The Wheeling Intelligencer.

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The Intelligencer.

The Debts of Cities and Their Rates of Taxation—Wheeling Shown Up Well in Comparison.

We alluded yesterday to the fact that Wheeling carried one of the smallest debts in the country in proportion to her wealth and population. The Mayor stated her debt officially on the 11th of January last at $552,000. This is the amount less the gas bonds, which bonds are self-secured and self-supporting. The population returned last year was $28,000, and the city assessment of real and personal estate was $14,890,460. The per capita of our debt is therefore less than $20, while at Pittsburgh it is about $90, taking the census of 1870 for population, and at Cleveland about $85. The rate of taxation is less in Wheeling than the large majority of cities. Last year it was, all told, including State, county, city and school, only $1.61 on the $100, while over at Bellaire it was $2.85, and over at Bridgeport and Martin's Ferry $1.76 and $2.61 respectively.

As showing how we stand in comparison with other cities, we herewith submit the following table showing the population, debt and rate of taxation in a number of the leading American cities. We are obliged to take the census of 1870 for population, having no later data at hand.

	Populat'n	Debt.	Rate of tax on $100.
New York	942,292	$148,107,557	$2 65
Philadelphia	674,022	69,371,532	2 25
Brooklyn	396,200	42,234,330	3 24
Boston	292,497	43,923,165	1 37
Baltimore	267,354	33,344,350	1 80
Cincinnati	216,239	22,644,000	2 88
Chicago	238,977	18,056,096	1 80
Cleveland	92,829	7,261,000	1 81
Detroit	69,691	2,182,000	3 92
New Orleans	191,418	22,689,426	3 95
Indianapolis	48,244	1,455,640	1 35
Toledo	31,584	2,828,754	4 41
Memphis	40,280	5,670,000	2 00
Buffalo	117,714	7,779,791	3 55
Jersey City	82,545	14,360,000	2 68
Providence	68,904	10,134,996	1 45
San Francisco	140,173	3,266,000	2 12
Louisville	100,753	8,330,000	2 33
Milwaukee	71,440	2,421,457	2 36
Norfolk	19,299	2,150,614	2 00

We might go on and adduce the statistics of many other cities to show that Wheeling carries a small debt and is lightly taxed as compared with the large majority of them. Last year our debt was reduced $36,000, and we paid in addition, in the way of interest, about $32,000, not counting two notes of $3,000 each for the Capitol site. We will reduce the debt this year about the same, by paying $16,000 on the List and Davenport bonds, $10,000 on the Brady and Wilkinson bonds, and $10,000 on the Capitol bonds.

All we need to put our finances into desirable shape is to fund the overcheck at the Exchange Bank, of which $80,000 remains still unpaid, awaiting the sale of the remainder of the 6 per cent bonds recently put on the market. These bonds are backed by an assessment of nearly $15,000,000 of property and the pledged faith of 28,000 people. They are issued by a city that owns its own Water Works and Gas Works, and that has put up and paid for all its public buildings. They have been authorized by a vote of our people at a regular election, and in all probability they are the last bonds that the city of Wheeling will issue for many years to come. The disposition of our public is to call in and pay off bonds, and not put out more of them. This year a careful estimate of city expenditures is being made in advance, and a tax will be levied to cover those estimates as soon as they are adopted by Council. Economy is the understood motto of this city in its expenses this year.

Baltimore & Ohio stock, after an upward turn a few days ago, is down to $122 per share.

Pennsylvania Railroad sells at $71.

A statement of the bonds and stocks owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company shows the par value of the bonds to be $45,286,408, and of the stocks $51,808,836, making a total par value of $97,095,244, against a cost to the company of $70,524,809.

The Marshall County Agricultural Fair has been revived, and will be held on the grounds near Cameron, commencing on the 26th of September, and continue three days.

The card price of Bar iron was advanced to 2 cents at Pittsburgh Wednesday. It had been reduced to 1¾ only a few days before, at the Cleveland meeting of the Iron Association.

A Big Scare in Moundsville.

[Reporter of Yesterday.]

On Monday evening some of the citizens were thrown into alarm and excitement at the appearance of an army of some twelve or fifteen tramps who stopped here and conducted themselves in such a manner as to alarm some of our merchants lest they were intent on robbery. During the evening they visited stores in small squads under the pretext of making a purchase, and while the merchant was engaged some of the party would examine the door fastenings. While Mr. Alfred Tomlinson was returning home a man sprang from the roadside and attempted to seize his horse by the bridle, but Mr. Tomlinson returned to town considerably frightened, and got a friend to accompany him home. We hear of some of our merchants taking extra precaution and guarding their premises which, probably, accounts for their being no robberies. Our town was rife with rumors, next morning, but without foundation, and the army had taken marching orders during the night. 'Twas a big scare, indeed. Every one of them should have been arrested and made work on the roads.

The Way Grant Put In His Time at Washington, Pa.

[From the Observer of Yesterday.]

General and Mrs. Grant arrived Saturday evening by the Chartiers train, on a visit of a few days at W. W. Smith's. The Ex-President started from Washington City several weeks ago for a western tour. He visited Cincinnati, Chicago and Galena, Ill., in each of which places he was tendered hearty receptions. From the last named point he came here. Since his arrival he has had a very quiet time, and we presume; enjoys the relief from the attention that pursues him elsewhere. During much of the time while here he sat in Mr. Smith's office at the store, almost hidden in clouds of tobacco smoke. The couple left Wednesday for Ithaca, N. Y., where they have a son attending Cornel University. The General says he shall stay in Europe as long as his inclination dictates. If he gets tired of traveling he may return in three months, otherwise not for three years.

