

Bank Veto Message of Governor Pollock.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, March 23, 1855. To the Senate and House of Representatives:

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith return to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, bill No. 275, entitled "An Act authorizing the incorporation of the Bank of Pottstown," with my objections to the same. Should the number of banks and the amount of banking capital in the State be increased; and if so, to what extent, and in what localities, are questions that deserve and should receive a careful and candid consideration. If local and personal interests are permitted to determine these questions, the answer will be found in the unusual and extraordinary number of applications for bank charters now pending before the Legislature.

But the number of applications is no just criterion by which to determine either the wishes or the wants of the community in this regard. Their number, and the pertinacity with which they are pressed, have startled and alarmed the public mind; nor has the favorable action of the Legislature in granting these demands served to allay the apprehensions and fears thus excited. The policy of the past few years may have been too severely and unnecessarily restrictive; yet this policy should be preserved, rather than abandon the State and the interest of her people to the destructive influences of a wild and reckless system of banks and banking. That some increase of banking capital is necessary in certain localities within this Commonwealth, will not be denied; that a large increase is not demanded, either by public sentiment, or the public weal, is a truth equally undeniable. In the creation of banks, a sound and honest discrimination as to number, locality, and the demands of trade should be exercised.

Their number should be determined, more by the actual wants of legitimate trade, than by the wild fancies of stock jobbers and rash speculators. The sudden and unnecessary expansion of the currency should be avoided; and whatever tends to produce such a result ought to be discountenanced, and if possible, prevented. The history of banking in our own and other States, is full of useful lessons on this subject. Experience should teach us wisdom; and our present and future actions, in relation to banks and banking, should be regulated and controlled by her teachings. The advantages to be derived from an increased number of banks are more fancied than real. It is an error to suppose that an increase of banking capital adds to the actual capital of the State or nation. Banking capital is but the aggregation of individual capital, previously existing, rendered more efficient, perhaps, but not more useful by such aggregation, and the special privileges conferred by the act of incorporation.

Circulation is not capital, nor does it increase or represent capital. As the representative of credit, based upon the ability of the bank to redeem its promises, it becomes, when properly limited, a useful auxiliary to trade and commerce—when unlimited and excessive, it not only ceases to be useful, but becomes dangerous and destructive to the financial and industrial interests of the people. Without an increase of banks, and the facilities they afford, the commercial and industrial interests of the country would suffer no serious reverse. Inconvenience might be experienced, and the more rapid, and for that reason, the more dangerous progress of business arrested. "But this is preferable to the concomitant evils of an inflated currency; overtrading, rash speculation, and a depreciated currency, always terminating in bankruptcy and ruin. That such would be the result, if the numerous banks now before the Legislature should be chartered, cannot be seriously doubted. Personal and private interests may magnify the importance and necessity of incorporating these banks; but no consideration of public policy or interest could justify their creation. Such financial policy would be nothing less than financial madness and folly.

In population, wealth, trade and commerce, our progress during the past ten years has been rapid and unprecedented. Our mining, manufacturing and industrial interests have been largely and permanently developed, and are now in progress of more ample development; and yet during this period, the additions to our banking capital have been almost nominal, bearing no appreciable proportion to the immense increase of the great interests already enumerated. These facts demonstrate and establish the truth that, although banking facilities may and do aid the business of a country, their increase is not indispensably necessary to its progress and rapid development.

But greater facilities might secure greater results, and, therefore, it is freely admitted that, although such facilities are not absolutely necessary, yet they are important, and as aids to legitimate business, under proper limitations and restrictions, should be afforded. Moderate and reasonable increase of banking capital, judiciously distributed, might be useful to the increased and increasing trade and commerce of the State; but under no circumstances can an extravagant and unnecessary increase be justified or defended. Local and personal considerations may secure the passage of numerous acts incorporating banks, not demanded by the business wants of the community; but such legislation cannot be sanctioned by public policy or sustained by public sentiment.

