WAR IN EUROPE.

Great Excitement in London Occasioned by the Publication of the Secret Treaty, Between France and Prussia.

The Documents Believed to be Genuine.

Nearly all the London Journals in their Editorial Remarks Similar in Tone.

France Must Explain This Offensive Treaty.

Passage of French Steam Frigates.

The Enemy Repelled near Neiderbronn --One Bavarian Officer Killed and Two Made Prisoners. &c. &c. &c.

The Emperor's Address--Skirmishing--Ireland annoyed Tumultuously in Favor of France, &c., &c.

VIENNA, July 23.—The Austrian Reichsrath has been convened in extra session, in order to take measures necessary to preserve neutrality.

LONDON, July 23.—Baron Von Beust, Austrian Prime Minister, has issued a circular to the Austrian Ministers abroad, saying that if unsuccessful in sparing Europe from bloodshed, and Austria the most serious consequences indispensable to war between two powerful nations, we desire to mitigate the violence of that war; therefore, Austria will preserve the attitude of entire neutrality, resisting every overture to participate. We should be imprudent if we, desirous to remain masters of our own destinies, were to omit any measure tending to guarantee tranquility to the people of Europe.

MARSEILLES, July 23.—Yesterday a large part of the army which has been operating in Algeria, arrived here on transports.—They were accompanied by a number of volunteers (Kabyles). All were greeted with the greatest enthusiasm as they marched through the streets of the city on their way to the front.

PARIS, July 23.—The army of South Germany has been ordered north and the Prussian army goes south. Denmark has decided on war, and will wait until the French fleet enters the Baltic. Hungary is also for France. The Emperor's proclamation to the people has made a profound impression.

BERLIN, July 23. A proclamation announcing the strict neutrality of Italy in the pending war was issued to-day at Florence. Large demonstrations have been made in Milan, Padua and Genoa in favor of the Prussians.

LONDON, July 24 Evening.—Napoleon communicated by note with Vienna yesterday, which proposes to Austria an alliance, offensive and defensive. An immediate reply is demanded. The city is again thrown into excitement by this news, and a general European war is predicted on all sides.

Despatches received by the press through Belgium announce that the opposing armies are in close proximity to each other and that skirmishing is constantly reported from the advanced outposts. Animated picket firing occurs at intervals during the day and night. Both armies are without doubt moving into position, and the news of a great battle may be required at any moment.

No despatches are received through France, a strict espionage having been established over the telegraph.

Large bodies of French troops are continuing at Cherbourg, who it is supposed are intended to join an expedition which will operate against Hamburg, in conjunction with the advance upon the frontier.

FRANKFORT, July 21.—Owing to the stringency of the money market, occasioned by the coining war, the bank of Frankfort on Saturday, in order to accelerate business, issued its notes in gold, placed upon the bourse five millions in American securities, to be held as a deposit against said loan.

The Prussian forces are assuming the offensive. A detachment from the Prussian corps advanced to the village of Carling. Here they encountered a battallion of French foot chasseurs. An engagement of short duration ensued, and the chasseurs held the ground and checked the Prussian advance.

BERLIN, July 21 Evening.—King William, by proclamation to his people, designates that Wednesday, July 27, be set apart as a day of fasting and prayer, and that all Germans are exhorted to offer to heaven a prayer for the success of the arms of the Fatherland. In this, as in all other papers that have emanated from the throne, Napoleon is charged with the responsibility of having dragged Prussia in a war without cause.

PROCLAMATION BY NAPOLEON.

PARIS, July 23.—The *Journal Officiel* of this morning publishes the following proclamation from the Emperor to the people of France:—

(Translation.)—Frenchmen: There are in the life of the people, solemn movements, when national honor, violently excited, presses itself irresistibly, rises above all other interests and applies itself with a single view of directing the destinies of a nation. One of those decisive hours have now arrived for France. Prussia, to whom we have given evidence, during and since the war of 1866, of our sincerely pacific disposition, has held our good will of no account, and has returned our forbearance by encroachments; she has aroused distrust in all quarters, necessitating exaggerated armaments, and made of Europe a camp where reigns disquiet and fear of the morrow. The final incident has disclosed the instability of the international understanding and shows the gravity of the situation. In the presence of her new pretensions, Prussia was made to understand our claims. They were evaded and followed with contemptuous treatment.

