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TILTON-BEECHER SCANDAL.

END OF BEECHER'S DIRECT TESTIMONY.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY FULLERTON

NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS YET.

The Original Theory of Defence Maintained.

The History of the Conspiracy to Blackmail Him Fully and Clearly Traced by the Defendant in His Direct Examination—The Manner in Which It Slowly Developed and Fastened Upon His Mind Depicted.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Despite the snow and sleet which fell this morning, numbers of women forced their way through it to be in attendance in the Brooklyn city court-room. Beecher came into court accompanied by his wife and daughter, Mrs. Scoville, and took his place on the witness stand. He testified: Henry A. Bowen, who spoke to me of General Butler, is a member of Edward Bowen's family, who belong to my congregation. He was only a boy, and was sent to me with a message, which he believed. Moulton never told me that Tilton was to make a statement before the investigating committee which would exclude the charge of adultery between me and Mrs. Tilton. Moulton did not tell me at an interview that

TILTON WAS INCENSED

because his wife had been before the committee. The conversation about $5,000 I remember. He asked me if I had mentioned the $5,000 to any person. I had not. He said that I should deny it. I told him that I mentioned it to Oliver Johnson, because he said he had been visiting in New York, and had heard remarks about my refusing to assist Mr. Tilton. I told him I had done something and was willing to do anything I could, and that I had already advanced $5,000 in his difficulties. Moulton did not say anything about General Tracey having been told of the $5,000. Witness' attention was called to the card published in the Brooklyn *Union* in 1873, and he was asked how it came to be printed. He said it was printed

AT THE SUGGESTION OF MR. CLEVELAND,

on account of the publication in the New York *Sun* of the visit of Claflin and Bowen to Mrs. Woodhull in search of documents. When I prepared this card I took it to Mr. Moulton and left it with him. He told me there would be a little prefatory matter, which he said should be inserted. The suggestion of a card was not from Moulton, but from Cleveland. I never asked Moulton for documents. Mrs. Tilton never nor did he say he would not. In addition to the three letters

I RECEIVED FROM MRS. WOODHULL,

I received a fourth enclosing a note from Mrs. Isabella Hooker. I am not able to tell the date of that letter. It was in reference to the meeting of the New York wing of the woman suffrage movement to be held in Steinway hall. I never said to Tilton that the publication of the true story would kill me. I said that I would not bear it. After the publication of the tripartite agreement I never said to Moulton that if Tilton published his letter that it would be my death. I said that it would be death to me as a clergyman could stand up under it, and that

I WOULD FIGHT IT OUT TO THE END.

Moulton never said that Tilton was opposed to the publication of the resignation, as he said it would be exposing his wife. Nor did he tell me that Mrs. Tilton was frightened about it, and threatened to shoot me if it were published. [Shown a letter.] I think this is Mrs. Woodhull's fourth letter to me. Evarts read. It was dated February 7, 1872, stating that the writer was endeavoring to obtain Steinway hall for their meeting. Witness said: I have no recollection of any other letters of Mrs. Woodhull sent to me. I wrote other letters than those which have been produced to Mr. Tilton. Moulton never told me that he told Mr. Woodruff and Mr. Robinson of my relations with Elizabeth Tilton. Moulton never told me that he had reported to Mr. Baxter and others in regard to the matter. He did say he saw Baxter, and said that

IF MY LIFE WAS NOT A DENIAL

of Woodhull scandal, then character was nothing. He never said to me that he had lied for me in the statements he had made for me he had spoken falsely. I never read any work of the younger Dumas; in one summer I read works of the elder Dumas, that series of which the "Three Musketers" and the "Twenty Years After" form a part. I never received or asked any improper favors from Mrs. Tilton from the 1st of December, 1870, until now, and I never had any sexual intercourse with her during that period. I had a friendly acquaintance with Mrs. Tilton until now, I never asked or received any improper favors from her nor had any sexual intercourse with her. There has been nothing of the kind mentioned in these questions between us. Tilton never used to me or in my presence any language or intimation that there had been criminal relations between Mrs. Tilton and myself. In addition to an imputation or intimation in regard to this matter, I never said to Tilton that the blame lay only with herself, nor that I was the guilty one and should suffer. Moulton never made accusation or imputation of sexual relations between me and Mrs. Tilton.

This concluded the direct examination, and the cross-examination was begun by Mr. Fullerton:

Witness said: I have no custom of taking an oath with the uplifted hand; when I was before the grand jury, I presume that

I SWORE ON THE BIBLE.

