DOUBLE NUMBER.

The Pittsburg Dispatch.

SIXTEEN PAGES.

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR. PITTSBURG, SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 1889. FIVE CENTS

Allegheny Library of Congress 1 July 89

GRANDER THAN EVER

Is Gladstone in the Eyes of the Average British Voter, Since

THE KENNINGTON ELECTION

Cheers Instead of Jeers Everywhere Greet the Mention of His Name.

A READABLE BATCH OF FOREIGN GOSSIP

Queen Victoria Showing Unmistakable Signs of Approaching Age—A Blow Dealt at Bad Lords—Servia's Queen Wants to Go Back, but the Regents Won't Have it So—An American Actor Shows the British How to Put on Shakespearean Plays—Suits for Damages Already Being Prepared by Irishmen Against the London Times—Churchill and Chamberlain Never Speak as They Pass By.

A wonderful change has come over the spirit of the average British voter's dream. The collapse of the *Times'* charges, followed by the surprising result of the election in Kennington, caused it. Gladstone is now as big a man as grows on the other side of the ocean. Cheers greet every mention of his name, where the loyal Briton was wont to hiss and groan. Churchill and Chamberlain don't speak as they pass by. Their American wives caused the coldness. Things are at sixes and sevens in Servia. Richard Mansfield, the American actor, scored a wonderful triumph last evening, in London, appearing as *Richard III.*

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—[Copyright.]—I called early this morning on Mr. Gladstone, in James street, to ask him about the notable and signal success of the Liberals in the Kennington election. The health of the great Liberal leader is fully restored, not a vestige of his recent cold remains, and he has the spirits of a schoolboy. He wrote the following opinion for publication for THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH:

It is impossible to weigh precisely the separate effect of the Kennington election, but it is one of a series which are doing and will effectually and speedily do their work.

GLADSTONE.

I sent a telegram to Mr. Labouchere, a short time after this, and received the following characteristic answer:

The victory at Kennington will confirm the Tories in putting off a general election, and the Liberal Unionists will stand by them closer than ever. Possibly they will next year try a mild local Government bill, but we must make it clear that this is no settlement.

LABOUCHERE.

Gladstone Hourly Growing More Popular.

The name of Gladstone grows more popular hourly. Nowhere is the change more obviously shown than in the theaters and music halls. The mention of the great Liberal leader's name but a short time ago elicited an outburst of hoots, hisses and jeers, but so strong has been the effect of the Parnell vindication and the consequent increasing tide of Liberal sympathy that cheers follow the name of Gladstone now as the day follows the night.

The change in sentiment is very great, and it must be grateful to the Grand Old Man. Formerly his daily walks were replete with unpleasant incidents. An elderly and gentlemanly looking man stepped up to him once, and, after touching his hat, grew very red and whispered something in Mr. Gladstone's ear. Mr. Gladstone pursued the even tenor of his way with placid serenity.

Merely a Matter of Opinion.

The stranger stood staring after him with his face still flushed. He was asked what he had said. "I told him," said the man, "that I took great satisfaction in remarking that he was a —— old scoundrel."

These things may not have been entertaining and amusing to Mr. Gladstone, but if they annoyed him much he has the satisfaction of knowing that the reward has come. His daily walk through St. James' Park partakes now of the nature of an ovation, and it grows more and more noisy and exultant.

The Kennington election is the most serious reverse sustained by the Tory-Unionist Government since it came into power, over two years ago, and its moral and material effects upon the constituencies cannot be overrated.

The Extent of the Victory.

One of the outposts of Toryism's greatest and almost impregnable stronghold has been carried by storm, and the victors set no bounds to the triumphs which shall follow. The Government and their allies were absolutely stupified when the great news reached the House of Commons, late last night. The Tory members fled in deep and silent disgust to their clubs—anywhere, in fact, beyond the sound of the jubilating Liberals, and the Ministers rushed to their private rooms, there to hide their mortification from the gloating Gladstonians, and to take counsel with each other in their sore distress. At the National Liberal Club, long since happily purged of its Unionist dress, there were high jinks far into the morning, and there is credible evidence in support of the rumor that the English and Irish members drank deeply, danced merrily and wound up with singing "God Save Ireland," a patriotic ditty that was once penal in the green isle, and still unlawful, according to the ruling of some of Balfour's sapient removable magistrates.

Ireland's Friends Brace Up.

The victory has nerved the friends of Ireland to harder work, and has aroused a feeling of enthusiastic confidence in an early and complete triumph unequaled by any previous success. A few of the Tory-Unionist organs have been making the most comical efforts to explain away the victory, but, for the majority of them, its completeness has been overpowering, and nothing has been left for them save to admit that the cause of the Union has suffered a very serious blow.