Our country manifested extreme displeasure at the action, and quickly a war cry resounded from one end of France to the other. There remains for nothing but to confide our destinies to the chance of arms. We do not make war upon Germany, whose independence we respect. We pledge ourselves that the people composing the great Germanic nationality shall dispose freely of their destinies. As for us, we demand the establishment of a state of things guaranteeing our security and assuring the future. We wish to conquer a durable peace, based on the true interest of the people, and to assist in abolishing that precarious condition of things when all nations are forced to employ all their resources in arming against each other. The glorious flag of France, which we once more unfold in the face of our challengers, is the same which has borne over Europe the civilizing ideas of our great revolution; it represents the same principles, and it will inspire the same devotion.

Frenchmen: I go to place myself at the head of that valiant army which is animated by love of country and devotion to duty. That army knows its worth, for it has seen victory follow its footsteps in four quarters of the globe.

I take with me my son; despite his tender years he knows the duties his name imposes on him, and he is proud to bear his part in the dangers of those who fight for their country. May God bless our efforts. A great people defending a just cause are invincible.

NAPOLEON.

PARIS, July 25.—The Journals of Metz say, the French have taken forty prisoners thus far.

The Emperor presided at the Council of Ministers, yesterday.

PARIS, July 25.—The journal *Official* this morning contains a decree nominating Viscount J. De Persikard, at present Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Chili, as French Minister to Washington, vice M. Prevost Paradol, deceased.

PARIS, July 25.—The Toulon fleet sailed to-day to reinforce that of Cherbourg. The gradual evacuation of Rome has been decided on.

LONDON, July 25.—The inhabitants of Norderney, and other Islands near the mouth of the Elbe have left the remoteness of the French fleet to those waters without experienced pilots.

Information has been received here that on Sunday a body of German Uhlanen Lancers passed the border near Saarbrucken, torn up the rails for a long distance on the Metz railroad, destroyed the viaduct, and returned to camp without loss.

FLORENCE, July 25.—The Italian Chambers have passed a law authorizing negotiation of a loan of six million livres.

PARIS, July 25.—The number of volunteers already enrolled in France is 10,000.

It is reported, to-day, that the Empress has gone to Cherbourg to visit the fleet.

It is now said that the Emperor will go to the front about Thursday next.

LONDON, July 25.—The morning *Telegraph* prints to-day, in large type, a communication reciting an interview recently had with the Emperor Napoleon a fortnight ago. The Emperor had then no thought of war with Prussia. He was still unready, but France was slipping from his hands, and in order to rule he must lead France to war. The Emperor related the contents of despatches between himself and Bismarck, claiming that the latter wanted too much and wanted it too soon.

The Emperor demanded Luxemburg in sixty-six as an equivalent for the neutrality of France in Prussia's war with Austria; Bismarck replied by a demand for Holland as an equivalent for Luxemburg; the Emperor replied to this demand of Bismarck that should the independence of Holland be attacked by Prussia it would be regarded as a declaration of war. Count Benedetti was present at the interview when these facts were elicited.

LIVERPOOL, July 25—4:30 P. M.—The corn market is lower.

PARIS, July 25—3 P. M.—The *Journal Officiel* announces that France will positively adhere to the provisions of the protocol of 1856, abolishing privateering, and notwithstanding that the governments of the United States and Spain refused to sign that treaty, the cruisers of France will not seize the property of the enemy in transitu on American or Spain bottoms, nor will the property of American or Spanish subjects, found on board the enemy's vessels, be confiscated.

BERLIN, July 25—3 P. M.—The French division quartered at Forbach has advanced its pickets to the village of Gerseveiler.—Here a Prussian command met the French skirmishers and a brisk fire was maintained for a short period. The French were driven back with a loss of ten men. The Prussians did not lose a single man. It is asserted that the engagement shows that the execution and rapidity of fire of the needle gun fully equalled that of the Chassepot.

BERLIN, July 25—5 P. M.—A sharp engagement took place on Sunday afternoon between the French and Prussian troops, near the town of Chateau Salins, Department of Meurthe, France, seventeen miles northeast of Nancy. The force on either side did not exceed 5,000 men, but the battle, although of short duration, was fiercely contested and resulted in a victory for the Prussians, who retained possession of the field with a loss of one hundred and twenty killed and wounded, while the French loss, in killed and wounded will reach at least two hundred.

LONDON, July 26.—The excitement occasioned by the publication of the secret treaty between France and Prussia, is increasing as the evidence becomes more clear that the document is genuine. Nearly all the journals of London have editorial remarks this morning on the subject, and they are all similar in tone. France must explain this offensive treaty, are the words of the *Times* and the burden of the London press. There is no question but that the press, and the *Times* particularly, are seeking to make this treaty a pretext for the intervention of England in favor of Prussia. The attitude of Ireland is also commented upon. After giving the details of many meetings recently held in Ireland, and the adoption of resolutions of sympathy for France which have been adopted, the *Times* asserts that this sympathy is altogether due to Catholicism, and in consequence of the hatred of German Protestantism.

