one constable the secrecy of the ballot is destroyed. This is true to the extent of the official's knowledge—this from the necessity of the case—but, under the proposed amendment, the voter will be compelled to disclose his intentions, not to one man, as now, but to the judges, clerks, and all the special constables present.

Taking everything into consideration, do not the advantages of the existing provision outweigh the advantages of the proposed amendment? With one constable, there is only possible dishonesty in the preparation of the ballots of the illiterate and blind; with more than one constable, there is certain destruction of the secrecy of the ballot, or a disclosure, perhaps, ten-fold greater than now, and a renewal of the evils of intimidation, money corruption, and undue class and race influences. No law can be absolutely perfect. No law can render fraud, corruption or dishonesty absolutely impossible. All that can be done is to exclude, as far as may be, the opportunities for the perpetration of wrong, and impose heavy penalties for violations. In my opinion, the Walton act, in its general scope, approximates the object desired—of fair and honest elections, and a free, untrammelled and unpurchased expression of the will of the people. A dishonest and corrupt constable may occasionally be found under the existing system; but, on the other hand, the proposed amendment would make the purchase, intimidation, and improper influence of voters easy and certain, and require the illiterate and blind voter to impart his secret to all present in the polling-place.

If I am wrong in my conclusions, and you should determine that the number of special constables should be increased, I shall cheerfully yield to your judgment, for no man more earnestly favors fair and honest elections than myself.

I recommend such amendments as may be necessary to relieve the act of uncertainties in its construction. I recommend that it be so amended as to require the ballots in each county and city to be of uniform size and style, printed in plain and uniform type, so they can be easily read by those acquainted with the English language.

LYNCHING.

With pain and mortification I bring to your attention the frequent taking of human life without due process of law within the borders of our State. Every such act blunts the sensibilities of the participants, and tends to dry up the well-springs of morality and break down the safeguards of society. In Virginia lynching cannot be defended; it must be reprobated. This Commonwealth has ever boasted of the purity of her judiciary and the uprightness of her juries, yet the number who have suffered death by the halter, without trials or sentences of her tribunals of justice, has created abroad the impression that her judges and juries cannot be trusted, or that her people are swayed by passion and uncontrolled by reason; that here law is dethroned and lawlessness reigns.

I know there is a crime too horrible to mention, so black as to cry for vengeance; but even the commission of that crime cannot warrant a resort to mob violence, for justice with us is certain, and will never miscarry, if the law is allowed to take its course.

But lynching has not been confined by any means to such cases; for in the last fifteen years only about one-third of those lynched have met their deaths upon charges of actual and attempted commis- executions without the pale of the law is long, including both races; and, while some other States have lists of greater length, this cannot excuse us. We cannot be justified in the sight of God or man by pleading that some other people are worse than ourselves.

I invoke with emphasis the exercise of your power in stamping out the spirit which is bringing reproach upon the honored name of this Commonwealth. Christianity demands it; public morality requires it; popular sentiment exacts it.

I recommend the passage of an act requiring every county or city to pay into the Treasury of the State, for the benefit of the public free school fund, the sum of $200 for each thousand of its population, not exceeding $10,000, for every lynching which may occur within its limits, the same to be provided for in its next annual levy.

I further recommend that the expense of the military, if called out by the sheriff of any county or the mayor of any city, to protect a prisoner threatened with violence, shall be refunded to the State by said county or city out of its next annual levy.

I further recommend that if any sheriff, jailor, sergeant, constable, or other officer, having in custody a prisoner, shall permit said prisoner to be taken from his custody without exhausting all means in his power to prevent it, he shall be summarily suspended from office by the court in which he qualified, until a motion to remove him shall be heard and determined by a jury.

I further recommend that right of action for damages be given to the prisoner taken from custody as aforesaid, if living—if dead, to his widow, if he leave one, if not, to his heirs—against the officer from whom the prisoner was taken, on his official bond; and that upon the trial of the motion to remove said officer, or of the suit for damages, the burden shall be upon said officer to prove that he exhausted all means in his power to prevent the taking of the prisoner from his custody.

I further recommend that the penalty for rape, or attempted rape, shall in every case be death, and that an indictment for either offence shall have precedence over any other case on the docket of the court in which the indictment is pending.

In my opinion, if an act embodying such provisions is passed, lynchings will no longer occur in Virginia.

USE OF MILITARY.

During the last two years the military has been ordered into service upon the calls of the sheriff to protect prisoners threatened with violence in the counties of Prince William, Augusta, Frederick, Clarke, Lunenburg, and Albemarle, and the timely presence of troops has had the effect of preventing mob violence and giving Virginia a clean record, so far as lynching is concerned, for the years of 1894 and 1895. If any are disposed to put a monetary price on law and order, I will say for their benefit that the entire cost of the military on these several occasions was less than two cents on the thousand dollars of the taxable property of the State.

