The Somerset Herald

WEDNESDAY - - - - - - March 6, 1878.

THERE is a bill pending in Congress to pension all the surviving soldiers of the Mexican war. If the bill becomes a law it will make Jefferson Davis a U. S. pensioner.

THE official statement just issued shows that the Public debt was decreased during the month of February, Two millions, two hundred and fifty thousand, two hundred and thirty-seven dollars ($2,250,237.

ADVOCATING the introduction of the bell-punch into Chicago, and a tax of one cent a drink on all liquor sold by retailers, the *Inter Ocean* asserts that there are 2800 saloons that sell not less than 427,000 drinks a day in that city, which would raise a revenue of $4,270 per day or over $1,500,000 per year. Whew! Had'nt they better send for Murphy, instead of the bell-punch?

THE fact made potent on the passage of the silver bill that the President has no party at his back, and not a friend, save one in either House of Congress, ready to do him the poor courtesy of requesting decent treatment, for a message undeniably within the line of Constitutional duty and prerogative, is a sorry spectacle to be presented to the country within less than a year after his inauguration.

VICE PRESIDENT WHEELER having been compelled by ill health to temporarily relinquish his duties as presiding officer of the Senate, that body on Tuesday last, chose Senator Ferry, as President *pro tem.* The vote was a very close one, the Democrats casting 28 for Thurman, to 29 given to Ferry. The "independ'ent" Judge Davis, cast his lot with the Democrats. A single vote would have given the Democracy control of the only branch of the government remaining Republican.

THIS Congress is not by any means deficient in fools, but there is one Solon illuminating the darkness—Southard by name—who is entitled above all his fellows to wear the cap and bells. He has worthily earned this mark of distinction by proposing that hereafter three Presidents be elected, who shall be selected from different sections, and shall jointly administer the government. Think of the amount of brain wrecking wisdom involved in this proposition! Presidential triplets!!!

HON. BENJAMIN F. WADE, ex-Senator from Ohio died at his home on Saturday Morning, 2nd inst. Mr. Wade was born in 1800 and consequently was in his 78th year. He was a radical Republican, always in the advanced ranks of the party, and conceded of all men to be possessed of the highest integrity and honesty, both personal and political. Although well stricken in years he had not outlived his usefulness, and his death will be deeply regreted throughout the nation.

IT is said that the ultra inflationists are very much dissatisfied with the clause in the silver bill restraining the coinage. At the rate of three and a half millions a month it will take two or three years before the inflation will be sensibly felt. Meanwhile they vow they will not relax their efforts in favor of unlimited coinage, and the issuing of certificates by the Treasury for all loose bullion and silver in the country. Give them their way—who can say they will not have it, in the face of late experience—and all the old ladies in the country will be gathering up their silver spoons, teapots and cream jugs, turning them into the Treasury, and receiving therefore silver certificates that will pass for money.

ON Tuesday last the President vetoed the silver bill, and within two and a half hours afterwards both Houses of Congress, by heavy majorities, had passed the bill over the veto. Never in the history of the country was such scant courtesy shown the Chief Magistrate of the Nation. Not a voice was raised in defense of the veto, not a motion to have it printed, not a movement for the usual courteous reference to a committee, but stolidly, indifferently, with mere brute force, as it were, the President was knocked down with a club, and the question was summarily and efficiently disposed of.

Truth to tell, apart from the indecent haste; this was the only way to escape the dilemma, for the message was unanswerable, and the wholesome truths contained therein, were as gall and wormwood to those intent upon lowering the standard of National honor, and defrauding the creditors of the government. We have differed with the President in many acts of his Administration, but he is so clearly right, so evidently solicitous of the honor and good faith of the Nation in this matter, that he is entitled to universal praise.

The bill has now become the law of the land and we must put up with the consequences, be they what they may. Opinions differ widely, and both friends and opponents, have in their zeal probably gone too far in their predictions of the resulting consequences. Happily the change inaugurated must come slowly and gradually, and it cannot materially effect the business interests of the country before they have time to assimilate themselves to it.

But what is to come next? is the question of grave moment. It was not the people who demanded this measure, it was the demagogues who started, and nursed, and forced, it and apparently the country is at their mercy. It is this fact that will do more to retard the progress toward renewed prosperity than all that has gone before.

THE conciliated Democracy of New Orleans accompanied their invitation to the United States army officers to attend the carnival, with the request not to appear in their uniform. These effervescing lovers of the Union could'nt tolerate "the blue." The officers properly resented the insult by remaining away.

IT is announced from Washington that the Secretary of the Treasury has already perfected the necessary arrangements for the immediate execution of the law providing for the coinage of the silver dollar, so there will be no delay in its operation. The device of the new dollar has been adopted, the form of the silver certificate has been prepared, and the department is therefore ready to begin without delay the administration of the new law.

