THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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Pittsburgh Gazette.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY BY S. RIDDLE & CO., FIFTH STREET, ABOVE SMITHFIELD.

PITTSBURGH: TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 12.

The Retiring Cabinet.

There are three members of the Cabinet just disbanded who have earned the gratitude of the people, and we are glad to see that there has been a general promptness to express the thanks of the citizens personally to them. Mr. Holt has earned the highest title to public respect. Mr. Stanton has done much that will not soon be forgotten. Mr. Dix has covered himself with honor in the brief period he has controlled the Treasury, and, in handing it over to his successor, is able to show that the care of a patriotic and honest man has made its mark, even in a few days of time. The criminal and imbecile conduct of Cobb placed matters in a state of almost inconceivable confusion, as well as of loss. No man could say what the liabilities of the Government were, what its resources were, or what amount of deficit had accrued or was likely to accrue. Mr. Dix brought order out of this confusion, and enabled us to see what deficiency was to be met. He also paid the overdue indebtedness with remarkable efficiency; and cleared off the accumulation of claims which the empty Treasury could not before meet.

It seems strange that we should at this day be called on to single out these instances of honorable conduct as events deserving of signal praise. We should never be wanting in men of such patriotism, whatever their special views of financial or other policy might be; but unhappily, gross incompetence and treachery to the Union were the rule with the regime which has just passed away. The course of the secretaries we have named is so conspicuous in its contrast, and so remarkable as a reversal of that which their colleagues and predecessors did daily, that the whole country is ready to rise and thank them. Nor are we now disposed to be particularly critical on any matter connected with the service they have rendered. We honor them for it, and would not dim the measure of this honor by ranking them with men generally untrustworthy. It is hard to set up a new standard of duty and of honor in the face of such men as the secessionists of the Cabinet were, when led by a man so weak and facile as Mr. Buchanan. Yet Messrs. Holt, Stanton and Dix did so set up new standards, and maintain them to the end. It was not for a long period, but none more critical or trying has been seen in the history of the Government.—[Phil'a North American.

The Patterson-Bonaparte Case—Rejection of the Claim by the French Court.

Judgment was delivered by the tribunal of the Seine in the Bonaparte-Patterson case on Friday, Feb. 15. The court declared that as the object of the demand made by Madame Elizabeth Patterson and Jerome Bonaparte, her son, was the liquidation and the division of the succession of the Prince Jerome, who died on the 24th of June, 1860; and, inasmuch as among the grounds of opposition to the demand is one that the claim has been already judged by two decisions of the *conseil de famille*, dated the 4th of July, 1856, and the 7th of July, 1860, which proclaimed the nullity of the marriage of the 24 of December, 1803, and its invalidity, even as regards property, the court added:

"It is expedient above all to examine the validity of this ground of opposition, inasmuch as if it be well founded it would establish a peremptory exception to the present demand, and it would no longer belong to the tribunal to examine the other grounds of opposition, or to decide whether the marriage is not null for having been contracted in a clandestine manner, or whether Mme. Elizabeth Patterson could rely on her good faith in the legal acceptance of the term, or what efficacy should be attributed to the decrees of the 14th and 30th Ventose of the year 13; and, in fine, whether the possession of a position claimed by the parties represented by M. Berryer does not meet an energetic, incessant and manifest contradiction in the simple fact of the second marriage contracted in 1807 by Prince Jerome and the Princess Catherine, of Wurtemburg, on the faith of the legal non existence of the first marriage; and whether, consequently, the title of relative given to Jerome Patterson be according to the Italian and Spanish laws, particularly when it must be recollected that to admit a clear right should, would, on the part of the children born of the second marriage, be a denial of their own legitimacy."

The court then referred to the 1,350th and 1,351st articles of the Code Napoleon, and having recapitulated all the facts of the case as stated by counsel, it declared that the demands of Madame Elizabeth Patterson and her son, Jerome Bonaparte, are not admissible, and must be rejected, and ordered that the present judgment shall be mentioned on the margin of the deed dated the 19th of July, 1860, containing a declaration of the acceptance by Jerome Bonaparte of the succession of Prince Jerome. The court further sentenced the claimants to pay the costs. It was thought an appeal would be taken.

Fort Sumter.

There is a great deal of speculation as to the intention of the Administration in regard to reinforcing Fort Sumter. It is assumed by some that the President must of necessity send at once reinforcements to that fortress, and force an entrance into the harbor regardless of consequences. And the general expectation is this will be done, has created a very general apprehension of immediate hostilities.

We have no knowledge of the President's intentions in this matter, but we see no reason to anticipate any such instant action as seems to be expected. The President will undoubtedly governed by Major Anderson's wishes in regard to reinforcements; and he is known to have informed the Department that he and no need of any notice he should be attacked. When he is attacked he can undoubtedly defend his position for three or four days, and this is ample time for reinforcements to reach him, under the protection of vessels of war which would divert the attention of the attacking batteries.

It is evidently the policy, as it is the duty, of the Government to give the secesdes no possible pretext for commencing hostilities. If we are to have war, they must not be allowed the opportunity of pretending that it is a defensive war on their part. They must strike the first blow, if we come to blows; and in that case there will be very little difference of opinion in the North as to the vigor with which their assault should be repelled.

We presume, therefore, that the Administration will keep ready for instant movement of vessels of war, with troops for a reinforcement; that it will take no step of any kind so long as no attack upon the fort is made, unless at the request of Major Anderson; and that the moment it is known that he is attacked, succor will be sent him at all hazards and at whatever cost.—*N. Y. Times.*

Paris Gossip.

