The Charleston Daily News.

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THE BLUE RIDGE CASE.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE COMPTROLLER-GENERAL'S RETURN.

The Argument to be Heard To-day—The New Republican Paper in Columbia.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEWS.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., December 26.

In the Supreme Court to-day the Blue Ridge case was called up. Attorney-General Melton read the following return:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA—IN THE SUPREME COURT.

The State of South Carolina ex rel. Robert C. Shiver, J. P. Southern, W. C. Swaffield and W. B. Gulick, against Solomon L. Hoge, comptroller-general of said State—Return to rule.

To the Honorable Supreme Court of said State:

Solomon L. Hoge, comptroller-general of the said State, upon whom has been served a rule issued by this Honorable Court, ordering him to show cause before the said court why a writ of mandamus should not issue commanding him to give notice to the several county auditors of the said State of the rate per centum of three mills on the dollar on the assessed value of all the taxable property of the State for the redemption of the treasury certificates, (styled revenue bond scrip) alleged to be now owned and held by the petitioners, and to levy and cause to be levied the said tax as provided for in and by the fourth section of the act recited in the said petition, and that such other order may be had in the premises as justice may require, to the end that the said tax where levied and collected may be applied to the redemption of the said treasury certificates, (styled revenue bond scrip) alleged to be now owned and held by the petitioners, for return and answer to the said rule, and for cause why a writ of mandamus should not issue as suggested, sets forth and shows as follows:

First. Because by the provisions of the act of March 2, 1872, no portion of said certificates are required to be retired until after the expiration of twelve months from their date; that before the expiration of that time no suit can be had in behalf of any private individual under the said act, and that if any wrong has been done or any breach of duty required by the said act, such wrong or breach is a public wrong, and can only be remedied at the suit of the Governor or attorney-general, or some other officer of the executive department.

Second. Because no demand has ever been made upon the comptroller-general to give notice to the county auditors of each county of the annual tax of three mills on the dollar on the assessed value of all taxable property in the State for the redemption of the said treasury certificates (styled revenue bond scrip) held by the petitioners, to levy and collect and cause to be levied and collected the said taxes provided for by the fourth section of the act of the General Assembly, passed 2d March, 1872, and recited in the petition filed in this case.

Third. Because the General Assembly was induced to enact the act of March 2, 1872, by the representations of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, that the conditions required by the act of 15th September, 1868, entitled an act to authorize additional aid to the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, in South Carolina, had been complied with, and that the State of South Carolina had become liable to pay the bonds of the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company, authorized by the said act; and this respondent avers, and for cause shows that the said representation was not true; that the State was not liable to pay the said bonds or any part thereof, and that the consideration had failed, which had led the General Assembly to direct the issue of the certificates mentioned in the said act of 2d March, 1872; that the said Blue Ridge Railroad Company, and all the persons who became holders of the said certificates, had notice before or at the time they received the same, and this respondent, as the chief fiscal officer of the State, is bound by his duty to interpose until the said defence of the State can be had in the proper tribunals, and to submit the same as a sufficient objection to the extraordinary remedy by writ of mandamus.

Fourth. Because the act of March 2, 1872, recited in the petition, is unconstitutional, null and void, in that it is repugnant to the constitution of this State, in the following particulars:

1. The constitution (art. 9, sec. 10) ordains that "no scrip, certificate, or other evidence of State indebtedness, shall be issued, except for the redemption of stock, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness previously issued, or for such debts as are expressly authorized in this constitution;" and this respondent avers, and for cause shows, that none of the certificates set forth in the petition were issued for the redemption of stock, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness previously issued, or for such debts as are expressly authorized in the said constitution.

2. The said Constitution of the State of South Carolina further ordains (article 9, section 14,) that "any debt contracted by the State shall be by loan on State bonds of amounts not less than fifty dollars each, on interest payable within twenty years after the final passage of the law authorizing such debt;" and this respondent avers, and for cause shows, that none of the said several certificates set forth in the petition have been made or issued in the form or payable in the time and manner prescribed as aforesaid by the said constitution.

3. The said constitution of the State of South Carolina further ordains (article 1, section 41,) that "all powers not therein delegated are reserved to the people;" that the power delegated to contract debts is expressly limited (article 9, section 7) to the purpose of defraying extraordinary expenditures; and this respondent avers, and for cause shows, that none of the certificates set forth in the petition were made or issued for the purpose of defraying extraordinary expenditures, and were issued without sufficient authority, and so are null and void.

5. Because the said act is null and void, in that it is repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, which ordains (article 1, section 10) that no State shall emit bills of credit or make "anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts."

6. Because the act of March 2, 1872, evinces in its various provisions a design to effect what is declared unconstitutional by the State and Federal constitutions; that all its provisions are connected in subject matter, depending on each other, and operating together for the same purpose, and are illegal and void; that more especially the provision which makes the levy and requires the collection of the tax of three mills, is intended to give effect to this violation of the constitution, and is therefore unconstitutional and void; and that the said provision does not impose upon this respondent any duty which can be enforced by the judgment of any court, either by writ of mandamus or otherwise.

7. Because in conformity with the constitution of the State, (article 2, section 30,) this respondent has taken his oath of office, by which he has sworn to support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of South Carolina, and he cannot be required to levy or collect a tax or perform any other act in furtherance of objects inconsistent with either of said constitutions, or with respondent's oath of office.

8. Because the annual tax act for the current year has already been passed by the Legislature, and the levy in pursuance thereof was actually made previous to the service of the rule in this case, and no further levy and collection of taxes for any purpose can be made until the lapse of the current fiscal year.

