which we have been invited?" The blacks were given the ballot for self-protection. They were told that the southern whites were their enemies; that the Democratic party was anxious to restore them to slavery, and that they must combine as a class and vote the Republican ticket, or else they would be enslaved again. But now Garfield urges the blacks to do the very thing the Democrats have been urging them to do for the past sixteen years, "avoid raising the color-line, and not to separate themselves as a class from the mass of citizens." This advice is a withering rebuke to the carpetbaggers, who enticed the blacks into the loyal leagues and administered horrid oaths, pledging themselves as a class to vote the Republican ticket, and to "separate themselves as a class" from the whites at every election. The advice given the colored committee by the President-elect is statesmanlike and patriotic; but it is not new, as the Democrats have been counseling the same thing for years. This is the logic of the Republican party: It is all right and proper before the election for the blacks to raise the color-line, and to separate themselves from their white employers and to cast a solid colored vote for the Republican party, but after the election, when the blacks demand the division of spoils to which they are entitled, by combining and saving the Republican party from defeat, they are told that they must not "raise the color-line, or separate themselves as a class from the mass of citizens." In commenting upon the advice given the blacks by Garfield, the New Orleans *Times* says: "The last phrase explains the fundamental deviltry which has so long sickened the southern stomach and hampered southern progress. Wherever the blame may be placed, here, by common consent, the seat of the disease is fixed. The colored people, no doubt, will insist that they did not 'separate themselves as a class from the mass of citizens.' The white citizens will aver that the colored brethren forced their own separation 'from the mass of citizens' by a most manifest, if unconscious process, which may be briefly described as taking themselves and 'the mass of citizens' to hell together. It may be that this taking off was, in some cases resisted with a bloody emphasis which, if a desperate remedy, was at the same time unimpeachable evidence of a desperate disease. Whatever the consequences, or whatever may have induced the separation, the cause of the peculiar woes of the south as well as of the colored people has been their separation 'as a class from the mass of citizens.' Such a separation, whatever the cause thereof, must inevitably prove mischievous, if not disastrous. Similar consequences would follow the separation 'as a class' of Methodists or Baptists, or Catholics or Presbyterians from the mass of citizens. Happily for the United States religion has not yet separated people politically 'as a class,' or as classes. It is encouraging to observe that the incoming chief magistrate so clearly perceives the essential fact of a situation with which he will necessarily have to deal. It is still more encouraging that he so clearly and bluntly speaks the truth to all and sundry whom it may concern. When the colored people can find a way to get along without separating themselves 'as a class' from the mass of citizens the southern situation will cease to vex the nation or distress any class. One method of discovering that way would be to cease to blindly jump where the political 'bucks' may lead, bent on forage, without respect to the ownership of the pasture. They can't do this too soon. That is the main point of the 'separation' so clearly indicated and so emphatically advised by President-Elect Garfield."

XLVITH CONGRESS.

Passage of the Appropriation Bill by the House—$14,461,000 the Estimate for the Current Fiscal Year—No Other Business of Importance Done.

McDonald's Effort to Have Appointed a Standing Committee on Woman's Rights—The Bill for the Allotment of Indian Lands in Severalty.

WASHINGTON, January 20.—Mr. Calkins [Ind.] stated that he would not call up the contested election case of Boynton *vs.* Loring, but would yield to the committee on appropriations and then the morning hour having been dispensed with, the house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Cox in the chair, upon the appropriation bill.

Mr. Atkins briefly explained the provisions of the bill, which appropriated $14,461,000, a net increase of $55,000 over the appropriation for the present year. The bill was read by sections for amendment.

Mr. Hiscock moved to increase from $800,000 to $1,000,000, the appropriation for the bureau of steam engineers.

Mr. Atkins opposed the amendment.

Mr. Hawley said that congress should devise a plan for a large addition to the navy and then go to work and make annual appropriations of $500,000 for a series of years until the navy shall be built. The present condition of the navy was a continual subject of mortification.

After a further debate the amendment was rejected—yeas, 73; nays, 87.

The committee then rose and reported the bill to the house, when it was passed exactly as reported from the committee on appropriations.

Mr. Blackburn, from the committee on appropriations, reported the postoffice appropriation bill, which was ordered printed and committed.

Mr. Calkins then called up the contested election case of Boynton *vs.* Loring, from the sixth congressional district of Massachusetts. The report of the majority of the committee on election, signed by Republicans and Democrats, declared the contestee entitled to retain his seat. The report of the minority, signed by Mr. Weaver, was in favor of the contestant.

Mr. Loring took the floor, not as he said for the purpose of speaking in support of his case, but for the purpose of defending the great commonwealth of Massachusetts from some charges made against it by the report of the minority.

At the conclusion of Mr. Loring's speech the house took a recess until 7:30 o'clock this evening, the session being for the consideration of District business.

SENATE.

The ladies' gallery was occupied at the hour of meeting mainly by members of the National Woman's Suffrage association.

The Vice-President submitted a communication from the state department relating to the offer made to sell to the department the original manuscripts and historical papers bequeathed by Benjamin Franklin to his grandson, William Temple Franklin, being the collections of Henry Stevens Franklin. Among the papers is an original petition of the continental congress to George III, in 1774, signed by the delegates. The collection will be offered for sale in London for £7000, if the offer to this government is not accepted. The communication was referred.

On motion of Senator McDonald his resolution of last session for a standing committee on the rights of women citizens was taken up. Senator McDonald advocated the proposition as one affording a medium through which this class of applicants for legislation could have their rights heard before the country.

Senator Conkling suggested that the committee be made a special one, so that a beneficent movement in behalf of woman's rights might result speedily in something practical. [Applause in the ladies' gallery.]

Senator McDonald insisted upon a permanent committee, as the subject was a continuing one. As long as any portion of the human family was represented on the floor of the senate the rights of women would demand consideration.