BY TELEGRAPH.

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER

LOUISIANA.

A Second Caucus of the Packard Legislature,

Earnest Consideration of the Situation.

One by One the Nicholls Party Gains.

Packard's Legislature Present a Dissolving View.

"And Leave Not a Wreck Behind."

New Orleans, April 19.—P. J. Watson, of Madison; R. J. Walker, of Tensas, and T. Oliver, of Concordia, Returning Board members, were seated in Nicholls' House. This completes a Returning Board quorum in both houses.

The Commissioners' report to the President by telegraph to-day includes the following letter from Gov. Nicholls, referring to the joint resolutions heretofore telegraphed:

Executive Department,
State of Louisiana,
New Orleans, April 19, 1877.

To the Hon. Chas. B. Lawrence, Joseph R. Hawley, John M. Harlan, John C. Brown, Wayne McVeigh:

Gentlemen—I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the Joint Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana. In so doing I desire to say that they express not merely abstract ideas, but the conviction of our people, which will be practically executed by them through their representatives, their courts and their executive government. As Chief Magistrate of the State, it will be not only my pleasure, but my bounden duty is to give every assistance in my power leading to that end. I am satisfied that any course of political action, traced on a narrower line than the good of the whole people, regardless of color or condition, must inevitably lead to disaster or ruin. My views on this subject were fully stated to the convention by which I was nominated and to the people by whom I was elected, and every day experience fortifies in my belief that any policy founded on these principles, must necessarily result in the attainments of the ends for which all Governments are established. I have earnestly sought to obliterate the color line in politics, and consolidate the people on a basis of equal rights, and it is a source of gratification to be able to say that this great object is about to be realized. I feel that I do but speak the sentiments of the people when I declare that their government will secure:

1. A vigorous and efficient enforcement of the laws, so that all persons and property will be fully and equally protected, and should occasion require it I will proceed in person where any disorders may menace the public peace or the political rights of any citizens.

2. The establishment of a system of public education to be supported by equal and uniform taxation on property, so that all, without regard to race or color, may receive equal advantages thereunder.

3. The fostering of immigration in order to hasten the developement of the great natural resources of the State having thus committed our government and people to these great principles.

I therefore desire to add the most emphatic assurances that the withdrawal of troops of the United States to their barracks, instead of causing any disturbance of the peace or any tendency to riot, will be a source of profound gratification to our people and will be accepted by them as a proof of the confidence of the President in their capacity for orderly self government, enjoying under the blessings of divine providence the happiness resulting from a government based upon liberty and justice. The people of Louisiana cannot fail to appreciate that their good fortune is largely due to the magnanimous policy so wisely inaugurated and so consistently maintained by the President.

I have the honor to be
Your obedient servant,
Francis T. Nicholls.

DISSOLVING VIEWS.

New Orleans, April 19.—The Packard Legislature is rapidly dissolving. Sixty-five or sixty-six of the Returning Board members are in the Nicholls House.

INEXPEDIENT TO PUBLISH.

Washington, April 19.—Telegrams were received by the Pesident from the Louisiana Commission yesterday afternoon, last night and to-day. It is not considered expedient at present to furnish their contents for publication, but assurance is given in official quarters that their tenor warrants the assertion that the prospect of a settlement of the affairs continues to improve, and the indications are that beyond a doubt the labors of the Commission will have a satisfactory end.

New Orleans, April 19.—The Commissioners talked freely to the Agent of the Associated Press this afternoon, believing that the end of their labors were near. They have been necessarily more or less reticent hitherto, for their efforts have been largely through individual conversation, and to publish their appeals and suggestions in advance of any evidence of their acceptability would have defeated their object. They strenuously endeavored to secure one Legislature by general consent. A reunion would be nominal and nearly valueless unless accompanied by a good degree of real conciliation and harmonious purpose. They had constantly urged on each side the duty of making the propositions tending to the removal of difficulties through the work of the citizens of Louisiana. They believe that the National government has desired to accept what Louisiana should have prevented rather than dictate what Louisiana should do, and that no settlement offered on the State by military power could establish justice and peace. They have tried not so much for detailed plans of any kind as to soothe passionate feelings and create a desire for peace and union; they have not believed that mere treaties based on an allotment of office could reach the desired end, but they found so great a diversity of opinion among the Republicans and Democrats that party lines were often invisible. Neither party is a unit. They believe that no attainable result, whether enforced from outsiders or brought about by the forces within, could be satisfactory to the whole of either party. They all speak with respect of the personal bearing of both Packard and Nicholls. The letter of Nichools appears to please them, and they speak of him as an honorable soldier, whose sincerity and high courage cannot be doubted. Unquestionably he will do his utmost to carry out the policy to which he so frankly commits himself, and he is sustained by the best moral and intellectual elements of his party.

A large number of Republicans have from the beginning accepted his Governorship as inevitable, and said it would not only bring present peace, but make a great step forward in the protection of the people, and to a reorganization of both parties, under which all sides would as a matter, both of policy and duty, protect the personal and political rights of all the voters. The Commissioners are in good spirits over the present aspect of affairs.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO PACKARD.

A commission of colored ladies, mostly wives of prominent colored citizens, presented Gov. Packard an address commending his efforts in the maintenance of the cause of the Republican government in Louisiana, assuring sympathy, and, through him, tender the members of the Legislature who stood by him every aid and encouragement in their power to bestow; tender to the needy board and lodging, and to the sick every attention possible. Among the signers are Mrs. Gov. Antoine, Mrs. Senator Burch, Mrs. Jas. Lewis and Mrs. G. W. Brown.