I did not say, then, I had conscientious scruples against taking the oath in the usual form. I do not remember swearing on the Gospel in the answer to the complaint in this case. The oath was administered to me in New Hampshire, and whatever the form of oath was there I took it. In January, 1871, Mrs. Beecher may have been gone. I recollect that Moulton spoke to my wife and myself of meeting Mrs. Beecher in Florida. I cannot recall the exact time Mrs. Beecher was in the South. [The witness here examined his book of dates.] I do not see any entry of it here. I think she returned in May. I had housekeeper during her absence. I cannot recollect, but during two absences of my wife, Mrs. Perkins, my sister, kept house for me. I do not think Mrs. Beecher was ever absent in the Southern States while I had housekeeper. I did not hear of Theodore Tilton falling from his orthodox faith until quite lately. As early as 1865 I heard of his becoming

LOOSE IN HIS RELIGIOUS NOTIONS.

There were some of his articles in the *Independent* which gave me unpleasant feelings of the paper. I thought the policy of the conduct of the paper was not sound. I did not approve of the articles. I do not recall ever having brought to my mind any article by him discussing doctrinal questions. There was brought to my mind an injudiciousness in the conduct of the paper. Judging from what I heard of his teachings on the public mind I should not have thought I had taught him to be a safe teacher of doctrinal matters. The *Independent* was in some sense a religious paper, but not in theological matters. When the paper came into Mr. Tilton's hands it fell from teaching doctrinal truths. I regarded Tilton as being in a transition state, and holding imperfect views. I first heard of his wife complaining of his religious views in the latter part of 1869. She consulted me about him being a safe person to bring up children under about 1869. I regarded his doctrine of the

DIVINITY OF CHRIST

as loose and most heretical. I thought that if he was at the head of a theological paper he was the last man who should be there, but if it was a paper inculcating Christian ethics he might do.

Fullerton read from witness' published statement with regard to the storm of applause set forth in the West by the views expressed by Tilton in the *Independent*.

The witness continued: I remember this, and it is true. I indignantly disclaimed any connection with these articles, and received a very severe letter from my brother Edward on the subject. I was in the chance world at the time of partly to supercede the *Independent*. This statement was only a sketch which left out a multitude of other matters from it. I did not investigate Tilton's teaching with regard to marriage and divorce in 1870. I believed that he had enlarged the causes of divorce, and made them so loose as to be mischievous. I was informed that he held the doctrine of divorce on passive as to make it highly dangerous. I did not believe in his doctrines, and I never read his articles. The question of whether he was a fit moral teacher did not come before my mind. He was not unfit, in my mind, to conduct a large paper. I believed that these views of Mr. Tilton in regard to divorce were very crude. I judged that they were pernicious. In regard to Mr. Tilton's character I say much to me in the conversations I had with her.

I TOOK MRS. TILTON OUT

on two occasions to ride, I think, in the early part of 1870. They were in each instance in a buggy. I do not remember if on these occasions we alighted from the buggy. We went on both occasions to the Park. I do not recollect of going to Greenwood on one of these occasions. I do not recollect the details of these rides. I think before then we had some rides, but in what year I could not say. I have no recollection of them whatever, nor where I got the carriage and who the driver was. I do not remember taking her when one or other of the children accompanied us. In 1869 I do not remember taking her out in a close carriage, or of her entering or leaving the carriage at any other place than at her own house. She was never at Peekskill. I have a dim recollection of visiting a photograph gallery with her, but cannot remember the circumstances of that visit. I cannot recall the occasion. I have fixed the date of my visit to Mr. Tilton in August, 1870, by investigation. I received the note from her at Peekskill. I have not the note, and suppose it is destroyed and gone. I have not seen it since. She said in it she was sick. I had business in the city, and

CAME DOWN TO SEE HER

at the same time. During my vacations I visited sick parishioners when they sent for me. I saw Mrs. Tilton that day lying on a lounge in the second story reception room. I called the next day to see her before I returned to Peekskill. I have searched my house for letters from Mrs. Tilton, but have found none. I never returned her any of her letters, nor did she return any to me. On the second day a scrap of paper was sent down to me from Mrs. Tilton. I did not keep it. I am not a preserver of documents.

The court here took a recess.

After recess Mr. Beecher's cross-examination was continued. He said: I was requested to visit Mrs. Tilton in December, 1870, by Mrs. Morse, through Bessie Turner. She found me at my house, and said she had called at Mrs. Morse's request to ask me to come to her house—that Mrs. Tilton was there and had left her husband's house. I expressed my astonishment. She said Mrs. Tilton had been treated so at home she thought she was justified in taking some such step; that Tilton abused his wife, and that on one occasion in her presence he had struck her (Bessie) and made

IMPROPER SOLICITATIONS TO HER

on two occasions. I said it must be a mistake, and she said he had come to her bed and told her that the matter he solicited was as much an expression of love as a kiss or a caress. This was told to me by Bessie with a modest, downcast look. She gave some other particulars, but this was the substance of it. She said that he had treated his wife with great rudeness and cruelty. I believed this just as a man who had not verified any statement believes it. I supposed it was so. I was, however, shocked by her relation of this story. In this conversation she may have told me something Tilton said to his wife, but I do not recall it. I told her I would go, and went either that or the next day, and found Mrs. Tilton at her mother's. I can hardly say whether Tilton and I were then intimate, but there was an external friendship. On my part he had my best wishes, and I felt well disposed toward him. When I went there I saw Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Tilton, but I do not think

BESSIE TURNER WAS THERE.