A conscientious calculator who has sat in the reporters' gallery of the House of Commons for 25 years, and has closely watched the political career of Lord Randolph Churchill since its commencement, has arrived at the conclusion that his erratic lordship has just three followers in the House, to wit: Mr. Curzon, Mr. Jennings, formerly of New York, and Mr. Hanbury, and that the noble Lord has reached a point at which he can avoid political extinction only by joining the Liberal party.

A Bad Effect on the Hair.

Lord Randolph has been nagging the Government this week with much lithesome industry, but with little effect. The Tories have taken to laughing at his criticisms instead of receiving them seriously, and his lordship, in consequence, is growing restive. A jump one way or the other seems an imminent probability. Like ex-King Milan, the trouble has affected his hair. His head has lost its old-time trimness, and his locks are beginning to thin. His long mustache is becoming quite stubby by constant biting, and has lost a hair for every adjective slung at its owner from the Ministerial benches.

Whenever Randolph is angry or perturbed he always tugs at his mustache, and of late the consequences of this curious habit have been so disastrous to his appearance as a man and a husband as to occasion, according to current report in society, a vast amount of domestic discussion.

Never Expected to Pass.

John O'Connor's bill providing for more lenient treatment of political prisoners was regarded almost as hopeless from the beginning. It was brought forward partly to give Parliamentary expression to the great national protest against the ill-treatment of the Irish members, and partly to show to what lengths the Liberal-Unionists would go in their support of the Government. The results were highly satisfactory. The Government majority, which two years ago averaged 110, was reduced to 66, the smallest in a critical division that has been obtained in this Parliament.

More significant than this, however, is the fact that only 39 Liberal-Unionists plucked up sufficient courage to vote with the Government. Among them was Joseph Chamberlain, who only a fortnight ago publicly declared himself in favor of the very reforms proposed in the present bill.

Not All Lost to Shame.

It is pleasant to note that two Liberal-Unionists, unlike their leaders, were not lost to all sense of shame. Mr. Kenrick voted straight against the Government, and Mr. Powell Williams paired in favor of the bill. Still more satisfactory were the signs of weakening shown by the Government. Balfour, who, through all this fierce fighting and endless bickerings over the prison ill-treatment of the Irish leaders, has resolutely declined to admit that his present system was otherwise than perfect, agreed to appoint a committee to inquire whether that perfection could not be improved. Nothing may result from the investigations of this committee, but its appointment clearly proves that if he is impervious to argument, Balfour is in some slight degree amenable to public opinion.

MANSFIELD SCORES A SUCCESS.

An American Actor Shows the English How to Play Richard III.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—Richard Mansfield's production of "Richard III." to-night, at the Globe Theater, drew a distinguished audience. Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Lady Freake, Miss Walpole, Mrs. Horton, Lady Monckton, Lady Hardy, Edmund Yates and many other notable people were present. A great deal of money and months of preparation have served to make the production of "Richard III." a remarkable one, even in a city where great spectacles and elaborate Shakespearean revivals are common. Every detail has been the subject of careful and minute study, and the scenery and costumes are superb. It ranks with the productions of Mr. Irving. Mr. Mansfield has marred his personal popularity in London as he did in New York, by a number of quarrels, and the success he won was entirely on his merits. Some of the original Mansfield company are in the cast, including D. H. Harkins, Joseph Franko and Miss Beatrice Cameron.

The element of surprise in the performance was unquestionably Mansfield himself. It would not be fair to say that his *Richard* has been influenced by his *Baron Cheval*, but it is plain that he has pursued the same line of character building in this last as in the former conception. He has made it a distinct character creation. His *Richard* has a set, saturnine and crafty face, with the fixed pallor, red-lidded eyes, and dyspeptic mouth of a confirmed invalid, and he has invested the character with certain mannerisms as strongly marked as those of Booth's *Richelieu*, Irving's *Louis XI.*, or the late John McCullough's *Virginius*.

Mansfield did much more than was expected of him, and his force in the more violent and tragic scenes was effective to a remarkable degree. His voice has gained in power, his reading was intelligent though by no means conventional, and he deserved in the fullest measure the applause and cheers that he received after every act.

SERVIA AT SIXES AND SEVENS.

The Queen Wants to Get Back, but the Regents Won't Have It.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—The attempt to raise a scare in Eastern Europe may be very largely discounted. The *Standard* correspondent who sends the news is a very old offender in this respect. Austria may possibly be moving troops toward the Servian frontier, but in all probability it is only to protect her own territory. Austria can hardly desire to provoke a war with Russia at this juncture, and Bismarck would assuredly use the whole of his great influence to prevent it, but a force of Austria-Hungarian troops on the Servian frontier may act as a restraing influence upon those within, whose delight it would be to raise an outbreak in the so-called kingdom. Everything, indeed, in Servia, points to this little place becoming a hotbed of intrigue, and remaining so for a long time to come. The Queen wants to get back and the young King wants his mother, but the regents are not disposed to put up with this charming lady, who, whatever her social qualifications may be, has a certain love of intrigue and a pervading predilection for turmoil which might bring trouble upon the country.

