

Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1870.

THE DEATH OF LOPEZ.

INTELLIGENCE, apparently authentic, of the death of Lopez, the Paraguayan Dictator, has been received through the cable by way of Lisbon. The rumors with regard to the whole Paraguayan conflict are so contradictory that there is always a doubt as to their authenticity, and in announcing the death of Lopez we must of course expect the possibility that he will turn up again alive and well. This rumor, however, seems to be entitled to credit, and presuming it to be true, we may consider the Paraguayan war to be at an end. There has been a great diversity of opinion as to the right and wrong of this conflict, and Lopez has had many eager partisans, who have represented him as a pure and liberal-minded patriot struggling to preserve the liberties of his country from being crushed out by the despotic Government of Brazil. He at least succeeded in a very remarkable degree in securing the adherence of his own countrymen, and the resistance of the Paraguayans will stand as one of the most remarkable in history. We believe that the annihilation of Lopez was in the interests of liberty and humanity. He was a tyrant after the manner of his infamous predecessor, Dr. Francia, and he pursued a policy that with the advancement of civilization could not fail to bring him into a conflict with other nations that would certainly result in his own destruction. The result of the great war that has terminated in the death of Lopez will be to open up one of the finest and most fruitful regions of South America to emigration, commerce, and the influences of civilization. It brings to an end a system of government that was a disgrace to the age, and prepares the way for better things. However much we may respect the determined valor and the skillful generalship of Lopez, it is a matter for congratulation that his career has been brought to an end, and that the terrible war that has practically annihilated the Paraguayan nation has finally terminated.

CONGRESS AND TAXATION.

ONE of the greatest advantages enjoyed by the people of this country previous to the war was their comparative immunity from taxation. As, however, they did not stop to count the cost of suppressing the Rebellion, and as they are determined to maintain untarnished the financial honor of the United States, they are willing now to submit to heavy exactions to defray the annual burden of the existing debt and to provide for its gradual reduction. But legislators, Congressmen, Cabinet officers, and Presidents should beware how they trifle with this honorable sentiment. The debt has ceased to be a novelty. Men have counted and measured it with no little care, and a series of financial experiments have pretty well demonstrated what is and what is not necessary to provide for its payment. As matters are progressing now, under existing laws, the whole principal would be paid off in ten years, and meanwhile the citizens of the respective States, cities, towns, and counties would be staggering under the burden of a series of local debts only one degree less oppressive than those imposed by national authority. These tax bills constitute, in the aggregate, a larger average exaction from each individual and a much larger exaction from each dollar's worth of property than is assessed in any other part of the civilized world; so that, at this moment, America has changed her enviable old position for that of the most heavily taxed nation on the globe. While the people shrink with just horror from repudiation, they are daily and hourly growing more indignant at the reckless indifference with which unnecessary burdens have been imposed in some instances, and at the prevailing indisposition at the National Capitol to hasten the adoption of measures that would grant practical and substantial relief. The Secretary of the Treasury estimated, in his last annual report, that the surplus revenue of the present fiscal year would amount to more than one hundred millions of dollars. It is not merely unnecessary, but it is unjust, impolitic, and cruel to the last degree, to extract this enormous sum from impoverished tax-payers. Full treasuries are a perpetual temptation to the scheming speculators who are forever inventing schemes to fish the public money, and as they prevent the adoption of a strictly economical policy, they constantly stimulate the increase of burdens which are already insupportable. The financial honor of the nation would be amply provided for if one-fourth of the existing national taxation was abolished; and the people are now keenly watching their Representatives to see how speedily and how judiciously they will provide for the abolition of this proportion of the national revenues. Up to this time matters have progressed very slowly. We are threatened with a perpetuation of the income tax, which is one of the most odious that was ever imposed, and which has justly been denounced for its tendency to convert the people into a nation of liars. The discussion on the Tariff bill promises to be well-nigh interminable, and the free-traders are doing their best to make the popular demand for reduced taxation a pretext for overthrowing the diversified domestic industry which is the main reliance for averting eventual bankruptcy. Meanwhile, nothing tangible and satisfactory is being done, but the Republican Congressmen who desire to be re-nominated and re-elected will meet with but a cold reception from their constituents if this do-nothing policy is not speedily changed. It is their business to reduce the taxes which the people know to their sorrow are now un-

