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DIPLOMATIC PITFALLS.

RUSSIA MAY BE ENTRAPPED INTO A FALSE POSITION.

Bismarck's Note to the Czar Apparently Frank, But in Reality a Plan to Worry Russia—The Franco-Russian Treaty Advances to a Conclusion.

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BERLIN, Feb. 25.—The skill of the players in the game of diplomacy now proceeding before the eyes of Europe makes its successive developments in the highest degree interesting; but everybody recognizes the fact that the ultimate issue is war, whatever temporary advantage diplomatic trickery may achieve. The Bismarck-Kalnoky combination may soon entrap Russia into a false position, from which only submission, with supreme humiliation, can rescue her, unless she prefers war with incomplete preparations; or the czar's advisers may manage to postpone the final crisis until they deem that a fitting moment to strike has come. In playing this waiting game Russia has scored the first success.

Prince Bismarck's formal invitation to the czar to demand the restitution of Russian preponderance in Bulgaria concealed beneath its apparent frankness a pitfall for Russian diplomacy. If the czar had interpreted the invitation to mean that Russia was free to restore her status in Bulgaria by force a crisis would have been precipitated, and Russia would have been drawn into the fighting allies' trap. This has been avoided, and a protracted comedy of negotiations will now precede the tragedy of war.

There will be much wearisome yearning about collective notes, differences among the powers, concert of the powers for the disposition of Prince Ferdinand, concessions by Russia, adhesions by Austria, and so forth, but amid them all the situation will remain unchanged. The porte may condescend to the mockery of denouncing Ferdinand if the powers decide to declare that the order of things in Bulgaria is not quite in accordance with the Berlin treaty, but the result will be *nil*. Prince Ferdinand will not succumb till he is ousted by force. The central powers will accept no Russian candidate, nor any settlement the czar can propose. Meanwhile Russia has taken advantage of the delay to complete the negotiations for a French alliance to extend the mobilization of her forces, which is now practically progressing, and to set troops in line of battle with her immense resources reorganized since the discovery of the defects in the transportation and commissariat department.

Regarding the Russo-French alliance, it is reported that the treaty advances to a conclusion. M. Floquet has written a letter to a high St. Petersburg official affirming the desire of the republican majority to obtain a perfect *entente cordiale* with Russia. The letter was shown to the czar and elicited instructions to Baron Von Mohrenheim, the Russian ambassador at Paris, to negotiate a treaty if M. Floquet's representations were accurate.

The war offices at Berlin and Vienna find great obstacles in the way of obtaining accurate information of the displacements of the Russian troops. The bulk of reliable advices shows unabated internal activity in Russia, directed to the massing of a second line of troops behind the frontier army.

To-night a *National Zeitung* supplies the latest Bulgarian rumors in a dispatch from Sofia to the effect that if the concerted powers declaring Prince Ferdinand's rule over Bulgaria illegal, and demand that he abdicate, the Prince will relinquish his power, but will remain in Bulgaria to await the result of an election, expecting to be returned to the throne.

Advices from San Remo state that the Crown Prince reappeared at the window of his villa to-day, but did not venture out on the balcony on account of the cold weather. An official bulletin says that last night he had a refreshing sleep of several hours, but that in consequence of the continuance of his cough he is troubled with an abundance of mucus. Prof. Kussmaul, of Strasburg, was telegraphed for on the suggestion of Drs. Bergmann and Krauss. Prof. Kussmaul, who is recognized as an expert in lung diseases, arrived to-night and immediately saw the Crown Prince, but nothing of an official character was allowed to be made known. Private advices, however, state that the Crown Prince's bronchial irritation appears to be complicated with a lung disorder, partly arising from pus secretions on the bronchia, which have affected the lungs. Official opinion in Berlin has become utterly despairing. No weight attaches to the bulletins issued by the doctors in face of the known facts. Advices received at the palace do not conceal the critical state of the Crown Prince. Prof. Gerhardt has not gone to San Remo. He takes a discouraging view of the Crown Prince's condition. He is convinced that the malady is running its course. Other Berlin medical experts concur in the belief that a fatal termination is inevitable within three months and probably much sooner.

The Crown Prince is depressed by the news of the sudden death of his nephew, Prince Louis of Baden. The Crown Prince and Princess of Sweden will go to the funeral, and afterwards will accompany Prince William of Prussia to San Remo. Prince William's visit will have nothing to do with the question of the succession. The feeling in Germany is growing strong that Prince William ought to display greater interest in his father's state. The court circle knows that the prince's anxiety and sympathies are intense, but that he has been prevented from going to San Remo by state exigencies. Allusions to the regency continue to appear, but the papers have not the smallest basis for their statements in anything that has occurred officially. Meantime, the question is entirely wanting in actuality. The Prussian constitution provides perfectly for all possibilities arising from the death of the emperor and the concurrent incapacity of the Crown Prince to rule. Under article 56, Prince William, as major agnate, will become regent, the landtag affirming his title. A doubt has arisen as to what would happen if the Crown Prince, should he continue ill and incapable of discharging the functions of emperor when the throne became vacant, refuse to consent to a regency. The dilemma would undoubtedly be attended with serious official trouble, but would end in the landtag supporting Prince Bismarck's initiative in confirming Prince William as regent.