9. Because under proceedings duly had in the courts of the State the said act of March 2, 1872, has been declared null and void, and the said certificates mentioned in the petition have been declared illegal; and the various officers of the State in the treasury department thereof have been enjoined from receiving or issuing the same; that such proceedings are still pending, and it would have been, and is now, unlawful for this respondent to take the action prayed for in this petition.

10. Because, even should the said proceedings terminate in declaring the provisions of the said act to be legal, it will become a financial question at what time to levy and collect the tax set forth in the said act, the solution of which belongs to the discretion of the executive department of the government.

SAMUEL W. MELTON,
Attorney-General.
C. G. MEMMINGER,
Of Counsel for the Respondent.

Sworn to, &c.,
SOLOMON L. HOGE, Comptroller-General.

The Hon. J. B. Campbell, for the relators, asked for a postponement till to-morrow to enable him to prepare an answer to matter set forth in the return. The motion was granted. It is expected that the argument in the case will be made to-morrow.

But few members of the Legislature are yet in town. It is doubtful if there will be a quorum in either house to-morrow.

The Daily Evening Herald, the new Columbia paper, is to make its first appearance to-morrow. It will be a handsome twenty-four column paper, Republican, of course, but not Radical in tone. The firm to be announced as its proprietors will be Messrs. Andrews, Northrop & Co., and the editors will be Messrs. Lucius C. Northrop and Major E. W. Everson, who has for about two years been the local and news editor of the Union.

PICKET.

PATTERSON AND PROTECTION.

A New Application of Old Principles.

[From the New York Evening Post.]

Mr. John J. Patterson is the new United States senator from South Carolina, elected by the Republicans, and, possibly, to be greeted by a motion for a committee of investigation before he has warmed the seat of his senatorial arm-chair. The charge of his having bought the Legislature of his State is made against him in the most unequivocal terms, and an opportunity ought to be given him to disprove it if not true. That he denies it was to be expected, but a simple denial is not sufficient, and ought not to satisfy either the public or himself where the accusation is so grave and so circumstantial.

But Mr. Patterson does not simply deny that he resorted to any improper means to secure his seat; he affirms what special influence he did use, and by which he captivated the legislators of South Carolina. He is, it seems, a native of Pennsylvania, and is proud to uphold in the State of his adoption the principles which are supposed especially to distinguish that of his birth. He went, he says, before the people of South Carolina as a candidate for the United States Senate "on the broad principles of protection to home industry." He presented his views also in a legislative convention of both parties, and so acceptable were they that a number of Democrats gave him their votes in addition to those of his own party. The purchase of the Legislature was this and this only—that he promised that South Carolina should be under the beneficent rule of protection as great and prosperous as the State from which he came.

Mr. Patterson's presentation of the subject was both simple and comprehensive. All that South Carolina needs, he told his people, is that she should manufacture her own raw material, instead of sending it to Europe and New England, to be manufactured there and returned in cloth. He seems to have assumed that so far as South Carolina is concerned there is no protection against foreign competition in manufactured cotton goods, and yet he, of course, knows, whether they know it or not in South Carolina, that there is no possible texture of cotton that is not covered by the tariff. The protection then that the people need, and which Mr. Patterson refers to, is not against foreign competition, for that they have already in common with the rest of the country, but against Northern competition. It is the goods from Lowell, Lawrence, Newark, York Mills and elsewhere that must be kept out of South Carolina in order to encourage her people to manufacture their raw material. She must have a State tariff, and as, of course, they are not so mad as to hope for any such thing by State action—for nullification in any form must be understood by this time to be a losing business—they can only mean to ask for it of Congress. Mr. Patterson's first duty, after disposing of the committee of investigation, will be to introduce a bill for the protection of home industry in South Carolina.

And why not? Why may he not reckon with reason upon the support of his fellow members of the same faith in both houses of Congress? If it was a good thing to foster the manufacturing interest of Massachusetts and Rhode Island against the competition of England and France, why is it not an equally good thing to protect South Carolina against Massachusetts and Rhode Island? Why, indeed, is it not a better and a more reasonable thing to do this last than it ever was to do the first? The raw material is not the growth of New England as it is of the South, and therein the South has a great advantage over the North. There is not an argument or a consideration that was ever brought forward to uphold the wisdom or the necessity of a protective tariff for this country as in competition with any other that may not be applied with ten-fold force to the competition between the South and the North. That the New England State and the Southern State are in the same Federal Union, and, therefore, there can be no recognition of any antagonistic interest between them, is an objection of no force whatever; for if the antagonism really exists, and a tariff can be made to protect the interest of one portion of the people at the expense of the other, then the Union is oppressive and cruel. So let Mr. Patterson bring in his little bill and push his protective friends to conclusions. Give South Carolina the protection she needs if that be the true policy. A principle is good for nothing that will not bear the test of the extremest application, and there could not be a fairer trial than the suggestion of which Mr. Patterson intimates secured him his election.

PRANKS OF JACK FROST.

New York Isolated from Telegraphic Communication with Outside Points—Great Destruction of Property—The Floods.

NEW YORK, January 6.

Yesterday morning, shortly after ten o'clock, a rain storm began, which soon turned to sleet, and continued until late in the afternoon, when everything became fringed with ice. No such spectacle was witnessed in years before. The trees were cased in ice. Locomotion on the sidewalks became almost impossible, and throughout the day the streets looked deserted.

About half-past one the telegraphic communication with points outside the city was stopped. The wires were broken down by the ice. The police and fire alarm telegraphs were destroyed throughout the city, the wires and poles falling in the streets. The whole of New York became isolated as regards communication with the outside world. It will cost one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to repair the fire alarm and police wires, and the work cannot be completed for some time.

