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JAPAN.

Mikado's Grand Procession to Yeddo. A New York Tribune correspondent, writing from Yokohama, November 27, says:-

* As the present week has witnessed an event the like of which has not been observed in Japan for some hundreds of years. I have concluded to give you some account of it. I refer to the procession of the Mikado from Kyoto to Yeddo, which has just taken place. His Highness the Mikado left his southern capital, Kyoto, on the 4th instant, and reached this place on the 24th, and arrived in Yedo on the 26th, making the entire journey in twenty-one days. As hinted above, this is not an absolutely new thing, but one which has not occurred for many years- the Japanese say not for 2000 years. Au-Ciently, say 800 years ago, before the rise of the military class, when the capital of Japan was at Nara, a place some 25 miles from Kyoto, his Majesty freely-made excursions to various places, accompanied by only a few retainers, and was grazed upon by his devoted subjects. But in the course of time the capital was removed to Kyoto, 400 years agot and about that time the military class was in possession of supreme power, and the Mikado was nominally the supreme ruler of the land, but actually he was only a subject, and an instrument often used by successive Tycoons in subdame insubordinate Damios to their sway. Some what later, after the Parties to their sway. Somewhat later, a ter the rise of the Tokugawa dynasty, which ended with the late Trycoon Stosbashi, the Mikado was clothed with all the insignia of rank and out-ward respect, and confined to his castle in Kyoto, which he has not left for generations tall quite recently. Wolle the nominal head of the nation was thus confined and thus treated with great respect, the Tycoon monopolized all real power, and claimed for himself the highest respect from the neopie. That you may have with great respect, the Tychon monopower real power, and claimed for himself the highest respect from the people. That you may have some idea of the kind and degree of respect required from the people, you have only to know that hitherto when a Tycoon passed along a street in Yeddo, or made a journey to Kyota, generally a visit of ceremony to the M'kado, all the people were required to go into their houses, shut their doors, and remain quiet till the lengthy train was past. Not only so, but to prevent any of the common people from gating on his High Mightiness, a public officer went in and sealed the doors; and if ever a scal was broken, the offender was published as the law required. When this was the law of the hund, it sometimes hap-pened that brave men exercised the infilerable right of position in a manner which reason and conscience universality approve, but which then and the these forthot. and conscience universality approve, but which the laws of Japan then forbid. More cases than one are recorded in Japanese history in which men, to gain, if possible, redress for the wrongs inflicted by inter.or officers, have boldly rushed, petition in hand, from their conceal-ment, and breaking through the ranks of retainers, have presented it to the head of the nation, and instead of obtaining redress for their wrongs have only aggravated their condition. Such has been the state of things in Japan for generations. Men have been prevented the exercise of their simplest rights in this arbitrary manner. It was then received as a token of future good, and a sign of progress, when, a short time ago, it was proclaimed to the Japanese that they would not only be showed to come out of their houses when the Mikado should pass along, but also, if it rained, they might keep up their unbrelias. A shed and platform were also crected for the accommodaplatform were also erected for the accommoda-tion of the foreigners residing in Yokohama. Your correspondent had the ciriosity, two days before the procession passed along, to go from Yokohama about two miles, to Kanagawa, a village through which the Tokalio or national road passes, and where the Mikado was expected to longe mile. to lodge one night. Great preparations were making for his reception. The road was undergoing thorough repair, and it needed it badly enough. In some places it looked as if it had not undergone repair since his Majesty last passed along some centuries ago, as aforesaid. But now ample amends were being made for past neglect, and should his Majesty here-after frequently pass, travellers will doubtless be the gainers. Your correspondent also ob-served that the old posts which marked the boundary of a district were taken down and new ones erected in their places. Two new houses of superior workmanship were erected in the Kanagawa; one at the side of the prin-cipal hotel for his Majesty to lodge in, and concluent the only Sintoo, temple for the recen-tion of his baggage. These structures, though costly, will no doubt be torn down to prevent their being used by the valgar, after the distinguished guest has departed. As he does not lodge in an old house, so it is said he doss not eat twice from the same dish, which is invariably broken after he has used it, Apropos to this custom, a Javanese friend of mine tells me that some years ago he visited a town near Kyoto, the inhabitants of which. though poor, yet as people who live near court are apt to do, made an effort to imitate royalty, and broke their dishes after using them once. Hence they were compelled to use very cheap dishes, made of the clay very rough and badly burnt, so that the smell of the ciny took away not a little of the taste for food. much for maintaining cost and keeping up with the fashions. I noticed too that a large stone gateway through which he was expected to pass. sufficiently strong of itself, was propped up and bound with ropes very securely so prevent its falling perhaps when shaken by the steps of majesty. But the august personage, being a boy yet in his teens, is not likely by his personal might to incur such a calamity as is here supposed. Another significant fact was that the Buddhist images were carefully removed from their places, or shut out from view by a screen of boards set up between them and the road. This is significant when viewed in connection with the fact that a great effort is now made in the south to revive Sintonian and suppress Ruddhism. Buddhism and Chinese literature were introduced into Japan about one thousand years ago, and now they are trying to banish both. Books are printed in the ancent nutive coaracter, and characters are entirely eliminated. A spirit of nationality is entrety entimated. A spirit of nationality is springing up. As in Europe the cry is "Ire-land for the Irish," "Germany for Germans," so here we begin to hear something like "Japan for Japanese." "Why should Japan be in-debted to India and China for religion and literature, when it is the land of the gods, and literature the Son of Hearen it." Therefore, when its ruler the Son of Heaven i" Therefore, when the Mikado, who is Pontifex Maximus of the aboriginall Sintooism, passes to his northern capital, the inferior and foreign divinities must be removed or hidden from view. All preparations were completed by the 24th instant, on the afternoon of which day nearly all Yokohama, native and foreign, went to the place appointed to witness the spectacle. It was quite a mixed throng. A multitade of natives lined the Tokaido, while in the principal station a crowd of foreigners - English, American, French, and German, with not a few Chinese-were associated. was declared extinct by the attending physi-American, French, and German, with not a few Chinese-were assembled. Placards were up in conspicnous places requesting foreigners not to cheer when the Mixado passed. After waiting some time, we got a hint that his Majesty was*approaching, from the fact that native officials came along and required the Japanese, who lined the road, in places eight or ten deep, all to take down their hats from high places, and kneel or squat down. This they did with difficulty, as more room is needed when people kneel than when they stand. At when people kneel than when they stand. At length they were all down, and quiet, the front ratk, at least, with their wooden shoes off. They must not be seen with their shoes or they must not be seen with their shoes or clogs on at such a time. Soon the royal procession came in sight, headed by two men on horseback, one after the other, said to be Daimios. Their saddles and bridles were richly gilded and ornamented, and the riders were very long hats of the shape seen in pictures representing nats of the shape sten in pictures repra-senting such scenes. Their robes also were very wide, and long, and flowing, made of red and purple and yellow silk, with a profusion of gift ornaments. Those that followed on horseback, whether Daimios or kuges, were all dressed in the same style, indicating that their rank was the same though their wealth was different. Some were mere boys, with pale boyish faces, not indicative of much energy or force of character. There were in all about twenty of these mounted nobility in the procession. After the first two princes, and at intervals, came companies of soldiers, headed by a band, with mative files and foreign drams, playing nalive and foreign music. I doubt