The financial and commercial embarrassment from which the country is now slowly recovering, requires cautious and prudent legislation, and demands that the actual and real wants of business should be regarded, and the true interests of the people consulted. A sudden and excessive inflation of the currency, by the creation of numerous banks, might mitigate and temporarily remove the evils we now suffer, but in the end, would reproduce and aggravate them. The remedy is more to be dreaded than the disease, and its consequences often-times more fatal and destructive.

Bank accommodations are and ever must be, an insecure and unreliable basis of legitimate business. When everything is prosperous and money abundant, accommodations are freely proffered and loans easily secured. In a monetary crisis, and in the hour of greatest need, the borrower finds his accommodations withheld—his paper rejected and his creditor, the bank, demanding payment of his liabilities. The banks in self-defence, in seasons of pressure, are compelled thus to act, to prevent suspension and their own ruin. In this struggle for life, the debtor must first fall, public and private interests suffer, and a general derangement of business and the currency immediately follows.

As a remedy for "hard times" and as regulators of the currency, banks have signally failed. A well regulated system of revenue by the National Government, protecting national industry, and encouraging the enterprise of the

American people, restraining the enormous and now ominously large importations of foreign products and merchandise, securing the precious metals, gold and silver, to pay for products manufactured abroad, which we should and could make cheaper at home—such a system is a better regulation of the currency, and a more certain remedy for financial distress and commercial evils, than all the banks of this and other States, that are now, or may be established by legislative enactment. These principles require no elaboration. Their truth is generally admitted. Their application to particular cases presents a question of more difficult determination. Discriminations may be odious, but in view of the action of the Legislature, on the subject of the incorporation of new banks, they become important and necessary. On this discharge of my official duties in the premises, I may err in judgment, but will shrink from no responsibility.

Having on the day of my induction into office, declared that "I would not refuse to sanction the incorporation of new banks, when indispensably necessary, and clearly demanded by the actual business wants and interests of the community in which they may be located," the question now presents itself, is the bank proposed to be established by this bill necessary and clearly demanded by the actual business wants and interests of that community? In determining this question, the locality itself, its existing banking facilities, its proximity to other banks and to the great marts of trade, the means of communication, the amount, value and character of its trade and business, and other attendant circumstances should be considered. From a careful examination of all these and with proper reference to private and public interests, I cannot discover the necessity that requires, or the wants of interests of the community that clearly demand the creation of this bank.

Feelings of regard for those who desire the passage of this bill would prompt its approval. Considerations of public interest, and the stern demands of official duty require me to withhold my signature.

JAMES POLLOCK.

Repeal of the License Laws.

The following is the bill for the repeal of the Tavern License Laws, now pending before the Senate. The Senate's amendments are enclosed in brackets:—

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be unlawful to keep or maintain any house, room or place where vinous, spirituous or malt liquors, or any admixtures thereof are sold and drank, and all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

§ 2. That if any person or persons within this Commonwealth shall keep for sale and sell, or in connection with any other business or profitable employment, give, receive therefor any price, profit, or advantage, by any measure whatever, and at the same time voluntarily afford a place or any other convenience or inducement, by which the same may be used as a beverage, any vinous, spirituous, malt, or brewed liquors, or any admixture thereof, he, she, or they, and any one abetting, or assisting therein, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject to an indictment, and upon conviction shall be sentenced to undergo an imprisonment in the jail of the proper county for the first offence for a term not less than three nor more than six months, and for a second offence not less than six nor more than twelve months, and in either case to pay a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

§ 3. That if any two or more persons conspire and act together by which one may sell and the other afford the place or other convenience for drinking, with intent to evade the provisions of this act, he, she, or they, or either of them, indicted together or separately, upon conviction, shall be sentenced to undergo an imprisonment in the jail of the county, not less than four nor exceeding eight months, and be fined not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars.

§ 4. That it shall be unlawful for any person to sell or keep for sale any vinous, spirituous, malt or brewed liquors, or any admixtures thereof, in cases not hereby prohibited except upon license granted by the court of Quarter Sessions of the proper county in accordance with the laws existing in the several counties of this Commonwealth: Provided, That no such license shall be granted without the payment of three times the amount now fixed by law, nor shall it authorize the sale of such liquors or any admixtures thereof by a less quantity or measure than one quart, and any violation hereof shall be punishable in the same manner as directed by the second section of this act.