I entered into some conversation, and stated what had brought me; I expressed regret that there had been some need for my call; Mrs. Morse did all the talking, and in her earnest way told me that her daughter had lived a life of great unhappiness; that she had suffered great cruelty and degradation, and that she had intended to separate from her husband. I do not remember that she said he struck her; the violence of his temper was one of the cruelties, and his failure to provide for her another. I do not recall that she repeated any charges Tilton had made against her. I cannot tell whether anything on then said about the housekeeper. Mrs. Tilton said but very little; she acquiesced in what Mrs. Morse said, but I cannot remember what it was; I have forgotten and cannot recall what she said on that occasion; this interview was a brief one, and I cannot recall it in joints and sections. They wanted advice from me on the subject of perpetuating the separation that had begun.

I REMAINED IN THE ROOM

all the time, but do not remember how long it lasted. I suppose I believed what Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Tilton told me. I supposed it was so. I advised that she should see my wife, which she did the next day. I was there, but there were no statements made in my presence. I heard nothing new the next day. Mrs. Morse talked with my wife in private. Nothing occurred after that interview. The result was that I came to say she should go home and talk the matter over, and let them know the result afterwards. My wife favored a separation, and to this I finally agreed. I then my wife and Mrs. Morse communicate the result to Mrs. Morse, I wrote and handed her the slip of paper containing my views before giving this advice. I had not seen Tilton. I had known him in boyhood; I do not know that I had any great degree of intimacy existed between Mrs. Tilton and Mrs. Beecher. The former called sometimes on my wife, but I cannot remember the date of the last call made on my wife. I had some conversation with Mrs. Tilton at the house then. I said to her, with the blessing of God she would see light yet.

SHE WAS VERY DESPONDENT.

I do not remember saying "Let patience have her work." I do not remember using any such language on my direct examination.

Mr. Fullerton read from the witness' direct testimony to show that he did say so.

Witness said: I advised patience on one day and separation the next; never pretended to give the precise language. Witness' attention was called to the letter received by him from Mrs. Morse, January 27, 1871, and to a clause saying that he was innocent of making some misunderstanding if there was any; and he said: I do not remember to what she referred. I never asked her to keep something about any call I had made, nor do I know to what it refers in this letter at all. I remember taking this letter to Thornton. I do not remember to have made any call on Mrs. Tilton after the date of this letter. I cannot recall the date of receiving this letter. The part of the memorandum on the letter, received January 27, 1871, was written, I think, by me, between January 15th and the 27th of that month. I do not recall any visit of mine to Mrs. Tilton, or I might not remember calling on her at this time. I do not remember being told by Mrs. Tilton not to call at her house, but there is an impression on my mind that there was such an injunction. If I called after this I have no recollection of it. I received no message telling me not to visit

MRS. TILTON'S HOUSE.

I do not know what Mrs. Morse referred to in her letter by "the most crushing of all trouble that had taken the life out of her." I do not know how I interpreted it. I did not understand what she meant by saying that he had told twelve persons and they had told others. I remember having a conversation with Moulton about the letter, but not about this clause in it. Do not recollect Tilton was sent for to explain why he told the twelve persons. I do remember he was sent for on a similar subject. Do not recollect this letter was the subject of conversation between Moulton, Tilton and myself. Do not know that Tilton named Mr. Woodruff and Oliver Johnson as parties he had told of the story, but this I would not swear to. I do not recollect that he said he told the story to Joseph Richards at the time of the receipt of

MRS. MORSE'S LETTER.

I do not remember that her allusions were made to, but at the time of the letter I suppose I knew to what she referred, but I do not know now. I did not, to my recollection, ask her at the time what she meant by these allusions when she said in the letter that he (Tilton) swears he will make this whole subject known when the breath left her body. I do not know what she meant, but I could now make a guess at what she might know a servant in the employ of Tilton known as Kate Carey. Never remember seeing Mr. Richards in the house when I was visiting Mrs. Tilton, nor do I remember hearing that he was there. I never remember him coming to the door and opening it when I was with Mrs. Tilton, but I will not say he did not. I did not hear his testimony. I have no clear recollection of seeing the door and Mrs. Tilton retreating from me with haste, but I will not say that no such thing occurred. I was in