In the meanwhile extraordinary measures have been taken to insure prompt transmission of fire alarms. Mounted patrolmen are kept in the station-houses, and the police and the firemen are to work amicably together in case of emergency. No dispatches were received here yesterday, either from the West or East. There never was so complete a wreck of telegraph wires in this city, not even during the July riot of ten years ago. Great damage was done to trees by breaking off limbs from the great weight of ice. At ten o'clock last night the already high wind increased to a gale from the southwest, clearing off a dense fog which prevailed, and this A. M. is bright, with a falling thermometer. All streets in low situations in this city, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Williamsburg, Hoboken and other neighboring places are badly flooded.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

—George Page, the well known engineer and inventor, is dead.

—Colonel T. P. Robb, late collector of customs at Savannah, has been paid $232 by the United States Government in final settlement of his account.

—Attorney-General Williams has prohibited the use of the United States Courthouse at Montgomery, Alabama, for State legislative purposes.

—The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce was thronged yesterday with influential citizens, assembled to protest against the session of Goat Island to the Central Pacific Railroad Company.

—The citizens of Columbus, Ohio, were aroused on last Saturday night by a low rumbling noise and three startling detonations, the cause of which has not yet been discovered. Many suppose it to have been an earthquake.

DISRAELI'S WIFE.

THE CAREER OF A STATESMAN'S SPOUSE.

Comments of The Thunderer on the Death of Lady Beaconsfield.

The London Times, of December 16, in announcing, editorially, the death of Lady Beaconsfield, the wife of Mr. Disraeli, says:

"Thus closes, in the fulness of years, a life which has exerted no inconsiderable influence on English politics. She stands out a striking illustration of the power the most unobtrusive of women may exercise while keeping herself strictly to a woman's sphere. Looking back on the long and tender relationship which has been gently dissolved in course of nature, we are irresistibly reminded of the feelings expressed by Mohammed when the Prophet of the Faithful lost the loving woman he had married in days of comparative obscurity. "By God," he exclaimed in an outburst of regretful gratitude, as he raised her solemnly to the rank of the four perfect women; "by God, there never can be a better wife. She believed in me when men despised me. She relieved my wants when I was poor and persecuted by the world." It was deep-seated, kindly sentiment of the sort which made Mr. Disraeli the devoted husband Lady Beaconsfield found him, and once he vented it with equally honest vehemence in reproof of an indiscreet acquaintance who ventured indelicately on personal ground. His wife had come to his help when life threatened to be too short to assure him the prospect he had dreamt of. At length he had taken his seat in Parliament. He came to it conscious of the possession of no ordinary political talents, and of the rarer gifts which should make a great party leader. He had always believed in himself, and had never scrupled to proclaim his faith ostentatiously. He knew himself to combine originality and versatility, with absolute independence of thought and a contemptuous indifference to party tradition. He had cast in his lot with the Conservatives, and those were the very qualities to enable a man to rally a beaten party upon new ground, and to fight a losing battle in face of the inevitable Liberal advance. But time was everything to him, and the precious time was slipping away fast. As yet he sat almost alone; he had few friends and no intimates. Ancient as it was, his birth was against him—the country gentlemen would have been slow to admit to companionship a lineal descendant even of the Maccabees—so were his dress and demeanor, the style of his speech, and even his somewhat eccentric literary reputation. More than that, he had already failed in the House, to the disappointment of the political chief who had expected great things of him. He felt, in short, that he was regarded askance as an unsuccessful adventurer. Had the leaders of his party been in the secret of his aspirations, they would have scoffed at them as the insane visions of an enthusiast. Believing in himself more firmly than ever, his strong common sense could only tend to discourage him on a nearer view of the difficulties before him. With time and patience he might win, no doubt; but who could say the time would be given him? Life is precarious; anxiety and disappointment tell terribly on a sanguine and ardent nature. A little of the material prosperity that seemed the common lot of the luckier men around him would make all the difference; for England then, more than now, insisted upon a high property qualification as a material guarantee for the virtue of her statesmen. When he might well have despaired had his nature been a despondent one, a fortunate marriage smoothed the path of his ambition.