§ 5. That on the passage of this bill, and thereafter at the beginning of every year, the court of Quarter Sessions of the county of Philadelphia shall appoint three individuals of good repute for honesty and temperance, and who shall in no way be connected with, or interested in the liquor business, to do and perform the duties of appraisers of licenses under this act in the same manner now enjoined by law.

§ 6. That it shall be the duty of every constable, of every town, borough, township, or ward within this Commonwealth, at every term of the court of Quarter Sessions of each respective county, to make return on oath or affirmation, whether, within his knowledge, there is any place within his bailiwick kept and maintained in violation of this act; and it shall be the special duty of the judges of all the said courts to see that this return is faithfully made, and if any [person] shall make known to such constable the name, or names of [any one] who shall have violated this act, with the names of witnesses who can prove the fact, it shall be his duty to make return thereof, on oath or affirmation, to the court, and upon his failure so to do, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon indictment and conviction shall be sentenced to imprisonment in the jail of the county for a period not less than one, nor more than three months, and pay a fine not exceeding fifty dollars.

§ 7. That this act shall not interfere with any person holding any valid license, until the time for which the same was granted shall expire.

FOREIGN RECRUITING IN NEW YORK.—The U. S. District-Attorney, we understand, has received information that there was an arrangement in New York and Brooklyn, with a British agent, to enlist men for the service of Great Britain, and that a number had actually been enlisted, but since the publication of the letter of the District-Attorney to the U. S. Marshal, they had been disbanded, and the agent on Saturday left the City.

Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

TOWANDA:

Saturday Morning, March 31, 1855.

MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Democratic Standing Committee for Bradford County are requested to meet at the Ward House, in the Borough of Towanda, on Wednesday, April 4, 1855, at 1 o'clock, P. M. The members of the Committee are urgently requested to be present.

The following named gentlemen compose the Standing Committee:—E. O. GOODRICH, CHESTER THOMAS, H. S. SALSBERY, FRANCIS HOMER, FRED. ORWAN, MILO MERRILL, HENRY GIBBS, JOHN ROWLEE, EUGENE KEELER.

BOUNTY LAND WARRANTS.—We understand that the COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS will not be prepared to issue land warrants under the new law for at least three months to come. The plates are yet to be engraved, the blank warrants printed, the clerical force increased and other necessary preparations to be made. The first warrant under the act giving land to those who served in the Mexican war, passed Sept. 28, 1850, was not issued until January 11, 1851, more than three months after the law was passed. We presume it will take at least as long to get the new warrants ready. This will give applicants ample time to prepare their papers, so that no delay will occur when each case is presented. The Commissioner had issued his instructions, showing how applications shall be made for bounty land under the late act and who are entitled. The instructions say that where the service has been rendered by a substitute, he is the person entitled to the bounty. A widow, or if no widow, a minor child, or minor children may claim the benefit of the act. Persons within the age of twenty one years, on the 3d of March, 1855, are deemed minors.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The Ohio Cultivator publishes letters from various counties in Ohio embracing the principal wheat-growing sections, and the letters all concur in saying that the breadth of ground covered with wheat is from one-third to one-fourth less than an average. This is accounted for by the fact that the long drough of last summer and fall prevented the ploughing of sod lands, and fall sowing was therefore confined to stubble and corn lands. Resort will be had, as far as possible, to the sowing of spring wheat; but as the growing of that variety of wheat has not been common in Ohio, seed is scarce. There is said to be in Illinois at least twenty per cent. more acres in wheat at the present time than in any previous year. The winter has been exceedingly favorable.

PARDONS.—The Secretary of the Commonwealth announces that Governor Pollock has adopted certain rules in relation to the applications for pardon, to protect him from imposition. Satisfactory evidence will be required that at least five days previous notice of intended applications for pardon was given to the District Attorney of the city or county in which the conviction took place, and that at least ten days previous notice of the same was given in a newspaper published where the conviction took place. These seem like very proper rules.

