THE QUESTION OF CUBA.

Exciting Crisis in the United States' Relations with Spain.

President Grant's "Attitude" Toward the Ever Faithful Island.

DON CARLOS THINKS IT MEANS WAR.

His Plan for Spanish Union in the Face of Danger from America.

The Response of Spain to the Washington Note.

FIRM BUT VERY CONCILIATORY.

HENDAYE, Nov. 17, 1875.

Intelligence from a Carlist source asserts that the letter Don Carlos recently wrote to the King did not make any proposals for an arrangement, but offered to agree to a truce should the Cuban difficulty cause a war between Spain and the United States. In that case Don Carlos, while reserving his rights to the throne of Spain, offered to unite his forces with those of King Alfonso to defend the integrity of Spanish territory.

DON CARLOS' LETTER TO KING ALFONSO—PRESIDENT GRANT'S ATTITUDE A PRELUDE TO WAR WITH SPAIN—WILL THE KING ACKNOWLEDGE THE INDEPENDENCE OF CUBA?

PARIS, Nov. 17, 1875.

The evening papers of this city publish the text of the letter written by Don Carlos to King Alfonso.

THE LETTER.

"The attitude of President Grant," the letter says, "is a prelude to war between Spain and the United States if you do not recognize the independence of Cuba. The revolution which you represent is responsible for this parricidal rebellion. Had I reigned it would not have occurred, at least not gained strength. Now, however, the integrity of the country is at stake and all her children are bound to defend it.

"Should war break out I offer you a truce as long as the contest lasts, but maintain my rights to the crown, as I retain the conviction that I shall one day wear it.

"I cannot send my loyal volunteers to Cuba, but I will defend these provinces and the Cantabrian coast, and will send out privateers manned by the indomitable population of that coast, which will pursue the merchant ships of our enemies and perhaps chase them into their own harbors. If you accept the truce let us appoint representatives to settle the conditions. If you refuse the world will be the witness that Catholic Spain has nobly done her duty."

THE CARLIST COMMUNICATION A CAUSE OF GREAT EXCITEMENT IN MADRID.

MADRID, Nov. 17, 1875.

The fact that Don Carlos has sent a letter to the King has created a great sensation here, and is variously commented upon by the newspapers.

A SPANISH ROYAL COMMISSIONER LANDED IN CUBA.

HAVANA, Nov. 17, 1875.

Señor Rubi, the Royal Commissioner, has arrived here. The military and civil authorities have saluted him.

Many good results are expected from his presence.

ACTIVITY IN THE NAVY YARDS—OFFICERS ORDERED TO SEA—IS IT A DEMONSTRATION OR PREPARATION FOR HOSTILITIES?

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 1875.

The note of preparation is sounding loudly at the Navy Yard here and elsewhere. Fourteen iron-clads have been detailed for immediate active service, including the Lehigh, the Catskill and the Montauk. The Wyoming was hauled upon the dock at the Washington Navy Yard to-day, and she will be put in commission for sea at once. The copper rolling mill, which has not been in operation for a long time, resumed work this morning. More workingmen were taken on to-day, and every effort is being made to get all available vessels under way at the earliest date. Officers who have just returned from a three years' cruise with the Asiatic squadron have been ordered to sea immediately. This fact is regarded as very significant for the reason that after a three years' cruise naval officers are allowed, in time of peace, an interval of three years' service on shore. Naval officers in town acknowledge that the activity is unusual, and go on to explain that it looks more like a demonstration than a preparation for hostilities, a destinction in terms which will strike some people as quite obscure.

LATER REPORTS OF A PEACEFUL CHARACTER—A PACIFIC RESPONSE FROM SPAIN.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 1875.

It is asserted here to-night, by parties who are in the secret of what is going on in the Navy Department, that the pacific character of the answer of the Spanish government to Minister Cushing's note has been so satisfactory that Secretary Robeson telegraphed orders this afternoon to stop all work previously ordered for getting iron-clads and war vessels ready for sea.

SPAIN'S REPLY TO MR. CUSHING'S NOTE—HIS RIGHT TO INSTITUTE COURTS MARTIAL IN CUBA JUSTIFIED BY PRECEDENTS—THE PRIVILEGES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCEDED.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 1875.

The reply of the Spanish government to the note of Minister Cushing was promptly transmitted by cable to the State Department and deciphered there this morning. It proves to be a dignified response to the demands which our government made in the matter of American interests in the Island of Cuba, and will, it is believed, dissipate all fears of trouble between Spain and the United States. The tone of the reply is firm, but very conciliatory.

