THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

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THE INDIAN TROUBLES.

FORT PHILIP KEARNEY MASSACRE.

The Report Confirmed--Coalition of Twelve Indian Tribes--Description of the Fort.

FORT LARAMIE, December 27.—A messenger, just in, reports the formation of a grand coalition of twelve tribes of Indians for common cause against the whites in the Territories of Dakotah and Montana. The number of warriors is estimated at 11,000, but this must be received *cum grano salis*.

The massacre did not occur near the old Fort Kearney, but in the vicinity of Fort Philip Kearney, Dakotah Territory. The latter is situated in the forks of the two piney creeks in the centre of the mountain district of the Military Department of the Platte, and in the heart of the region occupied by the hostile tribes, the Sioux and the Cheyennes. Its defense consisted of a well-made stockade of timber, pierced with loop-holes for musketry. At two of the corners were blockhouses of timber logs eighteen inches in diameter.

It is thought that the post was captured by treachery, as the force there should have been able to stand a siege, and it seems hardly possible that it could have been captured by Indian assault.

On the other hand, the savages have so constantly manifested their hostility that it is difficult to see how the troops could have been beguiled into any relaxation of vigilance. We hope to have more particulars soon; but there is no reason to doubt the full extent of the calamity, as reported yesterday.

The Indian Troubles at Fort Philip Kearney--Slaughter of United States Troops--Eighty-seven Killed.

FORT LARAMIE, December 27.—The Indians are very troublesome, and the troops at Fort Philip Kearney have been almost in a state of siege for weeks past. On the 22d a number of Indians came near the post, and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Feltman, Captain J. H. Brown, and Lieutenant Glummond, all of the 18th Infantry, gathered hastily 39 men of Company C, 2d Cavalry, and 45 men of the 18th Infantry, and went after the Indians.

The troops were gradually drawn on until at a point four miles from the fort, when they were surrounded and slaughtered. Not a man escaped to tell the story of disaster. The bodies were stripped of every article of clothing, scalped and mutilated. Thirty bodies were found in a space not larger than a good sized room. Nearly all the bodies were recovered and buried in the fort.

Description of Fort Philip Kearney, the Scene of the Late Massacre.

From the Army and Navy Journal, November 24.

This new post, in the centre of the Mountain District, Department of the Platte, and also in the heart of the chief hunting ground of the hostile Sioux and Cheyennes, being also expressive of the first substantial occupation of the new short route to Montana, deserves notice. The expedition which was sent to establish it left Fort Kearney May 19, under command of Colonel H. B. Carrington, 18th United States Infantry.

Fort Reno was reinforced, additional defenses erected, and two companies were advanced to the Big Horn river, that post receiving the name of Fort C. F. Smith. Fort Philip Kearney has been erected by Colonel Carrington, under his personal planning and daily supervision. It is in the forks of the Piney Creeks, on a natural plateau 800 by 600 feet, with a natural slope or glacis on all sides.

The stockade is of pine, hewn to a touching surface, pointed, loop-holed, and after the general plan of Mahan. At two corners are block-houses of 18-inch pine logs. The parade-ground is 400 feet square, and was surveyed and laid out before the turf was cut by any wagon-track. Walks 12 feet wide cross the parade, bending around a circle of 15 feet radius, where a flag staff of 110 feet displays the national colors. A graded street of 20 feet borders the parade. The additional 200 by 600 feet is a Quartermaster's yard, with warehouses and shops.

East of the fort, and taking in Little Piney, is a corral for stock, hay, wood, etc., with palisade ten feet high, and quarters for teamsters, citizen employes, etc. Twelve double cabins, a blacksmith and wagon-shop, and a portion of the stabling for mules have been completed.

Two Quartermaster and Commissary buildings, 84 by 25 feet, with ten-foot ceiling, and similar buildings, in point of size, for four companies of infantry, have been completed and occupied. Guard house and band quarters, 60 by 25 feet, are also in use. The hospital, 84 by 25 feet, with high ceiling, is, before this, ready to occupation.

Four hundred and fifty tons of hay have been cut; two steam saw mills are in operation; over twelve thousand pine logs have been cut, hauled and used, and every part of the work has been done in the face of Indians, who have repeatedly attacked hay and timber parties, and have made dashes at the pickets within half-a-mile of the post.

The work has never stopped, except for the Sabbath; and it is not within the power of all the Indians of the Northwest to assail the place.