Several additional members from the St. Louis Hotel were seated in the Nicholls Legislature to-day, giving them 65 Returning Board members in the House and 22 in the Senate.

ANOTHER CAUCUS.

The Packard Legislature met in caucus to-night and adopted the following, on motion of Mr. Dinkgrave, of Madison: The members of the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of Louisiana, meeting in caucus in the State House, in the city of New Orleans, this 19th day of April, 1877, adopt the following statement as expressing their views of the present conditioe of affairs in this State:

1. They have an unalterable faith in the integrity and justice of the claims of S. B. Packard and the government of which he is the head to be the legal government of the State of Louisiana, legally returned legally installed and legally embodying the will of a majority of the people.

2. That the disintegration of the legal general assembly meeting in the State House, and acknowledging the authority of Gov. Packard, recently witnessed, has been brought by the direct agencies of gentlemen, citizens of other States, sent here by the President with instructions, which have been only partially made known, and the nature of which can be only inferred by the actions of said Commission, their expressed opinions, and the agencies they have employed; chief among these we will enumerate the following, on the evening of Tuesday the 17th day of April, on which day the pretended house of Representatives, supporting the claims of Nicholls to the Governorship, was without a semblance of a legal quorum, as it has continuously been since organization. Certain members of the Commission appointed by the President, requested a consultation with the members of the General Assembly. Some twelve members of the House and two members of the Senate responded to this invitation to them. The members of the Commission, known as belonging to the Republican party, stated that the terms offered by the Nicholls Legislature, which included the seating of three Democratic members from the city of New Orleans notoriously defeated even according to Democratic claims, but the recognition of whom was requisite to give even a show of legality to the organization of the Nicholls House, were the best and only terms they could procure. They distinctly recommended the Republicans assembled by their invitation to accept these terms, and Mr. McVeigh, one of the members of the Commission, whilst refraining from openly endorsing the proposition, empuasized it with this remark: "If there is any member of the Legislature who entertains the most lingering hope that the troops are going to remain, for God's sake disabuse him of that idea, for they are going to be removed."

4. That as a direct result of this intimation and implied threat of the President's Commission, several members of the legal Legislature have to-day joined the so-called Legislature of General Nicholls.

5. We therefore, charge upon these gentlemen if, as they assert, they have acted simply in their individual capacity, an unwarrantable interference with the domestic affairs of a State to which they do not belong, and of a flagrant violation of the principle of local self-government of a State. If on the other hand their action, in the manner set forth, has been directed by the chief executive of the nation we leave it to be characterized in befitting terms by the American people. They evidently feel that their mission here has ended and they have, in all probability, so reported to the President.

A Successful Murphy Campaign at Marietta.

Special to the Intelligencer.

Marietta, April 18.

The great temperance reform inaugurated in this city by Jas. Cunningham, jr., of your city, assisted by T. L. Noble, closed their meetings in the City Hall last night. They now proceed to Beverly and thence to Parkersburg. Immense success here. The closing scenes last night were the most imposing ever seen in our City Hall. H.

An Inquiry and an Answer.

Washington, April 19.—Governor Kellogg to-day received the following telegram from New Orleans:

"Please inquire of President Hayes if it is by his direction that the commissioners recommend the members of the Packard Legislature to join Nicholls. Two of our trusted men left to-day under such persuasions."

Kellogg replied:

"If it be true that the commissioners are so doing, I am satisfied that they are acting on their own instructions, and without instructions from the President."

Weather Indications.

War Department,
Office of the Chief Signal Officer,
Washington, D. C., April 20—1 a. m.

PROBABILITIES.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, partly cloudy or clearing weather, with north to west winds, rising barometer, and stationary or slightly rising temperature.

For the Lower Lakes, light rains, northwest to northeast winds, with a slight rise in temperature and slowly rising barometer, followed by clearing weather during the evening.

Arrest of Counterfeiters.

Indianapolis, April 19.—Lyde Levi, Mrs. Clarissa Lee, sister of Levi, her daughter Alice and Missouri Rittenhouse, were arrested at Osgood, Ripley county, yesterday by U. S. detective Rathburne, charged with counterfeiting, and brought here last evening. They are supposed to be a part of the Pete McCartney gang. Their examination will take place before U. S. Commissioner Knefton to-morrow. A telegram this morning reports the arrest of F. A. Domen and Mr. Hammond, of the same gang.

Best Time Yet.

San Francisco, April 19.—At Sacramento to-day Molly McCarty, Lady Amanda, Council Bluff and Wheatley ran two miles and repeat. Mollie won in two straight heats. Time, 3:38 and 3:36¼, the best recorded time in the State.

Marine Intelligence.

London, April 19.—Steamers Othello and Utopia, from New York, have arrived out.

Philadelphia, April 19.—Arrived—Steamer Nederland from Antwerp.

THE ST. LOUIS FIRE.

Further Investigation by Coroner.

Statements of Numerous Witnesses.

St. Louis, April 19.—The Southern Hotel inquest was resumed this morning. Eustache J. Cooper, General Travelling Agent of the Burlington and Cedar Rapids Railroad, gave a vivid description of his experience at the fire. The material part of his testimony was that he was awakened by the scream of women in the hall; got down to the parlor floor with part of his clothes on his arm by groping through the halls in the densest smoke he ever saw. There he met twenty or thirty persons in the greatest excitement, and a man, whom he afterwards learned was George Darling, was telling them that there was no danger; that there had been a fire in the basement, but it was all out; that if there was much fire there would be less smoke, and that they could return to their rooms.