It is no fault of ours if we have to write rather of the husband than the wife. From their wedding day till now, the existence of the one was merged in that of the other. It was their mutual happiness that the wife lived only in the husband; the husband's extraordinary career was the happy achievement of her life, and it was her pride to shine in the reflection of his fame. She was the daughter of Mr. John Evans, of Bampford Speke, Devon, but had inherited the bulk of her fortune as heiress of her uncle, Sir James Viney, of Taynton Manor, Glamorganshire. In 1815 she had married Mr. Wyndham Lewis, Mr. Disraeli's predecessor in the representation of Maidstone. Mr. Lewis died in 1838, and in the following year his widow became the wife of Mr. Disraeli. Mrs. Disraeli was many years her second husband's senior; (when she died she had reached the venerable age of eighty-three) on the other hand, she had the money he desired for something better than sordid motives. But Mr. Disraeli was too shrewd a man to pay for name and power at the price of happiness. It is certain he chose wisely every way, and seldom has a marriage proved more of a love match than his. We are glad to believe that the romance of real life often begins at the point where it invariably ends in fiction. Practical considerations may arrange preliminaries, and passion only awaken when the natures that have hidden their softer and brighter qualities are brought for the first time into familiar contact. It burns with a steadier and purer flame when it is fed on esteem rather than transports. Esteem, indeed, is the most genuine form of love, and, as we have seen, Mr. Disraeli's esteem for his wife was heightened by a most lively sense of gratitude. His gratitude was characteristic of one who was no ordinary man. It gave evidence of the nobler qualities that secured his political success. It flowed in a current at once steady and calm and deep, and flowed with a force and constancy of purpose not to be diverted by the accidents of his career. He kept no close debtor and creditor account with his conscience, while he passed from triumph to triumph. How many husbands, far less engrossed abroad, have considered a tithe of the fame he won sufficient acquittal of so old a debt! How many content themselves with leaving their wives to enjoy prosperity in isolation! Mr. Disraeli did no such thing, although for that he would claim but little credit. The fact is his wife made his home a very happy one, and he turned to its peacefulness with intense relief in the midst of fierce political turmoil. We are apt to forget that most men lead a double life; that those of the strongest natures and sharpest individuality show themselves in the most marked contrasts. It was a pretty sight, that of the remorseless Parliamentary gladiator, who neither gave quarter nor asked it, who fought with venomed weapons although he struck fair, and shot barbed darts which clung and rankled in the wounds—it was a pretty sight to see him in the soft sunshine of domestic life, anticipating the wishes of his wife with feminine tenderness of consideration, and receiving her ministering with the evident enjoyment which is the most delicate flattery of all. The secret of the spell which she held him by was a simple one. She loved with her whole heart and soul, she believed in him above all men, and he appreciated at its real worth that single-minded, self-sacrificing devotion. It is difficult to overrate the strength and support given by unstinted love like that, and few, we suspect, appreciate it more than those who would seem to need it the least. It is neither counsel nor sparkle, but observant, ready sympathy that a man of energy and self-reliance longs for in moments of exhaustion and depression, and the more impassable the mask he wears, the greater the relief of being able to drop it in private. Lady Beaconsfield was very far from being a reserved woman. She must have often talked too fast and freely for her husband's liking; occasionally the expressions of her artless admiration of him were caught up and colored, to be circulated as "good stories" at dinner tables; but the intuitive instinct of her affection set a seal on her lips in the minutest matters where her talk might do him an injury. She was very much in his confidence, and she was never known to betray it. Except for the subtle influences of the home she made him, the help she brought was passive rather than active from first to last. All he had asked was fair play for his talents at the start; her fortune had given him that, and he did the rest himself. So in after years, while he led his party in the Lower House, or served the State as Premier of England, she had neither social talents nor fascination to place at his disposal. It was not in her to make his *salons* a centre of society, to gather within the range of his influence eminent Englishmen and influential foreigners, or to sway by the reputation of brilliant reunions the easy opinions of liberal-minded politicians. She was no Lady Palmerston to act as her husband's most trusted ally, working for him in season and out of season with tact quickened by love. Her death will leave no gap behind her which bereaved society will find it hard to fill. But, perhaps, her husband will lose the more, that society will lose the less. Her love for him was wonderful, "passing the love of women." It was shown in traits of unobtrusive heroism worthy the matrons of republican Rome. Few men can boast the courageous self-command which made her conceal, during a long drive to Westminister, the pain of a finger crushed in the carriage door, lest she should agitate her husband on the eve of a great party debate. She knew a word could always bring her the sympathy that was her sweetest consolation, but to the last her one thought was to spare him. Surprised by a sudden flow of blood from an incurable cancer, knowing that her doom was certain, and that their happy wedded life was fast drawing to its end, she had the touching resolution to preserve her secret; while, all the time knowing it as well as she, he never for a moment suffered her to guess his knowledge, or gave her the grief of seeing him suffer. It was the graceful symbol of the chivalrous devotion which had never wavered, it was an appropriate return for the inestimable services she had done him when in November, 1868, he could offer her the peerage bestowed in acknowledgment of a distinguished career. The loss of his companion has snapped the tender associations of a lifetime, and must have left a blank which nothing can entirely fill. The sympathy of the public can count for little when he misses that he has so long been used to. Yet to a veteran in public life there must be comfort in the thought that the public you have served is feeling with you; that England, irrespective of party, deplores even the timely termination of an essentially English union.

HANGING NOT PLAYED OUT.

Stokes, the Murderer of Fisk, Sentenced to be Hanged on the 28th of February.

NEW YORK, January 6—A. M.

Stokes's counsel have determined to take a bill of exceptions. Stay proceedings will be instituted immediately, and steps taken to obtain a new trial. Stokes will be sentenced to-day, and afterwards placed in the murderers' row in the Tombs.

LATER.—After the notice of exception to the judge's rulings, Stokes was asked what he had to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him. Stokes, in reply, said he had not intentially violated any law, and that the testimony upon which he was convicted was manufactured and perjured. Judge Boardman then, in a feeling address, in which he alluded to the prisoner's youth and social surroundings, sentenced him to be hanged on Friday, the twenty-eighth day of February next, the interval being the shortest time that could be legally allowed the murderer.

MRS. WHARTON AGAIN ON TRIAL.

ANNAPOLIS, January 6.

Mrs. Wharton, when arraigned for an attempt to poison Vanness, was attended by her daughter Nellie and other friends who supported her during her trial for the murder of General Ketchum.

JOTTINGS ABOUT THE STATE.

—Laurens County pays a tax of fifteen and one-half mills.

—It is reported that the postmaster at Spartanburg is missing.

—Quite a quantity of cotton was sold in Bennettsville on New Year's day, and business generally was brisk.

—The hop which took place last week at the Sea Island Hotel in Beaufort was a magnificent affair.

—Mr. Hylor Ott, a young gentleman who was much esteemed by the community at Aiken, died there on Saturday last.

—An amateur theatrical entertainment is soon to be given at Aiken, and a calico ball is on the tapis.

—At Aiken on Saturday night last there was thunder, lightning and rain; but no witches and no Macbeth.

—Colonel Bacon, of Edgefield, is looking after the establishment of a race course in the vicinity of Aiken.

—The hot supper given by the citizens of Laurens on New Year's Eve, at the Female College, was a thorough success.

—The receipts of the oratorio given for the benefit of the Bennettsville Presbyterian Church were fifty dollars.

—The Florence Pioneer likes our heading "Jottings about the State" so much that it has adopted it.

—Governor Moses has appointed Jonathan Abercombie and Ellis Thompson trial justices for Laurens County.

