

GENERAL ITEMS.

The yield of gold in California, since the first discovery, in 1849, has been \$1,380,700,000.

Postal cards containing indecent or insulting matter, may be burned by the authorities.

Private advices from London confirm the statement that three regiments of British troops are under orders for Canada.

The London Times places the number of cattle, annually available for the butchers of Great Britain, at 2,336,000.

Lung fever has broken out among the horses in Lewiston, Maine. Several fine horses have died from the effect.

Has Secretary Fish yet discovered whether Captain Fry was righteously shot by the Spanish volunteers?

It is now Colonel Forney who thinks that Grant must be classed among the men who are trying to destroy the Republican party.

The remains of a mastodon were lately discovered at Hialeah, near Condom (Gers). The *Avenir d'Auch* says that excavations near Vic Fezensac have led to the discovery of a great number of other antediluvian relics.

The Franklin county commissioners at their last session allowed \$915.23 for damages sustained by various sheep owners through depredations committed upon their flocks by dogs.

Storms travel 680 miles per day; 5 deg N. of East in January; 740 in February, 15 deg. N. of East; 940 in March, 11 deg N. of East; 615 in April, 16 deg. North of East on an average.

The London Times says a despatch received at Cape Coast Castle on the 28th January, from expeditionary force, announce that Coomassie, the capital of Ashantee, surrendered to General Wolseley, and that the King and family were made prisoners.

The Dominion Revenue for January is \$1,466,648. Expenditure \$3,759,301. Excess of expenditure over revenue \$2,302,553. Auditors report this week shows excess of specie of \$345,503; total circulation \$12,250,399; total specie \$3,283,795.

A young German Prince, the cousin of Prince Louis of Hesse, recently lunched with Queen Victoria at Osborne. He is in the German naval service, and is a suitor for the hand of the Princess Bratrice, and it is said, a successful one.

The All-England Eleven, who are now in Australia, have sustained another defeat, almost as disastrous as in the first match. They played against twenty-two of the Showell Cricket Club, and the Eleven, who went in first, only scored forty three against a total of seventy one by the club, who, on the following day won the match, with ten wickets, to go down.

The trouble with the nominations for chief justice seems to be that Williams was a good republican but a poor lawyer, while Cushing is a good lawyer but a poor republican, and Congress dare not trust the war issues to his adjudication. "Who next, is the question."

The New York World has been doing a good work in showing how people live, or rather, don't quite die, on very low wages. Misery was never greater in New York City than it is now. At the same time Iowa farmers are paying bonuses for first rate agricultural laborers. It is somewhat singular that people would rather starve in a New York attic than live decently in a Western town.

The New York Sun tells the following shocking tale of suffering:

Not many months ago civilized nations were horrified at the story of cannibalism in Persia, and disgusted at the cool indifference of the Shah who, while his subjects were starving, went out shooting hares with an army. Only a few days ago a poor woman with six children in Jersey city, crazed by want of food, was about to kill one, as she declared for the nourishment of the rest, when her condition was discovered and her wants relieved. This is no exceptional case of suffering. Thousands are without needed food and clothing, and but for the fact that a kind Providence has tempered the harsh north wind, the deaths from want and cold would have been many.

A gentleman in New York, well known in rowing circles, has written a letter to a friend in this city in which he speaks enthusiastically of our champion, George Brown. He says—I am writing in the presence of the President of the Harlem Boating Club, six of the leading members of the New York Boating Club, and Biglin. They say that Brown had better take Coulter for any stake—as large as he can get him to row—as he will never get Coulter to row against him again, and he is sure to win. Coulter is backed chiefly by Englishmen who know nothing about either of the men except by reputation. Brown has Portland, Boston, Springfield, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore to back him, and that's all he wants.

A Portland despatch of the 28th ult. says—A new line of full powered steamers, of 1500 tons burthen, are to be put on between Portland and St. John's Nfld., next season. The company is already established, with a cash capital of \$250,000, and has, in addition, two steamers building for the trade. It is expected that the Legislature of Newfoundland will decide to join the Island to the Dominion of Canada, by which she will enjoy the Treaty of Washington. Newfoundland will send her fish and fish oil to Portland, Free of duty, and receive in return from Portland, flour, furniture, boots and shoes etc. A new traffic will thus be opened up to this city. This line will prove, also, a great feeder to the Boston and New York steamers.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