The emperor keeps in vigorous health. He was deeply touched at the death of his grandson. Prince Louis was a great favorite of his, and the emperor cried bitterly when he heard the news of his grandson's death. The court will go into mourning until the 14th of March.

During the week the emperor has several times, while saluting the crowd from his window in the palace, been accompanied by the Crown Prince's three sons. Once the whole family, the Princess William and the aged empress, were seen grouped around the emperor. This made the spectators wild with enthusiasm.

The depreciation in Russian paper rubles is absorbing the interest in financial circles. They closed to-day at 168. Many private families whose whole fortunes are invested in Russian securities are in a state of great anxiety. The best financial houses view the situation with serious misgivings.

An article in the *Kreuz Zeitung* shows that at the end of the Turco-Russian war rouble notes were quoted at 180, then thought to be an extremely low figure; in October last, when the bourse was panicky, owing to the czar's abandoning his visit, the quotation stood at 183-25, at the end of January it had fallen to 177, and since that time it has continued to decline.

Bankers state that the decline is due to the growth of distrust in the Russian financial position, combined with constant sales of notes under orders from St. Petersburg. The failure of the St. Petersburg banking firm of Fehleisen helped to accentuate the decline. The reichstag has approved a bill for the purchase by the government of the cables of the German Union Company. The measure, which takes effect in January, 1889, includes an agreement with the Anglo-American Company for American traffic. Minister Stephen promises a reduction of tariffs, but the prospects are remote of obtaining rates so low as to give an impetus to cabling.

A commission of the reichstag has refused the petition of a Berlin society to regulate cremation, on the ground that the government of each federal state has the sole right to interfere within its own jurisdiction. Gen. Von Werder will return from St. Petersburg on Mar. 20. It is denied that he took an autograph letter from the emperor to the czar. Gen. Von Werder was for a long time military attache of the German embassy at St. Petersburg, and formed connections there that are still unbroken.

The emperor will be present at the coming maneuvers in the province of Brandenburg. The plans include operations around the fortress of Grandence, including the building of pontoon bridges across the Vistula, which, the war office states, will have no hostile meaning.

THE CROWN PRINCE MUCH BETTER.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—The Crown Prince has passed a very good day. It is stated that Dr. Mackenzie saw no reason to consult with Dr. Kussmaul, but raised no objection to the latter's being summoned. The Crown Prince is much better than he was at the time the summoning of Dr. Kussmaul was mooted.

The Vienna *Fremdenblatt* says every one admits the illegality of Prince Ferdinand's sway in Bulgaria and that the sultan should take the initiative for his dethronement, but that the cabinets of the other powers desire to see clearly what measures are to be adopted to insure order.

SALISBURY'S ADVICE.

He Urges the Conservatives to Organize to Baffle Their Enemies.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—In a speech to-night Lord Salisbury counseled the conservatives to organize to baffle their enemies. He regarded the late bye elections as outposts, which did not indicate the result of a general campaign. The conservatives had nothing sensational to offer Ireland, but the advice they gave was based on scientific principles.

The five men accused of attempting to obtain £20,000 on forged or stolen bonds of the Hamilton and Northwestern railroad were to-day committed for trial at the Marylebone police court.

It is denied that it is intended to authorize the state or private railroads to make payment in credit instead of gold roubles.

A conference will be held in Russia March 29 to examine the bill to establish an optional metallic standard preparatory to the consolidation of the monetary conference.

The Russian ambassador at Constantinople to-day handed the porte a note regarding the illegal position of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria. The French and German ambassadors also called on the porte, presumably on the same mission.

In a *Contemporary Review* article Gladstone appeals to the conservatives, saying both parties can cooperate on the home rule question. He says the vast sums which for many years America contributed to landlords in Ireland had not shocked the most sensitive, yet for the sums recently contributed they have been fiercely denounced. He thinks American politics suffers from the Irish question, the action of the Irish in America being directed not by American but by Irish motives. He admits the continued strength of the conservative dissident union, and says he cannot detect a rift even when left to deal with English matters, it having already stood a great strain, but he contends a union maintained by military and police is not a union of strength. Criticising Lord Salisbury's reference to other European countries he says he omitted Germany, one of the strongest, yet has subordinate parliaments for local purposes.

Prince Hohenlohe-Oehringen, third secretary of the German embassy at St. Petersburg, has suicided.

The pope received the Moroccan mission to-day, and graciously replied to an address presented him. He gave instructions that they should be afforded every opportunity to see the sights of Rome.

