# The Somerset Herald

WEDNESDAY - - - - May 8, 1878.

ENGLAND and Russia are still energetically arming and preparing for war. If peace is preserved, then the heaviest preparations for war, in modern times, will count for nothing.

THE Government is now paying out new silver dollars for greenbacks at the Sub-Treasurys, but as the greenback dollars are worth more than the silver dollars the trade is not brisk.

THE Cincinnati *Times* has a shadowy suspicion that the President will not favor a Republican canvass of the South in the coming Congressional campaign, as it would be putting the policy of conciliation to altogether too sudden and severe a test.

THE Southern Democratic papers seem to be unanimous on one point. They are sure that the Southern States will control the Democratic nomination for President, and they are already marking out a programe that Northern Democrats must follow.

WE are to have four State nominating conventions in Pennsylvania this year, in four successive weeks. The Nationals at Philadelphia, May 8th; the Republicans at Harrisburg, May 15th; the Democrats at Pittsburgh, May 22d, and the Prohibitionists at Altoona, May 29th.

THE bill repealing the Bankrupt law has not yet passed the Senate, as was mistakenbly stated last week. Changes and amendments were made to it in the House, which the Senate has not, and may not concur in. It is probable now, if it is repealed, that it will be continued in operation till January 1st 1879.

IN anticipation of the immediate repeal of the Bankrupt law, there was an immense rush of applicants desirous of availing themselves of its benefits in the different Courts throughout the country, during the last week. It is said that more cases were entered within the last few days than for months previous.

THE Republican press of Ohio is discussing, in advance of their State Convention in June, the probable platform to be adopted. Judging from the expression so far elicited, the conclusion arrived at will be, a rousing vote against the Democracy in October, will be a better endorsement of Hayes, than a series of milk-sop resolutions in the Convention.

COL. QUAY has resigned his position as Secretary of the Commonwealth, and on Thursday last was sworn in as Recorder of the City of Philadelphia. He then selected Ex-City Treasurer, P. A. B. Widener as his deputy, and left the city to settle up his other business, preparatory to entering on his new duties.

PRESENT indications all point to an investigation of the last Presidential election. The issue of fraud, will give the Democrats all they want to do before the matter is ended. Other States beside Florida and Louisiana—to which the Democracy desire to confine their investigations—will have to show their hands. If this unsavory mess, is again to be stirred, the Republicans are determined that the investigation shall be thorough and searching.

HOW touching it is to have a member of the Cabinet of a President elected by the Republican party declaring that the aforesaid President was counted in by fraud, that the Democratic candidate was really elected, that he has always believed this to be the fact and still believes it. Such is the talk of Postmaster General Key to the correspondent of the Boston *Herald*.

SECRETARY SHERMAN has made a very substantial addition to the stock of coin in the Treasury during the past month, the specie available for resumption purposes having increased nearly twenty millions. Most of this amount comes from the sale of bonds, and the total is now over $90,000,000 which is an increase during the past twelve months of more than $55,000,000. Besides this, there is a decrease in the demand for gold from those holding coupons. A single man took $100,000 in greenbacks recently, from the Treasury in preference to gold.

THE New York *Times*, from reports gathered in all sections of the country, estimates this seasons crops as averaging very high. With the exception of Colorado, every State heard from reports the most brilliant prospects for the yield of every product of the soil. The enormous increase of the acreage of land in wheat and the magnificent yield of that grain in such States as Iowa, Kansas Nebraska, and Minnesota, furnishes some of the most striking indications of the pace at which agricultural development is proceeding in the United States.

NOTWITHSTANDING the bitter hostility of the Democracy to the Philadelphia Recorder bill, and the reckless assertions made by them in relation to it, on its final passage in the Legislature, every member from the city voted for it, save one. Colonel Quay, who was appointed by the Governor, and has been confirmed by the Senate was supported by every paper in that city, notwithstanding the feeble pipings of the country press. It is admitted that as a means of securing the proper collection of the revenues of the city, from those selling liquors, this bill will bring thousands of dollars annually into the treasury. The trouble with the Democracy was the fact, that so positive and able a Repuplican as Colonel Quay was to fill the place, and not one of their own party.

### Cameron and the Tariff.

Senator J. Don Cameron's views on the Tariff were very clearly expressed in a letter to the committee of the Chester demonstration. Among other things he said:

"Ever since I was able to reason on the subject of Protection I have been an uncompromising supporter of that wise and necessary policy. Indeed, I have inherited a profound devotion to the principal of a *Protective* Tariff, and all examination and study of the subject only confirms me in this devotion. And in this policy I see the sure—the only way of benefitting our own industries, and securing steady employment and just rewards to our workingmen. Labor is the natural capital of any country. To keep that capital profitably employed is the secret of national prosperity. And only by ample protection to labor can this prosperity be secured and sustained. All attempts to reduce Protective duties meet with my earnest hostility; and every effort to increase that protection will receive my heartiest support."