necessarily heavy. Let them not pander to the pride of this man or that who hopes to boast that, by their connivance in perpetuating unnecessary burdens, he has paid off in an incredibly short period an incredibly large portion of the public debt. It is time that false sentimentality and official pride on such subjects should be squelched. The interests of the forty millions of mighty people who have borne the brunt of the struggle are so immeasurably superior to the ambition or the wishes of any single individual or combination of individuals, that the cries of oppressed tax-payers for relief should silence every other voice in the Capitol. Let Congressmen see to it that they do not adjourn without reducing the taxes in a way that every man feels, or let them abandon all aspirations for a re-election. Their tinkering with the tariff will be no excuse if they fail in the main point. If they really mean business, let them abolish the income tax, take off the duties on tea and coffee and similar articles, which, while entering into the consumption of every family, are not produced in this country, and strike from the list of internal revenue taxes every item which can be spared. This is a short, easy, and satisfactory method of doing their duty, and if they adjourn without adopting it, or some better mode of relieving a grievously oppressed people, nominating conventions will take special pains to select more faithful Representatives.

SENATOR REVELS.

THE successor of Jefferson Davis in the Senate of the United States will appear before the public of Philadelphia to-morrow evening, in the capacity of a lecturer. This will enable him to say many things that would be out of place in the Senate chamber, and the discourse, whatever its merits may be as a rhetorical or oratorical performance, will have a particular interest and value that will commend it to the notice of all who are interested in the advancement of the colored race. Jefferson Davis left the Senate to accept the position of leader of a rebellion against a free government for the perpetration of negro slavery, and there is a poetical justice in the fact that as one of the leaders of the Rebellion the State of Mississippi is to-day represented in the Senate by one of the race despised and oppressed by Davis and his fellow traitors.

That the old spirit of antagonism to the negroes, fostered by the slave system which so long disgraced this country, is not dead yet even in the breasts of those who profess to call themselves Republicans and friends of freedom, was sufficiently shown by the mean and illiberal action of the Republican Board of Directors of the Academy of Music. These individuals refused to allow Senator Revels to speak from their stage for no other reason than that his skin was a few shades darker than their own, and thereby they merited and received the hearty contempt of a majority of their fellow-citizens. This action of the Academy Directors has found no apologists except among those who apologized for the Rebellion, who approved the war, who glorified the successes of the traitors, and who have endeavored in every way to obstruct the progress of free ideas since the Rebellion was subdued, and its principal effect has been to excite a more than usual interest in the gentleman whom they insulted. Senator Revels will be greeted to-morrow evening at Horticultural Hall by an audience that will only be limited by the size of the building, and we anticipate from him a discourse that will demonstrate his title to the regard of all who are able to appreciate talent and intelligence whether they be possessed by white men or negroes.

The subject of Senator Revels' lecture will be "The Press," and he will speak of its uses, abuses, and its great influences for good, especially as shown by the course of the loyal press during the dark hours of the Rebellion. To-morrow will be the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and when we remember him as the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, and that he was murdered because he granted freedom to the negroes of the South, it is proper that upon such an occasion a negro who has shown himself fit to occupy one of the highest offices of the Government should appear before a loyal Philadelphia audience as the representative of his race. Mr. Revels, since he has been in the Senate, has conducted himself with a modesty that does him credit and that puts to shame his revilers. He has shown himself to be a gentleman and a man of sense by refusing to notice the abuse that has been levelled against him, and he is in every way worthy of a cordial reception at the hands of the citizens of Philadelphia when he appears to-morrow evening.