The magazine, on the parade, is 16 by 16 feet, eight feet in the clear, of fourteen inches thickness of timber, water-proof, and thoroughly ventilated, having double doors and turf glacis sloping from the eaves.

The flag-staff is octagonal for eight feet, of eighteen inches diameter, painted black. The next twelve feet has sixteen faces dying out to a perfect round, returning to a square at the crosstrees.

The gates are twelve feet wide, of heavy plank, with a small wicket in the right valve, through which one man only can pass, stooping. All have locks, and the wickets are closed at retreat.

Coal is found at the east gate of the wall, and pine, hemlock, and spruce are without limit.

We have been thus particular about this new fort, so rapidly approaching completion, as a prominent army officer, who recently made it an official visit, pronounced the stockade the best he had met, except one built by the Hudson Bay Fur Company. The command reached the site of the fort July 15, so that all has been done in three months. So constant have been Indian trespasses that the men alternated gurrd duty, and had but every other night for sleep, this not unfrequently disturbed by night-firing upon the pickets.

The main work of the expedition has been successfully accomplished, and the permanent occupation of the route is a fixed fact. Supplies for a year are in store, and the groundwork is assured for a secure and rapid emigration to this new Territory.

The Man Who Wanted President Lincoln Assassinated.

During the closing days of the Rebellion a man named George W. Gayle, a lawyer, in Cahawba, Dallas county, Ala., advertised in a Selma paper that he would make one of a number who would contribute a certain amount of money for the assassination of President Lincoln. After the Confederacy broke down and Northern troops commenced to garrison the towns of the Southern States, lawyer Gayle was hunted up and was charged with the above offense. His trial was set down for to-day at Montgomery, when he will be afforded an opportunity of proving his loyal intentions.

DISASTERS.

Twenty Lives Lost by the Burning of a Mississippi Steamer--Particulars of the Great Fire in Elmira, Etc. Etc.

VICKSBURG, Miss., December 27.—The steamer Fashion, a splendid vessel, engaged in the trade between this city and New Orleans, was burned this evening, about twelve miles above Baton Rouge. Twenty lives were lost, but the names of the sufferers are not ascertained. The captain and other officers of the boat were saved. The cargo, consisting of 2600 bales of cotton, is a total loss.

Shipwreck off San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 27.—A messenger arrived to-day reports a large ship, with no sails on her mainmast, in the surf at Half Moon Bay, about twenty-five miles down the coast. She was firing signal guns all day yesterday. Two steamtugs have been sent to rescue her. The scene of the supposed disaster is near where the barque Coya was recently wrecked.

Awful Conflagration at Elmira, New York--One-third the Business Section of the Town Destroyed -- Saloons, Hotels, and Buildings Burnt--Loss Half a Million--The Insurances, the Scenes, the Incidents, Etc.

The city of Elmira, N. Y., was terribly desolated by fire on Sunday morning, the 23d inst. At 2 o'clock in the morning of that day flames were seen issuing from the cellar of a drug store on the east side of Lake street, between Carroll and Walter streets. The alarm was ineffective. Many minutes elapsed before the citizens realized the fact that the alarm really meant fire, and in the meantime the store underneath which the fire started was enveloped in flames.

The building was of wood. It burnt with fearful rapidity. Not for more than half an hour after its commencement did the engines reach the scene. Soon after they got well to work, some chemicals and liquors stored in the drug shop exploded with tremendous violence, blowing out the entire front of that and adjoining buildings on either side, and rolling billows of flame out in the air, the intense heat of which compelled firemen and citizens to take new stations farther off. The force of the explosion carried the flames across the street, and set fire to St. Anthon's Hotel and Turner Hall. Down both sides of Lake street the conflagration swept, carrying off building after building in its fiery path. Built almost solely of wood, they were defenceless against the flames; besides which the supply of water proved miserably insufficient, the Water Company's office being itself consumed, and the key to the main trunk of the principal reservoir being lost in the ruins. The stoppage of the flames was finally effected, not by human labor, but by the fact that reaching with Concert Hall, a large vacant lot, they could go no further, and they were checked from want of ammunition on which to seize. For over six hours the dreadful scourge raged with ungovernable fury.

House after house went down. The whole city was in the streets, working with the energy that only common calamity can inspire; but their labors were useless, owing to the defection of the supply of water, and nothing they could do stopped the course of the conflagration. Fortunately no lives were lost during all the dreadful hours, and considerable movable property was saved, though more was lost.

