

SPAIN.

A Bloody Bat's Immortal-Serrano's Plan for an Assault on the Royalists.

BARCELONA, April 29, 1874. The latest despatches from the seat of war to hand this morning state that General Manuel de la Concha, with a body of republicans, numbering 20,000 men, has moved from the southeast in the direction of Valls, twenty-two miles southwest of Ruba, for the purpose of striking the Carlists in the rear.

Marshal Serrano, with a force equally as strong, is to make a simultaneous attack on the insurgents from the front.

The Carlists are reported to be strongly entrenched.

The Carlists Firm in Position.

LONDON, April 29, 1874. A special despatch to the *Daily Standard* from Bayona denies that Portuguese and San Quercio have been evacuated by the Carlists.

FRANCE.

The Postal Convention with America Signed.

PARIS, April 29, 1874. The Franco-American Postal Convention was signed yesterday by the French government. The Duke Decazes will submit it to the Assembly immediately on reconvening after recess, and request its immediate consideration.

ENGLAND.

Cheap Labor Tendered from America—Competition for the Emigrant Transit Trade—Municipal Festivities.

LONDON, April 29, 1874. A meeting of farmers was held at Newmarket yesterday to consider the present difficulties with the agricultural laborers. Among the speeches delivered was one by Mr. Wood, a native of England, but now a resident of Ohio, who offered to bring from that State any number of persons who were willing to work for fourteen shillings a week in place of the laborers now locked out.

STEAMSHIP COMPANIES' RIVALRY FOR THE AMERICAN TRANSIT TRADE. A conference of owners and agents of the steamships which ply between Liverpool and New York is in session in the former city, and will end Friday next. It is reported that the close of the conference will be the signal for a system of vigorous competition between the various lines, and that freight and passenger rates will be reduced.

MANION HOUSE FEES. A magnificent banquet and ball were given to-night by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House. Among the distinguished persons present were the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

The city was brilliantly illuminated in honor of the event.

THE ENGLISH TURF.

Close of the Epsom Spring Meeting—Race for the Great Metropolitan Stakes—Royal George the Winner.

LONDON, April 29, 1874. This was the second and last day of the Epsom Spring Meeting.

Race for the Great Metropolitan Stakes. The race for the Great Metropolitan Stakes was won by Royal George. Inquietude came in second, and Aldrich (the winner of the City and Suburban Handicap yesterday) third.

THE BETTING. The betting just previous to the start was 4 to 1 against Royal George, 3 to 1 against Inquietude, and 2 to 1 against Aldrich. Six horses ran.

THE RACE. The summary is as follows: The Great Metropolitan Stakes (handicap), of 25 sovereigns each, for three years old, to be run on the 29th of April, 1874, at Epsom, was won by Royal George, a bay colt, four years old, by Mr. J. W. S. Crawford, of the City of London, who carried off the stakes about two miles and a quarter (46 subscribers, 17 of whom pay 50 sovereigns each). Mr. W. S. Crawford's colt, Royal George, by Topolipille, dam (foaled in 1865) by Young Melbourne out of The Reformed, four years old, 1 Mr. J. W. S. Crawford's colt, Inquietude, four years old, 2 Lord Rosebery's colt, Aldrich (the Teacher), by Lecturer out of Lady Lotte, three years old, 3

CUBA.

An Extra Tax Levied on Income—Customs Duties Payments—Municipal Taxation.

HAVANA, April 29, 1874. A decree by Captain General Concha establishes an extraordinary contribution of ten per cent on all incomes exceeding \$1,000 annually. Only the army and navy are excepted. The contribution is payable in bank notes. The proceeds of the income tax is destined to the payment of the public debt and the redemption of the paper currency.

CROSSING BARRIERS. Another decree establishes the payment of duties and taxes, one-quarter in gold after the 1st of May, and one-half in gold on the 1st of July, reserving the further increase of the gold share to some future time.

IMPORTS. Merchandise imported previous to May 1 is not subject to the aforesaid schedule of duties. At pleasure the government will admit paper payment at a rate to be fixed as the equivalent of the gold share due in future.

RESERVED RIGHTS. The government reserves the right to make special laws regarding the above for such parts of the island where paper does not circulate.

City taxes are subject to the same law.

JAPAN.

