

TELEGRAPHIC SPARKLES.

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ALL PARTS BY WIRE AND CABLE.

LONDON, April 10.—The morning press declares, without exception, that it is now imperative upon England to fight unless Russia shall promptly recall Gen. Komaroff and disown his action in attacking the Afghans on Kushk river.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 10.—The morning newspapers throughout Russia, with very few exceptions, in commenting on the recent battle between the Russians and Afghans, on Kushk river, are very bellicose in their utterances, and charge Earl Dufferin, Viceroy of India, and Sir Peter Lumsden, the British Commissioner, with provoking war by advising the Afghans to advance on Pul-i-Khishi, which the British officials know was part of the Russian territory.

LA JOURNAL "FOR PEACE." La Journal de St. Petersburg says that Gen. Komaroff's return within his lines, after driving off the Afghans, indicates that the Russian attack was caused by hostile acts of the Afghans. This affair was only an accidental conflict, such as is very difficult to avoid when one considers the strained situation and close proximity of the opposing parties.

LA JOURNAL sees no reason for regarding war between Russia and England as inevitable, and expresses the hope that the battle on the Kushk will not interfere with the negotiations now in progress with England for an amicable settlement of the perplexing boundary question. La Journal is glad to hear that the British officers who were at the scene of the battle reached Afghan territory in safety.

TRAILERS here tell M. Benghe, minister of finance, that the present state of uncertainty is worse than war. Commercial circles believe that war is inevitable, and that it is better that it should come now than later. The Novoe Vremya accuses Lord Dufferin of trying to provoke war, thereby hampering the negotiations between Russia and England.

The Mahdi's Military Resources.

The London Standard says: "The Mahdi's military resources include 15,000 Egyptian regulars, who were originally taken prisoners or deserted to the Mahdi's camp. It is not known, even at English headquarters in the Sudan, how many native warriors have joined Mohammed Achmed, but he possesses armaments for an almost unlimited number."

"Besides the arms and equipments of Hicks and Baker Pasha's forces, which fell into the hands of the enemy, the latter has an enormous quantity of provisions and ammunition, which the Egyptian Government had stored in Sennar, Korlofan and Fachoda."

"As far back as two years ago, the Egyptian authorities at Cairo admitted that the Mahdi had captured ninety field guns, 15,000 Remington rifles and 3,000,000 cartridges. Since then the garrisons of Berber, Shendy and Khartoum have capitulated."

"At Khartoum, also, the Mahdi found a vast quantity of ammunition and 5,000 to 6,000 negro troops well armed. The rebel army is also copiously supplied with siege artillery. Both Sir Charles Wilson's and Lord Charles Bessborough's steamers were fired upon by heavy riverain batteries. There are a large number of Turkish and Arab officers with the Mahdi. The black recruits are drilled by fugitives from Arab's army, and the Mahdi's artillery is worked by Turkish Topsis, who are held to be the best marksmen in the world."

Mr. Henry W. Grady's paper in the Century on the social condition and prospects of the colored race in the south, seems to have caught Mr. George W. Cable between wind and water. Cable is essentially a writer of fiction, while Grady is a man of facts and figures. Mr. Cable's pictures are interesting and they are painted by a cunning hand, but it is exceedingly doubtful whether they ought to be accepted for more than the creations of a fanciful and imaginative genius.—Chicago News.

IN THE FAR-AWAY FEJEES.

Where the Natives Bake Missionaries and Otherwise Act the Savage.

