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POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING GAZETTE

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JOHN A. BOWES, Editor and Publisher

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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JAN. 24, 1889

THE SAMOAN AFFAIR.

The Americans are taking a great deal of comfort out of the belief, that the British are likely to side with them, in their quarrel with the Germans at Samoa. The fact that a British cruiser, one of the Australian squadron, will arrive at Samoa by the end of this week, is look d upon by them as conclusive evidence that the British are about to oppose the pretensions of the Germans in the Pacific. Unless the British do this, the Americans will find themselves in a most humiliating position, for they have no force near Samoa at present fit to cope with the German war vessels, and they do not posses a single cruising ironclad, on either ocean. The British, on the other hand, have four iron clads in the Pacific, and thirty-two other ships of war, or thirty six in all. Of these eighteen belong to the china squadron, ten to the Australian squadron and eight to the Pacific squadron proper. The only British vessel at present in Samoan waters is the Lizard, a composite gun boat of 670 tons and 1000 horse power, and carrying six guns, the largest a 6 inch rifled breech loading gun. The Nipsic is the only American vessel now at Samoa, and no reinforcement can reach her for about six weeks. The Nipsic is a wooden ship of 1,375 tons displacement, carrying seven guns, one of them an 8 inch rifle. The Germans have three war ships at Samoa, the Eber the Adler and the Olga, but neither of them is powerful. The Eber is a composite gun boat of 570 tons, her principal guns being three 5 inch breech-loading rifles. The Adler is a composite vessel of 884 tons displacement and carries two 6 inch and two 4 inch breech loading rifles. The Olga is a composite vessel also, and carries ten guns, the principal being eight 6 inch breech loading rifles.

The Americans have two ships on their way to Samoa, the Trenton and the Vandalia. The Trenton is an old wooden vessel of 3,900 tons displacement, carrying thirteen guns, most of them antiquated. The Vandalia is also an old wooden vessel of 2,180 tons displacement and carries ten guns, but none of them modern or powerful. The German vessels, being better supplied with modern guns, and being superior in speed, would be an overmatch for the American ships, even if they were all at Samoa, but the Trenton and Vandalia cannot possibly reach the Samoan Islands until the beginning of March.

Samoa is nearer Australia than it is to the head quarters of the British China fleet or of the Pacific fleet. The affairs of these islands therefore, naturally come under the control of the Australian squadron. It consists, as already stated of ten vessels, one large ironclad, the Nelson, the cruisers, Calliope 16 guns, Diamond, Opal and Rapid, 12 guns each, and five gunboats. The Nelson is a sister ship to the Northampton, which was the flag ship on this station a few years ago, and which visited St. John at the time of the centennial celebration in 1883. The Nelson is 7,630 tons displacement, 6,040 horse power, carries 9 inch armor and is armied with four 18 ton guns, and 8 12 ton guns. An 18 ton. gun in the British service is of 10 inches calibre, and a 12 ton gun is 9 inches. The Nelson could destroy a whole fleet of unarmored vessels, like those which Germany has at Samoa, or such craft as the United States are sending there.

Germany is reported to be sending reinforcements to the Pacific, so it would seem as if the big Empire purposed to maintain her position in Samoa. The British Australian squadren is quite powerful enough to take care of the fleets both of Germany and the, United States in that part of the world and if any more help is needed the ironclad Orion can be brought down from the China seas. This war ship carries 12 inch armor and her battery consists of four 25 ton guns, so that she may be counted on to take care of British interests in that distant sea. It is well to know that, whatever may happen in Samoa, Great Britain is strong enough in that part of the world to do as she pleases, and to see that treaties made by Germany or any other power in reference to Samoa are carried out.

ANTI-CANADIAN, AS USUAL.

The Globe is profoundly disgusted because the little plot between Consul General Phelan and certain Halifax Grits, with a view to create a precedent against the Canadian interpretation of the Treaty of 1818, has miscarried and the Collector of Halifax, whose weakness was relied on to make the plot a success, has been dismissed from his office. The Globe regrets the action of the Government in dismissing Mr. Ross, because his error was "in the direction of international comity." For says the Globe :—

The coast service of the United States is continually doing—particularly in winter time—acts of courtesy to our vessels. In storms, when ice bound or "caught" in any way, the United States cutters never stop to enquire whether a vessel needing service is Canadian or American. Vessels are towed into port or out of it, as the need is, and the only charge is the actual cost of the coal or other material used in doing what is needed. We venture to say that there are many occasions, too, in ports when courtesies are extended by collectors or other officials, to our vessels, when matters of form are overlooked, and the Canadian coaster is treated with consideration, which may involve technical breach of regulations. At any rate any one who talks to the masters of coasting vessels will often hear of instances of more than civility done sometimes at the expense of strict official rule.