The buildings destroyed are:—The old Post Office building, including four offices, five stores, one market, and the dwelling of Rev. C. T. Kellogg, rector of Grace Church. The St. Nicholas buildings, including four offices, and three stores; the Brickwiddie building, including one large store and one dwelling; two wooden buildings and a tin shop; the Cowen building, a large drug and medical establishment; the Pattison building, including three buildings (four stores, two offices, and one Turner's Hall); Dunn's block, four stores, two offices, three family dwellings; Concert Hall, including one hotel, one large Assembly Hall, one store, and several offices; Mechanics' Hall building, comprising three stores and four offices; Bolt's Place, a large eating saloon; Dundy's block, a tobacco warehouse; Bicelow's boot and shoe factory, and adjoining sheds, in all comprising the whole of Lake street, between Water and Carroll, with the exception of two small tenements.

THE INSURANCES.

A total of insurances of $277,500, leaves out of the estimated loss of $500,000 a remainder of $222,500 to be borne by the sufferers. The insurances are distributed as follows among the companies:—

Albany City, $2300; Home, New York, $31,500; Arctic, New York, $14,500; Springfield, $13,000; Northwestern, $6500; North American, New York, $11,800; National, $14,000; Hartford, $13,500; Fulton, $7450; Niagara, $100; Lafayette, $9000; Merchants', $8000; Excelsior, $5000; Greenwich, $2000; Columbia, $10,500; Lenox, $11,000; Commerce, $8000; Western, $2000; Phœnix, $2000; Security, $5300; Phœnix, of Hartford, $3400; Actual, $500; Manhattan, $2600; City, $1000; Metropolitan, $5000; Atlantic, $3500; Ætna, $3500.

Europe in 1817 and 1867.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co., the London publishers, in announcing the "Statesman's Year-Book" for 1867, make an interesting tabular comparison between the state of Europe in 1817 and 1867. The half century has extinguished three kingdoms, one grand duchy, eight duchies, four principalities, one electorate and four republics. Three new kingdoms have arisen, and one kingdom has been transformed into an empire. There are now forty-one States in Europe, against fifty-nine which existed in 1817. It may be remarked that the nineteen grand dukes and dukes and princes of 1867 will be much less ducal and princely (thanks to one Bismark) than the thirty-two who ruled in 1817. Not less remarkable is the territorial extension of the superior States of the world. Russia has annexed 567,364 square miles; the United States, 1,968,009; France, 4620; Prussia, 29,781. Sardinia, expanding into Italy, has increased by 83,041. The Indian Empire has been augmented by 451,616. The principal States that have lost territory are Turkey, Mexico, Austria, Denmark, and the Netherlands.

A Yankee Boat Race in Japanese Waters.

A private letter from Yokohama, written on board the British war-ship Princess Royal, September 19, says:—"I told you four months since about a boat race between us and the crew of the American flagship Hartford, in which we beat. Last night the return race came off amidst the greatest excitement, in which the people on shore joined. There was heavy betting on both sides. Both boats' crews were in beautiful condition, as they had been in training for a long time, and the Americans evidently thought they were going to beat us. At 4 P. M. yesterday both ships' rigging and decks were crowded with people from the shore. At 4·15 the boats started; they were twelve-oared cutters. The Yankees got a little ahead at first; there was a heavy sea on; in two or three minutes our boat shot ahead, and came in ten boat-lengths before the other, after a four-mile race. The Americans, therefore, have been licked twice. The race was for one hundred dollars. It has been all the talk here for a month past."

CANDIA AND COREA.

Letter from Victor Hugo on the Struggle in Crete.

M. Victor Hugo has written a letter, of which the following is a translation, in reference to the revolutionary contest in Candia:—