THE JUSTICE OF OUR DEMAND

is not ignored. The confusion of affairs in Cuba obstructs the exercise of an impartial and prompt administration of the requirements of the treaty of 1795. Spain

DEFENDS HER RIGHT

to maintain courts martial in Cuba and cities in

SUPPORT OF HER POSITION

on this question, the fact that the United States, during and for a long time subsequent to the late war of secession, and France for two years succeeding the triumph of the republic over the Commune, and even then under the mild reign of the great and magnanimous liberal, M. Theophile Thiers, made use of similar military or extraordinary tribunals to deal out justice to public and civil enemies. In the case of France these tribunals sentenced to be shot or to be transported to Cayenne over 2,000 persons, and yet these tribunals exercised their functions after the close of the war and the advent of complete peace. Therefore Spain, in the midst of her war in Cuba, maintains the right of

USING COURTS MARTIAL

to try defenders against her laws, but readily makes the concession that American citizens can have their advocates or attorneys and produce witnesses in their own behalf, comformably to the provision of article 7 of the treaty of 1795, and "according to the regular course of proceeding in such cases," and

GIVES GUARANTEES

of such a mode of defence. Of course, in the case of Spanish subjects, no exception will be made which will allow them the enjoyment of this advantage in defending themselves against prosecution by the Spanish authorities for their offences. In these cases the advocates will be designated by the chief military authority, that is, the Captain General will appoint them. The above is

A FULL SYNOPSIS

of the answer of the Spanish government in reply to Mr. Cushing and has been deemed satisfactory enough to warrant a countermanding of the orders originally given to put our navy in preparation for such a contingency as a misunderstanding between the two governments.

GENERAL GRANT'S OFFICIAL OPINION ON THE GREAT QUESTION—WHAT THE ENGLISH PRESS SAYS ON THE SUBJECT.

[From the London Times, Nov. 6.]

As is usual in the case of troublesome communications, the Spaniards are endeavoring to minimize the importance of the opinions expressed by General Grant's government on the situation of Cuba. The date, the purport, the possible consequences of any despatch which may have proceeded from Washington, or any conversation which may have been held at Madrid, are critically discussed, and the conclusion is that, whatever may be the national longings of the American people, or the ambitious views of their statesmen, there will be no interference between the mother country and its turbulent colony. The rumor of extraordinary Spanish equipments is denied, and the nation is encouraged to believe that, now the hopes of the Carlist cause are waning, Spain will be more able to spare regiments to act against the insurgents, and the intriguers for independence or annexation will be speedily convinced that their schemes are futile. As regards the present we believe the Spaniards are right. If we look to the ultimate future we can hardly resist the conviction that Cuba will be independent or attached to the mother country by links slighter than bind the most vigorous of English colonies to the United Kingdom. These more remote developments of history are comparatively easy to divine, but the practical politician has to deal with immediate contingencies, and with regard to these the more reasonable opinion is that Spain will for some time longer be allowed to struggle on in the enterprise which has wearied her for many a year and now threatens her with exhaustion. The Spanish people will continue to spend their blood and such treasure as remains to them in dealing with a rebellion which is the more formidable because it does not present definite risings that may be suppressed or a tangible armed force that may be defeated and dispersed. It will be their fate for some time longer to deal with a deeply-rooted disease as if it could be cured by a stroke of the knife, and to believe that when they have occupied this or that district and find no overt resistance to their patrols they have re-established their authority. They will have a further term of vain hopes, exhausting efforts; of military plans destined to disappointment even when technically successful; of sanguine despatches succeeded by ominous revelations, the whole to end in the conviction that what the island was when they began that it continues to be. Another lesson they will learn is that the attitude and the expectations of the Power they most suspect remain the same, and that it has not lost by knowing how to wait.

The significance and effects of the communications alleged to have been made by the government of the United States are naturally much discussed in the Spanish press. The nation finds it consistent with its own dignity, as well as reasonable from a review of past events, to attribute comparatively little importance to them. The President is but the mouthpiece of American democracy as it speaks by innumerable ballots. All that he is politically and all that he can ever hope to be depend upon his interpretation of the popular sentiment. Now, it is well known that there has hardly been an election for the last thirty years in which the name of Cuba has not exercised an appreciable influence. The wealthy and flourishing but most restless of islands has been in American politics pretty much what Poland was to France in the last generation—something to talk about, to cheer about, to inscribe on party banners, to use as the theme of patriotic or satirical addresses. General Grant, though raised to power as a soldier and a conqueror, has, like every American who concerns himself with politics, the electioneering instinct, and takes up with Cuba for party interests. It is meant to influence votes, and when votes are influenced the purpose will be satisfied. This notion that no American government has ever really meditated an interference between the Spanish crown and its dependency has always prevailed, or been affected, in Spain, and the latest incidents are treated as another example of the old tradition. The Spaniards are probably in the right. The government of the United States can have no present desire for the annexation of Cuba. The filibustering epoch preceded the great war, and now a republican President and his colleagues would shrink from incorporating into the Union an island which is the most conspicuous example remaining in the world of that peculiar institution which has been overthrown on the North American Continent by fire and sword. The United States could not now constitutionally admit Cuba as a slave State. It must either be held as an abnormal dependency or subjected to the process of emancipation, which would be simply to let loose a multitude of barbarians to destroy the prosperity of the island. The Spaniards think that, whatever an ambitious section of the Americans may have desired in times past, the present sympathy with Cuba is a vague sentiment, unlikely to produce political effects, and that it need not prevent them from presenting a bold front to the malcontent colonists and to every one else who affects to espouse their cause.