RAILROAD LETTING.—By an advertisement in another column, it will be seen that the Barclay Railroad and Coal Company, advertise a letting of their road from the Coal fields to this place, a distance of about 14 miles, on Saturday the 14th day of April next. It is the intention of the Company, we understand, to complete this road, as soon as practicable, to afford an outlet to the very valuable coal and minerals upon their lands.

CONCERT.—The Mendelssohn Quartette Club of Boston, under direction of Prof. W. O. PERKINS, gave a Concert at the Court House, in this place of Tuesday evening last. They are vastly superior to the majority of performers, and their execution gave great satisfaction to the audience. We can recommend them as worthy of the patronage of the music-loving public.

VOTING IN KANSAS.—Gov. Reeder has issued a proclamation in reference to the election which is to take place in Kansas, for members of the legislature, on the 30th inst. The substance of it is, that a voter must dwell there at the time of offering his vote. He must then have commenced an actual habitation, which he actually intends to continue permanently; and he must have made the Territory his dwelling, to the exclusion of any other home.

APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR.—Gov. Pollock has appointed Hon. Thomas S. Bell, of Chester county, (formerly a Judge on the Supreme Bench,) to the President Judgeship of the twenty-second Judicial district, composed of the counties of Monroe, Pike, Wayne and Carbon, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Hon. James M. Porter.—This appointment, we learn, was made in accordance with the unanimous request of the bar of the district.

WORLD'S FAIRS.—During the present year, no less than three European World's Fair Exhibitions have been announced to take place—one at Munich, one in Sardinia, and one in Paris. It is expected the latter will be a fine display.

Letter from Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, March 27, 1855.

The bill to repeal the tavern license laws, the provisions of which, as now pending in the Senate, have been fully laid before your readers, was the special order for Tuesday last. No extensive debate was had upon its provisions, and no material amendment made to the first section. The clause in the first section, providing that the bill should go into operation immediately after its passage, was extended to the first day of July next, and with this amendment it passed second reading by the following vote:—

Yeas—Messrs. Browne, Crabb, Darsie, Ferguson, Fleniken, Frazer, Hamlin, Hoge, Jamison, Jordan, Lewis, Mellinger, Platt, Pratt, Price, Skinner, Taggart, Wherry—18.

Nays—Messrs. Buckalew, Cresswell, Frick, Fry, Goodwin, Killinger, McClintock, Walton, Hiestler, Speaker—10.

Present and not voting—Hendricks, Quiggle, Sellers, Shuman.

The further consideration of the bill was then postponed until the next day, when it was again postponed on account of the indisposition of Mr. Buckalew, who intends to be heard in opposition. He has uniformly opposed the enactment of a prohibitory law and every measure approaching to it. He thinks that the pending bill will not have the desired effect of decreasing intemperance. This opinion is not shared by a majority of the Senate, who have, in a measure, been committed to the support of this bill. There is no reason to doubt that it will pass by a very decided majority, and most probably during the coming week.

The veto of Governor Pollock of the bill to incorporate the Pottstown Bank, shows, in rather a clearer light, where the Governor stands on this vital question that the uncertain terms of the Inaugural. While the Governor is so commended for the decided position he has taken against the inordinate increase of banking capital, he has nevertheless allowed himself a privilege of discrimination, which will be odious to a large number of his party friends, and extremely delicate and difficult to exercise. A firm determination to veto all applications would have placed him in a much more comfortable position, and created fewer personal enemies. He has no doubt assumed this position, so unpleasant to himself personally, from a firm conviction of duty. It will be curious to see how his peculiar party friends, constituting a majority of more than two-thirds in the House of Representatives, will act in the face of this veto—whether they will pass this bill over his head, or derive some new and enlightened ideas from the veto. They could not meet the question immediately, but postponed it in order to afford time for careful perusal and consideration.

The bill to extend the charter of the Bank of North America, for the period of twenty years after the expiration of the present charter, passed the Senate Thursday morning by a larger vote than has been obtained for any bank application this session, yeas 18, nays 5. The present charter will expire early in the year 1857.