"A cry reaches me from Athens. In the city of Phidias and Æschylus an appeal is made to me—my name is pronounced. What, am I to deserve such an honor? Nothing but a vanquished man. And who are they who call to me? The vanquished. Yes, heroic Candiotes, the fallen of to-day, you are the victors of the future. Persevere. Even if you are prostrated, you will triumph. The protestation of a dying agony is a power. It is an appeal to God, who crushes—what? Kings! Those mighty ones who are now against you, those coalitions of blind force and stubborn prejudice, those armed, antique tyrannies, have as their principal attribute a remarkable facility of making shipwreck. The tiara is on the poop, the turban on the prow, the old monarchical ship is leaking. It is at this very hour foundering in Mexico, in Austria, in Spain, in Hanover, in Saxony, at Rome, and elsewhere. Persevere! You vanquished! Impossible! The insurrection suppressed is not a principle destroyed. There are no more *faits accomplis;* there is only right. Facts never completed. Its perpetual incompleteness is the opening which is left to the right. Right cannot be submerged. The waves of events pass over it. It reappears. Drowned Poland floats on the surface. For 94 years European policy has torn this corpse, and the world has seen its soul floating above the *faits accomplis*. Greeks of Candia, you have right on your side, and you have also reason. Why a Pasha should exist in Crete is beyond comprehension. That which is true of Italy is true also as regards Greece. Venice cannot be restored to the one without Crete being restored to the other. That which is there a resurrection cannot be here a sepulchre. But in the meantime blood is flowing, and Europe permits it. She gets accustomed to it. To-day it is the Sultan's turn to exterminate a nationality. Is there a Turkish divine right venerated as the Christian divine right? Murder, robbery, violation, are at this moment sweeping over Candia as six months ago they dashed over Germany. That which would not be allowed to Schinderhannes is allowed to policy. To have the sword in hand and quietly to witness these murders, this is called statesmanship. It would seem that religion is interested in what the Turks are quietly doing—the cutting of Candian throats—and that society would be shaken if, between Souperto and Cytherea, little children were not put to the sword. There the ravaging of crops and the burning of villages is useful. The motive which explains and tolerates these exterminations is beyond our penetration. Alas! one of the humiliations of men whom a long exile has made stupid (I am one of them), is that they cannot comprehend the great reasons of the present assassins. Never mind. The Cretan question is henceforth clear. It will be solved, and solved like all the other questions of this age, in the sense of deliverance. Greece complete, Italy complete—Athens at the head of one, Rome at the head of the other—this is what we—France—owe to our brothers. It is a debt that France will acquit; it is a duty that France will discharge. When? Persevere. VICTOR HUGO.

Hauteville House, December 2, 1866.

The Massacre of the French Missionaries in Corea.

The following interesting particulars are extracted from a Toulon letter:—

"Important news has been circulating here on the subject of events in the China and Japan seas. The French Government, entirely disapproving of any attempt of an expedition against the kingdom of Corea, directed Rear-Admiral Roze to undertake nothing till further orders, as the massacre of the French missionaries required an exemplary chastisement, which would be better deferred to a more opportune moment. Vengeance, though tardy, would only be more terrible on that account. There was an objection to engage in a hazardous operation before obtaining a full knowledge of the approaches and resisting power of that mysterious country. The prudent provisions of the Government are in some sort confirmed by the last despatches. Admiral Roze having penetrated into the Sea of Corea, abounding in dangerous shoals, was for a moment compromised, and threatened with a great disaster; obliged to be continually casting the lead in the waters, where the tides are subject to variations of some thirty to forty feet every twenty-four hours, he found himself at last stranded on coral reefs with all his little flotilla, consisting of the steam corvette Primauguet, and several small gunboats. A catastrophe appeared imminent, when a high tide floated the vessels, and enabled them to emerge from their dangerous position. After this escape, the French squadron, trusting entirely to the map of Commander Guerin, as being remarkably correct, made way towards the mouth of a river indicated as one of the principal outlets of the capital of Corea. Ascending the stream very slowly, they reached, at four leagues from the month, a large village, where a strong body of armed men were occupied in constructing weirs. After some fruitless attempts at a conference, the Admiral, seeing that his presence caused no cessation of the work, destroyed the stockade by cannon shot, and fired grape into the hostile *corps d' armee*, who took to flight in every direction. During this short engagement it was remarked that the Corean troops marched barefooted, and that the greater part of the soldiers were armed with bows and arrows, and carried pikes. The Admiral, who only intended to make a hydrographical *reconnaissance* to facilitate ulterior operations, has left these inhospitable shores to join his main squadron in the China Seas.

Missouri.

The official canvass in Missouri having been concluded, the following candidates for Congress have received certificates of election:—

First District—General William A. Pile, Republican.
Second—Judge A. C. Newcomb, Republican.
Third—Colonel Thomas E. Noell, Democrat.
Fourth—Colonel J. J. Gravelly, Republican.
Fifth—Joseph W. McClurg, Republican.
Sixth—R. T. Van Horn, Republican.
Seventh—Gen. Benjamin F. Loan, Republican.
Eighth—Col. John F. Benjamin, Republican.
Ninth—Col. George W. Anderson, Republican.

