THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS.

A HIGHLY POETIC LETTER.

A Trip Up the Albemarle Road—To Lexington, to the White, and to the Natural Bridge.

NATURAL BRIDGE, VA., August 29, 1885.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

With sad hearts we bade farewell, on the morning of the 22d, to the glorious old White Sulphur and, speeding eastward, soon reached this point of wonder as our place of destination. Looking back over our entire trip from Richmond hither, we feel lost for language with which we may adequately describe its delight, its beauty, its glory, its magnificence.

For the first time since the opening of the Richmond and Alleghany railroad we travelled its wonderful way to the hills and haunts of the Virginia mountains; and, though it has been so long in operation, we were able forcibly to contrast its whirling, whizzing motion with the long-drawn, snail's rate of movement that formerly characterized our journey by route of the old canal.

Scarcely had we slid from under the "smoky cowl" of the city, with its dusty, dizzy hum of industry, enterprise, and commerce, than scenes of enchantment, following each other in varied and vivid succession, burst upon our fascinated vision and seem to chase us in untiring tide up to the present moment.

"On the river's breast, with its ebb and flow,
As we glide through the shadow and shoon,"

Threading its way for miles along the old original "tow-path," we catch glimpses of the river bathing in silver spray its countless isles, or

"Leaping and shouting from
The opposed rocks, to make earth
Echo with the joy of waves."

Drifting away with a musical sound, we pass the placid landscapes of the Middle James and soon reach the heart of the "Everlasting Hills."

It was a perfect August evening—a summer's evening such as poets sing; a golden flush of color; a glory of perfume, balm, and harmony—when we landed at Balcony Falls, the centre of scenery too gorgeous for any but the gifted pen, too beautiful to trace by any tutored hand. Nature alone could tint those shades of evening and melt into that mellow glory the lights and shadows of the dying day with the blue-robed mountain and the shaded dell.

At Balcony Falls we take the branch railway over to Lexington. The day in its departing glory seemed lingering in long-drawn lines of light, chasing in silver beauty the less strong but no less beautiful stream of the North river, along whose curving banks this little branch of the road extends. If we can surpass the superlative we would say Nature had done it here in this seam of mountain scenery. Turning one of these sudden curves just before reaching Lexington, we start with exclamations of wild delight "as darkly painted on the crimson sky" House mountain rose before us, forming the centre of the most gorgeous sunset on which our eyes have ever rested. Suspended just above the summit of this mighty height the sinking sun rested like a crown of glory on a giant's head, while all along the intervening stream, whose lapsing, laughing waters played in lingering light, the flecks of gold and crimson blend in burnished, brilliant dyes, and a thousand jewels in one common crest.

"The day had died in splendor,
Royally—said drapories of purple
And of gold, and crimson banners
Was its sepulchre bier, and the
Angels bore it softly sailing fast
From earth and sea."

when we reached Lexington. Here we paused for a good night's rest, and rose in the morning fresh and ready to "take in the town." Nestled in the very bosom of Rockbridge, it is truly called "the gay recess of wisdom and of wit," containing two of the leading educational institutions of the State—the Virginia Military Institute and the Washington and Lee University. At this last we visited with interest the vast museum, and also paused at the chapel to see the magnificent recumbent figure of Lee.

Hence we visited the modest grave of General Stonewall Jackson, whose simplicity and unostentatious appearance is strikingly in keeping with the character of this great man. His modesty was commensurate with his manliness. His name is all the epitaph he needs. We added away a delightful half hour at the home circle of Hon. J. Randolph Tucker, whose home is beautifully located in the hills of Lexington, and soon bade farewell to the little town with many regrets and good wishes.

Going on to Clifton Forge, and resting for the night, we took the 7 A. M. train on the Chesapeake and Ohio railway to the White Sulphur, which point we reach by this route just in time, with whetted appetite, for a good breakfast.

After a brief but delightful stay at the Springs we returned to the Richmond and Alleghany, and reached the point from which we write, where we find a full panacea for our reluctance in leaving the White.

The Natural Bridge is in itself a volume, and we keenly feel our feebleness to describe its matchless glory. Hence we touch only for the present upon its social aspect, and reserve for our next other interesting details and particulars.

