THE SEMI-WEEKLY MINER

DANIEL SEARLES - - EDITOR.

BUTTE, MARCH 18, 1885.

Wiggins again emerges from his hole and predicts a tremendous storm and earthquakes for the 18th of this month. From this it may be inferred that March 18 will be a delightful day, the forerunner of a more delightful spring.

The Governor of Dakota promptly vetoed the capitol removal bill, and the people of Pierre have prepared a petition asking President Cleveland to remove Governor Pierce. The people of Pierre applerre to be on their terre.

The first citizen of Boston, Professor John L. Sullivan, is liable to lose his reputation and bring discredit to the Hub if he indulges in the fistic contest with Paddy Ryan, as reported. Sullivan's gall is the larger part of him and that must have been growing immensely of late for him to decide to meet a man who has been in protracted training for the purpose of laying the champion low, while John L. has been sapping his strength and losing his science by continued dissipation.

Mrs. Blaine created a scene at a dinner party given by the Austrian Minister last week. The favors laid at the different plates bore portraits of the Emperor of Austria and of President Arthur. One of the latter kind was laid at Mrs. Blaine's plate. On seeing it, she tore it off angrily, crumpled it in her hands and threw it under the table. Both host and guests were greatly astonished at her action.

Brick Pomeroy is starting out in a kind of ancient-history, back-number journalism. In the salutatory of the first issue of the United States *Democrat*, which was published March 9th, he makes use of the following pointed and rather intense sentence, saying that the aim of the management of the paper will be "to ferret out the frauds and corruptions of the past twenty-four years, and to exhibit them over the grave of that which, all in all, has been the worst, weakest, most corrupt, sectional and devastating party in the world during its entire life."

The loss of property from fire during February is astounding, and shows a universal prevalence of carelessness and crime during that month. A possible solution of the unparalelled loss for one month may be found in the hard times. A good many generally honest men may have become so financially embarassed that they have not considered it particularly wrong to collect insurance on some of their property and have taken particular pains to make the insurance collectable. Incendiarism is a crime more frequently committed for the purpose above stated than is generally supposed and insurance companies, the ones most concerned, should devise a remedy.

Some weeks ago accounts of miraculous cures effected by the use of mortar from the cahpel of Knock, Ireland, in the possession of Martin Thornton, were telegraphed. Thornton has received hundreds of requests for mortar from all parts of North America. So long as the mortar lasted he sent it as requested. He is daily receiving letters containing accounts of miraculous cures. Mrs. Clark, of Buffalo, says she has been cured of rheumatism of long standing, and Mrs. Rafferty, of Terra Alta, in Virginia, says she was cured of dropsy. A dozen similar cases are reported. The latest one is from Minga, Ohio. Mary McAndrews, who was almost totally blind, and was wholly restored, solely by the use of the mortar.

Reform begins at the top. It is understood that the members of the new Cabinet will dispense with the custom inaugurated by Cabinet officers under President Grant of using departmental carriages for their private purposes or for their families. Secretary Bayard has always kept a private turnout, but Secretary Lamar has used the street cars exclusively in traveling from one place to another in the city. So has Attorney-General Garland. This thing of having government carriages for private use has cost many thousand dollars per year. Besides paying for and keeping up the team, the government is required to pay for the carriages used as well as the drivers and hostlers necessary. Ex-Attorney-General Brewster paid for the livery that his coachmen and footmen used out of the public funds appropriated to maintain the department of justice, as also the hats of his lackeys. It is fair to estimate that this reform alone will save the government at least $150,000 a year.

Hannibal Hamlin tells that when he was Speaker of the Lower House of the Maine Legislature, there was a dandified old fellow whose chief weakness was in trying to conceal the baldness which was rapidly stealing over his head. He came into the House each morning with his hair so carefully combed that it looked as if each particular hair had been pasted in its place. Even as it was, there was scarcely enough to cover the bald spot. One morning Speaker Hamlin, thinking to have some fun, called this gentleman to him and said: "My dear Blank, I beg your pardon, but one of your hairs is crossed over the others." The member grew angry at once and replied: "You insult me sir! you insult me!" and walked stiffly back to his seat. He refused to be reconciled, and he became Hamlin's life-long enemy. A few years later, when Hamlin was a candidate for the United States Senate, this man was again in the Legislature, and his vote decided the contest in favor of Hamlin's opponent.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

OUR HELENA LETTER.

A Few Remarks About Legislative Work.

A Brief History of the Famous Gambling Bill.

County Division Bills and Other Matters.

Correspondence of the MINER.

HELENA, March 14, 1885.