And this is in a nutshell the position of all Pennsylvania Republicans. If Sam Randall were not now Speaker of a Democratic House the Wood free-trade bill would have been buried before this, for in a test vote last Thursday only two Pennsylvania Democrats—Bridges and Clymer—had the courage to break from his leadership and favor early adjournment so that the measure would fall for want of time to consider it.—Delaware county *American*.

### Go Home!

Mr. Vermilye, President of the Merchants' Bank of this city, gave General Ewing a little information which he did not want. Being called to testify before the committee of which General Ewing is a member, the other day, he was asked about the possibility of resumption. He calmly replied that resumption would be attained, and the country would reach great prosperity, if this Congress would only adjourn, and not assemble again for three years. To the sensible banker, it appeared that there was nothing to hinder the restoration of commerce and manufacturing to full prosperity, except the persistent meddling of about three hundred persons, largely charged with misinformation, who unfortunately now happen to be members of Congress. Mr. Vermilye did not discourteously say that General Ewing and his committee had made more fuss and done more mischief than all other members of Congress put together, but he would not have violated any of the ten commandments if he had made that observation.

What this country principally wants is to get rid of the present Congress. The thing is a nuisance. When it assembled, prices fell and stagnation of business began. Day after day, so long as it is in session, thousands of workmen are turned out of employment, thousands of families are left in want, and thousands of firms quit business because Congress has made it unprofitable. This legislative nuisance has not made mischief so much by what it has done as by what it has threatened to do, and the country would be many millions richer if it had been entirely ignorant of the proceedings of this Congress until bills had been passed. Unfortunately, the misbehaving and mischievous concern wanted nothing else so much as public attention, and was very willing to earn curses by wanton meddling, if it could earn notice in no other way. When the session opened, members felt called upon to take the bread from thousands of mouths by offering bills. As it proceeded, they made it their first duty to wrangle about personalities and politics to the neglect of public interests, and their second to starve workmen and bankrupt firms, by urging the passage of hurtful measures.

Self-government would be universally condemned as a fraud and a failure, if it could not be expected to produce something better than this Democratic Congress. We have no desire to put stress on the partisan aspect of the case; there are, unhappily, knavish and stupid Republicans as well as knavish and stupid Democrats, and every damaging bill thus far has been either passed or kept alive as a menace to industry by Republican as well as by Democratic votes. But when Republicans organized the House, and controlled the Senate beyond doubt, and reckless and rascally members of the party were kept in check, and the recklessness and rascality on the Democratic side did no mischief and were not feared. Now it has come to pass that the most dangerous elements in Congress have the best opportunity to control legislation, and any Republican members who may be willing to ruin or to disbonor the country, if they can only please a constituent, have full license and all the support which can be given by Democratic demagogues and Democratic Committees.

If this Congress would only go home! Its very presence at Washington is a curse. It costs the country a few hundred thousands each day for expenses, but that is a mere flea-bite. It costs millions each day by the rascally bills which it has pending, and by the utter uncertainty as to the financial and industrial future. Any member can earn the lasting gratitude of sensible men who can manage to get this Congress to go home. If a great deal of work is left undone, no matter; we can spare almost any branch of the public service better than we can afford to keep this Congress.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

### Death of John Morrissey.

SARATOGA, May 1.—Hon. John Morrissey died at 7:30 this evening. He had seemed quiet and without any unfavorable symptons, until about half past five, when an unfavorable change occurred and he sank rapidly afterwards.

### John Morrissey's Funeral.

TROY, N. Y., May 4.—The funeral of John Morrissey took place to-day from St. Peter's Church, and was attended by an immense concourse of people. The entire State Senate, with Lieutenant Governor Dorsheimer and a delegation of Assemblymen, were present. Bishop McNierny, of Albany, assisted at the religious services, which were participated in by a number of clergymen.

### A Good Account.

"To sum it up, six long years of bed-ridden sickness and suffering, costing $200 per year, total, $1,200—all of which was stopped by three bottles of Hop Bitters, taken by my wife, who has done her own housework for a year since without the loss of a day, and I want everybody to know it for their benefit."

"JOHN WEEKS, Buffalo New York."

### LETTER From Our Own Regular Correspondent.

MY DEAR HERALD.—I think that the negro element in the South is really the best element they have there, though, I doubt if any of the southern people think so.

I remained in the northern part of Alabama, about a year, and during that time I never saw a negro beggar, nor knew of any one ever demanding charity, except one little girl that had no mother, and a paralyzed father. They are in the main, honest, asking nothing for what they have not worked for, and they work whenever they have the chance. Of course, some are idle, but yet they earn a living somehow. They are regarded just like so many mules, except on election days, when they receive profound attention from the candidates who would refuse to speak to them on the morrow. The touchstone of your political and social position there is whether you say "nigger" or not. If yes, then you are hail fellows. If you hesitate, or say "negro" it is all up with you. You are then nothing less than a "low lived, thieving Yankee, or a riff-raff," or some other equally elegant thing.

That the negroes are intelligent, the true-born southerner will not believe, and it goes wonderfully against the grain to see them try to get an education.