THE FLOODS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Fears That Bridges Will be Carried Away and Great Damage Result.

LANCASTER, PA., Feb. 25.—The Susquehanna river at Columbia fell several feet this morning, thus temporarily relieving the strain on the railroad bridge. The five-mile gorge at Turkey Hill remains intact, however, and the arrival of the flood released by the breaking of the gorge at Lock Haven is awaited with much anxiety. The Pennsylvania railroad tracks at Chickies are still covered with water.

At Chickies the water reached 24 feet and is still rising. A heavy train was run across the bridge to keep it from being carried away. The people were taken from their houses in boats. At Columbia the ice is banked as high as the railroad bridge. A sudden flood will carry away the structure. Trains are running with the greatest caution. Travel is suspended on the Columbia and Port Deposit railroad south of Peach Bottom.

PORT DEPOSIT, MD., Feb. 25.—A channel having been opened through the mass of ice all fears of danger are over, unless the gorge forms suddenly and rushes down without warning.

11 p. m.—At 9 o'clock this evening advice was received that the gorge at Turkey Hill had broken and was rushing down. At McCall's Ferry, Pa., where the river is very narrow, this mass of ice formed an obstruction, and a huge gorge has formed. The ice is here piled forty feet high; considerable ice, however, has forced through and over the gorge, and is rapidly passing downward. At Peach Bottom, thirteen miles north of Port Deposit, the ice is passing in large quantities. The ice should reach here about midnight if not again obstructed. The position at Port Deposit again presents an impropitious appearance, and our citizens are again stricken with terror, when they were just congratulating themselves upon the prospect of no further trouble.

EASTON, PA., Feb. 25.—A big freshet is expected in the Delaware and Lehigh rivers. The thaw this week has caused the rivers to rise, and the heavy rain of to-day will add greatly to their height. This afternoon the Delaware was 10 feet below high water mark.

DEATH OF A U. S. VICE CONSUL.

The Oldest Foreign Resident of China Gone—A Fortune Made and Lost.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25.—The steamer San Pablo has arrived from China bearing information of the death of Gideon Nye, United States vice consul, the oldest foreign resident of China, he having arrived in 1823. He had amassed a fortune of $6,000,000, but lost it all and at the time of his death was writing a history of China's relations with foreign powers.

Minister Bragg at El Paso.

EL PASO, TEX., Feb. 25.—Gen. Edward S. Bragg of Wisconsin, accompanied by his wife and daughter, arrived here tonight on his way to the City of Mexico. He will remain here to-night and resume the journey in the morning.

Sympathy for Home Rule.

JACKSON, MISS., Feb. 25.—The house today adopted a joint resolution sympathizing with the contest for home rule in Ireland.

Shocking Double Tragedy.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 25.—Gustave Winkler, deranged, shot and killed his wife to-day and then suicided.

EMPHATICALLY OUT OF IT.

BLAINE POSITIVELY DECLINES TO ALLOW HIS NAME TO BE USED.

An Authentic Statement Which Admits of No Double Construction—His Fealty to His Party Prompts Him to Withdraw From the Race.

FLORENCE, ITALY, Feb. 25.—Mr. Blaine, in the course of a long conversation, distinctly asserted that under no circumstances whatever would he allow his name to be used in connection with the next presidential nomination. He insists on the sincerity of his withdrawal, and asserts that he had made up his mind thereto long ago. He considers, first, that any man whose name has been associated with a defeat in a presidential campaign owes it to his party not to allow himself to be renominated, and, secondly, he is unequal to facing the fatigues, worry, and excitement of another canvass, all the more as he would feel himself bound to work as hard as on previous occasions. Mrs. Blaine and the other members of his family are most emphatic in their approval of his withdrawal, which is definitive and neither hasty nor recent in its decision. Mr. Blaine will not return from Europe until June, and not until after the Republican convention.

He declines to express himself on the subject of the Republican candidates now in the field, but asserts that he did not retire in favor of any particular one of them. He is convinced of a Republican victory, basing his conviction in particular on the tariff question.

When Mr. Blaine was asked the direct question whether he would, under any circumstances, permit his name to be used again as a candidate, he replied in the most emphatic negative, but then added: "I do not wish to make any new affirmations upon the subject. I have said all that I wish to say upon this subject in that letter. That letter, as you must known, was not a haphazard, off-hand affair. It was the result of much deliberation and careful thought. You will remember that I told you in Paris last December that I had no intention of being a candidate again, and that I had practically made up my mind at that time to forbid the use of my name in the approaching convention."

"I held," he said, later in the conversation, "that I have no right to be a candidate again. A man who has once been the candidate of his party and defeated owes it to his party to withdraw, and not be a candidate a second time. More than this—there is another plain reason for my withdrawal. I could not go through the burden and fatigue of another presidential canvass—such a one as the canvass of the last campaign. To accept a nomination, and do less than before, would be impossible."