Consequently the Spanish press is full of high-handed counsels and sounds every note of defiance. The Madrid journals are especially angry with the expressions of opinion in this country, which they declare to be inspired by national ambition. "If we lost Cuba," says one journal, "British interests, instead of suffering, would gain immensely." One and all the journals declare that the notion of yielding anything to the arms of the Cuban insurgents or to the selfish remonstrances of foreign nations is quite inconsistent with the national honor. On such occasions it is the most decided and boastful language which commends itself to the popular feeling, and constitutes the truest utterance of the country. Hear, then, the *Tiempo*, which is one of the chief organs of the present Ministry:—"Not only ought we not to abandon Cuba to its fate, thus confessing our debility and impotence to all the world, and exciting our enemies to snatch our remaining colonies from us, but so long as there exists a single Spaniard in our territory and a single centime in our Treasury we ought to spend the one and shed the blood of the other in defending our honor and our right." We have no wish to question the propriety and dignity of the determination expressed in the above paragraph. A nation with such a history as Spain may be excused for resenting suggestions which seem like dictation. Nor are motives wanting which may be called humane and conscientious. When we see to what a level some of the ancient colonies of Spain have sunk since their independence we cannot hastily set aside the argument which the official Madrid journal urges in behalf of retaining a firm hold in Cuba. The island, as everyone knows, is productive beyond comparison with any other possession of Spain, past or present, and its fertility has been developed by a government which, whatever its faults, has assured the primary conditions of prosperity. "If Cuba were independent," says the Madrid journal, "the fabulous prosperity it enjoyed up to the time of its insensate rebellion would succumb in a short time to the intrigues, revolutions, *pronunciamentos* and disturbances of successful generals, of ambitious persons or of turbulent oligarchies, as a rule incapable of founding anything strong and stable; and when time has passed she will be absorbed by the insatiable Colossus of the North." This judgment is probably sound enough; and it invites us to inquire whether men who can so clearly discern the shortcomings of the colonial community give any attention to the reforms by which that community may be reconciled to the parent State and the predicted disasters conjured. But of this there is no sign. National pride, military pride, and, worst of all, the pride of shallow and obstinate statesmanship, prevail even among those who have some discernment of the future.

IS THIS WHISKEY OR WAR?—GRANT'S TELEGRAM TO SHERMAN ON THE SAME DAY WHEN HE TELEGRAPHS TO SCHENCK.

[Washington special to Cincinnati Commercial, Nov. 15.]

On last Friday the Western Union wires leading from this city to Cincinnati and St. Louis were cleared of current business and taken possession of by the manager of the company and used exclusively for some hours in the transmission of voluminous despatches from the President to parties in the two cities named. The name of the Cincinnati party is not known, but it is ascertained that the St. Louis despatch was addressed to General W. T. Sherman. The circumstance has been a puzzling one, and although the facts given—while it was endeavored to keep them concealed—have been known for a day or two, all efforts to ascertain what emergency could have arisen to warrant such extraordinary proceedings have met with no success. The best information at hand indicates that this correspondence had reference to our affairs with Spain, and the presumption is strengthened by the circumstance that on the same day the President communicated at great length, through Secretary Fish, with Minister Schenck, at London, by means of the cable. On the same day, it will be remembered, the Cabinet at Madrid held a session to consider the American note with reference to the observance of the treaty of 1795. While the contents of the American note are not known, it is judged, from the fact that it has been frequently noted by the authorities of our government that Spain has never fulfilled her obligations under the treaty, that the note in question made complaint to that effect. The treaty of 1795 is little more than one of friendship, and the complaint that Spain has failed to reciprocate the kind and friendly offices that have always been manifested by the United States has been a standing one for many years.

Unless, however, a war with Spain is anticipated by the President as a result of the action had in contemplation by him, it is difficult to understand why any correspondence on the subject with the General of the Army should be necessary. Activity in naval circles still continues, and it is the opinion of naval officers who are best informed that it is the purpose of the administration to be prepared for any emergency. On the other hand, it is suggested that Secretary Robeson is merely making a good deal of fuss to cover up the extravagant expenditures of public money at his disposal. The Cuban Ring is jubilantly confident, and it seems to be accepted on all hands that the President will, in his forthcoming Message, give his opinion in unmistakable terms as to the proper course to be pursued in the Cuban question, and, as has been long and widely known, he is a warm sympathizer with the Cuban patriots. There is also good reason for believing that Secretary Fish has, by some means or other, been persuaded to change his views in this regard, or at all events to hold them in abeyance, and ceased to use his influence with the President in the interest of a policy of non-intervention.