Official American Report of a Provincial Insurrection—Foreign Naval Movement for the Protection of Nagasaki—War Feeling Against Korea.

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1874. Captain Calhoun, in his despatch to the Navy Department, dated March 21, says that he had received information that an insurrection was raging at Nagasaki, on the island of Kiou-Siu, and that it was reported that a number of insurgents were marching on Nagasaki; that measures were being taken to protect all foreigners, and that the British gunboat *Kingdome* and the Russian corvette *Bogatyn* were at that place.

AMERICAN AID IN THE RESTORATION OF PEACE.

He (Captain Calhoun) says: "At once ordered the *Lackawanna* to proceed to Nagasaki without delay. She arrived on the 25th ult., and Captain McCutcheon reported the excitement abating. He again reported to me, under date of March 3, that on the 27th ult. the imperial troops gained a victory over the insurgents, and on the 28th entered Nagasaki, capturing the castle, and that the insurrection was quelled. I saw where the insurrection took place, is about forty miles from Nagasaki. It was thought that the whole province of Fizen, in which Saga is situated, together with the provinces of Higo and Satsuma, the three most powerful provinces in Japan, were in revolt against the government, and that they were to be seriously disaffected, but the revolt was quickly suppressed by the government forces. The insurgents were composed chiefly of the samurai class, formerly retainers of the daimion, and were said to be trying to restore the daimion to their former authority and to make war upon Korea."

BAGDAD.

Serious Inundation from an Overflow of the Tigris.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 29, 1874. There has been a great flood at Bagdad, in consequence of the overflow of the Tigris, caused by recent heavy rains. A great amount of property was destroyed, and several persons were drowned.

MEXICO.

The Stephens Murder—Indian Troubles—A Revolutionary Leader Assassinated—American Diplomacy for National Reconciliation with France.

CITY OF MEXICO, April 29, 1874. Via Havana, April 29, 1874. Quirino Rubio, another of the murderers of the Rev. Mr. Stephens, has been condemned to death. It is reported that two Quindianajeros, who attacked the Catholics on account of the murder of Mr. Stephens have been found dead. One has been poisoned and the other has disappeared.

FRIENDLY DIPLOMACY FOR RECONCILIATION WITH FRANCE.

Secretary Fish has informed Minister Mariscal that he believed a favorable opportunity has appeared to re-establish friendly relations with France, and that the United States would lend its good offices for that purpose. Secretary Fish informed President Loring of Secretary Fish's proposal, and was answered that Mexico has already manifested a desire and was still disposed to renew the relations with those nations which had interrupted them by intervention, whenever such nations directly manifested this desire and equitable bases could be adopted.

The *Diario* (official) says since this reply no steps have been taken in this business.

INDIAN RAID.

The Apaches are raiding in Chihuahua.

ASSASSINATION.

Sotero Lozano, a famous revolutionary, has been assassinated at Tezontepec.

RESIGNED.

Escobedo has resigned the Governorship of San Luis Potosi.

THE CROPS.

The cold weather has killed the wheat crop in Michoacan.

RAILWAY CAPITALISTS CALLED ON TIME.

The concession granted to a company proposing to build Mexican railroads and requiring it to make a deposit expires on the 30th inst. The government has notified the parties to come to time. It is generally supposed that they cannot comply.

HAYTI.

The Presidential Canvass a Source of Alarm.

KINGSTON, JAM., April 29, 1874. Advice from Hayti report that disturbances are feared during the approaching Presidential election. No legislative chambers are sitting to constitutionally elect a successor to the Presidency.

FIRE.

A number of fine stores at Jacmel have been burned.

AMUSEMENTS.

The influence of a great artist on the dramatic taste of a people is aptly illustrated by the large audiences attracted to the Academy of Music by Miss Cushman's readings. It is creditable to New York, in this era of unhealthily sensationalism in the theatres, that a purely dramatic entertainment, appealing only to the intellect, can draw together, day after day, a large audience of attentive listeners—people who come to be instructed and elevated, as well as amused. Readings do not appeal to popular taste, because it is the spiritual rather than the sensual element of our nature that is appealed to; and one of the most trying tests of an artist's power and genius is to pass from the illusion of the stage to the serene realism of the reading desk. Few, indeed, have the elocutionary skill and high dramatic culture which command success in this art. The force, clearness, and precision of utterance which marks Miss Cushman's elocution is most remarkable, as well as the vigor and thought and masculine energy of the tragedienne had ample scope. It was a real treat to hear Shakespeare's masterpiece receive worthy interpretation in all its parts. Under the influence of Miss Cushman's elocution, every line acquired new power and even lines usually trusted to incompetent utilities grew into beauty and significance. It was a revelation of the full harmony of the poet's thought, and the music was poured out without a single discord. Macaulay's "Battle of Marston" and the "Deeds of the Squire" and "The Bays and I Are Out" brought the reading to a close. The audience many times interrupted the reading, and the appreciation of her genius by well deserved applause.