Besides, the use of the military in protecting persons charged with crimes and securing for them fair trials, it was called into service at Pocahontas, Tazewell county, when a breach of the peace and mob violence were threatened by a large body of non-residents of the State. Last spring the miners in the Elkhorn region of West Virginia went out on a strike, because of a reduction in their wages. The miners on the Virginia side of the line, whose wages were not cut, remained at work and refused to join the strikers. On the first day of May, I received by wire reliable information that the strikers would hold a meeting that day at Keystone, W. Va., after which they would use force to prevent the Pocahontas miners from continuing at work; that the sheriff of Tazewell county and fifty deputies were on the ground to resist the attempt, but that they would be powerless to meet a determined effort by the strikers, who numbered at least eight thousand. I immediately sent the following telegraphic message to the sheriff of Tazewell county:

"Wire me fully condition of affairs in mining region. Do you need military aid? Law must be upheld at all hazards. Take no chances."

I received this reply promptly: "Pocahontas, Va., perfectly quiet now. Elkhorn, W. Va., still on strike. Would advise that a company of troops be kept in readiness."

At once I wired his Excellency, the Governor of West Virginia, for permisson to transport troops through that State, if necessary, and authority was immediately given, and at the request of his Excellency authority granted him to transport troops through Virginia.

On the 3d day of May, the following telegraphic message reached me from Pocahontas:

"Have just returned from Elkhorn. Everything quiet there; also in Pocahontas, as yet. The strikers from West Virginia mines propose to have public meeting here Sunday. I cannot foresee the result. I am fearful of trouble. I will wire you again if anything transpires.

(Signed.)

"JNO. W. CROCKETT, Dep. Sheriff."

Later the same day, the same officer wired me from Pocahontas in these words: "West Virginia miners propose to hold mass-meeting here Sunday. If violence attempted my force would be wholly inadequate. Answer." After mature consideration I came to the conclusion that several thousand idle and excited men, with free access to liquor, meeting in Pocahontas for the purpose of coercing by force or threats the Virginia miners, who were satisfied and did not desire to strike, to quit work, would certainly result in a breach of the peace and serious troubles, and as the sheriff had informed me that in case of violence his force would be wholly inadequate, and there being no troops in that section of the State, I determined that the rights of Virginia citizens, the safety of the community, and the protection of life and property demanded that soldiers be placed sufficiently near to Pocahontas to enable the sheriff to call them quickly to the scene in the event they were needed. I had vivid in my memory the loss of life and destruction of property in mining regions in other States on similar occasions, because of the tardiness in supporting the civil authority with the military. While executives were halting, blood was flowing and the flames playing. I recalled the proverb: "Better to be censured by some for anxious apprehensions than ruined by too confident security." Accordingly, I ordered Major William E. Simons, of the Virginia volunteer militia, to proceed at once to Graham, distant about five miles from Pocahontas, and on the line of the Norfolk and Western railroad, with a force which I hoped would be sufficient to overawe the lawless, if not strong enough to cope successfully with any outbreak, with orders to report to the sheriff of Tazewell county, and obey his command. At the same time I wired the sheriff that the commander had been ordered to report to him. The troops reached Graham on Saturday, May 4th, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and were then halted, subject to the command of the sheriff. On the 6th day of May, Major Simons was ordered by the sheriff to proceed to Pocahontas, which he did, reaching there on the evening of that day, and was placed in command of the town by the sheriff, thus showing how dangerous were the conditions in the opinion of the sheriff. The presence of the troops at Graham prevented the proposed meeting from being held in Pocahontas, and instead thereof it was held just across the line, in West Virginia, about three-quarters of a mile from Pocahontas, at which violent and denunciatory speeches were made by the leaders of the strikers.

For three months the peace of the miners at Pocahontas and the safety of life and property were threatened. Meetings were held almost daily at the point just mentioned, and threatening speeches made against the working miners, the military, and Virginia officials. A military force, which was gradually reduced, was maintained at Pocahontas from the 6th day of May until the 2d day of August, when, in the opinion of the sheriff of Tazewell county, all danger had passed.

I am convinced that the close proximity of troops on Sunday, the 5th day of May, prevented not only the coercion of satisfied working men to stop work, but violent breaches of the peace and most probably loss of life and destruction of property. It cannot be conceived that such a meeting for the purpose avowed could have been held in a town with a feeble police and weak sheriffalty force, without causing personal collisions and serious troubles, and placing the town at the mercy of a mob which is "always a monster, with the hands of Briareus, but the head of Polyphemus—strong to execute, but blind to perceive."

I am further equally convinced that if the troops had been ordered away at a date much anterior to the time of their withdrawal, the Virginia miners would have been driven out of the mines, and the mines closed. This was the case in West Virginia, where there were no troops to protect those who desired to work in mines at which there had been no cut in wages. There, when persuasion failed, force was used, and for nearly three months terror reigned.

PREVENTED BLOODSHED.

To summarize, the presence of troops at Pocahontas prevented probable bloodshed and destruction of property, preserved the peace, kept the mines in operation, gave employment to hundreds of miners—the number increasing daily until it had run up from 1,160 when the strike commenced to about 2,300 when the military was withdrawn. It enabled many Virginia enterprises, dependent upon the mines for coal, to continue operations, furnishing labor to thousands of their employes, protected the Norfolk and Western railroad against threatened danger, secured every man in his right to pursue his daily work without molestation, and infringed upon no right of person or property.