The dispatch concludes: "Toward the close of my last call I asked Mr. Blaine when he expected to return to America. He said that he expected to reach New York about the last of June. He expects to spend the late spring in London. He has not yet determined upon his movements. After leaving Florence he will probably go straight to England from Italy. He said, with an air of frankness not to be mistaken: "You have no idea what a relief it is to me to think that I am now out of the canvass; and that when I come back to New York in the summer that I shall not be going back there to face reception after reception and to enter into the turmoil and excitement of a political canvass. I can now come back and take the ordinary line of a citizen and enjoy my own life in my own way, free, I hope, from further criticism or comment."

ON THE HOMEWARD TRIP.

The President and Party Have a Big Reception in Charleston.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 25.—President Cleveland and party arrived here at 9.54 this morning and were received at the station by the mayor and a committee of eighty, aldermen and citizens. They drove through the principal streets with a military escort, consisting of the Charleston Light Dragoons and the German Hussars. Upon the arrival of the train a presidential salute of twenty-one guns was fired by detachments of the German and Lafayette artillery. At least 40,000 persons were on the streets during the passage of the party, and the air was rent with enthusiastic cheers. There was a sky of unclouded blue, and the temperature that of spring. The party left Charleston at 11.15 o'clock a. m. The presidential train was loaded down with flowers, the baggage car being entirely filled with floral offerings and tropical fruits. Two pet alligators are a part of the museum curiosities from Florida.

There was no formal speech-making in Charleston. On Marion Square the soldiery of the city were drawn up in line and the President and his party were received with military honors. The only stop made by the visitors on the drive through the city was at the Charleston Orphan House, where baskets of flowers were presented by the children.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 25.—The presidential train, homeward bound, passed here at midnight, only stopping a few minutes for change of locomotives. A small crowd was at the depot, and caught a glimpse of the party and others in their car. None of them had retired.

A WASHINGTON GIRL'S FOLLY.

Belle Cora Fellows to Marry a Worthless Sioux Indian

P[illegible], Feb. 25.—A social sensation has been created here growing out of the approaching marriage of Miss Belle Cora Fellows, who recently came to the Cheyenne agency from Washington, where she is highly connected, her father holding a prominent position in the pension department. The bridegroom is Chaska, a worthless full-blood Sioux Indian, who has spent much time in the guard-house for stealing. Miss Fellows makes no secret of her intention, and the day is set for March 16.

STEEL WORKS TO SHUT DOWN

The Furnaces of the Edgar Thomson Mills to Be Banked.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 25.—It is probable that the Edgar Thomson steel works will be shut down Tuesday owing to differences in the wage question. The company will not agree to arbitration unless the award is for a year, while the men will not accept it for less than six months. A strike seems inevitable, in which case the furnace fires will be banked. The company claim wages have been reduced at other works, and they cannot afford to pay the advance.

The Bicycle Records Broken

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Feb. 25.—The seventy-two hour twelve hours a day bicycle race closed at 11 o'clock to-night. The attendance has been very light during the week. The closing scores were: Dingley, 900 miles, 4 laps; Knapp, 895 miles, 6 laps; Hollingsworth, 888 miles, 3 laps; McDowell, 858 miles, 2 laps; Rhodes, 749 miles, 1 lap; Ashinger, 660 miles, 2 laps; Whittaker, 528 miles, 8 laps; Neilson, 527 miles, 1 lap; Crocker, 204 miles, 9 laps.

Swept by Wind and Rain.

WILKES-BARRE, PA., Feb. 25.—A violent wind storm, accompanied with rain, swept over the city this morning. Houses were unroofed, telegraph wires leveled, and much other damage done.

NATIONAL OPERA EXPIRES

Amid the Heartrending Wails of a Highly-Trained Chorus.

Last night the National Opera Company practically disbanded after the performance at the New National Theater. The public has had knowledge of the condition of affairs in the return engagement of the company this week. Strikes have been plentiful, and as there is no money to meet the demands the company yesterday unanimously decided to disband. There have been animated scenes around the stage door of the theater for several days past and loud conversation and gesticulation in several different languages showed that there was trouble in the camp. The cause of the demise of the admirable organization is the old operatic story of continued bad business and no funds to meet the rapidly recurring deficits. From what can be gathered as to the internal affairs of the company this week, it appears that there was no serious trouble until the performance of "Nero" on Thursday night. A large audience was in attendance and were kept waiting over an hour for the rise of the curtain on account of the refusal of two of the artists and the chorus to sing until certain conditions were accepted. Friday night "The Queen of Sheba" was billed. At the last moment the leading soprano was unwilling to sing, and the opera was quickly and cleverly changed to "Faust," with a new cast. After a delay of about three-quarters of an hour "Faust" was commenced, and a very enjoyable performance of that opera was given.