It is reported that the seat of General Pile will be contested by John Hogan, the present incumbent; that of Mr. Van Horn by Judge Birch, and that of Colonel Anderson by Mr. William F. Switzler.

B. Gratz Brown has written a letter, in which he declares his purpose final not to be a candidate for re-election to the Senate of the United States. It has been supposed that Mr. Charles D. Drake would succeed him; but Governor Fletcher having retired from the canvass, Henry T. Blow, now representing the Second District in the House of Representatives, is pressed also as a candidate. He is an able and popular man.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

RICHMOND, December 27.—Information of an authentic character has reached here that it is the determination of Congress, on the adoption of the Constitutional amendment by three-fourths of the States now represented in Congress, to declare it adopted, and it will be followed by another proposed amendment that will disfranchise all that class included in the present one permanently, and also include all persons in the United States who advocated the separate secession of the States up to the 20th of April, 1861, and acts will be passed to reorganize the Southern States on this basis. This will particularly affect the Border States.

VENEZUELA.

The Unsettled State of the Republic--Civil War in the States of Barcelona and Guaraca.

By the arrival of the barque Hermes, from Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, with advices to the 4th inst., we have some trustworthy information as to the unsettled and revolutionary state of that republic.

On the 8th of October last a small revolutionary party seized and imprisoned the Governor of the State of Barcelona, overthrew his Government, and proclaimed General D. Monagas Provisional Governor. The imprisoned chief was soon after released, but quickly placed himself, together with General Mejias, at the head of 600 troops to oppose Monagas. But the latter seemed to have the aid of the National forces. On the 2d of November a severe battle was fought, and the revolutionary party, aided by the troops of the National Government, were victorious. Great damage was done to the houses and property of natives and foreigners in the city of Barcelona. The United States Vice-Consul was preparing to leave unless protection should be given him by his Government.

In the State of Guaraca, quite in another part of the republic, the State Government has been overthrown, and the President (Marquez Lopez) of the State of Carabobo had interposed, but in vain, to restore order.

In the State of Zuba (late Maracaibo) a revolution had broken out, headed by General Pulgar, and the capital had been attacked and was under siege.

In Puerto Cabello, also, the local authorities were momentarily expecting an attack, having doubled their police and extended their patrols.

Indeed, it may be said in truth, that outside of the capital, Caraccas, the State Governments have neither strength nor stability; and both life and property are at the mercy of desperado chiefs and revolutionary prowlers.

What is true of Venezuela is true of nearly every Central and South American State. And yet these are the countries that are inviting colonies of dissatisfied citizens of the United States to come out and settle among them for the purpose of enjoying what is denied them at home, and history has yet to record the first colony and the first colonist among all these emigrants that has not cursed the day he took up his abode in those distracted States.

Wholesale Poisoning in France.

Another case of a more startling character than Lamirande's is engrossing public attention in Paris. The case is on trial at Niort, in the department of the Two Sevres—a dependency of the old English province of Anjou. The prisoner is a farmer of Pressigny, a large village in the neighborhood, called Martin Reau.

From the *acte d'accusation* it appears that in 1853 the prisoner's brother-in-law, Pierre Reau, then in his thirty-second year, died a fearful death. He had gone out on a day's shooting on Martin Reau's grounds, and had lunched at the farm-house; he alone partook of the meal. He then went out to resume his shooting, but was seized with a sensation of burning and intolerable anguish in the chest and throat, and he died on the 2d of February. His brother-in-law, Martin Reau, inherited his property.

There has been, moreover, constant quarrels between the two respecting some money matters, the prisoner having repeatedly attempted to overreach Pierre. Three years and a half after the death of Pierre, his sister, Martin's wife, died after a short illness, which presented precisely similar symptoms to that which had carried off the first victim. She had made a will leaving all her property to her husband.

Martin Reau, on the 27th April, 1858, married Julie Bontemps. She is described in the *acte d'accusation* as *une jeune femme charmante*. But soon after her marriage all her brightness departed; she grew pale and sickly, and had also to drink potions administered by her husband to prevent her having children. She was treated with the grossest brutality by her husband. Among other devices he placed blocks of wood across a dark and steep staircase, down which she had to pass; she fell down the whole flight and broke her arm. She gave birth to a son in September, 1864; the child was put out to nurse in the care of a woman who lived in a state of great poverty. In April, 1865, Julie fell ill. Several doctors attended her, but independently of their medicines the husband gave her drugs of his own compounding. Her symptoms were similar to those which had marked the illness of her husband's brother-in-law and first wife. Finally, she died in great agony in July, 1865. Soon after the child was taken home. The boy sickened, and after a short illness, which presented the same features as that which had carried off his mother, he died in January, 1866. His death made Martin Reau the sole heir of his wife, and made him a comparatively rich man, with about £8000.