wore a black coat and pants, made something after the fashion of foreigners, while their hats and shoes were purely Japanese, the latter made of straw, and hence their tread was almost noiseless. About the centre of the pro-cession was the closed chair of the Mikalo. richly ornamented, and surrounded by a large gold peacock; but the curtaies were down. It was borne very slowly and solemnly by a num-ber of men wearing swords, and at their side again walked men of rank, richly dressed. The again walked men of rank, richly dressed. The high chair bore the Mikado's coat-of-arms, and all eyes were strained to pierce the curtains, but to no purpose. His Majesty was invisible, as he would have been had we all, after the manner of the good old times, been confined to our houses, or he confined to his patace in Kyoto. While the box in which his Majesty was supposed to be was carried past, foreigners observed a commendable silence, the footspeeps of the bearers were inaudible, and the foreigners observed a commendable silence, the footsteps of the bearers were inaudible, and tho natives were almost breathless with awe, in-spired by the great occasion. But when he was once pust, people began to give expression to their several opulons, some declaring it was a great sell, and others maintaining that this show of the result chair and its hearers and show of the royal chair and its bearers and insignia was all that could have been reasonably insignia was all that could have been reasonably expected, and that it was agreat step in advance of anything yet witnessed in Japan. So, enter-taining different views of the scene, and with different impressions and emotions, some on foot and some on horseback, the foreign popu-lation and the native returned to Yokohama, jostifing the carriers of royal baggage not a little by the way. by the way.

THE SCAFFOLD.