The remainder of the morning session was taken up in examining the persons who identified the bodies of H. J. Clark and wife, and also with a lengthy description of the fire annunciator in the house, given by Charles Heisler, its its inventor.

Mr. Hessler explained the construction of the machine: It was operated by electricity and designed to give warning at the office whenever a room or part of the house connected with it reached a temperature higher than the one for which the instrument was set. It was very delicately adjusted and reliable if properly attended to. In this case it had been neglected.

Charles A. Spaulding, manager of the Olympic Theatre, was a boarder in the house; heard the cry of fire; ran out of the room and rushed down stairs to the parlor floor, where there were perhaps 100 people in various stages of excitement. Heard George Darling try to quiet the women by telling them that there was no danger, that the fire was out and so on.

Jos. Crawsham, who put the gas pipe in the house when it was built, said the large meter which supplied the main part of the hotel, was situated very near the freight elevator. If the connections with this meter were melted off during the fire, there was a volume of gas added to the flames sufficient to supply from 2,000 to 2,500 burners. The witness thought that all large gas meters should be placed under the sidewalk.

Chas. E. Barney, of the firm of Scruggs, Vandevoorte & Barney, had boarded at the hotel five or six years, and was awakened by the cries of fire; he threw his over-coat over his wife's head and started for the lower floor; at the foot of the stairs, on the parlor floor, he met Darling and several others; Darling said, Don't be excited; there is no danger; the fire is out. About two minutes later met Capt. Warner, who said the fire was greater than was supposed, and advised him and others to leave the house at once, which they did, passing out by the Fifth street or ladies' entrance.

Charles H. Shepperd, cashier and one of the proprietors—Roomed on the sixth floor; was awakened by a night bell-boy; don't know the time; the boy said there was a fire in the store room; told him to call Russell, the engineer, and have the water turned on; started for the office floor, and was nearly stifled by the smoke in getting there; on arriving at the office, tried to open the safe, but there was so much smoke could not see combination; saved some books and helped two or three persons out of the house; gave no orders to any one while at the office to have the guests aroused and notified of the fire; tried to ascend the main stairway to the parlor floor, but could not get up on account of the smoke. The fire annunciator had been in use about three weeks, but it was not regular in its operation and gave false alarms. It gave no warning that night until the fire was under headway. I had spoken to Mr. Hessler, the maker of it, a day or two before about its bad working and asked him to fix it. John Davis, saloon keeper, was at the fire and assisted in rescuing several ladies from the building; heard Geo. Darling tell the people on the parlor floor that there was no danger and not to be alarmed.

Ohio Legislature.

Columbus, O., April 19.—In the House, Senate bill to take from municipalities the power to adopt an ordinance forbidding locomotives or cars to pass through cities of 2,000 inhabitants at a less rate of speed than four miles an hour, and through towns of large size at a less rate of speed than eight miles an hour, was passed. House bill to make it a penitentiary offense to falsify election returns was also passed. House bill to make it a misdemeanor for engineers to abandon their engines at points other than their destination was defeated. Senate bill to punish the practice of resorting to distant courts to deprive citizens of Ohio of their rights under the State laws was passed. Senate bill to authorize free banking was pased. House bill revising and amending the militia laws was passed. House bill to authorize Boards of Education to contract with publishers for furnishing school books for use in common schools was passed.

In the Senate the General Appropriation bill was passed with numerous amendments. Senate bill to authorize narrow-gauge railroads to issue bonds was passed.

Kennedy & Co. Propose a Compromise.

New York, April 19.—The auction sale of securities, which were collateral in the loan made to H. Kennedy & Co., and which sale was advertised to be made to-day, was adjourned to Saturday next. The list of securities to be sold included 6,700 shares of Chicago & Northwestern common stock. An effort is making among the creditors of Kennedy & Co. to effect an arrangement which will render the sale unnecessary. The belief in the success of this arrangement has favorably influenced the market price of the securities in which Kennedy & Co. were chiefly interested. Coal stocks were heavy today nowithstanding the official denial yesterday of the stock jobbing rumors concerning Morris & Essex and Delaware, Lackawanna & Western. Kennedy & Co. have made an offer to pay 33⅓ per cent in cash, and to give their notes for six and twelve months for the balance of their indebtedness. They say they will be able to pay 100 cents on the dollar provided the banks, which hold their collateral as security for loans, don't press them too hard.

Typographical Schedule.

New York, April 19.—The Typographical Union of this city has adopted a new and reduced scale of prices. For daily morning papers, 46 cents per 1,000 ems, and for daily evening and weekly papers 35 cents. While it was deemed unwise to fix any definite rates for book work, owing to the great depression, a general wish was expressed that some agreement be arrived at between the employers and employes.

A Handsome Benefit.

St. Louis, April 19.—The benefit at De Bar's Opera House last night for the destitute servant girls of the Southern Hotel was a very generous one. The house was filled in every part, everything was volunteered, and the net proceeds will probably reach $2,500.

WASHINGTON.

The Banquet of the Grand Dukes

Washington, April 19.—There will be thirty-eight guests at the banquet this evening at the Executive Mansion in honor of Grand Dukes Alexis and Constantine. The number will include the Russian Legation, Diplomatic Corps, members of the President's Cabinet, Admiral Porter and the Justices of the Supreme Court.

COUNTERFEIT COIN.