DOVER, July 26.—Nine French Frigates, under full steam, passed this point to the Eastward, late yesterday afternoon. A great crowd of Spectators assembled on the Bluffs to witness the exciting scene.

PARIS, July 26.—The journals *Officiel* of this morning says, that Marshal Leboeuf late last night telegraphed the Emperor that Gen. Beonis had repelled a reconnoissance of the enemy near the town of Neiderbronn, twenty-six miles northwest of Strasbourg. One officer, a Bavarian, was killed, and two made prisoners. The *Figaro* in its account of the affair, insists that the officer killed was an Englishman.

LONDON, July 26—2 o'clock, P. M.—A brief despatch just received via Point de Galle, reports an insurrection in the principal city of Ava, resulting in the massacre of fourteen hundred persons.

PARIS, July 26.—The French gunboats to operate on the Rhine and the rivers in Prussia are being transported from Marseilles in sections overland.

LONDON, July 26.—Several French cruisers are reported off Wick, Scotland, to-day.

The news received by way of Berlin is very meagre, which is due to the prudence of the Prussian Government. The telegraph is closely watched by the German authorities.

Frankfort-on-the-Maine has been assigned as the Prussian headquarters.

The steamship Peruvian from Quebec for Liverpool, arrived yesterday.

The Prussian Line of Defence.

The military critics are excited and puzzled by the confused reports of military movements on both sides of the Rhine. According to one theory possesses to understand the subject, if the news from Europe is true that the Prussians have retired from their line on the French frontier and are concentrating at Coblentz and Mayence, it would imply either a positive movement by the French army on their right flank or a demonstration in the same direction threatening their line of communication. While we have nothing more from France than the bare fact of the army having entered Germany, it seems evident that important strategic movements have been made, and have been thus far successful in forcing the Prussians to uncover South Germany. In fact, if we understand the dispatch correctly, the French are now in virtual possession of all the territory from Thionville, on the Moselle, to Coblentz, and from Landebung to Mayence. Of course it is more than probable that garrisons have been left at Treves, Landau, and other fortified places; but these will not materially retard the French advance. During the war of 1866, between Prussia and Austria, the Prussians pushed forward, leaving the fortresses behind and striking the main army, upon the success of which depended the safety of the isolated garrisons. Regarding our rear information as to rest, the Prussians have most decidedly been outmaneuvered but it is undoubtedly that they have fallen back upon a position of immense natural and artificial strength.

The New Defensive Line

begins at Coblentz, on the Rhine, runs up in a southeast direction to Bingen, where it continues east by north to Mayence, or Mainz, as it is severally called, on the Rhine, opposite the mouth of the Main River. The entire distance following the sinuosities of the river, is fifty-six miles. There is a railroad line on each bank, that on the left passing through and continuing down to Cologne, and that on the right bank turning off at Neider Lansteine, and following the Lahn River to Nassau. This, it seems to us, is the present line of defence for Prussia. Of course the right bank of the Rhine, through Hesse Darmstadt and Baden to the Swiss frontier, will be defended, but at present the scene of active operations lies between the points indicated.

Colmar.

This city, which might be termed the right wing of the Prussian line, is situated on the left bank of the Rhine and the right bank of the Moselle, at the confluence of those rivers. The name of the place is a corruption of Confluentes, by which the Romans called it. It is about seventy-five miles northeast of Metz by the post road, but it is more than double that distance by way of the river, owing to its sinuosities. Colmar contains a population of about twenty thousand souls, and is one of the best fortified places in Prussia. The fortifications surrounding it form a vast circumvallation containing one hundred thousand souls, and combine the systems of Carnot and Montalembert. Four forts protect it on the left bank of the Rhine. The first is Fort Kaiser Franz, situated below the town on the left bank of the Moselle, and commanding all the approaches from Cologne and Treves. Above are forts Alexander and Constantine, on the hill of the Chartreuse, the guns of which sweep the roads from Mayence. The fourth fort is situated over the Hundsruck Mountain. These fortifications, with the fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, of which mention shall hereafter be made, were twenty odd years in rebuilding, after the downfall of Napoleon, and cost some $5,000,000. They were undoubtedly strong, but modern gunnery, in the interval, has been studied by some newspapers. In fact the principal strength of the city lies in Ehrenbreitstein (honor's broad stone), a village and fortress situated on a large rock which towers above everything for miles around. It is termed the Gibraltar of the Rhine and is certainly a most formidable position. On three sides it is absolutely impregnable to assault, but on the northwest it is comparatively exposed. Its weakness here is apparent at a glance, and efforts have been made to repair it by the construction of three lines of defences, all of which must be stormed before an enemy can enter the fortress. Nevertheless it is possible that artillery massed on these works could render them untenable. Four hundred heavy guns are mounted in the fortress, and they sweep the Rhine in all directions and the road to Nassau. On the top of the rock is a great platform which serves as a parade ground and which covers large arched cisterns, supplied with water by springs without the walls, and capable of containing a three years' supply of the liquid. There is also a well, sunk 400 feet in the rock, communicating with the Rhine. In 1794 Coblentz pioneer was taken by the French after a desperate resistance. Ehrenbreitstein, which the same nation had failed to capture in 1795, although Kleber himself directed the operations, held out until 1799, when it was compelled to surrender, the garrison having been reduced to starvation. Cats and horses were eaten by the besieged during the siege. It remains to be ascertained if, of course the right bank of the Rhine, through Hesse Darmstadt and Baden to the Swiss frontier, will be defended, but at present the scene of active operations lies between the points indicated.