THE HABIT OF VISITING MRS. TILTON

in his absence. She never showed me any letters she received from Mr. Richards, nor did I remember her showing me the ones she had written. I remember calling on the Wheelocks. I do not remember kissing Mrs. Tilton on that occasion. I often kissed her on her return from my absence. I sometimes kissed her in Mr. Tilton's presence, but abstained from kissing her in the childrens' presence sometimes. Did not purposely omit to kiss her in the children's or children's presence. Do not recall Florence ever being present on such an occasion, but she may have been. I recall Mrs. Tilton's cheek flushing at my visit, but cannot recall that any call had made, nor do I know to what it refers in this letter at all. I remember taking this letter to Thornton. I do not remember to have made any call on Mrs. Tilton after the date of this letter. I cannot recall the date of receiving this letter. The part of the memorandum on the letter, received January 27, 1871, was written, I think, by me, between January 15th and the 27th of that month. I do not recall any visit of mine to Mrs. Tilton, or I might not remember calling on her at this time. I do not remember being told by Mrs. Tilton not to call at her house, but there is an impression on my mind that there was such an injunction. If I called after this I have no recollection of it. I received no message telling me not to visit

MRS. TILTON'S HOUSE.

He said he had been having an interview with Tilton, and he began to tell me about the steps he had taken to dispossess Mr. Tilton of his position; that he found the paper was being destroyed by his editorship, for he would not let him be a contributor, and that no sooner than it was known people began to tell stories about Mr. Tilton, and said these stories poured in on him like a cloud. He alluded to the Winsted story and a story from the Northwest. He also spoke something about an occurrence in his office. I told Mr. Bowen that it verified the stories I had heard—what Bessie Turner had told me—and also said rumor connected him with another woman. He said Mr. Tilton was no friend of mine, as was shown in his discussions. He said he would stop his contributorship to the *Independent* and remove him from the Brooklyn *Union*. I said I thought to continue Mr. Tilton on the papers would be impracticable, and would bring them into trouble. I suggested he should see my wife, and she would tell him what she knew of Theodore Tilton. I do not recall that he spoke of having received letters about Tilton. I believed what Mr. Bowen said then, and what I said about not continuing him on the papers was

SAID IN GOOD FAITH.

This letter demanding my resignation aroused the feeling in me that the man was beside himself. I knew of no justifying cause for this letter, and felt partly indignant, but was not angry. I took no means of ascertaining what the threat was in that letter. On Friday night Mr. Moulton called on me with a message from Tilton. I had no intimate acquaintance with him before that. When he came in he bade each other good evening. He said Tilton requested him to call down and tell me he wanted to see me. I told him about my Friday evening meeting. He said this interview was more important than the prayer meeting. I left the prayer meeting and went. I did not regard this message as strange after the receipt of the letter. I knew Mr. Moulton was a friend of Tilton. When Mr. Moulton came there that night his manner was that of a man who felt he had an important errand. I inferred this from his tone and bearing.

HE WAS NOT EXCITED,

and his manner was that of a gentleman. His manner was earnest, but he did not talk loud and excited.

Mr. Fullerton read the account of the interview as given by the witness on direct examination, in which he stated that Moulton said, "You must go."

The witness continued: Mr. Moulton did not emphasize it so much as you do. I then went to Moulton's house with him, where Mr. Tilton was. It was a very inclement night. I do not remember he had an umbrella or getaloes; very wet from the time we left my house until we got to Moulton's. I cannot recall any distinct conversation, but think we had some conversation about Mr. Bowen. I think I asked him

WHAT MR. TILTON WANTED

to say to me, and he said I would find out when I got there.

The court here adjourned for the day.

FRAUD IN THE MAIL-BAGS.

BONANZA FOR COBBLERS AND STITCHERS.

DISCOVERIES BY SPECIAL AGENT HENDERSON.

NEW POUCHES TRANSFORMED INTO OLD.

THE OLD ONES CAREFULLY REPAIRED.

What the Post Office Department has been Paying for Patches and Rivets—How Many were Purchased, and How Few were Used—Easy-going Postmasters and Superintendents—Remedy Applied.

The Postmaster General has for some time had his suspicions aroused that in the matter of repairing mail bags at the various depositories in the United States considerable frauds have been perpetrated, the cost of that work having been reported to the Post Office Department at $100,000 annually. Satisfied that this was an exorbitant charge, a special agent of the Department, Mr. Wm. T. Henderson, was directed to investigate and report upon the matter, and the returns from that official more than justify the suspicions of the Postmaster General. The investigations of Agent Henderson developed the fact that

AT ST. LOUIS PERFECT POUCHES,

for which, of course, no repairs were necessary, have been cut and patched in the most absurd manner; repairs when no repairs were necessary were made, and, in fact, first-class bags, having nothing wrong about them, were cut to condemn them, and purposely mutilated in the interests of fraudulent contractors. Altogether there have been fifty depositories where mail pouches have been sent when under the law they should not be repaired, some of these points a wholesale system of frauds has been enacted until they have reached an extent