Senator Davis [W. Va.] moved to refer to committee on rules. Agreed to—Yeas, 26; nays, 23.

Senator Kernan presented a resolution, which was adopted without debate, requesting the President to forthwith transmit to the senate, if in his opinion not incompatible with public interests, copies of any and all correspondence, since 1869, which may have passed between the secretary of state and any diplomatic or consular agent of the United States either in Switzerland or any other foreign country in relation to the sending to the United States by any foreign state, canton, or municipality, of criminals, paupers, or insane persons.

The calendar of private bills occupied the remainder of the morning hour.

Senator Pendleton introduced and asked present consideration of a joint resolution for a loan by the secretaries of war and the navy of flags and bunting in the government depots for use in decorating the city of Washington on the fourth of March.

Senators McDonald, Hill [Col.] and Walker were appointed a committee of conference on the bill granting lands to Dakota, Montana, Arizona, Idaho and Wyoming for university purposes.

The funding bill was received from the house, and referred to the committee on finance.

A communication from the President was received transmitting a letter from the secretary of state in relation to recent efforts of the United States to bring about peace between Chili, Peru and Bolivia. Ordered printed.

The regular order being the bill, to provide for the allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians on the various reservations and to extend the protection of the laws of the States and Territories over the Indians and for other purposes, was taken up and occupied the remainder of the day.

Senator Coke, who reported the bill explained its provisions. The President, whenever in his judgment a reservation of land on which the Indians are located shall be fit for agricultural purposes, is to have the same surveyed and allotted in the manner specified by the first section to the individual Indians of the tribe for which it has been set apart. The excess of lands in the reservation above what may be thus allotted to individuals is to be negotiated for by the secretary of the interior, but no money is to be paid until the negotiations are ratified by congress. It is also provided that the bill shall not be applicable to the Indian Territory; and, further, that the lands shall not be alienated within twenty-five years by any of the allottees.

Senator West moved an amendment to the seventh section, excluding the Indian Territory from the operations of the bill, so as to make it read that the act shall not extend to the reservations of the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Seminoles and Chickasaws in the Indian Territory. In support of the amendment he argued that whatever step was now taken should be so taken as a part of a uniform and general policy. It had been charged against him, in the press, that he proposed to attack the treaties with civilized tribes in the Indian Territory. On the contrary he proposed to observe every treaty, both in the letter and spirit, and proceeded to criticise the committee on Indian affairs for having excepted from the bill and left under the old regime the thirty Indian tribes, or remnants of tribes, on the plains.

Senator Teller opposed the bill. He referred to the memorial of the commissioners of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church of the United States upon Indian rights and Indian civilization, in which, among other things, it was claimed that the Indians should have good education and religious liberty. He argued that these gentlemen were impracticable. They proposed to treat all Indians, savage and friendly, alike; and yet there was as much difference between Indians as there was between civilized beings, and legislation that would be beneficial for one class would fail if applied to the other. The effect of giving land to Indians absolutely would be, as it had been in the past, to subject them to the rapacity of the whites, and ultimately deprive them of a resting place on this continent.

Senator Saunders supported the bill as facilitating the breaking of tribal relations, and offering the Indian better facilities than he would have without it to prepare for citizenship, while requiring of him nothing more than was required of everyone else. It would make his title to the property as valid as that of the white man's.

Senator Hill [Col.] said that as the alleged opposition of the Indians to the severalty provision had been urged against the propriety of any enactment on the subject, he had endeavored to ascertain the truth as to the feeling of the Indians on that point. In response to this inquiry he had received from the commissioner of Indian affairs a letter, which he would now read. [The letter stated, in substance, that Red-Cloud and Spotted-Tail had for a year past been demanding a separate allotment of their lands, their request not having been complied with owing to the surveys not having been completed. The agents of the Sioux, of Nebraska; the Chippewas, of Wisconsin, and numerous others, reported that their tribes had signified in some instances a unanimous desire to be located in severalty, and in other instances their desire to have patents issued to them for their lands as provided in the treaty. Very few outside of the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory had failed to favor the movement.]

Without action on the bill the senate went into executive session, and soon adjourned.

WHITTAKER COURT-MARTIAL

Convened in New York—All the Members Present, with One Exception—Captain Barber.

After Unimportant Preliminary Proceedings, an Adjournment is Taken to February 3d.

NEW YORK, January 20.—The court-martial in the case of Whittaker convened to-day, all the members present except Captain Barber, who is on his way from the west. Whittaker, in uniform, and his counsel, were also present. The order for the court-martial was read to Whittaker, who listened standing. He was then asked if he had any objection to any member of the court. Ex-Governor Chamberlain, of counsel, said they had no challenge strictly to offer. He desired that Colonel Lugenbiel should be put upon his *voidire*, so that they might determine as to whether they should offer a challenge. Colonel Lugenbiel was sworn, and, in answer to a question by Governor Chamberlain, said he knew nothing of the case. He might have conversed with some persons on the subject, and might have said a good many things. If there were any objections he would like to be excused.

Governor Chamberlain said that they had no objections except legal objections.

Question—Have you at any time expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused?

Colonel Lugenbiel—I am thinking; I do not know whether I have or not; I've read the newspapers from morning to morning, but know as little about it as any man in the country.

Question—Have you formed any opinion? Ans.—No, nothing definite; most certainly my mind is free from any preconceptions or bias I think as if I had never heard of the case; I have no prejudice; I've been in the army too long to form any opinion before court meets.

Governor Chamberlain said that they did not propose to make any formal challenge. Colonel Lugenbiel says he is not prepared to say whether or not he has expressed an opinion, but says that his mind is unbiased to form a prejudice. We will not, therefore, make any formal challenge, but leave it to the court.

General Miles said that the court had no power to excuse any member unless there had been a formal challenge.