Among the guests we are pleased to find Hon. George C. Cabell, Danville, Va.; Professor L. M. Blackford and lady, Alexandria, Va.; Ellyson Mercur, Pennsylvania; R. A. Mercur and wife, Pennsylvania; Ellyssus Mercur, Jr., J. W. Mercur, wife, and child; Henry Green and wife, Pennsylvania; James P. Stewett and Misses Stewett, Pennsylvania; W. R. Shafer and wife, Miss L. A. Bridges, Pennsylvania; Dr. Agnew and lady, Miss Irving, and Miss Stewett, Philadelphia; L. A. Latimore, New York; W. E. Outcalt, Dr. J. G. Faughan, Maryland; E. W. Watson, Norfolk, Va.; Mrs. Buchanan, son, and Mrs. Bailey, Washington, D. C.; General Wade Hampton, South Carolina; Miss Branan Ball, Miss Andrews, Ohio, and many others equally charming, whom at this brief point of our stay we have not had the pleasure of meeting. VIP.

PETERSBURG AND VICINITY.

Serious Accident—Tobacco Exports—Old Line Democrats—The Cook Lakes.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, August 29, 1885.

Lee Richards is an employee of the Petersburg and Weldon railroad. This morning he went out on a freight train, serving as rear brakeman. By some mischance, at a point beyond Stony creek, he was thrown between cars and severely crushed, his injuries being thought fatal. He was brought to this city and given all possible attention.

The exports of manufactured tobacco from this city this month exceed 250,000 pounds—some 25,000 pounds less than were exported in July.

The Straightout Republicans in this city will very generally vote for the Democratic ticket. They are consistent in their opposition to Mahone, and not having a candidate of their own to support, will give their votes to the Democrats. I have talked with several of the white Old-Line Republicans here, and they declare their intention to vote for General Lee, whom they recognize as a gentleman of ability and unblemished character.

The Park Commissioners met last evening to consider the complaints that have recently been made against the lakes in the two parks as being the cause of much of the sickness in their respective neighborhoods. The health officer was present and gave his views about the matter, after having made a careful investigation. He is of opinion that, as far as the lake in West End is concerned, there is little ground of complaint. He furthermore expressed the opinion that if the lake in Central Park were cleared of its superabundance of German carp, were well cleaned out this winter, and kept clean hereafter, it would not cause sickness. It is therefore probable that the Council will take such action as to preserve health and at the same time keep the lakes.

ROBIN ADAIR.

Gosport Navy-Yard Notes.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, VA., August 29.—Considerable excitement exists among the Democrats to-night over the appointments made known in the navy-yard this afternoon. A number of Democratic foremen and quarterman appointed a few weeks since have been removed and their places supplied by rival applicants, while a score of other foremen, quarterman, and leading men have been removed and the places they held abolished altogether. This was the work of the recent examining board. Among the appointments is W. H. Woody, of Richmond, master boiler-maker.

It looks now as if there will be two Republican candidates in the field in Norfolk county. If Colonel George A. Martin is again selected as the nominee next week, the Spalding party will certainly put up a colored man—R. G. I. Paige or Jacob Reed, both lately in office in the custom-house.

Rev. J. L. Burrows, D. D., of Freemason-Street Baptist church, is sojourning at Atlantic City, N. J., and has been quite sick. He is better now, however, but will not be home before the middle of September. The Doctor is greatly beloved by his congregation.

Rev. R. W. Criddle has accepted the call to the pastorate of the Brambleton Baptist church, but for the present will also continue superintendent of the Portsmouth Orphan Asylum.

Hampton Democrats.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

HAMPTON, VA., August 29, 1885.

The Democrats met in convention here to-day to elect delegates to attend the Convention at Warwick Courthouse next Wednesday to nominate a candidate for the Legislature. There was a very large attendance, the largest we have seen at a similar meeting for some time. Eleven delegates were elected, as follows:

Wythe District—A. Todd, R. G. Hughes, George Booker, E. B. Chiles, and C. J. Phillips.

Chesapeake—Colonel J. C. Phillips, G. A. Schmely, R. Topping, and Charles Shelton.

Southhill—J. M. Willis and V. P. Holt. HAMPTON.

Eastern-Shore Democratic Nominations.

[Correspondence of Richmond Dispatch.]

ONANCOCK, August 28, 1885.

The delegates appointed in pursuance of the recent primary election met Wednesday at the Fair-Grounds and formally nominated John W. G. Blackstone for the Senate and S. S. Wilkins, Esq., for floater delegate to represent the counties of Accomack and Northampton. KALLIAS.

Virginia News Notes.

The Lynchburg *News* says: A Fitz-Lee club has been organized in Madison, across the river, with the following-named officers: President, L. Clark Leftwich; Vice-President, S. H. Wingfield; Secretary, Elihu May; Treasurer, James Watts.