NEARLY SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS

in excess of what the legitimate price should be. Special Agent W. T. Henderson, to whom Postmaster General Jewell entrusted the matter of investigation into the fraudulent operations, has made extensive reports to the Department, containing with evidence was obtained by shadowing transactions. With regard to the depository at St. Louis, that official reports the following manner of perpetrating frauds: Thomas Morrison, the contractor, detailed men to

MAKE THE WORK AVERAGE

$125 to the hundred pouches, and in order to do this they must butcher them and then repair them until the desired amount is reached. Perfect pouches have been cut and patched in the most ridiculous manner. Good bottoms have been cut out; straps cut off; handles and staples cut off, and holes cut into them without limit. The agent further informs the Department that he found a secret receiving stamp, bearing the ident Mro has taken all military precautions to prevent an attack. Trade is paralyzed. A bill is before the Colombian Legislature for the purpose of providing for the inter-oceanic canal. If passed, the survey will be begun this month, and if the report is favorable work will be begun on the canal at once. Twenty thousand dollars have been appropriated. Everything is quiet in Guatemala and Salvador. Business in Peru is very dull. A magnificent dock has been constructed at Callao. The guano bill has been passed by the congress. The president of Bolivia, has left for Oruro, and is expected to move his troops to attack the rebels at Cochabamba. Rich discoveries have been made in the mines at Cojapa. Brazil complains of a falling off in immigration.

PRIESTS WOUNDED IN BUENOS AYRES.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Advices received at Panama from Buenos Ayres, of March 3, said only three priests are known to have died from injuries received in the attack on the Jesuits' college. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the account of the occurrence sent to the Legations abroad, says, however, "The number killed does not exceed four, no priest being among them. There are, however, some priests wounded."

OLD PORTS CLOSED AND NEW ONE OPENED—

AFFAIRS WITH HOLLAND.

HAVANA, April 13.—Advices from La Guayra to the 1st instant have been received. Tranquillity prevailed throughout Venezuela. The ports of Lavela De Cero and Maracaibo have been closed to imports and exports by the Government, and a new port has been established at Puerto Cabello, where vessels and merchandise for and from the former ports will be entered and cleared.

It is reported that Venezuela has presented counter claims against the Dutch of Holland. When the Dutch fleet, now cruising in the West Indies, visited La Guayra there were rumors of its sinister intentions, and troops and artillery were concentrated there. But the apprehensions of the Venezuelans were allayed by the exchange of the usual salutes and departure of the fleet.

BLACK HILLS.

The Grand Jury to take Cognizance of Explorers.

YANKTON, DAKOTA, April 13.—Chief Justice Shannon, in charging the grand jury of the United States court here to-day, directed their especial attention to the proposed invasion of the Black Hills Indian Reservation, which is within the jurisdiction of this court. He charged them fully in regard to the Indian intercourse laws, and as to the duties of the civil and military authorities in enforcing these laws and treaty stipulations being ample in all cases.

He spoke in very strong terms against individual preferences or inclinations being allowed to prevent the full and rigid execution of all these laws, or a full recognition of the treaty stipulations while they remain in force and until regularly done away with. This treaty he said should be observed with the same solemnity, and should be as strictly carried out as if made with a strong and powerful nation.

It is understood troops have been sent from Fort Randall to cut off the expedition now about starting from Sioux City, and it will doubtless be turned back.

Coroner's Verdict—Arrest of Darraugh.

BALTIMORE, April 13.—The coroner's jury in the case of Catharine Darraugh, found dead in bed yesterday, returned a verdict this afternoon that the deceased came to her death from the effect of blows, kicks and other violence, inflicted by her husband, James Darrugh. The evidence before the jury was of the most shocking character. The *post mortem* examination revealed over sixty wounds bruises, inflicted by the savage husband, and it was in evidence that he was in the daily habit of maiming and cruelly beating and kicking her. Darrugh was arrested this afternoon in Harford county, twenty-one miles from Baltimore, and brought to the city.

Sinking of a Pleasure Yacht.

CHARLESTON, April 13.—The pleasure yacht Ella Anna, containing a party of excursionists, was sunk to-day in the harbor by a squall. Four of those on board were saved and four are missing. It is supposed they were drowned. The names of the missing are Geo. E. Rut, of N. Y.; Adolph Davis, of Louisville, Ky., John Hemlow and Gillman Burke, of Charleston.

NEWS FROM OTHER LANDS.

INDIA.

Reported Appearance of Cholera.

LONDON, April 13.—Dispatches from Bombay announce that cholera has appeared in the province of Oude.

GERMANY.

The Imaginary War Cloud Vanishing—The Religious War Waxing Hotter.

BERLIN, April 13.—The *North German Gazette* accepts as reassuring the disavowal of warlike intentions by the French press. The Berlin *Post* says the draft has been completed of a bill prohibiting religious orders in Prussia, except those employed in nursing the sick.

RUSSIA.

The Czar Borrowing $75,000,000 Through the Rothschilds.