Major Gardiner again asked Whittaker if he had any objection to any member of the court, and Whittaker replied that he had not, whereupon the judge advocate administered the usual oath to the court. President Miles in turn administered the oath to the judge advocate, and the court was formally declared duly organized.

Governor Chamberlain said they should need time to prepare for the defense. There was an immense mass of testimony that had been taken before the court of inquiry, which he desired to review, and it was but just to Mr. Whittaker that he should have time. He did not urge this motion with the view of creating unnecessary delay.

Judge-Advocate Gardiner said that he also should like to look over this evidence, and should join with the governor in asking delay.

After some discussion as to the time the court adjourned until the 3d of February.

ON THE STAIRS.

Over the banister bends a face,
Darlingly sweet and beguiling;
Somebody stands in careless grace,
And watches the picture smiling.

The light burns dim in the hall below
Nobody sees her standing,
Saying good night again, soft and slow,
Half way up to the landing.

Nobody, only the eyes of brown,
Tender and full of meaning,
That smile on the fairest face in town,
Over the banisters leaning.

Tired and sleepy, with drooping head,
I wonder why she lingers,
And when all the good nights are said,
Why, somebody holds her fingers—

Holds her fingers and draws her down,
Suddenly growing bolder,
Till her loose hair drops its masses brown
Like a mantle over his shoulder.

Over the banister soft hands fair
Brush his cheeks like a feather;
Bright brown tresses and dusky hair
Meet and mingle together.

There's a question asked, there's a swift caress,
She has flown like a bird from the hallway;
But over the banister drops a Yes
That shall brighten the world for him alway.

PREVENTING A PANIC

By the Free Use of the Locust—What Might Have Been.

NEW YORK, January 20.—A fire occurred in a building on Mott street, at 3 o'clock this morning, containing 160 families, comprising 1500 souls. The scene witnessed is without parallel, for confusion, in the history of fires in this city. The building is known as the Big Flat; is six stories in hight, seventy-five feet front, and runs through the block to Elizabeth street, a distance of about 200 feet. The fire had broken out on the ground floor, in a grocery store, and the flames breaking through the front windows ascended on the outside of the broad front of the building until the roof was reached. Fortunately the police and firemen were quickly upon the scene, and hurried the screaming women and children and cursing men into the street, the policemen having to use their clubs freely to drive the people out. Thus was prevented a calamity awful even to contemplate.

PERSONAL POINTS.

Mrs. J. M. Boland, wife of Rev. J. M. Boland, died in Greenville, Alabama, last week.

Mr. John Bright, a druggist and prominent citizen of Prescott, Arkansas, died last Tuesday.

Rev. J. W. Anderson has succeeded Rev. G. H. Day in the charge of the Methodist pulpit at Lexington, Mississippi.

Mrs. Wadsworth, wife of Frank Wadsworth, superintendent of the Pratt Coal and Coke company, of Alabama, died a few days ago.

Dr. Calhoun, says the Jacksonville (Ala.) *Republican*, has again lost his reason, and been removed from that county to the insane asylum.

Colonel W. D. Slack is spoken of by the Ozark *Advocate* as having done more for the improvement and prosperity of Arkansas than any other man.

Major J. M. Haynes, formerly of Holmes county, Mississippi, now residing at Brownville, Texas, was recently elected almost unanimously to the office of judge.

Tuesday evening, at Shelbyville, Tennessee, Mr. C. Moody, a leading young lawyer of that city, and Miss Sallie Cannon, daughter of Mr. John T. Cannon, circuit court clerk of Bedford county, were united in marriage.

Mrs. Johnnie McGinty Pearce, wife of W. H. Pearce, died at Goodwin, Arkansas, last Friday. Mrs. Pearce was the daughter of the late E. P. McGinty, well known in Tennessee, and the granddaughter of the late John McGavock.

A correspondent of the Charleston *News and Courier* gives an account of the death and burial of Lieutenant J. P. Roland, of the Third Arkansas, Wheeler's corps of cavalry, who was killed at Rivers Bridge, Barnwell county, South Carolina, February 11, 1865, while gallantly fighting to impede the march of Sherman's troops. The remains were carefully interred, after the war, near the spot where he fell, at the suggestion of some ladies of the vicinity, and on each memorial day the grave is decorated.

Flour and Grain in California.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 20.—The produce exchange of this city has published the results of their efforts to ascertain the stock of grain in the State on the 1st of January. The exchange claims great care in getting the result, and states that the figures are approximately correct: Flour on hand at that date, 78,253 barrels; wheat, 19,805,466 centals; barley, 1,651,787 centals.

Decided in Favor of Plaintiff.

COLUMBUS, O., January 20.—The suit brought by the former lessees in 1878, against the State Board of Public Works, to recover $21,313, balance due for tools and material taken by the State when it resumed possession of the public works, was decided in the supreme court to-day, in favor of plaintiffs.

Failures in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, January 20.—Louis Wagemann, grocer, made an assignment this morning. The assets, consisting of real estate, stock in store and open accounts, amount to $31,000. Liabilities not yet known.

Potthoff & Behren, grocers, also made an assignment, but in their case the assets and liabilities are small.

Opposed to the Amalgamation.

ALBANY, January 20.—In the assembly a resolution calling for an investigation concerning the consolidation of the telegraph companies was adopted.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

And the Manner in Which These Securities are Handled to Make Money for the Brokers and Give the Goose to the Gillies Who Put Up Margins.

Wiles of Wall Street Wolves to Secure Business—Three Classes of Operators Upon Whom the Brokers Prey—The Different Modes of Working Them.