The Director of the Mint says that all the working dies can be got ready within ten days, that he has a full force of trained hands ready, and that soon he will be coining the new dollar at the rate of two and a half millions a month.

THE march of events was forcibly illustrated in the House at Washington on Tuesday last, when Mr. Singleton (Dem.) of Mississippi took advantage of the discussion on the Mexican war pension bill, to eulogise the character and defend the reputation of Jefferson Davis.

The main effort of the eulogist was an attempt to prove that Jeff Davis was not a secessionist, and that during the war his sincerity was much doubted in the South. The man who, a dozen years since, would have prophecied that the Congress of the Nation would ever quietly sit through an eulogy on the virtues of this arch traitor, would have been deemed an idiot. But conciliation doth show forth its perfect work. A monument to the memory of Benedict Arnold, that most maligned patriot, will be next in order.

THE old time rebel yell is again exultantly ringing through the South, over the conviction and sentence of General Anderson on, the trumped-up charge of constructive perjury. In this connection a contemporary makes the following reference to the past.

"Twelve years ago there were several thousand Southern men indictable for this felony, and the North believed it to be a crime, south of the Potomac and Ohio. A goodly proportion were indictable for perjury in breaking their oaths of fidelity to the laws of the United States. Not one of these men was ever tried not even indicted, as was Aaron Burr. Little by little an overwhelming Republican Congress has amnestied the most of them. When a political offense against the Louisiana government, which exists to-day by Northern clemency, is complicated with a constructive statuary offense, then the Southern Representatives cry out in behalf of law and its enforcement. If Wells, Anderson, and the colored members of the Louisiana Returning Board are indictable, so were many members of Congress, now enjoying the condonation of worse offenses. In the interests of peace and good will they have been restored to all their civil rights, and secured an unmolested liberty. Why magnanimity should be thought a virtue in the North and a weakness in New Orleans, most people cannot understand in this latitude."

New Orleans Banditti.

From the Jackson Standard.

The Cincinnati *Gazette*, speaking of the men who tried General Anderson, at New Orleans, says: "These are the banditti that General Sheridan described." And the *Gazette* might have added with equal truth—"These are the banditti which Rutherford B. Hayes placed in power."

An Average Ex Confederate.

From the Boston Traveller.

Give the average ex-Confederate a single point, and he will take a dozen; make him an equal, and he will assume supreme airs and functions: invest him with "local self-government," as he understands it, and he will crush all opposition to his sweet will. This is what ailed him before the war, and the disease wasn't all whipped out of him.

Late in the Day.

From the Marion Independent.

It is late in the day for the advocates of the milksop policy of President Hayes to cry out about the conduct of the "reconciled people of the South." Any Republican who would or could believe it possible for a good government to come from an armed minority, seizing a State Government by force from the officers elected by the people, is too green to be at large in the present day.

A Good Time to Shy Bricks.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

The President has for several days been thinking seriously about getting mad. Those fellows down in Louisiana are making mischief. It reminds us of a picture we once saw of a colored brother, with a hod on his shoulder loaded with bricks, near the top round of a high ladder. He is represented as looking over his shoulder at an old sow, which, escaping from her wallow, found the ladder a good rubbing post. The colored brother, showing the white of his eyes, remarks: "Go way dar, you're a makin' mischief." The President is on the ladder; if he has a hod or so of bricks, we think it is a good time to shy them.

The "reform" party in Congress is bound to grow in one way if it can not in another. It has now succeeded in seating three Democrats, who were never elected, in seats which belonged to Republicans, thus making a change of six votes in their favor. This is a good deal easier than electing them by vote of the people. It involves, of course, a sacrifice of decency, and a disregard for political morality, but what are such petty obstacles as these to your true Democrat? It was Mr. Clymer who remarked beautifully the other day: "Give us [Democrats] entire authority, and we will see that the laws are enforced." So they would be, Mr. Clymer, but the racket would be so great that few of the laws would survive to tell the tale.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Reform Song of the Democracy.

Cleveland Leader.

"Hot boys, carry me long,
Carry me till I die;
Carry me up to the public crib—
But don't you carry me by."

English cheese has always been celebrated for its fine quality; yet, during last month England imported 65,121,412 pounds of cheese from the United States, or 17,560 tons of 2,000 pounds each. That's the cheese!

A Strong Hand.

Cincinnati Enquirer. (Dem.)

Old Ass Packer, with his $12,000,000, is a source of perennial bliss to the people of Pennsylvania. He's a trump card, but what a bluff game they would play if they had four Asses.

