NEWS FROM THE OLD-WORLD CAPITALS—BY CABLE TO THE REPUBLIC.

GERMANY FEARS A TARIFF WAR.

Reports That Treaty Negotiations Had Ceased at Washington Created a Sensation.

ARMY AFFAIRS DISCUSSED.

German Press Report Cronje's Defeat and Praise Him for His Gallant Resistance—No Visit From Leyds.

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Berlin, Feb. 24.—The receipt of the news from Washington indicating the cessation of the commercial negotiations with Germany has created a sensation here. Mr. Andrew D. White, the United States Ambassador, said to the correspondent of the Associated Press: "I interpret the reports I Washington authorities give to the most recent shape of the meat inspection bill. If the bill is adopted in its present shape it will cause a bitter tariff war between the United States and Germany, to which, I believe, the latter will get the worst of it. The United States could cause the greatest trouble by opening every bottle of German wine and investigating every stocking, etc. Of course, it would be a mere pretext, but it would be no worse than they have done with our meat, which the world recognizes as excellent. The German Government officials already express satisfaction with the American inspection, and we have never objected to another stringent inspection here, if it is done for sanitary reasons and not as a hindrance to trade.

"I understand the German Government is opposed to the present form of the bill."

The correspondent understood from a member of the embassy that the Foreign Office did not know the actual status of the negotiations in Washington, and asked the embassy a few days since for information on the subject. A responsible Foreign Office official said to the correspondent to-day:

"I have no information regarding a hitch in the proceedings in Washington, but do not attach importance to the latest news. The negotiations will proceed in a conciliatory spirit, as heretofore. Germany recognizes that some of the United States agricultural products are necessary for Germany, like cotton and others. The American Government at the commencement of the negotiations was in favor of secrecy till definite results were reached. That was the only reason for preserving silence here."

The Reichstag this week was engrossed with army affairs. Herr Bebel, the Socialist leader, and a few others, uncovering a number of abuses which had hitherto remained in the dark. The War Minister, General von Gossler, replied heatedly and succeeded in explaining satisfactorily most of the cases, though a few of the worst remain. General von Gossler even had the courage to defend them, though not a single party in the Reichstag sided with him.

Von Gossler rather defended the army itself as an institution hallowed by tradition and, with all its shortcomings, the best system to extend and preserve esprit de corps and the high standard of personal honor in the army. He showed that the number of duels was steadily diminishing and that the same is the case in the number of soldiers committing suicide because of cruel treatment. A number of the Center speakers strongly pronounced themselves against duelling. Herr Dasbach putting a large part of the blame upon the Emperor, because the latter usually pardons duellists who are sentenced to a short term in a fortress for killing an adversary, often under peculiarly atrocious circumstances, to several of which Herr Dasbach referred. While this duelist will succeed in showing a reduction in the percentage of such abuses the general impression, nevertheless, was that the army, as a whole, is in an inferable condition, the officers being animated by the best spirit. Nobody even hinted at corruption and nobody showed evidence of favoritism.

The German press is now convinced that the British have really defeated General Cronje, and that the latter's position is desperate. Sympathies here remain on the Boer side. Even Herr Eugene Richter, the Radical leader, in an editorial, speaks admiringly of General Cronje's gallant resistance against a fourfold force. The Neueste Nachrichten and many other papers scold the British Generals for the lack of chivalry shown to the enemy. It is quite plain, however, that the current of German feeling is gradually but steadily changing in favor of Great Britain.

The semiofficial press is exerting itself to that end, and even the Kreuz Zeitung, the army and court organ, which, until recently, was Anglophobe, now strongly points out that it is to Germany's interest to remain friendly with Great Britain. The paper enumerates the reasons why it is impossible for Germany to keep the British as a friend, especially after their immoral neutrality in 1870, 1895 and 1899, and the "consistent enmity" the British have shown Germany's colonial policy, and the rising German commerce. The paper then says:

"Notwithstanding this, England's downfall would mean a distinct disadvantage to Germany in every part of the globe. Therefore, it is no part of German patriotism to uphold the cause of England's enemies."

Doctor Leyds, the diplomatic agent of the Transvaal, writes from Brussels that he will be unable to come to Berlin in the middle of March, as he had promised, "because the present turn of war" engrosses him.

The German financial press point out that the Russian loan to Persia liberates the Province of Persistan, whose harbor revenues have hitherto been pledged to Great Britain.

The Emperor has summoned Captain Lauff to witness the first performance of the "Iron Tooth" (Eisen Zahn), Tuesday, at the Royal Theater here, of which his Majesty is a collaborator. The performance is looked forward to with deep interest, the Emperor having insisted on novel scenic costuming and a number of improvements. The highest Prussian court has decided the American title of doctor cannot be used in Prussia without a special permit from the Government.