In Valhermoso, there was a colored public school, which was well kept and the children were bright and seemed to love to study and to know what they did learn.

While the white public school was grudgingly kept up five months in the year, and taught in a shambling, miserable way, by a young fellow who could scarcely read correctly.

In Huntsville there are three colored schools, one of them being a Normal school and another, the Peabody fund school. I visited the normal scool in company with the Principal, a lady who has suffered everything but death itself, on account of the "abolitionism."

She came from near York, and went there as a missionary teacher of the negroes, and for years has labored among them with the noblest persevering sacrifice and who has a school that you will hardly find the like of in many places.

The school-house is a brick two story building, and is well adapted for its purpose. A fine organ stands in the upper story. I forget the exact number of scholars, but they ranged in age from ten to twenty, and all had a bright, eager, interested look, that it touched me profoundly. It was the craving hunger for education that had developed and intensified in vain longings for generations. And these children conceived in sorrow and born into slavery, now realize that God's door is open, and they are all free to drink of the hitherto forbidden fountain of knowledge and the progress is astounding until you reflect upon the cause. And, oh, what another pitiful sight there was to see there! Five or six children, whiter than I am, with light brown hair, hardly curly at all, obliged to take their rank here, and hold it beside the blackest skin of all, because white owners of black slaves had wronged those poor hounden creatures from generation to generation, and these pretty little girls must bear the eternal stigma.

In school, some of the children read as I have never yet heard children read. Among their voluntary selections, was Tennyson's Dora, Kingsley's Three Fishers, and the Sands of Dee; and how exquisitely they were rendered, with real and comprehending sentiment. One girl, black as she well can be, has learned Mrs. Browning's Mother and Poet, and gives it all the piercing heartbreak that was woven in the words. Of the more solid studies, I will not speak more than to say, that they are well attended to, and will just mention the two songs and chant which they sang. I thought, as I sat with my eyes closed, and listened, that surely God who fashioned these people so differently from us, that we look down upon them, must have meant them to be His choristers and to sing perpetual praises, as a compensation for all they suffer here on earth. I hardly like to refrain from mentioning the name of the noble and great hearted woman who is the Principal of this school, but I fear she would prefer that I did not. There is a young gentleman who assists her, but as I have not mentioned the ladies name I feel bound to suppress his also. Suffice it to say, that they have one of the most orderly and intelligent schools I ever visited, a success which depends mostly on the teachers.

I am not going to say a word more about the South, or rather, that portion which I visited. I am away from it now, and never want to return. I went down there with slightly Democratic proclivities: I have come back into the fold and am willing to be called the blackest of all black Republicans if that means to despise all that I have seen of the Southern chivalry and her glorious institutions.

When I left down there the season was farther advanced than it is here now, in Philadelphia, though the winter seemed to be the severest I ever suffered in my life. I found the voyage from there to here full of interest and growing more and more interesting the farther I left Alabama behind. Chattanooga, was the first town of size that we passed and that is chiefly interesting from the historical records of the war. Lookout Mountain lifts up proudly, and the bend of the river makes a beautiful picture. Lynchburgh, Va., was another stopping place of interest, but I had no time to stay, or I should have enjoyed a ride in that place. A view from the hill whereon the town is situated must give a wide scope. From there to Philadelphia it is mostly night riding, and I did not see anything that seemed especially interesting, and at last after a year of wandering upon the face of the earth, I am back in Philadelphia. I renewed my interest in theatres and everything else connected with life here as soon as I came in sight of the University buildings; but my health is still so feeble from a years' fever and chills, that I have been about but little yet.

But chance threw me yesterday in the way of seeing something which has interested me greatly, and as I judge of others generally by myself, and endow them with my tastes I will tell your readers what it is. It is of the Pennsylvania Silver Plating Company, the electroplating establishment. The manager was a pupil of the Great Elkingtons of England, who made the wonderful Milton Shield, and the famous Helicon vase, that created such a furor at the Centennial, and of which I wrote you then. The Penn. Silver Plating Co., has this establishment and their laboratory here at 21 North 7th Street, and it is well worth a visit. I am sure that the results he obtains, apparently by so simple means, would have caused him to be hung, or drowned for a magician, had he lived a hundred years ago. To begin properly, I must just explain things as I saw them, and not attempt to give them their scientific names, for if I do I shall get hopelessly confused and then you will wish that I had let it alone, or got some one else to do it for me that knew something.

The laboratory is a large room, well lighted by three windows, and superlatively clean. At one window, behind a screen, the young ladies work, while the men have the "run of the place." To the right of the laboratory on entering is a sink fitted with sand brushes and hot and cold water and sponges. These are to wash the articles thoroughly, that no particle of grease adhere. From this preparation they are dipped into a hot bath of caustic potash, to entirely kill the oily matter, and then into the metalic baths. These cleansing baths are tubs arranged to have a continual stream of water flowing into them. Close to these stand four other baths, having an aisle between, and they are all connected by metal rods, and these connected by wires when an electric current is desired. On a stand near the outer door, is placed the electric battery, Weston's Dynamic Machine, which is the most powerful one known, and it is turned by a leather band by steam, and in some manner, indefinable to me, by the friction the electricity is engendered, and passed by magnet, in sufficient quantities to make wire red hot by the successive shocks.