The 14th Legislative Assembly of Montana, which has just adjourned, passed a few good measures, and failed to pass others of grave import to the people of the Territory. Of 103 bills which were enacted into laws, 32 were of a special nature; the rest general in their application. Among the most prominent or important were laws to suppress and prevent the dissemination of contagious and infectious diseases among domestic animals and Texas cattle; authorizing county commissioners to award contracts for keeping roads in repair; for the appointment of road supervisors by county commissioners; to punish and suppress prize fighting; creating the office of county attorney; to authorize the Governor to contract for the keeping and maintenance of Territorial prisoners; to suppress hurdy houses and dance houses; to provide a series of text books for the public schools, and to provide for the organization of the legislative assembly.

Among those which failed to pass both houses, and which incited more or less discussion, were bills providing for the suppression of gambling; providing for the building of an Insane Asylum; providing for the registration of voters, and providing for the election of State officers and two United States Senators. The

FORBIS' GAMBLING BILL,

which met its death on the last day of the session, has an interesting history. It was an object of greater solicitude, upon the part of many; created more comment and excited more general interest than any other bill introduced during the session. The bill was introduced, during the early days of the session, by Hon. John W. Forbis, of Silver Bow county. It prohibited all gambling by cards, dice, wheels, balls and other devices, provided for the infliction of heavy penalties upon those who kept gambling houses or who dealt the games or gambled at them. It also provided for the search of suspected houses, and for the seizure and destruction of all gambling implements etc. found therein. The bill was a very stringent one and aimed at the complete suppression of gambling by the methods above named. After much earnest and at times acrimonious debate the bill passed the House. The opposers of the measure took the ground that the bill contained provisions of doubtful constitutionality, that it was too radical and sweeping in its character, that it would not be sustained by public sentiment and hence could not be generally enforced.

When it reached the Council that body substituted another bill for it. This provided for the removal of all games except billiard and pool games, to rooms at least nine feet above the ground floor of the building used for gaming purposes. The bill went to the House for its concurrence. That body refused to concur and requested the Council to recede from its amendment. The Council receded, but when it learned that the House construed this action upon its part as tantamount to the passage of the Forbis bill by the Council, it immediately reconsidered the motion to recede and then voted not to recede. The House still refusing to concur with the Council amendment, the bill died between the two legislative bodies. It is to be regretted that the House did not consent to the Council amendment and thus remove gambling from public view. The

COUNTY DIVISION BILLS

were all killed except the one providing for the organization of Fergus County. By some oversight this county will be left without representation in the next Territorial legislature unless a special session be called to rectify the error. The bill providing for exempting from taxation the

BUTTE AND BOZEMAN

railroad for a period of ten years passed both houses and was sent to the Governor for his approval. The Governor, however, will not sign the bill. He holds that under section 1889 of the Revised Statutes of the United States the legislative assembly has not the right to exempt corporate property from taxation. The section referred to reads as follows:

"The legislative assemblies of the several territories shall not grant private charters or *especial privileges*, but they may, by general incorporative acts, permit persons to associate themselves together as bodies corporate for mining, manufacturing and other industrial pursuits, or the construction or operation of railroads, wagon roads, irrigation ditches, and the colonization and improvement of lands in connection therewith, or for colleges, seminaries churches, libraries, charitable or scientific association."

The italics are ours and indicate the clause in the section which the Governor holds to be violated by the legislative assembly in granting an especial privelege to a corporation by exempting its property from taxation. There is some disagreement with the Governor's conclusions expressed in Helena but several good lawyers sustain him in his views. As the Governor's vetoes have been uniformly in the direct line of useful and valid legislation, and as they have been sustained by the legislative assembly it is but fair to assum he would have been sustained in his veto of this measure had he had the opportunity to make his views upon it known. Butte and Bozeman both regret that the Governor could not see his way clear to sign the bill. The proposition to build a railroad between the two points named upon the terms contained in the bill—which simply provides that the counties through which it ran should exempt it from taxation for a period of ten yerrs—would be viewed with favor by the counties more directly interested.

SCHOOL TEXT-BOOK BILL.

This bill provides that after July 1st, 1885, the Bancroft series of readers, Swinton's grammars and Harper's geographies shall be used in the public schools of Montana, to the exclusion of all other works of like character. It also provides for an exchange of books now in use for new ones above named upon terms which impose little or no loss upon parents of pupils. The bill providing for the appointment of a school text-book commission by the Governor, passed both Houses and was about the last one signed by the Governor. As the bill provides that the Council shall confirm the Governor's appointees, and as that body adjourned a minute or two after the Governor signed the bill, it will remain upon our statute books as a dead letter. No commission will be appointed. The bill providing for the building of an insane asylum by the territory passed the House but never reached a final vote in the Council. It became entangled in the meshes of the pocket of a Council member and took the east-bound train yesterday morning.

The confirmation of Republican Territorial officers by a

DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL,

provokes much criticism of the action of that body. It is held that the offices of Territorial Treasurer, Auditor, and Superintendent of Public Instruction rightfully belong to the Democratic party and should be held by Democrats, and that though the Governor should continue to send in the names of Republicans for confirmation the council should have refused to confirm, leaving the three incumbents to remain in office until Democrats should be appointed by a Democratic Governor, and confirmed by an extra session of the council, called for that purpose if need be. They are, however, appointed and confirmed and while they are excellent gentlemen and thoroughly qualified to discharge the duties of their respective offices, their confirmation by a Democratic council shows a magnanimity upon the part of that body seldom if ever displayed by a like body of Republicans.

