

The Intelligencer.

Office No. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

The House of Commons has again decided to allow the bill to pass.

There are cutting Scottish potatoes in Cincinnati at fifty cents less per bushel than the home grown article.

The latest Philadelphia advices are favorable to the iron market.

There are no signs of a revival of activity in the cotton market.

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NO SECOND CHOICE.

EDMUNDS RESPECTFULLY DECLINES

To Accept What Conkling Refuses—Committee on Rules Crushed by the Action of the House.

The Tariff Committee Bill—A Fight on the New Rules to be Avoided.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Senator Edmunds has had the privilege of declining the nomination refused by ex-Senator Conkling of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. It was tendered the Senator from Vermont yesterday, and his reasons for refusing it are a condition of health that would not permit him to undertake the continual drudgery of an overworked bench, an unwillingness to abandon his lucrative law practice, and a desire to remain in the State.

After Senator Edmunds returned from Vermont about three weeks ago, when his name was frequently mentioned as a candidate for the vacant position, he emphatically informed some of his friends in the Senate that he would not take the place if it should be tendered him. His friends say that he can remain in the Senate as long as he desires. The President has not yet made public either the letters of declination of Mr. Conkling or Mr. Edmunds.

Associated Press Dispatch.—A prominent Senator, speaking of this matter, said that he believed Edmunds would have accepted if the appointment had been originally tendered him. The impression now is that Judge Blatchford, of New York, will be appointed.

CHINA.

A Congressional Speech Cut Short by the House of Representatives.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The Committee on Rules was set down upon and crushed into a shapeless mass to-day by the House, April 9th there is to be a great celebration at New Orleans in recognition of the Two hundred anniversary of the discovery of the mouth of the Mississippi by LaSalle. A delegation of Congressmen was invited to attend. The Committee on Rules, to please the Southern members, reported through Mr. Robeson, to-day, a joint resolution providing for the appointment of nine Representatives and four Senators to attend the celebration.

Sam Cox, and Randall and Gilson made long and flowery speeches in favor of the resolution, the harangues being made of equal parts of extracts from a history of the discovery of the Mississippi and quotations from Virgil, the last with a peculiar Yankee accent. Judge Taylor offered an amendment to the resolution providing "if Congress had finally adjourned at this date." Mr. Haskell, of Kansas, made a strong speech against it, when, by an overwhelming vote, the House laid the resolution on the table, and Mr. Robeson retired in confusion.

Tariff Matters.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Prominent Democrats say to-night that while the tariff commission is rendered practically at their mercy by the action of the House to-day, they have no intention of burying it for the remainder of the session, providing the Republicans will allow them certain privileges, which they demand. Among those privileges, it is said, the request for a vote on the Morrison tariff bill of the 45th Congress, votes on the propositions to reduce the duties on certain articles, such as sugar, salt, steel rails, &c.

Congressman Belford, of Colorado, said to-night that at the first opportunity he will introduce a resolution in the House with a preamble, declaring that the Committee of Ways and Means has proven itself incompetent to deal with the question of reducing the tariff; that a special committee of nine members, consisting of five Republicans and four Democrats be appointed to prepare a bill for the revision of the tariff and the reduction of the internal taxes, and that within ninety days they shall report the bill to the House.

Brief Paragraphs of News.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The House to-day passed Mr. Neal's bill, providing for a local board of steamboat inspectors at Gallipolis, O.

The House this morning passed a joint resolution giving tents to the Grand Army of the Republic for its encampment at Gettysburg in July of the present year.

Representative Kenna introduced into House to-day a bill providing for a department of agriculture and commerce. It is practically the same bill as that introduced by Senator Davis in the Senate, of which I telegraphed you some time since.

The Baltimore Sun says: The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad last week, it is stated, contracted for twenty thousand tons of steel rails from the Cambria Iron Works at Johnstown, to be delivered within three months.

General D. G. Swain returned from a visit to Mrs. Garfield at Cleveland to-day.

There Will Be No Fight.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—There will be no extended partisan discussion or fight over the proposed amendments to the rules. If the amendments are not accepted by the Democrats without a fight the Republicans will not insist upon them. The amendments are really made by Mr. Reid, of Maine, with an eye single to passing the Geneva award bill, which is buried deep under other bills upon the calendar. One thing is certain, however, if the amendments are not adopted the House will finish its appropriation bills and go home, as it is in despair about getting through anything but privileged legislation under the present rules.

A Horrible and Mysterious Murder.

Boston, March 7.—This morning a Mrs. Harriet Bell was walking in Kirkland street, near her home, a well dressed man ran up behind her and spoke to her, then cut her throat. She fell to the ground. She was heard to say to the man just before she was cut "I don't know you." The assassin has not been arrested.