The Herald's correspondent writes:—During the sitting, which had been rather stormy, fruitful of interruptions, M. Gambetta found himself involved in a personal altercation with M. Haentjens, a Bonapartist deputy. The latter accused him of having inculcated the doctrine of non-obedience of soldiers in certain cases, making himself the mouthpiece of a propaganda against discipline. Looking his accuser full in the face, M. Gambetta deliberately replied, "You have lied." A period of indescribable tumult followed, amidst which M. Haentjens sent two of his friends to demand explanations from M. Gambetta. The latter referred them to two of his colleagues. Paris was on tiptoe of expectation at the prospect of a duel in which the ex-dictator would have his mettle tried. But lovers of excitement are doomed to disappointment, as the affair has been arranged without recourse to rapers or pistols. The introduction of a word has made matters smooth. The Bonapartist explains that he used the phrase, "involuntary propaganda of indiscipline," referring to an interpellation made by Gambetta and Rochefort in 1869 before the Corps Legislatif, about the case of two soldiers sent to Algeria for attending political meetings against the orders of their officers. There upon M. Gambetta withdrew the word "liar," and the proceedings terminated. The reign of personalities is very flourishing at present. A member of the Extreme Left was called to order, and received the censure of the Assembly for having called out—"The Radical party can well afford to despise the insolence of M. Bigot." The latter had spoken of a mayor having appointed a gendarme who had been convicted of an indecent assault, and added—"A Radical mayor, of course." The punishment of censure involves the loss of a month's pay as deputy, £1 a day, and having the sentence posted up in every commune of the member's department.

The Anglo-Russian Royal Marriage.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—The ceremonies of the Royal marriage commenced at noon to day, in the presence of a large and brilliant assemblage, at the Winter Palace. The various galleries were filled with ladies sumptuously attired. There was a prevalence of peculiar Russian costumes, made up mainly of velvet and diamonds. The gentlemen all wore uniforms with the exception of the American diplomats. After assembling the bridal procession was formed, with the grand equerries, chamberlains and other officers of the court leading; then came the Czar Alexander and the Czarina, the Imperial Prince, the Carowitz and his wife, Princess Dagmar, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Crown Prince Frederick, William and Crown Princess of Germany, Prince and Princess of Denmark and Prince Arthur of England. Then came the Brides and Bridegroom, the bridegroom wearing the Russian naval uniform. The bride, Princess Marie Alexandrovna, was splendidly apparelled in a long crimson velvet mantle, trimmed with ermine, and wore a coronet of diamonds. Her train was borne up by four pages. Then followed an immense procession made up of members of the Imperial Russian family, Princes, Princesses and Court officials; the Imperial Russian Prince wearing the uniform of the Cuirassiers; the Prince of Wales the scarlet British uniform and the Prussian Prince that of a Russian colonel. All of the gentlemen were decorated with the insignia of the Russian order of St. Andrew. The Princess of Wales was dressed in dark crimson velvet and wore a diamond coronet and collar, with a pearl necklace. The Imperial German Princess was habited the same as the Russian Princess, in a dress of blue velvet with gold trimmings. Prince Arthur of England wore the uniform of the British Rifle Brigade when acting as groomsmen, and all other persons present appeared wearing wedding favors of silver.

The procession, upon reaching the Metropolitan at the head of the choristers of the church, the Holy Synod, bearing crosses, silver vessels, and holy water. The Emperor of Russia conducted the bride and bridegroom to the middle of the church, assuming a station with the Empress immediately behind them. Around the bridegroom stood Prince Arthur and the Grand Dukes. The wedding rings were borne on golden salvers and deposited on the altar temporarily by the Imperial confessor until they were placed on the fingers of the bride and bridegroom. The magnificent chapel was illuminated with wax candles and the floor covered with a carpet of velvet with a pattern of crimson and gold. The Greek marriage ceremony was unique. There was an absence of music; the chants were intoned, and there were prayers offered up. During the service crowns were held suspended over the heads of the bridal pair, Prince Arthur holding the crown over the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Sergius of Russia the crown over the bride. The Imperial confessor then said: Thou servant of God, Alfred Ernest Edward, art crowned for this handmaiden of God, Marie Alexandrovna; in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Then was read the epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians, 5th chapter, from the 20th to 23rd verse inclusive. Then the crowns were removed, and the married couple walked thrice around a raised dais, holding the tip of the confessor's robe in one hand and a lighted candle in the other, at the conclusion of the ceremonies the Sacramental cup was brought forth, blessed, and its contents partaken of by the bridal pair, the confessor entering the room, the confessor and bridegroom kissed. The deacon delivered an eloquent admonition on the marriage duties and immediately afterwards the choir chanted "Glory to Thee, O Lord," con-