Italian Opera—Mignon.

Even with the cramped ideas of a librettist, the immortal creation of Goethe, in which that fantastic composer, Ambrósio, makes a success out of the most otherwise be a disastrous failure. Her impersonation of the wayward child of fortune, taken from a gypsy camp into the halls of nobility, is subtle and artistic, and, being in excellent voice and spirit, the *Diva* created quite an unusual *favor* in her impersonation. That admirable artist, Mlle. Torriani, repeated her success in the role of Frou-Frou, and Miss Cary was undeniably charming as Federico. Next to Nilsson's Mignon the feature of the opera was the singing of the principal roles, and on Sunday night Nilsson and Lucina sang a duet. On Monday, for Capouli's benefit, Nilsson, in Murska and Lucina, appeared together. After the operatic season Mr. Strakosch takes Lucina and company on a concert tour.

Musical and Dramatic Notes.

Carlotta Le Clerc is playing a very successful engagement at the Boston Theatre. The Transatlantic Novelty Combination give their farewell performance at Niblo's this evening. The Globe Theatre, Boston, is to be rebuilt on a grander scale than was the original house. The cost is estimated at \$200,000.

Pleasure seekers in general and lovers in particular find the moonlit galleries of the Colosseum a pleasant and comfortable promenade.

"Die Meistersinger," one of Wagner's pet works, has proved a disastrous failure in Berlin. The Zukertot school is dying out everywhere.

Mr. Jerome Hopkins' grand oratorio concert takes place at the Academy on Saturday night. The programme is novel and interesting.

"The Hugenots" will be given to-night at the Academy of Music by the Strakosch troupe, with Lucina, Canica, Cary, Capouli, Del Puente, Nan netti and Scolaria in the principal roles.

Bonawitz's new opera, "The Bride of Messina," has met with great success in Philadelphia, owing to the superb manner in which it was produced and the elevated character of the music.

Robertson's charming comedy, "School," takes the place of the "Veteran" at Wallack's to-night, with an unusually strong cast even for this house. Lester Wallack appears in his original character as Jack Poynt.

Mr. Tucker proposes to pay his *couverture* of the Academy of Music, Mr. Fryer, a substantial compliment by closing the Grand Opera House on next Sunday evening, the occasion of the latter's benefit.

The next colonial operatic concert will be given at the Opera House on the 10th prox.

A remarkable matinee will be given to-day at the Lyceum Theatre for the benefit of J. B. Polk, Janaschek, Nelson and Stuart Robson are on the bill. Mr. Polk is a popular and deserving artist, and the complimentary benefit tendered by his brother professionals will no doubt meet with a generous public support.

THE ARKANSAS IMBROGLIO.

A Majority of the State Senate Favoring Brooks—Expected Meeting of the Supreme Court—Arrest of a Reporter—Position of the Combatants.

LITTLE ROCK, April 29, 1874. The city is quiet. A majority of the State Senate have informed Brooks that they recognize him and will not meet in May, in accordance with the proclamation of Baxter convening the Legislature. It is said that the Supreme Court will meet on Monday and take up the Brooks-Baxter matter and settle it.

George Brown, a reporter of the *Republican*, was arrested to-day by the Baxterites and imprisoned two hours in the guard house. They told him, on releasing him, that they were going to arrest all Brooks men and their sympathizers that they could. Brown reports the guard house in a filthy state.

Baxter's sixty-four pounder is on a cart at the corner of Scott and Markham streets, covered with tarpaulin. General Churchill has established the Baxter military headquarters at Beaver, White county. General Barton has assumed command for Baxter of the Eastern department, with headquarters at Pine Bluff. It is rumored that Baxter will appoint new State officers.