If there is any Republican now occupying a seat in the House of Representatives whose title is contested, he might as well not stand upon the order of his going but go at once. It is far better in this Congress to be a Democratic contestant than a Republican with a prima facie right to his seat.—*North American.*

The Hon. C. B. Darrell, of the Third Louisiana district, certainly has good reason to complain that conciliation in that State is a one-sided affair. He held certificates from both Nicholls and Kellogg, the Republican count giving him 2093 and the Democratic count over 1000 majority. Notwithstanding these facts he was ousted yesterday and his seat given his Democratic opponent. The same fate threatens the two colored Representatives from South Carolina, Messrs. Rainey and Smalls. The Democracy are determined to prove that a majority does not elect—to Congress at any rate.—*North American.*

Ben Wade's Message.

Old Ben Wade, it is said, cannot recover. He sends as a message from his sick bed: "Say to my friends that they must stand true. The old ship is in danger, and she needs the help of brave men."

In the old days of Southern arrogance in Congress, Toombs, of Georgia, characterized Northern Congressmen as cowards. "Do you mean me?" vehemently inquired one of the old Whigs first to join the Republican party. "No, sir," said Toombs, "I except the Senator from Ohio." The man excepted was Ben Wade, and the Southern fire-eater proceeded to speak of him as a brave man, whose courage and boldness called out the admiration and respect of his political enemies. Mr. Wade stood then in the front line of battle. He caught the first rude blows aimed at the Republican party, and returned them in kind. He knew his enemy, and knew how to meet him then and in all the great struggles that came afterward. The last plea of such a man at such a time, asking his old friends to stand true, possesses rare significance, and it should exercise its full influence. He says the old ship is again in danger, and needs the help of brave men, and while he says this, the Louisville *Courier Journal*, speaking of the trouble to which Mr. Wade refers, says:

"The South accepts the gage laid down. We accept it and we welcome it. We declare, and hold ourselves ready to maintain, that a baser, viler, meaner spirit was never visited by the conqueror upon the conquered in any civilized country than that visited upon us by the Republican party."

And yet the conquered are for some reason in the halls of Congress, just as they were when rebellion was inaugurated. They bear no marks of humiliation, they show no more love for the Union, and they are animated by the same spirit that called men like Mr. Wade to the front as their opponents years ago. They have been mistreated, and they propose to visit vengeance on those who were their conquerors. This is the spirit of the Southern Democracy.

Speaking of the coming struggle, the Charleston *Journal of Commerce* says the South, having suffered from apologists, who have aimed to conciliate the North by dishonest concessions, now wants firm and aggressive men on the floors of Congress—men who can be discreet as well as aggressive.

The attitude of the South is plainly declared—as plainly declared as it was twenty years ago. The Bourbon Democrats are proud of the fact that they have not learned anything, and are extremely anxious to show that they have not forgotten either old victories or later defeats. They propose to take advantage of conciliatory measures when they can, and to force concession not willingly made; to use intrigue, threats, pledges, everything, to accomplish their purpose—to secure control of the Government.

Republicans stand facing these aggressive partisans, and, conscious of their designs, debate as to how much further conciliation shall go. Seeing just as many evidences of a spirit hostile to the party and the country as Lincoln, Chase, and Wade saw in 1860, Republicans hesitate as to a line of action. There is danger in this hesitation, and it is time there came a plea for them to be true.

Mr. Wade's message to the party is not one of hate, as will be said in some quarters. It is a message coming from one whose devotion to principle was never questioned, whose courage was never doubted, and whose vision was always clear, asking brave men to give the help that is needed; asking Republicans to remember their principles. Will they do it?

THE SILVER BILL A LAW.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The Silver bill has become the law of the land. Perhaps there never was a case before where a veto Message was set aside by both houses of Congress on the day on which it was received. There certainly has been no important instance. The advocates of the bill were angry that the President should veto the bill at all, considering that it was passed in the first place by a two-thirds majority, hence they were eager to respond at once, and did so, voting on the bill in both houses without a word of debate. The Message was not generally expected to-day, although it was known to be possible that it would be sent in. The knowledge of that possibility was sufficient to draw more than the usual number of visitors to the Capitol, and the galleries of the House were well filled. It was 1:30 when the President's Secretary presented the Message. It was at once laid before the House and read. Very careful attention was paid to the reading, and while there was no appearance of great excitement, it was evident that the subject was one of absorbing interest. When the Message had been read a buzz of conversation rose all over the House, and there was a hurried interchange of views and opinions and attempts at consultation about the course to pursue. The Speaker soon restored order, and recognized Alexander H. Stephens as entitled to the floor to take charge of the bill. He at once moved the previous question on the Constitutional question, "Shall the bill pass, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?" Mr. Stephens sat in his little rolling chair, in the area in front of the Speaker's desk, and as soon as his motion was made, and while the bill was reading, he was surrounded by a score of members, who crowded their heads together over his low desk and seemed to be asking him for time to speak in the hour which they expected him to allow for debate. He would allow no debate, however, and the previous question was ordered without dissent. Then there was presented for a few moments a scene of confusion. Some members were trying to speak and some were calling for the regular order. Mr. Fort asked for a second reading of the Message, as it could not be considered in print, but this was objected to, and the Clerk at the same instant began calling the roll, and there was a response by one or two members. While this was going on Mr. Cox was trying to render himself conspicuous, and succeeded in objecting to further reading of the Message, as it was "a charge of fraud by a fraud." Gen. McCook, of New York, demanded that the words should be taken down. This gave rise to a little breeze, during which points of order were made, and the books of rules were opened by members on both sides. Gen. McCook sustained himself with credit, and made a good point by claiming Cox as one of his constitutents. Mr. Randall said Mr. Cox had not been recognized by the Chair, and was, therefore, out of order, and the remark was not a part of the proceedings. It was decided that it should not be printed in the *Record;* but, of course, Mr. Cox has the gratification of knowing it will get into all the newspapers. This episode ended, the roll-call went on and resulted in passing the bill by yeas 196, nays 73. The announcement was received with applause on the floor and in the galleries.