Things in Servia are going to be at sixes and sevens. The poor peasantry are spiritless, but the agitators are at work upon them, and a little flare-up may be expected any day. But a spit-fire blaze in Servia does not mean a great European conflagration, by any means.

MILAN LARKY AND GAY.

He Acts Like a Prisoner Who Has Just Been Released.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—They say in Belgrade that King Milan acts like a prisoner who has been released from a long term behind the iron bars. Apparently the agony that he felt over the loss of his hair has abated, or else the hair has grown more tenacious, for the King is larky and gay. He has thrown all responsibility to the four winds of heaven, and leaves his juvenile successor and his amiable wife to solve the European problem and combat the opposing influences of Austria and Russia.

GLADSTONE'S GAIN.

The Grand Old Man Profits by a Falling Out of Chamberlain and Churchill—Two American Wives Cause a Coolness Between Friends.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—The winter carnival—which, by the way, was not a carnival, and did not in any way suggest winter, aside from the allegorical representation of Niagara flowing up hill at an angle of about 90 degrees—has revealed the great and stirring international fact that the American wives of two famous British statesmen are taciturn and dumb when they pass by. A few days ago it was observed that a coolness had sprung up between Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in the House. Chamberlain was passing down an aisle of the House, when he suddenly came face to face with Churchill. Chamberlain turned a large, friendly and butterv smile upon the man whom he supposed was his friend, but his cordiality was checked by a fierce, direct and insular British stare.

Affronts of this kind have not always affected Chamberlain's exterior, as hard experience has inured him to them, but for some reason or other he returned the stare with one several degrees harder, and for several hours the small talk of the House hinged upon the exciting event. Since that time their relations have constantly grown more strained.

It has transpired at last that the trouble is due to the jealousy of the wives of the two statesmen. Both of them were asked to lend their aid to the winter carnival, and both acquiesced eagerly, with the solitary proviso that the other one should be shut out. As women of all sorts and conditions were trooping in, it was obviously difficult for the managers to draw the line at either Mrs. Chamberlain or Lady Randolph Churchill, and the point was passed over with some awkwardness. The great fact of the quarrel, however, was not suppressed.

The dazzling and effulgent smile of Chamberlain, which had received such a sudden and brutal check from Churchill, went gunning for an object, so to speak, for some time without success, and then lighted on Mr. Gladstone. It would probably take an event of even more stirring consequence than that of Chamberlain's smile to disturb Mr. Gladstone. At all events, the effect hasn't yet been observed, but Chamberlain is smiling on the Liberal leader, shaking hands with him, and wagging at him in a fashion that has set all the gossips agog.

A BLOW AT BAD LORDS.

It Is Intimated That They Shouldn't be Allowed to Vote for Coercion.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—Lord Carnarvan's bill, which has just been introduced into the House of Lords, aims to prevent disreputable peers from sitting in the House of Lords. The Lords are beginning to reorganize, and it is the general impression that they will have a fertile field for work. The new bill is aimed at such disreputable specimens of mankind and the British peerage as Lord Ailesbury, who by his untiring efforts has managed to reach a point where he can be warned off any race course in England as a blackleg and sharper, but is still empowered to vote for coercion in Ireland.

Ailesbury, himself, by the way, with his music hall wife, Dolly Tester, is imparting a lurid light to a constantly increasing portion of the continent. The efforts of this distinguished pair are meeting with more than national success. They begin a new cycle daily, and wind up at sunrise helplessly drunk and proud of the fact.

Viscount Mandeville, the heir to the Duke of Manchester, who is in the bankruptcy court this week for obtaining money by false pretenses, would not be disqualified. The fact was brought out this week that Mandeville, when his father dies, will be the owner of 12,000 acres in Armagh, 14,000 acres in Huntingtonshire, and 1,000 in Cambridgeshire, but he has already incurred liabilities to the amount of $600,000, of which the bankruptcy court can't rid him. His unsecured creditors will be lucky if they get sixpence on the pound.

VICTORIA'S DECLINING YEARS.

Age Causing Her Britannic Majesty to Act in a Peevish Manner.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—Queens grow old as well as commoners. There is no other reason but advancing age for the dissatisfaction which Queen Victoria has shown at her quarters at Biarritz. Everything was done to make her stay comfortable and pleasant, but Her Majesty has already declined to stay out the full time. She means to make a hurried visit to Queen Christina, at San Sebastian, and editorially the hearts of the two great nations have already started to beat as one.