The death of the child induced the neighbors to suspect foul play; but they would hardly have acted on their suspicions but for the imprudence of Martin's conduct; he went about proclaiming that the only way for a man to grow rich was to marry several times. Finally, they communicated their suspicions to the police, and the bodies of his brother-in-law, his two wives, and his child were exhumed. Their viscera, their coffins, and the very earth of their graves was found impregnated with large quantities of corrosive sublimate, of which he had a large stock to doctor the mules and horses, of which he was a large breeder. He was arrested. While in jail he bribed a fellow-prisoner, one Bertadatto, in custody for a trivial offense, to take a message to two of his neighbors—a carpenter and his son—offering them one thousand francs apiece to depose that they had heard Paul Bontemps (his second wife's father) plotting the death of Julie and her child with a man named Paul Bichon. He gave Bertadatto his instructions in writing, and Bertadatto handed them to the jailor.

Blighted Hopes.

From a Berlin Correspondent.

A few days ago a young lady whose bridegroom had fallen at Sadowa committed suicide in a violent fit of melancholy. The unfortunate girl had been confined to a private hospital, and was seeming so far recovered that her dismissal from the establishment was to take place in a few days. At a visit of her father the physician encouraged him to hope for the best, at the same time expressing a wish that the patient should, for her recreation, have intercourse with his own daughters, and being a very skilful pianist, should play with them four-handed sonatas. This offer was gratefully accepted, and immediately made use of.

While the father was still in the physician's room, discoursing with him on the probable day of his daughter's dismissal from the establishment, the patient was sitting with the young ladies at the piano, exquisitely playing a sonata by Beethoven. Suddenly she started up, and, on the pretext of finding the room too hot, she opened a window.

The very next moment, and ere anybody could suspect her design, she precipitated herself through the window into the court-yard below, where the immediately found the death she had sought. The cries of horror that burst from the horrified young ladies brought the physician and the unhappy father to the spot, and the latter had the grief of finding the daughter he had just left in a state of convalescence a lifeless, bloody corpse.

THIRD EDITION

FROM WASHINGTON THIS P. M.

Governor Patton's Plan of Restoration--General Grant Getting Better--General Butler at the Capital--Interesting Personal News, Etc.

[SPECIAL DESPATCHES TO EVENING TELEGRAPH.]

WASHINGTON, December 28.

What Governor Patton Will Do.

Governor Patton of Alabama will probably remain in Washington until the reassembling of Congress, in order that he may confer with members and gain some assurances that Alabama will be admitted upon the ratification of the Constitutional Amendment.

If such assurances can be obtained, an effort will be made for combined action by leading Southern men, to induce the Southern States to accept the amendment rather than risk the adoption of other guarantees.

Personal.

General Ben. Butler is in town, and will remain until the meeting of Congress.

The President on Skates.

The Washington Skating Park is to be inaugurated to-morrow, and President Johnson and other dignitaries are to be present.

General Grant Getting Better.

General Grant is recovering from his indisposition.

The Postmaster-General and His Lady.

Postmaster-General Randall, who has been in New York some days, expecting to meet his wife by European steamer, returned this morning without her. She was in feeble health when last heard from, and fears are felt for her safety.

Idaho.

Instructions have been issued for the commencement of Government surveys in Idaho Territory. Preference to be given to mining lands and lands required for immediate settlement.

POLITICAL.

Mr. Boutwell on Reconstruction.

BOSTON, December 28.—Ex-Governor Boutwell delivered a lecture in this city last evening upon the subject of "The Restoration of the Union and its Relation to Business." In the outset he stated that the restoration of the Union was most important to the business community, and should be carefully considered by them. He then clearly defined what was meant by immediate restoration which many urged impatiently it meant the return to power of men who had been Rebels, and who were Rebels, men who unquestionably seek the destruction of the Government. After showing by figures that slavery had tended to prevent the growth of the population of the South, and the development of its resources, he discussed the various plans offered for reconstruction. He condemns the President's plan, and that which suggested only the adoption of the Constitutional amendment, as simply a restoration of power to the Rebels and a return to the ancient order of things. The plan proposed by many of admitting the States when they should adopt the amendment, and also a system of impartial restricted suffrage on a basis of education or property, was also objected to, as it would give to the Rebels motives to keep from the colored population education, and thus push them from the ballot-box. The only plan that would be just, he held, was the adoption of the amendment, in addition to a law of universal suffrage.