THE WAR IN SPAIN.

ROYALIST ANTICIPATION OF A SPEEDY PEACE—ALFONSIST OPINION OF DON CARLOS' POSITION.

MADRID, Nov. 17, 1875.

The *Cronista*, the ministerial organ, states, in reference to the reported letter of Don Carlos to King Alfonso:—"We believe Don Carlos is more uncompromising than any of his partizans."

The *Cronista* also says:—"We are at the beginning of the end. The war will be speedily terminated either by the submission or the overwhelming of the Carlists."

The *Correspondencia* says that the "pretensions of Don Carlos are exaggerated and inadmissible. The royal army in the field will be 300,000 strong by the 1st of December."

The *Tiempo* hails the action of Don Carlos as the harbinger of peace.

KING ALFONSO AND THE POPE.

MADRID, Nov. 17, 1875.

The *Cronista* says that Calderon Collantes, the present Minister of Justice, will be appointed Ambassador to the Vatican.

THE WAR IN TURKEY.

A BLOODY BATTLE BETWEEN THE TURKS AND THE INSURGENTS—THE IMPERIALISTS CLAIM A GRAND VICTORY.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1875.

A telegram to the second edition of the *Times* to-day from Constantinople contains the following:—

A serious encounter occurred on the 12th of November at Piva, in Bosnia, between the Turkish troops and a large body of insurgents. The Sublime Porte is officially informed that sixteen battalions of troops under Chefket Pasha were engaged.

It is reported that the insurgents were completely routed, leaving 600 killed on the field.

UNSER FRITZ.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS NOT LIKELY TO VISIT AMERICA.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1875.

The statement made in a despatch from Berlin to the *Morning Post*, that the German Crown Prince purposed visiting the United States, is denied by the Reuter Telegram Company, who say "he never intended making the trip."

THE ENGLISH IRON TRADE.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1875.

Messrs. Blockow, Vaughn & Co., iron producers, of Leeds, have been compelled, owing to the depression of trade in iron, to discharge between 2,000 and 3,000 operatives.

THE ENGLISH TURF.

RACE FOR THE GREAT SHROPSHIRE HANDICAP WON BY COERULEUS.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1875.

At Shrewsbury to-day occurred the race for the great Shropshire handicap of 500 sovereigns in specie, added to a sweepstakes of 25 sovereigns each, 15 forfeit; entrance 3 sovereigns; the second horse to save his stakes; new straight mile; 123 subscribers. Thirteen horses started. The race was won by Coeruleus.

The following is a

SUMMARY

of the racing:—

Sir J. Hawley's b. c. Coeruleus, by Beadsman, out of Bas Bleu, 3 years old 1
Mr. T. Jennings' ch. c. Conseil, by Consul, out of No Chance, 4 years old 2
——'s Caramel, aged 3

The betting just before the start was as follows:—Four to 1 against Coeruleus, 7 to 1 against Conseil and 25 to 1 against Caramel.

MEXICO.

THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE BODY ORGANIZED—COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

HAVANA, Nov. 17, 1875.

The steamer City of Merida, from Vera Cruz, brings advices from the City of Mexico to the 9th inst.

The Mexican Senate has elected Romero Rubio President and Señor Saavedra Vice President.

The lower house has elected Vidal Constaneda President and Sebastian Camacho Vice President.

AN IMPORTANT BILL INTRODUCED.

A Compulsory Education bill has been introduced in Congress.

ACQUITTED.

AN EVIDENT CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY—AN ALLEGED MURDERER HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

PORTLAND, Pa., Nov. 17, 1875.

A letter from this place, dated the 5th inst., and published in the HERALD of the 6th, gave a detailed statement of a mysterious murder said to have been committed nine years ago, and for which now, at this late day, a man by the name of Martin Broad was arrested. Broad utterly denied the charge, and after considerable testimony was heard the Court discharged him with the remark that "There was not sufficient evidence to show that the man Broad had killed the person whose remains had been found in Dildine's woods. If this man had committed the murder it was strange that no mention had been made of it before." The Court regarded the entire evidence as very improbable.

The young man, William S. Henry, upon whose affidavit Broad was arrested, is of good repute, but in his examination he exhibited such decided weakening and deviation from former statements, especially upon cross-examination, as to set aside in the minds of impartial hearers any preconceived ideas of the guilt of the prisoner, which, under the existing excitement, seemed to pervade all classes here. Besides, the young man's statement, in which he distinctly avers that he was an eye-witness to the murder, was not sustained by any corroborative evidence.