Owing to the difference of the railroad gauges, Victoria will have to change carriages at Irun, the frontier depot, and a special report announces from Biarritz, with deep and heartfelt emotion, that the change will compel Her Britannic Majesty to walk a distance of 30 yards. Such a stupendous effort seems to loyal Britons to be too great a price to pay for a two hours' stay in San Sebastian, but it is all that the programme will allow.

Meanwhile, the Prince of Wales has assumed the cares of state, including a reception to the baseball team and the customary drive from Marlboro House to St. James' Palace in the big gilded coach which is the object of such malignant envy to the Lord Mayor's footman. Prince Albert Victor sat beside his distinguished father when they drove to the palace yesterday. He looked as though he had somehow slipped out of one of the dude's chairs at Delmonico's and got into uniform under false pretense.

ALL EYES TURNED ON PARIS.

The Outlook in the European Financial World Anything but Good.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—The outlook in the financial world at the present moment is anything but good. All eyes are turned on Paris, and at present it is difficult to say how and where the situation will end. At any rate, we shall not see the full effects of the downfall of the copper shares and the crisis in the Comptoir d'Escompte until the monthly liquidation in Paris is well over. The latest news is to the effect that the Russian loan, which was to have been floated next week, has been indefinitely postponed. This shows at once how ugly the financial position really is, as full arrangements had been made to bring out the loan.

London stocks seem to be more demoralized than for a long time past, and it is generally believed that the market is being manipulated to suit the New York bear party. The short interest is enormous, and any attempt to cover would send prices up rapidly.

Taking Time by the Forelock.

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, March 16.—Without waiting for the Judges' report on the Parnell charges, Mr. George Lewis is preparing cases for some of the Irish members against the *Times* for libel. It is said that John Dillon's will be one of the first cases brought.

ALL QUIET AT SAMOA.

The German Officials Have Suddenly Become Peaceful, But the

AMERICANS ARE STILL ON GUARD.

Mataafa is Strongly Entrenched, While the Tamasese Army Has

ALMOST CEASED TO BE A FACTOR.

Complete and Authentic News by Steamer From the Island Group.

The steamer Zealandia has arrived at San Francisco from Samoa with full information of the situation there up to March 2. At that date there had been no further warlike demonstrations. The German Consul has apparently received specific instructions from Bismarck. Both Americans and English, however, are on the watch for possible trouble. The natives are still in arms.

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APIA, SAMOA, PER STEAMSHIP ZEALANDIA, AT SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—During the past month the German authorities, both consular and naval, have maintained a state of inactivity. This condition of affairs dates back to the arrival of the steamer Wainui, with dispatches for the German Consul, on January 23, and is no doubt the result of the orders then received.

The declaration of a state of war in the Samoan Islands seems to have become a dead letter, while the military occupation of Apia, which the declaration of martial law would seem to have implied, has no existence save the maintenance of a strong guard at the German Consulate.

AMERICANS ON GUARD.

A guard is still kept at the American and English consulates, in view of the facts that there has been no official retraction of these declarations, and of numerous proclamations with which the town was flooded, and consequently no settlement of the matter at issue. The German Consul has made repeated overtures to Mataafa looking toward the adjustment of the quarrel and the conclusion of terms of peace, but the terms proposed always embodied a strong German interest in the future administration of affairs which Mataafa declares he will, under no circumstances, consent to.

Negotiations have therefore been of no avail, and German officials occupy the unenviable position of men who have deeply compromised themselves without seeing their way clear to retreat consistent with the preservation of their dignity. Mataafa, in the midst of his warriors, rests secure in his entrenched camp and awaits the arrival of Admiral Kimberly, having full faith in the support of the United States. His picket lines extend down the coast for a distance of five miles, close espionage being maintained on the road leading from Apia to Lauly and Lutumui.

DESERTING TAMASESE.

Tamasese, with his forces now reduced by deserters to about 600 warriors, still occupies the large fort at Lutumui. A great number of his former adherents have joined the standard of Mataafa, or, grown weary of war, have returned to their own districts. There has been no collision between the opposing forces for a long time.

On February 8 a small detached party of Malietoa men, which was reconnoitering in the vicinity of the fort, fell in with a foraging party of the enemy, and succeeded in killing one of Tamasese's greatest leaders and stanchest supporters, one Solo Futi, ruler from Matauta, in Savay.

On February 2, H. M. S. "Calliope," Captain H. J. Kane, arrived from New Zealand to relieve the Royal, the latter sailed for Auckland on the 4th inst. This change has been a source of untold satisfaction to the English residents in Samoa, as well as to their consular representative. The censure showered upon Captain Hand, of the Royal, by the colonial press simply voiced the indignant feeling of his countrymen in Samoa, whose interests he looked after in a dilatory and lukewarm manner, and whose property he announced himself without authority to protect.