Matters had apparently reached a crisis yesterday morning, and the approaches to the New National Theater were crowded with members of the different departments of the company. It was rumored that the orchestra would not play, and that some of the artists would not sing at the matinee of "Faust," for which there was a fair sale. At 1 o'clock Manager Locke called a meeting of the entire company on the stage, and, standing on some property steps, said that the end had come. There were no funds and he had exhausted every means of securing financial assistance. He suggested that the company give their services for the two remaining performances to-day, the share of the receipts going for railway fares and baggage expenses to New York, Manager Rapley giving a portion of the expenses of the house. If the company did not agree to this the season would end before the matinee. All agreed but a few members of the orchestra. The orchestra, it is said, having been paid in full to date. Finally, the dissenting instrumentalists consented to play, and when about half the audience was already seated, preparations were made for the matinee, and after half an hour's delay, the curtain went up on "Faust," which went smoothly from first to last. At night another change was made, some of the artists refusing to sing in "Tannhauser," "Lohengrin" was given, this being the final performance of National Opera. The National Opera Company came here two week ago and did a good though not a great business, there possibly being about $2,000 over and above expenses. After a disastrous week in the south, playing in such places as Norfolk and Petersburg, although a good reception was given the company in Richmond, the company returned here for this week. Lent, the Grand Army fair, and the fact that the company returned so quickly, without any new operas, made the receipts very bad. At Wednesday's performance of "Lohengrin" the receipts were a little over $800, which is probably the worst house to which a Wagner opera was ever played in this country.

The result of the collapse falls heaviest on some of the minor workers of the company. A few of the artists, who got six or eight weeks' pay are certainly not badly off. The chorus is paid more than probably any opera chorus the world over has been paid. There is not a great amount of money owing to them, and many of them are actually in debt to the management for advances. The orchestra has insisted on its pay, and has got it; the ballet—what is left of it—is probably owed two or three weeks' salary. The few principal artists who have insisted on their pay have had their money, while the others, more good natured and easily managed, though not the less indispensible to the success of a performance, have gone on week after week on practically board wages. People have wondered how the company could keep struggling on. The heads of departments have all labored for the success of the company, and are among its heaviest sufferers financially. The receipts for the season have not been good; the musical public of most large cities have shown no disposition to support National Opera in spite of its high artistic work and elaborate operatic productions. The chances for a National Opera season was great. The company was the best ever organized for grand opera in English in the country, and there was not a critic nor a prominent opera patron who did not say, "What a shame that such an organization as this cannot be properly supported. Repeated financial scandals, and the unaccountable opposition to national opera by a small though influential portion of the press, have done much to lessen the chances of success. The manager of the company is financially ruined by the enterprise, and in justice to Mr. Locke it must be said that he paid out all that was received. But there have only been about three paying weeks in the season. The only way to run an opera company of such great dimensions, and to have an unlimited bank account at its back, as in the old American Opera Company, when through the munificence of Mrs. Jeanette M. Thurber and friends, no matter how small the weekly receipts, a check was always forthcoming to meet the deficit.

When the decision to disband was announced yesterday afternoon all seemed glad at the idea of getting home and appeared weary of the work. The company probably leaves in a special train to-day at 10 o'clock, and it is thought that all the company will be able to get off then. The financial result of the season has been disastrous, and it seems impossible for the musical centers of the country to support grand opera.

Manager Locke was seen at his hotel last night and said: "Previous to the matinee to-day I decided that it was useless to prolong the season. The losses in sixteen weeks have been in the neighborhood of $100,000, of which I have already paid about $75,000, and as soon as I can complete arrangements will liquidate the balance. I cannot say how soon this will be, for the present I have exhausted my own resources, and called heavily on my friends. But all may depend upon it that, sooner or later, I shall pay my losses dollar for dollar. With the exception of three or four weeks of the sixteen the receipts have fallen below the expenses, Cincinnati being the most remarkable in this particular, where the losses were $11,700 in one week. Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburg, Washington, Montreal have all been excellent cities for us. It is rather startling that Boston and Cincinnati, regarded as the best musical centers in the east and west, have proved the worst for National Opera. I think all who have heard our performances will agree they have ranked well with the best performances given in the art centers in Europe, and have surpassed any before given in America. My principals have been extremely fine, and I am afraid it will be many years before America bears a similiar company. The lesson taught me so dearly is that grand opera cannot be made self-supporting. As I have certainly brought to this venture experience, energy, perseverance, and what should have been ample capital, the amount of energy and money expended in any other direction would probably have enriched me. It is with sorrow I came to the above conclusion and with deepest regret, I disband my noble organization."

A meeting of the troupe was held after the performance to decide whether the Baltimore dates should be filled or the company go to New York. No conclusion was arrived at, and it was decided to hold another meeting this morning. Messrs. Ludwig and McGuckin, it was stated, attached the box receipts for the night's performance for $1,100 due them. Some of the troupe left for New York last night. It is almost a certainty that the entire membership will go this morning, notwithstanding the talk of running the company under the care of a committee, as was once done in the west.