Mr. Broad has been honorably discharged after a most trying ordeal, in which prejudices and false averments bore an equal part.

EVENING WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, Nov. 17—7:30 P. M.

Probabilities.

During Thursday in the South Atlantic and East Gulf States, high barometer, north to east winds, continued cold and clear weather will prevail.

In the West Gulf States and Tennessee, falling barometer, east to south winds, warmer clear or partly cloudy weather.

In the Ohio Valley and lake regions, falling barometer, increasing southwest to southeast winds, warmer, partly cloudy or cloudy weather; and in the upper lake region, snow and rain.

In the Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri valleys, falling and low barometer, brisk and high southeast to southwest winds, warmer, cloudy weather; and in the northern portions, snow or rain, gradually followed by rising barometer and cold northwesterly winds.

In the Middle States, high, followed by falling barometer, northwesterly winds shifting to easterly and southerly, continued cold and generally clear weather.

In New England, rising barometer, northwesterly winds diminishing in force, continued cold and clear weather.

For the canal regions of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland the temperature will be considerably below freezing Thursday night.

Cautionary signals continue at Eastport and Thatcher's Island and are ordered for Duluth.

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY.

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

	1874.	1875.		1874.	1875.
3 A. M.	45	35	3:30 P. M.	56	34
6 A. M.	45	34	6 P. M.	53	32
9 A. M.	46	33	9 P. M.	52	29
12 M.	53	33	12 M.	50	28

Average temperature yesterday 32¾
Average temperature for corresponding date last year 49¾

THE WHISKEY RING.

TRIAL OF EX-SUPERVISOR M'DONALD—IMPORTANT TESTIMONY AS TO THE CONSPIRACY—MORE DISCLOSURES—CHIEF CLERK AVERY AND BEN BUTLER.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 17, 1875.

A tremendous crowd gathered in the United States Court room this morning to hear the testimony in the case of the government against ex-Supervisor McDonald. The evidence was of a startling character. The most important testimony was that of Joseph M. Fitzroy, who succeeded Megrue as the cashier of the Ring. It completed the chain of evidence against McDonald and Joyce, showing that they were the originators of the conspiracy to defraud the government and the chief beneficiaries of the corrupt fund. Alfred Bevis and Rudolph Utrici, two of the largest distillers of the West and among those who recently pleaded guilty to several indictments, gave their testimony, alleging that they were induced to join the ring on the representation of Joyce and McDonald or their agent, and that they would be fully protected in their illicit business, and that they had made certain arrangements in Washington city that would keep them from harm.

THE GENERAL BABCOCK LETTER.

Bevis testified that Joyce showed him a letter from Washington signed "Bab" concerning the whiskey business, which Joyce said was from General Babcock.

Fitzroy testified to the same facts, and said that Joyce uniformly represented that Babcock was in the Ring and looking out for its interest at Washington.

MORE RING MEN.

Fitzroy also testified that Marshall Newcomb, who went out of office to-day; ex-District Attorney Patrick, and Judge Krum were beneficiaries of the Ring. The excitement among the people here is unprecedented.

BABCOCK AND THE GRAND JURY.

The Grand Jury reassembled to-day after a recess of three days. They have summoned before them Dr. Pretorious, editor of the *Westliche Post*, Carl Schurz's paper, published in this city, to testify as to what he knows concerning Babcock's connection with the Ring.

The *Post*, a few days ago, directly charged that Babcock was implicated in the frauds. There is a rumor that Babcock has been summoned to appear and testify in the whiskey cases.

BEN BUTLER IN THE CASE.

Chief Clerk Avery, with his wife, arrived from Washington to-day. General Benjamin Butler, his counsel, has also arrived, and has been consulting with his client during the day.

Dan W. Voorhees is also here, and spent to-day listening to evidence in the McDonald case.

FEARS FOR THE INTEGRITY OF THE JURIES—GENERAL BABCOCK'S ATTITUDE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 1875.

The whiskey fraud trials in St. Louis are watched with a good deal of interest here. Secretary Bristow means to spare no pains to procure the conviction of the guilty persons, and to expose the whole of the Whiskey Ring transactions. Colonel Grosvenor's letter in the HERALD to-day attracted a good deal of attention here. It is feared here that there may be attempts to tamper with the juries in the St. Louis trials because the interests involved are so important, but a rigorous watch is set for all attempts of this kind and entire confidence is placed in the integrity of the District Attorney. General Babcock says that, so far as he is concerned, while he is annoyed at the mention of his name in connection with whiskey frauds, he regards such mention as a slander of the Whiskey Ring, and does not feel called on to make denials until he is charged with wrong or misconduct by some responsible person or in an official manner.

THE VICE PRESIDENT.

HIS CONDITION DURING THE NIGHT—A STEADY BUT NOT RAPID IMPROVEMENT.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 1875.