LONDON, April 13.—The Rothschilds have issued the prospectus of a new Russian loan of £15,000,000, with interest at four and a half per cent. per annum, to be issued at 92. Of the total amount £8,000,000 are offered for subscription in London; the balance is reserved for St. Petersburg.

FRANCE.

International Conference Upon the Metrical System of Weights and Measures—Centennial.

PARIS, April 13.—The diplomatic conference upon the metrical system of weights and measures met here yesterday. The Governments of Brazil, the United States, Venezuela and the Argentine Republic are represented. It was resolved to establish an international bureau of weights and measures.

The Duke Decazes, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has appointed a commission of diplomatic and consular agents in connection with the Centennial exhibition.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The American Team Not to be Interfered With Under the No-Arms-Bearing Act in the Return Rifle Match.

LONDON, April 13.—In the House of Commons this evening Mr. Sullivan, member for Louth, wanted to know whether the law in regard to the bearing of arms in Ireland would in any way interfere with the American riflemen who are coming to Ireland to take part in the international rifle match.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach, chief secretary for Ireland, replied that all chance would be heartily welcome the American team this summer. The gentlemen from the United States who were to take part in the competition were undoubtedly law-abiding citizens.

There was no reason to suppose that they would break the law or be any more likely to render themselves liable to arrest than Scotchmen or English men.

Mr. Sullivan insisting on a positive assurance, so that there might be no misapprehension, the Chief Secretary replied that there would be no interference with the visitors, because he was understood they had no intention of breaking the law. But if necessary, a special arrangement would be made to secure their entire freedom of movement and exemption from the formal operation of the law.

THE PRESS ON THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The London *Times* and *Daily News* having recently published certain documents which had been submitted to a select committee of Parliament concerning the Turkish bonds loan, a motion was introduced summoning the printers of those journals to the bar of the House to answer for breach of privileges. The motion met with considerable opposition, but after a long debate on liberty and responsibility of the press was adopted.

THE POPE DENIES APPEALING TO AUSTRIA.

LONDON, April 13.—The report in the Paris newspaper *L'Union* yesterday that the Pope had made to the Emperor Francis Joseph, through the Parliament of Vienna, a strong remonstrance against the oppression of the Church in Germany, and that the Emperor had responded, deploring the struggle and counseling prudence, is pronounced wholly without foundation.

THE DECLARATION OF PARIS.

LONDON, April 13.—In the House of Commons to-night Captain Baillie Cochrane moved that, in the opinion of the House, the international code conference, to meet at St. Petersburg, affords a favorable opportunity for Russia to withdraw her agreement to the declaration of Paris in 1856.

Mr. Bourke, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, spoke against the motion. He declared England could honorably withdraw from that declaration without the consent of the other parties who signed it. Her relinquishment of the right to seize enemy's goods of a neutral vessel was obtained in return for concessions.

But England was a gainer by the abolition of privateering, and in other respects. He thought the revival of this question tended to no good result. On the contrary, it was likely

TO RAISE OTHER GRAVE ISSUES,

and if persisting in it would be grand and liable to the charge of breach of faith. The motion was rejected by a vote of 38 ayes to 261 nays.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Inter-Oceanic Canal—Success of Commodore Lull—Movements of the Columbian Government—General News from Central and South American States.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Advices from Panama by the steamer Guapulco state that tranquillity prevailed, though the approaching presidential election is looked forward to with some anxiety. The report that the surveying party of Commander Lull had finished the entire survey across from Panama to Aspinwall, and found it one of the most feasible for a canal that has been found across the isthmus, gives great satisfaction to the people of Panama. Commander Lull and the members of the survey are passengers by the Acapulco. The Columbian Government is also moving in the matter, having appointed a commission of engineers to examine various routes.

The Government is uneasy in consequence of the threatened revolution in Venezuela. The President Mro has taken all military precautions to prevent an attack. Trade is paralyzed. A bill is before the Colombian Legislature for the purpose of providing for the inter-oceanic canal. If passed, the survey will be begun this month, and if the report is favorable work will be begun on the canal at once. Twenty thousand dollars have been appropriated. Everything is quiet in Guatemala and Salvador. Business in Peru is very dull. A magnificent dock has been constructed at Callao. The guano bill has been passed by the congress. The president of Bolivia, has left for Oruro, and is expected to move his troops to attack the rebels at Cochabamba. Rich discoveries have been made in the mines at Cojapa. Brazil complains of a falling off in immigration.

PRIESTS WOUNDED IN BUENOS AYRES.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Advices received at Panama from Buenos Ayres, of March 3, said only three priests are known to have died from injuries received in the attack on the Jesuits' college. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the account of the occurrence sent to the Legations abroad, says, however, "The number killed does not exceed four, no priest being among them. There are, however, some priests wounded."

OLD PORTS CLOSED AND NEW ONE OPENED—

AFFAIRS WITH HOLLAND.