In my next I will have something to say concerning the personel of the two legislative bodies, with brief mention of several interesting matters connected with the session.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* from leading trade centres give a brighter look to the general trade situation than has been reported for some months. The raising of the freight blockade at Chicago and St. Louis has not only been completed, but there has been a gain in the movement of merchandise in the west and northwest, which, with a continuance of pleasant weather, promises to be prolonged. Not only has the accumulated freight at Chicago and elsewhere at the west been cared for, but there is a demand at shipping points west and northwest for cars. Live stock shipments east have been increasing as well as those of grain. At New York the movement of merchandise has increased somewhat; the dry goods jobbers report a larger business, but the commission houses are doing little or nothing. Groceries are moderately active only. Boston jobbers in dry goods say trade has improved, but commission houses report the reverse. The explanation is that jobbers purchased heavily some months ago, and have had to carry their stocks ever since. The first demand from the interior affects them favorably, but naturally the commission houses are waiting for buyers. Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis and other leading distributing points announce a better inquiry for dry goods. The east-bound business of the trunk line railroads increased some 14,000 tons, thus marking the removal of the obstructions to railway traffic. There were 222 failures in the United States during the past week reported to *Bradstreet's*, as compared with 254 in the preceeding week, and with 211, 208 and 177 respectively in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882. About 88 per cent. were those of small traders whose capital was less than $5,000. Canada had 38, a decrease of 8.

A strike of 55,000 miners is one of the pleasant little diversions which England is promised. A reduction in wages has been threatened and the miners seem to have serious objections. About the time the strike occurs will be the period for the dynamiters to assert themselves, for El Mahdi to search for British gore, and for Russia to become offensive. What a harvest there will be for the European newspapers.

Coyotes Catching Fish.

It is asserted on the authority of persons who have recently visited Marietta lake that the prodigious increase of trout in its waters has overstocked the lake. At times they can be seen massing themselves in the small streams which are tributary to the lake, and on these occasions they have been crowded out on the grass growing on the borders of the streams. Thousands could be thrown out with a pitchfork. A piece of bark thrown into the lake will cause a dozen or more trout to leap for it.

The coyotes have caught the knack of fishing, and sit by the shore watching for leaves to fall into the water. The instant the leaf touches the water the fish rise, and like a flash the coyote bounds into the thick of the fish, and is certain to bring out one or two in his mouth. The coyotes are shot whenever any of the lumbermen see them, but by stealing up in the underbrush they manage to escape observation.—*Carson (Nev.) Appeal.*

THE WAR'S BEGINNING.

How the Union Soldiers Were Quartered in Capitol Building.

[Ben. Perley Poore.]

The first troops which arrived at Washington in April, 1861, were quartered in the capitol. The Pennsylvanians were billeted in the committee rooms and offices of the House, the representative hall being reserved for the Seventh regiment. Armed men and the rude implements of carnage mased in these marble corridors and gorgeous rooms, awakened me to a deep sense of the power and the abandon of military rule. On the luxurious damask and brocatelle covered sofas lay stretched men who probably never before reposed in such magnificence. Over the tapestrial carpet of the floor were strewn in profusion and disorder the suddenly accumulated stores of the commissary's department—here a slab of bacon, there a quarter of beef, or a saddle of mutton, or a Virginia ham, a sea biscuit, tin drinking cups, papers of pepper, bags of salt and cups of vinegar filling up the interstices, and rounding up the pyramid. Upon the rich and costly bronze ornaments, upon the gas chandeliers, and upon the gilt brackets that held back the silk and lace curtains, were festooned knapsack and belt, cartridge-box and bayonet-scabbard, the smaller implements and surroundings of a soldier.

In the halls of the corridors the men were being drilled and taught the expertness of carnage. In broad contrast to the dark and polished Tennessee marble wainscoting, were the blue uniforms and rough bearing of the men. Upon the rich encaustic tilings fell with a dull, heavy sound the iron-shod butts of musket and rifle. The arched and frescoed ceiling echoed and re-echoed the ringing clatter of the ramrod, as the recruits perfected themselves in the manual of loading their pieces. In the Senate chamber were quartered the Sixth Massachusetts regiment. Upon the cushioned sofas of the galleries of the Senate chamber the men found excellent couches. When they had concluded breakfast in the morning, and the guard for the day being datalied, the remainder of the command were at their ease. In the Vice-President's chair sat Col. Jones, the commander of the force, a frank, free-hearted, soldierly looking man. The clerk's desk was occupied by the Adjutant and his assistants, engaged in making up the muster-roll, returns and requisitions incident to active service. The privates were engaged at the Senators' desks writing letters.