—Mr. Tuxbury, the newly appointed treasurer of Union County, has not yet succeeded in giving a satisfactory bond, although Niles G. Parker is one of the indorsers.

—The wrecking tug Resolute towed into Port Royal harbor last week the schooner James Jones laden with 175,000 feet of lumber from Jacksonville, Fla. She has been repaired and has gone to sea.

—The examination and exhibition of Mr. Lucas Chambers's school at Long Creek on December 13, passed off creditably, and was well attended. A bountiful dinner was given by the citizens of the community, of which all persons present were invited to partake.

—The Elliott Hook and Ladder Company, of Orangeburg, are to have a grand concert and entertainment at their new hall at an early day. A fine band from Columbia will be present, and besides vocal music by some lady and gentlemen amateurs, there will be readings and recitations by Judge Knowlton and W. J. DeTreville, Esq.

—The Florence Pioneer complains of a Ku-Klux attack on their office on Thursday night last, and calls upon Governor Moses for protection. The editor, however, seems to have been able to take care of himself, as he slammed the door of his office into the faces of the desperadoes, and was not at all alarmed when they endeavored to blow up the establishment with a teaspoonful of gunpowder.

MURDER IN BALTIMORE.

An Aged Woman Found Dead in Her House—$1200 Taken.

[From the Baltimore American, January 3.]

A most deliberate and cold-blooded murder was committed last night in the eastern section of the city. Mr. John Mercer Lampley, residing at No. 102 Mulliken street, left his residence with his married daughter, Mrs. John English, for Ford's Opera-house, leaving his wife in good health. About half-past nine o'clock a grown up son returned home, and being unable to gain admittance either by the front or back way, forced his way into the house by the aid of some of his neighbors. A terrible sight met his gaze. His aged mother lay dead on the floor of the parlor, but without any marks of violence. An alarm was raised, and the neighbors flocked in. On the return of the family it was found that the house had been robbed of one thousand dollars in bank notes and one hundred and fifty dollars in gold. The rings were taken from her fingers, and her pockets were turned inside out. Mrs. Lampley wore a valuable pair of earrings, one of which was torn from her ear, and was subsequently found on the floor beside the corpse. The murdered woman was about seventy years of age, though quite active and vigorous. The money was in a small trunk in a cupboard, which was forced open. Intelligence was communicated to the police authorities, and Marshal Gray and Deputy Marshal Frey, with Captain Kenny, of the Eastern District, reached the scene before Mr. Lampley had returned from the theatre. Coroner Sultzer was notified and visited the scene of mourning, but after viewing the body decided to defer holding an inquest until this morning. The house is one of a row on Mulliken street, between Caroline and Bond, and on the left runs a wide alley to the rear of the door of the kitchen, and it is supposed that the murderer entered from the rear. Mr. Lampley, the husband of the murdered lady, was formerly a fisherman, but for years past had followed carting, and had amassed a considerable sum of money. He was supposed by his neighbors to be very wealthy, and it is thought that whoever committed the bloody deed went for plunder. Dr. Andre, the family physician, will make a post mortem, the result of which will come before the jury this morning. The scene at the house at one o'clock this morning, when the children and grandchildren of the murdered woman had assembled, was one not easily described. The aged husband seemed to lose all sight of the loss of his hard earnings, and thought only of his murdered wife, while his children, stricken themselves, appeared to use all their endeavors to console him.

RUINS OF ANCIENT TROY.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERIES EAST OF THE ARCHIPELAGO.

A Savan at Work—A Hundred Men Unearth the Home of Priam—Andromache's Tower Discovered—Also the Walls Thrown up by Neptune and Apollo—Homer's Iliad.

Excavations are now in progress on the site of ancient Troy, in Asia Minor, which cannot but deeply interest, not archæologists merely, but every one who has read the tale of

> Achilles's wrath, to Greece the direful spring
> Of woes unnumbered.

From Homeric times the Plains of Troy, traversed by the little streams, Scamander and Simois, and lying between the Ægean Sea and Mount Ida, have been identified with the scenes described in the Iliad; but so widely have travellers and archæologists differed with regard to the site of the famous city which for ten years defied the united arms of Greece, that it has long been doubted whether any genuine remains of Troy could be found within the Troad, and, in fact, whether such a city ever existed save in the fertile imagination of the author of the Homeric Epic.

DR. SCHLIEMANN'S EXPLORATIONS.

These doubts are in a fair way of being removed by the discoveries of Dr. Henry Schliemann, who for more than a year has been conducting a series of explorations on the Plains of Troy, of which he has furnished an elaborate account to the Herald. He had previously broken ground in this neighborhood, chiefly to satisfy himself that Burnabashi, which it had become the fashion to describe as the site of Troy, could lay no claim to that honor. He found that no considerable city could have been built there, both on account of the limited area of the site and of the absence of remains of pottery at a greater depth than three or four feet below the surface. Excavations at other points, suggested by Strabo and other ancient historians and geographers, were equally fruitless of valuable results. Having settled this point he turned his attention to a plateau several miles north of Burnabashi, rising about a hundred feet above the plain and terminating abruptly on its northern and northwestern sides, which seemed admirably adapted for the site of a large city, such as Troy is described to have been. A slight excavation made in 1870 showed that the place was rich in remains of buried architecture and pottery. He at once made up his mind that he had discovered the site of Troy, and prepared to conduct his labors on an extensive scale and with method.

BEGINNING THE WORK.