NOT MUCH HARMONY.

There can be no doubt that the cordial feelings and unity of purpose which characterized the relations between his predecessor, Commander Pell, of the Wizard, and Her Majesty's Consul, had no existence in the case of Captain Hand.

Early in the month Captain Fritze made known the fact that the consular courts—the American and English—were considered by him as open for the hearing of causes, despite his proclamation of martial law, reserving to himself, however, the administration of the police under the regulations of January 18, 1888. Thus acknowledging the ability of these courts to perform their civil functions undisturbed virtually abrogates the necessity for the establishment of martial law and gives rather a farcial aspect to that arbitrary act on the part of the German commander.

Another fact proving that Germany recognizes their original stand to be untenable is found in the reissue of the Samoan *Times*, the English newspaper which was suspended by the German Consul as a dangerous organ. The editor felt the pulse of the press censor on February 4, by the publication of a single sheet "extra," and on the 9th the regular sheet again appeared.

A CASE OF BACK DOWN.

The revival of the suppressed paper has called for no comment from Dr. Knappe, the German Consul, which evinced a far calmer frame of mind than that displayed in his dictatoral actions of three weeks ago.

On February 5 the steamer Lebeck left this port for Sydney, carrying with her Herr Brandis, the ex-German artillery officer and Premier of Tamasese, who has for so long a time been the bone of contention in Samoa and who has done much to precipitate the present crisis. It is rumored he has been ordered home to explain his conduct in the Samoan affairs to the Government at Berlin.

On February 12 the German man-of-war Eber, which had been sent to Auckland, ostensibly to communicate with Berlin, returned to this port. Her arrival and dispatches which she undoubtedly brought (the tenor of which is unknown), have in no wise changed the condition of affairs.

STILL DOUBTFUL.

Whether the German Government will endeavor to maintain the position taken by its officials here or whether it has issued instructions to concur in such ultimate settlement as Admiral Kimberly may propose, is a mere matter of conjecture. It is known that early in the present month that the United States ships Trenton and Vandalia had been ordered to Samoa, and had sailed in obedience to their instructions.

The Vandalia arrived on the evening of February 23. The arrival of the flagship Trenton was anxiously awaited, as it was hoped that Admiral Kimberly's instructions will empower him to speedily terminate the uncertainty as to the outcome of the present struggle. Mataafa is firm in his belief of ultimately receiving the support of the United States Government, and has reiterated his determination to do nothing until the Admiral's arrival, appreciating the fact that in treating with Germany he must be seconded by the patron whose power can compel proper recognition of right and justice.

Tamasese's forces, weakened by desertion, sink into a secondary factor and indeed has almost entirely disappeared from the scene.

On the forenoon of February 14, during a heavy northwestly gale the American barkentine Constitution, Captain Peter J. Crowley, dragged her anchors and struck on the western edge of the inner reef in Apia harbor. At the first blow the rudder was driven into her cable and her stern crushed in so that she began to fill immediately, and soon turned over on her beam ends and sunk beside the reef.

A boat had been dispatched from the United States man-of-war Nipsic in response to a signal of distress, and it succeeded in landing the crew in safety. She was owned by Nicholas Bichard, of San Francisco, and was freighted with a general cargo for Apia. She was built in Philadelphia and was originally a steamer, being rebuilt in San Francisco in 1873. The wreck and contents were purchased at auction by H. K. Moore of Apia.

The schooners Mataula, owned by Buge & Co., and Tamasese were also wrecked, the former having been driven well upon the western reef and the latter upon the beach. Reports from other points on the island bring information of similar disasters to small craft. The Captain and crew of the Constitution were brought to San Francisco by the Zealandia.

ONE SERIOUS CHARGE.

The American and Englishmen still accuse the German officials of intercepting their mail matter and reading the contents for the information of their Government. The schooner which met the steamship Alameda at Tutuila and took on board the mails for Apia, was met by the German corvette Olga when midway betweed Tutuila and Apia, and took all the official and private mail matter, directing the schooner to return to Tutuila, and met the Zealandia with mail intended for the United States.

All the mail matter taken by the Alameda for Apia, therefore, was first taken on board the German man-of-war before being turned over to the postoffice in Apia. As the American mail steamers do not touch at Apia, American mail matter must pass through German hands before reaching the Samoan capital. It is thought that hereafter one American man-of-war will meet the mail steamer at Tutuila.

A BIG AMERICAN BLUFF.

One Yankee Skipper Who Threatened to Fire on the Germans.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—*The Chronicle* has this account of the arrival of the American barkentine Constitution at Apia on February 2, which was afterward wrecked in Apia Harbor: The Constitution took her cargo to Apia, and on her arrival at that port a searching party from the German corvette Olga, under charge of a Lieutenant, rowed to the Constitution and demanded her papers, and announced their intention of searching the vessel for the contraband material, announcing that martial law had been declared by Germany.