cluding with the pronouncement of the benediction by the clergyman. Thus ended the Greek service. Leaving the Russian chapel the procession slowly reformed, and the party proceeded to the Hall Alexander for the performance of the Anglican Church service. The Very Rev. Dean Stanley, of Westminster Abby, officiated. Dean Stanley, who, during the solemnization of the Greek Church service wore a Protestant Episcopal Doctor of Divinity's hood and gown, and who now appeared at the altar wearing an Episcopal surplice with the jewelled collar of the order of the Bath around his neck, was assisted by two of the resident English clergy. The members of the English colony, including bankers and merchants, were gathered on the left of the altar. Conspicuous among them were Governor Jewell, the American Minister; Lord Loftus, the English Minister and the officers of the diplomatic corps. Many Englishmen in scarlet uniforms were also present. Especially noticeable was the venerable Prince Gortschakoff, surrounded by the leading members of the Russian nobility. They gathered on the right side of the altar. The Episcopal chants were given by Russian chorister lads clad in long crimson dresses. When the marriage procession entered the bride walked between her father and the bridegroom; Prince Arthur walked behind. The beautiful Anglican wedding service was impressively performed by Dean Stanley. The Prince and Princess responding according to the form enjoined in the book of Common Prayer. The delivery of the final benediction, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost bless, preserve and keep you, was especially touching. The service being concluded, Dean Stanley congratulated warmly the newly married couple. Several Roman Catholic Dignitaries were present. The bride looked earnest, sweet and fascinating, the bridegroom was grave and self-possessed. The Princess of Wales was lovely, pale and delicate; the German Crown Princess looked hearty, the image of her mother, Queen Victoria. The Prince of Wales was apparently on excellent terms with the German Prince, and both looked extremely well. During the ceremony in the English chapel, the Empress of Russia being a confirmed invalid, and much fatigued, sat down. She seemed overcome with emotion, holding a handkerchief to her eyes when the newly married couple came to salute her. The ceremony being concluded, the crowd dispersed.—New York Herald.

Harbor Grace, March 11, 1874. The sealing vessels left for the Seal fishery on Thursday last. In consequence of the prevailing easterly winds, during the latter part of the past week, on Monday last the harbor presented quite a chilly aspect, being entirely blocked by drift ice. A favourable change took place early yesterday morning, when the sealing steamers were enabled to take their departure for the seal fishery.

DEATH OF DR. LIVINGSTONE. "J.J." writes:—While there are some among us who have accepted the report of Dr. Livingstone's death as true, I beg to call attention to the apparently incredible portion of the telegrams which has not been noticed. I refer to the embalming or preserving in salt the body of the great traveller. Is it at all probable that the negro attendants had salt sufficient for that purpose? and is it known that they are acquainted with the embalming of human subjects, seeing that that race is ignorant of such a procedure? The negroes, of all savages, show the least consideration for their dead comrades.

BREACH OF PROMISE. The case of Plumby v. Gooder was tried in the Court of Common Pleas, on the 2nd ult. It was an action to recover damages for a breach of promise of marriage, and the only plea was a denial of the promise. The defendant was a tailor, living in Callow Street, Chelsea, and the plaintiff, Miss Plumby, was a dressmaker, who lived in the same street, in one of the defendant's houses. The gentleman was 50 and the lady 35 years of age. The parties had been near neighbors for several years, and had known each other by sight. They had a common friend, Mrs. Chivers, to whom the defendant applied in June last to introduce him to the plaintiff. Mrs. Chivers appointed a meeting at her own house, and left the parties alone for half an hour; at the end of which time the defendant said "Now you can tell Mrs. Chivers;" and the lady thereupon whispered, "Mr. Gooder wants a wife, and he thinks I shall suit him." In this way the courtship began; and after this they walked out together, and matters progressed so well that on the 1st July the defendant wrote: "I am quite prepared to ask you in a plain, straightforward manner, Will you have me? And if so, it is my wish to set about the matter at once and bring the business to a speedy termination." (Laughter.) The plaintiff wrote—"I should wish before I give you an answer to see you again, as I scarcely feel justified in giving up my home and business without knowing your position more fully." In October the defendant put up the banus of marriage at St. Luke's, Chelsea, and the 27th of the following month was appointed for the wedding. It was arranged that the wedding breakfast should be given at Mrs. Chivers's house and that they should live in one of the defendant's houses, and the lady purchased some articles for her outfit. It happened, however, that a Mrs. Tidbury was not one of the guests invited, and for that or some other reason she seemed to have spoken to the defendant, because he wrote, no longer addressing the plaintiff as "My dear Harriet," but merely as "Miss Harriet Plumby, and saying, "I write to say that I am in search of a helpmeet, a wife, a companion, but alas! you told me there would be no room for me in the kitchen, so that I may stay in the attic and work, and you would be the lady at home. Of course you would. If such is to be the case I shall be quite content to rest with my lot such as it is. He also complained that the plaintiff had said to Mrs. Tidbury, "Would you marry that old beggar?"—(a laugh)—and from this he argued that she could not see any good in him. He further said, I understand you have been known to drink gin in large quantities without appearing in the least affected by it. I have no fancy for gin myself, and have no respect for anyone who has. The plaintiff went to ask for an explanation of all this scandal; but the defendant, instead of giving any such explanation said, Go out, go out; and he put his hand upon her shoulder and pushed her out; and this ended the courtship, and the matter drifted into the lawyers hands.—The verdict was for the plaintiff; damages, £150.