Republican Congressional Nomination in New Hampshire.

DOVER, N. H., December 27.—The Republican Convention to nominate a candidate for Congress in the First District met here to-day. Every delegate was present, and no little excitement pervaded the meeting. Charles H. Bell, of Exeter, presided. Three ballotings were held, the latter resulting as follows:—Ela, 124; Wheeler, 119; Marston, 2; Rollins, 2. Ela was nominated by 1 majority. The nomination was made unanimous by the Convention. Mr. Ela accepted the nomination in an able speech.

Wreck of the Steamer Commodore.

RIVER HEAD, L. I., December 28.—The Sound steamer Commodore has gone ashore one mile north of Horton's Point, and now lies with her bow out of water, the tide having fallen. Three boat loads of passengers have been landed, and the steamer is fast breaking up.

NO LIVES LOST.

RIVER HEAD, Long Island, December 28.—The Sound steamer Commodore was wrecked in the terrific gale of last night off Canfield light-ship. At 10 o'clock she became unmanageable, and she was beached at daylight off Heston Point. No lives were lost. All on board were safely landed. A portion of the freight and all the baggage may be saved. The steamer will be a total wreck. The passengers have all gone forward to New York.

The Storm.

ALBANY, December 28.—The storm of yesterday was the most severe since 1835. Twenty inches of snow fell, and drifted terribly, so that railroad communication is entirely suspended. The train due here at 4·30 ran into a snow drift a few miles west of this place. An effort was made to reach the train from this city with six locomotives and two cars, but they could not proceed beyond the city limits. The snow had drifted beyond the tops of the locomotives.

No trains have arrived or been despatched to-day, nor is it likely any will be for some time.

TROY, N. Y., December 28.—Two feet of snow has fallen here, and the streets are all blocked. Several trains of cars are within a few miles of the city, but cannot reach here. No trains have arrived since yesterday noon, and none have left. It is the greatest storm that has occurred for twenty years, and still continues.

Arrival of the Palmyra.

NEW YORK, December 28.—The steamship Palmyra, from Liverpool on the 11th, is at anchor in the bay. The tide is very low.

Effects of the Storm.

NEW YORK, December 28.—A fresh wind from the southwest prevailed since last evening, causing very low water in our rivers. The ferry navigation is very difficult on all sides of the city on this account.

The Steamship Australasian Aground.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Such is the effect of the ebb tide here that the steamship Australasian, with news three days later from Europe, is aground in the bay. Three schooners are reported ashore inside of Sandy Hook.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Stocks strong. Chicago and Rock Island, 108⅜; Reading, 106¼; Canton Company, 45½; Erie, 67⅞; Cleveland and Toledo, 124½; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 87½; Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, 106½; Michigan Central, 107½; Michigan Southern, guaranteed, 82½; Illinois Central scrip, 117½; Cumberland preferred, 76; Missouri 6s, 92; Five-twenties of 1862, 105½; of 1864, 104½; of 1865, 104½; Ten-forties, 99⅞; Seven-thirties, 104; Sterling Exchange, 109; Gold, 132½; at sight, 110; Money at 7 per cent.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Cotton dull; Uplands, 33@33½. Flour is 5@10 cents higher; sales of 5500 bbls. State, $8·80@12·10; Ohio, $11·10@13·60; Western, $8·50@12·60; Southern unchanged. Wheat quiet and firm. Corn very dull. Beef quiet. Dressed Hogs, 50 cents better; sales at $8@8·50. Western Pork firmer; sales of 1000 bbls. Mess at $20·75@21.

THE MASSACHUSETTS LIQUOR LAW.

The Proprietors of the Principal Hotels in Boston Indicted for Violating the Liquor Law--They are Fined $50 Each, and Sentenced to the House of Correction for Three Months--The Temperance Alliance, Etc.

BOSTON, December 27.—The proprietors of the largest and most popular hotels were before the Municipal Court to-day, to answer to complaints alleging that they individually maintain liquor nuisances, which is contrary to the laws of the State. The Parker House was represented by Harvey D. Parker, Young's Hotel by George Young, and the Revere and Tremont Houses by William Brigham.