From the San Francisco Chronicle. A Van Camp, the late United States Consul to the Fejee Islands, who arrived here on Tuesday on the City of Sidney, was interviewed last night by a Chronicle reporter on the political, business and social condition of the islands and their inhabitants. "You will be astonished," said Mr. Van Camp, "when I tell you that there are 220 islands in the group, some of which are very large. Viti Levu (Big Island) has an area of four thousand square miles and through a portion of it flows the river Rivi, which extends from the sea coast 180 miles into the interior and upon both sides of which lie magnificent fields, suitable for sugar plantations. Vanna Levu is the next largest island, and the third of the group is Tavanni, which is indeed a beautiful place. On this island tea and sugar are raised. I have some of the tea with me and the connoisseurs who have inspected it say that in their judgement it is better than any other ever produced. There are about 1,200 whites on the islands, whose principal residence was formerly the town of Levuka, on the island of Ovalau. The missionary societies, however, had possession of most of the valuable land on this island and refused to sell any of it to Sir Arthur Gordon, the first governor of the group, and so he removed the seat of government, which up to that time had been at Levuka, to Suva, on Viti Levu, about sixty miles from Levuka. Suva now has a population of about 800 whites and Levuka of about 400. The foreign population is mostly English but few Americans have settled there. The native population is about 125,000."

"What is the condition of the natives?" "At present the natives are slaves, both body and soul, to their chiefs, who, in the order of their rank, are called Tuis, Ratus and Rokos. These chiefs control all the people with a rod of iron and the British Government, which virtually owns the islands, encourages the chiefs in keeping the natives in subjection. Why, the common people are not allowed by the chiefs to go from one town to another, being kept at home at work. Neither can they own any land, all except that held by the foreigners being owned by the chiefs. When old King Sakamban ceded the islands to Great Britain it was agreed that he was to receive a pension of £3,000 a year, his first son, Rato Abu, a pension of £2,000 a year and his second son £1,200 a year. Now every native is taxed £1 a year to make up these amounts. They pay their tax in labor or produce. There are 40,000 able-bodied natives on Viti Levu who would work well if only treated properly."

"Are the natives Christians?" "Well, if they are, they are pretty hard Christians," replied Mr. Van Camp. "Up to ten or twelve years ago they were the greatest cannibals in the world. Twelve years ago they ate a missionary named Baker. I have his skull and bones in that box over there. I brought them up as curios. They would be cannibals again to-morrow, too, if they had an opportunity. Even now you cannot go into the interior with safety. The government even forbids people to go into the mountains for fear they will be baked and eaten. The natives could undoubtedly be ruled much better, and they will have to be, or they will rise on the chiefs as they did before and cook them. The natives are such slaves that they are compelled to prostrate themselves on the appearance of a chief. I have seen five hundred people throw themselves on the ground at the appearance of old Sakamban and remain prone until he had passed. All the clothes the natives wear is a loin cloth and the government encourages the chiefs in not introducing civilized clothing. The women, though, have some modesty, as is shown by the fact that only recently eight of them were sentenced by the Roko, for some offense, to go nude for four months. There is very little education among the masses, but the missionaries have established a few schools for children. Wesleyan missionaries are not very successful in making converts, but they have succeeded in getting rich. Their principal missionary, Mr. Langham, owns nearly all Levuka."

Secretary Lamar is the surprise of the cabinet. Everybody knew of his ability, his accomplishments, his integrity, his large brain, his cultivation; but it was thought he lacked a grasp of business details. He turns out to be a model officer, active, diligent and well-posted in all the affairs of his department.—N. Y. World.

The trouble about enforcing the liquor law in Maine is not in the weight or lightness of penalties, but in public opinion. If public sentiment were strongly against liquor selling it would be comparatively easy to enforce the law.—New York Evening Post, Ind.

HOME OF THE CARDIFF GIANTS.

City Officials of Moberly, Mo., Give Their Imaginations a Benefit.

St. LOUIS, April 8.—The city of Moberly, Mo., is stirred up over a wonderful buried city, which was discovered at the bottom of a coal shaft 300 feet deep which was being sunk near Moberly. A hard and thick stratum of lava arches in the buried city, the streets of which are laid out and enclosed by walls of stone, which is cut and dressed in a fairly good, although rude, style of masonry. A hall 30x100 feet was discovered, wherein were stone benches and tools of all descriptions for mechanical service. Further search disclosed statues and images made of a composition closely resembling bronze, lacking lustre.