The Vice President did not rest well last night, his sleep being broken and irregular from ten o'clock until four o'clock this morning, when he fell asleep and slept soundly until eight o'clock. He took a quinine pill every four hours, and once during the night a dose of bromide of potassium. Dr. Baxter called at ten o'clock this morning, and reports Mr. Wilson much improved by his rest and the quiet preserved during the past twenty-four hours.

EVENING REPORT.

Vice President Wilson suffers less nervous prostration to-night than yesterday, and shows signs of the same steady though not rapid improvement that he exhibited this morning. He sat about an hour and a half to-day. Dr. Baxter saw him at six o'clock this evening, prescribed no change in treatment, and expressed the opinion that he will be able to ride out on Saturday.

AMERICAN ARCHITECTS.

NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION—EXPRESSION OF OPINION AS TO THE UNITED STATES SUPERVISING ARCHITECTS AND THE ERECTION OF FEDERAL BUILDINGS.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 17, 1875.

The ninth annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects assembled in this city to-day. In the absence of Richard Upjohn, of New York, President, Richard M. Hunt, of New York, was called to the chair.

The annual address was read by Henry Van Brunt, of Boston, who said he had been requested by the President, who was detained by illness, to supply his place. The address contained a history of the Institute from its organization in 1869, when it had forty-nine fellows and sixteen associates, to the present time, when it has seventy-five fellows and eighty-two associates. It is no close corporation. Its doors are open to all who take pleasure in their art; but, compared with the number of names to be found in the directories as practising architects, there are but few who belong to the Institute. Nor is it a trade union. It is a confederation of independent societies, all aiming at a common good, and it has been recognized by all of the architectural institutes of Europe. It has assembled in New York, Boston, Cincinnati and now in Baltimore, which place he hoped would be endeared to them by association. The address paid a high tribute to Henry A. Sims, of Philadelphia, who died since the last Convention.

The address was adopted, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Van Brunt passed.

The report of the Board of Trustees was next presented by Mr. Walter, and read by the secretary. It dwelt upon the construction of Federal buildings in the new States and Territories, which cannot be properly attended to by the Supervising Architect of the government. It insists that the Supervising Architect should not be permitted to make designs. Here a lengthy extract from a letter from Mr. Potter was read, expressing a hope that the position may be entirely separated from political influence and control, which so seriously affects the elevation of art and the deserved success of architectural work.

The afternoon session was devoted entirely to executive business, to which only members were admitted.

In the evening there was a reception at the rooms of the Baltimore Chapter under the St. James Hotel, when there was an exhibition of the works of the members.

THE NEWPORT HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

MITCHELL PLEADS NOT GUILTY—HE IS HELD TO APPEAR AT THE MARCH TERM OF THE SUPREME COURT.

NEWPORT, R. I., Nov. 17, 1875.

Jesse D. Mitchell, assailant of Dr. A. L. Sands, was brought before Judge Potter to-day, in the Court of Common Pleas, in this city. He pleaded not guilty, to the surprise of everybody, and his case was certified to the Supreme Court for trial, he being required to enter into recognizance with sureties in the sum of $10,000. He failed to secure the required bail, and he was committed to jail to await the March term of the Supreme Court.

THE VAN BRUNT DIVORCE.

BINGHAMPTON, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1875.

The *Republican*, this evening, publishes a decree of divorce by Judge Balcom, in Binghamton, the 26th of December last in the case of Amelia C. Van Brunt against Charles H. Van Brunt. It is decreed:—It shall not be lawful for the said defendant, Charles H. Van Brunt, to marry again until the said plaintiff is actually dead. The plaintiff is granted alimony of $4,000 a year and the custody of the two children.

BOSTON AND PROVIDENCE RAILROAD.

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 17, 1875.

The annual meeting of the Boston and Providence Railroad Company was held here to-day. The gross receipts for the current year were $1,381,258 31—a falling off from last year of $106,020 88. The expenses, however, were but $1,216,476 11—a reduction of $67,627 66. The report shows a wise and careful administration of affairs. Messrs. J. H. Clifford, G. W. Hallet, T. P. J. Goddard, W. R. Robeson, F. M. Weld, Joseph W. Balch and H. A. Whitney were elected directors.

AMUSEMENTS.

CHICKERING HALL—SECOND APPEARANCE OF HANS VON BULOW.