ARCTIC EXPLORATIONS.

QUITE a lively controversy is now being carried on before the committees of Congress having charge of the matter by Captain Hall and Dr. I. I. Hayes, the Arctic explorers, with regard to which of the twin shall be entrusted with a new expedition that both are anxious to have Congress fit out for the purpose of further investigations into the character of the country in the neighborhood of the North Pole. The case, as we understand it, stands thus:—Captain Hall wishes to start on a new voyage of Arctic discovery, and to this end he has occupied a good part of the winter in trying to get an appropriation through Congress. Just as there appears to be a probability that he will succeed in his efforts, Dr. Hayes steps in and claims to be the original Jacobs—the individual who has approached nearest to the pole, and the legitimate successor of Dr. Kane. Dr. Hayes is backed up by testimonials from various influential persons and various learned societies, who recommend him as the "properest" man to conduct an Arctic exploring expedition, and he has managed so well that he has apparently very nearly succeeded in upsetting the arrangements of Captain Hall.

It is worth while for Congress to stop and inquire, however, before granting any money to either of these gentlemen; what is to be

gained by further exploration in the Arctic regions that will warrant the expense. A number of interesting and valuable scientific facts have been discovered by the Arctic explorers, but it is exceedingly doubtful whether anything yet remains unknown that will be of any practical value to the human race. It is doubtful whether the Northwest Passage can ever be used for purposes of navigation, and although everybody has more or less curiosity on the subject of the Open Polar Sea, none of the interests of the human race will suffer if the secret remains for a few years longer unrevealed. We do not for a moment propose to set up mere utilitarianism as the measure of scientific inquiry, but Congress is bound to consider the important fact that the Government is deeply in debt, that the people are burdened with taxes, and that the strictest economy in the expenditure of the public money is what is now demanded of the representatives of the people. The experiences of past explorations of the Arctic regions do not furnish any inducements for us to hope that there is anything more to be found out that will warrant an appropriation to either Captain Hall or Dr. Hayes at the present time. If our finances were on a sufficiently satisfactory basis it might be well to grant money for such a purpose as this, but there are a great many scientific subjects that are much more deserving of attention just now, if the Government must spend money for such objects, than the Arctic regions. It is to be hoped, therefore, that Congress will hesitate a long time before it concludes to start either of the explorers named upon a new voyage of discovery.

THE CABINET CRISIS IN FRANCE appears to have been settled over, for the present at least, M. Emile Alexis Segris becoming Minister of Finance in place of M. Buffet, whose resignation was announced a few days ago. M. Segris is about fifty-eight years of age, and has had a large and varied experience in public life. He entered upon his political career in 1826, in which year he was elected a member of the Corps Legislatif from the First Circumscription of Maine-et-Loire, in the Government interest, being re-elected in 1830 and again in 1839. In January last he entered M. Olivier's Cabinet as Minister of Public Instruction, retaining that position until his transfer to the Department of Finance. M. Segris is a lawyer by profession, and an officer of the Legion of Honor.

M. Maurice Richard, who succeeds M. Segris as Minister of Public Instruction, is also a lawyer by profession, and a man of considerable experience in public affairs. In 1866 he was elected a member of the Corps Legislatif from the Fourth Circumscription of Seine-et-Oise, the Government candidate having a majority on the first ballot, but falling into the minority on the second and definite trial. M. Richard was re-elected in 1869, and in January last entered M. Olivier's Cabinet as Minister of the Arts, of which department he remained in charge, in addition to that of Public Instruction, until his successor to the former is appointed.