All the statuary in the halls of the capitol, and in the old rotunda, had been boxed, to preserve it from injury through carelessness. The pictures in the panels had also been faced over with heavy planking, which secured them from harm. The porticos of the capitol building were barricaded to the height of about eight feet. The iron plates for the new dome were used for the breastworks between the marble columns. Behind these were placed barrels of cement, piles of stone and timber, forming an impenetrable barrier, in the rear of which the troops could take shelter in case of an attack. It seemed a strange contradiction to see the workmen engaged in the construction of the portico, going on with their labor of laying the foundation, amid thousands of armed men; the clink of the chisel, the stroke of the hammer, and the ring of the trowel, blending with the word of command, the challenge of the guard, and the tramp of the pavilions drilling in the corridors. So reluctant was civilization to recede before the advancing desolation of war, that the artisan lingered to enrich with his skill the parapet and dome that the morrow may see leveled to their foundations. Within musket range of the outposts of the troops were even then a score of men chiseling in marble the flowers and cluster of grape and ivy wreaths with which the finished portions of the capitol were so profusely decorated.

Washington News Budget.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The President nominated James S. Miller, of West Va., Commissioner of the Internal revenue.

Gen. Sheridan received a telegram from Gen. Hatch this morning stating upon the receipt of the President's proclamation concerning the Oklahoma lands that the most of those preparing to invade the Indian Territory decided to return home.

It is authoritatively learned there is no truth in the report cabled from Paris newspapers that the Chinese government has asked the mediation of the United States with France.

It is understood Gen. Foster will be retained as Minister to Spain for the present with the view of conducting negotiations for a more favorable treaty and that he will probably return to Madrid in the course of a fortnight.

Among the President's callers today were Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Vice President Hendricks, Secretary Bayard, Senator Voorhees, and Ex-Senator McDonald. Mr. Fairchild to-day assumed the duties of Secretary of the Treasury.

The Navy Department to-day instructed Commander Wilder of the Yantic, now at New Orleans to supply the vessel with fuel and provisions as soon as possible and go to Livingston, Guatemala. On arrival there he is to communicate immediately with the American officials at that place and use every exertion to protect American interests.

The President of the Central and South American Cable Company today telegraphed the Secretary of State from New York he had information that a vessel supposed to have been sent by the Government of Guatamala was on its way to cut the cable line. He asked that the company's property be protected.

Secretary Lamar addressed a letter of instruction to the Commissioner General of the land office concerning the disposition of the forfeited land grant of the Texas Pacific railroad, directing that notice be given by publication for at least thirty days in each of the several districts that the lands have been restored to the public domain and that the books of the respective offices are open for the entry and location of the same at $2 50 per acre as provided for under the homestead, preemption and other general laws of the United States relating to the disposal of unoffered public lands.

The Secretary of the Treasury directed the collector of customs at New York to make an immediate investigation of the management of the large office in New York with the view of ascertaining whether complaints growing out of the treatment of passengers are well founded.

A delegation of about two hundred Christian workers, mostly ladies composed mainly of the Women's Temperance Union and Temperance Alliance of the district, called at the White House to-day. Miss Cleveland received them in the blue parlor. The call was not for the purpose of making any requests regarding temperance matters, but Miss La Fetra, who addressed Miss Cleveland in behalf of the visitors, stated they simply desired to pay their respects and to express their confidence in her Christian character and as mistress of the White House she would perform her duty. A small plush album was presented Miss Cleveland in which the sentiments of the visitors were inscribed. Miss Cleveland in reply expressed her appreciation of the delicate manner in which the visit was made and her pleasure at meeting the visitors. The members of the delegation then passed into the east room where they were introduced to the President.

Arthur made a social call upon President Cleveland this afternoon. He was driven to the White House in the carriage of Mr. Frelinghuysen, whose guest he is. The President gave him a cordial greeting. The visit lasted half an hour.

The President, accompanied by his sisters, Miss Cleveland and Mrs. Hoyt, attended a lecture given by Beecher to-night at the Congregational church, on "Evolution and Revolution.

The constant rush of visitors to the Executive Mansion compelled the President to limit office hours from 10 to 1 o'clock, except cabinet days, when they will be from 10 to 12 o'clock. An hour will be set apart every afternoon for the reception of those wishing to pay their respects. The President will receive no persons outside the hours specified, except by special appointment, as he desires to reserve afternoons and evenings for the consideration of public business.

The English Parliament.

LONDON, March 16.—In the House of Lords this evening, the government stated the admiralty has freely given advice and assistance to Australia for the formation of a colonial navy.