A Negro Hanged on New Year's Day-Singular Scene at the Execution. Augustus Holmes, a mulatto, was hanged at

Tarbiro, N. C., on January I, for the murder of Matthew King. A correspondent of the New York Herald thus describes the scene at the execution:-

New Year's day being from time immemorial a holiday with the negroes, large numbers had througed to town, as well to enjoy themselves and make purchases as to see the "hangin'," These began to collect in the vicinity of the These began to collect in the vicinity of the scattold at an early hour, and by 11 A. M. a large crowd were massed on the side from which the condemned was most exposed to public view. The guard were stationed in regular order round the scatfold, and besides these a large number of persons had been ad-mitted within the jail-yard enclosure. Shor Jy ofter he was sensed Houses requested that some after he was scatted Holwes requested that some-body would pray for him, and at the suggestion of a party hear the scaffold, as the condemned had embraced the tenets of the Catuolic fault, Mr. James Mebegan, a very venerable and respected liish gentleman residing here, was asked to make the desired prayer. This he did, though a profes-sional Baptist clergyman was present, and as he repeated, with uncovered head, his grey locks shaken by the wind, the Lord's prayer in all its simple beauty and purity, followed by the Belief and another short prayer, the scene was exceedually solemn and impressive. But after he was seated Holmes requested that some was exceedingly solemn and impressive. But this was not long to remain so. The condemned then asked that somebody would sing a hymn, and asked that H hard Chapman and his wife, negroes, be sent for. This request was also complied with, but while the messenger was absent a number of other negroes voluntcered absent a humber of other hegrees volunteered to sing. Accordingly they came, men and women, clinbing over the fences, splasning through the mud and ascending the scaffold, until at one time, there being ten people upon the drop besides the condemned, fears were entertained that the rope by which it was suspended might give way. One regro woman, who at first spoke calmly enough, became learfully excited and broke forth in an uncontrollable fit of religious enthuslasm, which for a while created quite a com-motion. Then another religious enthusiast, a male negro, "gave out" a hymn and invited all, whether inside or outside the enclosure, to come forward and "line in de singin'," which invita-tion many accepted, and the hymn was chanted with all the wildness and fervor peculiar to negroes. Another negro, a preacher, who was ambitious and did not wish to be eclipsed, then ambitious and did not wish to be eclipsed, then made a semi-prayer and speech, which for richness of dialect and absurdity of English pronunciation has no equal. Nearly a dozen negro women had meantime ascended the scaffold, and were engaged speaking to the condemned, shaking hands with him, and taking a last farewell. Next followed another hypn, differing hitle from the one previously sume, and while this was in progress Mark King. sung, and while this was in progress Mary King, wife of the murdered man, with her child in her came splashing through the mud towards the scaffold. She climbed the steps, and extending her hand, shook that of the condemned warmly, and told htvn she forgave him. The scene was quite affecting. Again and again Holmes, evidently unnerved, asked if he was forgiven, being assured in the affirmative each time. He shook hands with the child, a little girl about six years of age, said that he had killed its fa her, for which he was sorry, and killed its fa her, for which he was sorry, and hoped God and everybody else would forgive him. These curious though somewhat solemn ended at the request of the condemned Mr. Phillips, his counsel, read from the scaffold the confession, which was heard by the entire crowd. Thus, instead of a private, this was one of the most public executions ever witnessed, notwithstanding the law to the contrary. It was made an actual exhibition. The scaffold being cleared the Sheriff informed the condemned that his hour had arrived, but from the continued excitement of the hour previous, he was unable to rise to his feet without quite an effort. The cap was then placed over his head, but he asked that it be removed for an instant to gain another glimpse of the light of heaven. This was done, and it was again re-placed, forever darkening the earthly vision of Gus Holmes. The rope was then adjusted, and when the knot was placed the condemued fairly gave way at the knees and would have sunk upon the drop but that he was caught. At juncture the Sherif, who was somewhat excited, as might be expected under the circumstance said, "Hold on, Gus; you won't be hurt." A negro had to be called to the platform to support the sinking man, and as he had to stand clear of the drop, Holmes became in a position leaning against him entirely helpless, his feet being towards the front of the drop. The consequence of this was that when the drop fell, the condemned slid off, the knot having worked round to the back of his neck. Strangulation was the result. The neck was not broken. There was a violent convulsive movement of the lower limbs, lasting for nearly three minutes. Breathing ceased in seven minutes and a half pulsation in twelve minutes, and in twenty minutes life

is 58; and Senator Trumbull, 56. The members of the House of Representatives are nearly all young men. Mr. James Brooks and Mr. E. B. Washburne are among the oldest, and are re-spectively 59 and 53 years of age.