One of these baths on the line of the battery contains cyanide of copper, for the copper plating; the second, contains an ammoniacal solution of nickle salts, for nickle plating; the third, cyanide of silver for silver plating; and the fourth, cyanide of gold, for gold plating.

Beyond these to the left of the room, is a long, narrow counter, whereon are the brushes, etc., for burnishing. One of them being made of round disks, of Canton flannel, some two hundred, I should think, fastened firmly together. This forms a circular brush, which revolves by steam, and puts a very high polish on the articles. This is all the paraphernalia that strikes the eye of the beholder.

The goods come to the laboratory from the manufactory in the shape, but made of far baser metals than will presently gild them. Mr. Williams took up a steel knife, and after washing it thoroughly, dipped it, by means of a piece of wire into the caustic potash, and then rinsed it in clear water. The electric battery was all the while revolving like a cyclone, and storing up electricity by the measure, and then he connected wires to all the rods over the metal baths, thus completing the electric circle, and then by the wire dipped it into the copper bath. It commenced to ferment like a bottle of newly worked soda water, and when he lifted it out it was the loveliest rose colored copper you ever saw. Another rinsing in clear water and then it was dipped into the nickel and in a few minutes all that beauty of rose coloring had disappeared, and it looked like silver. Another swish of running water and it went this time into the silver bath, and came out silver but white and frosty-looking. It was then carefully wiped, and given to the polisher. And how do you suppose that polishing is done? 'Oh, with chamois or some other soft material," you say, but no. It is done with steel implements, somewhat resembling putty knives, and the polishing consists of pressing flat and causing to firmly adhere, all those minute particles that loose gave the frosty appearance.

A sort of powder is rubbed on occasionally, and the blunt instrument scrapes down and polishes the newly plated ware. Here in a few minutes was a course steel knife turned into a shining silver one by the magic influence of chemistry. Of course, this was a simple operation, and done only to show me the practical workings of this marvellous invention.

The most of the burnishing and polishing, is done by young ladies. I conversed with one a few moments. She says the work is not unhealthy nor hard, and that presenting as it does every hour some new and attractive appearance she never wearies.

It makes a callous spot in the palm of the hand to hold the burnishing knives, which are of a variety of forms for differently formed articles.

The bath for the gold plating is generally used hot, while the others are used cold. For this purpose the gold bath is placed in a porcelain-lined vessel and gas burners under this.

Of course I have here given but a simple and crude outline of the work, for I could not go into a learned disquisition, and most of people may think it a very simple operation, but when you remember that you must have the best knowledge of chemistry, and must adjust all your uncongenial elements with such extreme nicety and precision, that each shall blend with the other completely and leave no preponderance of anything, and you must understand and control that wonderful and subtle power, electricity, and make it subservient to your desire, you will find that it is the study for a life time.

I have spoken only of the laboratory as yet, and said nothing of the beautiful results of that producer of magic results, and now I have little space left to say all I would. There are the coolest ice pitchers, where the white frosted silver sets off to advantage the delicate scrolls, and arabesques and flowers of polished silver; the goblets fit for kings to drink from, in their grace of form and richness; of table service where artists have vied with each other in producing lovely designs in flowers and fantastic curves and scrolls, pickle jars and christening goblets, a jewel casket, lined with pink satin, and knives and forks, fit to eat ambrosia with! spoons lovely enough to convey ice-cream to beauty's mouth, and in short everything imaginable in that line, and all so cheap that it is really a wonder why economical housewives will waste money on perishable porcelain, when they can have silver that will last them for years without breaking, and being things of beauty be joys forever. How inviting a table is when set out with an array of fine, white linen and glistening silver! How a hungry man's eyes will first feast on the pleasant sight, and his appetite acquire a fresh incentive, and how much more complacent is he after than before a good dinner! Wives could then ask for unlimited pocket money.

Rich people buy heavy, massive silver, and then keep it locked up in a bank half the year, and use plated ware instead. People of moderate circumstances can afford this plated ware, which is as durable as it is beautiful, and it is ennobling to fill our houses with beautiful things as far as we can.

I have to thank Mr. Williams for his courtesy to me in showing me his establishment, and giving me an hour's unmixed pleasure. He claims to be a self-made man. He is so perfect a gentleman, that one falls to thinking that he must have had a very good stock to commence on and wishing that there were more like him.