Reports to the Treasury Department show that the counterfeiting of coin, principally silver, is increasing fast. A report from the Black Hills mentions the coinage of counterfeit $5 pieces and some arrests.

BITTER FRUITS OF OFFICE-HOLDING.

The Treasury Department is besieged to-day by persons dismissed yesterday from the Engraving and Printing Bureau, who make piteous appeals for reinstatement, but in all cases are told that nothing can be done, and in not less than two weeks two-thirds as many more employes will be discharged, who will be forced to seek other employment. One lady presented to Gov. McCormick a letter from President Hayes, saying that he knew the applicant and was personally cognizant that it was a very sad case, but at the same time saying that he was not suggesting any deviation from the rules adopted for the good of the public service, only hoping that the applicant may be considered in the future if consistent with Government interests. Another lady approached the Assistant Secretary, saying: "Here is a letter signed by two gentlemen that I think ought to be effective in having me reinstated if anything could." The endorsements upon it were Senators Thurman and Sherman. Gov. McCormick said it was not possible to make it effective on this occasion.

RESISTANCE TO THE REVENUE LAWS.

The Internal Revenue office has received news that efforts are making in North Carolina to prevent the revenue officers, who have recently made arrests of persons engaged in the illicit manufacture of whisky and tobacco in that State, from appearing at the session of the U. S. Court at Greensboro next week as witnesses against persons who have been arrested. The information sent here is that these persons have procured as many as fifty warrants for the arrest of Major Wagner and various Deputy Marshals who have been with him to arrest the illicit distillers. The warrants charge that the arrests were made by Wagner and his partners in violation of the State law. The Internal Revenue Commissioner has accordingly written to Wagner ordering him to stand firm in the discharge of his duties, and telling him the Department will protect him against all malicious proceedings.

TREASURY REMOVALS MADE WITH DELIBERATION AND CARE AND ADHERED TO.

Secretary Sherman says he never suffered more pain in his life than he did in the recent removal of employes, so many of whom are helpless, poor and needy. His predecessor had testified and told him that the force must be reduced, and when he entered the office he appointed three of the most trustful officers of the department to make an examination and to select those who were either not needed or were least efficient in the department. This was done. He held the list for weeks, and handed it over to Governor McCormick when he became Assistant Secretary, by whom it was carefully examined and held till delay was inexcusable. The removals having been made with the greatest care, the Secretary has refused in every case to restore any one on the list, although some of them had been appointed on his recommendation and many of them were cases of extreme hardship. The force has to be further reduced, for the employment is not sufficient and the supply of notes is far in advance of their need. There was no other way but to reduce the force to a barely sufficient number to do the work.

MAGNIFICENT STATE DINNER IN HONOR OF THE RUSSIAN GRAND DUKES.

A magnificent state dinner was given at the Executive Mansion this evening in honor of Grand Dukes Alexis and Constantine. There were also present the Russian Minister and his wife, Sir, Edward and lady Thornton, representing the Diplomatic Corps, Admiral Boutakoff, of the Russian navy, Admiral Porter and General Sherman, Chief Justice Waite and daughter, Secretary of State and Mrs. Evarts, Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Sherman, Secretary Schurz and daughter, Secretary of War and Mrs. McCrary, Postmaster General and Mrs. Key, Secretary of the Navy and Attorney General, together with the President and Mrs. Hayes, Mr. Webb Hayes, Colonel Casey and wife, T. R. Rogers and Major Andrews, of the President's official household, and Misses McFarland, Foote and Platt, of Ohio, who have for some weeks been guests of Mrs. Hayes at the Executive Mansion. The President and Mrs. Hayes received their company in the blue parlor, and the dinner was given as usual in the state dining-room, which was superbly decorated with flowers for the occasion. The full marine band furnished music and after dinner the guests repaired to the East room and remained there a short time engaged in social conversation and promenading. The Grand Dukes and Mr. and Mrs. Shiskin took their departure for the Russian Minister's residence about half past 10 o'clock and the remainder of the company dispersed soon afterwards.

CANADA.

A Railroad King in Trouble.

Montreal, April 19.—The contestation of the attachment against Hon. Asa B. Foster, the Canadian railroad king, was filed to-day. The writ was issued at the instance of Mr. Balker, an English member of Parliament for Middlesborough, on Mr. Lee, iron manufacturer, from whom Senator Foster, purchased his interest in the Canada Central Railroad for $1,000,000. Foster's liabilities to Balker were increased by the purchase of $1,250,000 worth of iron rails. His assets consists in his professed ownership in a large number of Canadian railroads. His household effects in his $140,000 masion have been sold to meet the claim of Mopsen's Bank. Alderman Foster, of Marshall, brother of Senator Foster, has also gone into bankruptcy.

RAILROAD POOL.

Toronto, April 19.—A cable dispatch says it is understood that Mr. Childers is to become President of the amalgamated grand trunk and great western boards. It has been agreed that the receipts of the two roads shall be pooled, the Grand Trunk receiving 65 per cent and the Western 35.

Cotton Report.

New Orleans, April 19.—Statement of the National Cotton Exchange of America:

New Orleans, April 19, 1877.

Net receipts at United States ports from September 1st to March 31st, 3,757,691 bales; stock at U. S. ports March 31st, 724,018 bales; total overland direct from producers to March 31st, 505,347 bales; shipments direct to mills to March 31st, 246,295 bales; in transit to delivery ports March 31st, 15,506 bales; foreign exports and Canada to March 31st, 2,416,520 bales; in transit between delivery ports March 31st, 8,924 bales; taken by Northern spinners from ports March 31st, 722,600 bales.