The entire cost of supporting the troops at Pocahontas was less than six sents on the thousand dollars of the value of the real and personal property of the State. Considering the dangers averted and the results accomplished, who will complain of this paltry expenditure?

A great fundamental principle of government was involved.

I maintain that it is the duty of Virginia to preserve personal liberty. No man should be compelled to work, unless it be for penal punishment. If he is not satisfied with his wages, he has the right to stop work, and whosoever forces him to continue is a law-breaker and abridger of personal liberty. On the other hand, no man should be compelled, by menace, threats, or force, to withdraw from his work. When that is done, he is no longer a free man, and whosoever thus deprives him of his right to labor and to earn a livelihood, robs him of that which is guaranteed to every man in this land of equal rights and freedom.

I maintain, further, that it is the duty of Virginia to protect alike all property, regardless of its character. Much capital has come within our borders; we are inviting more. We have railroads, factories, mines, and innumerable industrial enterprises, giving employment to our skilled workmen, artisans, and mechanics, as well as our humble laborers; we are encouraging the building and opening of more. Will more capital come and more industrial enterprises spring from it, if the capital and enterprises now here are subject to the fury of lawless men? No. Let it once be understood that property rights are at the mercy of mobs, and that investors have no security in Virginia, and capital will flee from us as from a land of plagues, and we will retrograde more rapidly materially than we have advanced.

I will state that, in addition to the security given to the laborers who desired to work at Pocahontas, the great Virginia mines, in which wages were not cut, whose miners were satisfied, were enabled, as already stated, to continue their operations and double their output, and give employment to thousands of workmen, and the Norfolk and Western railroad, with 984 miles of her system in Virginia, and paying $73,735.16 State taxes, $92,496.80, county taxes, and $33,969.82 corporation taxes, aggregating $200,201.78 this year, and nearly as much last year, was saved from probable serious injury.

On still nother occasion the military was called into service. In the summer of 1894, a body, known as "Coxey's Army," consisting of from six hundred to a thousand men, who had been gathered principally from the Pacific and Northwestern States, reached the District of Columbia, bent on a "fool's mission," to direct congressional legislation. After remaining in camp in the District for a few days, they were required to leave, whereupon they moved across the Potomac into Virginia and established a camp in Alexandria county, near Rosslyn. They were a thriftless lot, and became at once a charge upon the three hundred white taxpayers in that county. They refused to work when it was offered to them, and prowled about for miles around in gangs, begging, terrorizing the women of the section, who were generally left during the daytime without male protectors. They were vagrants, and liable to treat-

ment under the vagrant statute of the State, but their numbers rendered the law inoperative. The citizens appealed to me for aid, and my mail for weeks was filled almost daily with letters from female residents, praying for relief. There had, however, been no actual breaches of the peace, nor threatened violence, and I was powerless to act in the absence of a call from the civil authorities. Finally a call came from the sheriff and board of supervisors, and immediately I ordered a military force to proceed to the locality and require the entire "army" to leave the State. My orders were obeyed at once, and the county of Alexandria was relieved of the horde of vagrants, beggars, and cranks that for weeks had been disturbing the peace of mind of defenceless women and eating up the substance of her people

This ended "Coxeyism," and I do not think Virginia will again be afflicted with it. The cost of the military on this occasion was about three-tenths of one cent on the thousand dollars of the taxable property of the State.

My report as to the use of the military is now concluded. It has occupied much space, but I have given you all the facts, as my duty required. In every instance there were direct calls from the sheriffs of the various counties, except in the case of Pocahontas, and in that the sheriff, while not calling directly, communicated the facts to me, leaving me to determine, indicating, however, very clearly, that, in his opinion, troops were necessary, and then ordering them almost instantly to the scene of the disturbance when they were placed in his reach.

Before concluding this branch of my message, I must in the strongest terms commend the volunteer soldiers of the State, officers and men, for their ready response to every command, and their faithful discharge of every duty, at the sacrifice of their comfort and business interests.

HORSE-RACE GAMBLING.

Gambling on horse-races has become a shame and disgrace to Virginia. It has been carried on the year round, and has attracted the gambling fraternity, including the worst element of it, from every section of the country, and invited the youths of the State to the tracks to be corrupted.

The General Assembly, at its last session, finding that there was no statute prohibiting book-making, pool-selling, &c., and that this species of gambling was being conducted constantly at Jackson City, in Alexandria county, passed an act making it unlawful for any person or persons or association of persons, corporation or corporations, to sell or make books, pools, or mutuals upon the result of any trial of speed or power of endurance of animals or beasts, &c., anywhere within the State, except upon the grounds owned and controlled by agricultural associations, county or city fairs, driving parks, or driving clubs theretofore chartered. The special object of this act was to break up the gambling dens, where pool-selling, &c., was done, at Jackson City, and which had made that locality a veritable pest-spot for years.