The Duke of Argyll has sent another communication to Lord Northbrook, in which he announces the approval of her Majesty's Government of the measures taken by the Indian Viceroy to avert the threatened famine in Bengal.

A niece of the Pope's, daughter of his eldest brother, Count Gaetano Mastai, Countess Virginia Arslini, died at Sinigaglia on the 6th.

There has been a recent fearful outbreak of cannibalism in one district of Fiji. One Christian village was saturated with blood, the attack being wholly unexpected; and fourteen or fifteen Christian towns have suffered much. At Natal, South Africa, was found according to report, the remains of one of the balloons sent out of Paris with letters to the armies and friends, by the Government of the National Defence, over 5000 mile south of the city, whence it set forth.

A certain Frenchman living near Pooley's Bridge, Ottawa, who keeps a boarding house, last week found no meat in the house and had no cash to buy any, so he killed a dog belonging to one of the boarders, prepared and cooked it, could not keep his own secret, and has had to clear out of town to escape the wrath of the boarders.

On January 21 the Marquis of Ribon, as Worshipful Grand Master of England and Right Worshipful Grand Master of West Yorkshire, presided at Leeds at a large muster of Free Masons from all parts of the West Riding. He alluded to the spread of lodges in the West Riding, and spoke of the duties and privileges of Freemasonry. About 150 brethren subsequently attended a banquet at the Great Northern Station Hotel, the Marquis presiding.

In the British medical naval report just issued, a fatal case of poisoning by tobacco is mentioned. A boy on the Implacable had frequently been reproofed for chewing tobacco, and on several occasions swallowed pieces to prevent detection. On the night of his death he was heard breathing stentoriously, and efforts to arouse him being vain, he was taken to the sick boy. His pupils were insensible to the light, and his pulse beat feebly. He died in three minutes after. Two small pieces of tobacco were found in his stomach.

Two thousand dollars seems to be a pretty steep price to pay for a rooster, but such we are informed was the amount paid Ira Batchelder of the Mount Drawford House, for his black Spanish rooster, called Gen Castelar. The purchaser, Mr Wm G Davis civil engineer on the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, considers him the best Game bird in the country—he being the only one hatched from a dozen eggs brought from Matanzas, Cuba. Various bids were made by different parties in this city to secure him, one gentleman in particular—now very prominent in the lumber business—offering his entire interest in the largest mill on the line of the road.

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Latest Despatches.

LONDON, March 2. The Prince of Wales and wife arrived at Berlin. The Duke of Edinburgh and bride left for England. Queen and War Minister despatched congratulations to Wolseley. Claimant's counsel will move for a new trial on the ground of Chief Justice misdirecting Jury. The Governor of Bengal reports that there are over a million of persons starving there.

OTTAWA, 2. Frightful railroad catastrophe. A passenger train on the Great Western on Saturday night, whilst running 40 miles an hour, caught fire from a lamp breaking. No bell rope being attached, the engineer could not be reached. Before the train could be stopped eight persons were burned to death and others cannot survive injuries. Some leaped from the cars, some clung to it till their hands burned off, and charred remains of others found clinging to the iron work.

NEWS ITEMS.

A one cent stamp affixed to a Postal card pays its way to Germany. Green paper, such as covers lozenges, 20 inches square, contains arsenic enough to destroy adult life. Nancy, the first place taken by the Germans, has lately experienced a severe shock of earthquake. Mr. James Gordon Bennett, of the N. Y. Herald, offers \$30,000 in aid of the soup kitchens for the poor of New York.

Messrs. Smith, Schultz, Riel and Cunningham have been elected members of the House of Commons from Manitoba. It is said that Riel intends to present himself at Ottawa upon the opening of Parliament. There has been a recent fearful outbreak of cannibalism in one district of Fiji. One Christian village was saturated with blood, the attack being wholly unexpected; and fourteen or fifteen Christian towns have suffered much.

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