On the date of this occurrence the American man-of-war Nipsic had gone to Tuluila and there was no American vessel at Apia. Captain Calley only had eight men on board, but informed the Germans that the Constitution was an American ship, and that if they attempted to board his vessel they would be fired upon. The Germans after a little further parleying withdrew. When the Constitution drifted on the reef February 14 the captain and his crew were rescued by the efforts of the crew of the Nipsic, which was one mile away at the time. The crew of the Olga, which was close by, tendered no assistance.

THE SAMOAN CONFERENCE.

Germany Confident That It Will Result in a Peaceful Settlement.

BERLIN, March 16.—The Samoan conference is not expected to present formidable difficulties. Slight doubts are expressed as to the attitude of America, but the German Government will do its utmost to prevent friction, at the same time maintaining Germany's full right to deal with the Samoan rebels. Confidence is felt here that the peaceful disposition of all three powers will render an agreement easy. Prince Bismarck is in no way inclined, in the present state of European affairs, to be drawn into colonial disputes. The *Vossische Zeitung* says:

It is to be regretted that the irritation beyond the ocean has reached its present extent and bitterness, and that it is in a large degree owing to the fault of German officials. But it lies beyond reasonable expectation that the conference will lead to any other conviction than that there has been a great deal of unnecessary heat imported into the dispute.

A CITY FALLING THROUGH.

A Serious Cave-In of a Coal Mine at Scranton.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

SCRANTON, March 16.—Eight chambers in two of the thickest veins in the Central mine of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, in the western part of the city, collapsed this morning, and the crush of roof and "working" of pillars are still going on.

The convulsion is under Washburn street and Hyde Park avenue, and buildings on those thoroughfares are being badly damaged. The Washburn Street Presbyterian Church has thus far suffered the greatest injury of any buildings in the neighborhood. The north wall of the church has been badly shaken, and the frescoing of the edifice has been greatly damaged. The Rev. W. I. Stearn's house, adjoining, has also suffered much. The cement floor in the cellar is cracked and none of the doors can be closed, owing to the building having been thrown out of plumb. It is hoped that the settling of the mine will soon cease, otherwise much greater damage is feared.

WOULD LIKE TO ADJOURN.

Too Much Legislation Might be Hurtful to Certain Interests.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, March 16.—There is a well authenticated report that the calling of a joint Republican caucus, to put the Andrews resolution to adjourn on the 25th of April through the Senate is contemplated, and that the soldiers' orphan school syndicate is quietly working in that direction for the purpose of preventing, if possible, the passage of legislation hurtful to its financial interests. The action of the latter may cause the programme to be changed, as Senator Delamater is understood to be opposed to allowing the syndicate any further opportunities to add to its profits.

HIS DYING CONFESSION.

Katie Jones Did Not Cause the Squibb Factory Explosion.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WILKESBARRE, March 16.—George S. Rees, the foreman of the squib factory at Plymouth, which exploded recently, killing a number of girls, made a confession before dying that it was he, not Katie Jones, who caused the explosion.

He was smoking a pipe in the basement when a spark flew into the powder keg. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict that Katie Jones caused the accident by throwing a squib in the stove.

TROUBLE IN THE CAMP

Prince Bismarck and Some of His Associates Believed to be On

THE EVE OF OPEN HOSTILITIES.

Windthorst Objects to the Large and Increasing Expenditure

DEMANDED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Emperor William Declares He is Heartily in Favor of Peace.

Dissension is rife between Chancellor Bismarck and a portion of his ministerial colleagues. The financial policy is the main point of difference. The Socialistic party continues to prosecute its agitation and opposition to the Government. Emperor William says he is in favor of peace. No official declaration concerning the Servian troubles has been made.

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BERLIN, March 16.—In addition to the new income tax, which is said to be the subject of dissension between Prince Bismarck and his colleagues, Minister Von Gessler disagrees with the Chancellor on the question of the State granting financial support to the clergy. The subject of discord between Minister Von Scholeze and Prince Bismarck is the currency question.

The former advocates a gold currency, while the latter favors bimetalism. An incident which occurred at the last meeting of the Provincial Council of Danzic would indicate a slight difference between the Chancellor and Minister Von Puttkamer. Members of the Council reproached the brother of the latter for the wholesale expulsion of Poles which he had ordered.

BISMARCK THE BOSS.

Minister Von Puttkamer, in defending his brother, said that he deplored the consequences of the expulsion on economic grounds, but that he was overruled by Prince Bismarck, who considered political interests of greater importance. The *Tageblatte* remarks that in view of the incident people will not be disposed to place much confidence in ministerial declarations.