It was represented and believed by the General Assembly that the privilege of pool-selling or making books, &c., on the grounds of agricultural associations or fairs and driving clubs or parks then in existence would not be used to encourage gambling and create gambling-places. The bill was presented to me on the 3d day of March, 1894, five days before the session of the General Assembly expired by limitation. I objected to the exception in favor of agricultural associations or fairs and driving clubs or parks, but being assured that the passage of no other bill on the subject could be secured on account of the lateness of the session, and believing that it would close the dens at Jackson City, and that the managers of the agricultural fairs and driving parks in the State would use the privilege carefully, I thought it best to approve the bill and at least reduce the evil to a minimum, and, accordingly, on the 3d day of March, 1894, I appended my signature to the act.

But, while the act had the effect of closing the pool shops, &c., at Jackson City, they were simply transferred to two other places, short distances therefrom.

By virtue of a charter granted by the General Assembly, at the session of 1885-'6, to the Grange Camp Association of Northern Virginia, whose franchises were secured by persons who are said to reside in Washington City, a driving park was established a few hundred yards from Jackson City and the long bridge spanning the Potomac river at Washington City, and there daily during the fall of 1894 and the winter of 1894-'5, and, with slight intermissions, to the present time, in all seasons and weather, racing, pool-selling, and book-making, &c., have been carried on, in bold defiance of the spirit and intention of the General Assembly and the act of March 3, 1894. To these grounds the gamblers from every direction have repaired, and, on account of their proximity to the city of Washington, they have attracted the worst element as well as the youths of that city. So corrupting, demoralizing, and shameful have the practices become that I have been appealed to in the most earnest terms by the respectable citizens and Board of Trade of the national capital for relief. But as these outrageous acts have been committed under cover but in abuse of the act of March 3, 1894, I have found that both myself and the honorable judge of the County Court of Alexandria county have been utterly powerless to interfere.

The other place to which I have referred is nearer the city of Alexandria, on the line of the Southern railway, but almost as accessible to Washington city as the Alexandria Island Park. It is known as St. Asaph, and has differed in no material particular, so far as I am informed, from Alexander Island park, except that there has been no winter racing on its track. In great measure the same element frequents it, and pool-selling, book-making, &c., mark the constant meetings on its grounds.

I earnestly recommend that the act of March 3, 1894, be amended by striking out the exception in favor of agricultural associations or fairs, and driving clubs or parks.

Let the selling of books or making of pools or mutuals, be absolutely prohibited in the State of Virginia. Other States have driven horse-race gambling from their borders; enlightened public sentiment is against it; public morals condemn it. Will this State continue to make her borders the rendezvous and refuge of the gamblers driven away from Jersey City and Guttenburg? Betting at faro, wheel-of-fortune, or keno table is prohibited and punished. Why permit it on a horse-race? Upon what principle can one be prohibited and the other licensed? Is it immoral and degrading to gamble with cards, but moral and elevating to gamble on horse-racing? I am sure you will answer these questions as the moral and orderly masses of Virginia expect you.

GRANGE CHARTER.

Recurring to the subject just presented, I desire to refer to the gross perversion of the charter of the Grange Camp Association of Northern Virginia, granted by the General Assembly at its session of 1885-'6. Special attention is called to the purposes of the charter, set forth in the preamble: "The fostering and development of agriculture and its interests, as well as the mutual care, aid, and protection of its members in time of sickness or distress, and the care of the widow and orphan, and other benevolent purposes; for the purpose of holding fairs in the interest of agriculture, and of securing the advantages of co-operation in all matters affecting their interests and mutual improvement as agriculturists." (See Acts 1885-'6, page 256.)

Under this charter grounds were purchased in Fairfax county, and upon them suitable buildings erected, and several fairs conducted by the Grange Camp Association of Northern Virginia; but for two or three years, or longer, prior to 1894 there were no exhibitions or fairs held, and I am informed the enterprise had been virtually abandoned by the association. In the spring of 1894, or winter preceding, the franchises of said charter were in some manner secured, as already stated, by certain persons in the city of Washington, and these persons, claiming the right to act under said charter, established the park at Alexander Island, heretofore mentioned, many miles distant from the original location in Fairfax county, and have, in a most bold-faced manner, perverted the purposes of the charter by making their driving park simply a place, as stated before, for horse-race gambling, book-making, pool-selling, &c., at all seasons. They have done nothing to foster and develop agriculture, and its interests. They have not given care, aid, and protection, in time of sickness or distress, to the members of the Grange Camp Association of Northern Virginia, nor cared for the widow and orphan, nor promoted other benevolent purposes. They have not held fairs in the interest of agriculture, nor secured the advantages of co-operation in all matters affecting the interests and mutual improvement of the members of said association as agriculturists; but, in a word, the charter granted for high and commendable objects has been, and is being, used for gambling and immoral purposes only, and under the shield of a charter obtained by an honorable association—a body of men engaged in "a calling the purest of all callings"—gamblers are daily pursuing their nefarious vocations, debauching youth, corrupting early manhood and robbing all who come within the reach of their filching fingers.