The bill having been passed was made ready as soon as possible to communicate to the Senate, and the message was sent over to that body in a little more than an hour and a half after it was received by the House. As soon as it was known that action had been taken upon the bill in the House, the Senate galleries began to fill up, and many of the Representatives, anticipating a lively debate, crowded the floor and cloak-rooms. They were disappointed, however. The bill was passed without discussion. When the Message came in the Senate was discussing the bill relating to depredations upon government timber lands, and pending the debate on it Mr. Conkling asked Mr. Allison when he expected to have a vote on the Silver bill. Mr. Allison replied that he hoped to dispose of the matter at once. Conkling suggested that the bill relating to government timber be laid over, but Mr. Edmunds objected, and it seemed for a moment as if there was going to be a long dispute on a small point of parliamentary law. Mr. Hamlin prevented this, however, by moving that the bill relating to government timber lie upon the table. This motion was not debateable, and was carried at once. The veto Message was then taken up, not, however, before Mr. Edmunds had made another ineffectual attempt to have it laid over. At this point the crowds in the galleries and upon the floor began to settle down for a long and interesting debate, it being generally believed that Mr. Conkling had one of his carefully elaborated speeches ready to deliver. This, however, was a mistake. No one took the floor, and the bill was passed over the veto without debate by yeas 46, nays 19.

The Veto Message in Full.

WASHINGTON, February 28.—The following is President Hayes' message vetoing the Silver bill:

To the House of Representatives:

After a very careful consideration of House bill 1,093, entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal tender character," I feel compelled to return it to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, with my objections to its passage. Holding the opinion which I expressed in my annual message "that neither the interests of the Government nor the people of the United States would be prompted by disparaging silver as one of the two precious metals which furnish the coinage of the world, and that legislation which looks to maintaining the volume of intrinsic money to as full a measure of both metals as their relative commercial values would permit, would be neither unjust nor inexpedient." It has been my earnest desire to concur with Congress in the adoption of such measures to increase the silver coinage of the country as would not impair the obligation of contracts either public or private, nor injuriously affect the public credit. It is only upon the conviction that this bill does not meet these essential requirements that I feel it my duty to withhold from it my approval. My present official duty as to this bill permits only an attention to the specific objections to its passage, which seem to me so important as to justify me in asking from the wisdom and duty of Congress that further consideration of the bill for which the Constitution has in such cases provided.

The bill provides for the coinage of silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains each of standard silver, to be a legal tender at their nominal value for all debts and dues, public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contracts. It is well known that the market value of that number of grains of standard silver during the past year has been from 90 to 92 cents, as compared with the standard gold dollar. Thus the silver dollar authorized by this bill is worth 8 to 10 per cent less than it purports to be worth, and is made a legal tender for debts contracted when the law did not recognize such coins as lawful money. The right to pay duties in silver or in certificates of silver deposits will, when they are issued in sufficient amount to circulate, put an end to the receipt of revenue in gold, and thus compel the payment of silver for both the principal and interest of the debt. One billion one hundred and forty-three millions four hundred and ninety-three thousand four hundred dollars of the bonded debt now outstanding was issued prior to February, 1873, when the silver dollar was unknown in the circulation in this country, and was only a convenient form of silver bullion for exportation. Five hundred and eighty-three million four hundred and forty thousand three hundred and fifty dollars of the funded debt has been issued since February 1873, when gold alone was the coin for which the bonds were sold, and gold alone was the coin in which both parties to the contract understood that the bonds would be paid. These bonds entered into the markets of the world. They were paid for in gold when silver had greatly depreciated, and when no one would have bought them if it had been understood that they would be paid in silver. The sum of $225,000,000 of these bonds has been sold during my Administration for gold coin, and the United States received the benefit of these sales by a reduction of the rate of interest to 4 per cent. During the progress of these sales a doubt was suggested as to the coin in which payment of these bonds would be made. The public announcement was thereupon authorized that it was "not to be anticipated that any further legislation of Congress or any action of any department of the Government would sanction or tolerate the redemption of the principal of the bonds or the payment of the interest thereon in coin of less value than the coin authorized by law at the time of the issue of the bonds, being the coin exacted by the Government, in exchange for the same."