The Reichstag has been occupied with the discussion of the annual Government report on the application of the Socialist laws. The debate has been confined to protests from the Social Democrats. Herr Schrader, a Progressist, expressed surprise that the Government made no reply and announced that his party would continue to oppose exceptional laws. Herr Meyer said that the National Liberals had entered into no formal engagement as to future Socialist legislation.

AN EXPENSIVE ARMY.

At Friday's sitting Dr. Windthorst complained of the continual demands for money for military purposes. The estimates were finally referred to a committee of 21, notwithstanding Herr Richter's emphatic declaration that the House ought first to determine the sums to be granted. This decision was brought about by Baron Von Maltzahn, Secretary of State for the Imperial Treasury, who promised to give the details to the committee. The estimates are certain to be voted.

In receiving the Central Committee of the United Trades Guilds, to-day Emperor William declared that the sole object of his European tour had been to maintain peace, the only means by which trade could prosper. He believed he had insured this result for years to come.

The official newspapers carefully abstain from comment on Servian affairs. It is reported that the Government intends to recall Count von Bray from Belgrade, his intimacy with Milan making him unwelcome to the present Radical Government of Servia. Austria will also be obliged to recall Dr. Hengelmuller for the same reason.

THE RUSSIAN IDEA.

Advices from St. Petersburg are that the Czar has advised ex-Queen Natalie not to return to Servia, but to arrange for periodical visits from her son at Odessa. The Cologne *Gazette* comments upon the marked friendliness of the reception accorded to Prince Nicholar of Nassau in royal circles during his visit to Berlin as a favorable sign of the good relations between the house of Nassau and the Berlin court.

Emperor William has accepted an invitation to dine with Sir Edward Malet, who returned to-day, at the English Embassy at the end of next week. The Prince of Wales is expected in Berlin at Easter. He will pass a day at Darmstadt en route.

The Paris crisis and Servian affairs had a depressing effect upon the Berlin bourse throughout the week. Only an abundance of cheap money prevented a stampede. The few investors having an interest in copper affairs appear to have withdrawn in good time, but the heavy sales by Paris speculators depressed prices, except in the case of Russian securities.

THE HONORS WERE EVEN.

A Sample of the Scenes That Amuse the French Lawmakers.

PARIS, March 16.—There was an exciting scene in the Chamber of Deputies to-day. M. Laguerre, one of the Patriotic League, made a speech attacking M. Constans, the Minister of the Interior, whom he accused of having engaged in doubtful transactions while acting as President of a financial concern in Lyons, in 1882, and ended by calling him a fraudulent Minister.

The speech created a tumult in the Chamber, and the Speaker formally censured M. Laguerre for his utterances. M. Constans made an indignant denial of the charges, and retorted upon M. Laguerre by saying that nobody quite knew where that gentleman's fortune came from. The matter was then dropped.

A Battle Near Bara.

CAIRO, March 16.—A messenger who has arrived at Wady Halfa reports that a battle between the followers of Senoussi and the Mahdists has taken place at Sinan, to the southwest of Bara, and that the former were victorious. Both sides suffered heavy losses. Among the killed were two Mahdist chiefs.

Boulanger's Boodle Must be Stopped.

PARIS, March 16.—The *Socier* asserts that the Government has warned certain wealthy foreigners residing in France, who are known to have assisted General Boulanger in a financial way, that they will be expelled the country unless they stop supplying him with funds.

DOWN A PRECIPICE.

Horrible Fate of a Mother and Her Little Child.

KANSAS CITY, March 16.—At 3 o'clock this afternoon Clara Hunter, aged 6, was playing in an empty wagon on Pendleton Heights, when in some manner the wagon was started and went over the bluff. Her mother heard the child scream and went to her assistance, but her dress caught in the wheel and the wagon rolled down the precipice 35 feet, dragging the mother and child.

The girl was instantly killed, and the mother was so badly injured that she is not expected to live through the night.

CLARKSON IS THE [illegible]

To Whom the Aspiring Office Seekers Turning Their Eyes—He Will Evidently Be a Power in the New Administration.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, March 16.—First Assistant Postmaster General James S. Clarkson had more callers to-day than President Harrison or Postmaster General Wanamaker had. This was due in a measure to the fact that the President refused to see any visitors and Mr. Wanamaker went to Philadelphia to prepare his usual Sunday talk to his Bible class. But had neither of these gentlemen been away their reception could not have been larger than Mr. Clarkson's, for his office was literally crowded to the doors.

Nearly all of the people who shook the new First Assistant's hand were men from the wild and woolly West, who, while they extended their congratulations, whispered something about the applications which he would find on file. In confirmation of the report that Mr. Clarkson is to have full control of all matters in his department, independent of the Postmaster General, it is said that an order has already been informally made transferring the authority over all appointments in the railway mail service from the office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General to the First Assistant. It is really a nominal authority, but it has been something of a bone of contention for years.