The bill relative to Estates held for corporate, religious and charitable uses, the sixth section of which prohibits the holding of church property in perpetuity, as now practiced in the Catholic Church, under the sanction of a law passed in 1844, was under consideration in the Senate yesterday. When this bill was first presented, it will be recollected that the Bishops of Philadelphia and Pittsburg, each memorialized the Legislature against the passage of this sixth section, or any alteration in the manner by which church property is now held in that church, by the Bishops or Trustees. The reasoning of these memorials failed to convince the committee of the impropriety of repealing the act of 1844. Mr. Price entered at length and very fully into an argument in support of the pending bill, and among other facts, stated that the opposition was almost entirely confined to the Ecclesiastics of the Catholic Church, and that he had received a number of letters from intelligent Catholic Laymen, entirely approving of the object of the bill, extracts from which he would take the liberty to publish, in connection with the remarks he made on this question.

The amendments to the Constitution, proposed by Mr. Crabb, requiring a residence of twenty-one years in this country by foreigners before they can become citizens of Pennsylvania, are now on second reading in the Senate. The proposition was originally offered as an amendment to the resolutions passed at the last session, extensively published for general information, and again passed at this session, but were ruled out of order, when they were again introduced as a distinct measure. The plan of the prevailing party seems to be to have the amendments of last session defeated in the House of Representatives, and these substituted therefor. If the original proposition should pass the House, and be submitted to the people at the next election, no other measure could be again voted upon within five years, the Constitution requiring that no amendment shall be voted upon oftener than once in five years. Hence the importance of defeating the first proposed amendments in order that the new doctrines of the day may have a clear and unobstructed way to the Constitution. Mr. Crabb's proposition will probably pass the Senate.

A bill has been reported in the Senate by Mr. PRATT, in relation to the formation of new counties. The bill provides for the appointment by the court, of twelve men, resident within the bounds of the proposed new county, who shall constitute a board of Commissioners and whose duty it shall be to proceed and make a report designating the bounds of the new county—the townships, county seat, &c. This report is to be submitted to a vote of the people.

resident of the counties from the territory of which the county is proposed to be taken; and if a majority of the people decide in favor of it, the returns are to be sent to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the Governor required, on an examination thereof, to issue his proclamation declaring such new county established.

The Senate passed a joint resolution to adjourn on the 17th of April next. This resolution was taken up in the House on Monday, and an amendment adopted substituting the 24th of April. Mr. COMINGS then moved to strike out the words "sine die," and insert a proviso to the effect, that when the House adjourns on the 24th of April next, it adjourn to meet on the first Monday in October next, in pursuance of the action of the joint convention of the 27th of February last, for the purpose of going into an election of a U. S. Senator.

The amendment was debated by Messrs. Foust, Johnson, Lott, McCombs, Frailey, Cummings, McCalmont, Simpson, and others, when Mr. Simpson moved as an amendment to the amendment, a resolution postponing the election of a U. S. Senator until the second Tuesday in January next.

The amendment was debated until 6 o'clock when the House adjourned.

SCHOOL FOR IDIOTIC AND FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.—We have received the second annual report of the Pennsylvania Training School for Idiotic and Feeble-minded Children, which is situated near Germantown. The institution is in its infancy, and has no permanent establishment as yet, but a hope is expressed that the Legislature and the efforts of the benevolent may enable the society to purchase ground and erect a building where their operations may be more systematically and properly conducted. The institution received sixteen more pupils during the year, and discharged five. The number remaining in the institution is twenty. The expenses were \$5,788. The Principal gives a gratifying account of the operations. He says:—

It should be remembered by those visiting the school, that we have not only mental, but physical imbecility and infirmity to contend against. I am aware that it must require in parents a good degree of confidence in our ability to meet the infantile wants of such extremely feeble organizations; yet we are glad to find that there are some who have the courage to bring their little ones and entrust them to our care, believing that more can be done for their advancement and improvement, while under the guidance of some person who has made this subject his special study, than all that has or will be done, while under their own immediate roof. \* \* \* I never yet, during my whole intercourse with these unfortunate, found one too low for improvement—and I have often seen cases that might have been materially improved had they been brought to us in season—while the distress of parents who have held their children back on account of their tender age, has also called forth our deepest sympathy. The age at which children should be admitted can hardly be too early; indeed, we would be glad to see half-a-score or more of infants in our nursery, while none should be admitted after twelve or fourteen years of age.