The United States Consul at Cologne, Mr. John A. Barnes, and Mrs. Barnes, dined a number of other Consuls in Cologne Washington's Birthday. Among the guests were Consul Phelps and family, Consul Bunnage and family, Consul Brodowski and Doctor Leonard, the British Consul to Cologne. The toasts drank were in honor of Washington, President McKinley, Queen Victoria and Emperor William.

Mme. Etelka Gerster, during the week gave a musical here, at which Mrs. Wood of Salt Lake and Miss Keeling of Chicago sang.

TURKEY GIVES WAY.

Will Change Plans of Exposition Buildings for America.

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Paris, Feb. 24.—Professor Benj. D. Woodward, assistant United States Commissioner to the Paris Exposition, has just secured a victory in a dispute with the Turkish exposition commissioner regarding the construction of the latter's building, which according to the original plans, threatened to seriously obstruct the view of the United States building. The Turkish commission has now been induced to make some important structural modifications of its buildings which will give the American edifice the prominence worthy of its importance. Professor Woodward in announcing the satisfactory settlement, acknowledges the active and valuable support which he received from United States Ambassador Porter in conducting the negotiations.

FRANCE MAY STOP BULL FIGHTING.

Parliamentary Committee Also Is Hostile to Cock and Dog Contests to the Death.

INFLUENZA VERY PREVALENT.

Sarah Bernhardt Overcome by Disagreeable Weather—Theaters Object to the Poor Tax—News and Gossip.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Paris, Feb. 24.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.) Parisian theater managers have made an abortive attempt to raise the prices of seats, which means that what they wanted was to make spectators pay the poor tax instead of paying it themselves.

All theaters must pay one-tenth of their gross receipts to the Assistance Publique, which is the great charity organization of Paris. Under this plan, primarily adopted by the managers, any one taking a ticket for a 10-franc seat would pay 11 francs, the extra franc being for the Assistance Publique, and for it a separate ticket would be given.

The poor tax on the theaters is an old grievance with the managers. It had its origin in the old days, in order to protect the church from loss in almsgiving, which would result from people going to the theater. So a tax of 10 per cent was levied on the gross receipts.

The managers claim that since then the theaters have undergone a social revolution, and that the stage is now a branch of trade or industry, just like any other which supplies the luxuries of life, and they denounce the poor-tax law as antiquated.

The attempt of the managers to make the public pay the tax by an addition to the present price of a seat met with a storm of opposition from the Paris press.

Among those who denounced the measure was M. Gustave Cirromme, who has succeeded Sarcey as the dramatic critic of the Temps. He says:

"The managers are thinking of the exposition, and getting ready to fleece visitors and Parisians as much as possible. Theater seats being dearer in Paris than in any other capital, they hoped to find or make a plausible pretext to make an increase in the price acceptable, first to Parisians and then to visitors, for the public has been paying the poor tax for a long time past, and the increase in price contemplated by the managers would make the public pay the tax twice."

Public Pays the Tax.

M. Cirromme points out that formerly a spectator took two tickets, one at the box office and another at the Assistance Publique, but that for the sake of economizing time and trouble the two sums were joined together and the public paid both at once.

M. Cirromme says:

"The sums taken every evening by the Assistance Publique out of the managers' receipts come out of the pocket of the public, not the managers'."

"The exposition, so long counted on by the managers, may be reserving a great disappointment for them. There will be many theatrical attractions at the exposition and the dearer the seats are at the boulevard theaters the more one will be tempted to go to the exposition."

Since then the managers have held another meeting and as a result the present situation is that the public will not pay dearer for seats, but each person, for instance, taking a 3-franc seat, will receive two tickets, one being a receipt for 2 francs for the seat and the other for 1 franc for the poor tax.

In this way the managers think that they will bring home to the public the nature of the law.

One of the principal events of the week in the musical and dramatic world has been the production of "Siegfried" at the Theater des Arts at Rouen.

Paris, which is so proud of its artistic preeminence, has not yet seen the Wagner masterpiece. Selections from its music have been played for concerts, but there has been no dramatic representation of the work.

Paris critics went to Rouen in a disdainful frame of mind. Like Balaam, they went to curse; but, behold! they could do nothing but bless.

The performance was not perfect. It was not like Bayreuth, but still, all things considered, it was excellent. The artists were all unknown to the general public. M. Dalmores, the tenor, who made fame as Siegfried, was a musician in the orchestra a year ago.

A matinee performance is to be given on Sunday, and cheap excursion trains will be run from Paris in connection with the performance.

Musical people in Paris are hoping that the Rouen company will come to Paris and give a performance here.

Influenza Prevalent.

Everybody in Paris has something the matter with him or her. He has just had influenza, or is going to have, or, at the very best, has a bad cold.