OLIVE HARPER

### A Terrific Explosion.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 2.—At 7 o'clock this evening the city was shaken as by an earthquake by a terrific explosion, which was traced to the groups of great flouring mills in what is known as the "Platform," just above St. Anthony's Falls, where the entire flouring district of the city is concentrated. The explosion came from the great Washburn mill, from which a column of flame was seen to spout up several hundred feet, followed by a crash which crushed the immense structure like an egg shell. Secondary explosions instantly destroyed Thompsons and Hoyt and Humboldt mills, and flames immediately burst out, communicating to Galaxy Mills and those of Pettit, Robinson & Co., Cahill, Ankeny & Co., L. Day & Sons, Day & Rolls, Buell, Newton & Co., Gorton, Hayward & Co. The Washburn A. & B. Mills, and lesser structures, down the bank of the river nearly to the Minneapolis and St., Louis Railroad shops. The destruction from the shock of the explosion extended much further, glass being wrecked for several squares, and buildings shaken throughout the city.

At 8:30 the fire was raging within these limits, and firemen working valiantly to subdue the flames. The immediate theory of the explosion is that it took place in the gas generated in the Patent Middlings Purifier process. The loss of life is undoubtedly great, but full details are lacking in the confusion that surround the scene. First rumors made the dead seventy to eighty, but this is not borne out by inquiry. The explosion took place at the hour of changing day for night hands, and many of both were undoubtedly in the building.

Up to 9 o'clock the list of killed and injured, so far as ascertained, are as follows: Big Mills, grinders, Charles Henning, Fred. Merrill, Clark Wilbur; oilers, Wm. Leslie, Chris. Ewing; machinists, O. C. Shie, Walter Savage, Patrick Judd, Ed. Merrill; watchman, Harry Hicks, E. W. Burbank and one unknown were killed.

August Smith was blown out of the window, hurt, but not killed. Diamond Mill, John Boyer, killed; Galaxy Mill, Joe Mantie, in the third story, after the wall was blown out jumped down into the canal and escaped unhurt; Zenith Mill, two men named Widstrum and Fred. George were killed. In Pettit, Robinson & Co.'s mill Dean Day was thrown out of the window and injured.

Later investigation confirms the opinion that the first estimates of the loss of life were exaggerated. The number of dead is now placed at seventeen. Many thirilling incidents and narrow escapes. Daniel Day was blown the whole length of Pettit & Robinson's mill and through the rear window and escaped.

One poor fellow who could not be recognized had escaped alive from the explosion and was observed crawling through the darting, hungry flames towards the track of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Road directly in the rear of the Washburn Mill He managed to reach the rail, and there, evidently became exhausted and fell back into the raging hell behind, where his agonies instantly ended.

It now appears most of the day force had gone home, and only the smaller night force remained. The loss to property, is enormous, but the confusion is too great for intelligent estimate at present. Rough calculation places it at $1,500,000, of which $1,000,000 will fall on the milling interest. The loss throughout the city by breaking of glass, etc., is $10,000. Five mills and a planing mill were destroyed, besides adjoining property, including 87 out of the 197 runs of stone in the city.

LATER.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 3.—The shock of the explosion at the Washburn Mill, in Minneapolis, was plainly felt here, and the flames were seen, creating intense excitement throughout the city. Pieces of charred roof, paper, small timbers and cinders were picked up, having been hurled in the air by the explosion and wafted here, nine miles distant, by the wind. News of the disaster was received immediately by telegraph, and fire-engines were made ready to send to the scene, but inability to secure transportation prevented their arrival in Minneapolis in time to be of use. There were no trains to that point after the news was received, but hundreds of people went up the road, the livery stables being emptied in an hour.

THE RUINS.

The following is a general summary of the situation at the scene of the fire:

The great Washburn flouring mill A, in which the explosion occurred, is wholly destroyed. Washburn mill B is intact, except the injury to the roof from falling timbers. Thompson & Hoyt, and Buell, Newton & Co.'s flouring mill, the Washburn planing mill and the mill company's elevator are all razed to the ground. Across the race, Petit, Robinson & Co.'s flouring mills, the walls are standing. The Zenith and Galaxy mills are more or less in ruins.

The loss, in addition to the mills interest, is about $75,000 on the elevator and $11,000 on wheat. About 1,000,000 feet of dry lumber in Pettit, Robinson & Co's yard were destroyed. The two Washburn mills were the property of ex-Governor C. C. Washburn, of Wisconsin. The one in which the explosion occurred was the largest flouring mill in the country, and the largest but one in the world.

It was built in 1870, including forty-one runs of stone, and was worth $200,000. The destruction is complete so far as the limits above named, and serious within much wider bounds. It is hoped the dead will be confined to the fourteen in the Washburn mill. The following is a total insurance, as stated by the companies represented, on the mills destroyed:

Humboldt, Ball, Newton & Co., $44,500; Pettit, Robinson & Co., $98,000; Galaxy, W. Ankeny, $75,000; Washburn mill A, $217,000.

The following is a list of the mills destroyed, with the number of runs of stones in each:

Washburn A, 41 runs; Galaxy 12 runs; Hennepin or Diamond, 6 runs; Zenith, 6 runs. The Washburn Mill was operated by J. A. Christian & Co.; Humboldt, by Ball, Newton & Co.; Hennepin, by Gorton, Heywood & Co; Galaxy, by Cahill, Ankeny & Co; Zenith, by Day, Rollins & Co; and Pettit, Robinson & Co's by themselves. In addition to these mills there were numerous other buildings destroyed by fire, including a large elevator and planing mill.