In the Commons this afternoon it was stated England had protested against the treatment of lead by France as contraband of war as instanced in the arrest of the British vessel Glenroy and the seizure of lead in cargo. Gladstone explained England and Russia had agreed as he stated Friday, that no further advances should be made in Afghanistan. A statement of this agreement, based on an interchange of communications carried on through the British ambassador at St. Petersburg. The latest communication on the Afghan dispute received from the ambassador was that of March 5th, but to obviate any possible misunderstanding, Granville, the British foreign minister, Saturday last wired his (Gladstone's) exact words to Thornton asking him to ascertain whether the Russian prime minister endorsed as correct the statements made by Gladstone of the agreement reached with Russia. As yet no reply is received. Gladstone said there had been no time to ootain the assent of the Ameer of Afghanistan to the terms of the arrangement made with Russia. "The expression of the agreement," said Gladstone, conveys a somewhat fallacious idea of what has been obtained." The telegram sent by Granville Saturday to Thornton was merely intended to ascertain whether our understanding of the details of this agreement or arrangement was correct. There is no question as to the substance of it. Hartington explained that the Russians occupy Katon and Akradat, and that the Afghans still occupy Perjdeh. He refused, on the ground of public policy, to make any further disclosures.

The alleged occupation of Raiatea, one of the Society (South Pacific) islands, by the French is denied. In 1882 the French flag was hoisted on Raiatea. As soon as England heard of it she protested. France at once disavowed the action, and said the flag had been raised by naval officers without warrant. France, however, requested the flag should be allowed to remain until England and France should arrange the dispute about their respective rights on the island. The controversy is still in amicable progress.

In regard to the Cameroons difficulty negotiations are still pending between England and Germany for friendly settlement. The outcome of these negotiations it is impossible to foretell with exactness but what ever it might be would, beyond all doubt, include a complete provision for the proper respect of all rights in Cameroons. The negotiations for the settlement of the Cameroons dispute embraced a general scheme for the adjustment of all questions in dispute between England and Germany in regard to their respective colonial claims in the entire region of Africa and South Pacific on the basis of mutual concessions.

The Railroad Strike.

ST. LOUIS, March 15.—A conference was held in this city Saturday to devise means for ending the Missouri Pacific strike. Those present were Gov. Martin, of Kansas, Gov. Marmaduke, of Missouri, Attorney General Boone, and Adjutant General Jameson, of Missouri, Oscar Koshibesky (commissioner of labor statistics) and the railroad commissioners of Kansas and Missouri. The result was the formulating of a circular to officers and agents of the company at all affected points advising a return to the wages of last September, including one and a half prices for extra time, and a restoration of the striking employes to their several employments. The company has adopted the suggestion and the rates specified go into effect March 16, and no change will be made hereafter without 30 days' notice.

Specials from the various points state that the above information was received very coldly by the strikers at a number of places, but so far as heard no decisive action has been taken by them.

KANSAS CITY, March 15.—The Missouri Pacific strikers here will await orders from the general commissioners before returning to work. The local commissioner at midnight was still in telegraphic communication with the commissioner at Sedalia. It is understood the strikers, before accepting the terms of compromise, will consider several proposed stipulations—one that the restoration shall extend to all strikers in the Gould system; another that engineers who were relieved for abandoning their places at the request of the strikers be restored—and several minor stipulations.

The *Times'* Hannibal special says: "The Missouri Pacific strikers went to work this evening on receipt of the news from St. Louis, interpreting it as the end of the strike. Three freight trains were sent out to-night."

At a late hour to-night the strikers' acceptance of the compromise is still undetermined. The members of the local commission have returned home.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—Missouri Pacific officials here state the strikers at Sedalia, Parsons, Denison and Atchison refuse to return to work unless a written guarantee is given not to discharge any of the strikers within a year from date. At other places the men all returned to work, and no action has yet been taken by railroad officials.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—Owing to unfavorable weather no satisfactory observations of the annular eclipse could be taken here.

Competitive Examinations.

WASHINGTON, March 15—Norman B. Eaton, president of the civil service commission, in response to an inquiry to-day as to the enforcement of the civil service rules by the new administration, said to an associated press reporter: "Vacancies are being regularly filled under the rules and there is not the least sign of examinations being arrested or the rules being disregarded. When congress at the session just closed made an increased appropriation for carrying on the work of the commission it knew the policy of the incoming President and must have expected the work of the commission to go on. That work does go on regularly and I feel sure it will go on. Very many office seekers who lingered here some time after the 4th of March seem to have reached the same conclusion, and have gone home. Since that date examinations have been held at Cincinnati, Nashville, Memphis, Brooklyn, New York and Washington. Applicants have been notified that examinations will soon be held in the southern and western states. Examinations and appointments go on as heretofore in the customs service and for clerical positions in the post-offices. Excessive numbers are applying to be examiners, especially for the service at Wasnington, under the belief that arbitrary and partisan removals are being made or are soon to be made. I have heard of no case of such removals and do not think any such removals will be made. There doubtless will be some removals for good cause, but not enough to give places to half those seeking to be examined. The old time partisan prescription is not, in my opinion, to be renewed. Our politics are now more civilized and sound and public opinion more formidable. Within the last ten days the commission has made certificate for filling eleven vacancies in the departments at Washington, which is about the usual rate; four promotions and four permanent appointments after probations have been made from among those selected under the rules Several of these cases were in the treasury department.