The prevailing maladies, due to a long spell of damp, cold weather, have not respected those inviolable persons, the members of the Chamber of Deputies.

Rather a sensation has been caused in Paris by the success of a cure for influenza, invented by a member of the Chamber, who is also a doctor. He is credited with having made some extraordinary cures among his colleagues.

Doctor Bornes gives the following as the remedy:

During the first day take a tablespoonful of the following mixture every fifteen minutes: Chloroform water, 60 grammes; magnesia, 8 grammes; salol, 1 gramme; betol, 1 gramme; antifebrine, 1 gramme, and orange flower strup, 25 grammes.

For the following day have twenty sachets made of the following: Magnesia, 10 grammes; betol, 5 grammes; salol, 2 grammes 50, and terpine, 2 grammes 50. Take two sachets in the morning on getting up, and two at night on going to bed.

President Loubet, M. Waldeck Rousseau, the Premier, and M. Deschanel, President of the Chamber of Deputies, are said to have been saved from severe attacks of influenza by means of this cure.

Some of the papers are taking the Academie de Medecine to task for not issuing some kind of official statement as to how to treat influenza under the present trying circumstances.

Even the remarkable physical strength of Mme. Sarah Bernhardt has not been proof against the unhealthiness of the season. A few nights ago, while playing "Hamlet," after having been out of sorts all day, she fainted on the stage, and would have fallen had not the actors, Mme. Calmettes and Chamey, caught her. The audience had to go home, and had its money refunded at the door, and Mme. Sarah was obliged to stop acting for a few days.

Cabmen Dissatisfied.

Paris cabmen have at last taken drastic measures to improve their condition. This is in view of the large increase of business expected during the Exposition.

They claim that their present terms with the cabowners do not permit of their making a respectable living, they being charged a minimum of 24 or 25 francs ($4.80 or $5) a day for the cabs which they drive.

A deputation of Radical Socialist Deputies of Paris called upon M. Waldeck-Rousseau on behalf of the cabmen, and in their grievances before him. The Deputies directed the Minister's attention to the necessity of securing an adequate cab supply during the Exposition, and they spoke of the high rate exacted by cab owners, and asked that, as the Hotelkeepers scheme had fallen through, the Government should consider the following proposals:

First—That a maximum daily rate be fixed by cab owners for daily rental.

Second—The establishment of a means covered between cabmen and the public during the Exposition.

Third—The Government should bring about a conference between cab owners and cabmen.

A somewhat curious, though frequently authentic, story of a well-known Paris lady has been going the round in sporting circles lately.

In 1899, or thereabouts, a bet about which was put in writing was made between this lady and the Marquis de Castellane, to the effect that if three races had been decided on the Longchamp race course, and the bell had rung for a fourth, all the jockeys save one, who was on the weighing scales, and the missing knight of the plush could not be found.

He was to have ridden the favorite—Rose Bulbets—and will all were searched, one in vain. The owner, wrote the Marquis, was to be had not a sporting chance. The stewards, growing impatient, decided that the favorite's number should be taken down, and all bets declared void and void.

"I'll ride the Rose if you'll let me," said a pale-faced youth, who was listening to the conversation. "I know horses well, and horses know me."

There was no time to lose. "Jump into the scales," said the owner. The lad pulled just over the weight. Out went the horses, down went the flag, and in a couple of minutes the race was run, and the stranger on the favorite, after a rattling finish, had won.

"You're my mother," said the delighted owner, when the cheering had ceased. "Tell me your name."

"I'm but a poor jockey, monsieur," was the reply; "and I only came here yesterday to see if I could pick up enough to get a fresh start again."

It is unnecessary to state that he left the racing with a fixed fortune.

With this he bought a ticket, and from that time it is said that his fortune was made, for he died but a week or so ago, and, after the funeral service at Notre Dame, was buried with pomp in Père Lachaise.

His name was Xavier Rizet, the massive millionaire proprietor of the Revue Des Lundis de Ville and Municipal Councillor for the city of Paris.

He was regretted by all who knew him, for his charities were great.

The last runs with the pen hounds were not brilliant, but they were merry, for after ten minutes over fine country, the hounds unfortunately caught the first fox. Yet, about as was the gallop, there were several empty saddles. A second fox was run hard and for a considerable time. He finally took refuge on the roof of a barn, but was dislodged by Walter, the huntsman, who climbed up. He was soon run into and the brush was awarded to Miss Stockport.

American Hounds on Trial.

Six couples of American hounds were presented to the hunt by Mr. Forney Morgan, who, through Colonel Edward Maxwell, procured them in the United States last autumn. They are now being tried. They are certainly not so attractive as the neat, powerful English fox hounds, but they possess the great merit, plenty of tongue and fine noses. They are somewhat big and sedate, and it is doubtful if they ever show the dash and fire for which the English hounds are famous.