The Globe would like its readers to infer from this statement that there was some special reason why, what it calls "international comity," should be exercised in the Batson case. The American press have sought to create an impression that this vessel was in distress and needed repairs, but this is an utterly false pretence. The only repairs put upon the vessel were the mending of one double block and one dead eye, the whole amounting to fifty cents, so it can be seen at once that the entry of the Batson as a vessel needing repairs was a false one, a disreputable trick, such as only Yankee officials and Yankee skippers seem to be capable of. As the Batson was not in distress, and did not need repairs, but was perfectly competent to proceed on her voyage to Boston, what excuse was there for the exercise of any "international comity," in her case. The collector of Halifax knew right well that the transhipment of fish from an American vessel at a Canadian port, was not allowed by his instructions, and that in giving the owners of the Batson permission to tranship the fish from that vessel to the Carroll he was giving away the very privilege which the government of Canada has all along been contending no American vessel should be permitted to enjoy, except on payment of a license fee to the Dominion Treasury. Collector Ross's action was in fact a complete surrender of the Canadian case, with respect to the fisheries, and in acting as he did, we cannot conceive that he could have been influenced by any other motive but a deliberate desire to injure Canada. With regard to inter-national comity, a good deal more of that article has been displayed by the British towards the United States than by the latter towards us. It is notorious that in numberless instances British war ships have protected American interests abroad, where the Americans were unable to protect their own interests. We need only cite the case of the Virginius in 1883, as one of hundreds of instances of "inter-national comity" on the part of the British. But the Globe in this is true to its record, and its principles, which impel it to condemn every act of Canada and exalt every act of the United States.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

It appears that Mr. Mercier has concluded not to whitewash Jimmy Macshane by an act of the Legislature, but to let the law take its course, and to declare the seat for Montreal Centre vacant, in accordance with the decision of the court. This is the proper course for Mercier to pursue, certainly, but Jimmy Macshane and his friends will not regard it with any degree of favor. Unless Mercier is greatly belied, he is a more corrupt man than even Macshane, and the latter, who has not been deprived of his tongue, may yet make it warm for his friend who has thus left him to his fate.

Maine is universally admitted to be the best State in the Union for murderers, it being one of the States where hanging is "played out," as it was said to be, some years ago in New York State. The Maine people have their own prisons filled with murderers, and they are so fond of that class of people, that it is but seldom a conviction can be had against them. In no State in the Union have more gross miscarriages of justice taken place, and where the injured party is a Canadian, a conviction is out of the question. The Maine courts, have, as we stated yesterday, refused to extradite W. J. Best, who recently attempted to murder E. M. Batson, of Campobello, the prisoner being released on purely technical grounds. Many people in this Province will remember a still worse case, that of the assassin of Abiather Camp, who was wantonly murdered by a Maine man on board a St. John schooner. The murderer was tried in one of the Maine courts and acquitted. Maine, instead of being called "The pine tree State," ought to be named the "Murderer's safe Haven."

Great Britain has been annexing a good many islands in the Pacific recently the Cook islands and two of the Tongway group being among her latest acquisitions. The French are much incensed over the occupation of the latter and Lord Salisbury has been asked for an explanation. The explanation will probably be that the want of good faith and common honesty displayed by the French, in regard to the New Hebrides and other islands of the Pacific, rendered it necessary for Great Britain to look out for her own interests, and that the occupation of the islands in question is the first step towards carrying out this policy.

The Globe and other disloyal papers asserted that Mr. Twomey, the gentleman who was elected Mayor of Windsor Ont. the other day, was an annexationist. We denounced this statement as false at the time and now Mr. Twomy, in answer to an inquiry made directly to him by the editor of the Moncton Times writes as follows:—"I am not an annexationist. I am content with our present political condition. I and my friends disclaimed any idea of my being an annexationist." What new falsehood will the Globe man now bring up for the purpose of injuring and discrediting Canada?

Dr. George Stewart of Quebec has found it necessary to defend himself against a charge of plagiarism in his paper on Frontenac, he having been accused by the editor of the Summerside Journal of having copied a large part of this paper from the pages of Parkman. Justin Winsor, the editor of the work in which Dr. Stewart's paper appeared, writes to him: "It has never occurred to me that your paper in Frontenac was any more a plagarism from Parkman than is necessary in all historical writings;" and Dr. Parkman writes, "It did not occur to me that there was any plagarism in it." The Summerside Journal also called Dr. Stewart "a literary imposter," "a charlatan," "an impudent fraud," "a copyist," but the latter makes no defence to these charges.