Boston *Herald*: Wall street brokers say that there is double if not threefold more speculation than there was four years ago. Then the average number of shares sold daily in the stock exchange was 100,000 to 150,000. It is now counted a dull day when 300,000 shares are not sold, and in the excitement of the great upward movement last winter, 500,000 was the daily average, and one day the number touched 700,000. Lately it has been over 500,000 several times. This increase brings with it many changes in the street. The stock exchange has become too small to accommodate the 1200 members, and a new building is going up. Seats in the exchange, which two years ago were quoted at $5000, are now worth $21,000. The increased number of customers who watch the tape from 10 a.m until 3 p.m. have compelled half the brokers in the street to enlarge their offices. Indeed, the offices of some of the leading firms have come to be curiosities, because of innovations. For years the typical broker's office in Wall street was a small room in a dingy basement, with a desk for the proprietor and another for his assistant, who combined the duties of clerk, bookkeeper and a boy. Quotations came at rare intervals over a telegraph wire, and were registered on a receiving slip. The customers were not many, for the craze had not taken hold of people. The broker's office of to-day is a suite of rooms. Let us look into one. It occupies two full Broadway fronts, and extends through to Exchange court. One side is devoted to customers and the general office, in which the members of the firm have desks, and the other, separated by a partition, is taken up by fifteen or twenty book-keepers, clerks, cashiers and assistants. The front room for customers has an inlaid oaken floor, put together in squares of tasteful workmanship. The wainscoting, which extends half-way to the ceiling, is of cherry, and the paper above it is fit for a Fifth-avenue drawing-room. In one corner is a fireplace in which hickory logs blaze in cold weather, and above which is a mantel of rare design and beauty. The furniture is of cherry to match, and upholstered in leather. But for the regular tick, tick, tick of the gold and stock indicator, as it registers the prices upon the tape of white paper, you might think that you were in a club room. The rear room, which is also open to customers, is carpeted with Brussels. The desks are massive cherry, and the couches and easy chairs are of the same, with leather upholstery. But for the business look given by the desks, you might think you were in a drawing-room. Another indicator rattles out prices here also. Just before noon a colored attendant moves about with considerable alacrity, and, as the chimes of Trinity church far overhead ring out the full hour, he trundles aside the cherry doors of the lunch-room and discloses a well-arranged table on which are salads, cold meats, oysters, and other good things. Customers are expected and invited to lunch there as the firm's guests, and the table remains until 2 o'clock. This office is visited daily by about fifty men, young and old, who are interested in the market. Some come at the beginning of the day's business, and remain until it closes. They speculate for a livelihood, and are content to take small profits on their transactions. Others step in for an hour or more, get the run of prices for the day, and are off to their regular business. Still others come and go at regular intervals. Among these fifty men are three classes of operators. The first buy or sell stocks at what is called long range. When stocks are very low they buy, intending to hold them until they get very high. This may be for two, four, or six months, but it makes no difference to the long range operator how sluggish the movements. He has convinced himself that prices are to be higher, and he waits for the advance as patiently as a hunter waits for game. Nevertheless, he is compelled to keep a close watch on the market, for unforseen breakers may come rolling in upon him at any moment. The operator at long range is content with no profit of less than ten per cent. on par value, and usually he intends to get fifteen or twenty. This class of operator is the most successful of all who buy or sell in Wall street. His transactions are few, but when he takes a profit it is a big one. In June last stocks were very low compared with the previous February prices, and the long-range operators all invested. Those who bought 1000 shares of St. Paul, for instance, at 65 and held it until the 30th of September, had a chance then to sell it for 95, at an advance of thirty points and a profit of $30,000. If they held until November 24th, they might have sold fifteen points higher. A second class of operators trade on the fluctuations of a few days. They are called stormy petrels, and they comprise a great majority of the street speculators. Experience teaches that, while the tendency of prices may be upward or downward to a marked degree, stocks fluctuate slightly in their rise or fall. In an advancing market, as a rule, stocks will go up steadily two points, waver a few hours, and then decline one point. In a day or two they will start upward again two points and a half, may be, hesitate again, and then decline, say a point and a quarter. It is after each one of these declines that the stormy petrel makes his purchases. He watches the tape with lynx-like attention as the market then advances, and after he has a profit of two per cent. or thereabouts, he sells, and waits for another decline before purchasing again. A third class are called scalpers. Any profit, however small, satisfies them. A half or a quarter per cent. advance in their holdings is enough to cause them to sell and look about for another chance. As a rule, they lose money. Indeed, it may be said that two-thirds, if not three-quarters, of Wall street operators find themselves worse off at the end of the year than when it began. At best small operators simply go it blind. It is the big speculators, the kings of the street, who are able to manipulate the market, who make the money. Experienced brokers will tell you that not one person in twelve who goes into Wall street takes his money with him when he retires. Some by good fortune may make what what would be snug little fortunes if they would pocket their cash and leave speculation alone, but the more they make the deeper in they get, until some day along comes a crash that sweeps away every cent. Not a broker but has a fund of anecdotes in illustration of this. It is the most fascinating of all gambling, and when it once takes hold of a man, he has difficulty in shaking it off. When a stormy petrel gets discouraged by repeated losses, he turns to operating at long range, and, after losing at this, he changes tactics and becomes a scalper. He is constantly trying some new plan; the scheme of ceasing entirely does not seem to occur to him until he has lost all. The details of Wall street operating are a mystery to those who have not taken a hand. The person who wants to speculate does not know where to begin or how to take the first step. How much money must he put up as a margin? What does his broker do, and how much must the broker be paid for making the purchases? These are constantly recurring questions. Dozens of letters are sent to New York newspapers on the subject, and the writers seem to imagine that there is something very mysterious about the whole business. As a matter of fact, the reverse is the truth. Nothing is simpler than a purchase for a rise. Selling stock short is just a trifle complicated to a novice, but is easy to understand. The beginner usually starts his speculative career by purchasing 100 shares of stock, although a less number may be bought. He seeks a trustworthy broker and is told that, to purchase 100 shares, he must deposit with the broker eight or ten per cent. of the par value of the stock. Dealings in the New York exchange are so scaled that ten per cent. means $1000 to the credit of the customer. This deposit is called the margin. The broker then opens an account with him by placing $1000 to the credit of the customer. The next step is for the customer to select a stock which is likely to advance, and having made up his mind that Erie, for instance, is the card, he simply says to the broker, "Buy me 100 shares of Erie." Off goes the broker like a shot to the stock exchange, where he dives into a crowd of 1000 other brokers. The floor of the great room has upon it a score or more of knots of men, pushing, surging, and yelling at the top of their lungs. One knot is the St. Paul clique, another the Reading clique, a third the Erie crowd. Our broker rushes into the Erie coterie, elbows men out of the way, holds his right hand high in air, and, knowing that the one man about whom the crowd is surging has some Erie stock to sell, and hearing a dozen other men, with their hands in the air, yelling "39½," he jumps up in the air higher than all the others and yells "40." Thereupon the center of the group makes a rush at him and shouts, "Sold." All this means that our broker has offered $40 a share for 100 share of Erie, and the other man has sold it to him, the other brokers having bid only $39 87½ for it. The two brokers jot down the transaction in their memorandum books, and the broker who sold it reports the sale. Instantly is flashed over the wire and into every broker's office in the city the new quotation for Erie of 40. The broker who sold rolls up 100 share certificates of Erie and sends them to our broker, who puts them in his safe and sends back a check for $4000, the price of the stock. Our new customer then "holds 100 Erie." He may "hold" it as long as he pleases, so long as the price of Erie advances. If Erie is in demand, the price will advance. When it is quoted at 41 it has advanced $1 a share, and our friend is $100 ahead in the transaction—that is, he would be were it not for the broker's commission, which is one-eighth per cent. for buying and one-eighth for selling, a total of one-fourth for both buying and selling, which to our friend would be $25; hence the net profit at 41 would be $75. At 45 it would be $475. If the stock is held longer than the day of the purchase, the customer must pay interest on the $4000, the cost of the stock at six per cent. When the customer decides that he has made sufficient profit from the transaction he simply says, "Sell my 100 shares of Erie," and the broker sells it. If the sale is at 45, the customer is credited with the profit, less commission and interest. He then has some fourteen hundred and odd dollars, which stands for margin in his next transaction; or he may withdraw all his money and close the account. After two or three such operations his capital has doubled, and then, instead of 100 shares, he may purchase 200. Many a beginner has increased his original capital of $1000 to $20,000 and even $50,000, and then, becoming less cautious, has found himself with 5000 shares of stock on hand when there came a crash, and lost all. Stocks go down so much easier than they advance that the profits of a twelve-month may be wiped out in twelve hours. The beginner invariably operates for a rise. He can understand that paying 40 for Erie and selling it for 45, means $500 profit, less commissions. But selling stock to buy it again at a low figure and deliver to the person whom he sold confuses him. Nevertheless, it is a saying of Wall street that more money is made on the short than the long side of the market, and shrewd operators work the market both ways. The fifty men who come and go in our broker's office represent almost as many different callings in life. Ten of them, probably, are professional speculators. The others are lawyers, insurance men, clerks, salesmen, etc. One is a practising physician, and there are two or three officials under the city government and an officer from one of the harbor military posts—all intent on making an honest dollar outside their regular vocation. Generally it ends in disaster to them. Sometimes this disaster tempts to peculation, and moral as well as pecuniary ruin results. Some of them never buy more than 100 shares of stock at a time, and others never less than 1000. The great majority of Wall street operators trade in from 200 to 400 shares. Opinions differ as to whether prices will advance or recede, and frequently one will be buying stock for an advance, while another is selling against a decline. Standing over the same telegraph indicator may be one man who hopes that Erie will go up, and another who hopes it will go down. Some men are lucky, always making profitable turns, and others are always losing. All are intensely fascinated with the fluctuations.