It is satisfactory to note that one form of sport is likely to be put down in France. Bull fighting is likely to be put down, for the Parliamentary Committee, appointed three years ago to report on the best method of imposing the Grammont law for preventing cruelty to animals, has at length agreed on its terms.

The committee is in favor of suppressing all forms of combats, games or spectacles destined to put death in public places, or places open to the public. This will apply to bull fighting, cock and dog fights.

The report, however, specifies that the new measure is not to be applied either to hunting or to pigeon shooting, upon the grounds that the hounds used for hunting, though liable to be killed, are not intended to be so, and the pigeons are put to death without preliminary ill treatment.

Payment of the bicycle tax in France is proved by a small plate affixed to the machine every year, but the Government now proposes to have plates good for four years. The holder must have his name and address engraved at his own expense, but he is supplied with new plates when necessary, presenting the fragments of the old.

Should he cease to own a bicycle, he must at once deposit his plate to have his name struck off the list of persons liable to the tax.

Many alarming reports have been published about the health of Paris, in which typhoid fever, influenza and smallpox are said to be raging.

As regards the two first, there is no cause for alarm. Smallpox cannot be said to be prevalent, but the Figaro admits that there may be some danger of an outbreak, and publishes an article strongly urging every one to submit to vaccination.

HELD FOR ARSON.

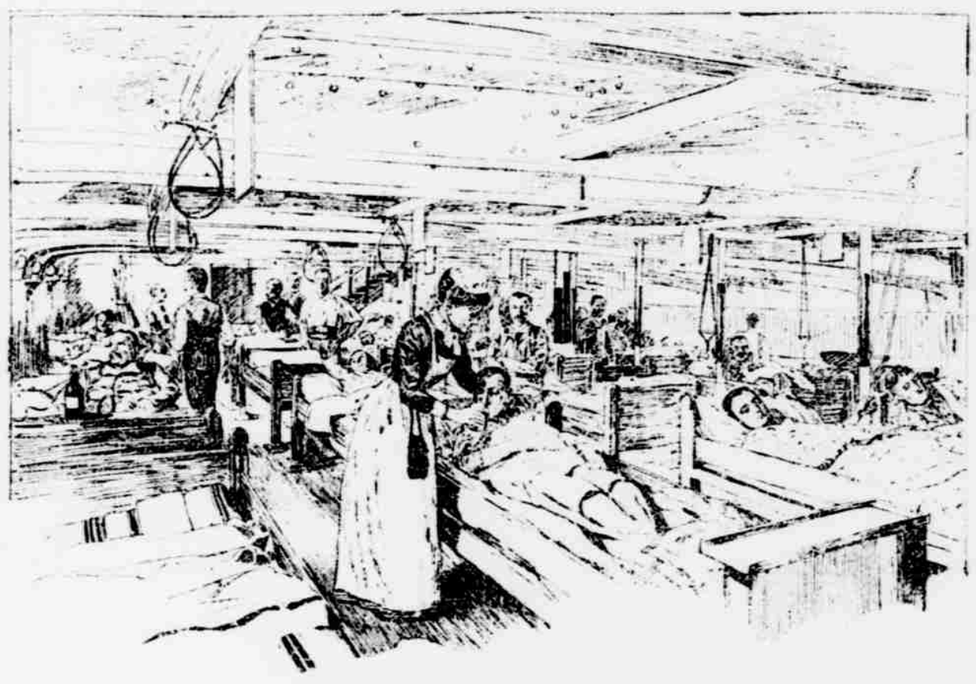
Julius Hampton Attempted to Burn Spencer Academy.

SPECIAL.

Antlers, I. T., Feb. 24.—Julius Hampton, a Choctaw boy, about 14 years old, has been placed in the United States jail at this place for attempting to burn Spencer Academy, of which he was a pupil. He poured kerosene oil on the side of the dormitory and struck a match to it, but the flames were discovered in time to save the building. He admits his guilt and gave as an excuse that he was tired of going to school and wanted to destroy the building.

Spencer Academy is the property of the Choctaw Nation and accommodates 100 boys at the expense of the Choctaw Nation. Three years ago it was burned by some of the boys, and six lives were lost. Two of the boys were held by the United States Commissioner, but the Grand Jury ignored the case.

Hampton will have a hearing before United States Commissioner Backett.



A WARD IN THE HOSPITAL SHIP "LISMORE CASTLE."

COUNT CASTELLANE LOOSE IN PARIS.

No Blood Has Yet Been Spilled, but a Libel Suit Is to Be Filed.

BONI'S FATHER IS ANGERED.