HAVANA, April 13.—Advices from La Guayra to the 1st instant have been received. Tranquillity prevailed throughout Venezuela. The ports of Lavela De Cero and Maracaibo have been closed to imports and exports by the Government, and a new port has been established at Puerto Cabello, where vessels and merchandise for and from the former ports will be entered and cleared.

It is reported that Venezuela has presented counter claims against the Dutch of Holland. When the Dutch fleet, now cruising in the West Indies, visited La Guayra there were rumors of its sinister intentions, and troops and artillery were concentrated there. But the apprehensions of the Venezuelans were allayed by the exchange of the usual salutes and departure of the fleet.

CURRENT CAPITAL TOPICS.

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO LEXINGTON.

LEGAL TENDERS TO CONSCIENCE FUND.

GENERAL MEIGS ON LAND GRANT ROADS.

Second Comptroller Brodhead Agrees.

Bidders for the Treasury Stationery for 1875-'76—Army and Navy News—Appointments—Revenues and Finances—Customs Decisions and Rulings for March.

Tender Consciences.

The coffers of the Treasury Department have been enriched through the medium of a distressed conscience on the part of two citizens of Washington, each of whom send anonymous letters to the Treasurer, inclosing one dollar, the Government having been defrauded by them respectively of that amount. A New Yorker, who has been cheating the customs revenue, feels that it is time for him to make his title clear to honesty, and remits thirty dollars, payment in full for little delinquencies.

The Trip to Lexington.

The Presidential party will leave Washington Thursday noon or evening for New York, en route to Lexington, Mass., to participate in the centennial festivities at that place. The Secretary of State, who was uncertain as to whether he would accompany the President and Cabinet, has decided to be one of the party. All the members go, excepting Attorney General Williams.

Customs Decisions.

The synopsis of decisions for March, 1875, is in process of preparation for printing. When completed printed slips will be furnished to the press generally, on application to the Department, and it is expected that such slips will be ready for issue not later than the 10th instant.

Commissions Signed.

The President yesterday signed the commissions of Benjamin Conley, to be postmaster at Atlanta, Ga.; John M. G. Parker, to be postmaster at New Orleans, and James W. Ward, to be postmaster at Corpus Christi, Texas.

Internal Revenue Appointments.

Edward M. Nixon and George Kivett have been appointed Internal Revenue gangers for the Seventh district of Kentucky. Bernard Schlichting has been appointed internal revenue storekeeper for the First district of Wisconsin.

Stamps on Bank Checks.

The Solicitor of the Treasury Department, to whom the subject was referred, has decided that the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has the right to examine the bank checks of any bank to ascertain whether the law is violated respecting the affixing of stamps to such checks.

Revenue and Finances.

The Treasury balances at the close of business yesterday were: Currency, $3,088,872,37; coin, $85,382,423.61; including coin certificates, $23,427,400; special deposit of legal tender notes for redemption of certificates of deposit, $46,710,000; outstanding legal tenders, $370,228,900. The receipts from internal revenue yesterday were $115,316. The customs receipts yesterday were $642,464.

Naval News.

Lieutenant F. M. Barber has been ordered to duty as executive officer of the torpedo-boat Alarm. Official dispatches received at the Navy Department yesterday announce that the United States steamer Lackawanna, Captain McCauley commanding, sailed from Yokohama on the 10th ultimo, bound for San Francisco.

Yesterday the officers and crew of the United States steamer Fortune, which recently arrived from the Cuban waters, were detached and placed on waiting orders, except the paymaster, who was ordered to settle his accounts.

Postmasters Appointed.

The President yesterday made the following appointments of postmasters: Charles H. P. Kinney, at Troy, N. Y., vice Wm. Pollery, whose commission has expired; John P. Haddy, at Three Rivers, Mich., vice W. H. Clute, whose commission will expire on the 15th inst. The following postmasters whose commission have expired have been reappointed: Chas. H. Hopkins, at Utica, N. Y.; Wm. W. Killip, at Genessee, N. Y.; Daniel Porter, at Somerville, N. J.; John J. Smith, at Shippy, Pa.; Thomas S. Gilger, Shamokin, Pa.; C. A. Shippee, East Greenwich, R. I.; Alonzo Snow, Port Deposit, Md.; H. L. Robinson, Washington C. H., Ohio; Elmore Y. Smith, Galion, Ohio; Wm. Davidson, Montticello, Iowa; Henry P. Cowles, Washington, Iowa; Samuel H. Shoemaker, DeWitt, Iowa, and John D. Wilson, as Murfreesboro', Tenn.

Bids for Stationery.

Bids were opened at the Treasury Department yesterday for furnishing the various offices of the Treasury with stationery for the coming fiscal year. The bidders, and the prices bid, were from Washington, New York, Springfield, (Mass.,) South Hadley Falls (Mass.) and Philadelphia. The contracts will be awarded this week. Over one hundred thousand dollars worth of stationery is required. The commission to examine the bids and award the contracts consists of Col. W. Hemphill Jones, Deputy First Comptroller, H. C. Rogers, Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and Mr. J. K. Leaven, of the First Auditor's office.