Mr. Bell, but seemed to demonstrate his theory, as the boiler began leaking when the pressure of 220 pounds of steam was attained. Another test will be made to-morrow.

A Meritorious Measure.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Mr. Culbertson reported from the Committee on Judiciary to-day the bill mentioned in my dispatches some days ago, designed to prevent railroads from carrying suits brought against them in States other than those in which they are incorporated from local courts to United States courts. The bill has been subjected to some important amendments. It now includes all classes of corporations chartered by one State and doing business in another State. This will prevent insurance and other companies from transferring suits brought against them in States

COCHET CLAIM KING.

PETER HEVENER'S CAREER IN PERU.

How he Built Railroads and Bridges, Managed an Immense Mercantile Business and Speculated in a Hundred Ways During the Last Quarter of a Century.

PHILADELPHIA, March 7.—"Why, fifty or a hundred thousand dollars is but a mite to man who makes up his mind to be on the top of the heap," said Peter Hevener, the head center, chief prophet and big medicine man of the Cochet and Landreaux claims against the Peruvian Government, as he settled himself in a cozy crimson velvet chair and raked his hands through his silvery hair, as if scratching out projects by which countless millions might be made. It would be difficult to find a better type of an American speculator than Mr. Hevener, and although forty years of his eventful life have been spent in active business in nearly every quarter of the globe, he remains at sixty years hale and hearty and as bright, vigorous and energetic as he was when, with the argonauts of '49, he sought the modern Golden Fleece. From San Francisco he drifted to Australia, where he started a mill and a stage-coach company, but to use his own language he "only made a few thousands for six months' work and that was too slow."

In 1852, with \$10,000 in his possession, he landed in Peru, and a man who never secured the contract to build a line of road from Lima to a town nine miles distant. This was the second railroad in Peru, and before it was completed he had secured contracts for building a \$500,000 road from Callao to Lima, and making several hundred thousand dollars' worth of repairs to the wharves at Lima.

REMARKABLE SELF-RELIANCE.

"Did you know anything about railroads when you took the first contract?" asked the reporter.

"Not a thing," he replied, coolly, "but I was confident that I could do it, and although it was up-hill work for awhile I soon made it down. Oh, I never saw a piece of work that I did not get done. I was the old man with a confidence that would have appalled a less-determined man."

"Peru was a great spot for Americans in those days, for the Peruvians had no taste for gold and silver and rather admired a man with big ideas and a moderate pocket-stricken but blue-blooded Spaniard's equipment at what, in the United States, would have been considered a princely salary, and he said: 'Work! Me work! No, señor, I am no jackass.'"

A GLANCE SHOWED MILLIONS IN IT.

In 1853, with no less than seven contracts on his hands, Mr. Hevener found time to become interested in a French chemist named Alexander Cochet, who had in 1840 discovered a process of extracting quinine from the Chinchino guano islands. By government decree Cochet was entitled to thirty-three per cent of the profits of his discovery, but he never received a cent, and when the American speculator met him was very poor. He was living in a miserable tenement and a prize of \$10,000, which the government of Bolivia gave him for discovering the best method of extracting quinine from Peruvian bark, in the thirteen years throughout which he pressed his claims in vain. He was then a poor, thin, old man, and he said: "I was in a half circle, and saw there were millions in it. I've sopped up my own money by the thousands, and am to-day as confident of the justice and validity of the claim as I was when I first heard of it. Cochet, who died in a Paris almshouse, told his story. The American advanced money to Cochet and they worked some months energetically, but finally the Frenchman, broken down by sickness and trouble, returned to his native country. He left a son in Lima, and Mr. Hevener still continued to agitate the matter."

Shortly after this Mr. Hevener became acquainted with a French chemist and naturalist named J. T. Landreaux, who, like Cochet, claimed that several guano islands were his as the discoverer of certain other guano islands.

THE MAN WHO CLAIMS \$200,000,000.

"For years Landreaux had worried and bored the government with his claim," said Mr. Hevener, "and was, when I found him, in the most abject poverty. He lived alone in a room that was not cleaned for sixteen years. This den was in an alley, and he allowed but few persons to enter, being afraid his papers would be stolen. When I last visited the place the cobwebs hung from the ceiling like clusters of Spanish moss, and many of the bunches were three feet long. In this miserable place, filled with dust-covered specimens of birds, animals and plants, a miserable creature, as I have said, was to be seen. He was a thin, old man, and he said: 'I was in a half circle, and saw there were millions in it. I've sopped up my own money by the thousands, and am to-day as confident of the justice and validity of the claim as I was when I first heard of it. Cochet, who died in a Paris almshouse, told his story. The American advanced money to Cochet and they worked some months energetically, but finally the Frenchman, broken down by sickness and trouble, returned to his native country. He left a son in Lima, and Mr. Hevener still continued to agitate the matter.'"