He Applies Epithets to Editor De Rodays, Whose Blood Refuses to Boil, and Paris Holds Its Breath.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Paris, Feb. 24.—(Copyright, 1900, by W. R. Hearst.) Count Boni de Castellane, breathing fire, at just a boiling point, was in his seat in the Chamber of Deputies this evening. He was the center of a group composed of Nationalists of the De Rodays stripe, and of arbitrators like the Duc de Broglie. They were congratulating him on the stand he has taken against the attacks of the Dreyfusard organs, and especially of Le Figaro.

The Salle des Pas Perdus echoed talk of dueling. The question, "Will De Rodays fight?" was asked a thousand times and answered according to the political predilections of the speakers.

No one doubts that Castellane will fight if he gets a chance. No one doubts that he will slap De Rodays's face if they meet. That he will do all in his power to provoke a challenge is certain. The only question is what De Rodays will do when confronted by an insult that no Frenchman can stand with honor.

The editor of Le Figaro has taken more from Count Boni's father, the Marquis de Castellane, than most Frenchmen would consider compatible with their self-respect. The Marquis has called him Judas, traitor, mulatto, etc., but he has exhausted the vocabulary of Ratcliffe in seeking epithets that would sting the editor into resentment and challenge.

The Marquis was, and is, ready to fight for the family honor. But De Rodays's blood refuses to boil. He continues editing his paper and replying only in such mottoes as "Barking dogs never bite."

Paris is delighted. It hopes for a real duel with some one killed. And, unless De Rodays is the coward that the Marquis de Castellane says he is, Paris is going to be satisfied.

One thing is certain, Count Boni will sue Le Figaro for libel.

The moon came up red to-night.

It is said that the Exposition authorities are urging Count Boni not to do anything that would increase the excitement of the exhibition.

SHE PINES FOR THE DUKE.

Duchess of Marlborough Anxious During Separation.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Nice, Feb. 24.—(Copyright, 1900, by W. R. Hearst.)—There has been the most marked fraternization between Russians and Americans on the Riviera this year.

The Grand Duke Michael and the Vanderbilts almost live in the same house. The other day W. K. Vanderbilt gave a luncheon aboard the Valiant in honor of the Grand Duke. Others present were Mrs. Winslow of Paris and the Countess Lorby.

Mr. Vanderbilt gave a dinner in a hotel at Monte Carlo in honor of the Grand Duke Michael, at which the Countess Lorby was present; also the Duchess of Marlborough and Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt, Jr.

The Grand Duke gave a luncheon in return, and all the Vanderbilts, except Mrs. Belmont, the Countess Lorby and Mrs. Winslow were present.

The Duchess of Marlborough looks far from well. She takes an hour's drive daily, but keeps to her room the rest of the day. That she is pining at separation from the Duke is betrayed by her anxious face.

Social re-enforcements have reached Mrs. Belmont and her daughter, the Duchess of Marlborough, at Monte Carlo. These consist of Matchmaker Blandford and Lady Spencer Churchill.

PROSECUTED A PARIS CABMAN.

Americans Secured His Sentence of Eight Days in Jail.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Paris, Feb. 24.—(Copyright, 1900, by W. R. Hearst.)—The United States have been mixed in evidence this week in Paris. To begin with, Mrs. Andrews of Chicago and her two daughters have won a signal and hitherto unprecedented victory over the Paris cabmen.

It is well known that Paris cabmen are terrors to all foreigners. Take particular one who had refused to drive Mrs. Andrews and her daughters by the hour because it was raining. Mrs. Andrews had the offending cabman brought into court, and he was condemned to eight days' imprisonment. The result is that Mrs. Andrews is the hero of the hour.

The arrival of the Paris with the second cargo of exhibits for the International Exposition directs public attention to the fact that the United States section is further advanced than that of any other country. All heads of departments are now here and an unwieldly multitude of clerks tumble over each other in the United States offices in Avenue Kapp. The only "kicker" there to-day was Director-in-Chief Baker, who said the preparations for his department—the most exhibit were already in hand.

The United States are also in evidence in the law courts this week. A Boston lawyer named Burnett is suing the largest hotel in Paris to make it prove its honesty. The lawyer found a large sum of money last summer in the hotel and turned it over to the proprietor, with instructions to find the owner and give him the money. Now he sues the proprietor to make him prove that he has done so.

Commissioner General Peck of the United States exhibit has appointed an Advisory Board in Paris, which will bring down upon him a peck of trouble as soon as he arrives here. The personnel of this Advisory Board is made up of the French agents of American life insurance companies. Americans are asking indirectly, also, did Peck appoint foreigners upon the United States Advisory Board? Members of the American Chamber of Commerce are especially loud in their denunciations.

TROUBLES IN MARTINIQUE.

American Agitators Are Held Responsible by French Press.