STORMS AND WRECKS BY SEA,

And Snow and Rain and Devastating Floods on Land Reported from all Over Europe.

England and the Continent Experiencing the Worst Weather Ever Known—Loss of Life.

LONDON, January 20.—A French vessel is reported sunk off Great Yarmouth, with a loss of twenty lives. A brig stranded at Gorleston, and eight persons perished. A bark wrecked on the Suffolk coast entailed a loss of ten lives.

The great snow storm which has almost placed the United Kingdom under complete embargo, is general throughout Europe. Communication between London, Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam is entirely stopped. The gale has somewhat abated, but its force is still great. The overflow of the Thames has done immense damage. Traffic in London is almost entirely suspended. There are distressing reports of the wrecks along the coast where the sea is so high as almost to preclude assistance being rendered by the coast guards. There is no record of so severe a storm. With partial restoration of the telegraph wires, prostrated by the storm in England, instances of persons being overwhelmed by the snow and frozen to death are reported from various districts. Railway trains had to be abandoned in the snow-drifts where only the funnel of the engine was visible. The damage to Dovier pier by the fury of the sea is £1000. Solid masses of concrete were scooped out by the waves, and stones weighing more than a ton were washed away. The pier at the south end, on the Thames opposite the mouth midway, was carried away by the ice, and a boat which was aiding to rescue persons on the pier, was swamped and eight persons drowned. The bark Barone Vranceyczancy, Captain Cosulick, from Leith, January 15th for New York, has been totally wreck off Kissingland, Suffolk. One man of all on board was saved.

One of the mines at Red Ruth, Cornwall, was suddhnly flooded to-day, and eight persons drowned.

A STUPID SPORT

Which Has Resulted in the Death and Maiming of Several Persons.

PORT JEFFERSON, L. I., January 20.—Frank Tooker, a college student, and J. Samuel Ackerly, foreman of the *Times* office, were both seriously injured while coasting to-day. Ackerly is likely to die, and Tooker is still insensible.