LAST OF THE NATIONAL OPERA.

The National Opera season ended here last night with a fine performance of "Aida," with Charlotte Walker, Clara Poole, Messrs. McGuckin, Ludwig, Vetta, and Broderick in the cast. There was a good audience at the matinee, when an excellent performance of "Faust" was given, with Emma Juch, Amanda Fabris, Messrs. Bassett, Vetta, and Stoddard.

RESOLUTIONS OF SORROW

Meeting of Numerous Associations that Regret Mr Corcoran's Death

A special meeting of the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art was held yesterday afternoon. Those present were Dr. J. C. Welling, president; Messrs. Edward Clarke, F. B. McGuire, A. Hyde, S. H. Kauffmann, C. M. Matthews, J. C. McGuire, and Justice Cox. A series of resolutions eulogistic of the late W. W. Corcoran were presented by Dr. Welling, and they were, on motion of Mr. F. B. McGuire adopted.

It was decided to display in and on the building emblems of mourning for the ensuing ninety days. It was also resolved that the trustees attend the funeral in a body.

The board of managers of Oak Hill Cemetery have also adopted resolutions of regret at the decease of the one who donated that beautiful "city of the dead" to the public use.

The Washington National Monument Society held a special meeting at noon yesterday at the residence of the Hon. George Bancroft. Those present were Mr. Bancroft, Senator Sherman, Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers, Col. James G. Berret, Dr. James C. Welling, Mr. Edward Clark, Dr. D. R. Clarke, Dr. J. M. Toner, Hon. Horatio King, and F. L. Harvey, secretary.

A committee of three, consisting of Senator Sherman, Admiral Rodgers, and Col. Berret, reported the following resolutions:

"The members of the Washington National Monument Society, of which Wm. Wilson Corcoran was for so many years its vice president, join in the expression of the deepest sorrow for his death. He has from the beginning been the leading friend and supporter of the great object accomplished by this society—the erection of the monument to the memory of Washington. He aided the movement by his liberal efforts and the hearty support which he gave to it. We have been witnesses of his philanthropy in the important charities in this city, to his untarnished honor in public and private life, and to his generosity and kindness to all classes.

"That as a further mark of respect to his memory we will in a body attend his funeral, and the secretary is directed to furnish a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased."

The Virginia Democratic Association has taken action in regard to Mr. Corcoran's death, and appointed the following gentlemen a committee to attend the funeral: Messrs. H. S. Bicoe, T. J. Luttrell, Mills Dean, Robert I. Fleming, Henry Wise Garnett, and J. A. Jones.

The Washington Art Club held a meeting last night and made arrangements to attend the funeral in a body.

The trustees of the Peabody library afternoon and adopted resolutions of respect.

The two branches of the Virginia legislature have passed resolutions eulogistic of Mr. Corcoran, "the true friend of Virginia."

The following letter was made public yesterday.

"OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1888.—The commissioners of the District of Columbia, sharing in the general respect for the memory of their late fellow-citizen, W. W. Corcoran, esq., and especially in the sentiment of this community respecting the eminent public and private virtues and services which characterized his life, deem it proper to make a formal manifestation of that regard, and therefore order that the offices of the District government be closed on the afternoon of the day of his funeral."

The funeral of Mr. Corcoran, which will take place to-morrow at 2 o'clock, will not, as has been announced, be private. Those of the public who desire to attend are perfectly at liberty to do so.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 25.—R. E. Lee Camp of Confederate Veterans to-night adopted a resolution of sympathy and regret on the death of W. W. Corcoran, and appointed a committee of five to attend the funeral. The inmates of the confederate soldiers' home and the Virginia Historical Society also adopted similar resolutions.

ENTHUSIASTIC ST. LOUISIANS

They Welcome with Huzzas the Delegation from Washington.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 25.—The delegation of prominent citizens sent to Washington to represent the interests of this city in its endeavor to have the Democratic National Convention held here returned this morning amid huzzas of the populace and the congratulations of the friends of both parties. The committee of citizens met the delegation at the East St. Louis transfer station and welcomed them back to Missouri with bands playing and flags flying. They were escorted to the Southern Hotel, where a formal breakfast was given to them. Mr. George W. Allen welcomed the successful committee and was responded to by several members of the committee, and the feast wound up with an anthem composed for a similar occasion which was to have taken place in Chicago. The anthem was taken to Washington by Mr. Warren Leland, of the Chicago delegation, but on their failure to get the convention, the St. Louis delegation revised the verses and adopted them for their triumphal return to their home.

TEHUANTEPEC SHIP CANAL.