Two steamers left for river to-day to bring reinforcements to Brooks' force. The band at the State House plays twice a day, and troops are continually drilling. It is now stated that the County Collector of Jefferson county managed to get his hands on the money which was to be paid to the State.

Colonel John M. Clayton, with his colored men, about 100, from Jefferson county, who reinforced Brooks' force, left with his command for home this morning. Colonel W. W. Reynolds, of Benton county, has been made brigadier general. Baxter has given the order to move to the Northwest. Business is almost fast. Notwithstanding the quietude of affairs a collision may occur at any time.

The United States troops occupy their old position at the City Hall and at the United States Court room. Baxter expected to-day one piece of artillery from below, with 200 men from Hempstead county.

Future Representations to the President or Attorney General To Be Received Only in Writing.

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1874. The statements being orally submitted to the Attorney General to parties here representing Arkansas have elicited the decision of that official that no further business of that kind can be transacted with the government. In fact, the executive coincides with him, and both are sorely tried and heartily sick of this kind of procedure and its growing frequency. All representations, therefore, have to be made in writing and directed to that effect have been given. Upon these all opinions will be proved, and based upon them also will be all decisions, if any are to be made.

THE APRIL SNOW STORM.

By the almanac yesterday was next before the last day in the second month of spring. Already the "genial season" is two-thirds gone, yet nature appears to have overlooked the progress of Sol in his return towards the northern tropic line. During the present week we have had in New York three distinct and certainly sufficiently decided snow storms, two of them occurring yesterday—one early in the day and the second in the middle of the afternoon, when the air was thick with the falling flakes, though the ground was so wet, not to say warm, as to melt it as it fell. While these unwelcome wintry visitants have fallen upon us we have also suffered from such cold winds as belong only to February or early March. Under their frosty influence neither the trees nor the ladies have shown many symptoms of donning their summer suits. Still, with the thermometer ranging in the low thirties, the belles carry muffs and the buds refuse to open their petals. The weather is marked by a peculiarly designed style in green, pink, orange and blue for the grateful inspection of Central Park visitors. The weather is marked by a peculiarly designed style in green, pink, orange and blue for the grateful inspection of Central Park visitors. The weather is marked by a peculiarly designed style in green, pink, orange and blue for the grateful inspection of Central Park visitors.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudson's Park, Herald Building:—

P. A. M. 49 33 3:30 P. M. 40 49
6 A. M. 48 33 6 P. M. 35 35
9 A. M. 52 34 9 P. M. 61 35
12 M. 48 33 12 P. M. 45 35
Average temperature yesterday 35½
Average temperature for corresponding date last year 52½

Gloomy Accounts from the Peach District—Probable Destruction of the Entire Crop—The Blossoms Likely To Be Blasted by the Storm—Financial Ruin of Many Growers Imminent.

DELAWARE, Del., April 29, 1874. Great anxiety exists here among the peach growers in consequence of the severe weather, and all assert that unless the temperature rises before morning the entire crop of Delaware will be ruined. The Messrs. Rybicki, who are the largest growers in the country, and whose extensive orchards are located in Maryland, inform me that they entertain the greatest apprehensions, and state that the next twenty-four hours will decide whether there is to be a crop or not. The thermometer at sundown stood at forty; it now stands at thirty-four and is still falling.

A WILD THUNDER STORM prevailed last night and a severe snow storm prevailed during the morning, attended with strong winds and hail. Most of the trees are in blossom, and the germs in the freezing temperature are likely to be blasted.

The utmost fear exists, because last year all the orchards in this Middle-town district utterly failed, across acres of trees bearing no fruit at all. It is a similar misfortune to the growers this season, hundreds of individuals must necessarily be involved in financial ruin. The telegraph to growers here from Middletown, Towson, Dover and Sassafras Point, Md., state that there are no indications of warmer weather, that high north and west winds are threatening, and that public reports occur, the germs must perish before daylight.

As so many people here are dependent solely upon the peach crop, and are many of them hearts through this region. To-night the air without is cold and penetrating, and the numerous parties now assembled here are entertained on a concert tour.

Snow and Rain in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 29, 1874. Snow fell here this morning for three or four hours, covering the ground, but it has now turned to rain.