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Particulars of the Suicide of the French Minister.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—The city was startled this morning by a report that M. Prevost-Paradol, the New French Minister, had committed suicide at an early hour this morning by shooting himself through the heart. The following details of the sad affair have been obtained from the only member of the French Legation in this city, and who, with the exception of his own body-servant, was the last person to hold a conversation with M. Prevost-Paradol. For two or three days it has been noticed that M. Paradol was not in good health, the change in climate and the great responsibility resting upon him in his new position, and his anxiety about the war news from Europe, seeming to affect him both mentally and physically. During yesterday he attended to his business as usual, although appearing to be suffering from the excessive heat, which clouded his mind. Late yesterday afternoon a member of the Legation called and was with him for some time. He retired as usual last night, and his servant noticed that his actions were somewhat strange, but still he did not suspect that he would attempt to take his own life. At one o'clock this morning the servant was aroused by the report of a pistol, and hearing his name called by M. Paradol. Arriving at the latter's room, he found him standing in his night clothes in the middle of the room, quaking apparently with fear, the servant supposing that the pistol had been fired in an adjoining room, and that it had frightened him.

M. Paradol took hold of his arm and told him in a calm voice not to be alarmed. A moment later he discovered blood on M. Paradol's clothes, and then realized that the Minister had shot himself. He was laid upon the floor and Dr. Johnson was summoned, but found it impossible to save his life, the ball having penetrated the body at the lower edge of the heart. At half past one he died, having tried ineffectually before death occurred to articulate and give some direction to his servant.

Napoleon has been notified by telegraph and M. Berthemy, who is now in New York, has been notified to return.

The body is being embalmed to be taken to France.

No reason is yet assigned for the act, but it is believed he had been contemplating the deed for some time. He had written letters to members of his family foreshadowing such intentions.

The house in which M. Paradol lived is located in a pleasant part of the city, in a good neighborhood, and agreeable society surroundings. He was to have had the room occupied by the late French Minister, but when he arrived, M. Berthemy had not left, and he leased this house. He was unsatisfied with the place and was unable to rest well.

The hot weather depressed him, and the news of the war, of which he was an advised until his arrival in New York, had an unfortunate influence on his very nervous organization. A few days ago he wrote a letter which he gave his valet, with strict orders not to open it until a certain hour, which, when opened this morning, disclosed the fact that he had resolved on suicide.

His son and daughter were absent. They went to Newport a few days ago. He retired last night early—soon after seven o'clock, and seemed to be in his usual spirits, though complaining of the heat. He told his housemaid, Mary, that the hot weather was killing him.

No persons were in the house but his valet and the housemaid. The latter was asleep and was awakened by the report of the pistol with which her master had shain himself, and entering his room, she found him stretched out dead, with a bullet through his heart. Dr. W. P. Johnson was at once summoned and made a hasty examination of the body, finding life extinct.

This is the second suicide that has occurred in this house in the last ten years. In 1861, just after the war broke out, an unfortunate young man named Jones boarded there, who, by a pistol shot, ended his life, ruined his widowed mother, and in a fit of frenzy blew his brains out in his mother's presence in the parlor, in the middle of the day.

The house-maid told our reporter this morning that she knew there was something wrong about the house as soon as she set foot in it. That she was unable to sleep. That she heard peculiar noises, sighs, &c., the usually expressions that fasten upon suspicious minds. She told her master she did not like the atmosphere of the place, and then to her astonishment he too was impressed with similar ideas, and he assumed a cheerful aspect and told him they would get along as best they could until a more agreeable place could be found. And he acquiesced, remarking, "You are a good cheerful girl, and always make the bright side appear." But it would be inferred that M. Paradol did not mean to live in the house, for all the boxes of luggage brought from Paris remained unopened during the week he remained there, except the linen chest.