The first difficulty to overcome was to obtain permission to dig into and through the plateau, which was owned partly by a Mr. Frank Calvert and partly by two Turks. The former cheerfully consented to have his premises invaded, but the latter, not sharing Dr. Schliemann's archæological enthusiasm, would neither sell their land nor permit it to be excavated, except on the condition that they should receive a large sum of money, and that the trenches should be filled up on the completion of the digging. Here the paternal Ottoman Government stepped in, compelled the Turks to sell the land at its estimated value to the ministry of public instruction, and then obligingly turned it over to Dr. Schliemann. With eighty men he broke ground in October, 1871, and excavated until compelled, at the end of November by the winter rains, to desist. He resumed work with a much larger force of men last April, and has steadily prosecuted it until within the last few weeks. Next year he hopes to continue the interesting task he has undertaken.

SECRETS OF THE ANCIENT CITY.

The cutting made in 1871 revealed to him ruins of different ages in strata of comparative regularity. Those of historic times were nowhere more than seven feet below the surface. At a depth of fifteen feet only calcined ruin were found, showing that for ages preceding historic times none but wooden houses had existed there. At a depth of from fourteen to twenty-four feet many stone implements and fragments of pottery were found, but no metal, and the houses were of small stones, united with earth—an indication that the inhabitants were Aryans. Ten feet lower he came upon houses of unburned brick, and implements and weapons of copper, and below this stratum were unearthed huge blocks of stone, which led the explorer to believe he had reached the veritable ruins of the lost city. Last spring he opened a trench in the abrupt north side, which he believed must have formed the site of the acropolis, and this was followed by other cuttings in the vicinity, which have occupied the whole of the past season. Working his way with difficulty through immense masses of rubbish he came in June upon a colossal structure of solid masonry forty feet in thickness and twenty in height, built upon the primitive rock, which he conjectures may have been a tower of the wall of Troy, and possibly that from which Andromache witnessed the death of Hector. It is composed of stones joined with clay, and is apparently as ancient as those prehistoric remains known as Cyclopean, and so different in structure and character from the ruins exhumed above it that there can be no doubt that its origin dates far back into the age of tradition and fable. He also discovered on the slope of the plateau part of a wall of huge stones joined with clay, seven feet in thickness by ten in height, which may have been the wall of circumvallation mentioned in the Iliad as having been built around the city by Neptune and Apollo.

INTERESTING DISCOVERIES.

These structures, together with the supposed site of a temple, constitute the principal architectural discoveries of Dr. Schliemann, and of their absorbing interest and value there can be no question. But in connection with the remains of Troy he has also unearthed many implements and utensils, mostly in a mutilated condition, which illustrate the habits and religion of the ancient people who owned the sway of Priam. These comprise pottery of many varieties and great beauty, stone instruments, copper nails, lamps, urns, &c., which in material, workmanship, shape and ornamentation, indicate a people far more civilized than the races who successively built over the site of Troy. Much of the pottery is embellished with the crocheted cross, a well-known symbol of the Aryan race. At a depth of fifty-three feet large toads were found, which must unquestionably have lived there some three thousand years. "It is with a strange sensation," writes Dr. Schliemann, "that one looks upon creatures that were the contemporaries of Hector and Andromache, though they be only toads."

WORK YET TO BE DONE.

The excavations have hitherto been conducted by Dr. Schliemann at his own expense, and he intimates his willingness to resign the further prosecution of the work into the hands of competent and intelligent persons. From the clue already furnished by him the completion of the excavations can only be a question of time and money, and it is to be hoped that the want of these may not delay or indefinitely postpone discoveries in which all civilized persons are interested. A few years' intelligent labor would doubtless lay bare the foundations of the most famous city of epic song.

NAPOLEON'S CONDITION.

CHISELHURST, January 6.

Napoleon passed the most restless night since phlebotomy was performed. He will undergo a second operation soon.

HEAVY SNOWS IN THE WEST.

ST. LOUIS, January 6.

The snow storm which prevailed over a large portion of this State and Kansas on Saturday and Sunday, was the heaviest ever known in these parts. All the ferries are running.

DEPLETED PARIS.

PARIS, January 6.

The census shows the existence of many cases of small-pox, a decrease in the number of marriages, and a decrease of population since 1866 of 366,935. The decrease is attributed mainly to war.

THE BERLIN FIREMEN.

How the Department is Organized, and How Fires are Managed.

[Correspondence of the Boston Advertiser.]

BERLIN, December 18.

It has been said by foreign observers that the American cities have as good steamers and as good telegraphic fire-alarms as there are in the world. I am inclined to add, also, as good systems of water-works. Indeed, two of these, namely, the steamer and the water-supply systems, are superior to those of any continental city with which I am acquainted. The firemen are individually as brave, as cool and as skilful as there are in the world. Why then do Chicago and Boston and Portland burn, while European capitals resist not only accidental fires, but organized incendiarisms? Without professing to answer the question, I may give some facts which will help you to answer it yourselves.

The fire engines of Berlin, as of Paris, and, so far as I know, of all continental cities, are hand machines and of little power. They are drawn, however, by horses. The water mains are well distributed, but the hydrants are apparently less plenty than in American cities. As a rather clumsy but very efficient substitute, great hogsheads of water follow the engines to the scene of the fire, and can be drawn, like the engines, right into a court or a *porte cochère*. A short supply of water is thus obtained immediately, and is of more value than the copious floods drawn later from the distant hydrants. The hose, the ladder, and even the extra men, are likewise drawn by horses. That which is often seen in Boston—namely, straggling firemen, half dressed and half awake, running to a fire after the engines—is never seen in Berlin. Large wagons, built for the purpose, stand in the engine house, and on the first alarm the force assigned for duty, seated in this conveyance, is whirled along to the fire. Every man is in complete uniform, calm and steady as a soldier.