### Toll That Death Took.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 4.—The number of dead is now swelled to eighteen, the names of Jacob Rhodes and John Grandman being added to those sent last night. The bodies of eight of the eighteen have been recovered. Ten more are buried in the debris, of which number eight are in the ruins of the Washburn Mill, one in the ruins of the Zenith, and one in the ruins of the Hemboldt. Almost every semblance of humanity has been obliterated by the cruel heat that left only the charred and blackened trunks in some cases, and in others only a handful of blackened bones which crumble at the touch. Three of the number were identified last night as Clark Wiber, John Boyer and E. W. Burbank, watchmen. These and others were identified by such articles as keys, knives, &c. A fifth body is identified by the incidents of the death, as that of a boy named Jacob Rhodes. It is he whose tragic death was witnessed by the crowd on the railroad track, and who was first supposed to be John Boyer. The other remains are believed to be those of Patrick Judd, Cyrus Ewing and Peter Hobberg.

### A Woman to be Hanged.

NEW YORK, May 3.—An Atlanta special to the *Herald* says:

Kate Southern, who fatally stabbed Miss Cowart in a ball-room in Pickens county, in a fit of jealousy, a year or two ago, was found guilty of murder on Wednesday and sentenced to be hanged on June 21. Miss Cowart danced with Mrs. Southern's husband, and was killed while at his side. Southern took his wife's arm, drew his pistol and forced his way out guarded by relatives. The couple retreated to North Carolina, where they were captured three months ago. The trial was intensely exciting. Mrs. Southern had her baby in her arms when she was sentenced. Her husband's case was continued. An appeal has been made for stay of sentence.

### A Burglar's Crime.

NORRISTOWN, May 3.—About one o'clock this morning a burglar broke into N. D. Alderfer's hotel, at Grater's Ford, in this county. A light in the hotel was observed by Henry Ashenfelter, a near neighbor, who summoned another neighbor named Daniel Landis, and overhauled the burglar as he was leaving the building. He shot Landis with a pistol, the ball lodging within one inch of the heart. The physicians have not been able to extract it. Ashenfelter felled the burglar with a base ball club, seriously injuring him. He was captured, and gives his name as John Kenes.

POTTSTOWN, May 3.—Two burglars last night effected an entrance into the house of Daniel Landis, at Grater Ford, on the Perkiomen railroad. Mr. Landis, while attempting to resist them, was shot and badly wounded, the ball passing through his body, one inch above the heart. Both the thieves were fatally wounded, as was also Mr. Harry Ashenfelter who was assisting Mr. Landis.

### The Disputed Electoral Count

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The Democrats are considering every possible phase of the reopening of the electoral count in hopes of finding some grounds for success. There is much difference of opinion as to the legal questions involved. Randolph Tucker, a Virginia Democrat, who is considered the ablest constitutional lawyer in the House, in speaking upon the question to-night, took the ground that Tilden, in not advocating his claim by presenting himself at the capital and taking the oath, abdicated his right and debarred himself from all advantages as a contestant, and in no event could he assume the office of President, even though the incumbent were deposed. An investigation, he said, might disclose the fact that Mr. Hayes was not entitled to the office, in which event there would be three modes by which he could be superseded: First, by resignation; second, by impeachment; third, by writ of quo warranto, as provided by the last section of the Electoral Commission act. Should Mr. Hayes either resign, or be superseded by either of the other modes, and a vacancy occur, the election of a President would devolve upon the present House of Representatives, the Senate having nothing whatever to do in the premises, except to witness the proceedings of the House. He added, in case the question should assume this shape, and a vote by States, be taken, as provided by the Constitution, the Republicans would have a majority of the States, and therefore would elect their President, and in the present attitude of events, and the peculiar position in which the Republican party has been placed by the relations between the present Executive and the party leaders, the choice would inevitably fall upon General Grant or Senator Blaine. In this view the Democratic leaders are more opposed than ever to reopening the case, finding themselves in a sea of trouble in their efforts to solve this pending political problem.

### Triple Murder.

KANSAS CITY, MO., May 1.—A foul murder was committed yesterday morning at 2 o'clock at 1,400 Grand avenue. The neighborhood was aroused by the sound of a pistol shot and flames issuing from the house. After the fire had been extinguished it was found that Theodore Hattenbach and wife had been murdered, and their little girl, eight years old, knocked insensible and lying at the point of death. Mrs. Hattenbach was found on the bed, with her head crushed in and her limbs burned to a crisp. Mr. Hattenbach was found in the kitchen, with a bullet-hole in his head and the back of his head crushed in with an ax, which was discovered near the body. The little girl was found out of doors in an insensible condition. Suspicion at first pointed to Hattenbach as the murderer, but subsequent developments have destroyed the suspicion and the real murderer is still unknown.