In his letter to his valet he left orders for him to take the children back to Paris to join their sister, aged fifteen years, whom he left at school there.

The body was this morning placed in charge of Messrs. Harvey & Marr, undertakers, to be embalmed, prior to being sent away.

Never before having occupied a diplomatic position, M. Paradol was very much impressed with the responsibility of his position as the representative of one of the contending powers in a country whose people obviously sympathized with the nation with which his Government was engaged in hostilities.

Since his arrival here he has injudiciously exposed himself to the excessive heat, which had a depressing effect, and in connection with the above circumstances produced a condition of mind which led to the shocking result of self-destruction.

M. Paradol was a man of ordinary height rather stout, dark complexioned, and of rather imposing appearance, and about forty years old.

He went to Savage's store yesterday, in company with a friend, when the following transpired between him and the clerk:

"Have you any good pistols?"

"Yes, sir; what kind will you have?"

"Well, good and effective pistols."

The clerk then showed him various kinds, and after close examination he selected Colt's breech-loading, imitation of Colt's ringer—a new arm in the market. He was then informed that the price was twelve dollars per pair, or seven dollars for one, when he remarked to the clerk:

"Well, one will answer my purposes."

He then asked for some cartridges, for which, together with the pistol, he paid eight dollars. He again visited the store yesterday evening about six o'clock and said:

"I bought a pistol here this morning and want another to make up a pair; what did I pay for that one this morning? I have forgotten."

To which he was replied that he could have another one on the same terms as he mentioned in the morning; when Paradol said, pleasantly:

"Well, I'll take this one so as to have a pair; they are so handy," and, patting his hands on his pantaloons pockets, "they are no more trouble to carry than a pocket knife."

He then paid five dollars and left the store.

Upon purchasing cartridges in the morning, it was evident that he felt that little ammunition would accomplish his purpose, as he seemed disinclined at first to purchase a full box, saying that he only wanted ten or twelve cartridges, but on being informed that a box could not be broken, he purchased an unbroken package.

Secretary Fish was to give a dinner this evening, in accordance with the usual etiquette, to M. Paradol, to which all the foreign representatives except the Prussian Minister and those not in the city were invited, together with the leading American statesmen who are in town.

The room in which Paradol killed himself is a large, comfortable chamber, handsomely furnished, on the second floor. M. Paradol had passed the mantel pier and the centre of the room in his wrapper and slippers, and, when found, was lying on his back near the centre of the room one leg drawn after him. His left arm was stretched out over his head. The pistol was under his feet and blood was oozing slowly from a wound directly over the region of the heart.

Funeral of the Late M. Prevost Paradol.

WASHINGTON, July 22.—The funeral services over the body of the late M. Prevost Paradol were held this morning at 9 o'clock in St. Matthew's Catholic Church, Rt. Rev. Chas. J. White, D. D., officiating, assisted by Fathers McDevitt and McCarthy. The procession started from the late residence of the deceased shortly after 9 o'clock. The remains were borne in a hearse decorated with black plumes and drawn by six grey horses, and attended by an escort of thirty marines under Capt. Wallace.

The pall-bearers were Victor Roux, M. de Jardin, Jules Hennard, Felix Gentry, M. Demongot, C. Gautier, Antoine Doguel, J. Robert, and A Baradorn. Upon arriving at the church the coffin, shrouded in a flag of the French Nation, was deposited on a catafalque just outside the altar; M. Berthemy, principal mourner, remained standing during the services at the head of the catafalque, as is the custom in France.

The carriages of the funeral procession were mostly those of private individuals.

Baron Gerolt, Minister of the North German Confederation, attended the funeral together with attaches of all the other Foreign Legations in Washington.