What are they doing? Section 5, of the charter act aforesaid, relieves the Grange Camp Association of the payment of all State, county, or corporation taxes—a concession in the interest of agriculture—and now these people, standing in the shoes of the members of the Grange Camp Association, are claiming, or can claim, exemption from all taxation.

In view of the facts I have just given, it is hardly necessary for me to say that I recommend the prompt repeal of the act approved February 26, 1886, entitled "An act to incorporate the Grange Camp Association of Northern Virginia."

IN ALEXANDRIA COUNTY.

Your special attention is directed to the condition of affairs along the Potomac river in Alexandria county. From Jackson City to the line of Fairfax county, a distance of five miles, more or less, the laws of this State have been for a long period put at defiance, and that part of Virginia's territory made a typical Botany Bay for the criminal and degraded classes of Washington city. These gambling saloons and disreputable houses display their brazen fronts day and night, and every species of crime is committed. The law officers are either powerless, or they wilfully neglect their duty. Something must be done to relieve Virginia of the odium cast upon her by the existence of such a place on her soil. The majesty of the law must be asserted. As the Executive, I have no authority. The judge of the County Court has been unable to suppress the lawlessness, because his authority under the statute is inadequate.

I would recommend that a special act be passed, empowering the judge of said court to suspend the sheriff, or any justice of the peace, or constable of said county, whenever, in his opinion, said officer has failed to do his duty, such suspension to continue until a hearing is had before a jury on a motion to remove said officer; and that said judge be further empowered to appoint as many special justices of the peace and constables as he may see fit, either in term-time or vacation. I further recommend that said judge be authorized to remove any criminal case pending in his court to the county court of some adjoining county for trial, whenever, in his opinion, the demands of justice and the due enforcement of the laws require it. These powers will, of course, be extraordinary, but "extreme remedies are very appropriate for exteme diseases." Radical measures must be adopted to relieve the locality of its morally-leprous character, and of this you will be fully convinced when you come to investigate the facts, for they could hardly be exaggerated.

PRIZE-FIGHTING.

Prize-fighting has repeatedly occurred in the State within the last two years. It has been impossible to convict the participants, because the spectators have been in sympathy with the disgraceful affairs; and, however brutal the contest, in the opinion of these sympathizers, when introduced as witnesses, it was not a prize-fight, but an innocent glove-contest. Men in the ring have assaulted each other in a manner which, if done elsewhere, would have made them amenable to severe punishment; but, as the assaults were made in the "manly-art" ring, it was regarded as harmless amusement. These exhibitions are neither innocent, harmless, nor manly, but brutal as a bull or dog fight. They are degrading in the extreme, and tend to inculcate in the minds of the young that it is better to become a champion prize-fighter than to excel in the mechanic arts, trades, or professions.

The people everywhere are manifesting a determination to suppress these shameful exhibitions, whether they are called prize-fights or glove contests, and recently the legislatures of New York and Texas passed prohibitory acts, with severe penalties, for violations.

I recommend the amendment of sections 3893 and 3894 of the Code, so as to conform to enlightened public sentiment, making prize-fighting a felony, and glove-contests—whether in private or public, in a park, club, or other place, for admission fees, a purse, or any other thing, directly or indirectly—also a felony.

THE CAPITOL.

I would recommend an appropriation to put a new metal roof with metal rafters on the Capitol. I am informed by an experienced architect that the safety of the building requires it. Now that the library has been removed, this old structure, so historic, with its clustering memories, and so many valuable records as well as invaluable statuary and paintings still remaining in it, ought to be preserved, and I suggest that it can be, and should be, made as near fire-proof as possible.

CONCLUSION.

Now, having done my duty—imperfectly it may be, but to the best of my ability—I submit this, my message, to you, with implicit faith in your devotion to the welfare of this Commonwealth and abiding confidence in your wisdom. I shall co-operate earnestly with you in your patriotic efforts to advance the interests, promote the prosperity, preserve the honored name of Virginia, and hold her above reproach. I beg to express the hope that your session may be harmonious and pleasant, that in the providence of God your health may continue good, and, when your labors are ended, you may return to those who sent you, and receive their plaudits as faithful servants.

CHAS. T. O'FERRALL.

In an appendix to his message and referred to above, Gov. O'Ferrall gives in full his now well-known letter to Gov. W. A. McCorkle, of West Virginia, in reference to the work of the commission created by the last Legislature, to negotiate with the State of West Virginia a settlement and adjustment of the proportion of the public debt of the original State of Virginia proper to be borne by West Virginia. This letter is dated January 5, 1895, and was printed in The Times about that time.

Under the caption of "captured boats" the Governor also appends the report of the legislative committee provided for in a joint resolution of the last Legislature to confer with a similar committee, on behalf of the Maryland Legislature, with reference to the conflict between the Virginia steamer Chesapeake and Maryland dredging vessels on the 19th of February, 1894, in Tangier Sound, Va. In this connection he also gives his well-known letter to Gov. Frank Browne, of Maryland, under date of September 5, 1894, based upon the report referred to above, with the latter's reply six days later. These letters were all printed in full in The Times of September 9th and September 13th, 1895. The full text of the report of the legislative committee was also printed in The Times.