Killed Outright.

WOODRUFF, N. J., January 20.—A fatal coasting accident occurred to-day. Two boys, named Harrison White and Caleb Courlis, were sliding down a hill near Duke's bridge, when White's sled, striking a stump, turned, and ran off the bridge to the ice some twenty feet below. White survived only a few moments. Courlis, who fell the same distance, was slightly injured.

Mr. Beecher and the Jews.

Pall Mall Gazette: "It is not usual for Reuter to cable reports of sermons across the Atlantic. Henry Ward Beecher's denunciation of the German Judenhetze, however, justified a departure from the usual rule. It will excite, especially in Germany, much more interest than a President's message. Mr. Beecher's views on the question have long been notorious. More than almost any other christian teacher, he seems to realize the debt which civilization owes to the Jews. From them, he maintains, the modern world received its ideas of morality, of religion, of family life, of reverence for women—in short, of almost everything that elevates and purifies humanity. Not even Lord Beaconsfield is a more devoted admirer of the Jews than Mr. Beecher. It is to be regretted that there are many Americans much less catholic in their sympathy and less christian in their charity; and the hotel-keepers who 'Boycott' Jews in Chicago and New York, it is to be feared, represent a feeling as genuinely American as the eloquent exhortation of Mr. Beecher in favor of complete religious liberty."

What They are Doing.

Ex-Confederate generals are, many of them, achieving fame and fornune in rosier paths than of old. Major-General Marmaduke is a Missouri railway commissioner, and, as a bachelor, lives comfortably in St. Louis on a salary of $5000 a year. General J. B. Gordon, as counsel for the Louisville and Nashville road, gets a salary of $14,000. Major-General F. B. Cheatham has a handsome farm in Tennessee. General Toombs practices law, and is very rich. General Basil Duke is a lawyer in Louisville, and has a good income: General Bradley Johnston is also getting rich in the same profession in Baltimore. All the sons of Robert E. Lee, except one, are moderately successful farmers in Virginia. The exception, Curtis Lee, succeeded his father as president of Washington-Lee University. General Jubal Early is living quietly at Lynchburg in comfortable circumstances. General J. C. Pemberton has become a resident of Philadelphia, is an invalid, and has written a book on Vicksburg.

Trying to Evade Payment.

NEW YORK, January 20.—Action has been begun by the Union Trust company against the Connecticut Life Insurance company to recover $5000 on a policy on the life of Wm. Orton, who died while president of the Western Union Telegraph company. The policy was issued to the Trust company as trustee for Mr. Orton's children. The defense claim that the statements in the application for the policy relative to the health of Mr. Orton were not accurate.

"FOR several years I have had Torpid Liver. A year ago I tried, as an experiment, Tutt's Pills, and was surprised to find that they accomplished all the results of Calomel without any of its bad effects. I was always an unbeliever in patent medicines, but am now conviced that there is some good in Nazareth."
E. H. GRAY, Augusta, Ga.

POINTS ON PANAMA.

Commander L. N. Bonaparte Wyse, of the French Navy, Gives His Reasons for Preferring the Panama to the Nicaragua Route for an Interoceanic Canal.

He is Glad that Grant Favors the Project, but Cannot Agree with Him as to Choice of Routes—Captain Eads's Ship Railway Scheme Not a New One.

New York *Tribune*, January 15th: Commander L. N. Bonaparte Wyse arrived from Paris with his family Thursday, and is at the Hotel Brunswick. He has been interested in interoceanic canal projects since 1868, and obtained the concession from the Colombian government to open an interoceanic canal across the Colombian territory. He told a *Tribune* reporter yesterday that while in command of two expeditions he obtained the concession in the name of an international society with which at the time DeLesseps had nothing to do. After he had surveyed four routes, completing the surveys made by order of the United States government, he decided that a level canal was the most desirable, and that between Aspinwall and Panama was the best route. An International congress in Paris examined the different surveys that had been made, and seventy-eight members advocated the Panama route, only eight being opposed to it. A contract was afterward made, he said, with DeLesseps to take charge of the financial part of the scheme, and when DeLesseps and the company had executed the conditions of the contract they would become the proprietors of the grant. The reporter asked Commodore Wyse for his opinion of General Grant's argument in favor of the Nicaragua route. "I am very glad," was the reply, "that General Grant is in favor of an interoceanic canal. As to his objection to the Panama route, that floods visit that region, they are quite as frequent in Nicaragua. We have done all that is necessary, however, to prevent any bad effects from them. We have only seven miles of swamp in the Panama route, while there are ten times as many in the Nicaragua route. I consider that objection, therefore, a very strong one against the Nicaragua route. The distance between New York and Aspinwall, which is a good harbor, is several miles shorter than the distance between New York and Greytown, where it is impossible to make a good harbor. The cost of the Panama canal, which is four times shorter than the Nicaragua, would be only $110,000,000, and DeLesseps has arranged with contractors to build it for that sum. I think the investment will be a very good one. The same objections that are made now against the Panama canal were made twenty-five years ago against the Suez canal, and now the shares of that company pay ten per cent., and each share of $100 has a value of $265. So I am entirely without anxiety about the financial success of the Panama canal scheme. One point of importance against the Nicaragua route is that, even if a concession from Nicaragua has been obtained, there must be another concession obtained from the republic of Costa Rica, because the canal must cross its territory. I therefore think the projectors of that route will have some difficulty in putting the two governments into perfect accord on that question. As to the American policy in regard to an interoceanic canal, I think that in a private international company, like the Company of Panama, there is nothing that could hurt American sentiment. The grant that I obtained forbade the interference of any other nation whatever. It states that the government of the Colombian republic declares neutral at all times the ports of both extremities of the canal, and the waters of the latter from one ocean to the other; and consequently, in case of war between other nations, the transit through the canal will not be interrupted. The mercantile marine and the people of all nations will be permitted to enter the ports mentioned without being disturbed or detained. Those excepted are the foreign troops, which cannot pass without the permission of congress, and the ships of the nations in war with the United States of Colombia which have not acquired the right of passage at all times by treaties. In fact, the only government that now possesses a privilege in regard to the canal is that of the United States, which in 1846 made a treaty with the Colombian government. So that if the canal were opened to-morrow the merchant ships of the world could pass through it, but only the men-of-war of the United States. I am, accordingly, convinced that in the Panama route not only would the commercial interests of the United States be greatly improved by it, but the political influence of the United States would be greater than ever." The reporter asked Commander Wyse's opinion of the manner in which the raising of subscriptions for the Panama scheme had been conducted. "For the present," he replied, "I have nothing to do with the financial management of the project. I think, however, that the subscriptions have been made in the usual way, as the scheme has been officially declared to have no protection from the French government. Its financial success has been principally due to the great success of the Suez canal, which is now paying so well. The traffic has so increased that the dividends will be large, and the value of the shares has attained, as I have said, a very high figure. Last year I was not so confident of the Panama scheme; but when I arrived in Paris from the Isthmus in March the Suez shares were quoted at $200, and I at once became more confident of the financial success of a similar enterprise like the Panama canal. I think the true interests of this country are so intimately connected with this enterprise that it is impossible that Americans, who are proverbially shrewd, should be against it. I speak of the business men and the great majority of the nation, and I am confident that very soon the enemies of the Panama canal scheme will be converted by seeing that there are no political or other reasons against it. England was opposed to the Suez canal some years ago, but now is in favor of it because of the great benefits that accrue to English commerce. The Suez canal has also been of great value in the war with India in the transportation of troops." Commander Wyse said he knew Captain Eads personally as a skillful engineer, but his plan of a ship railroad across the isthmus was not new. He remembered that several years ago another engineer submitted somewhat similar plans to him, but he did not think they were practical. Moreover, Captain Eads had not obtained concession from the government, and he thought it would be very difficult for him to obtain it. Lieutenant Wyse will go to Panama sometime next month to see the beginning of the work. There was much preparatory work, of course, to be done, he said, and not much of importance would probably be accomplished there before the next dry season, which would be in November.