Among those present were the Cabinet Ministers, General Sherman and Vice Admiral Porter, in uniform, Senators Sumner and Stockton, and other prominent gentlemen. The church was well filled, a large proportion of the French and other foreign residents of Washington being present.—The ceremonies commenced with the performance of the solemn requiem mass. This concluded, the Reverend Father read in English a portion of the do profundis saying: "It was an expression of the only hope and consolation that could be felt under the lamentable and distressing circumstances." He then delivered a funeral address of nearly thirty minutes duration, in which, after an earnest tribute to the past greatness of the distinguished in the field of science and journalism, as well as the great attainments which had impelled the Emperor of France to choose him as the representative of that nation to this country, the speaker alluder to the manner in which his career came to its close; saying, however, nevertheless or anti-christian it may have been, or whatever may have been the moral influences that exerted sway at that moment upon the distinguished individual, whose remains were before us, it should be remembered that it was not for man to set himself up in judgment upon the case, and not even the Catholic Church would venture to condemn a man after he had departed this life. Upon this point the reverend gentleman spoke with considerable feeling, exhorting those gathered in the presence of the dead to learn that no matter how a man sank into the jaws of death, whether it be by a sudden attack of delirium, the effects of disease, or in any other state of mental derangement, the question was what were his disposition and sentiments before he was deprived of his rational faculties. At the conclusion the remains were borne from the church, the Marines presenting arms as the burial case was deposited within the hearse, and soon after followed by a sympathizing and distinguished crowd, the cortege moved on to the railroad depot, from where the remains will be conveyed to New York.

The "Way of the Transgressor" in Virginia—A Striking Case.

The killing at Chester near Richmond, Va., of Benjamin F. Lindsey, by his father-in-law, Capt. Wm. H. Hayward, for the acknowledged seduction of the latter's unmarried daughter, and his immediate discharge on the ground of justifiable homicide, indicate perhaps more strikingly than any similar case, the spirit of public sentiment, in that quarter at least, in regard to the crime of which Lindsey was guilty. The following were the remarks made by the Commonwealth's attorney at the examination of Capt. Hayward, and the proceedings consequent thereupon:

Colonel Ambers, Commonwealth's Attorney, addressed the presiding magistrate, and explained that since 1867 the law had dispensed with an examining court; that its duties had been devolved upon the examining magistrate; that it was in his power to send the prisoner on with or without bail, or to discharge him at once. He recommended the latter course. There was no jury which could be empanelled on God's earth, white or black, sayage or civilized, which would find the accused guilty of murder. The feelings of a father rise in every man's bosom against the commission of such foul crimes and proclaim that "the way of the transgressor is hard indeed." He did not think this was a case in which either the public morals or public safety required the accused to be sent on. He should be discharged. Then it would warn men of libidinous appetites that when they do these deeds they do them not only at the risk of an avenging father, but of an avenging public also.

Captain Cowardin, counsel for the prisoner, said that he did not think it necessary, after what had been so well and properly said by the attorney for the Commonwealth, to make any remarks.

The magistrate then said, "Captain Hayward, stand up."

"Under these circumstances I cannot express my feelings. I think it my duty to announce your discharge."

There was every evidence of approval at the terminations of the case on the part of the of the spectators, but no noisy demonstration was made.

The following was endorsed on the warrant of arrest:

"The evidence heard this day and the party discharged, on the ground of justifiable homicide. John C. Lindsey, deceased, arrived at Chester on Wednesday afternoon on the 3:20 P. M. train from Richmond. He went to the store and took a drink. Captain Hayward met him there and told him that he wanted to see him. He then wished to see him. He took him up stairs very coolly, and, approached the bed, said: "Let me introduce you to your son and the victim of your villainy." With this he turned the bedclothes down and showed him a new-born infant. Turning to his daughter, who was lying in the bed, he asked her if this was not Lindsey's child? She replied that it was. He then turned to Lindsey. "You have heard what my daughter says, Mr. Lindsey. What have you to say?" He replied "I am taken so much by surprise that I do not know what to say." Mrs. Hayward then asked Mr. Lindsey if he would own his child if she says so." Upon this Captain Hayward drew a small sized Smith & Wesson four-shooter and commenced firing. Lindsey, who seemed to be paralyzed at this time, did not make no resistance. Captain H. dis-harged the four barrels, two of the shots taking effect, one in the fleshy part of the leg, and the other in the abdomen. The wounded man fell, and was taken to his room, where he lingered through the night and died at 9½ o'clock the next morning.

The Richmond *Dispatch* says:

Miss Hayward, the young lady so foully wronged, is about eighteen years of age, of pleasing manners and retiring disposition. She resided in this city since her father moved here. Her health conditioned on suspected at the time of her delivery.

Captain Hayward is a well-known citizen of Richmond. He commanded a cavalry company during the war, and has been for some time proprietor of the Lee House Saloon. Recently he took charge, with the deceased, of the Chester Hotel. He is a gentleman of great popularity, of quiet and unassuming demeanor, and could only be induced to strike a blow under the greatest provocation. He conducted himself calmly during his examination, but it was evident that he was laboring under great distress.