A River Steamer Sunk.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Dec. 4.—The steamer Falls City, in the Louisville and Frankfort trade, struck a snag in the Kentucky, opposite Monterey, at 8 o'clock this morning, and sank in ten feet of water. The crew and passengers were rescued. The boat carried a large cargo.

GLADSTONE ON TURKEY.

AN IMPIOUS AND INIQUITOUS GOVERNMENT NEARING ITS DOOM.

His Letter to the Chicago Press Club—Turkey's Refusal to Issue Firmans. Americans Being Protected.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The Press Club of Chicago has had an address from some speaker of distinction in the auditorium every year for several years.

They invited Mr. Gladstone for 1896, and the Mayor of Chicago supplemented the request with a cordial invitation to Mr. Gladstone and his family.

These letters were sent to Mr. Depew, to be forwarded with a personal letter from him.

The following is Mr. Gladstone's answer:

"Hawarden Castle, Chester, Nov. 5, 1895.

"Dear Mr. Depew: I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 20th ulto., which forwarded to me the invitation of the Press Club, accompanied and countenanced by the gracious address of the Mayor of the great city of Chicago.

"I cannot too strongly express my sense of the honor thus done me, and I wish to add that, in my opinion, no cause more sacred and more urgent, than that of the Armenians has ever been brought before the citizens of our humane and enlightened country.

HANDWRITING ON THE WALL.

"It is for the moment enveloped, so far as the public are concerned, in uncertainty, but yet there are indications that the handwriting on the wall, which warned one ancient despot of his coming doom, has again been traced visibly enough to be the token of some approaching crash of a system of government far more in pious and iniquitous.

"With these feelings, I still must not blind myself to the facts of my situation. After my long public life I can attempt no public action without considering much besides the truth, and even the importance of what I must have to say, and I am far from convinced that my undertaking a public progress (for such it would be), at the present time would be beneficial to the Armenian cause.

"But all argument on such a question is cut short by an undescribing physical unfitness. The blessing of good health is still vouchsafed to me, but diminished strength, imperfect vision, and growing deafness incapacitate me from public efforts, which more weighty considerations might lead me to undertake and confine my intercourse with others to what is purely private and of a very restricted character.

"I send this reply with much regret, but with too full an assurance of its necessity.

"In conclusion, let me hope that the influence of your great, in such a matter necessarily impartial, country will be powerfully used in the cause of right.

"I remain, with much respect, dear Mr. Depew, very faithfully yours,

(Signed.) "W. E. GLADSTONE.

"Hon. Chauncey M. Depew."

AMERICANS SAFE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Mr. Alexander Terrell, the United States Minister to Turkey, cabled the State Department today from Constantinople that everything relating to American interests was satisfactory. The missionaries, he said, are safe and property protected.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—A dispatch to the Standard from Constantinople says the question of the admission of additional guard-ships into the Bosphorus is in suspense, and all diplomatic action in the matter at a complet standstill for the moment. Some of the ambassadors are still awaiting fresh instructions from their governments. All of the diplomats are of the belief that the exercises of strong pressure, stronger by far than that which has hitherto been brought to bear upon the Porte, will be necessary to induce the Sultan to yield, and it is understood that such action will be taken immediately upon the receipt of replies by the Ambassadors of the powers, which are insisting upon the issuance of firearms to the representations they have made to their respective governments. The Sultan has made a personal appeal to the Russian, Austrian, German, and French governments for an agreement that Russia, Austria, Germany, and France shall not press their demands without success.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 4.—According to the latest advices from Kaiseria, Asia Minor, sixty Armenians are known to have been killed in the massacre there on November 30th.

The Turkish Governor of Kaisarea (Kaisarieh), Asia Minor, where a massacre of Christians occurred on November 30th, has been dismissed by order of the Porte.

AN AUSTRIAN KILLED.

Petrovitch, an Austrian subject, who was chief of the local official tobacco regie, has been murdered while travelling in the Kharput district. The officials in Erzeroum, Barburt, Erisinhian, and Bitlis continue to force the Armenians under threats of renewed attacks to sign addresses thanking the Porte for protection during the recent disorders and praising the Sultan's paternal rule.

Several notables in the Erzeroum district have been in like manner compelled to telegraph to the Patriarch, demanding the recall of the Bishop, in consequence of the latter's dispatches to the Marquis of Salisbury, indicating the deplorable situation.

A dispatch from Zeitoun, from a Turkish source, says delegates were sent to treat with the Armenians in regard to a surrender, were not received by the insurgent leaders.

It is said that the latter released 400 captured troops, with the exception of nine, who, it is alleged, were murdered.

THE POPE'S LIBERALITY.

ROME, Dec. 4.—The Osservatore Romano says that the Pope, immediately on learning of the robberies and massacres of Armenians, sent 50,000 lire to Mgr. Azarian, Catholic Armenian Patriarch, at Constantinople, for the relief of the surviving victims.