Unusual Scene in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 29, 1874. A brisk snow storm prevailed here this morning. From four o'clock until ten o'clock it fell to the depth of three or four inches.

Hail Storm in Georgia.

SAVANNAH, April 29, 1874. The weather was very cold last night, and reports from southern Georgia state that a heavy hail storm occurred to-day, which has injured the crops.

Ten Inches of Snow Fallen.

LAKE MARGARIT, N. Y., April 29, 1874. A heavy snow storm set in yesterday morning about ten o'clock, and continued throughout the day and night, and at the present time it is snowing faster than at any time during the past winter. About ten inches of snow have fallen.

Hudson River Steamers Driven Ashore.

TROY, N. Y., April 29, 1874. The heavy northeast storm continues, and reports are coming in of steamers ashore along the river. The steamers A. B. Vachette and Marshal, with tow, ran aground on the east shore in New York Bay at two o'clock this morning, but got off without damage. The Thomas Powell, of the Troy line, ran ashore on Van Orden's Point, three miles south of Catskill, and her passengers and crew are being transferred to the *W. M. Train* from New York.

WASHINGTON.

The President on the Financial Need of the People.

A STABLE CURRENCY.

The Question of Restoring High Tariff on Imports.

HISTORICAL SCENE IN THE HOUSE.

A Colored Statesman in the Chair of the Speaker.

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1874.

The President on the Measure of Financial Relief Needed and Desired by the People—More Stability on the Basis of Gold and Silver—Thirty Millions of Idle Currency at the Command of the West and South.

Letters from business men, merchants and others are daily received by the President, thanking him in the most ardent manner for the veto of the Senate Finance bill. They are not limited to sections, the South and West pouring their gratitude upon the President for his action, as well as the Eastern and Middle States. The President says that it is very pleasing to him to get these assurances of the good will of the country, confirming the wisdom of his action. He did not hesitate in doing what he did, when he had carefully considered the subject, and now hoped more stability would come to our financial credit than ever before. A union was made to a compromise measure which would be acceptable to both sides. He did not know what force was intended to apply to the term compromise, unless it was an agreement to carry out the pledges of the country. That might be considered a compromise by those who originally desired a more radical measure, but he had reason to believe such legislation would meet with his approval. It has been said he promised in his last annual message to heartily support any measure Congress might decide upon. He did not intend any such construction to be put upon his language. What he did say then, and had repeatedly said in other messages, and now repeated even in the very language of that portion of the message referred to was, "The resumption of specie payments is an object devoutly to be wished for by all, and by none more earnestly than the class of people most directly interested, those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow. The decisions of Congress on this subject will have the hearty support of the Executive." If he had not made himself understood in those words, a more recent message would have cleared up any ambiguity. The one thing he had endeavored to make plain during his administration had been that he was for carrying out the solemn pledges of the government, at the earliest day possible, and a specie basis, had been uppermost in his mind whenever he sent to Congress his annual messages. He had not said what kind of a bill he would approve, and did not think it necessary to repeat his views on the subject of finance at this time. What had been the subjects of duty before him now made clearer by the light of criticism from all parts of the country, and he could with truth repeat a sentiment now, expressed when he first addressed the people as their Chief Magistrate, not to have any policy of his own as against the will of the people.

He vetoed the bill to pay Dr. J. Milton Best for loss of property during the war, because he thought it would establish a precedent fraught with danger, and not because the case was not meritorious. It was his earnest hope that Congress would dispose of the question. The redistribution of \$25,000,000 of banking currency, with \$5,000,000 of notes belonging to broken banks and banks in liquidation, in the South and West, ought to furnish for the present all that was asked for, and he had been assured since the veto of the Finance bill that the New England Banks were anxious to reduce their circulation, inasmuch as the bonds now held for circulation would be released and furnish them with a larger currency capital for loan than they now had. While our securities were worth in legal tenders sixteen and seventeen cents above par and national banking notes were bound to be secured under the existing law at so much sacrifice to the banking capitalist, he did not wonder the New England banks were anxious to cancel their notes and get their bonds. In fact this suggestion came to him early last fall, during the stringency in the money market, and he thought it worth calling the attention of Congress to in his last message. Since then he had heard nothing to change his opinion on this point.

A Liberated Slave in the Speaker's Chair—The First Negro Presiding Over the House of Representatives—Memorable Scenes.