The *Page Courier* says: On Wednesday evening last Mrs. John H. Read, of this place, while out driving, met with a serious accident. When near "Spring Farm," east of town, the shaft of the buggy fell down, frightening the horse and causing him to run away, breaking the vehicle to pieces and throwing Mrs. Read violently to the ground, dislocating her arm at the shoulder-joint and otherwise bruising her.

Friday night, says a Charlottesville letter, was celebrated the first anniversary of Charlottesville Lodge, No. 482, Independent Order of Good Templars. The order, some two hundred strong, formed at their hall on Main street and then proceeded to the Baptist church, preceded by a band of music, where a meeting was held, presided over by Worthy Grand Chief Low, Wood, and addressed by Dr. W. G. Starr, James W. Dohr, and Judge John L. Cochran.

Virginia and North Carolina Postal Notes.

A new post-office has been established at Weslind, Lancaster county, Va., with William G. Farinholt as postmaster; also at Staples, Henrico county, Va., with Warren S. Blackburn as postmaster; also at Oxenby, Buncombe county, N. C., with William N. Owenby as postmaster.

The name of Sheets, Botetourt county, Va., has been changed to Breckenridge.

The following postmasters have been recently commissioned: Margaret A. White, Belle Haven, Accomack county, Va.; Alexander T. Mosely, Buckingham, Buckingham county, Va.; William M. Pennington, Delphi, Lee county, Va.; Kate Paul, Ottobine, Rockingham county, Va.; Joseph S. Rice, Rushville, Rockingham county, Va.; William W. Marston, Urbana, Middlesex county, Va.; William F. Eaton, Wabash, Giles county, Va.; Daniel J. Wheatton, Chincoteague Island, Accomack county, Va.; Robert H. Edmondson, Halifax Courthouse, Va.; Jacob Schlegel, Jetersville, Amelia county, Va.; Laura A. March, Middletown, Frederick county, Va.; David J. Craft, Pleasant Ridge, Princess Anne county, Va.; John R. Broaddus, Rappahannock Academy, Caroline county, Va.; Samuel M. Biedler, Sands, Page county, Va.; Henry L. Bailey, Bailey's Cross-Roads, Fairfax county, Va.; Lewis Waller, Catlett, Fauquier county, Va.; Edward L. Pleasants, Vallena, Fluvanna county, Va.; Wallace C. Ferebee, Wallaceton, Norfolk county, Va.; Stephen G. Darden, Windsor Station, Isle of Wight county, Va.; George C. Graves, Carthage, Moore county, N. C.; Henry S. Furman, Franklinton, Franklin county, N. C.; James R. Hatch, Mount Olive, Wayne county, N. C.; George W. Taylor, Jacksonville, Onslow county, N. C.; Joseph A. Baldwin, Whiteville, Columbus county, N. C.; John S. Fisher, Riverdale, Craven county, N. C.; Spencer L. Hart, Rocky Mount, Edgecombe county, N. C.

Death of an Ex-United States Senator.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

PITTSBURGH, AUGUST 29.—Ex-United States Senator Edgar S. Cowan died at his residence, at Greensburg, Pa., this morning, after a lingering illness.

DANVILLE DEMOCRATS.

A SPLENDID MEETING.

Addresses by Colonel John E. Penn and Mr. J. H. Hoge—A Superintendent Elected.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, VA., Aug. 29, 1885.

A large meeting of the Democrats here was addressed last night by Colonel John E. Penn, of Roanoke, and Mr. J. H. Hoge, of Christiansburg.

Colonel Penn commenced his speech by saying that this is the first time that there has been a distinctly made State canvass between the Democrats and Republicans, and by showing the votes given by the Democrats at different periods gave a caution that the Democrats had suffered themselves at times to be beaten by staying at home. Tilden received 135,000 votes, Daniel 100,000 votes, Massey 97,000 votes, Cleveland 145,000 votes. That caution emphatically given, Colonel Penn reviewed in clear and unmistakable style the charges made in the Republican platform, not confining himself by any means to the defensive, and closed by saying that this was the first time Virginia had had an opportunity of voting for any of the Lees, and quoting General Grant's last words as evidence that the Democrats of Virginia and the South are not actuated by a spirit of rebellion. But, said he, while Johnston, and Buckner, and Gordon, and Lee were doing the funeral honors to the dead General, Wise and Mahone were abusing Virginia white people and Democrats in statements which, if true, should blast the State forever, and were contradicting the words of General Grant.