BERLIN, Dec. 4.—The Cologne Gazette, as the result of inquiries in official circles, reaffirms that cabinets and diplomats alike are unanimous in insisting on the admission of additional guardshps into the Bosphorus.

It adds that nothing is known of the rumored British ultimatum.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—The Times to-morrow will print the following dispatch from Constantinople:

Although the Sultan proposed and Germany accepted ex-Minster Turkham as Turkish Ambassador to Berlin, the Sultan has changed his mind, and has appointed Zia Pasha, now the representative of Turkey at Paris, to go to Berlin.

The Times' correspondent defends the arrests and deportations at Constantinople as ridding the city of an element that will be well spared, as it would constitute the bulk of the mob in the event of a riot.

The correspondent admits that in some instances the choice of the persons arrested has been unhappy, but says that in the main the arrests have been beneficial, and that the danger of disorder daily lessons.

The Daily Telegraph says: If the reply of Turkey as to the admission of guardianships into Bosphorus is not shortly received the powers will fix a date, after which they will bring vessels to Constantinople.

A dispatch from Paris to a news agency here says that similar advices have been received there from Constantinople, and that the date fixed is December 7th.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—A cablegram was received at the Navy Department to-day from Rear Admiral Selfridge reporting the arrival of the flagship San Francisco at Mersina to-day and her immediate departure for Alexandretta. The San Francisco was recently ordered to the Levant to protect American interests jeopardized on account of the Armenian troubles.

The Marblehead is also in Turkish waters, and the Minneapolis is crossing the Atlantic to Gibraltar, whence she will proceed without delay to Smyrna.

The gunboat Yorktown left Chemulpo, Corea, to-day, for Shanghai.

◆

Frozen to Death.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., Dec. 4.—The coldest weather of the season was experienced here last night. This morning John Sharp, a painter, whose home was at New Martinsville, W. Va., was found frozen to death on a hill two miles south of here.

He had been employed here for several months, and was out late last night, when he was probably overcome by the severe weather.

◆

THE WASHINGTON DIOCESE.

The Power to Enact New Organic Law in Doubt.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—The primary convention of the New Episcopalian Diocese of Washington commenced in this city to-day with divine services at St. Andrew's church, Bishop Paret, of Maryland, administering communion and Rev. J. B. Perry preaching the opening sermon.

A temporary organization of the diocese was perfected late this afternoon. Before the selection of a bishop is undertaken the important question is to be settled as to whether the diocese has the power at once to enact new organic law, or should be governed by that of the Maryland Diocese, from which it has been separated. The question was informally referred to two justices of the United States Supreme Court, who, it is understood, gave diametrically opposite opinions on the subject. It was resolved that the new diocese should be known as the Diocese of Washington, and Rev. John H. Elliott, of the Church of the Ascension, was unanimously chosen permanent secretary of the convention.

Bishop Paret, in resigning the chair, made the formal announcement that he felt it his duty to remain with the Diocese of Maryland.

◆

Boston's Choice Sensation.

BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 4.—Mrs. Frances L. Higginson, wife of the famous banker, and a social favorite, has forsaken her home and family, leaving no word behind her. She has been gone over two weeks. There is also missing from the same social set Mr. James Wheatland Smith, a young lawyer.

Mrs. Higginson is within a few months of forty years of age, and the mother of four children. Her husband is about ten years her senior.

Smith is only twenty-six years of age. The two have been friends in society for some months past, and the young man's devotion to the matron has caused considerable comment.

It is believed that Mrs. Higginson and young Smith took passage on the steamship Columbia for Genoa November 30th.

Young Smith, it is said, had very little money when he left home. Mrs. Higginson did not have any great amount of ready cash with her, but she did have some valuable jewelry. None of her friends can account for her conduct except on the ground that she has become mentally unbalanced.

◆

Iron Men Elect Officers.

PITTSBURG, PA., Dec. 4.—The National Bar-Iron Association was organized here to-day, the following officers being elected:

President, James G. Caldwell, Louisville.

Vice-President, H. T. Wallace, Wilmington, Del.

Treasurer, George M. Bard, Muncie, Ind.

Secretary, J. S. Elverson, Catasauqua, Pa.

The new association will arrange for a uniformity in what is known to manufacturers and the trade as "extras."

The western bar-iron men held a meeting here to-day also.

There was no change made in the price of iron.

◆

An Interesting Question.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 4.—A peculiar controversy has developed between the insurance companies and concerns burned during Tuesday's big fire. There is a question as to whether the fire was caused by the collapse of a floor, or the collapse was caused by the fire. The employes of Schnull & Co., the chief losers, claim that the flames broke out after the collapse, and the insurance companies, taking this as their cue, may refuse to pay the policies, caused by a collapse.

THREE MEN KILLED.

A Freight Train Broke in Two and Then Collided With Fatal Results.

BLUEFIELD, W. VA., Dec. 4.—By a wreck of coal trains on the Norfolk and Western railroad at Lick Branch, this evening, three men were killed. A double train with pushers was going up a steep grade when the first section broke in two.