\$1,500,000 EARNED IN A YEAR.

The next two years Hevener was engaged in fulfilling government contracts for work on a public road, building bridges, and occupying his time by trading in the products of the country. In 1859 he imported \$200,000 worth of machinery from the United States and fitted up a saw-mill and woodwork factory. He was on a minute's notice ready to start on a mining expedition, and he had no contracts on hand and nothing but the mill, the guano claims and a little \$30,000 debt in nitrate to attend to, I began looking around for something big." He resolved to start the largest finished lumber mill in South America. Eight days after this resolution was formed he sailed for New York, where he purchased \$75,000 worth of machinery and learned that Governor Sanford, of California, was making arrangements to "buy" \$300,000 worth of kerosene oil in Lima and Peru.

"Then," said Mr. Hevener, "the speculation blazed upon me and every step I took I felt like kicking myself for not thinking of coal oil years before. For they had nothing but candles in Peru at that time."

"Nothing but candles," echoed the reporter. "Nothing but candles," re-echoed Mr. Hevener, who sighed as his mind went

FRESH FOREIGN FACTS.

GLEANED FROM CABLE DISPATCHES.

A Session in London Over the Discovery of a Secret Treaty Between Germany and France.

The Relation Between Germany and Russia Strained—Foreign Notes.

LONDON, March 7.—The St. James Gazette says: A strange report comes from Brussels that a convention exists between Germany and France agreeing to the annexation by the latter, of Luxembourg, in certain eventualities.

It is stated that the Sultan informed the German envoy at Constantinople that he is desirous of visiting Western Europe.

The German press is indignant at Gen. Skobelev's speeches at Warsaw, in which he flattered the Poles by saying if there would be a German garrison at Warsaw there would be a German Poland.

Moscow, March 7.—There are serious signs of a movement among the Poles.

Osessa, March 7.—Important arrests of nihilists have been made here lately. A secret press has been discovered.

REVENUE IN LONDON.

LONDON, March 7.—A statement has been created in political circles by the announcement to-day in the St. James Gazette of a discovery that there has for some time past been in existence a secret convention between the Governments of Germany and France. The Gazette says its information is from Berlin, and is of a positive and authentic nature. It says that the convention does not give many details of the convention, but says the convention is a matter of fact, and arranges, among other things, the annexation of Luxembourg to France under certain eventualities.

This news recalls the visit of Gambetta to Bismarck sometime ago, and the various conjectures as to what the visit was really intended to accomplish. It also lends fresh interest to the recently published Paris version of the speeches of Skobelev in the East, and to the Russian authorities and intended to feel the pulse of France as to its bearing against Germany, which country Skobelev had said was the great obstacle in the path of Russia toward the East.

The renewed activity of Russia in the East has been the subject of much thought in Europe. It was conjectured once, on the publication of this news, that Germany, foreseeing danger from Russia, has wisely laid a plan to prevent France from seeking revenge for the disaster at Sedan by allying with the great Northern Power.

DISASTROUS STORM.

CITY OF MEXICO, March 7.—The disastrous effect of Monday night's storm is reported from all parts of the city. The principal market is a total wreck. The corrugated iron roofing gave way, pulling down all the stone supporters. Two Indians were killed.

RUSSO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

BERLIN, March 7.—The Volksrecht says: "Either the Czar agrees with General Skobelev, or he is powerless against him. The peaceful assurances of Prince Orloff, Russian Ambassador at Paris, therefore, are to no avail."

The German Gazette, referring to rumors from St. Petersburg, that the customs authorities intend raising the duties on articles hitherto admitted free, says it becomes necessary for Germany to give serious attention to the question of reprisals by heavy duties on Russian exports.

THE ATTEST MUST GO.

LONDON, March 7.—Earl Redesdale's bill excluding the names of the members of Parliament had a first reading in the House of Lords.

FOREIGN NOTES.

During January and February 12,655 emigrants sailed from Hamburg for the United States.

The sculling race between Lagan and Goodin, American, was won by the former by two lengths after a good race.

A Moscow correspondent says: The customs officers have discovered falsified dynamite, in cases remaining unclaimed.

At the London wool sales yesterday 9,900 bales were disposed of, comprising New South Wales, Victorian and Cape. Prices very firm.

During February the British imports decreased £2,000,000, and the exports increased £2,100,000, as compared with the same month last year.

SUFFERING SOUTHERNERS.

The Appeals for Aid—What the Government is Doing.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Appeals for aid in the region overflowed by the Mississippi river, continue to pour in upon the Secretary of War. Governor Chittenden, of Missouri, sent a response to telegrams advising him that 5,000 additional rations would be sent to each of two points that he may name. The Secretary has referred the response to General McClellan, Commissary General of Subsistence, directing him to give the necessary instructions to carry out the suggestions.