Mr. Hoge opened his speech with the remark that "the trick mule of the circus" had kicked before he was spurred. When he came to Danville he might have expected from what he had heard from Mahone and Sherman to have seen a people with murder written on their faces and unhappiness prevailing everywhere, but he had seen, on the contrary, peace and plenty, and harmony and thrift, and prosperity indicated unmistakably in every direction. He then passed to a consideration of what President Cleveland found to be done when he entered upon office and what he had done in administering the Government for 56,000,000 of people in thirty-eight States after a twenty-five years' rule of fraud and corruption, and he stated specifically and definitely what he had done for Virginia and the South. Mr. Hoge then explained why the South was and had been solid, and passed to an indictment of the Mahone party and the Mahone men. But this speech had evidently been prepared carefully, and only a word-for-word report could do justice to it, and so the reporter must congratulate the Danville people on the hearing of this speech and Mr. Hoge on the felicious language and the facts and the arguments of it.

The speaking over, Captain T. N. Jordan, who expected to leave Danville, resigned the superintendency, and Mr. John F. Rison was elected. Mr. Rison accepted in a promising speech. And at 11 o'clock the meeting was adjourned. ALPHA.

THE SOUTHWEST.

Wise and Rhea—Correspondence in Regard to Joint Discussion.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

ABINGDON, VA., August 28, 1885.

Judge Rhea is out in the following card in the *Southwest Examiner*:

"ABINGDON, August 28, 1885.

"Mr. Editor,—I find the following telegraphic dispatch in the *Whig* of yesterday:

"BRISTOL, August 26.—Hon. John S. Wise to-night addressed a very large audience at Graves's warehouse. A division of time was asked for, and W. F. Rhea, Bourbon candidate for the Senate, declined."

"I denounce the above dispatch as false, and here prove it with the following correspondence:

"*Hon. John S. Wise:*

"Understanding that you, at Abingdon and at other places, have proposed to divide time with any gentleman representing the Democratic party, I respectfully ask that you will accord me a division of time to-night. Respectfully, WILLIAM F. RHEA.

"August 26, 1885."

"BRISTOL, August 26, 1885.

"*William F. Rhea, Esq.:*

"Your chairman has already made the proposition contained in your note just received, and our chairman, acting on my behalf, has declined a joint discussion with you. Your understanding, as stated in your note, is not correct. Respectfully, JOHN S. WISE."

"It can be proven by a number of people who heard Captain Wise at Abingdon on Monday that he said he would give a division of time to any one who would represent the Democratic party.

"Therefore he misrepresents the truth in the closing sentence of his reply to me. Respectfully,

"WILLIAM F. RHEA."

At Green Spring, in this county, on yesterday Captain Wise refused again a division of time with Judge Rhea, whereupon the Democrats divided the crowd. Captain Wise spoke to his crowd of about forty, and Judge Rhea and Mr. Buchanan addressed the Democratic crowd of about one hundred. Everything is bright in this section for the Democratic ticket.

Our people are anxious for General Lee to visit this section. They will give him a reception that is worthy of the man and his cause. SOUTHWEST.

Not Filibusters, but Pleasure-Seekers.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, August 29.—The Acting Secretary of the Treasury today received the following telegram from the collector of customs at Key West, Fla., in regard to the reported filibustering expedition against Cuba:

"The party reported to have sailed Wednesday night on a filibustering expedition have returned. Investigation fails to show any violation of law, the party having merely gone on a pleasure excursion to the neighboring Keys."

KEY WEST, FLA., August 29.—The reported Cuban filibustering expedition proves to have been a pleasure party starting for the upper Keys. The Cubans who were missing have returned. It may, however, have been a feint on their part to test the vigilance of the Government officers.

Exports and Imports.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, August 29.—The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, in his first monthly statement for the current fiscal year, reports that the total values of exports of merchandise from the United States during the twelve months ended July 5, 1885, were $733,378,429, and during the preceding twelve months $742,242,017—a decrease of $8,863,588. The imports of merchandise during the twelve months ended July 31, 1885, amounted to $671,439,215, and during the twelve months ended July 31, 1884, $665,842,287—a decrease of $94,403,072.

Precautions Against Contagious Diseases.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 29.—Drs. H. R. Mills, Myron Northup, John J. Mulheron, and Fitzhugh Edwards have been selected for temporary duty at Port Huron and Detroit, Mich., under directions from the Marine Hospital Bureau, to aid the State authorities in preventing the introduction and spread of contagious diseases from Canada. This action was taken by the acting Secretary of the Treasury at the request of the Governor of Michigan.