The Superiority of That Method of Transportation Demonstrated.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 25.—The annual meeting of the Tehuantepec Ship Canal Company was held to-day. The reports showed the outlook to be unexpectedly encouraging, the superiority of a ship canal over the isthmus over a water way being demonstrated. The national charter, although not pressed for, was regarded as desirable if unaccompanied with onerous conditions. A committee was appointed to meet in New York Thursday to organize a construction company.

Collision on the Union Pacific.

COLTON, NEB., Feb. 25.—Two trains on the Union Pacific collided with terrible force near here to-day. The engines telescoped, piling all the cars on the track, which immediately took fire. Engineer Powell was the only person killed.

Lehigh Miners to Resume.

LANCASTER, PA., Feb. 25.—It is said the Lehigh miners of Panther Creek valley will resume operations next Monday, all of the mines being prepared for work.

Baltimore Warehouse Burned

BALTIMORE, Feb. 25.—Bergmann's warehouse was damaged to the extent of $10,000 by fire last evening.

MORE ARMORIES NEEDED

FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THIS DISTRICT.

Chance for Enterprising and Wealthy Citizens—Investments Likely to Pay Well—The School of the Officers—Proficiency in the Company Commanders Exacted.

The REPUBLICAN has from time to time spoken freely to the moneyed men of the city of the investment that was to be found in building armories for the National Guard of the District. As yet no one has seen fit to come forward. It is not the proper thing to tell secrets, but as a most excellent organization is in need of good homes a word should be said to aid in infusing action into those desirous of making a big percentage on an excellent investment. The fact has become known that the National Rifles' armory has been paying for itself since it was built, and the statement is made that the organization will this year realize at least $6,000 from the rental of their hall for amusements. There is no reason, therefore, for any one to hesitate in constructing an armory much larger than that of the Rifles, with improvements on that one, and make overtures to the National Guard for occupancy of the same. There is every reason to believe that a well-selected site, convenient and central, with a good building on it large enough for a battalion, would soon have occupants, draw a good rental, and fully repay the persons making the outlay in such a project. All that is needed is a trial. Washington wants a good-sized hall for balls, concerts, and public meetings, and now is the time for public-spirited men to accept the opportunity. It is evident that Congress will do the proper thing by the District militia. Should it fail, however, to do so the excellent organization, which now has attained a wonderful growth and spirit of discipline, would of course be seriously imperilled. There is every reason to believe, though, that the ambition which prevails throughout the body would cause it to keep together and wait with great patience until Congress recognized the justice of its demands. At present the small halls occupied by the various companies stand very much the advancement of the men in the proficiency of military tactics. All that is needed is for some one to make the start and others will follow. There are eight battalions connected with the militia, and though it might not be possible to get every battalion to rent a building, yet the majority of them would gladly avail themselves of a good home. Each battalion numbers four companies, and these companies now pay each on an average of $10 per month for the rental of very indifferent halls for a certain number of nights during the month. The militia is an assistant police force to the District, and also a part of the United States army in its present relationship to the general government, and neither the general nor the local governments has given the National Guard one cent to help defray its expenses. There are now about 1,500 well drilled men sworn in allegiance both to the District and to the United States, in readiness to obey any call to defend the property of both, and notwithstanding this fact the young men forming this most creditable body are compelled to pay out of their own pockets for everything, even though both governments get the benefit of the same. The citizens in some particulars do all they can in helping the soldiers, but they could in some cases improve on this, and thus add not only considerably much to the enjoyment of many households by giving receptions, entertainments, &c., all of which the soldier boys paid for. The National Guard, if given the aid it should have and which is justly due it, would be an honor to the District. There are many things wanted, and the lack of financial support fails to bring them about. In all the large cities the militia have had large armories built for them by the state. New York, Illinois, and Pennsylvania have set the wisdom of helping their soldiery, and the latter has paid back every cent of it by loyal service to the citizens of their states. There is more than one reason why the District government should not encourage and foster its soldiers, and Congress should be inquiring if the United States has not valuable interests here to be protected and looked after. There are now hundreds of young men willing to enter the service of the National Guard of the District, but are holding off because of the great expense attending such a venture. The discipline and training of this service tends to make good citizenship, and so far this fact has been found out by the morale of the membership of the organization.

The following enlisted men of company D, 3d battalion, will be honorably discharged from the National Guard by reason of their own application: Corporal John J. Dazenbrock, Private G. Sanger Driver, E. R. Fitzsimmons, George J. Lippold.

Private George W. Graves, company A, 4th battalion, will be honorably discharged from the National Guard on account of physical disability.

The Washington Light Infantry Corps Athletic Club meets next Wednesday night to complete the arrangements for establishing a gymnasium. The membership propose to enter heartily and earnestly into the work. All manner of outdoor and indoor sports will be made part of the exercises of the club. Base ball will no doubt form a feature of the pastimes. Many of the companies would organize such athletic clubs if they only had the armory space. They are hoping for good luck in the future and maybe it will come to them when they don't expect it.