### Decoration Day.

GETTYSBURG, Pa., May 1.—Extensive preparations are being made here to observe decoration day. The oration will be delivered by General Benjamin F. Butler, whose subject will be, "The private soldier in the war for the rebellion." Mr. Hayes and Postmaster General Key have accepted invitations and will be present.

# THE EXHIBITION.

## Formal Opening by President MacMahon—Imposing Ceremonies.

## AN ARRAY OF ROYAL PRINCES

### The Inaugural Ceremonies—A Magnificent Spectacle.

### The Exhibits as Yet Incomplete, but Rich in Promise.

PARIS, May 1.—The ceremony of the opening of the International Exhibition of 1878 took place to-day, with great success. At 9 o'clock in the morning it was rainy, and it was feared that the ceremony would be greatly interfered with, but at 9:45 the rain ceased, and prospects that the day would yet be fine began to appear. At 11:30 o'clock the clouds had broken and the sun was shining brilliantly, the weather being rather warm. The ceremony of opening the Exhibition began at 2:30 in the afternoon, at which time it was showry, but at 3 o'clock the sun was shining brightly. The crowd was immense and enthusiastic, in spite of alternations of rain. Throughout the proceedings cries were everywhere heard of "Vive la Republique" and "Vive la France." Among those present were:

The Prince of Wales.

Don Francois d'Assise, father of the King of Spain.

The Duc d'Aosta, brother of the King of Italy and ex-King of Spain.

Prince Frederick, Crown Prince of Denmark

The Prince of Orange, Heir-apparent to the Throne of The Netherlands.

Prince Henry, of Holland.

The Marshal, arriving in the State carriage, escorted by his military household, troops being drawn up all along the route from the Elysee.

A procession was then formed, which marched from the grand arcade to the platform overlooking the fountain, and commanding a view of nearly all the buildings and grounds.

THE EXHIBITION FORMALLY OPENED

Here M. Trisserene de Bort, Minister of Commerce, welcomed the Marshal in a short speech.

President MacMahon said: "I desire to join in the sentiments expressed by the Minister of Commerce. I offer my congratulations upon the magnificent result achieved, and of which I am happy to have the whole world as a witness. We have also to thank the foreign nations for so completely responding to the appeal of France. In the name of the Republic, I declare the Exhibition opened."

The Marshal subsequently congratulated M. Krantz, the organizer of the Exhibiton, on the auspicious opening of the grand enterprise.

A SALUTE FIRED.

One hundred and one guns from the Invalides on Mount Valerien on an island in the Seine followed the announcement. At the same time two military bands struck up, all the fountains played and soldiers stationed by the flagstaffs hoisted the flags of all nations on the roofs of the two palaces and annexes. The Marshal then rescended to the Trocadero Palace, the procession reformed behind him, and, after completing the round of the building, crossed over the river to the Champ de Mars.

The troops were drawn up on or near the bridge.

The terrace of the Champs de Mars Palace was occupied by Senators, Deputies, the Council of State, magistrates, academicians, the military staff and the French Commissioners. Entering by the central door the procession went through the grand vestibule, decorated with the crown jewels, Severes porcelain, Gobelin trophies and the Prince of Wales' Indian collection. It then passed through all the sections, the Commissioners of each country greeting it at the door, and next inspected the military school, where all the exhibition workmen were stationed, and lastly traversed the machinery annexes. Escorts of honor were sent at 1 o'clock to the hotels of the President of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, the Prince of Wales, the Crown Prince of Denmark, Prince Amadeus, the Prince of Orange, Prince Henry of Holland, and Don Francis d' Assise to conduct them to the exhibition building.

On arriving at the Trocadero, President MacMahon presented to their Royal Highnesses all the ministers, the officials connected with the Exhibition and several other distinguished personages. On the procession being formed the Prince of Orange, the Crown Prince of Denmark, and Prince Amadeus ranged themselves to the right of Marshal MacMahon, while the Prince of Wales, in the uniform of the Horse Guards, and Prince Henry of Holland walked to the left of the President.

A MAGNIFICENT SPECTACLE.

The spectacle at the ceremony was magnificent; perfect order prevailed. Ex Queen Isabella of Spain witnessed the ceremony from a gallery occupied by Madame MacMahon.

THE MILITARY DISPLAY.

The dazzling facade of the palace on the Champs de Mars was richly ornamented with national emblems, and in every assignable space thousands of spectators was held in place by lines of infantry. The military display was less imposing than originally intended, as the Ministers of Agriculture had decided, on advice of the engineers, that the recently constructed avenue near the Exposition would suffer by the passage of cavalry and artillery. The Sixth Battalion of Chasseurs did the honors of the Trocadero, saluting each section of the cortege on arrival. As the Presidential procession, including princes, diplomats and other distinguished guests, reached the front of the Palace of the Champ de Mars the scene was extremely picturesque. The State bodies in grand uniform, Chancellors and Magistrates in their robes, and the different bodies of the Institute and the Legion of Honor, stood in strong contrast with the Senators, Deputies, clergy and minor officials in their civil costumes. These, with the deputation from the army in full uniform, fell in with the Presidential cortege and moved through the East Indian Hall into the grand central nave of the Palace, passing in rapid review the various foreign sections and exchanging salutes with each Commissioner, who stood in front of their respective sections. The procession then passed into the Art Galleries, thence into the French section, which occupies one entire side of the Palace. After the usual courtesies, the President and party left by the Avenue Rapp Gate and returned to the Elysee.