Benjamin F. Lindsey, the deceased, was a man of great local prominence in Chesterfield. He has occupied various positions of trust in that county, such as presiding justice, registrar, &c. He was the Conservative candidate for the Legislature in 1867, and was also a candidate for the nomination to the Constitutional Convention in 1867. He lived for some years in this city. He was a man widely known and generally much liked. He was married to Captain Hayward's eldest daughter last December.

Decease of General William A. Leech.

A large number of the people of this city will be surprised and pained this morning by the intelligence of the decease of General William A. Leech, Register of Wills. During his service in the army General Leech contracted one of the chronic maladies incident to camp life, and has suffered more or less from it ever since. About ten days ago he became so much indisposed that he went to Cape May, with a view to some relief from such suffering, but growing worse, he returned to the city on Wednesday evening, and died yesterday afternoon about four o'clock. General Leech was born February 3d, 1812. He was a graduate of the Philadelphia High School, and entered the West Point Military Academy June, 1830. Subsequently he studied law, and was admitted to practice at the bar of Philadelphia. At the breaking out of the war he went to the front with the first regiment organized (Colonel Frank Patterson's), of which he was Major, and was immediately placed in active service. At the expiration of his term of service he was commissioned as Lieutenant-Colonel of the National Guards Ninetieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and continued with them through all the battles of the Potomac. He was a participant in more than thirty battles. When General Lyle was wounded, Col. Leech took command of the regiment, and in all the bloody battles of Grant's campaigns he was found at its head. In the engagement on the Weldon Railroad he was captured by the enemy, and underwent the privations of prison life in Libby, Salisbury and Danville. When at length he was released he was breveted Brigadier General for gallant and meritorious conduct on the field. Serving until the close of the war, Gen. Leech resumed the practice of the law, and so continued until 1867, when he was elected Register of Will for the county of Philadelphia by the Democratic party. In this office he has served with distinguished ability and integrity. Leech was a true soldier, winning his military promotion by merit. He was the son-in-law of Edwin Greble, Esq., and brother-in-law of Lieut. John T. Greble, who was killed at Big Bethel, Va.

Fire in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, July 26.—At sixteen minutes after seven o'clock this morning an alarm of fire was sounded from box No. 238, located i nthe Good Will Hose House, corner of Twenty-third and Wood street. Wood street, below Twenty-third. The firemen responding with alacrity, found the Woolen Mill of John Deane, situated on Linn street, between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth, wrapped in flames, owing to the nature of the contents the heat evolved was almost insufferable, nevertheless the members of the various companies worked like Trojans to check the progress of the flames. Their efforts, however, were unavailing, and in the space of about one hour the place was a complete wreck. The property destroyed was a four story stone building, rough-cast, 45 by 80 feet, and was filled with the latest and most improved machinery. The firm employed on an average above two hundred hands. These had all gathered for their daily labor when at a few minutes after 7 o'clock the alarm was given that the building was on fire, and the next scene was the flames bursting forth. The loss sustained will not fall short of $60,000, upon which there is $24,000 insurance, principally in Eastern companies.

The Price of Grain.

The grain growers of the great West have already commenced to realize the advantages likely to result to them should the European war proceed on the extended scale so generally expected. Speculation is already as active in breadstuffs at Chicago as it is in gold at New York. Wheat, it is reported, has already advanced 18 to 20 cents per bushel, and other produce in proportion. For once the hold-back policy promises profit to the grain producers and middlemen of the West. Farmers, country merchants, owners of elevators, railroads, warehouses, speculators—everybody at the West—have been holding on to their grain through the long protracted period of low prices. Now comes the promise of an unexpected demand for these cereals, and holders are in high feather. But the fruition of this promise is not yet realized, and we notice a caution in more conservative quarters with regard to the probable foreign demand for our breadstuffs in Europe, and a declaration in the Chicago *Tribune* that the elevators of that city contain more grain (of the old crop) than is usual at this season of the year, and advises as much the safer course for holders, to send their grain forward while they can realize good prices, than to wait till the opportunity has passed away with the return of peace. Better to secure reasonable profits, as they may now, than to wait and lose all.

A Hot Week.

Last week was the hottest consecutive seven days ever experienced in New York. The following figures show the highest range of the thermometer each day:

Sunday	97	Thursday	93
Monday	96	Friday	93
Tuesday	95	Saturday	93
Wednesday	90		—
Average nearly			94

—*N. Y. Herald.*

Disastrous Fire in Boston.

BOSTON, July 25.—This afternoon a fire broke out in the drying room of Messrs. W. W. & J. P. Bennett's planing mill, on Lincoln and Harder streets, East Boston, and before it could be subdued it spread over and devastated a space of from three to five acres towards London street, which was covered with buildings owned chiefly by mechanics who have just commenced business for themselves.