In view of these facts it will be justly regarded as a grave breach of the public faith to undertake to pay these bonds, principal or interest, in silver coin worth in the market less than the coin received for them. It is said that the silver dollar made a legal tender by this bill will under its operation be equivalent in value to the gold dollar. Many supporters of the bill believe this, and would not justify an attempt to pay debts, either public or private, in coin of inferior value to the money of the world. The capital defect of the bill is that it contains no provision protecting from its operation pre-existing debts in case the coinage which it creates shall continue to be of less value than that which was the sole legal tender when they were contracted. If it is now proposed for the purpose of taking advantage of the depreciation of silver in the payment of debts to coin and make a legal tender a silver dollar of less commercial value than any dollar, whether of gold or paper, which is now lawful money in this country. Such a measure, it will hardly be questioned, will in the judgment of mankind be an act of bad faith. As to all debts heretofore contracted, the silver dollar should be made a legal tender only at its market value. The standard of value should not be changed without the consent of both parties to the contract. National promises should be kept with unflinching fidelity. There is no power to compel a nation to pay its just debts. Its credit depends on its honor. The nation owes what it has led or allowed its creditors to expect.

I cannot approve a bill which, in my judgment, authorizes the violation of sacred obligations.

The obligation of the public faith transcends all questions of profit or public advantage. Its unquestionable maintenance is the dictate as well of the highest expediency as of the most necessary duty, and should ever be carefully guarded by the executive, by Congress and the people.

It is my firm conviction that if the country is to be benefited by a silver coinage it can be done only by the issue of silver dollars of full value, which will defraud no man. A currency worth less than it purports to be worth will in the end defraud not only creditors, but all who are engaged in legitimate business, and none more surely than those who are dependent on their daily labor for their daily bread.

(Signed) R. B. HAYES.

Executive Mansion, Feb. 28, 1878.

Burglars.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—As Officer Harry Green, of the Carmanville police turned the sharp curve of the Hudson River Railroad directly opposite Hayes' pier at two-hundreth street, about half past one A. M. yesterday, he met two men, each carrying a bundle.

"Where are you going?" the officer asked, stopping them.

"We came from Buffalo," one replied, "and are on our way to New York."

"What have you got in those bundles? Put them down, and let's see what is in them."

The men dropped their bundles on the track. The rumbling of a train fast approaching could be heard, yet the officer stooped down and opened one of the bundles. A quantity of silk handkerchiefs had barely touched the ground, when there was a shrill warning whistle as the train rounded the curve. It was within a few hundred feet of the men, when one of them struck Officer Green over the eye, and the other hit him on the back with a jimmy. Although nearly stunned, the officer chased one of them, and fired four times at him. He heard him exclaim, "My God, I'm shot," and then he fell exhausted.

Roundsman Watson and Officer Loeber, of the mounted squad, hearing the rapid firing, ran down the track. They found Officer Green, almost insensible, leaning against a rock. He quickly told his story, and Roundsman Watson mounted his horse and gave the alarm. Officer Green and Loeber then returned to where Green had met the men. They heard stifled groans, and after a short search found one of the men on the track, with his right leg from ankle to knee crushed into a pulp. He begged them to shoot him. He was carried to the 152d Street Police Station. As he lay on the floor in the back room Captain Steers recognizing him as William Tracey, a Bowery thief, who had only been down from the State prison three weeks, and had since joined Dutch Harmon's gang of railroad thieves. As the Captain spoke to him he looked up and said, "for God's sake, Captain shoot me. I'm suffering awful." He then begged piteously for chloroform or ether. When asked for the name of his confederate, he said, "I'd rather die than give him away." He is now in the Ninety-ninth street hospital.

Reforms in Criminal Procedure.

The Grand Jury for this term completed their labors yesterday, and before being discharged presented to Recorder Hackett, through their foreman, R. S. Hone, a memorial, petitioning the Legislature to make certain changes and reforms in the mode of criminal procedure. Under existing conditions, the welfare of the community and the rights of prisoners demand that crimes of lesser degree be delegated to the Police magistrate, in order to relieve the calendars now flooding the higher criminal courts, and that such enlarged powers be given to these Police magistrates as will enable them to dispose of lesser.

BRITON'S FIGHTING FORCE.

FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DRILLED MEN COULD FALL INTO LINE IF REQUIRED.

The British Channel Squadron Arrives at Malta from Gibralter—Formidable Array of Ironclads.