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Paris, Feb. 24.—In spite of the resolution by official circles and the Deputies for Martinique of not sympathy for an overture in the newspapers that American political agitators are responsible for the troubles in Martinique, the newspaper which have mentioned originally to this statement has relinquished to the charge, publishing under the caption, "American Intriguers," an interview with an enthusiastic Martinique planter, in which it reiterates the accusations against Americans and says: "The activity of their agents is such that several times recently American corvettes visited Martinique waters and under the very eyes of the colonial authorities, took a sounding."

The article concludes by asking "Are what the Governor of the island and the Cabinet are thinking of to permit these outrages. These attacks in themselves might be of little importance, but an article in an influential journal, such as the Figaro, shows that suspicion of America exists in some political circles concerning Martinique. The Figaro article said that the United States was following events with jealous eyes and that the agents of Martinique hope to initiate their brethren of San Domingo and that the United States, which already exercises a disfranchised protectorate over San Domingo, would not be sorry to see them follow the same road, which will lead through suppression of parliamentary representation to annexation as a result.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS.

London Convention to Be a Success Despite the War.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, Feb. 24.—(Copyright, 1900, by W. R. Hearst.)—Leaders of the Christian Endeavor movement deplored the war, apart from its physical and moral effects before it broke out. Their imaginations ran loose on the huge proportions the convention they had arranged for midsummer in London would assume.

They talked of repositioning Wembley Park and a half dozen large halls. Ten thousand delegates from America alone were expected. Now there have been modifications, both in expectations and arrangements. The Reverend F. C. Meyer, who will preside at the convention, in an interview to-day said:

"The war has had a dampening effect on our preparations, but despite its influence I am hopeful that the convention will be largely attended.

"We desire as many of your American Christian Endeavorers as possible to come over. We are preparing a great welcome for them. Their comfort will be attended to as far as human foresight can arrange.

Alexandra Palace has been engaged. Many tents, some from America, will be pitched. Accommodation will be found in the palace for those caring to sleep there. If the weather is warm we intend utilizing the tents.

"We shall be disappointed if the delegates from America number less than 5,000. I am expecting 4,000. Altogether there will be between 20,000 and 30,000 at the convention. The reception will be held in Albert Hall on July 14, but the meetings won't begin until the 16th and will go on till the 20th. Many leading Bishops in the Church of England will speak. From America we shall have, among a host, Dr. Clark, Pentecost, Lorimer and the Reverend Charles M. Sheldon."

PARIS CARNIVAL.

Festivities Opened With a Grand Mask Ball.

Paris, Feb. 24.—Paris to-night entered upon the carnival season, which will bring a few days' gayety to the boulevards before the advent of Lent. The festivities opened with a mask ball at the opera-house to-night. Great preparations had been made for this event, and the scene in the magnificent hall was one of exceptional brilliancy. Thousands of colored balloons and serpentines were distributed among the guests as weapons for the mimic battles among the merry throng. Sunday at La Villette, where the famous abattoirs of Paris are situated.

Sunday evening the public will be in fete. An allegorical procession will traverse the district and in the evening public balls will take place in the open air in the chief squares, which will be especially illuminated with electric lights. The usual Mardi Gras procession along the boulevards will take place Tuesday, and in the evening bands will be stationed in the squares for the benefit of the working classes, who will double in dancing in the open spaces about the band stands.

The students have obtained from the prefect of police permission to introduce an innovation in its Mardi Gras celebration in the form of a grand nocturnal cavalcade with flambeaux and illuminated cards representing the various schools.

MR. SPRAGUE SAYS

The Delmonicos earn $600,000 yearly for light. This means liberal management.

ENGLAND MAY FIGHT FRANCE.

British Sentiment Seems to Favor a Reckoning With That Country After Boer War.

BITTER FEELING AROUSED.

Englishmen Smart Under the Gibes and Criticisms of the French Press—Duc d'Orleans Is Unpopular.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, Feb. 24.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—Nothing I can remember has been so interesting as to study the representative Englishman during the last week, so full of history making and stirring events.

There has been also lively rocking during the war which has so aroused in every Englishman and Englishwoman as Lord Kitchener's words to General Cronje when the latter asked for an armistice: "Your surrender or you fight it out."

When the brief telegram containing this decision came it was the first hour of Holiday, just after midnight. Royalty and fashionable London were pouring out of Covent Garden Opera-house off to the inevitable London supper which follows the evening. I happened to be at the Carlton when the news was received off the "ticker." It passed around from table to table.

The one remark among ladies and men alike was: "Well done! that's right!" followed with comments as to the perfidious methods of the Boers.

Perhaps public opinion is best represented in the words of Ned Donnelly, a professor of the gentle art of fisticuffs, whom I met this morning. He said: "Why, sir, that's the best thing I know of since the war began. It just appeals to me. It's exactly like boxing. Do you think I am going to let my opponent have a breathing time just when I have got him licked? Not a bit of it. That's the time to start in to punish him all the harder."