The following telegram has been received by the National Board of Health:

Toronto, Ont., August 29, 1885.—Please contradict the statement regarding the presence of small-pox in Ontario and the city of Toronto. There are only some ten cases in the whole province, and only two in Toronto.

[Signed] Dr. P. H. BRYCE,
Secretary Provincial Board of Health.

IN FAVOR OF SULLIVAN.

The Fight Yesterday Given Against McCaffrey on Account of a Foul.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CINCINNATI, August 29.—The sparring match between John L. Sullivan and Dominick McCaffrey this afternoon did not attract so large a number of people as had been expected. At 4 o'clock, when it was thought the match would begin, there were not more than five thousand people at Chester Park. The men were not ill-behaved, nor did they manifest impatience at the delay in opening the exhibition. From 4:30 until 5 o'clock the time was spent in a number of short boxing contests that served to keep the attention of the crowd and to even awaken enthusiasm, when one man was knocked senseless on the ropes.

McCaffrey seemed to be the most popular of the two principal pugilists, judging from the demonstrations when they presented themselves. William Tate, of Toledo, was chosen referee, and the fight began at 5:21 o'clock.

McCaffrey was several times knocked down, and at other times slipped down to avoid punishment, but he clung to Sullivan when they came to close quarters in desperate clinches, and thus escaped severe punishment. At the end of the sixth round McCaffrey seemed to be in the best condition. He had gained fresh wind, while Sullivan showed signs of distress. Instantly there was a shout all over the vast crowd which by this time seemed to have swelled to seven thousand; in honor of McCaffrey, whom they all supposed had won the match. He had stood up against Sullivan through six rounds, and seemed able and willing to go on to the finish. He was overwhelmed with congratulations, while Sullivan was left to be cared for by his stage attendants only. As the crowd understood, it seemed that it was a draw, and thus a virtual victory for the young Pittsburgh boxer; but after some time, when three fourths of the people had started for the train, and while the remainder were in loud discussion of the merits of the match, Muldoon made an announcement which only a few heard, that the referee had decided to give the match to Sullivan on the grounds that he had made a greater number of points. This announcement was wholly inaudible at the press-seats, and various versions of it were circulated: among others that it was given because of a foul. Sullivan left the platform with no demonstrations in his honor, but McCaffrey's friends were jubilant notwithstanding the referee's adverse decisions, and they lifted him to their shoulders and bore him, amid the cheers of the spectators, to his carriage. The decision was decidedly unpopular, probably owing to a doubtful understanding of the terms. It was generally supposed that Sullivan was to knock McCaffrey out in six rounds or less in order to win, and McCaffrey himself stated after the match was over that he thought so. He even wanted to go on to the finish, but that was impossible, as Sullivan had left the platform. Being asked if there was any ground for the claim of foul, in that he had kicked Sullivan, he replied there was none whatever. On the contrary, he said at one time, when Sullivan was getting up from their fall and had his back to him, one of Sullivan's friends cried, "Look out, John!" but he told them not to be concerned; he did not want to take any undue advantage.

The conditions of the contest between Sullivan and McCaffrey were prepared by O'Brien, McCaffrey's friend, and sent here to the manager of Chester-Park Athletic Club. They were that McCaffrey agreed to meet Sullivan here in a glove contest of six rounds, or to a finish, scientific points to be considered, winner to take gate receipts less share allowed to manager. When the agreement reached Sullivan he disapproved of the clause about scientific points, and the agreement was closed upon conditions thus amended. When the referee took his place to-day he did not ask for the agreement, nor did any one produce it. That official merely stated that it was for six rounds, glove contest for the championship of the world. When the six rounds were ended, Muldoon, master of ceremonies, called on the referee for his decision. The referee said, but in a tone to be heard only by those nearest him on the platform: "I decide that all through the contest Sullivan has had the best of it; besides, that on one or two occasions when McCaffrey went down he struck Sullivan on the leg." Muldoon then made a public announcement that the referee gave his decision in favor of Sullivan. He did not repeat the reasons for the decision. There was no claim of foul on behalf of Sullivan by himself or any one for him, and the referee did not at the time call attention to it. The decision, therefore, seems to turn upon scientific points, the very thing to which Sullivan would not agree. It is generally understood that the conditions were that Sullivan was to knock McCaffrey out in six rounds, if not sooner, the latter clause being expressed by the words, "Or to a finish."