LONDON, Febuary 27.—Major General Sir Garnet Wolseley contributes to the *Nineteenth Century* an article entitled "England as a Military Power." The following are his conclusions:

"At no previous period has England been so strong in a military sense as now. Were war declared to-morrow about 400,000 drilled men would fall into line if required, supported by 372 field guns, manned and horsed by the royal artillery. That number would be roughly made up as follows: Standing army at home, 90,000 men, army and militia reserve 40,000, militia reserve 65,000, volunteers 180,000, and second class army reserve 40,000; total 414,000. In this calculation I have the figures very low, and have left out altogether the 10,000 yeomenry who would be available for home service. I have not taken into consideration the number of regular troops that would be available for war when the Mediterranean garrisons were furnished by militia.

"It will thus be seen that we could at once take the field with two fully equipped army corps of more than 30,000 soldiers each, leaving a similar force of regular troops at home as a reserve. When I compare the military strength of England now with what it was in 1854, I am as amazed at the condition of military weakness and helplessness in which we were when we began the Russian war of that year as I am at the ignorance of those who are now croaking over our supposed want of strength and alleged consequent inability to fight."

LONDON, February 27.—4 P. M.—Lord Napier, of Magdala, governor and comander-in-chief of Gibralter, has just arrived here from that place.

The afternoon papers announce very prominently that it has been decided to employ Lord Napier, of Magdala, as commander-in-chief of any expeditionary force that may be sent out in case of war, with Major General Sir Garnet Wolseley as chief of staff.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Febuary 27.—It is now stated that the peace negotiations will consume another week unless Russia insists upon their being brought to a close.

LONDON, Febuary 27.—The channel squadron has arrived at Malta from Gibralter.

(The British channel squadron consists of the following four powerful ironclads: The Thunderer, four 25 ton guns, 9,190 tons, 6,270 horse power, Captain Wilson, Commander Lord Charles Bereford; the Monotaur, seventeen 18 and 25-ton guns, 10,627 tons, 6,702 horse power, Rear Admiral Lord John Hay, Captain Henry Rawson; the Defense, sixteen 18 and 25-ton guns, 2 537 horse power, Captain Cator, Commander Nesham, and the Black Prince, twenty-eight guns, 9,137 tons 5,772 horse power, Rear Admiral Dowell, Captain Howard. This addition to the fleet of Vice Admiral Hornby will raise his force to twenty-nine ships, carrying 235 guns and over 7,000 men.)

Murder.

PORTLAND, Feb. 23.—The people of Dexter, in this State, have been thrown into an intense state of excitement on account of the fearful death of J. W. Barron, treasurer of the Dexter Savings Bank. Mr. Parsons, an insurance agent, had an office in the same room with the bank. Between five and six o'clock Friday night he left Mr. Barron in the office. Mr. Barron not returning home as usual, search was made for him. Going to the bank the doors were found to be locked as usual. The National Bank has an office adjoining that of the Savings Bank, and Mr. Center, the cashier, being summoned, an attempt was made to enter the Savings Bank through the vaults of the two banks, which are so connected that when the doors of the safes are closed a person can pass from one room to the other. The vault doors of the National Bank having been opened, it was found that the doors of the Savings Bank vault could not be opened. Groans being heard, it was supposed that Mr. Barron had fallen in a fit. Finally, entering the room, the vault doors of the Savings Bank were found closed and locked, and the truth at once flashed upon the spectators. Between the roof of the vault and the door of the safe is a small aperture, through which a person forced his way, when a horrible sight was disclosed. Lying upon the floor, handcuffed, with a gag in his mouth and a rope tied tightly around his neck, was found Mr. Barron. He was senseless and lying against the door. He was moved and the door opened. The gag was similar to the wooden part of the bail of a water pail, and a piece of twine passed through a hole was tied about his neck. The handcuffs were nickle plated and finely made, and were so constructed that the more the person struggled the tighter they would grasp his arms. There was a wound behind the ear and a cut on the forehead, besides several other bruises. He was taken out, but did not regain consciousness, and died about five o'clock this morning. The burglars were evidently hidden in the building, and after all the other occupants had left attacked Mr. Barron just as he was going for a hod of coal. There must have been a terrible struggle, for his false teeth had dropped out and his keys and other articles were strewn in disorder about the room. The outer door of the safe had been opened, but the valuables had all previously been secured in the inner safe, and the treasurer was probably stricken down by the robbers because he would not open the combination lock. After binding him he was placed in the vault and the doors closed upon him. A person passing the bank about 6 o'clock on Friday night saw three strangers standing in the doorway. A little later a lady saw two men step from the bank building and hurry away. Mr. Barron was a man about forty-five years old, and a man much respected and above all suspicion. He had been Town Treasurer for many years, and had held other positions of trust. He had an insurance of several thousand dollars on his life, in the New York Mutual and other companies, and was a prominent Free Mason. The funds of the bank haue been found all right, with the exception of some $80 and a check for $200. A reward of $1,000 has been offered for the apprehension of the murderers.

WAR NEWS.