Thompson's Talk.

WASHINGTON, January 20.—Ex-Secretary Thompson continued this morning his argument before the committee on foreign affairs against the application of the Monroe doctrine to the Panama canal project, and Captain Eads made a further argument before the house committee on the interoceanic canal in support of his plan for the interoceanic ship railroad.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES.

Clarendon, Arkansas, has no loafers.

The merchants of Huntsville, Alabama, complain of dull business.

The State normal school at Huntsville, Alabama, is filling up rapidly.

A reduction has been made in the price of baths at Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The school fund of Madison county, Alabama, is lower this year than last.

A firm in Columbus, Mississippi, bought, one day last week, 1500 bales of cotton.

Quite a number of citizens are leaving the vicinity of Wartrace, Tennessee, for California.

Seven stores and some smaller houses were burned at Birmingham, Alabama, Monday night.

J. H. Hayes was fatally wounded last Monday night in a house of bad repute at Natchez.

At Dyersburg, Tennessee, Bony Watkins, on trial for the murder of Zach Gleaves, has been acquitted.

South Arkansians report that this is the severest winter experienced in that country for thirty-seven years.

A new coal mine will soon be opened near Birmingham, Alabama, and will have its own road to that place.

Absalom Walker, colored, was run over by a Memphis and Charleston train near Decatur, Alabama, Sunday and killed.

In order to get rid of the bar-rooms, Lebanon, Tennessee, desires to have its charter abolished, after a corporate existence of sixty-three years.

A heavy snow-storm prevailed Monday night in western Texas, being especially severe in the country adjacent to the western terminus of the Texas and Pacific railroad.

The late grand jury at Huntsville, Alabama, was prevented from thoroughly investigating offenses by the fact that witnesses eluded the officers to escape service.

At Van Buren, Arkansas, Monday, two colored boys quarreled and Reeves shot and killed Drake.

The Mississippi Valley Cotton Planters association held its monthly meeting at Vicksburg Tuesday.

J. B. Rosenfeld, one of the leading Jewish merchants at Holly Springs, Mississippi, made an assignment Tuesday.

A negro named Bill Lemons was fatally shot at Marshall, Texas, Tuesday, it is supposed by another negro named Crossly.

Mrs. McDonald, recently prevented from drowning herself and infant, escaped from jail at Dallas, Texas, Monday night, and is supposed to have accomplished her purpose.

Mrs. McCurry, Miss Fanny Susong and Anderson Hamilton were drowned in the Nullachucky river, in Green county, Tennessee, while crossing the river in a wagon a few days ago.

The case of the State *vs.* D. A. Holman was called last Monday at Greenville, Mississippi, and an order directed to the sheriff of Washington county to summon a special venire from the body of the county.

Tony Allen, an old negro, long a resident of Arkansas City, died mysteriously some days ago, and Tony's wife and one Cæsar Shine, her paramour, were arrested and the contents of Tony's stomach will be analyzed.

Last week, near Strawberry Plains, Tennessee, two brothers named Vance quarreled, and John stabbed William, breaking off the blade of his pocket knife in the latter's back, inflicting wounds which will probably prove fatal.

Notice is given in the Arkansas City *Journal* that application will be made to the present general assembly of Arkansas for the abolition of the county of Chicot, and the formation of its territory into a taxing-district, under control of three or five commissioners.

"DINAH MORRIS."

Genesis of the Character—An Aunt who was Given to Fanatical Vehemence of Exhortation.

A Private Letter from George Eliot to Her Friend, Miss Sara Bennell, of Coventry.