But to deny that anxiety has been universal would be untrue. Every one has sensed that the operations being conducted against Cronje were of vital importance in the progress of the campaign; that every sacrifice was justifiable to attain victory. What would have astonished French and Germans, whose one desire is to see the English in fear, would have been to witness the absolute equanimity with which the public here watched events, and its absolute confidence in the ultimate success of the British arms.

May Fight France Next.

Apropos of the French in trying here to reflect clearly English sentiment at the present moment it would be omitting one strong point were I not to mention the strongly growing sentiment constantly expressed that war with France at a later and not remote date is inevitable when this war is over. The opinion is growing very fast that England is speedily drawing close to a day of reckoning with France, and that war will have to come. Such is the common talk. That time is placed after the Exhibition. Not one item of France's taunts or gibes will be forgotten. England, with Chamberlain at the helm, filled with warlike sentiment, which to-day saturates all, even women and children, will certainly give France the opportunity which her newspapers rather profess her to be anxious for, that is to try conclusions with this country.

This feeling is all the more strengthened by the knowledge of an understanding between the Kaiser and Queen, which leaves Germany free action in Asia Minor in return for England's free action in South Africa.

That the Duke of Orleans should have come out of his way to give an interview to a death-rate French paper, in which he abuses England, and that he should have written to Willette, the artist, congratulating him upon the scandalous caricatures of the Queen, is going to have further results than that pretender anticipated.

If there is one thing the Prince of Wales is peculiarly sensitive about, it is these caricatures in La Rire. His Royal Highness's attention has already been drawn to the damning evidence which the St. James Gazette brings from its Paris correspondent, Mr. Strong, as to the admission made by the artist, Willette, of having received a complimentary letter from the Duc. Both the Queen and the Prince of Wales have been particularly kind to the Duc, but he need scarcely look for any more courtesies from the same quarter, unless he publishes a vindication from the charges made against him.

That Caricature Again.

The St. James Gazette comes back to the charge and says:

"We published yesterday a letter from our Paris correspondent, giving some information about the proceedings of the Duc d'Orleans, which should be made known in this country as widely as possible. Like many another who has found his native land too hot for him, the French pretender finds hospitality in England. He is unmolested, and has every reason to be grateful. Yet from there he has been sending to France statements about England couched in the language which one of the least squeamish of Parisian gutter sheets has found impossible to print. This man, who claims the throne, and should at least have the manners of a gentleman, admits having sent his royal congratulations to the author of a disgustingly obscene caricature of our Queen. This is an insult which Englishmen will refuse to forgive."

I am told by an authority on South Africa, Mr. Purdy, who has lived all over that country, that the crushing out of Cronje means that the war will not last three weeks. His opinion I find echoed by those who have had experience with the Boers. The city, which is not often at fault, takes the same view, backing its opinion with its money. The rise which has taken place brought rands almost to their former palmy position in the market.

This has been done entirely from the inside, for the public apparently will not come in at any price. Berlin, it is true, has helped, fairly heavy buying orders having come from there.

The Berlin Stock Exchange takes the strategical view of the situation, and is buying.

Perhaps some of the most eloquent signs of the times lay in the smiling faces of African financiers, as we saw them on Thursday evening at the grand concert in Covent Garden Opera-house. They have been in suppressed spirits for some time past, but on this occasion they were, as one might say, buzzing about, much in evidence, smiling, chatting, asking friends to supper and showing general signs of happiness.

STEAMER BATH CITY LOST.

Struck the North End of Lundy Isle and Sank.

London, Feb. 24.—The British steamship Bath City, Captain Jones, from New York February 9, for Bristol, struck the north end of Lundy Isle, in the British Channel, to-day. She backed off and immediately sank in deep water. The master, three officers and ten of the crew reached Lundy Roads in a lifeboat. The other lifeboat, with the remainder of the crew, is also believed to be safe.

LORD ROBERTS IS ENGLAND'S HERO.

Britain Begins to Cheer Up and Even Talks of Balls and Parties.

KITCHENER NOT SO POPULAR.

His Cold Blooded, Hard-Headed Methods Do Not Awaken Idolatry, but He Commands People's Confidence.

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London, Feb. 24.—The fierce fighting that has made the week memorable in the history of Great Britain, has, in spite of the heavy casualties that accompanied it, acted as an exhilarating tonic upon the nation. It is almost with cheerfulness that the people of Great Britain are taking their punishment, for now there is something to show for it. In shooting contrast to the weeks of waiting and suspense that seemed ever passed without largely adding to the death roll and never seemed to bring Great Britain's forces nearer to the goal.