All the American papers have been making fun of Smalley, the correspondent of the New York Tribune, who seems to be disposed to go to war with the British government on his own account, because another minister has not been sent to Washington to replace Lord Sackville. His letter to the Tribune, which we published yesterday, was a very absurd production and, no doubt, will be subjected to a good deal of ridicule on this side of the Atlantic. "It will be understood here" says the Tory squire grandly, "by the time Mr. Phelps steps on board the steamer at Southampton, that the diplomatic affront offered the American government by Lord Salisbury has been resented in a correct diplomatic way." A great deal Lord Salisbury cares for the resentment of Grover Cleveland or his cabinet. The President may now be addressed in the language applied to the ex-Mayor of London in "Beauty and the Beast."

Begone old Pump
Like a dog you've had your day.

HERE AND THERE.

The will of Mrs. Jay Gould has been filed for probate, and contains no public requests. Mrs. Gould was more than a millionaire in her own right.

A Presidential election wager has just been settled by three pretty and plucky young ladies of North Billerica, Mass., by walking to Boston and giving a dinner and a matinee party. The young ladies are Miss Fannie Crehore, Miss Lizzie Copeland and Miss Fannie Copeland.

Another large piece of rock has broke loose from the crest of the Horseshoe Falls Niagara. The contour of the falls now presents a double horseshoe. The smaller one formed by the last displacement is in advance of and to the right of the centre of the large horseshoe.

At the Pennsylvania Soldiers and Sailors Home, Erie, Pa., as the inmates were seating themselves at the dinner-table, a man named McQuinlan, in sport, pulled a chair away in which Louis Bachler was about to seat himself. Bachler fell on the floor in a sitting posture and streams of blood gushed from his mouth and nostrils. Death was instantaneous.

John Spivey, of Miamisburg, O., has told of a plot to murder a family of six persons in Eaton, O. William Beall, whose son is a life prisoner for killing his mother, arranged the details for the scheme and tried to get Spivey to do the work. Spivey told the head of the family which was to be murdered of the plot and Beall was arrested and jailed.

Chas. W. Zeefield, the Minnesota grain king, whose failure has caused such a sensation throughout the Western States, has arrived at Winnepeg. In a pleasant sort of way he told a friend that he had bought several millions of bushels of barley, expecting to get "a corner," but some of the boys had been too much for him, and he was let down to the tune of $200,000. He "guessed" he would remain in Canada until his nerves are settled and matters at home cool down.

The trouble over the new theory about the crucifixion of Christ, broached at Omaha, Nebraska, by Rabbi Goldstein, broke out afresh among the members of his synagogue yesterday. Mr. Bernstein indorsed the position of the rabbi that it was Simon Peter, and not Christ, that perished on the cross. He was mobbed and very severely handled by the congregation. He swore out warrants for the arrest of his assailants, and six of them are now behind the bars.

The outside world has little idea of the tremendous amount of money spent yearly by the railroad companies for their folders or time-tables. One road on Broadway alone spends $7,000 a year for what very seldom is given in their offices are in the West, where it is necessary to issue five times as many, it can readily be seen what it costs them for their offices all over the country. Besides this, it takes much time and patience to build the tables up.

The seventeen-year-old daughter of Joe Wells, colored, in Lee County, Ala., forced four of her younger brothers and sister to eat "Rough on Rats" and to drink water after eating it. She then put some of the poison in liver and took it to her father to eat. He suspected from her manner that something was wrong and refused to eat. The girl confessed her crime, and said that she had attempted to poison the whole family a few days ago by putting the heads of matches in their food.

Kiwewa, the new King of Uganda, is a very different creature from his predecessor, his brother Mwanga. Kiwewa is a thin, active, restless man, who likes his missionary more highly seasoned than does his brother. He also differs from Mwanga in that he never kills a wife before breakfast, being somewhat dyspeptic and not fond of bloodshed before he has had his coffee and cigarette. He is more progressive than Mwanga in his attire and always wears at the very least a necklace and an intelligent expression.

Induced Magnetism in Iron Vessels.

The other magnetic qualities of a ship are comparatively stable, but this is treacherous and changeable to a degree that necessitates constant vilgance to prevent disaster. On the great fleet of transatlantic steamers it is more likely to lead into danger than on other routes; the ships steer a generally easterly course going to Europe, and a westerly one coming to New York; the magnetic influence on the outward trip is the opposite of that returning; the ships run at a high rate of speed, and the induction varies on different parts of the route, according to the intensity of the magnetic field passed over, the smoothness or roughness of the sea which affects the motion of the ship, and the warmth or coolness of the weather.