An English paper says:—Authors of all nations will, or at all events ought to, be glad to hear that Russia is about to conclude an international copyright treaty with Prussia. After England, no country in Europe publishes so many magazines and reviews as Russia, and the contents of at least half these periodicals are translated from the French, the German, but above all, from the English. Many an English author who still fancies Russia to be a semi-barbarous country would alter his opinion if he knew (what must often be the case) that he has as many readers in Russia as in England itself. Hitherto Russia, like America, to which it presents so many negative points of resemblance, has recognized no rights on the parts of foreign authors; and, certainly, in any literary dealings that might take place between Russia and the west of Europe under the International Copyright acts, the balance of exchange would be against Russia. On the other hand, it is obvious that Russian authors must suffer by having to compete in their magazines and reviews with the great authors of France, Germany, and England, whose works cost the publishers merely the price of translation.

We cannot help feeling a good deal of pity for royal princes on their progresses at home and abroad. The Terentian maxim, "Homo sum," etc., often seems to be pushed a little too far in their case, and we are not surprised that the Duke of Edinburgh should have good-humoredly kicked against its adoption under the burning sun of India. The story goes that his Royal Highness, on arriving at Agra, inquired whether the city had an insane asylum. On being informed that no such institution was necessary in the place, he devoutly thanked Heaven, observing that wherever there was one they invariably took him there, and he always found the word "Welcome" in large letters over the entrance.

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- For additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages.
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WHITE GOODS. WHITE GOODS. Satin, Plaid, and Stripe Nainsooks. Plain and Stripe Swiss, Plain Organdies, 25c. yard. French Swiss, 30c., worth 35c. Soft-finish Cambric, Nainsooks, Victoria Lawns, etc. White Flannels, 25, 30, 35, 37 1/2, 45, 50, 62 1/2, 75c. Marseilles Quilts. Imported or order expressly for our own sale, under regular prices. Ladies' and Children's Spring Gloves. New lot of Kid Gloves, stitch back, choice colors. Jovine Kid Gloves, choice colors. Joseph Kid Gloves, choice colors. A large assortment of Ladies', Gents', and Children's Hosiery, very cheap. 50 doz. Ladies' Hemstitch Hdks., all linen, 12 1/2, 15, 20, 21, 28, 45, and 60. Ladies and Gents' Linen Cambric Hdks. Gents' Hemmed Hdks., Gents' Colored Border Hdks. Children's Colored Border Hdks., 5 and 10.

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MILLIKEN'S LINEN STORE, No. 828 ARCH STREET, AND No. 1128 CHESTNUT Street Spring Importations. IMMENSE STOCK OF LINEN GOODS, WHITE GOODS, and HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS. PRICES DOWN TO PRESENT GOLD RATE. THE MISSES McVAUGH & DUNCAN, NO. 114 SOUTH ELEVENTH STREET. Have opened their Spring Stock of EMBROIDERIES AND WHITE GOODS AT THE LOWEST CASH PRICES. FRENCH BREAKFAST OAPS. FIGURES IN EVERY VARIETY. PLAID, FIGURED AND STRIPED NAINSOOKS. VICTORIA LAWN. CAMBRIC AND JAGONNET LAWN AND SWISS PUFFED MUSLIN. FRENCH NAINSOOK AND ORGANDIES. FRENCH AND IMAITIA LACES. LADIES', GENTS' AND CHILDREN'S HANDKERCHIEFS. LINEN AND LACE COLLARS AND CUFFS. NOVELTIES AND FANCY ARTICLES. PARTICULAR ATTENTION PAID TO MAKING UP INFANTS' WARDROBES. 325mwtmtp

"J. W. T." "J. W. T."

REMOVAL.—MRS. E. HENRY MANUFACTURER of Ladies' Cloaks and Mantilles, finding her late location, No. 16 North Eighth street, inadequate for her largely increased business, has removed to the BURGAY AND SPANGLER WAREHOUSE, at the Southeast corner of NINTH and ARCH STREETS, where she now offers, in addition to her stock of Cloaks and Mantilles, an invoice of Paisley Shawls, Lace Points and Sacques. 29 3mtp

JET GOODS. NEWEST STYLES. DIXON'S No. 21 1/2, EIGHTH Street. 4104t