At one time it was feared that the whole island would be laid waste over, but the fire department, aided by a fortunate change of the wind, succeeded finally in getting it under control.

The Presbyterian and Baptist Churches, which were directly in the path of the flames, fell victims to the devouring element. The former cost $1600 a few years ago and had a new organ built expressly for it last spring.

The total loss is estimated at $20,000; insured for $10,000 in the Yonkers and Westchester Insurance Companies.

The Baptist Church was a splendid brick structure faced with granite, and worth from $80,000 to $90,000. This is now a mass of ruins, nothing but the tower is left standing.

MURDER IN GEORGIA.

One Negro Official Kills Another.

ATLANTA, July 25.—Moses H. Bentley (colored), messenger of the House of Representatives, shot and instantly killed Malcom Claiborne (colored), representative from Burke county, this morning. The shooting grew out of a private quarrel. Bentley was expelled by the House, and has been lodged in jail.

The Legislative proceedings to-day were unimportant. An election this fall is considered a foregone conclusion.

Tobacco Revenue Decision.

In reply to a letter in relation to tobacco made from sweetened stems and from sweetened leaf, Commissioner Delano states that smoking tobacco manufactured exclusively from stems, though sweetened, is liable to a tax of 16 cents per pound only, but tobacco cut from sweetened leaf, though containing the stems, is liable to a tax of 32 cents per pound, such tobacco being regarded as fine cut chewing.

Destructive Fire at South Berwick, Me.

SOUTH BERWICK, Me., July 25—A destructive fire occurred this morning, originating in the Central Building occupied by stores and offices, which was destroyed. Loss on building, $7,000; on stock of occupants, $15,000, partly insured. The flames spread to the adjoining buildings, and destroyed those owned and occupied by J. H. Davis, Chas. Rayner, John A. Hooper, Ruth G. Wilt, Noah Pike, Chas. Mallory Farrington & Barr, Charles E. Whitehead and Miss Lenton. Total loss estimated at $40,000; insurance, $17,000.

Vacuum Pans in Boston.

BOSTON, July 25.—This afternoon a vacuum pan, used in the drying room of Messrs. W. W. & J. P. Bennett's planing mill, on Lincoln and Harder streets, East Boston, and before it could be subdued it spread over and devastated a space of from three to five acres towards London street, which was covered with buildings owned chiefly by mechanics who have just commenced business for themselves.

At one time it was feared that the whole island would be laid waste over, but the fire department, aided by a fortunate change of the wind, succeeded finally in getting it under control.

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The Baptist Church was a splendid brick structure faced with granite, and worth from $80,000 to $90,000. This is now a mass of ruins, nothing but the tower is left standing.

The Heat Phenomena of the Present Year.

When we wrote, some days ago, in reference to the fearful drought and heat which have almost destroyed the crops on a wide belt of the European Continent, we laid the flattering unction to our souls that the hot spell of our atmosphere was at an end. But the solar fervors have returned upon us during the past week with redoubled fierceness. While the temperature in New York city has ranged, between six o'clock in the morning and six o'clock in the evening, from ninety degrees to ninety-eight degrees Fahrenheit, in the shade, and therein has exceeded the rate at Galveston, New Orleans, Key West and Havana, the heat has been even more extreme at several points in the West. At St. Louis it sent the mercury up to one hundred and four in the shade on the 23d, while at Peoria, Ill., it drove up the fickle fluid to one hundred and six on the 21st inst. These are rates almost beyond human endurance, for it must be remembered that in the greater number of the homes occupied by the poorer classes the heat ascends from ten to fifteen degrees above the outside temperature, and that here the aged and the juvenile members of the household have chiefly to remain. It is impossible not to fear that a long continuance of such more than African torridity must result in wide-spread epidemic. Increase of but a very few degrees would materially impair the chances of existence for thousands whose daily avocations call them out of doors. As it is, while we write this Sunday afternoon, the colossal marble image of St. Paul, in the niche on the facade of the grave old church directly opposite the *Herald* office, on Broadway, seems, with half open mouth and upturned face, to pant, not merely through exhaustion, but with an expression of awe, as though beholding apocalyptic portents in the glowing firmament. The stone walls of the adjacent buildings radiate the heat like huge burning glasses, and while it dazzles the gaze to look at them the reflected beams of heat thrown back from them strike on the skin like fiery darts. When the entire City Hall Park not shorn as now of half its fair proportions, but fully restored and converted into one vast cluster of sparkling water jets and fountains, the thirsty, palpitating multitude would well nigh drink it dry. Po