The hall of the House of Representatives during this session has been the scene of events of more ordinary historical interest. At the beginning of the session there came the weird, attenuated form of the Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, the cynosure of all eyes. He was met by the House as he came to the privileges, extended only to one other of the fugitives, and without the usual form of drawing by lot; again when he spoke for the first time the House massed itself about him, eager to hear every word from the infirm veteran, and gave him such attention as has seldom been equalled in our Congressional halls. A few days ago the eulogy pronounced by L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi, on Charles Sumner transpired, as it were, every one present in the House. The speaker sat with folded arms and gaze intent throughout its delivery, while a silence unbroken pervaded the chamber. All this was considered eminently proper. But to-day the other scene, the emancipated negro sitting in the Speaker's chair, presiding over the House of Representatives, while Judge Parker, of Missouri, making an eloquent appeal in behalf of the Indian and elevating him to citizenship—that is the scene which will make the history of the session memorable in American annals. The honor of presiding over the House was accorded to a colored representative for the first time in the person of Joseph B. Rainey, the Representative of the First South Carolina district, who was born a slave in Georgetown in 1832. During the war he was forced to work on the fortifications of the confederates in Charleston, from whence he escaped to the West Indies, returning to his native town at the close of the war. He has been a member of Congress several times and is highly respected by the members of this House. It was to this member that the late James Brooks went at the close of the Credit Mobilier matter and thanked him for the friendship he had shown him during the discussion, and other evidences of his esteem, remarking that his conduct throughout the matter was a debt of gratitude to the House.

The Question of Restoring the Ten Per Cent Tariff on Imports—A Large Addition to the Revenue Thus Obtainable.

It is understood that the Senate Committee of Finance are favorably disposed to the views advocated by the committee of manufacturers who appeared before them to-day. The application of the Ten Per Cent Reduction law, which would be a measure of protective tariff, would have the effect of increasing the revenues to the extent of \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 and would enable the government more easily to meet its current expenses, which the Secretary of the Treasury

reports that he can barely do with much difficulty. It is known that the Secretary of the Treasury has come to the conclusion that the government cannot be run smoothly without additional taxation, and the President favors this increased ten per cent tax on imports and also a tax on tea and coffee. A policy foreshadowing and contemplating this is becoming more apparent daily, but in neither house is it believed possible that it can carry any strength which will be in favor of disturbing the present duties on the two latter named articles. The members of the Committee on Ways and Means are almost a unit against new legislation on tariff matters this session.

The Duty on Steel—A Specific Tariff Asked by Dealers and Consumers.

The room of the Committee on Ways and Means was crowded to-day with gentlemen representing the iron and steel interests. D. D. Dana, of Boston, stated the views of those who ask for a modification of the tariff on steel, so that the duty be made specific. They give, among other reasons for this request, that English steel is indispensable to the successful prosecution of their several industries, as the quality of the steel produced in this country is not such as to enable them to manufacture the first quality of axes, saws, scythes, chisels, pens and other articles that will successfully compete with those of foreign rivals, or that will satisfy the consumer; and further, as regards many articles, they are totally cut off from any export trade by the excessive cost of the only grade of steel that they can use and surround their reputation with, and as regards other articles for which there is a foreign demand their business in this is restricted by reason of the present duty on the raw material. George Barnes, representing the firm of Barnes & Co., of Syracuse, N. Y., engaged in the manufacture of knives and sickles for mowers and reapers, said the firm used 300 tons of steel a year and employ 300 hands. When they made a contract for steel it was for a year ahead. The difficulty being as to price, the agreement with manufacturers was based on the probable variations of duty. If Congress would give a specific and reasonable tariff on steel, so that they might know exactly the cost of the raw material, they could, owing to superior American skill, compete with those in foreign countries, who pay no duty. American steel is generally a dead failure. In his opinion the production of steel was not so much a matter of skill as of method; but a source of time would produce as good an article as the foreign. He had made a good cutlery as the European; but this was an exception to the rule. The prejudice here was so much against American steel for knives that their customers bound them to make the knives of English steel. The committee adjourned until tomorrow morning. The entire cast steel manufacturing interests of the country are represented by gentlemen from Pittsburgh and New Jersey. They will be heard in opposition to the consumers of steel.