The whole matter of conditions is in a muddle, no two persons understanding them the same way.

MCCAFFREY CHALLENGES SULLIVAN TO FIGHT WITH BARE KNUCKLES.

CINCINNATI, August 29.—McCaffrey has challenged Sullivan to fight to a finish with bare knuckles for $2,500 a side.

Queen Victoria.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, August 29.—Queen Victoria, it is said, intends to receive and entertain visitors at Balmoral Castle during her present stay there. This will be the first season her Majesty has done so since the death of the Prince Consort. Several of the public leaders of Scotland and many of the distinguished members of different British societies are to be among the first received.

Fire in a Lumber-Yard.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, August 29.—A fire which occurred early this morning in the timber-yard of Thomas Forman, at 148 Kensington road, E. C., caused damage to the amount of $250,000.

Failure.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, August 29.—Henderson, Frean & Co., grain and flour commission merchants at No. 5 Corn Exchange Chambers, have failed. Their liabilities are stated to be $150,000.

THE SITUATION ABROAD.

GERMAN COLONIAL POLICY.

A Report that She Is Playing for Cuba—Gordon Not Given Up—Olivier Pain.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, August 29.—An additional sensation was attached to the Spanish-German difficulty to-day by a rumor giving Bismarck's reason for the seizure of the Caroline Islands. This rumor attributes to the Chancellor a determination to obtain possession of Cuba, and explains his conduct in taking the Carolines as a ruse to secure an understanding between the United States and Germany in regard to outlying Spanish possessions, as a result of which Germany would permit the United States to secure the Philippine Islands if the Washington Government would consent to Germany's annexation of Cuba. It is strongly maintained in some quarters that Bismarck has for a long time had his eye on Cuba, and that he has assured himself of the support of certain western American sugar interests in this scheme. Englishmen of moderate views scout the idea that the United States will ever permit any German occupation of Cuba, and affect to perceive in this reported Bismarckian project a deeply-designed intrigue to involve the Americans in the European squabble. This story comes from Paris, where it is extensively discussed.

The Spanish colony in the French capital are furiously indignant over the whole thing.

The *Tageblatt*, of Berlin, in referring to the matter to-day, remarks that the beautiful ladies of Cuba will soon be lovely subjects of the Emperor William.

King Alfonso has been informed by telegraph of the reported Spanish occupation of Yap, the principal of the Caroline Islands. He will return from San Ildefonso to Madrid on Monday to preside over a special meeting of the Spanish Cabinet, called to consider the Caroline affair.

It is stated that after the imperial meeting at Kremsier last Wednesday the Czar and his immediate family appeared to be unusually pleased over what had transpired. The conference between Giers, Russian Foreign, and Kalnoky, Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, lasted four hours. It is believed that at this conference Giers obtained the promise of Austrian interest in securing Turkish neutrality in the event of war between Russia and England, in accordance with the decision arrived at by Bismarck during his conferences with Kalnoky at Varzein. It is certain that during the whole time of the imperial conference at Kremsier telegrams were being constantly passed between the Schloss and Berlin.

The Russian Embassy in London has for several days been busy in the work of winding up the amicable negotiations between Russia and England concerning the Afghan boundary question. M. Lessar, the Russian special commissioner on the question, will soon start for Askabad.

The belief is growing among the military and other friends of General Gordon that he really escaped alive from Khartoum and succeeded in fleeing to the equator. So strong has this faith become that a mission has been organized to search for and rescue him. The work of preparing this mission for its enterprise is now almost completed.

It becomes daily more apparent that the agitation started in France about the alleged murder of Olivier Pain by the British in the Soudan is a hypocritical scheme to organize an anti-English sentiment among the French people. Rochefort, the principal agitator in this movement, hated Pain, and to those that knew of the bitter enmity which existed between the two men the demagogue's artificial horror over Pain's alleged murder is very amusing, if not disgusting. For months before Pain's last departure from France Rochefort absolutely cut Pain's acquaintance. The editor gave as a reason for his contemptuous treatment of the adventurous Bohemian the statement had Pain had been dismissed from the staff of the *Intransigeant* (Rochefort's paper) for opening the editor's private letters and documents. Rochefort used to accuse Pain of being a secret traitor to the French Radical cause, and alleged that while he went to the Soudan ostensibly as a war correspondent of the Paris *Figaro*, he really took with him a large sum of money intrusted to him indirectly by the French Government to induce El Mahdi to continue in his revolt against the Khedive by holding out to the Prophet promises of subsidies from unknown quarters. Pain, Rochefort once declared, even if alive, would never reappear while there was any prospect of his wife obtaining a pension or indemnity for his alleged loss.