A stone fountain was found in a wide court or street, and from it a stream of perfectly pure water was flowing, which, upon being tasted, was found to be strongly impregnated with lime. Lying beside the fountain were portions of the skeleton of a human being. The bones of the leg measured, the femur, four and one-half feet, and the tibia, four feet and three inches, showing that when alive the figure was three times the size of an ordinary man, and possessed of wonderful muscular power and quickness. The head bones had separated in two places, the sagittal and the coronal suture having been destroyed. The implements found embrace bronze and flint knives, stone and granite hammers, metallic saws of rude workmanship but proved metal and others of similar character. They are not so highly polished nor so so accurately made as those now finished by our best mechanics, but they show skill and an evidence of an advanced civilization.

The searching party spent twelve hours in the depths, and only gave up explorations because of the oil in their lamps being low. These facts are touched for by Mr. David Coates, the rector of the city of Moberly, and Mr. George Keating, city marshal, who were of the exploring party. A further extended search will be made in a day or two.

Heathen Ragging.

Washington Post. It is to be regretted that the republican temper has become so soured by affliction that the organs of the retired party find it impossible to express their feelings without drawing on the obsolete vocabulary of vituperation which, in the earlier post-bellum years, was employed by Morton, Logan, Boutwell and others in firing the Northern heart.

It appears that all the Southern people who were not unionists during the war were "traitors," and would have been executed at the close of the war but for "the unprecedented clemency" of the victorious side. The organs are summoning the brethren to rise early and sit up late, in order that they may sufficiently admire the moral grandeur of the grand old party as displayed in its decision not to hang the "traitors" when the confederacy expired.

That the war was a great mistake and a terrible misfortune all will concede. That it settled forever the question of secession adversely to the claims of the South is not denied in any quarter. That the Southern people have accepted the result in good faith and are as patriotically proud of the restored union as their brethren of the north is known of all men.

But it is an infamous libel to speak of the Southern people as "traitors," for the simple reason that the right of a state to withdraw from the Union was an open question from the formation of the Union until April, 1865.

It was a question on which honest men differed, and, great as was the mistake of the states that attempted to go out of the Union, the people of those states simply asserted a claim that they and their father had honestly maintained ever since the adoption of the Federal constitution.

If that constitution had contained a clause or section declaring that no state could ever withdraw without the consent of all the other states there could have been no Union.

Tennyson's Letter to a Brooklyn School.

Lord Tennyson has acknowledged the gift sent him at Christmas, comprising manuscript copies of popular parts of his works made by the pupils of Brooklyn Public School No. 9, and illustrated by them with pen work. His letter is as follows.

ALDWORTH, HASLEMERE, SURREY, March, 1885.

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS: Your Christmas greeting only reached me the day before yesterday, and it was very welcome. I thank you heartily for having taken so much trouble to show me that what I have written gives you pleasure. Such kindly memorials as yours makes me hope that, though the national bond between England and America was broken by the stupidity of some of George III's Ministers, the natural one of blood and language may bind us closer from century to century. Believe me your true old friend. TENNYSON.

A Mongolian Millionaire.