Territorial Delegates Visit the Presiden

WASHINGTON, March 15.—A delegation of gentlemen representing all the territories except New Mexico visited the White house yesterday to lay before the President their views in regard to Territorial government There were in the delegation John Mead of Arizona, M. H. Day of Dakota, Joqn Hailey of Idaho, Judge J. A. Kuhn, of Washihgton Territory, Delegate Toole of Montana, Judge Newitt of Utah and J. W. McCormick of Montana, all members of the national committee. Mr. Hailey acted as spokesman for the party and said they had come to learn what the administration was going to do in territorial affairs. Mr. Cleveland said briefly but clearly that he should appoint to territorial offices men from the territories. He also clearly pledged himself to listen to recommendations of Democrats within the territories and not to be decided in his choice of men for governors by outside pressure.

Movements of Russian Troops.

TEHEHAN, March 15.—A letter from Askaban, dated Feb. 24th says: Communication between strangers and people in the outer world is closely supervised. Troops and stores are going forward daily en route to Merv The soldiers are previously blessed by priests who tell them to fight valiantly against the Czar's enemies. Civilians and military men openly discuss the likelihood of a declaration of war against England and great excitement prevails. It is stated that 16,600 troops have been ordered to Merv. Work on the railway from Kizil-Arvat to Merv is being pushed with the utmost rapidity. Great difficulty is experienced in inducing workmen to go to Merv as they fear they will be killed by the British or Afghans.

A letter from Sarakach, dated March 2, states that three battalions of Russian infantry and three batteries of artillery are en ronte from Bokabata to Merv, and a small party of Cossacks recently attempted to traverse the Zulfikir defile but were prevented by force.

A Disagreable Rumor.

LONDON, March 16.—Several newspapers published to-day announce on the authority of a private telegram from Suakim that Kassala has fallen and the garrison had been massacred. The report is not believed in official circles, as government dispatches from Suakim received to-day make no mention of such an occurrence Massowah advices to March 10th say that no news has been received from Kassala since March 4th.

CAIRO, March 16.—Suakim advices do not confirm the rumor of the fall of Kassala and massacre of the Governor.

FOREIGN.

BERLIN, March 16.—It is stated Bismarck, since the amicable settlement of the recent troubles with England is using his whole influence with Russia to avert war.

CAIRO, March 16.—Suakim advices do not confirm the rumor of the fall of Kassala and massacre of the garrison.

LONDON, March 16.—Advices from Calcutta report the tea and indigo districts in India suffering severely from drouth.

HONG KONG, March 16.—A French man of war stopped and searched the British steamer Surat. The squadron of the British navy stationed in Chinese service have been ordered to rendezvous at Hong Kong.

PARIS, March 16.—A despatch from Shanghai says Admiral Courbet intends abandoning his position at the Island of Formosa and operate on the coast of northern China,

PARIS, March 16.—Bakers have already taken advantage of the recent passage of the bill increasing duties on cereals and it is stated that the price of bread is now such that people are complaining savagely against the increased cost of living.

DUBLIN, March 16.—The corporation of Dublin to-day by a vote of 41 to 78 rejected the motion to present an address to the Prince of Wales on the occasion of his visit here April 8.

ALEXANDRIA, March 16.—Four more persons were arrested as accomplices of Zeber Pasha in his treason against the Khedive.

LONDON, March 16.—In the Commons this afternoon Gladstone, in answer to questions regarding the settlement of the Russian-Afghan frontier, officially said the only foundation he had for the announcements that an amicable agreement was arrived at was the promise wired by DeGiers, Russian minister to St. Petersburg, March 5th.

The Railroad Strike.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—The Missouri Pacific officials here state that the strikers at Sedalia, Parsons, Denison and Atchison refuse to return to work unless a written guarantee is given not to discharge any of the strikers within a year from date. At other places the men all returned to work. No action has yet been taken by the railroad officials.

Rumor of Grant's Death.

NEW YORK, March 17.—To EDITORS: A report has just reached the associated press office that General Grant is dead. We are endeavoring to verify the report.

NEW YORK, March 17—4 a. m.—The newspaper world is in commotion this morning over the report of the death of General Grant. Reporters are flying in all directions rushing to the residence of General Grant and his several physicians, while the telegraph is busy bearing messages to the same place and people. General Grant's home is fully half an hour's quick drive from the nearest newspaper office, and the verification is necessarily slow.

Dr. Fordyce Barker telegraphs as follows:

MARCH 17, 4 A. M.

To William Henry Smith, General Manager Associated Press.

I have not heard anything of the kind (rumor of the death of General Grant). I saw the General at 2 o'clock yesterday.

(Signed) FORDYCE BARKER.