The German Government is preparing for the approval of the Reichstag bills for the construction of several new canals within the empire. One of these bills is for a ship canal from the Baltic sea to the German ocean, with strong forts at each mouth and at commanding points on the route. This work will cost an enormous sum of money, and the water-way would never be able by any possible traffic upon it to repay even the interest upon the cost of construction.

Two ladies belonging to families of rank in Mezzovo, in Epirus, European Turkey, were some time ago abducted by brigands from the Epirus mountains, the abductors demanding a ransom of £20,000 for the return of each or either captive. The families of the women have just paid to the agents of the brigands the £40,000, and the ladies have been safely restored to their homes. They say they were well and honorably treated by their captors, and made as comfortable during their durance in Epirus as the circumstances of the robbers would permit.

Dispatches from Berlin to-night state that Emperor William is at present enjoying better health than for a long time previous to his recent summer excursion. It is said that the rheumatic trouble from which he had been suffering for so long a period has entirely disappeared.

Fright among German Peasantry.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, August 29.—The peasantry of South Germany have been thrown into a state of consternation over the sudden and inexplicable departure from the country of rooks which for centuries have made their abode there. Flocks of rooks which nested in the spire of the Ratisbon (Bavaria) Cathedral recently departed, and have not returned. This general evacuation by rooks is regarded by the people as heralding the approach of an epidemic of cholera.

Cattle Lost at Sea.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, August 29.—The steamer Brooklyn City, from New York, which arrived at Bristol to-day, lost one hundred and eight head of cattle on her voyage. Her wheel also was damaged.

France and England.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

PARIS, August 29.—The Marquis of Salisbury has invited M. de Freycinet, French Minister for Foreign Affairs, to a personal conference at Dieppe, where the British Premier is spending his vacation in his chalet. It is understood that de Freycinet is favorably inclined towards accepting; but that as the conference is avowedly for the purpose of reaching an adjustment of questions pending between France and England he will consult with his colleague in the Ministry before deciding to go.

REV. J. G. ARMSTRONG.

The Story Too True, But it is Claimed that He is Deranged.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

ATLANTA, GA., August 29.—Rev. Dr. J. G. Armstrong, rector of St. Phillip's church, this city, will reach here to-morrow from Cincinnati in care of two vestrymen from his church, who went to Cincinnati after him. He has been on a big spree in that city, visiting houses of ill-fame and raising Cain generally. It is claimed by members of his church that he is deranged, and that his church will establish this fact. His wife and daughter here are distracted with grief. Fully one hundred members of St. Phillip's church were at the Union depot this evening to meet the vestrymen who were expected to arrive with Dr. Armstrong. Mr. Wyley, a vestryman, said: "The story is only too true; but Dr. Armstrong has lost his mind."

This is not Dr. Armstrong's first trouble in Cincinnati. Four weeks ago he rowed with a bootblack and created a disturbance on the street. His last spree in Cincinnati began at a place in Longworth street. At Nos. 138 and 143 he spent a few minutes, drinking at each place. At the Gem Saloon, one of the lowest dives in the city, he inquired for the residence of a certain woman, giving her name.

All the inmates of one of the places he visited agree that he both treated and drank himself. The particular woman for whom he inquired says she never saw him before and cannot imagine how he learned her name. He raised a row before leaving one of the houses, and was arrested, but afterwards released.

He registered at Hoyt's Hotel, where he stayed until to-day. He changed his sole clothing while there. His ministry in Atlanta has been a successful one, his eloquence, his commanding appearance, social qualities, and conversational powers, all contributing to this end. Every Sunday his church was filled with an admiring congregation. The fearful mistake of his life bears upon his church and upon Atlanta. Many believe him deranged, while others say it is only a big drunk. That he is the right man there is no doubt. The papers here have expressed everything on account of his church. In 1875 he was pastor of a fashionable church in St. Louis, where his eloquence and remarkable charm for power attracted crowded houses. His next public service was rendered as pastor of St. Phillip's Episcopal church at Wheeling, W. Va. He was much liked there, and great throngs attended upon his ministrations. He next accepted a call to the Monumental Episcopal church, Richmond, Va.

Passed Off Yesterday.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

Washington: National, 10; Washington, 4.

Baltimore: Baltimore, 11; Brooklyn, 10.