They pleaded guilty, and were each fined $50 and costs, sentenced to three months' imprisonment in the House of Correction, and ordered to give bonds in the sum of $1000 not to violate the liquor law for the period of twelve months. They appealed, as is usual in such cases, and each went security for the appearance of the other before the Superior Court in the sum of $500 each.

They bore themselves with great fortitude, considering the awful and trying circumstances under which they were placed. There was quite a crowd in the court at the time, and much joking was indulged in at the expense of the worthy hotel proprietors. The warrants of arrest were issued by request of the counsel for the smaller liquor dealers, who have been prosecuted by the State constabulary.

The Massachusetts State Temperance Alliance has pledged $4000 to the National Temperance Society at New York, towards paying its current expenses during the coming year. This money is to be raised among the various temperance men, without interfering with the work in the State. Already several hundred dollars have been subscribed.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Another Inventor in Want.

Under the heading of "Another Snider Case," a London journal publishes the following:—

"An application was made for relief to a vestryman of Camberwell in October last. He visited the applicant, and found him in the last stage of distress, having had no meal for some days, no fire for a fortnight, and having supported existence for a year by pawning clothes; his furniture seized for rent, and he himself expecting every moment to be arrested for Queen's taxes. The sufferer was seventy years of age, by name William H. James, whose great invention in 1820 of the tubular boiler is well known to have caused the entire success of the railway system, as well as leading to important modifications in marine and other boilers. A patent for superheated high-pressure steam is amongst his more recent inventions, to secure which he has paid the Patent Office in the last twenty years the sum of £3000. A small sum for immediate relief was granted, and yesterday a committee of gentlemen met at the office of Messrs. Greenwood & Co., No. 93 Cannon street, to raise a sum for the relief of the old man, who is very ill. A subscription was entered into, and Mr. Washington Lyon, of Peckham, appointed Secretary, and the London and County Banks Treasurers. An appeal to the Civil List has, for the present, proved ineffectual, and one to the Civil Engineers' Benevolent Society has been unsuccessful, Mr. James not having subscribed."

An Extraordinary Elopement.

The Fifeshire *Advertiser* reports an elopement of the eldest son in one of the first families of Fifeshire with his father's cook. The young gentleman had been reared with the greatest care, and had only returned from Eton last year with high academic honors. He was destined by his father as the husband of a young and beautiful heiress, to whom he had even paid his addresses.

The bride, who is a buxom brunette, is by some years older than the bridegroom, and has been in the family for a considerable period. It was discovered that they had departed for Montrose, whether the father of the hero followed, but only to find them slumbering in each other's arms. So enraged was the old gentleman that, forgetting all delicacy, he was about to eject her from the bedroom, when she collared her quondam master, and hurled him headlong from the apartment.

The runaway son endeavored to explain and pacify his insulted parent, when the lady seized her husband, and, conveying him almost *vi et armis* back to the bedroom, locked the door. The young gentleman is entitled to considerable property in his own right. The pair are spending the honeymoon now at Cheltenham.

The Rights of Railroad Travellers to First-Class Cars on First-Class Tickets.

A Mr. W. P. Dale, of New York, having business in the West, reached Hamilton, and, after transacting his business there, got on the Chicago and Cincinnati train for a point farther up. There were but two cars—a ladies' car, so-called, and a smoking-car—into which Mr. Dale was obliged to go, the brakesman refusing him access to the ladies' car. He appealed to the conductor, whose name is Cooper, but he sustained the action of the brakesman.

Mr. Dale asserted his right to a seat in the first-class car on his first-class ticket, and refused to give it up until he received what he was entitled to, whereupon the conductor called the workmen on the train to his aid, and forcibly ejected him from the train. Instead of going on the succeeding train, Mr. Dale came to this city, and going to the office of the Chicago and Cincinnati Railroad, made a statement of his case. The Company acted promptly in the matter—discharged the conductor, and compensated Mr. Dale for his loss of time, and decided, besides, that the holder of a first-class ticket has the right to a seat in a first-class car. *Cincinnati Commercial.*

French Political Witticism.—The Parisians are said to be circulating privately a poetical squib on the Franco-Mexican expedition, which, as it indicates the turn of opinion of the people, we translate as best we can in the following:—

Mexico is a vampire,
And very costly, too,
We furnished it with one Empire,
And now it eats up two