Instead of attributing the loss of vessels when approaching a coast to the magnetic effects of fogs and land, and other improbable influences upon the compass, it were much more reasonable to ascribe it to the changed conditions of her magnetism by induction during the passage, and which has not been discovered or kept account of by frequent azimuths previous to closing in with the land. Suddenly, a course that the captain thought perfectly safe carries the ship upon a shoal or rock, and the fault is laid upon the compasses, whereas they but obeyed the magnetic influences that became altered, during a long passage, from what these influences were when the ship was last swung to determine the deviations of her compasses.—T. A. Lyons in Popular Science Monthly.

Garter Snakes and Their Young.

"Garter snakes have a habit of swallowing their young, which, if a good brood, will frequently be as many as 100 and up as high as three times that number. One day," said the manager of a traveling circus in St. Louis, "a countryman hitched his team in the back yard and told the doorkeeper he had a big snake he would trade for admission for himself and family—nine altogether. I got the snake and put it in a box. It was a big one—some nine feet long and mighty heavy. That night we came back from supper and found the place chock full of rsting young garters. The largest was no more in size than a lead pencil. The place was full of them. You couldn't sit down in a chair but what they would climb up all six limbs. They were in our hats, chairs, desks, cages, on the floors, everywhere. Where in the world did they come from? was the question. By chance some one struck the gong. In a minute the mystery was solved. The hordes of little varmints began scampering to their mother. She quietly opened her mouth and in they ran. Country snakes were put into tight boxes after that till such a time as we became well acquainted and know whether it was ono serpent or a serpent's skin full of sprouting snake seed.—St. Louis Letter.

The Day of the Violet.

"Violets, sweet violets," are the rage of the hour; any other flower seen on the street is considered by high authorities, who have received the latest advice, as in bad taste. If some one were to send a lady a bunch of roses, should she throw them away, or decline them with thanks, because roses are out of style? My informant, who has just returned from the east, says white violets are succeeding lilies of the valley for bridal bouquets, and in this case the bridesmaids carry dark blue Parma violets. In one case that came under her observation all the flowers used about the house for the wedding decorations were violets. The cost of the display was fabulous. Great bunches of maiden hair ferns are also used for bridesmaids. Fashionable women are using violet perfume, and no other, and with good reason, for the odor is delicious.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

ST. MAGDALENA.

The Great Painter and His Masterpiece. A Legend of the Alps.

There was once a great painter whose equal was not to be found among all his contemporaries. But he was a man who had no fixed belief, no moral life, and who therefore lived at most like a barbarian. Now at one time a high dignitary of the church, who was about to build a magnificent chapel and was willing to intrust the work only to the most famous and most skillful artists, engaged him to paint the altarpiece. Long did the master consider his subject, and finally, fearing that the world might doubt his ability, began his work. He painted the "Penitent Magdalen," and so touchingly beautiful was it that many a poor offender was converted upon seeing his picture, and was encouraged to begin a new life. But on the completion of his work, in his overweening pride he wrote in one corner of the picture: "Not in God's honor, but for my fame." These godless words the painter hid beneath the wide, carved frame.

Not long afterwards the artist died.

But rest was not granted him even in the grave. He who in his whole life had never done anything out of reverence for God now rose every night from the tomb in the vain attempt to paint a work for the redemption of his soul. But the words placed upon his altarpiece crippled his power, and at the first cock crow he sadly fled back to the tomb.

One day there came into the church a strange woman. She was miserably clad; her worn out shoes barely clung to her swollen feet, and her long hair hung matted over her breast and shoulders. Her face was pale, and she walked with uncertain and faltering steps. Ah, how different had it once been! Then she was young and beautiful, ah, so beautiful, and she had been beloved by the great painter, and with him she had lived many years in conscienceless revel and riot, just as the master had taught her.

But now she came from the holy sepulcher, whither she had traveled to pay penance for her sin. She knelt before the altar, and at the sight of the Magdalen such unutterable joy came into her heart that a flood of tears rushed to her eyes.

When at last they wished to awaken her, she had fallen asleep forever before the painting. But the part upon which her tears had fallen was effaced, together with the godless words and the name of the painter. Both now sleep in peace until they shall be again brought to life on the judgment day.

On a pass over the Alps, high up amid perpetual snow, stands an old cloister. In the chapel, half obliterated, is a noble and wonderful painting of a Magdalen. Nobody knows the name of its author and only tradition tells the story of its origin.—From the German, by Winthrop Wetherbee.