PREPAY YOUR LETTERS.—On and after the first of April, all letters for places in the United States, passing through the Post Office, must be prepaid, or they will remain in the office where they are dropped. The single rate of postage is three cents. To California, and Washington and Oregon Territories, ten cents. Postage to foreign countries remains unchanged.

APPOINTMENT BY THE SUPREME COURT.—A. B. McCALMONT, Esq., has been appointed Prothonotary of the Supreme Court for the Western district of Pennsylvania, by the Judges of that Court, vice JOHN COYLE, Esq.

CENSUS OF KANSAS.—A complete enumeration of the voting population in Kansas has been obtained. It seems to contain 3,036 electors, which are divided into seventeen election districts.

J. ELLIS BONHAM, Chairman of the State Central Committee, died at Carlisle, on Monday evening, 19th inst., of congestion of the lungs.

ROBBERY.—A gentleman named Field was robbed on the 17th inst., at Dunkirk, of about \$1,400, by a barber named James Hall. The villain administered chloroform to Mr. Field, while shaving him, and thus effected his purpose. The robber came to this city, where he gave his name as "Jerry Ryan." He is a mulatto, about 5 feet 10 inches in height, high forehead, very short curly hair, large flat nose, large mouth, a bald spot on the back of his head; on his face and forehead are pimples. His gait is peculiar. He is said to be a notorious Ohio River thief. Thus far he has eluded the officers. It is thought he made direct for the southwest.

AN INCIDENT IN CHURCH.—The Rev. Dr. Moriarty delivered a discourse on St. Patrick's day in the Cathedral in New York. A letter from that city says:—

In the midst of his discourse the Rev. Speaker abruptly stopped, making a long and apparently angry "point." The house was still as death for about a minute, when the words of the priest were again heard, and all eyes directed towards the object of them, a young lady sitting in one of the pews. He said, "Take down that eye-glass ma'm, take down that eye-glass—you can see me well enough without it; I'm sufficiently big enough to be seen without an eye-glass. And don't be making signs at that other girl and making her laugh."

Quite a sensation ensued, the unlucky lady with the quizzing glass seemed overwhelmed in the presence of the startled congregation.

The Hon. S. S. Phelps, late U. S. Senator from Vermont, expired at his residence, at Middlebury, on Sunday, the 25 inst. His funeral takes place on Thursday, the 29th inst.

One Week Later from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE ATLANTIC!

The Czar's Death Confirmed!

MORE FIGHTING IN THE CRIMEA!

The U. S. steamship Atlantic, which left Liverpool at 2 P. M. on Saturday, March 10, arrived at New York Tuesday morning at 7 1/2 o'clock. The Atlantic encountered westerly gales the entire passage.

By this arrival we learn the peaceable accession of the Czar Alexander II, and of his declaration to follow the policy of his father Nicholas. Constantine and the other princes of the Imperial house have signified their allegiance to the new Emperor. The hopes that were entertained throughout Europe of a peace policy in accordance with the supposed personal character of Alexander, were becoming more faint. The influence of the powerful party, at the head of whom is the Grand Duke Constantine, it was feared, would urge the Czar forward in a course opposed to his better judgment. His first appointment of the Ministers were, however, regarded favorably for peace. Meanwhile the Allies determined to seize the opportunity of uncertainty which the news of the death of Nicholas must occasion, to prosecute the war with vigor. There has been more fighting in the Crimea, and more threatened. The Conference has commenced at Vienna, Gortschakoff having received from the Czar Alexander a confirmation of his previous instructions.

The Death of the Czar Nicholas—Peaceable Accession of Alexander—Alexander adheres to the Policy of Nicholas.