The men composing the Berlin fire department are carefully selected. In general they are discharged soldiers, who have distinguished themselves for courage and endurance; so that they enter the department trained to habits of discipline, and in the other qualities essential to their new position. The chief is a veteran fireman, enjoys almost absolute power, and has a perfectly safe tenure so long as he does his duty. The several grades are administered according to the strictest military discipline. The men themselves are enlisted for a long term, and are well treated. Accordingly the veterans in any squad greatly preponderate; and they work against a fire in the most admirable harmony. They know exactly how to begin, and each man has his part. There is no confusion, or discord, or noise; everything moves like a machine, and though there is no more individual heroism than in America, there is a much more efficient general activity.

The telegraph alarm is somewhat different from that of Boston. The bells are not struck, and there are no street boxes. The alarms are given by the police from the regular police stations, which are very numerous. It is calculated that a fire at any point in the city can be notified to all the engine houses in two minutes at the longest. An alarm sounded from any station goes directly to all the other police and fire stations, and nowhere else. The city is not alarmed. The idlers and thieves are not put on the scent of amusement or plunder. The way to the fire is not blocked up with people before the engines arrive. The private character of the alarm has, of course, its disadvantages, and I am not sure that it is, on the whole, so good as the more public system of Boston, but it has at least the merits which I have enumerated. I ought to add that the engines are not kept, as in America, in separate houses. The corps is rather divided into squads or divisions, and lodged in a sort of *casernes*. Each squad comprises two or three engines, a set of hooks and ladders, two or three mounted hogsheads of water, and wagons for the transportation of men. The force is divided into watches, and a large body of men is ready to move night or day on a moment's warning. My apartment is at the intersection of two main thoroughfares, and in the line by which two different fire squadrons reach a large portion of the city. I should say that there had been on an average one alarm per day in this quarter during the last two months; and to the best of my knowledge but two of these alarms were thought worthy of notice in the press. I should say, however, that with the exception of the single element of discipline our American fire departments are equal to any on the continent of Europe. The difference is not there. The European cities understand practical economy, and spend less for cure than for prevention. They have laws regulating the construction of buildings, and they enforce them. It is a long process to build a fine business block in Paris or Berlin, but when it is finished the block does not fall down nor burn down. I have heard Americans in Europe—generally from the West—sneer at the slowness of a French or German constructor, but some of them are wiser to-day. They begin to see that the stupendous growth of Chicago, for example, is not an unmixed glory. Many can even see merit in the plain, inelegant, but massive blocks of Berlin. They satisfy the reason if not the taste. They help the fireman by checking the flames, and they help him further by adding an element of certainty to his plans. The last point has not, I think, been raised in America, but it is very important. When a German fireman sees the flames attacking a certain wall, he knows exactly what resistance the wall will offer. He knows just how the wall is built—that is to say, he knows just how the law prescribes that it be built, which in Berlin is the same thing, and lays his plans accordingly. Stone or brick main and party walls, fire-proof roofs, iron columns and standards, thick plaster and often stone partitions, are the great enemies of fire in Berlin. This is the law, and when I add that laws are enforced in Germany, the whole story is told.

I have been to a number of fires in both Berlin and Paris, but I never yet saw firemen working on the outside of a building. Why? Because I never saw a fire which reached the outside of a building. Visit the scene of a fire soon after the alarm, at Berlin, and what do you see? Not a great array of puffing steamers, not flames breaking out through wooden roofs, not great crowds of people obstructing the firemen, not tenants throwing bedsteads down upon the heads of the engineers—nothing of the sort. When the fire breaks out the firemen and police quietly take possession of the house. Not an article can be removed without their consent. The latter draw ropes around the premises and keep back the crowd. The hogsheads are brought up to the door if the hydrants are too far away, and the firemen walk right into the scene of the trouble. They attack it where and when it breaks out. The early flames, instead of being fed by combustibles, meet resistance in every wall and partition. Thus its first progress is slow, and precious time is saved. It has been said that a fire like that of Boston or Chicago, if once started in London or Paris, could as little be controlled. The remark may be true, but it is an evasion. It is almost impossible that such a fire could get under headway in a European city, because it would be met by fire-proof walls at the very start and checked in the room where it broke out. One more remark. I suspect that many persons, especially merchants, in American cities fight a fire themselves as long as possible without giving an alarm in oder to avoid damage from water and rough handling by firemen. In Berlin and Paris there are jails for people who practice that costly procrastination. The simplest fire in the corner of a gentleman's private wardrobe is a public affair, and he who fails to give the proper alarm is an incendiary.

CONGRESS IN BRIEF.

WASHINGTON, January 6.

In the House a resolution that the evidence already taken by the Credit Mobilier be ordered before the House, and that the committee hereafter set with open doors, was passed by a vote of 130 to 7.

In the Senate, Sherman offered a resolution instructing the committee on privileges and elections to inquire into the contests in Louisiana and Arkansas as to the result of the late elections, which was laid over till to-morrow. Morton introduced a resolution instructing the same committee to inquire and report on the best method of electing the President and Vice-President, and how to provide a tribunal for the determination of contested questions connected therewith. Ordered to be printed.

THE PLIGHT OF LOUISIANA.

LATEST TIDINGS FROM THE MISGOVERNED STATE.

No Outbreak in New Orleans Yesterday.

WASHINGTON, January 6.

The day has evidently been one of great excitement in New Orleans, but it has happily passed without violence. The Fusion Legislature has assembled *pro forma*, and probably a like ceremony will ensue upon the inauguration of Governor McEnery next Monday. The proceedings in the United States Senate to-day indicate that the whole question will be remitted, by all concerned, to Congress for investigation and determination.

NEW ORLEANS, January 5.

The announcement has just been made at police headquarters, apparently by authority, that General Emery has received instructions that the United States troops shall only be used to preserve the peace. That any body of citizens styling themselves what they please, may have the right to meet peaceably for any purpose not unlawful, and that if any attempt should be made to disperse any such assemblage they should be protected.

NEW ORLEANS, January 6.