THE TREATY OF PEACE SIGNED—RUSSIA RENOUNCES HER CLAIM ON THE EGYPTIAN AND BULGARIAN TRIBUTES—REJOICING AT ST. PETERSBURG.

LONDON, Mar. 3.—The following announcement of the conclusion of peace between Russia and Turkey was received to-night:

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sunday night, March 3.—The treaty of peace has been signed. Grand Duke Nicholas announced the fact to the ssoldiers at a review at San Stefano to-day. Russia has abandoned her claim on the Egyptian and Bulgarian tributes.

LONDON, March 4.—The *Agence Russe* cites a special dispatch from Vienna, March 1st, stating that the Russians were bent on entering Constantinople with or without the Sultan's consent, and that England had notified Prince Gortschakoff that if Russia pursued the latter course the British ambassadors would be ordered to quit St. Petersburg. The *Agence Russe* says this report refers to a past phase of the crisis, since which the Russians have occupied San Stefano with the sanction of the Sultan.

LONDON, March 4.—A special from Vienna asserts that two divisions of Austrians will enter Bosnia in about ten days.

A Constantinople dispatch, dated Saturday says: Grand Duke Nicholas will probably visit Constantinople on Monday. It is said he will move his headquarters to Ferikeen, within two miles of Pera.

A correspondent at Vienna states that the Austrian and British Ambassadors have been instructed to protest if the Russians enter Constantinople.

LONDON, March 4.—St. Petersburg and Pera corrospondents confirm the report that the treaty of peace has been signed at St. Petersburg. The enthusiasm over the news was almost unprecedented. There was an immense crowd before the palace shouting and singing "God Save the Czar." The Pera correspondent says the treaty of peace was signed on Saturday. Thirty one thousand troops were reviewed at St. Stefano. A *Te Deum* was sung amid great enthusiasm.

A correspndent at St. Stefano is able to state that neither she surrender of a portion of the Turkish fleet nor the claim on the Egyptian tribute is included in the conditions of peace, and there is no interference with the portion of the Turkish revenue which is hypothecated to foreign creditors. Nothing is definitely settled relative to indemnity, but it will principally be in favor of territory in Asia, including Kars and Batoum, not Erzeroum. Salonica and Adrianople are not included in Bulgaria.

A Pera correspondent professes to give the conditions of peace. He makes the indemnity fully as heavy as was reported on February 25, viz, 1,400,000,000 roubles, with £40,000,000 sterling in bonds added.

A Vienna special says the communication which so reassured Austria last week was to the effect that Russia admitted that the peace conditions had been aggravated at the headquarters of Grand Duke Nicholas, but she promised notable modifications at the conference. Austria will not occupy Bosnia and Herzegovinia if the conditions are abandoned by which these provinces are cut off from communication with the rest of Turkey. Even if the conditions are maintained, Austria would only resort to annexation at the suggestion of the powers at the conference.

Count Andrassay was determined to persist with the vote of credit, although assured by the spokesman of the Austrian Delegation that it would only pass by a small majority. The opponents of the vote of credit seem disposed to appeal to the Reichsiath if defeated in the Delegation, but as the question can only be brought on when the money is actually wanted, the Government, when that is the case, will doubtless be able to justify their demand even to their adversaries.

BELGRADE, March 3.—Fifty-one persons have been condemned to death and forty-eight to penal servitude for the attempt at insurrection at Topolja last year.

A conspiracy to murder the Turkish officials at Bosnia has been discovered at Serajero. Numbers of Mohamedans have been arrested.

Paper Mill Burned.

A special dispatch to the Commercial Gazette from West Newton says that C. P. Markle & Son's paper mill at that place, conthining engines and valuable machinery, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. The flames were first discovered in the rag room, which contained very little stock, and had progressed to such an extent as to be beyond control. Therefore no attempt was made to save the main brick building, which was 180 feet long by 40 wide. It was entirely consumed, nothing being left standing in less than an hour except the bare and blackened walls. The greater part of the building was three stories high, and roofed with slate. Two Fourdrinier machines were among the valuable machinery destroyed. Last June the pulp works of this establishment were consumed, but the proprietors soon had them rebuilt. The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. The loss will reach $100,000, against which there is an insurance of $47,000. Of course the loss falls heavily upon the owners, but it will be more severely felt during these pinching times by those who were dependent upon the mill for means to support their families. The fire is looked upon by the community as a great calamity, and the citizens of West Newton hope that the Messrs. Markle will soon rebuild.

Death From Fright.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 27.—Mrs. James Kendrick, died from fright this morning. A fire broke out in her house this morning and she was so badly frightened that she died almost instantly. The deceased was forty years of age. Her husband had been permanetly disabled by the explosion in Long's rolling mills, and one of her sons was killed at the time. She had been in delicate health ever since that time, and the excitement this morning produced a shock which caused her death.

Killed by His Stepson.