All New York papers are ready to issue an extra edition should the report prove true.

LATER.

NEW YORK, 4.25 a. m.—The report of the death of Gen Grant is without foundation.

The Eclipse.

PORTLAND, Oregon, March 16.—The eclipse was plainly visible here from a few minutes past eight until ten twenty. A slight fog prevailed so that the phenomenon could be observed with the naked eye without discomfort. The greatest obscurity was about eleven minutes past nine when a little more than half of the face of the sun was obscured.

Ex-Senator Nesmeth.

PORTLAND, Ore., March 16.—The condition of Ex-Senator J. W. Nesmeth who has been confined in the State Insane Hospital for six months has so far improved as to warrant his discharge. To-day he was taken to his home in Polk county and it is believed that a few months rest will restore him to entire health and reason.

A Statement Denied.

CHICAGO, March 16.—General Manager Potter, of the Burlington road, declares, in reference to the San Francisco dispatch received this p. m. stating that the Burlington would build from Denver through to Ogden, that there is not a word of truth in the statement. He declares there is no one in San Francisco who is authorized to make any statements as to the future of the road.

The London League.

MONTREAL, March 16.—At a meeting to promote the United Kingdom Federation, it was resolved to call a mass meeting early next month to ratify the organization of the branch association of the London League here. Letters were read from prominent men from all parts of the Dominian approving the movement and offering to attend and to take a part in any conferance that may be projected. Influential bankers, merchants and professional men were enthusiastic in support of the project.

Killing of a Noted Cattle Thief.

NEW ORLEANS March 16.—The *Times Democrat* Little Rock special reports the running down and killing of Frank Strong, a noted cattle thief by a possee which traced him to a deserted cabin on Horse creek in the Chicasaw nation where he was shot to death. He fought his pursuers to the last. Fifteen hundred dollars reward had been offered for his capture. He had operated successfully in Western Arkansas and the Indian Territory for years stealing whole herds of cattle from ranchmen and driving them into Texas where he disposed of them.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—Vice President Hoxie received telegrams from the superintendant of the Missouri Pacific system stating that all striking employes have resumed work under the terms of the circular issued Sunday; that all kinds of trains are now running and the strike is ended Dispatches were also received from various points of the Wabash system to the effect that the strikers have gone back to work and business is fully resumed.

A Prize Fight.

PITTSBURG, Pa, March 16.—A bare knuckle prize fight between Jas. McDonald and Joseph Davis, local pugilists, for a purse of $200, took place in a room on Penn avenue to-night. Six desperate rounds were fought when McDonald struck Davis after the latter had fallen, and the fight was awarded to Davis on a claim of foul.

The Boomers.

ARKANSAS CITY March 15.—None of the Oklahoma boomers have yet left camp. They are still awaiting further advices from Washington. The opinion prevails that the President's proclamation was only to prevent them moving until the cabinet have more time to consider the question. The colonists' representatives at Washington telegraphs that the matter will again be considered at a cabinet meeting Tuesday.

Panama Attacked.

PANAMA (via Galveston,) March 16.—The City of Panama was attacked at 4 o'clock to-day by a party of revolutionists, commanded by General Aizpura, numbering 250 men. The government is defending the city. Firing is going on incessantly.

NEW YORK, March 16.—General Grant passed a bad night. He slept none, and is not quite so well to-day.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—The general manager of the Wabash railway telegraphed to the head of the machinery and car departments of the road stating that wages will be restored at the figures existing before the cut.

Fast Freight Line.

The *Herald* some days ago gave the particulars of the organization of a fast transcontinental freight line, to meet the "California" run of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, and Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe. The roads in the alliance are the Central and Union Pacific, Rock Island, and Milwaukee & St. Paul. Each road is to furnish a given number of cars, supplied with air brakes and other improvements. Everything is now in readiness, and it is proposed to start the first trrain out of Chicago on the 16th instant. Samuel DeBow, of Montana, is superintendent of the new line, and states his intention of making the best "across the continent" time on record. It may be pertinently remarked that DeBow is no chicken, and that when he cackles is means something.—*Omaha Herald*, 10th.

WARREN LELAND,

whom everybody knows as the successful manager of the

Largest Hotel Enterprises

of America, says that while a passenger from New York on board a ship going around Cape Horn, in the early days of emigration to California, he learned that one of the officers of the vessel had cured himself, during the voyage, of an obstinate disease by the use of

Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

Since then Mr. LELAND has recommended AYER'S SARSAPARILLA in many similar cases, and he has never yet heard of its failure to effect a radical cure.

Some years ago one of Mr. LELAND'S farm laborers bruised his leg. Owing to the bad state of his blood, an ugly scrofulous swelling or lump appeared on the injured limb. Horrible itching of the skin, with burning and darting pains through the lump, made life almost intolerable. The leg became enormously enlarged, and running ulcers formed, discharging great quantities of extremely offensive matter. No treatment was of any avail until the man, by Mr. LELAND'S direction, was supplied with AYER'S SARSAPARILLA, which allayed the pain and irritation, healed the sores, removed the swelling, and completely restored the limb to use.