What John Kelly Says About the Tweed Confession.

New York, April 19.—John Kelly, Comptroller of New York, who has seen the confession of Tweed as prepared for and presented to Attorney General Fairchild, says the publication the other day was a correct abstract in so far as it goes, with the exception of the reference to Judge Folger. Mr. Kelly added that the confession stated that Tweed gave the $200,000 to Winslow in 1871, to be used for procuring the passage of a charter. That Winslow afterward told him that this money was divided between the persons named. Tweed also says he paid various amounts to Wood, Frost, Morgan, Blood, Bevis and the others mentioned. These sums, I understand, were exclusive of the $200,000 named above. In the Assembly of 1871, he says he paid various amounts to William D. Murphy, William C. Jones E. Nelson, and one Crack, as well as to other members of the House, whose names are given in the document. These are all the names that are now made public. The names of between 250 and 300 persons to whom he says he paid money for corrupt purposes are given in the confession. They embrace the names of prominent persons of both parties in this city and in the State, many of them not heretofore suspected of any complicity in the frauds. The confession will enable the counsel who are defending the suits against the city to successfully resist the payment of several claims founded on transactions of the broken Tammany ring, and amounting to between $25,000,000 and $30,000,000, one-half of the total amount received by the suits against Tweed. He proposes to return every thing he holds, but it apparently amounts to comparatively little. He says his property, which consisted almost entirely of real estate, has been almost entirely disposed of by fees to lawyers, the expenses of his long imprisonment and escape, and the depreciation in value of real estate. He says he transferred a large part of his property to his son to enable him to go on his bond, but he subsequently sold it in his behalf to pay the expenses enumerated, and much of it at one-third its value. He gives a detailed list of what he now has, including his Lake Mahopec property and several lots in Brooklyn. The estate on the Sound, he says, was bought entirely in his wife's name long before these fraudulent transactions, and that it has since stood, and now stands, in her name, and over it he has no control. He cannot say what the value of the property which he proposes to turn over to the city may now be.

Comptroller Kelly says that the confession was not submitted to L. C. O'Conner before being sent to Albany. Mr. O'Conner retired absolutely from the case some time since, and the whole responsibility now rests on the Attorney General. There is another information that some person has approached several of those named in the confession, both in this city and Albany, and has exhibited some of the original checks which have since been transmitted to the Attorney General. Mr. Hastings, in an interview, referred to this person, charging him with attempt to blackmail, and the same charge is understood to be made by others approached by him.

NEW YORK.

Failed for $100,000.

New York, April 19.—Rothschild, Heymann & Co., dry goods importers, failed; liabilities are reported to be over $100,000.

A 160,000 SUSPENSION.

The suspension of Baldwin & Flagg, hat manufacturers of Yonkers, is announced; liabilities are said to be about 160,000.

SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

Josiah Hart, manager of the Eagle Theatre, has served Miss Anna Dickinson with papers in a suit for damages, growing out of the abrupt termination of her dramatic engagement.

TERRIBLE DEATH.

John B. Young, aged 58 years, of Cincinnati, while visiting the law office of R. L. H. Finch, on the third floor of 202 Broadway, about 6:15 p. m. yesterday, fell from the front window, out of which he had been looking and was fatally injured. In falling he struck on the iron gas lamp fixture, upon which he was impaled, the sharp iron passing through his abdomen and appearing at his back.

Engineers' Strike—The Brotherhood Still Firm—Scarcity of Engineers for Coal Trains—Probable Suspension of Mining Operations.

Pottsville, April 19.—There are no new developments in the engineers' strike to report from this end. The Brotherhood men are working hard to induce those at work to join their cause, with but little success. All trains are nearly on time. At Pala Alto there are a large number of loaded coal cars. All the cars standing waiting for engines are taking up so much room that the tracks are blockaded. This, it is thought, will compel the suspension of mining operations by Saturday, throwing thousands of men out of work.

PROPOSITION OF THE BROTHERHOOD ENGINEERS.

Reading, Pa., April 19.—Two of the leading members of the Reading Division of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers authorize the publication of the following proposition to General Manager Watson: The insurance circular of the Reading Railway Company to be withdrawn; the company to pay the engineers the same wages they were receiving when they withdrew from their employ, and a promise that there will be no further reduction of wages. The engineers agree on their part that they, their firemen and all other old employes will return to work, and there will be no strike at any time if the above conditions are not broken by the company.

Sam Tilden Wants Field in the Next Congress.

New York, April 19.—An Albany special to the *Times* says: Congressman-elect Nicholas Muller, of the First district of New York, is now in Albany, and accompanying him is a rumor, pretty well authenticated, that he is considering the proposition made to him to resign his seat in Congress and aid in the election of David Dudley Field to his place. Mr. Tilden is said to be very anxious to have Field in the next Congress, for some unknown reason, and he has conceived the project of getting him there through the resignation of Muller.

Albany, N. Y., April 19.—Congressman Muller emphatically denies that he intends resigning his seat in Congress.

Cooper's Strike.

Cleveland, April 19.—About 1,500 cooper's in the employment of the Standard Oil Co., in this city, struck this evening on account of 10 per cent reduction in their wages. The Standard Oil Co. have a large number of barrels in stock. Their business will not be embarrassed by this strike.

Obituary.

Columbia, April 19.—C. P. Pelham, formerly professor in the old South Carlina College, died to-day.

San Francisco, April 19.—Col. Garrett Dunn, who during the late war commanded the 2d Regiment of Meagher Irish Brigade, of New York Volunteers, died in this city to-day of consumption.