The stores on Canal street were generally closed to-day. Not a lady was to be seen in the great thoroughfare. The Federal troops were judiciously placed to preserve the peace. The citizens' meeting was the greatest ever known here. There was no speaking or action, the object being simply to give moral support to the people's legislature. Thirty thousand persons participated in the demonstration. There was no quorum in either house, and both adjourned till to-morrow. No interest is manifested in the other legislature. The committee of two hundred has supplied the money to maintain the people's legislature.

WASHINGTON, January 6.

The following telegram was sent to New Orleans, to-day, by the Louisiana committee: The President has telegraphed to General Emery not to permit interference with the peaceable meeting of the Legislature. Matters will be held in abeyance, until a judicial investigation shall be had. We counsel great moderation.

Signed: T. H. Kennedy, E. B. Wheelock, Walker Pearn, P. M. Baker, A C Janin.

AN OLD TIME STATESMAN.

Alexander H. Stephens on the Political Situation.

Hon. Alexander H. Stephens made a speech in Atlanta, Georgia, a few days ago, which is of interest because of Mr. Stephens's position as an anti-liberal Democrat. After defending himself against the charge of being an impracticable and a revolutionist, by asserting that he has never believed in violence but has always advocated obedience to the laws, he said:

"Nothwithstanding the result of the late election, notwithstanding the result of the Alabama muddle, and nothwithstanding the present Louisiana troubles, the signs of the times bear a less ominous aspect to my mind than they have for the last fifteen years. The Alabama difficulty did, indeed, for awhile, present the most alarming aspect. It was the first time since the Rhode Island troubles, in 1841-42, that civil war, proper, in any one of the States of this Union was certain. Two antagonistic parties claimed each for itself the rightful absolute power. The Alabama case was more alarming than that of Rhode Island. In this case the federal government had no rightful power to interfere, and in my judgment did not interfere except so far as to offer, by way of suggestion, a basis on which a compromise might be effected. This was happily accepted by both parties. This very alarming trouble has been peacefully adjusted. In this act the government tendered its advice only as a friendly mediator, just as Virginia tendered her similar kind act in the nullification imbroglio in 1833, which resulted most happily in the preservation of the peace of the country. The other more portentous cloud that hangs over the southwestern horizon in the Louisiana trouble is still dark and threatening. * * * This morning, for the first time, I have seen what I am inclined to consider a reliable account of the exact and true posture of affairs in Louisiana. This is the report by the Associated Press of an interview which took place yesterday between Judge Campbell, at the head of a Louisiana delegation, and President Grant upon the subject. * * * From this it seems that General Grant has not assumed any illegal or unconstitutional executive power in the internal affairs of Louisiana. He asserts he has authorized the employment of the military forces there in the enforcement of judicial process. This has greatly relieved my mind. The trouble in Louisiana seems to have grown out of powers claimed under the civil rights bill, or some other one of the reconstruction measures, so called. These measures, I need not assure you, I hold and ever shall hold to be utterly unconstitutional. But in accordance with the views I have given you, so long as they are held to be laws they should be obeyed as they are expounded by those clothed with judicial powers over them. No violent resistance should be made to them. They should be assailed only through the peaceful instrumentalities of the constitution. No earthly power could ever make me say that they are either right, just or constitutional. [Loud applause.] My mode of assailing them, however, is not by violence or forcible resistance, but by appeals, first, to the courts—just where the appeal, it seems, in this case, has been made. My mode of assailing is in the forum of reason and justice, and if General Grant shall never do anything worse than to see to it that the mandates and decrees of the federal judiciary are properly executed in any part of the country, I shall have no quarrel with him.

"If the judge in New Orleans has made an erroneous decision, it is subject to reversal by the Supreme Court of the United States. In the meantime, my advice to the people of Louisiana would be, to patiently bear the ills incident to that decision, just as we in Georgia have borne ills of a much more grievous nature, until their redemption, as ours has been, shall be effected by the peaceful workings of the established instrumentalities of the constitution. First let the issue be met in the courts below and above. If the decision should be against them in both, then let them appeal to the ballot-box, not only in Louisiana, but throughout all the States. * * * * *

"There is a general awakening in the public mind throughout the entire country as to the nature and character of the government, its origin, objects, history and powers. Now that the peculiar Southern institutions have been removed, which were the thorn in the flesh of the federal body politic all the time, and gave a sectional character to all discussions of questions pertaining to the reserved rights of the States under the constitution; now that the doctrine of secession, as a practicable remedy against federal aggressions of any sort, has been abandoned in good faith forever, there is nothing to prevent the friends of the constitution under the Union, from Maine to California, from the lakes to the gulf, from harmoniously uniting in a grand rally for the rescue and perpetuation of the common liberties of all. * * Fossil though I may be considered of the past, little as I may be thought to know of what is going on in the great centres—I have not as yet lost confidence in the intelligence, virtue and patriotism of the toiling millions—the honest masses—of the people in all parts of this vast country. There are hearts ready in Georgia and Louisiana, as in California, New Hampshire and Maine, to respond to the music of the Union under the federal constitution of our fathers."

—M. Krnka, the inventor of the breech-loader which has been adopted by the war department at St. Petersburg for the Russian army, has just published a pamphlet at Prague, in which he describes a new invention of his called the "kulomet" or hand mitrailleur. The kulomet, he says, is of simple construction, and may be used by the soldier on any ground, however hilly, just like a rifle. It is comparatively cheaper and simpler than the wernel and other breech-loaders used by European armies, and a soldier armed with it can under all circumstances fire thrice as rapidly as with the zundnadelgewehr. In battle it will fire twenty-four shots a minute, while other breech-loaders only fire from twelve to thirteen a minute. Any rifle may be converted into a kulomet, and any cartridge may be used with it.