Mr. LELAND has personally used

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

for Rheumatism, with entire success; and, after careful observation, declares that, in his belief, there is no medicine in the world equal to it for the cure of Liver Disorders, Gout, the effects of high living, Salt Rheum, Sores, Eruptions, and all the various forms of blood diseases.

We have Mr. LELAND'S permission to invite all who may desire further evidence in regard to the extraordinary curative powers of AYER'S SARSAPARILLA to see him personally either at his mammoth Ocean Hotel, Long Branch, or at the popular Leland Hotel, Broadway, 27th and 28th Streets, New York.

Mr. LELAND'S extensive knowledge of the good done by this unequalled eradicator of blood poisons enables him to give inquirers much valuable information.

PREPARED BY

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Sold by all Druggists; $1, six bottles for $5.

JOAQUIN MILLER'S MOTHER.

Deserted by Her Boy Husband and Living Alone on Her Farm in Oregon.

On a farm among gentle undulating hills, four miles from Eugene, Or., on the east side of the Willamette river, resides Mrs. Allison-Miller, mother of Joaquin Miller, the "Poet of the Sierras." Over a year ago, despite the protests of her sons, she married Joe Allison, a farm hand, some 19 years of age. As Mrs. Miller was upwards of 65, the marriage proved anything but a happy one. The boy deserted her, and during the recent dreadfully cold weather she lived all alone, struggling through the snow two or three or four times a day to feed her horses and cattle. It is on this same farm that the poet grew toward man's estate, save when he was living in the wild woods with the Digger Indians, enjoying camp life and the pursuits of the chase. The house is plain and unpretentious. The fences are in poor repair, although the owner is reputed rich among her neighbors, having many hundred acres.

"So this is the place where the companion of Bret Harte spent many of his days?" said a correspondent of the New York *Sun* to Mrs. Miller.

"Yes, this is the place; but bless you. I am as much of a poet myself as Joaquin," she said, producing from the depths of an ancient trunk a roll of manuscript which made me instinctively feel uneasy. "Here's an epic, and here's another in 16 cantos that I wrote myself. Oh, yes, we all dabble a little in poetry."

"How long ago did your son begin to write."

"Oh, he was always at it. He was a little bit of a boy when he first began scribbling verses, and he has kept it up with tolerable regularity ever since. I used to try to make him quit it, thinking no good would come of it, but I couldn't succeed. He's off now at New Orleans writing up the Exposition for the Eastern press. Here are several letters lately received from him," said she reaching toward a convenient shelf. "I'm glad, on the whole, that Joaquin didn't take my advice, and that he continued to do as he pleased and write poetry. The first poem that he wrote that attracted attention was one on the planting of the class tree at the old Lane County Academy, where the State University now stands. It was copied in all the papers. He ran a weekly in Eugene during the war. It was a red-hot abolition sheet, and the Missouri roughs from Long Tom Creek over here, swooped down and demolished the office. Then he practiced law awhile at Baker City, and afterwards he wrote his 'Songs of the Sierras,' which brought him into prominence."

Mrs. Miller is tall and somewhat angular. Her hair is well silvered over with gray, and her eyes, once dark, are now dimmed. True to the habits of the pioneer, she braves her difficulties, resolutely dries her tears over her recent matrimonial infelicity, feeds her stock, and roughs it uncomplainingly in her work on the lonesome farm.

A Cincinnati young man of twenty-seven, named Will Doherty, has been for the last six years indulging in venturesome Oriental explorations some of which are said to rival the daring Burnaby's ride to Khiva and the most startling exploits of Stanley. He went on foot through Bulgaria and Greece, traversed the Libyan Desert on camelback, rode through Persia from Teheran to Bushire on an Arab horse and journeyed through India on an elephant. When in need of money he sold letters to correspondents descriptive of places which they could not penetrate, and realized large sums by selling triplicates of his collections of rare insects to scientific institutes. He has been the guest of Rajahs and shared the hospitality of Bedouins, and writes grapically of his romantic experiences.

Meeting of Railroad Passenger Agents.

NEW ORLEANS, March 17.—The general railroad passenger agents elected the following officers: President, C. A. Taylor; Vice President, John N. Abbott; General Passenger Agent of the New York, Lake Erie & Western, Secretary, A. J. Smith, of Vicksburg. The election of Mr. Abbott was made by acclamation, he being one of the oldest members, the youngest of men and most valued member.

Whoa, Emma!

ALBANY, N. Y., March 17.—At the Woman's Suffrage Society meeting to-night, Kate Stoneman, sister of Gov. Stoneman of California, and others, denounced Gov. Pearce, of Dakota, for vetoing the woman's suffrage act passed by the legislature of the Territory. The Society sent a dispatch to President Cleveland asking