FOREIGN NEWS.

EASTERN QUESTION.

London, April 19.—Russia is negotiating an alliance with Persia and the Shah is offering 50,000 men to join the army in Anatobia. Hostilities have commenced around Nellsie. Abdul Kerim has arrived at Silistria. The troops are very enthusiastic.

Berlin, April 19.—The *National Zeitung* learns that the Czar will not travel through Moscow, going to Kischeneff, which occasions considerable surprise in Russia. It is stated, however that the Czar will make a short stay at Kischeneff, visit Moscow returning, and issue his war manifesto there.

SUSPENDED SERVICE.

Constantinople, April 19.—The Russian Steamer Company has announced the suspension of their service. The last boat to Odessa sails Friday.

INTERESTED NEUTRALITY.

Pesth, April 19.—A communication published by the official papers declares that Austro-Hungary will only remain neutral so long as its interests in the East are not menaced.

Orsova, April 19.—Roumanian troops are concentrating in Little Wallachia. The greater portion are being dispatched to Kalafat.

Bucharest, April 19.—Prince Charles will start for Kaloff early next week. The Prince is not expected to go to pay a complimentary visit to the Czar when the Czar is near the Roumanian frontier, but will send an aid-de-camp and the Minister of Foreign Affairs to represent him.

RUSSIA'S LINE OF OPERATION IN ASIA.

London, April 19.—Captain Burnaby returned last evening from his tour in Asia Minor. He says, that if Russia determines to advance on Van, through Hoy, Persia being Russias' ally and affording every facility for the Russian troops to pass through her Territory, Van must undoubtedly fall. There is nothing to prevent the Russians capturing Bataum from the landside. An attack on the Sea front is unlikely, because Bataum is considered inpregnable there and the Russians can't cope with the Turkish Black Sea fleet. The Russians having possession of Erzeroum and Van can easily advance to Trebinzond. There is a good road between Erzeroum and Trebinzond, thus the chances are decidedly in favor of Russia, if she attacks Turkey in Asia Minor, as the Turks have not the forces to oppose them and are without cavalry. It is to be feared that cruel massacres of the Christians by the Kurdish troops in the Turkish army may follow.

Belgrade, April 19.—The rainy season will probably delay a general advance into the alluvial plains of Roumania, where the roads are impassable after the heavy rains. The Danube is also very high and rising rapidly. It is therefore scarcely probable that any extensive military movements will be attempted for three weeks at least.

Constantinople, April 19.—Layand is expected to-night. He will have an audience with Edhem Pasha and Safnet Pasha to-morrow, but no hope is entertained of averting war. Hobert Pasha, Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish navy, has left for the Danube. The plague is increasing in Bagdad. The reported engagement near Nicsics is false.

AUSTRIA PREPARED.

Berlin, April 19.—The *Zeitung* says news has been received from well informed persons that Austria is sufficiently prepared with a military force to prevent any outbreak. The passage of the Danube by the Russians would probably be the moment for Austria to cross Bosnia to the Herzegovinian frontier. This would not be an act directed against Russia, and would be far from being intended to impede Russian operations in Bulgaria. Its only purpose would be to secure the Austrian interests in case Russia should obtain military successes. If the circumstances in Servia should render it necessary, Austria might occupy Bosnia at a still earlier period.

ENGLAND.

Not True.

Liverpool, April 19.—The *Courier* says its statement of the failure of the firm of Gholson, Walker & Co., merchants, was untrue.

MINE DISASTER.

London, April 19.—An explosion and inundation at the Traleyrhiew colliery, at Pouty Pridd Wales, April 11th, imprisoned nine men behind a column of coal forty yards thick. Continuous operations for their rescue resulted in opening communication with them to-day. Five were found alive. Four wandered to other parts of the mine and, it is believed, perished.

ENGLISH VIEW OF TREATIES.

In the House of Lords this evening Lord Stratheden moved for copies of the treaties and other papers which authorize England to intervene in behalf of the Christians in Turkey. He expressed the belief that through these international obligations the war ought to be still averted. Others spoke in opposition to this view. Lord Derby said that he did not think Austria or France would require England to fulfill the treaty of Paris. The opinions of those best informed in regard to the diplomatic situation did not give sanguine hopes of averting the war. England did not wish to intervene, but reserved to herself the right to protect the English interests if they were threatened.

London, April 19.—At the Stock Exchange there is an important recovery in prices on Continental buying and purchases to cover recent speculative sales.

A COLLISION MOMENTARILY EXPECTED.

London, April 19.—A special from Vienna reports that the Montenegrin corps, under Gen. Vukotish, is concentrating at the mouth of river Dugan, a short distance from the Turkish troops. A collision is momentarily expected. The Prince of Montenegro is about to go into camp before Nicsics.

A *Standard* dispatch from St. Petersburg announces that Lord Loftus, the British Ambassador, is on point of leaving for his home. This indicates that there is no change in satisfactory relations existing between England and Russia.

ITALY.

Rome, April 19.—Depritis, President of the Council and Minister of finance, told the Financial Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, that the Ministry foresaw the present phase of the eastern question when the budget was submitted to the Parliament. He hoped that the war would be localized, that it would only be in the event of the Russian army marching upon Constantinople, that the situation might threaten to give a grave character and more extended complications ensue. The Government therefore didn't propose to modify its financial plans. The Deputies recommended the committee however, to examine the budget with the greatest care, in order that in all contingencies there might be means of meeting the unforseen expenses.

FRANCE.