New York: New York, 7; Boston, 1.

Philadelphia: Philadelphia, 1; Providence, 0.

Nashville: Nashville, 0; Augusta, 5.

Louisville: Louisville, 0; St. Louis, 10.

Newark, N. J.: Newark, 0; Athletics, 0.

St. Louis: St. Louis, 12; Buffalo, 0.

Memphis: Memphis, 12; Macon, 2.

Chattanooga: Chattanooga, 13; Birmingham, 3.

Atlanta: Atlanta, 7; Columbus, 5.

CHATTANOOGA, August 29.—The Chattanooga parade said Thomas Ramsey, the leading pitcher of the Southern League, is in the Louisville. He leaves for Louisville to-morrow with Manager Barr. The Chattanoogas have secured Conner, the Louisville pitcher.

The Small-Pox in Montreal.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

MONTREAL, August 29.—There were forty-six new cases of small-pox reported yesterday—only fifteen of which were authenticated. There were twenty deaths within the city limits reported, but these do not include interments in the Protestant cemetery, the returns for which are only made upon a week's. This would not make a difference probably of more than one, and possibly no difference at all, as times the outbreak of the disease here very few deaths from small-pox have been reported from interments in the Protestant cemetery. The Indians on the Caughnawaga reserve have all been vaccinated within the past few days.

Gazzolo Will Swim.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CINCINNATI, August 29.—John Boosemeyer, a well-to-do farmer living near Wyoming, Dearborn county, Indiana, while in a condition bordering on delirium tremens, yesterday piled the bedding and furniture on the floor in his room, set fire to it, and then, mounting a chair on a table in the middle of the room and arming himself with a shot-gun, bade defiance to his imaginary tormentors. When the neighbors rescued him his eyes were burned and he was otherwise so badly burned that he cannot live. The house and contents, worth $2,000, were destroyed.

Fire in Yazoo City.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

YAZOO CITY, MISS., August 29.—This morning the large store of Holmes & Co. was discovered to be on fire. The flames soon spread to the adjoining building, owned and occupied by Craig & Sons. Holmes's building and the stock in it were destroyed, causing a loss of $23,000, on which there is an insurance of $13,000. Craig & Sons' building and goods were damaged to the extent of about $20,000; insured for $10,000. The cause is not known.

An Aged Horse-Thief.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS, August 29.—John Brooks, aged eighty-two years, was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary in the Criminal Court yesterday. Brooks pleaded guilty to stealing a horse in Kansas city, and said that he had fallen in with a gang of horse-thieves which infests this State, Iowa, and the Indian Territory, and under their direction did the work for which he now suffers. He is a native of Cayuga, N. Y.

The Cholera Scourge.

WASHINGTON, August 29.—Secretary Bayard to-day received a cablegram saying that the cholera had broken out at Nagasaki, Japan. The death-rate is reported to be large. The port has been declared infected.

Carelessness in the Pension Bureau.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 29.—Detective Block arrested John Dickerson, formerly Superintendent of the Pension Bureau, for the larceny of a flag from the Government. This is one of the results of the recent investigation into the late superintendent's conduct of the Bureau affairs. A number of other articles in his possession are claimed as Government property.

Dr. O. F. Manson.

The Wilmington (N. C.) *Review*, referring to the selection of Dr. Otis F. Manson as Emeritus Professor of Physiology and Pathology in the Medical College of Virginia, takes occasion to pay that gentleman the following graceful compliment:

Dr. Manson is a medical scholar of high standing, having been a student from the earliest days of his remarkable medical career to the present time. He is a native of Richmond, but won his substantial fame in North Carolina, and it was as a North Carolinian that he was intrusted with the noble and helpful institutions for his adopted State in Richmond—an admirably-supplied hospital for the sick and wounded and a refreshment house for the soldiers en route to and from the army—which were conducted with so much satisfaction to all interested.

Governor Vance said of him: "A medical agent of North Carolina and chief of the hospital assigned to the sick and wounded from this State during the war he endeared himself not only to me, but to all of our people."

Dr. Manson's skill in teaching and his store-house of mature learning should not be relegated simply to an emeritus chair, but engaged for the active business of a college that needs the best man just now.

LATE WEATHER REPORT.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, August 30—1 A. M.

For the Middle Atlantic States, light local rains, southerly winds, and a slight rise in temperature.

For the South Atlantic States, local rains, variable winds, generally southerly, and nearly stationary temperature.

For Richmond and vicinity, local rains, slightly warmer weather.

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