A VAST ASSEMBLAGE.

The arrangements for witnessing the opening ceremonial by the thousands of guests in the galleries of the Trocadero Palace were far from perfect, but this was rather owing to the limited space and the difficulties of the locality than any lack of care or foresight. Every available space in the Palace, as well as the lawn in front and outlying buildings was densely crowded, notwithstanding the fact that admission was solely by invitation.

Shortly before 2 o'clock a sudden and violent thunder storm came up, creating considerable movement among the spectators, but it lasted only a few minutes, and before the arrival of the Presidential party the sun was shining again brilliantly.

After the formal declaration of the opening and just as the cortege headed by President MacMahon and the Prince of Wales, moved from the gallery of the Palace into the open space, where a long line of troops stood at present arms, large drops of rain began to fall, and umbrellas and overcoats hid for a moment the gorgeous uniforms and decorations of the Prince and dignitaries forming the procession from the view of the spectators.

At the American section a squad of sailors from the United States vessel at Havre were drawn up on the left of the entrance, commanded by Ensign Young, of the Constitution. On the right of the facade, where 30 marines, under Lieutenants Russel and Zeilin, Governor McCormick, the chief Commissioner of the United States, attended by the Assistant Commissioners and attaches, stood in front of the entrance. President MacMahon was attracted by the bearing of the American sailors, inquired concerning the service and vessels to which they belonged, and expressed gratification at their appearance.

### A Bonanza King Dead.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2.—W. S. O'Brien, of Flood & O'Brien, died today, after a lingering illness.

Some years ago all the property of the firm was divided, with the exception of the mining stock business, which remains in common, Mr. Flood having the management of the deceased's interest. This arrangement will continue in force for the present, and the business will go on as usual. Mr. O'Brien's death has been hourly expected for several days. He leaves a will, the conditions of which are yet unknown. He was a bachelor, but has a sister, niece and nephew in this State, and a sister and niece in Paris or en route. His property is vaguely estimated at from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000, but it is intimated that, as usual, rumor has magnified his wealth.

[The career of this great Bonanza king is pretty familiar to most readers of the daily press. He was a native of Ireland, who emigrated to this country while in his teens, and floated out to California about a score of years ago. After roughing it as a miner with but indifferent success, he started a whisky saloon with Flood, with whom he continued in partnership until the time of his death. The saloon was the resort of gamblers and of miners, and from them the partners got a little insight into the mysteries of mining and stocks. As they made a little money they began dabbling in stocks, increasing their store by lucky ventures, until they had a responsible capital. They then investigated, and took shares in the "Consolidated Virginia," which at that time was not regarded with great favor. Being shrewd operators, they took the risk, buying up the stock as fast as they could, until they got control of it. The mine proved a "bonanza," and brought wealth to its owners. Later, a partnership was formed between O'Brien, Flood, Fair and Mackey, and the quartette took from the mines enough of the precious metals to put them in the front rank of the richest men of the world. The deceased had general charge of the mines, whilst his partners attended to business in New York and other places. He was upwards of fifty years of age, illiterate and keen in business. He had several schemes on hand for erecting buildings, and otherwise doing some good with his money in San Francisco, when death cut short his plans.]

### Tugboat Explosion.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 1.—At 20 minutes past nine this morning the tow-boat Warner, from New Orleans to St Louis, with five model barges and with the trading boat Koligon in tow, exploded her boilers when opposite the elevator. The pilot house was blown to a great height and fell back upon the wreck, while the air was filled with splinters and fragments. The wreck took fire instantly and the smoke and steam hid the boat from the view of the crowd which soon lined the bluffs and it was thought all on board had perished.

The tug De Soto and two or three skiffs were soon at the wreck, and succeeded in saving the wounded.

Dixon Kennett, pilot, and William Radcliffe, engineer, who were asleep at the time of the explosion, were lost, and one fireman was literally blown into fragments.

Captain Dawson was lost. The boat had a total crew of twenty-five, but owing to the confusion and hurrying off to the hospital of the wounded it is impossible to learn exactly how many were lost. In 5 minutes after the explosion all the wreck except the roof had sunk out of sight and the tow of barges was on fire, but the tug De Soto extinguished the fire and landed the barges on the Arkansas shore. All the officers and crew were residents of St. Louis. The noise of the explosion resembled the discharge of a ten-inch columbiad, and shook every building in the city.

Although two of the crew stated they noticed Captain Dawson after the expl