PARSON BROWNLOW.

His Opinion of the Office seekers, His opinion of the onice sceners. I am daily called upon, either in person or by letter, to sign petitions asking offices from the Federal Government, and also wishing me to write letters to Republican Senators urging the confirmation of men nominated for office by President Johnson. I respectfully decline doing either, and shall take no part in the scramble for office under the present national adminifor office under the present national adminis-tration. After General Grant is inaugurated I tration. After General Grant is inaugurated I propose to take a haud, openly and above-board, and, once for all, silow me to say that I believe the Republicans who supported Grant and Colfax ars entitled to the offices and should have them; and I think the Seymour and Blair men should have more modesty than to ask for office. If, however, largely in the majority as the Republicans are, they shall find they have not men qualified to fill the offices, then let them call upon the Seymour Democratic party to furnish such material. Until that call is made I submit that modesty would dictate is made 1 submit that modesty would dictate that the adherents of that party should stand back. This is my platform. I have taken my stard upon it. I hope I am now understood, and that I will not be subjected to further an-Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 29, 1868.

DELAWARE.

Tragedy in Cecil County.

Joseph Thomas, aged about 30 years, an un-Joseph Thomas, aged about 30 years, an un-married colored man, lived in a little shanty near Moflitt's Mill, about two miles ab /ve North East. He kept, on a small scale, a con-fectionery, and slept in the same room at nights. Last Tuesday, the 20th ultimo, about 3 o'clock' P. M., he was discovered lying in his bunk in a dying condition, weltering in blood that had flowed from frightful wounds about his head and throat, which had evidently been inflicted with an ave that was lying in the room. inflicted with an axe that was lying in the room, covered with gore. Thomas was unable, from exhaustion, when found, to give any ciue to the perpetrator of the awful deed, or to the causes feading thereto. It is thought, however, that the act was committed in order to rob Thomas of money which he was supposed to have in his postession. He died about 4 o'clock on the following Wednesday morning. Strong circum stantist evidence pointed to a mulatio by the name of Philip Noian as the murderer, and he was accordingly arrested and committed to await further investigation. An inquest was held in the case on Wednesday morning last, by Isaac N. Benjamin, Esq., of North East, with twelve jurymen, and a verdict rendered in accordance with the foregoing facts .- Cecil Whig.

CHIVALRIC.

"As Good as Any Other Man."

Mr. Patrick O'Mealy sends the following card to the editor of the New Orleans Times -

Mr. Editor:--I positively deny the statement in the local column of the *Times* in reference to the prize-tight which took place last Sunday, between Dan Carr and myself. We were merely fighting in order to find out who was the best man, and not for the sake of the money staked on the fight. I would certainly have won the fight, only my second placed a small piece of paper in my hand to keep it shut-it was only about the size of a five-dollar bill-and on this ground there was a foul claimed in favor of Carr. I would also wish the people to know that it is talse about my nose being split in three places and my left eye being knocked out. I am as well as ever, and will fight Daniel Carr for \$500 a side within six weeks' time. Man and money at Mr. Michael Hyde's No, 49 Girod street. So put up or shut up. Respectfully. PAT O'MEALY.

A Crue Ruler,

The Viceroy of Egypt, busy with the building of a huge theatre, the production of Offenbach's operas, and the engagement of Mad'lle Schuei-der, inds leisure to attend to the affairs of his Government only so far as to oppress the people and wring money out of them to support his extravagance. He recently banished Halim Pasha, the last surviving son of Mohammed Ali, and in return Halim has printed a letter in

French, in which he says:-"May your Highness reflect on the last words which I address to you. Separated from your

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PROPOSALS.

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INSURE AT HOME mediate points on the route to that depot. Bidders will stale the rate per 100 pounds per 100 miles at which they will transport the stores in each month of the year, beginning April 1 tree. Beparate bid, bowey, an vited and will be en-cited to for it if transport statistic and from the iol-owing refines the rate bid but r per 100 pounds for the if cottant, and but remained by as in the for-per former. if Cuttan CLED DD in thes, as in the fore- D CFC C ______ CL _____ CL HARKER
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INTERESTING.