A recent edition of the *Pall Mall Gazette* prints the annexed interesting letter from George Eliot, not hitherto made public:

HOLLY LODGE, October 7, 1859.

DEAR SARA—I should like, while the subject is vividly present with me, to tell you more exactly than I have ever yet done, what I knew of my aunt, Elizabeth Evans. My father, you know, lived in Warwickshire all my life with him, having finally left Staffordshire first, and then Derbyshire, six or seven years before he married my mother. There was hardly any intercourse between my father's family, resident in Derbyshire and Staffordshire, and our family—few and far between visit (of to my childish feeling) strange uncles and aunts and cousins from my father's far-off native country, and once a journey of my own, as a little child, with my father and mother, to see my Uncle William, a rich builder, in Staffordshire—but not my uncle and Aunt Samuel, so far as I can recall the dim outline of things—are what I remember of northerly relatives in my childhood. But when I was seventeen or more—after my sister was married, and I was mistress of the house—my father took a journey into Derbyshire in which, visiting my uncle and Aunt Samuel, who were very poor, and lived in an humble cottage at Wirksworth, he found my aunt in a very delicate state of health after a serious illness, and, to do her bodily good, he persuaded her to return with him, telling her that I should be very, very happy to have her with me for a few weeks. I was then strongly under the influence of Evangelical belief, and earnestly endeavoring to shape this anomalous English christian life of ours into some consistency with the spirit and simple verbal tenor of the New Testament. I was delighted to see my aunt. Although I had only heard her spoken of as a strange person, given to a fanatical vehemence of exhortation in private as well as public, I believed that I should find sympathy between us. She was then an old woman—above sixty—and, I believe, had for a good many years given up preaching. A tiny little woman, with bright, small dark eyes, and hair that had been black, I imagine, but was now gray—a pretty woman in her youth, but of a totally different physical type from "Dinah." The difference—as you will believe—was not simply physical: no difference is. She was a woman of strong natural excitability, which I know, from the description I have heard my father and half-sister give, prevented her from the exercise of discretion under the promptings of her zeal. But this vehemence was now subdued by age and sickness; she was very gentle and quiet in her manners—very loving—and (what she must have been from the very first) a truly religious soul, in whom the love of God and love of man were fused together. There was nothing highly distinctive in her religious conversation. I had had much intercourse with pious Dissenters before. The only freshness I found, in our talk, came from the fact that she had been the greater part of her life a Wesleyan, and though she left the society when women were no longer allowed to preach, and joined the New Wesleyans, she retained the character of thought that belongs to the genuine old Wesleyan. I had never talked with a Wesleyan before, and we used to have little debates about predestination, for I was then a strong Calvinist. Here her superiority came out, and I remember now, with loving admiration, one thing which at the time I disapproved. It was not strictly in consequence of her Arminian belief, and at first sight might seem opposed to it, yet it came from the spirit of love which clings to the bad logic of Arminianism. When my uncle came to fetch her after she had been with us a fortnight or three weeks, he was speaking of a deceased minister, once greatly respected, who from the action of trouble upon him had taken to small tipling, though otherwise not culpable. "But I hope the good man's in heaven for all that," said my uncle. "Oh, yes," said my aunt, with a deep inward groan of joyful conviction. "Mr. A's in heaven—that's sure." This was at the time an offense to my stern ascetic hard views—how beautiful it is to me now! "As to my aunt's conversation, it is a fact that the only two things of any interest I remember in our lonely sittings and walks are her telling me one sunny afternoon how she had, with another pious woman, visited an unhappy girl in prison, stayed with her all night, and gone with her to execution, and one or two accounts of supposed miracles in which she believed—among the rest, the face with the crown of thorns seen in the glass. In her account of the prison scenes, I remember no word she uttered—I only remember her tone and manner, and the deep feeling I had under the recital. Of the girl she knew nothing, I believe—or told me nothing—but that she was a common, coarse girl, convicted of child-murder. The incident lay in my mind for years and years, as a dead germ, apparently—till time had made my mind a nidus in which it could fructify; it then turned out to be the germ of *Adam Bede*. I saw my aunt twice after this. I spent a day and night with my father in the Wirksworth cottage, sleeping with my aunt, I remember. Our interview was less interesting than in the former time: I think I was less simply devoted to religious ideas. And once again she came with my uncle to see me—when father and I were living at Foleshill; then there were some pain, for I had given up the form of christian belief, and was in a crude state of free-thinking. This is all I remember distinctly, as matter I could write down, of my dear aunt, whom I really loved. You see how she suggested "Dinah;" but it is not possibly you should see as I do how entirely her individuality differed from "Dinah's." How curious it seems to me that people should think "Dinah's" sermon, prayers and speeches were copied—when they were written with hot tears, as they surged up in my own mind! As to my indebtedness to facts of *locale* and personal history of a small kind connected with Staffordshire and Derbyshire, you may imagine of what kind that is when I tell you that I never remained in either of those two counties more than a few days together, and of only two such visits have I more than a shadowy, interrupted recollection. The details which I knew as facts, and have made use of for my picture, were gathered from such imperfect allusion and narrative as I heard from my father in his occasional talk about old times. As to aunt's children or grandchildren saying, if they did say, that "Dinah" is a good portrait of my aunt, that is simply the vague, easily satisfied notion imperfectly instructed people always have of portraits. It is not surprising that simple men and women without pretension to enlightened discrimination should think a generic resemblance constitutes a portrait, when we see the great public so accustomed to be delighted with misrepresentations of life and character, which they accept as representations, that they are scandalized when art makes a nearer approach to truth. Perhaps I am doing a superfluous thing in writing all this to you; but I am prompted to do it by the feeling that in future years *Adam Bede* and all that concerns it may have become a dim portion of the past, and I may not be able to recall so much of the truth as I have now told you. Once more, thanks, dear Sara. Ever your loving MARIAN.

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