A Bully Old King.

Two American boys made the acquaintance of the king of Denmark under very peculiar circumstances. They were skylarking in the streets of Copenhagen, and one boy tossed the other's hat into a tree. While the victim was trying to dislodge it there came along an old gentleman with an umbrella under his arm and his head buried in his book. "Please, sir," said the hatless boy, "will you get my hat?" The old gentleman fished around with his umbrella for about five minutes, and failing to dislodge the hat, allowed the boy to mount his shoulders, and, with the umbrella, finally captured the hat. As the boy dismounted and thanked the old gentleman, another gentleman came along, who saluted and called the one with the umbrella "your majesty." Being an American, our boy was not paralyzed, but he thinks the king deserves his kingdom. In fact, the king of Denmark is a capital fellow. He loves to mingle with the people in their amusements, and there is no fol-de-rol of royalty about him.—Golden Days.

Effects of Heavy Hair.

"I do not believe that heavy hair takes away strength," said a leading physician the other day. "Heavy hair may be burdensome to weak people by its weight in the same way that a heavy hat or bonnet might be. Its growth is only weakening in the same sense that all growth may be, and the growth is ordinarily compensated for by food. In any event there is no way of retarding the growth of the hair; cutting only stimulates it, but it may relieve the sense of weight.

"We should do nothing for the hair of a child beyond keeping the head clean. Many children are extremely slow in getting hair, but it comes ultimately, and, so far as observation is an authority, just as abundantly as in other children. The growth and development of children is very often fitful and uneven, one part growing seemingly at the expense of another for the time."—New York Mail and Express.

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MARKED "Tenders for Plumbing," will be received at the office of Public Works, Fredericton, until FRIDAY, the 25th January inst., at noon, for Plumbing and Gas Piping in the Departmental Building, Fredericton.

Plan and specification can be seen at the Public Works Office, Fredericton, and at the office of R. C. John Dunn, architect, St. John.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank check, payable to the order of the Chief Commissioner of Public Works, or cash, equal to five per cent. of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party tendering refuses to enter into a contract when requested.

P. G. RYAN,
Chief Commissioner.
Department Public Works.
Fredericton, N. B., Jan. 16th, 1889.

Contract for the Supply of Boots for Letter Carriers.

SEPARATE Sealed tenders, addressed to the Postmaster-General, Ottawa, (for Superintendent, Printing and Supply Branch,) and marked "Tender for the Supply of Letter Carriers' Boots," will be received at Ottawa until 12 o'clock noon on MONDAY, the twenty-fifth day of February, 1889, for the supply to this department of such Boots as may from time to time be required for the purposes above stated.

The estimated number of pairs required annually is Seven Hundred (700), samples of which are to be seen at the offices of the undermentioned Postmasters, from whom additional information can, if required, be obtained:

Halifax, N. S.; St. John, N. B.; Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, London, Ont.; Winnipeg, and Victoria, B. C., and at the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

The material and workmanship are to be, in all respects, equal to the samples, and the Boots when completed, are to be delivered, at the expense of the Contractor or Contractors, in such quantities as may from time to time be required at the Post Office department, Ottawa.

The Contract to continue in force for a term of four years, provided always the same be executed, as to the prompt completion of the work, the quality of the material used, and the nature of the workmanship performed, to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General.

The tender to state the price demanded per pair in the manner prescribed by the form of tender, and to be accompanied by the written guarantee of two responsible parties undertaking that, in the event of the tender being accepted, the Contract shall be duly executed by the person or persons tendering for the price demanded, undertaking also to become bound with the Contractor or Contractors in the sum of One Thousand Dollars, for the due performance of the Contract.

Printed forms of tender and guarantee may be obtained at the Post Offices above named and at the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

WILLIAM WHITE,
Deputy Postmaster General.
Post Office Department,
Ottawa, 24th January, 1889.

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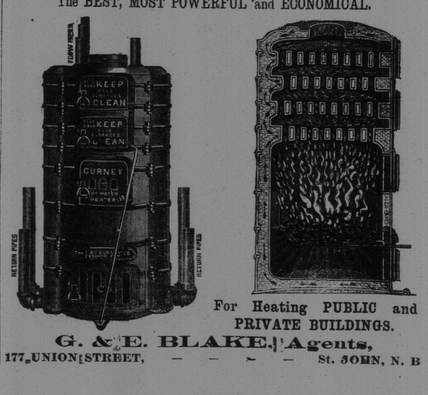

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