The First Assistant Postmaster General is the real appointing power of the Postoffice Department and countersigns all commissions. During the incumbency of Postmaster General Vilas the duty of countersigning appointments in the railway mail service was given to the Second Assistant Postmaster General, of whose office the mail service is a subordinate branch. No power is given the Second Assistant to make appointments, and his signature is merely a routine duty. Still it has been thought best to give such power as may exist in the matter to the new First Assistant.

THE RUSH IS OVER.

Enthusiastic Prospectors Disgusted With the Southern California Gold Fields.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—The excitement in Southern California over the gold fields is cooling off rapidly. Only people attracted from other parts of the State have rushed to the scene. This rush has been mainly from the southern part of the State and Arizona. Hundreds of those who started off headlong, expecting to be able to lie on the grounds and let $50 nuggets walk into their pockets, are now coming back, and their woful stories and disgusted faces have caused many who were ready to start for the mines to sell off their outfits for anything they could get. Many of those returning did not even get as far as the diggings, and turned back when within a few miles of the camp, discouraged by the reports of those already on their way back.

Advices from San Diego indicate that, notwithstanding the backward rush that has begun, there is still a steady but quiet movement toward the mines. An old Comstocker, who has been to the diggings, returned to Los Angeles with this story. He prospected for ten days and found nothing to justify a longer stay. He says the reports about spurious finds are true.

WHITE CAPS IN NEW JERSEY.

They Are Correcting Alleged Evils With an Unsparing Hand.

BELVIDERE, N. J., March 16.—White Caps in Upper Warren county recently visited a prominent local politician named Young, at Allamuchy, and made him promise to make amends for not leading a life in conformity to the golden rule. At Tranquility they called on H. C. Lemons, a well-known resident, and leading him to the shop of Mr. Runyon, they stripped him and with brush, soap and hot water gave him a thorough washing, not being at all particular about breaking the skin.

The victim shrieked and groaned under their treatment, but to no purpose. When through they dressed him in a new suit of clothes and sent him home, warning him to keep clean, under penalty of a second scrubbing. A farmer who was alleged to have been caught in the act of watering his milk, was visited and cautioned against repeating the offense.

A LEGISLATOR IN TROUBLE.

He is Charged With Obtaining Goods on False Pretenses.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

PATERSON, N. J., March 16.—Charles T. Woodward, Republican member of Assembly from Passaic county, was arrested to-day on a capias charged with obtaining goods under false pretenses. The complainants are R. C. Williams & Co., wholesale grocers of New York, whose claim amounts to $854 10 for groceries furnished Woodward for his store in Paterson.

It is alleged that Woodward gave a check in payment, alleging that he had a balance in the Second National Bank, but the check was protested; then Woodward gave a bill of sale to his brother, Samuel Woodward, so that Williams & Co. could not levy on the goods.

Mr. Woodward gave security to appear in answer to the allegation. He denies that he made any false representations, and claims that it was an ordinary business credit, which he is unable to pay in consequence of non-collections.

HIS RELEASE DEMANDED.

Secretary Blaine Cables to Russia on Behalf of Kempinski.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

BRIDGEPORT, March 16.—Attorney J. B. Klein, of this city, had an interview with Secretary of State Blaine to-day and presented the case of Hermann Kempinski, the Bridgeport citizen who has been cast into prison at Rowen, Russia, while on a visit to his native place. Kempinski, although armed with passports and credentials of citizenship, has been banished to Siberia, and unless liberated by the demands of Secretary Blaine will be transported on May 1.

Senator Platt and a number of lawyers at Washington tell Klein that he has the strongest document to prove Kempinski's case, and they could not offer any further suggestions. Mr. Blaine cabled to-day to the authorities at Rowen demanding the prisoner's release, and a reply is expected within 24 hours.

ARKANSAS TRAVELERS.

The Colored People Emigrating En Masse From North Carolina.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

RALEIGH, March 16.—The negro exodus from this State is resolving itself into an organized movement, and now has the appearance of developing into regular systematic colonization. All the colored preachers here are moving in the matter, and are advising the negroes to colonize in Arkansas. Mass meetings are held nightly, at which negro orators urge negroes to leave the State, and preachers are preaching it from the pulpits.

A circular was issued here to-day signed by ten negro preachers of this place of all denominations, calling a meeting of negroes to organize the "North Carolina Emigration Association," with the ultimate colonization of all negroes in the State of Arkansas as its object.

NO ROOM TO SPARE.

[illegible] President's Family Occupying the Entire White House.

[illegible]VE BEDROOMS ARE FILLED