The pushers were forced back and collided with the engine of the second section. J. W. Forlines, engineer; W. A. Straley, conductor, and Brakeman G. H. Heilig were buried in the wreck and killed.

All reside in Bluefield.

Another Wreck on the Norfolk and Western.

WHEELING, W. VA., Dec. 4.—A special from Huntington, W. Va., says a disastrous freight wreck was caused on the Norfolk and Western, on Patrick Creek, early this morning by the engine leaving the track. Fireman Gauge was fatally hurt, and four others severely injured.

The engine and fifteen cars were totally wrecked. A bad wreck took place a few days ago at the same place.

◆

Expelled From the Loyal Legion.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—William S. Andrews, formerly Commissioner of Street Cleaning, and a member of the Loyal Legion, was expelled from the membership in the Legion, by a vote of 161 to 76, at a meeting of the organization held to-night at Delmonico's.

Mr. Andrews was present at the meeting, but did not defend himself in person. He left immediately after the vote was announced, and declined to be interviewed upon the action of the Legion in expelling him.

At an October meeting of ths board of officers of the Loyal Legion Mr. Andrews was found guilty of five of the seven charges against him of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

The charges against the ex-Commissioner were mostly the outgrowth of the Lexow hearings, and the two principal charges were the results of that investigation.

◆

Rules Against Shoemaker.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Dec. 4.—Judge Thayer to-day served a rule upon Attorney William A. Shoemaker, one of the counsel of the convicted murderer, H. H. Holmes, to show cause why he should not be disbarred.

The rule is returnable in the Court of Oyer and Terminer on December 14th.

The charge against Shoemaker is presenting a fraudulent affidavit to the court in the Holmes murder case.

◆

A Determined Suicide.

AUGUSTA, GA., Dec. 4.—A special from Greenwood, S. C., says:

Mr. George Harrison, who lived near here, committed suicide at his home about 7 o'clock this morning, by shooting himself in the head. This is the third attempt he has made to take his life, one by strichnine, one by an opiate, and this time with a pistol.

No cause can be assigned for his act.

◆

A Close Election in Atlanta.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 4.—In the city election held here to-day the vote was very close. At midnight the count showed the election of Woodward and Dimmock for Aldermen on the Citizens' ticket. They were opposed by a ticket supported by the A. P. A. The Citizens' ticket for Council are leading so far as the count has gone, but it will be very close, and some candidates from both tickets may be elected.

◆

Prohibition Defeated in Georgia.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 4.—The Georgia House of Representatives to-day defeated the Bush bill, which was practically a State Prohibition bill. The bill received 75 votes, and there were 62 against. Eighty-eight votes were necessary to pass it.

Linens, Aprons, Hosiery.

A. E. HEINRICH & CO.

113 E. Broad Street.

We mention some especially attractive values, which for quality, style, and newness, will commend themselves to the careful and economical buyer.

Umbrellas, H'dk'fs, Gloves.

LINEN TABLE SETS.

Blue, Salmon and Yellow Satin Damask Table Sets, $4 and $4.50, 2½ and 3 yards long.

APRONS, 25c.

Full Length and width, wide hem and two rows of tucking.

APRONS, 40c.

Good quality Muslin, lace edge and cluster of tucks.

APRONS, 50c.

Best quality Muslin, Hemstitched, and wide Inserting.

APRONS, 75c., $1, $1.50, $1. 75.

Ladies' Fast Black Hose, 25c. per pair, put up in fancy boxes.
Ladies' Fast Black Hose, 35c. per pair, 3 for $1, put up in fancy boxes.
Fine line of Silk and Lisle-Thread Hose suitable for Xmas gifts.

XMAS UMBRELLAS.

Guaranteed good colors, choice assortment of Handles. 91c., $1.25, $1.50, $1.75, $2, up to $15.
(Gold, Silver, Pearl, and Natural Wood Handles.)

XMAS HANDKERCHIEFS

to suit all purses. Plain and Embroidered Linen and Swiss Initials and Silks.

Xmas Gloves should commend themselves to the careful buyer. We carry none but the Best, which receives our guarantee. $1, $1.25, $2, and upwards.

A. E. HEINRICH & CO., 113 East Broad Street.

Richmond Trousers Co.,
26 N. Ninth Street.

IF YOU are in need of a pair of Trousers, and want them made to order, and do not care to pay a small-size fortune in order to get a a pair, we are the persons for whom you are looking.

We make to your order Trousers from $3.50 to $6.00, and remember, we do not sell cotton goods; ours are strictly all-wool, and our guarantee goes with every pair. If you are in a hurry for them, drop in on your way down town in the morning, and on your way home to dinner you can take them with you—provided, of course, that you have the cash, for you know we do not keep any books.

We give the best value for the dollar that has ever before been given. If you don't believe it, drop in at—

RICHMOND TROUSERS CO.,
26 NORTH NINTH STREET,

and see what we are doing. We give you for Cash twice as much as any other house has ever done.

Fine American Beauty Roses,

Violets, Carnations, and other Cut Flowers, Palms, and Ferns, at

W. A. HAMMOND'S,
107 E. BROAD STREET.