Dr. Hans Guido Von Bülow appeared for the second time last night before a New York audience in a very different programme from that with which he inaugurated the new hall on Monday evening. Henselt, Chopin and Liszt are so widely different in their styles that selections from their works on the same evening must prove a severe test for the versatility of a virtuoso. The orchestra, a body of instrumentalists over forty in number, and conducted by Dr. Damrosch, opened the concert with Gluck's overture, "Iphigenia in Aulis," the same work given by Theodore Thomas on Saturday night. The short opening *andante* and the sturdy, Bach-like *allegro* showed the strength of the violins, the weakness of the cello and basses and the wayward nature of the horns and the reeds. The concerto of Henselt was looked forward to with interest, as it is a work pre-eminently adapted to bring out the strong points of a pianist of such surpassing digital power as Bülow. The orchestra began the introductory "Allegro Patetico," the most emphatic and brilliant number of the three movements. Two themes, apparently irreconcilable in character, and yet woven together with infinite art, were brought forward. Then the piano entered, going over the long orchestral introduction, embellishing it with an abundance of fantastic adornment, presenting the two subjects in a richer dress, dainty little passages of thirds and sixths embroidering the motives, and here the pianist seemed to revel in the fanciful imaginings of the composer. A few pages further, and amid the storm of triplets for both hands on the piano, in which the orchestra is supposed to carry itself with firmness and dignity, there were evident symptoms of trepidation and a want of obedience to the conductor's baton. The succeeding chorale, "Religioso," over which is thrown such a rich drapery of piano passages, was a charming performance. The notes for the piano seemed to fairly sparkle beneath the inspired fingers of Bülow, and they shone all the more to advantage against the sombre background of the orchestra. The second movement, *larghetto*, brought in a very different style of playing, both for the piano and orchestra. Here the spirit of poetry began to dawn in the breast of the pianist for the first time since his arrival in New York. He dwelt caressingly over every note of the beautiful theme, and the whispers of fairies could not be more delicate than his rendering of those etherial-like passages that envelop the opening motive. Exception might be taken to the *tempo* in which the second part of this movement was taken. It was rather too fast, although strictly in accord with the metronomic marks in the score. However, a work of this kind calls for a poetic more than a metronomic rendering. The last movement, *allegro agitato*, was wonderfully performed by the pianist. The orchestra failed here to give the requisite expression and emphasis to the glowing measures of the movement. One could tell, without reference to the score, from the impatient manner of the pianist and the emphatic style in which he brought down his hands on the keys, even in the passages where the piano is supposed to be silent, that some of the instrumentalists were not prompt enough for him. The horns, the reeds and the string basses were not always responsive to Dr. Damrosch's baton and they spoiled some of the best effects in the brilliant finale of the Henselt concerto. But the pianist never failed in the enormous difficulties in technique and expression with which this movement abounds. The heavily chorded runs sprang from the piano as clear and as intelligible as if they were portions of a choral. Each note and chord stood forth in bold relief, the phrases glowing with artistic fire, the individuality of the artist in regard to impetuosity, being constantly developed.

The orchestra then played the overture to "Mid summer Night's Dream," by Mendelssohn, the violins doing their work admirably, especially Messrs. Mollenhauer (*chef d'attaque*), Reiff and Bernstein. Hans Von Bülow next played four works by Chopin, without orchestra. They were, Nocturne in G, opus 37, Chant Polonais (transcription by Liszt), Berceuse and waltz, opus 42. Von Bülow is not to be admired in his interpretation of Chopin. There is too much positivism about the man, too little of the dreamer. Rubinstein, with all his faults as an interpreter of classical works, and those faults consisted of the intrusion of his individuality in his playing, showed more real tenderness and accord with the delicacy of Chopin than ever Von Bülow can hope to attain. The "Nocturne" was played without a flaw, as far as technique and attention to the marks of expression given in the score are concerned; but it was destitute of the spark of poetry. The "Chant Polonais" is not particularly interesting as a Chopin work, even with the clever transcription of the irrepressible Liszt. It is the first of a series of six works under the same title. The lovely "Berceuse," which one would think had been first given to the world by angelic choirs over the cradle of Bethlehem, did not receive from the pianist the tender, childlike treatment it deserved. Few pianists have lived who could interpret this most delicate of tone poems satisfactorily. In the waltz, opus. 42, the pianist was more successful, but yet too ponderous in style for the work. Chopin is a dangerous author for piano illustration unless the player is entirely filled with the spirit of poetry. Von Bülow is not in accord with this spirit as far as Chopin is concerned.