A telegram to the Secretary of War from Governor Hawkins, of Tennessee, says that he has reliable information that about 3,000 persons in the counties of Tennessee bordering on the Mississippi river, are in a destitute and suffering condition.

Governor Hawkins earnestly asks that a portion of the fund appropriated be applied to the immediate relief of the sufferers of Tennessee.

In reply the Secretary telegraphed Governor Hawkins asking for information by telegraph of the locality for distribution, the names of the commissioners and as nearly as possible the number to be relieved at each point.

Governor Cullom, of Illinois, telegraphs that the County Board of Pulaski county estimates the number needing assistance at 4,000, and recommends that the Secretary as Commissioner of Food and Clothing.

The Secretary directs Governor Cullom to send Wilson to Mound City, and informs him that 16,000 rations have been sent to that point.

The Secretary also telegraphed Generals Mangum and Heningway, commissioners at Memphis and Arkansas and Mississippi, asking for information as to the number they are supplying and how long the 10,000 rations sent them will last.

Governor Lowry, of Mississippi, asks by telegraph if the Secretary will send 10,000 rations to Greenville. A great many whites and blacks are congregated there with no shelter.

The House Committee on Commerce gave a hearing this morning to the committee appointed by the Mississippi Valley Convention, held in St. Louis last October, the object being to impress upon the Committee and upon Congress the great importance of making an appropriation of four million dollars, as asked for by the Commission appointed under an act of Congress two years ago.

A Terre Haute (Ind.) dispatch says: This morning blood, pieces of coal and brains were found on the grade through the river bottoms west of this city. Doctors pronounced the skull to be that of a human being. Evidence of a struggle were visible from the top of the grade down to the water's edge. The police were unable to find a body, and the busy trying to connect the case. It is feared there has been foul play.

RAILROAD AFFAIRS.

Decision Against Vanderbilt—Hannibal & St. Joe Matters.

COLUMBUS, O., March 7.—In the case of the State of Ohio in relation to the Attorney General vs. W. H. Vanderbilt et al., the Supreme Court to-day decided in favor of the plaintiff by allowing a judgment of ouster, thus declaring the consolidation of the C. C. & I. and the C. H. & D. roads and leased lines illegal. The roads were bought up by Vanderbilt last summer and consolidated last September under the name of the Ohio Railway Company. As the system included most of the roads in the State and Vanderbilt had been in the litigation over the matter ever since the consolidation was effected, and that the final adjustment of the case. It is held by the court that the lines running from Toledo to Cincinnati and from Cleveland to Cincinnati are competing lines, and under the law the State cannot be consolidated.

St. Louis, March 7.—The attorney for the Hannibal & St. Joe railroad filed yesterday the amended supplemental bill in the proceedings against Governor Crittenden to restrain him from enforcing the State law for sale of a lease of the State. The affidavits restraining that motion are to the effect that certain negotiations are now pending between the parties to said action by which they are endeavoring to adjust their equities, as between themselves, suggested by the Court in passing the bill. The bill is now on the calendar upon the former plea, for a temporary injunction in this case, and it is only in the event of their failure to so adjust said equities; and that it is desired to file said bill. It is important that the complainants have to make bill, and to file the same in case the efforts now being made to effect an adjustment shall prove fruitless, because there is a large sum of money, to wit, the sum of \$3,000,000 in currency, and that one party, or other is sustaining the bill, and before the same of about the sum of \$100,000 per diem, and that said negotiations will either be concluded or broken off within the next twenty days, and in the event that this leave is not granted to the complainants, they will be compelled to wait until the next rule day, and it is desired that the court should grant the bill, and that it becomes necessary to file said amended supplemental bill, they can do so if this leave is granted before the next rule day. Attorney General McIntyre for the State, in reply to the bill, asked the granting of the motion, but the court overruled the objection and granted the motion.

CAPITAL CELLINGS.

National News Notes and Current Comment at Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The Senate Military Committee this morning appointed Senators Harrison, Hawley and Hampton as a sub-committee to confer with the Secretary of War in regard to making an additional appropriation for the relief of the persons rendered destitute by the floods in the southwest. Reports from Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana are that the supplies already issued are inadequate. The sub-committee will confer with Secretary Lincoln immediately, with a view of making such provision for the food sufferers as is necessary.

Representative Harris has completed his report on the bill for the construction of new war vessels. The report covers about eighty legal cap pages.

Rear Admiral Balch, in a communication dated Valparaiso, Chili, February 4," reports that he has received from General Maria, accompanied by General Belknap and McCann and his personal staff, and was very cordially received