The Africa brought us intelligence of the death of the Czar, and the announcement of the event to both Houses of the British Parliament. We have now copious details of the last brief illness and death of Nicholas, and of the peaceable succession of his eldest son Alexander to the throne of Russia.

Scarcely had authentic intelligence reached England, that Nicholas was seriously indisposed when a second dispatch announced that he was dead. The first notification was telegraphed from Berlin by Lord John Russell, and stated that the Emperor had been suddenly attacked by a fit, of an apoplectic nature; that he was given over by his physicians, and had calmly taken leave of his family, in a view of his approaching end. Three hours afterward, dispatches reached Paris, stating that at noon the same day, the Czar Nicholas expired—as before mentioned.

Lords Clarendon and Palmerston informed Parliament of the event; and by that dignified body the intelligence was received with due solemnity. At several of the English theatres the managers came before the curtain and proclaimed that Nicholas was dead—an announcement which was received in most instances with tumultuous cheering! The news spread like wild fire. Greater joy could not have been exhibited had Sebastopol fallen. Some of "the people" expressed much disappointment that the authorities did not ring the church bells! Equal excitement was occasioned by the news in the leading cities of the continent. On the news reaching Berlin the Court placed itself in mourning, and orders were issued that the Prussian army shall wear the symbols of mourning four weeks. The general feeling in the Prussian capital seemed to be one of regret.—At Vienna the intelligence caused much agitation. An order of the day by the Emperor of Austria directs that "in acknowledgement of the services rendered with noble eagerness by the Emperor Nicholas, during a time of unfortunate trials," the Nicholas Regiment of Cuirassiers shall always preserve that name as a souvenir in the Austrian army. At Paris the police arrested the ballad-singers for chanting verses disgraceful to the dead Czar.

It appears that the Emperor first complained of oppression of the head and chest. He had before been subject to such a feeling. His physicians were immediately called, and their experienced eyes foresaw that this attack was likely to be his last. They had, indeed, been attending him, during some days, for an attack of influenza, to which some slight symptoms of pulmonary affections had supervened. From the first moment of his final seizure they held out no hopes of recovery.

Shortly after noon of Friday, March 2, he expired. The last words of the Emperor were spoken in the French language. Addressing the Empress, he said: "Tell Frederick (the King of Prussia) to continue attached to Russia, as he has hitherto been, and never to forget his father's words." It is said that a few days before his death, the Czar succeeded in effecting a complete reconciliation between his two eldest sons, Alexander and Constantine, who were at variance.

By telegraph from Berlin, of date the 6th of March, it is stated that the Emperor Alexander has issued a manifesto, in which he promises to adhere to the policy of his father.

Reported Death of the Grand Duke Michael killed in Battle.—For several days the rumor was prevalent that the Grand Duke Michael had been severely wounded in an engagement on the Chernaya and had died, in Sebastopol, of his wounds.—This statement requires confirmation.

Prince Menchikoff Recalled—Russian War-Minister Superseded.

The deceased Emperor Nicholas had already recalled Prince Menchikoff from the Crimea, and given the chief command there to Prince Gortschakoff, and the second to Osten-Sacken. It was also stated that Gen. Rudiger had been summoned from the high position he held in the army of Poland, to take the direction of the Ministry-of-War, in the place of Dolgorouki, and it was surmised that Gen. Bibikoff, the Home Minister of the Empire, would be removed. These appointments, if authenticated, have much importance.

Russians Threaten Balakava.—March 5.—A telegraphic dispatch reached Paris on the 7th stating that 50,000 Russians were threatening the English force at Balakava. Gen. Bosquet was endeavoring to get his corps in rear of the enemy with the view of cutting off the Russians from their reinforcements, and becoming the attacking party.

Latest.—The weather had again become fine, but in a climate so variable, no dependence could be placed on it for field operations. A convoy of 200 wagons had succeeded in entering Sebastopol. Firing continued to be kept up, on both sides, with more or less steadiness.

A Russian Redoubt Stormed by the French—Great Loss of Life.—Accounts of this event are directly contradictory. Menchikoff says the Allies were repulsed with 600 loss; the Allies say they destroyed the redoubt with a 100 killed.