EVANSVILLE, IND., Febuary 28.—Commodore D. Curtis, a farmer, fifty years old, was shot through the heart and killed, at his house, near Mount Vernon, Indiana, on Tuesday, by his stepson, aged thirteen. Curtis was trying to murder his wife in a drunken spree, and the boy got a gun and shot him.

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STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER.

Have lately opened a special invoice of

BELLON'S

Black Silks,

FULL 24 INCHES WIDE

Prices,	$1 50
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These goods will be found on comparison to be from 25 to 50 cents less in price than similar qualities can be bought elsewhere. This make of Goods is thoroughly reliable, and is unexcelled for durability of wear.

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FANCY SILKS,

IN PRICES RANGING FROM

50 Cents to $1 per Yard,

All of which are guaranteed to be below even current wholesale prices.

SAMPLES.

of all description of Dry Goods forwarded on application, and orders promptly and satisfactorily filled through our

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PHILADELPHIA.

Feb 27

Robbery.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, Feb. 23.—A special dated Dallas, 23, says: Last night the south bound train on the Central Texas Railroad was boarded at Allen station by six men, who robbed the express car of twenty-five hundred dollars. The train had hardly drawn up at the station when a man jumped into the engineer's cab, covered the engineer and fireman with revolvers. Five other men attempted to enter the express car, when Messenger Thomas showed fight, firing three shots at the robbers, hitting one, it is thought killing him. The robbers fired five or six shots at the messenger, and rushing in, overpowered him, cut the bell rope, and uncoupling the express car from the train, ordered the the engineer to pull over on the side track, where the messenger was forced to open the safe, from which they abstracted $2,500 in money, overlooking a package containing about $400. The robbers were all masked, save the one who covered the engineer. The passengers were completely demoralized, and thinking they would be visited generally, a scramble ensued in the secretion of money and valuables. They were not molested, however. One of the party proposed going through the passengers, but the leader commanded him to keep his place and come on. After securing the booty the robbers mounted horses hitched a short distance from the depot, and took a northwestwardly course. There were enough male passengers to capture the robbers, but they were so badly demoralized that with the exception of the conductor and Captain W. Apperson, who attempted to arouse the passengers to action, there was no disposition to resist shown. Simultaneous with the firing a man rushed into the passenger coach in great fright, and as he hurried through said the robbers numbered between fifty and sixty. He was one of the robbers. About twelve o'clock Superintendent Quintan telegraphed to the City Marshal that a car would be at his service by one o'clock, which was taken and the pursuit of the robbers commenced.

The Tidal Wave at Callao.

NEW YORK, February 25.—Accounts from Callao, Peru, of the effects of the tidal wave there on the 27th of January say the alarm is indescribable and the damage incalculable. The oldest inhabitants of Callao state that they have never seen anything to compare with the scenes of Sunday and Monday, January 27 and 28. The sea is covered with floating debris. At every moment immense waves of thirty and forty feet high break over the mole and along the whole coast line, spreading havoc and destruction around. Most of the wooden structures inside the moles, built for the use of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and for other purposes, have been swept away or broken up. Two thousand tons of coal for the English Company has disappeared, and the merchandise on the dock has been completely ruined. The wheat mole, the Chucinto mole, the property of the Muelle Darena, and Meiggs' mole are destroyed. The various timber yards, coal deposits and bathing establishments have been greatly damaged. The railroad running from the dock to Chucinto has been completely undermined. Eight persons were drowned. At Pisagua the condenser was broken to pieces and a considerable quantity of coal and saltpetre lost. At Iquique the earthquake shock was terrific. It threw the whole town into a state of consternation and alarm. It lasted one minute and thirty seconds. This main shock was followed during the night by forty minor shocks. Landslides are reported. At La Noria several houses fell. The steamer Karnak is reported lost.

Bayard Taylor's Appointment.

THE GERMANS MUCH PLEASED.

BERLIN, February 27.—The *National Zeitung* cordially welcomes Bayard Taylor's appointment as United States Minister to Germany, as one conferring honor on Germany and America alike, and calculated to strengthen the already strong ties between the two countries. "President Hayes," says the *National Zeitung*, "deserves Germany's sincere thanks."

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

ADDITIONAL BARGAINS

IN

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Dress Goods

FOR

WINTER AND EARLY SPRING.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

take pleasure in submitting the following additional bargains,

JUST OPENED

1 CASE TWILLED BRILLIANTINES (ASSORTED COLORS) at 31 Cents.

present value 50 cents.

1 LOT ALL-WOOL SATIN STRIPED BUNTING, AT 31 Cents.

The manufacturer has made no sale of these goods for less than 42½ cents previous to our closing purchase, and the retail price has been and is now 50 cents elsewhere.

TWO CASES MATELASSE BEIGE, ALL-WOOL AND SUPERIOR STYLES.

These we shall sell at 50 Cents!

ONE CASE EXTRA