The Lazy Action of Congress—Adjournment After Off-Obstinacy Threatened by the Inflationists.

Senator Morrill, of Vermont, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, complains of the tardy action of the House on the appropriations, which it has been under consideration so long and only just passed. In this connection he laughs at the idea of being able to fix a time for adjournment as early as June next. He says that according to the way business is going on, it will probably be late in August before it will be possible to adjourn, as everything will be rushed in at the last moment and there will be such a pressure that they will not know what to commence at first. Unless there is an understanding reached satisfactory to all on the currency question, there are mutterings that it will go hard with the final affirmative action on any appropriation bill which comes up, until terms are acceded to by the administration which will favor an increase of the circulation.

Developments in the Bank Note Printing—Monopoly Investigation—What Expected in the Confederate Paper Money.

The Confederate records are a never-ending source of unpleasant revelations. In how many ways they have saved the country from impositions in claims presented to the Southern Claims Commission no one can tell but the Commissioners themselves. The letter of Caleb Cushing to Jefferson Davis, though unexceptionable in its tone, was instantly construed as evidence of disqualification for the office of Chief Justice, and its production in the republican caucus of Senators will not soon be forgotten by those present. At the other end of the Capitol to-day, in the room of the Banking and Currency Committee, was a scene of similar interest to the committee and spectators. The Committee were engaged in hearing the representation of the New York bank note printing companies against the Columbia Bank Note Printing Company of this city, the question being why the printing of fractional currency, legal tenders and bonds should not be done in New York to the exclusion of the Washington company. In the midst of the argument the attorney for the Washington company produced copies of two letters addressed to C. G. Meminger, Secretary of the Treasury of the Confederate States, and E. C. Elmore, Treasurer of the Confederate Bank Note Companies, setting forth the peculiar facilities they had for printing bank notes and bonds, and the desire to serve the South by providing it with paper money, even to the extent of working day and night. The opportunity offered to know what the federal government was doing might also be relied upon as an indictment for the Confederate government, to intrust the work to one of the northern companies. The letter sent by the National Bank Note Company was written after the fall of Fort Sumter, and the other a few weeks before. The committee at once requested the Secretary of the Treasury to produce the originals from the Confederate archives in possession of the government, and to explain whether he knew of their existence. When the existence of these letters became known application was made to members of the committee for copies. Upon inquiry it was found they had been kindly loaned to the attorney of the New York companies and were not in possession of the committee.

Appropriations for River and Harbor Improvements—Action of the House Committee on Commerce.

The House Committee on Commerce have completed their River and Harbor bill (owing to the condition of the government, the committee have concluded not to report in favor of new works, but confine their recommendations to the preservation and completion of those already commenced. Among the largest items of appropriations in the bill are the following: Harbor of Refuge, Chicago, \$75,000; Harbor of Refuge, Calumet, Ill., \$25,000; St. Mary's Falls Canal, \$200,000; Harbor of Refuge, Lake Huron, \$75,000; Toledo, \$75,000; Cleveland, \$30,000; Buffalo Breakwater, \$75,000; Harbor of Refuge, Oswego, \$75,000; Falls of St. Anthony, \$50,000; Upper Mississippi, \$25,000; Des Moines Rapids Canal, \$400,000; Rock Island Rapids, Mississippi River, \$300,000; improvements Mississippi, Missouri and Arkansas rivers, \$100,000; removing Red River from the mouth of the Missouri, \$150,000; Mobile Harbor, \$75,000; Upper Mississippi, \$200,000; Appomattox, \$30,000; Cape Fear River, \$100,000; Delaware River, at Fort Mifflin Bar, \$50,000; Schuylkill River, \$30,000; Hudson River, \$40,000; Passaic River, \$30,000; White River, above Jacksonville, \$50,000; Ouse River, \$25,000; Mississippi River, \$150,000; improvement of the Great Kanawha, \$25,000; Upper Monongahela, \$25,000; Tennessee River, above Chattanooga, \$25,000; and below Chattanooga, including Muskeg Shoals, \$100,000; East River, Hell Gate improvement, \$225,000; breakwater at Block Island, \$20,000; Stonington Harbor, \$20,000; Bridgeport Harbor, \$20,000; Penobscot River, \$20,000; Portland (Me.) Harbor, \$20,000; Boston Harbor, \$100,000