Ordered to Their Regiments.

Paris, April 19.—The military attaches of the Russian embassy and all the Russians belonging to the imperial army, received orders to join their respective corpse immediately. The majority of the Republican deputies have resolved, that immediately after the reassembling of the Chamber, to question the Minister of foreign affairs, relative to the proper policy for France to follow in the present crises. The object is to afford the Government an opportunity of declaring formally the firm determination of France to observe the most rigorous neutrality on the eastern question. It is stated that the Government is desirous of making such a declaration, and will at the same time assure the Chamber of the good relation existing between France and Italy.

AUSTRIA.

Fifty Years of Military Service.

Vienna, April 19.—The Emperor of Austria has written a letter to Arch Duke Albert, commander-in-chief of the army, congratulating him on the 50th anniversary of his entrance into the military service. Arch Duke Albert to-day received representatives of the army, and in reply to their congratulations urged the cultivation of ancient Austria's soldier-like spirit, for with that victory would never fail them.

Sentence Commuted.

Richmond, April 19.—The sentence of Miles Reddick, a negro, who was to have been hung on Tuesday for the murder of another negro, has been commuted to life imprisonment.

CELEBRATION.

To-morrow the colored people will celebrate the anniversary of the adoption of the 14th and 15th amendments by a parade of all the societies in the city.

MINOR TELEGRAMS.

Columbus, O., April 19.—B. F. Martin, of Columbus, has been nominated by Governor Young to be Trustee of the Asylum for the Blind.

Columbus, O., April 19.—The Republican State Central Committee met here to-day, and decided to hold the next State Convention on the 1st of August at Cleveland.

New York, April 19.—Rev. John Lancaster Spaulding, appointed Bishop of Peoria, will be consecrated in the Cathedral here, on Sunday next, by Cardinal McCloskey, assisted by Bishop Foley, of Chicago, and other doctors of the Church.

Cleveland, O., April 19.—George F. Ridont, of Bowdoin, Maine, and going to California, shot himself on Lake Shore train No. 1, near Painesville, Ohio, about 6 o'clock this morning. The wound is not dangerous. His conduct indicates insanity.

Washington, D. C., April 19.—The Secretary of the Navy was in his office to-day. Captain Barrett, commanding the steamer Plymouth, sends to the Navy Department a glowing account of his trip up the Mississippi, and the enthusiastic welcome of his vessel at all points.

River News.

The Emma Graham passed down about 8 a. m.

The M. S. Thanhouser arrived from below with a barge loaded with salt.

The Eagon left for Parkersburg at her usual hour.

The Express passed down last night, en route to Parkersburg.

The Hudson will be due from Cincinnati to-day.

The Science is the regular Parkersburg packet this morning.

The Nail City will leave for St. Louis to-day or to-morrow, with a good trip of nails, glassware and miscellaneous freight.

The Mollie Moore, en route from Pittsburgh to St. Louis, passed down about noon yesterday.

Steam was got up on the Gen. Custer yesterday to have her boilers inspected, when some defective caulking in the mud drum was developed, occasioning considerable delay. She has her cargo on board, and will depart just as soon as she can be got ready—possibly she may have departed some time last night. Her freight, all of which goes clear through to Fort Benton, consists almost entirely of Pittsburgh manufactures.—*Yesterday's Commercial Gazette.*

The marks last night indicated 8 feet and still falling.

New lights have been established between Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, as follows:

Goose Island—New light on the Ohio side, at the mouth of the little run abreast the head of Goose Island.

Vanceburgh—New light on the Kentucky side at Vanceburgh Landing.

[By Telegraph.]

Pittsburgh, April 19.—River 5 feet and stationary. Weather cloudy, with indications of rain.

Memphis, April 19.—River 32 feet 10 inches, having risen 4 inches. Weather rainy; mercury 64°. Arrived—Maumelle, from the Arkansas river; Grand Tower, from Vicksburg; Parker, from Cincinnati. Departed—Kellogg, for the Illinois river; Alice Brown and Yeager, for New Orleans; Carondelet, for St. Louis.

Cairo, April 19.—Arrived—Anderson, from Nashville. Departed—Thos. Means, for Cincinnati; Garrett, for the Wabash river; Ironsides, for the Ohio river. River 38 feet 8 inches and falling. Raining nearly all day; mercury 64°.

Evansville, April 19.—Cloudy; rained hard last night and to-day; mercury 58° to 70°. River 16 8-10 feet and about stationary. Up—Chas. Morgan, Maggie Smith, Arkansas Belle, Liberty No. 4. Down—Dick Johnson, Judge Fletcher, Evansville, Fawn, Grey Eagle. Business light. The Liberty went below again.

Shreveport, April 19.—Departed—Chas. Kouns, New Orleans. Weather warm.

Vicksburg, April 19.—Weather clear and pleasant. River rose 3 inches. Arrived—City of Vicksburg. Down—Bismarck, Donnally. Up—Mitchell, James Howard.

New Orleans, April 19.—No arrivals or departures. Weather clear and pleasant.

Cincinnati, April 19.—River 16 feet 10 inches and rising slowly. Weather warm and showery.

Louisville, April 19.—River falling; 8 feet 2 inches in the canal. Departed—Goff and Miller, Cincinnati; Baum, Memphis; Golden City, New Orleans. Weather rainy.

Nashville, April 19.—River 17 feet. Arrived—John Gilmore, Pittsburgh. Departed—Celina Caird.

A terrific tornado passed through Rutherford county last evening, blowing fifteen houses down, most of which were in Laveregne.

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