The San Francisco Call has the following interesting story: "In a beautiful portion of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, embowered in towering palms and luxuriant ferns, lies hidden from the vulgar view of the pedestrian, the pretentious residence of Mr. Afong. From its roomy balcony, through the interstices of the tropical forests, glimpses of the famed Nuiana Valley may be caught—the valley of which it is truthfully said that it is never without a rainbow. To the far right the towering mountain ridges, with the Punchbowl, an extinct volcano, in the front, may be seen in all their beauty, while the hum of the busy town floats up with no discordant sound. Mr. Afong, who is vouchsafed this elysium, is a full-blooded Chinaman. With his native island spouse and a numerous family of little ones, he leads an ideal life. Mr. Afong is a solid merchant, with a stone front store on Chinatown's chief business street, and is credited with the possession of a million or two acquired in honest trade with his numerous countrymen on Oahu and its neighboring islands. He adheres to the characteristic Mongolian accoutrements, although mingling with the most important and wealthy of Hawaii's merchants, and disdaining to interfere in the varied changes in attire which Honolulu fashion dictates to his family. Mr. Afong has five daughters ranging in age from seventeen years to five. The mother and the daughters maintain a rigid adherence to the rules of fashion, and appear in the dress of white ladies and girls. When occasion demands, the lady and her older daughters are clad in as elegant raiment as is the wealthiest lady on the islands, and the demand is not infrequently made, as the family has its private carriages driven by white men, and a close observer of the merry quintet in their afternoon drive could not tell that they were not the offspring of some wealthy Caucasian. The children are all receiving tuition, and the eldest daughter, a modest and not unattractive young lady, has advanced so rapidly as to be considered well educated. The Afong family is a curiosity in its way to the unprepared visitor from San Francisco, and, although there are many wealthy Chinamen in Honolulu and on the other islands, it remains the sole instance of Chinese progression in many respects."

The Exposition and Its Results.

Chicago Standard. It is said that as a result of the "World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition" already there is renewed activity and prosperity in the South. The Exposition, the outgrowth of the New South, promises to the Southern States remarkably beneficial results. The Times-Democrat, the leading daily paper of New Orleans, and conducted with great ability, having comprehensive and liberal ideas, says in a recent number: "From every one of the fourteen Southern States we hear of practical business projects started, or about to be inaugurated. A great deal of this movement, too, is directly traceable to the Exposition. Since its opening an English syndicate has invested \$750,000 in Tennessee, and last week a distinguished party, also from Great Britain, visited Birmingham, Ala., to negotiate for property in that district, the price of which is something over \$500,000. Lands in Southern timber sections are in active inquiry. Twenty new cotton mills were started in the South last year, and the current season will doubtless witness the erection of a still larger number."

The exhibits at the Exposition from the Southern States are very complete, showing resources and possible developments which may astonish the world. We think all those kindly disposed will desire for the South that enlargement which ought to result from such magnificent enterprise as appears in the present completed Exposition. The marvelous display from the Northwestern States and Territories is attracting great attention, and, we are informed, will result in increased emigration to those sections. The contents of the Exposition are so large and varied that in the few letters we write a short account can only be attempted.

Love rules the court, the camp, the grove, but pauses abashed at the door of the hall where the suffrage convention is held.—Buffalo Express.

The Rev. T. De Witt Talmage and his family, of Brooklyn, are to pass the summer in Europe.

W. D. Howells has rented the "Old Manse" at Concord, Mass., for the season.

William S. Bissell, Mr. Cleveland's law partner, is a guest at the White House.

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OPERA HOUSE BUILDING, PALATKA.

WM. THOMPSON, Lawyer & Notary Public Has moved his office to Hart's warehouse, on the wharf, up stairs. Commissioner of deeds for New York. Special attention given to conveying, buying and selling lands and examination of titles.

E. M. RANDALL, JACKSONVILLE, JNO. T. WALKER, JACKSONVILLE, E. M. VARY, PALATKA.

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HEWSON THE PRACTICAL TAILOR Has reopened his Shop opposite The Old St. Johns Hotel, in the Miller Building. He does Good Work at Fair Prices.

Dissolution Notice. The co-partnership heretofore existing between H. L. Green and Martin Griffin, Jr., under the name of Green & Co., has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. Martin Griffin, Jr., retiring. The business will hereafter be conducted by H. L. Green, who assumes the liabilities of the late concern and will receive for outstanding accounts.

H. L. GREEN, MARTIN GRIFFIN, JR. Palatka, Fla., April 7th, 1885. In retiring I beg leave to thank the customers of the late concern for their generous patronage and respectfully solicit for Mr. Green a continuance of same. Very respectfully, MARTIN GRIFFIN, JR.

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