The Paris correspondent of the N. O. *Picayune* says there was much gossip about the folly of a Roman Prince, an old bachelor, who has an income of $200,000 annually. He distributed $40,000 in that city, on New Year's day, in the shape of presents to persons he was unacquainted with. He sent to fifteen of the prettiest actresses a note in these terms:—"Good for twenty-five dozen pairs of gloves at Salvin's shop; 9 blue do. Castiglione. Charge to the account of an admirer of M'lle——(Signed)—Prince——off." He sent thirty ladies presents, not one of which was of less value than $400, and the majority of them were worth $1,500. Several of these presents were returned, for he was unacquainted with the ladies to whom they were sent. One lady sent her present back, with this note—"Mme de—— cannot have the pleasure of receiving a present from a person she has not the honor of receiving in her drawing-room." The wealthy simpleton became quite angry, and sent the present to M'lle Docho. There was no danger of her sending it back. He sents a gold-mounted opera glass, adorned with diamonds and pearls, to M'lle Edile Riquer, of the French Comedy, with this note—"Prince——off begs M'lle Edile Riquer, of the French Comedy, to be so good as to accept this Russian opera glass, which, having been used yesterday, during the performance of 'Les Effrontes,' in observing her grace, elegance and sympathetic beauty, must no longer be directed by the same hand on another face." Of course, this old man is laughed at for his folly, even by those who receive his presents.

Shocking Death by Suicide—Melancholy Results of Fortune-Telling.

The Coroner yesterday held an inquest on the body of Conrad Walter, a young man twenty years of age, who committed suicide at eleven o'clock on Monday night, by deliberately shooting himself through the head with a pistol. Deceased lived with his parents, No. 32 Dunlap street, and was always considered a sober, steady and industrious boy. It was given in evidence before the jury, yesterday, that some years ago he went to a fortune-teller in the city to consult about his fate. The spirit gravely informed him that as soon as he arrived at the age of twenty he would die or be killed—that he could not possibly live to the age of twenty-one, except, perhaps, in a state of misery and woe; to which he would prefer death. Walter was twenty years of age a couple of weeks since. Happening to be out of employment at the time, he believed the prediction of the fortune-teller was about to be verified, if not as regarded his death, at least with regard to the misery of his life. This, it is thought, induced him to commit the act of self-destruction, as no other reason can be assigned, and such was in part the verdict of the jury. The case is certainly a sad comment on the amount of faith which young people too often place in the sayings of the unprincipled class alluded to.—*Cin. Gazette, March 9th.*

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 8, 1861.

How Mr. Lincoln Dispatches Business.

No less than thirty-four Congressmen unexpectedly met in the spacious ante-room of the White House this morning, each anxious to present his little ax at the Presidential grindstone. Mr. Lincoln took each in his turn, giving audiences of very short duration. The rapidity with which he dispatches business is remarkable, and the ease with which he dives at the pith of matter before him, eviscerating all complimentary or extraneous subjects, is the occasion of general remark. Secretary Wellles was with him all this morning, and acted as a sort of tender—the presence of a third party having the effect of frightening buttonholers.

No one has had a private interview with Mr. Lincoln to-day—he keeping Wellles or Nicolay in the room continually.

The resolution introduced to-day, in the Senate, by Mr. Foster, of Connecticut, who is a conservative Republican, to expel Wigfall from the Senate, on the ground that he said on the floor of that body, yesterday, that he "owed no allegiance to the Government of the United States," created quite a sensation. The vote is to be taken on Monday, and it is quite probable that the bellicose Senator from Texas will receive his card of dismissal. The only objection to this is that he will then put on the martyr's crown.—*N. Y. Times.*

Hon. Mr. Forsyth, one of the Commissioners from the Southern Confederacy, is stopping at the National Hotel. He was visited yesterday by very many of his friends. Himself and Mr. Crawford of the Southern Commission, held a long conversation with a Republican member of the late Congress. When asked what they proposed to do, they replied that they did not know—that their course depended upon the action of the new Administration and how they were received. They said that all the Southern Confederacy asked for was to be let alone. They desired peace and separate independence—nothing more. Upon this they laid great stress.

Gen. Cameron has appointed, as his Chief Clerk, N. B. Cobb, Esq., formerly of Tioga county, Pa. This is an eminently satisfactory appointment, and will give great satisfaction to the numerous friends of Mr. Cobb in his native State. Mr. Cobb for several years edited, with great ability, the Tioga *Agitator*. He was subsequently attached to the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, and since the establishment of the New York *World* he has been at the editorial staff. Few are better qualified for the position to which he has now been elevated.

Mr. Lincoln's first reception to night was the largest attendance ever seen at the White House in the evening, and reminded one of the throng on the 1st of January. The rush was so great that hundreds could not find admittance, and numbers had to escape through the windows on the front and rear porticoes. It was an ovation of which the President might be proud, considering all the circumstances which preceded his coming here.

Letters received to day from a prominent army officer at San Antonio, state that the conduct of Twiggs excited great indignation, and while a large majority of the troops were in favor of the South as they understood the causes of difference, they were opposed to the disruption of the Union, or the dishandment of the forces. It is now certain that in addition to his crime of treason, Twiggs basely deceived all the important officers around him.

Maj. Anderson's promotion to the rank of Brigadier General, for the Twiggs vacancy, has not been determined, because Secretary Cameron's absence necessarily precludes any such action at this time. There is the best feeling toward him by the new Administration and by all who estimate his faithful services.

The officers of the Army and Navy now in this city were received by the President, and subsequently by Mrs. Lincoln. Commodore Shubrick, was at the head of the latter, notwithstanding the secession of South Carolina. He considers the disunion experiment about played out.

Cotton, they say, is King. This may be true though were we to argue the point, we should set up, silk-worm's claim as equally good to lordship of the world. But if, indeed, cotton is King, it is just now enjoying but a shabby sort of royalty. The Montgomery