But in the last work on the bill Bülow achieved a decided triumph. It was the "Fantasie Hungroise" of Liszt, orchestrated by Bülow. The themes of this work, we believe, form the "Rhapsodie Hungroise" No. 14, which was played last summer at Central Park Garden by Thomas' orchestra. There are peculiar Hungarian melodies, if we can call such eccentric measures melodies, and there is every opportunity given to a pianist to make a sensational effect. From our Boston experience at the Bülow concerts, and judging from the magnificent manner in which Liszt was interpreted last night, we can say with all confidence that no such player of Liszt's piano compositions has appeared in America as this artist, his pupil and son-in-law. The terrible difficulties which meet the pianist's fingers at every phrase were as child's play with Bülow. The fantastic measures were limned with the power of a musical Doré, electric sparks seemed to dance over the keyboard of the piano, and above the *fortissimo* of the orchestra rang out those grand, massive chords for the piano, the player evidently feeling more at home in the work than in the ethereal realms of Chopin. It would be well if a little more Liszt were introduced in the Bülow concerts. He is not a poet, but he is a great virtuoso.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

At this house a version of "Don Giovanni" was produced last night. In this version the part of the immortal Don was greatly cut down, while unusual but welcome prominence was given to that of Don Ottavio. The latter *rôle* was filled by Herr Wachtel, who was in excellent voice and gave the well-known music with all his usual skill and ability. His duets with Donna Anna (Mlle. Pappenheim) in the first act and his solos in the third were all that could be desired. In the third act his admirable rendering of the well-known aria, "Il mio tesoro," which he gave in Italian, was received with great applause, and he was recalled again and again before the curtain. Mlle. Pappenheim, as Donna Anna, made a decided hit, and although it is impossible not to regret that Mlle. Titiens, the greatest living exponent of this part, could not have appeared with Wachtel last night, yet we may be well contented with Mlle. Pappenheim. In the scene where she finds her murdered father, and in that afterward where she makes her betrothed swear vengeance against his murderer, Mlle. Pappenheim's acting was replete with force and finish. Her singing of the aria, "Or sai qui l'honore," was perfect, and gained her well merited applause. It is a pity that as much cannot be said for the other artists. The Zerlina of Mlle. Goldberg was very bad, and she entirely failed to render satisfactorily any of the lovely airs with which Mozart has so thickly besprinkled her part. Her duet with Don Giovanni, in the second act, although one of the most melodious numbers ever composed, was given without any feeling. Her voice is weak and badly trained and quite unfit for such a part. Of the Don Giovanni of Mr. Gunsberger it is difficult to speak, as most of his vocal numbers were cut out and he descended perforce from his singing measures to prosy dialogue. However, judging from the songs which were left in, this was most likely for the best, as a more incompetent singer has rarely undertaken the part. Of the other artists it is unnecessary to speak, since they were all more or less unfit for their *rôles*. The chorus and orchestra were excellent, and contributed much to the completeness of the performance. It would be well if the management were for the future to select operas in which Wachtel can play the principal part, and not find themselves driven to mutilating the score to suit the capabilities of their artists.

On Friday "Le Postillon de Lonjumeau" will be repeated, and at the Saturday matinée "Fidelio" will be produced for the first time, with Pappenheim as Leonora.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

"Le Gendre de M. Poirier" will be preceded at the Lyceum to-night by the farce of "Les Deux Sourds."

Collender's Original Georgia Minstrels, the Southern slave troupe, open at Wood's Museum, Philadelphia, on the 22d inst.

"Caste" has been so successful at Wallack's Theatre that its continuance on the stage is unavoidable. When Mr. Honey returns to Boston Mr. Barry Beckett, the favorite comedian, will assume the part of Eccles for the first time.

Edwin Booth opens as Richelieu at the Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, on Monday night next. He will be well supported, and will doubtless have crowded houses. He is an old favorite in Philadelphia. His engagement will last four weeks, and "Richard II." will be played.

The erroneous impression has been made that Mr. G. L. Fox does not appear in the pantomime at Booth's Theatre. Yesterday he played twice—at the matinée and in the evening. The public will be glad to learn that Mr. Fox is much benefited by the rest he receives from alternating acts with Mr. Maffit.

OBITUARY.

SAMUEL FARWELL, OF UTICA, N. Y.

Samuel Farwell, of Utica, N. Y., Vice President and principal stockholder in the Flint and Pére Marquette Railway, died at the residence of his son-in-law, Dr. H. C. Potter, in Saginaw, Mich., yesterday morning, at the age of eighty years and six months. Mr. Farwell was well known all over the Union as a leading contractor for the building of public works for the last fifty years, having begun on the Erie Canal in 1825. He completed contracts for the slackwater navigation in the Lehigh River in 1835, the Croton Aqueduct in 1838, and in subsequent years the Boston Water Works, New York and Erie Railway, Great Western Railway of Canada, Utica and Black River Railroad, Brooklyn Water Works and the Flint and Pére Marquette Railway. His remains will leave Saginaw in a special train for Utica, N. Y., tomorrow morning, accompanied by a guard of Knights Templars.

CAPTAIN THOMAS LEITCH.

Captain Thomas Leitch, a Sandy Hook pilot, was lost overboard at Sandy Hook on the night of Monday, the 8th inst. He had on when lost a heavy blue sea coat, lined with gray cloth, a red flannel shirt, dark pants, sea boots, and a seamless scotch cap. He was of heavy build, weighing about 180 pounds, was five feet eight inches high,