The bidders were as follows: E. D. Lockwood, Philadelphia; W. A. Weeks, New York; Goodyear Rubber Company, New York; Carvor Paper Company, Hadley Falls, Mass.; Massolt Paper Company and Morgan Envelope Company, Springfield, Mass.; Hunter Publishing Company, Philadelphia; John Ryan, Washington; John Philp, John C. Parker, Wm. Ballantyne, W. Choate & Co., J. B. Adams and W. H. Dempsey, of Washington. The award will probably be made to-day.

Army Gazette.

The following general order was issued from the War Department yesterday:

General Orders No. 15, War Department, Adjutant General's Office, March 8, 1875. It is hereby rescinded, and the following is substituted therefor:

One ration a day may be issued to each civilian employed with the army when the rate of pay does not exceed $60 per month, and when the circumstances of his service make it necessary and the terms of his engagement provide for it. These rations will be issued upon requisitions similar to those used for troops, signed by the officer in charge of the men, and ordered by the commanding officer of the post or station. "Civilians employed with the army at a greater rate than $60 per month may be allowed, when the necessities of the case require it, to purchase in limited quantities for cash, at cost prices, articles of subsistence stores composing the ration. Under the act approved March 3, 1875, published in General Orders No. 28, current series, the proceeds of all sales of subsistence supplies are exempt from being covered into the treasury, but should be taken up on the officers' account-current as being immediately available for the purchase of fresh supplies, if needed, for subsistence of the army.

Land Grant Railways.

The following interesting and important correspondence is published by permission of the War Department:

GENERAL MEIGS TO SECRETARY BELKNAP.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D.C., March 13, 1875.

To the Honorable Secretary of War:

SIR: The law making appropriations for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, and for other purposes, approved March 3, 1875, provides—

"That no money shall hereafter be paid to any railroad company for the transportation of any property or troops of the United States over any railroad which, in whole or in part, was constructed by the aid of a grant of public land on the condition that such railroad should be a public highway for the use of the Government of the United States, free from toll or other charge, or upon any other condition for the use of such road the same shall be transported. Provided, That the foregoing restriction shall not apply for the current fiscal year, nor thereafter to roads where the sole condition of transportation is that the company shall not charge the Government higher rates than they do individuals for like transportation, and when the Quartermaster General shall be satisfied that this condition has been faithfully complied with."

A similar provision with the exception of the proviso quoted, and the fact that the prohibition applies only to the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, was inserted in the act making appropriations for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, approved June 16, 1874. That law was construed by the Attorney General as applying to all railroads that had received grants of public lands upon any conditions whatsoever, for the use of such roads, * * * and embraced all railroads known as land grant railroads, with the exception of the Oregon Central railroad, * * * and the Utah Central railroad, which railroad was decided by the Second Comptroller of the Treasury, January 14, 1875, not to be a land grant railroad, within the meaning of the act of June 15, 1874. An examination of the table of land grant railroads published in general orders No. 96, of 1872, will show that many more foreign railroads that received grants of land on conditions of one kind or another, having reference to Government transportation other than the one that the railroad "shall be a public highway for the use of the Government, free from toll or other charge."

These roads are: The Atlantic and Pacific; the Central Pacific, main line; the Central Pacific, western division; the Central Branch Union Pacific; the Denver Pacific; the Kansas Pacific; the New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Vicksburg; the Northern Pacific; the Sioux City and Pacific; the St. Joseph and Denver City; the Southern Pacific of California, main line; the Southern Pacific of California, branch line; the Texas Pacific and the Union Pacific. On pages 32 to 45, inclusive, table of land grant railroads, will be found full reference to the laws and the conditions for the use of the roads by the Government attached. An examination of these laws will show that there are other conditions than the one—"that the company shall not charge the Government higher rates than they do individuals for like transportation." But whether those conditions are of such a nature as will exclude any or all of the roads above named from the benefits of the proviso above quoted is a question which I respectfully submit for decision by such of the law officers or accounting officers of the Government as the Secretary of War may think proper.

I am of opinion that it was the intention of Congress to except from the prohibition "that no money shall hereafter be paid to any railroad company," &c., all roads that are not required in some way or other to give the free use of their roads for the transportation of troops or property of the United States, or to transport the same free of cost, charge or expense to the United States. If this opinion is correct, then it appears to me that all the roads named in this communication are included in the proviso which excepts certain roads from the operation of that portion of the law forbidding payment to those roads "constructed, in whole or in part, by the aid of a grant of public land, on the condition that such road should be a public highway for the use of the Government of the United States, free from toll or other charge, or upon any other conditions for the use of such roads for such transportation."

And the question which I