Hand in hand with the relief of Kimberley has come the relief of London. With the fate of that beleaguered place off the mind, with the national honor free once more to take its chances on a fair fighting field, London has evolved itself from the depressing gloom that for months overhung it. There is now talk of balls, dinners and entertaining, there are brighter looks in the faces of the crowds that throng the streets, and even the women have seemed to have brought out gayer gowns. There is to be something of a season after all.

"Little Bobs" is the hero of the hour, even at this stage of the war, which can scarcely be considered much more than initial from the British point of view. He would be granted every honor in the peoples' power to give, if only public opinion and gratitude became operative. Above every other man and every other circumstance, he stands out from those grim happenings in South Africa, clothed in the halo of victory. Loudly he is hailed as giving the living lie to those who said that the pluck and brains that made Great Britain victorious in the Crimea, in India and in Afghanistan, had passed away from her.

The circumstances of his hurried departure, when he subordinated the greatest personal sorrow to the needs of the country, his feats on the battlefields of old, his tremendous personal magnetism and his surpassing kindliness and simplicity are all brought into rapid review by means of conversation or the newspapers before the average Englishman, until it is small wonder that the hero of Kandahar has reached that pinnacle where his country would not deny him.

General Kitchener's automatic way of doing things and his hardness of head have been so much paraded before the public since he first achieved greatness that he has lost much of his popularity and, while he possesses the national confidence to an almost unequaled extent, it is patent that the nation as a whole would rather that the opportunities fell to "Bobs" than to iron-willed chief of staff.

A curious instance of the utter lack of system that prevails in the British War Office occurred this week. Immediately after the Queen's proclamation appealing to the patriotism of her old soldiers and asking them to re-enlist under the Government's new plan to strengthen the army, was published, there flocked to headquarters large numbers of men anxious to answer the Queen's request. They were all turned away because the War Office has not yet issued any detailed instructions regarding the acceptance of such offers, nor formulated any specific plan for putting into action the general proposals adopted by Parliament. The criticism current is that either the Queen's letter was premature or the War Office was dilatory. The latter is generally accepted as correct, and not without bitter comment.

BRILLIANT JOSEPH COWEN.

Remarkable Characteristics of the Late Editor.

London, Feb. 24.—The death of Mr. Joseph Cowen, the coal mine owner, member of Parliament, and proprietor of the Newcastle Chronicle, has removed one of the most remarkable figures in English life and one of the most extraordinary men in Europe. His whole life and personality teemed with vivid contrasts. He was a millionaire yet dressed in slouchy clothes, and as brilliant an orator as ever held the House of Commons breathless, yet of small stature and awkward gait, and he spoke with a Northumbrian burr.

A supporter of Lord Beaconsfield in his schemes for imperial expansion, yet Mr. Cowen was the friend of every conspirator from Moscow to Madrid and financed revolutions from his own pocket as readily as other millionaires buy steam yachts. At the risk of his life and through battalions of spies, he carried secret instructions to agents in Italy from that arch conspirator, Mazzini. It was at Mr. Cowen's house that Orsini, who threw a bomb at the carriage of Napoleon III. and was a guillotined for so doing, spent weeks prior to the perpetration of the deed. With such an intensely democratic tendency, Mr. Cowen was naturally a home ruler, yet none was more potent or more often quoted in arguments furnished in favor of the present war than the sentences penned by Mr. Cowen shortly before his death, when he declared that Great Britain was fighting to "prevent men of British blood from being treated as helots."

Many years ago he retired from active politics, owing to his independent ideas, devoting his attention to his paper, the Newcastle Chronicle, which wielded almost as much political influence in the north country as Mr. Cowen did when men pointed to him in the House of Commons as the next Liberal Prime Minister. He lived as a recluse, yet directed his brickmaking business until it has become one of the most profitable in the country. In Northumberland they say Mr. Cowen had gypsy blood, and they thus account for all that was erratic in his career.

TO VISIT THE EXPOSITION.

The Shah of Persia Will Reach Paris in July.

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Paris, Feb. 24.—As the time approaches for the opening of the exposition more interest apparently attaches to it. The crowds in the streets upon which the buildings face are continually increasing and the customs of various nations indicate the presence of many strangers. The scaffoldings are being stripped from the structures and the latter begin to show their fine proportions, making the view one of great splendor. The southwest portion of Paris, with its white domes and minarets, now resembles an oriental city. The visit of the Shah of Persia has been definitely fixed for the middle of July. The presence of this royal visitor, with his picturesque suite, will be one of the attractions of the exposition. He leaves Teheran April 15 in great pomp, accompanied by a cortege of 3,000 persons. He goes first to Tiaris and thence drives to Tiflis, where he will take the train for St. Petersburg and pay a visit to the Czar. From St. Petersburg he comes to France.