The school of the officer has been found to be productive of much good. It has awakened much interest among the officers, who, to keep up a standing and for pride's sake, have studied Upton as they never studied tactics before. Many new facts have been brought to their attention through this school of instruction that otherwise would never have been told them. Lately the attendance has fallen off, but it is noticed that the absentees are always a certain class, who have forgotten to study their lessons or are in constant fear that something hard will be asked them.

Gen. Ordway has been very anxious to get the best educated men as company officers. There is good reason for this, for when a body of men have such a class to command them they are never afraid of being made to blush for any display of ignorance on the part of their superiors. The companies should lay aside the idea of electing men to officers' places simply because the same might be "popular," "good fellows," or "good looking." What is wanted is men of general intelligence, good address, executive ability—men who, if called in to do the honors of their command, would acquit themselves with credit. The members of the National Guard might as well understand now as to have it forced on them that the board of examiners "will turn down" quicker candidates for commissions who lack the essentials than for the general lack of military tactics.

A company would feel very much chagrined in finding the officers of a visiting command outshine their own in all the high qualities that should adorn the position.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the late W. W. Corcoran, The *Knapsack*, a paper devoted to the National Guard, District of Columbia, and edited by George T. Knox, of the Corcoran Cadet Corps, is in mourning for its patron.

The Bigelow Rifles, Capt. W. S. Fowler, are talking of boating in Hopkins's Hall, 501 Pennsylvania avenue.

Custer Guard, company B, 2d battalion, intend soon to hold a camp fire instead of a hop.

The Ordway Rifles will, at their next meeting, elect several new members, several sergeants, and a corporal is to be appointed.

The Marion Rifles are making big efforts in behalf of their fair, which will be held at the Rifles' Armory shortly.

John A. Logan, jr., has offered Logan Guard a handsome gold medal which is to be drilled for annually.

The 6th battalion is doing very well with its fair, which was opened on the 23d instant. Maj. C. A. Fleetwood, commanding the battalion, is lying very ill at his residence on O street.

DINNER AND FINANCES.

Secretary Bayard Entertains the Senate Committee.

The pedestrians found yesterday a most enjoyable day, as it was warm without inducing the lassitude of later spring weather. The week just passed was an eventful one. The death of Mr. W. W. Corcoran, the well beloved, will put many families into mourning, and many hearts go into mourning that have no surcease for their sorrow in the usual trappings of woe.

Secretary Bayard entertained a gentlemen's party at dinner last evening. The guests of honor were the members of the Senate committee of finance, all the members being present but Senator McPherson and Senator Voorhees. The table was tastefully laid with fine linen, china, and crystal, and decorated floorally with mounds of variegated red and yellow tulips. The guests were Senator Morrill, Senator Sherman, Senator J. P. Jones, Senator Allison, Senator Aldrich, Senator Hiscock, Senator Beck, Senator Harris, and Senator Vance, of the committee, and Assistant Secretary Thompson, Assistant Secretary Maynard, Comptroller Trenholm, United States Treasurer James W. Hyatt, Senator Gibson, Senator Evarts, Mr. Andrew White, of New York, and Representative Charles Tracy, of Albany.

Miss Mary Sherman gave a dinner to young people last evening. The floral decorations were carnations.

Mrs. Waite gave a luncheon yesterday, inviting the ladies of the Supreme Court circle to meet Mrs. Lamar. There were present Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Field, Mrs. Harlan, Mrs. Blatchford, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Russell Gray, of Boston, who is the guest of Justice Gray; Mrs. Senator Hoar, Mrs. Senator Evarts, Mrs. MacDonald, and Mrs. McKenny.

Gen. and Mrs. Beale entertained a party at dinner on Friday evening to meet the Greek minister, Mr. John Gennadius.

Secretary Bayard gave a dinner on Friday night in honor of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain.

The Swedish minister and Madame de Reuterskiold gave a handsome dinner on Thursday. The guests were Madame Bakhmeteff, Miss Stoughton, Miss Emily Wallace, Miss Virginia Wallace, the Greek minister, Mr. Gennadius, Mr. Perry Belmont, and Mr. Lovenorn.

Mr. Lovernon will sail for Copenhagen on Wednesday on a three months' leave of absence.

Mrs. and the Misses Patton held a charming reception yesterday afternoon.

The Swedish minister and Madame de Reuterskiold drove to the Country Club yesterday, which was the fashionable resort of the many driving parties of the day.

Miss Putnam held a delightful reception on Tuesday. Miss Putnam will receive on Wednesdays informally during Lent.

Albaugh's Theater has been popular with entertainers last week. Mrs. Gordon McKay gave a two-day party on Wednesday night. Among the guests were Miss West, Miss Virginia Wallach, Senator Hale, and Miss Kate Beach. Another party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Winthrop Chanler, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Edwardes, Mrs. Wright, Miss Julie May, Mr. Spring, jr., at the opera