The Ages of American and English Statesmen,

The new English Cabinet is an exceptionally young one, the oldest member, Lord Charendon, original only 65, while the youngest, the Marquis of Hartington, is but 35. Mr. Gladstone, the Premier, is 59; the Duke of Argyil and Mr. Fortescue are 45; Lord Kimberiy is 42; Earl de Grey and Mr. Childers are 41, and Mr. Goschen 37.

The average age of the whole Cabinet is thus only fifty years and four months, which is five years and two months less than that of its prelecestor. Another peculiarity of the present Cabinet is the precidence of commoners over titled personages. Mr. Gialstone, as First Lord of the Treasury, of course takes procedence of all the rest; Mr. Lowe, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, comes third in rank; Mr. Childers follows him as First Lord of the Admiralty, and

follows him as First Lord of the Admiralty, and Mr. Cardwell is next as Secretary of War. Below these simple gentlemen must perforce walk the Duke of Argyll, Earl Granville, and the Marquis of Hartington, besides a host of nobles who are not in the Cabinet proper, but still form part of the Government pageant. Let us compare the ages of some of our own rulers and public men with those of the Britten Liberal Cabinet officers.

rulers and public men with those of the Brittsh Liberal Cabinet officers. General Grant is 47, and Mr. Colfax only 48. Andrew Johnson is 61; Mr. Seward, 68; General Schofield but 28; Mr. Welles, 67; Mr. McCul-loch, 58; Mr. Randall and Mr. Browning, 59. We do not know the exact age of Mr. Swarts, but he cannot be more than 50. Mr. Wale, the President of the Senate, is 69: Senator Samper much whether such music has been heard for some hundreds of years past. The soldiers President of the Senate, is 69; Senator Summer

natural advisers, from the members of your family, who alone would dare to tell you the truth, your Highness rives and governs in the midst of a toreign party which conceals, and which is interested to conceal, it from you. It is thus that yours is a reign of constant suspi-cions, accusations, rage. * * Your vil-lages are ruined; your lost subjects vainly seek to withdraw themselves from the incestantly revewed demands of which they are the object the Egyptian debt is more than trebled; im-ports are augmented by more than 40 per cent. Who will dare deny the trath of these facts? Is it thus that your Highness pretends to realize progress, so frequently and solemnly promised to Europe and to this country? The trath, whatever may be the efforts to obscure and conceal it, will free itself victoriously. "HALIM."

Dispute Between Two French Authors.

Who shall decide when authors disagree? The Pail Malt Gazette says:-"A paper war has arisen between M Victorien Sardou and M. Jules Claretie. Each of them has written a drama relating to the revolt of the Netherlands, and the question is, whether M. Sardou some what smartly took a hint from M. Claretic, or whether two dramatists have innocently hit on the same idea. In the course of a letter to M. Sardou his adversary thus enumerates the sources of that gentlemau's most celebrated

'You have borrowed the 'Ganaches' from Balzac, and 'Piccolino' from Louis Ulbach, 'Nos Intimes' from 'Les Faux Bonhommes' of Barriere and from the 'Paratonnerre' of M. Gabriel. You have appropriated 'Les Pommes du Voisin' of M. de Bernard, and taken the contract scene of the 'Famille Benoiton' from Barriere again; the plot of the 'Maison Neuve' you have borrowed from a novel of Gozlan's. 'Nos bons Villageois' from the 'Paysans' of Balzac and an Italian novelist: while the 'Pattes de Mouche' are simply stolen from Edgar Poe, and sauced a ta Parizienne."

This is rather severe on M. Sardou.

-The University of Virginia gives instruction in Sanserit, Hebrew, and Anglo-Saxon. -The Boston Wesleyan University Club ate

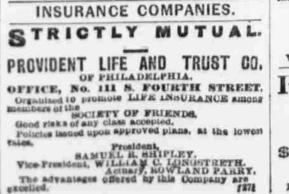
its annual dinner at the Revers House on Wednesday last. -It is estimated that the pecuniary value

of Michigan University to the city of Ann Arbor is about \$450,000 yearly.

-J. Edwards Leonard, the class orator of '67 at Harvard, has had the degree of LL.D. conferred on him at Heidelberg.

-The University of Virginia has no carriculum, each student taking his choice. Honorary degrees are forbidden these.

-The Trinity Tablet issued a Christmas supplement, containing a complete list of the valedictorians and salutatorians of Trinity since 1827.



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ARTEUL G. COFFIN, Presideas OHABLES PLATT, Scirciary, WILLIAM BUEHLER, Harrisburg, Pa-, Centra Agent for the State of Pennsylvania. 1957

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