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MONTGOMERY'S JOURNAL

THIS NEWS

The most important telegraphic news to-day is the defeat of President Johnson by Congress on the Civil Rights Bill. A few days ago we laid the case before our readers and anticipated what has taken place—a vote in the Senate of 33 to 15 against the President's veto—more than the requisite two-thirds majority. This is the most important Congressional proceeding that has taken place for many years. The Senate was densely crowded with visitors, and the debate lasted several days. The bill was to have been taken up immediately in the House, but its discussion there will not occupy much attention as it formerly passed by the enormous majority of 111 to 38. It may be therefore said that the bill has passed, and that President Johnson is thoroughly beaten in the antagonistic attitude he has assumed towards Congress. The powers which are conferred by the constitution on the President are very great, but against a two-thirds

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1866.

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and awards to all classes of the population the same civil rights.

By our Canadian files we learn that the Confederation scheme is making good progress in the Eastern provinces. Newfoundland has given its adhesion to the scheme by a vote of nineteen to seven in the Lower House and unanimously in the Upper. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are both expected to follow the example. Vancouver Island and British Columbia are now joining up in the press of Canada as integral portions of the great confederation. Those who look forward say the *Toronto Globe* is to ultimate union of all the British North American Provinces, must feel a lively interest in the progress of the Pacific colonies and especially in those developments which baffle the time when a union between the Provinces east of the Rocky Mountains with those on the west side will be practicable.

Our Canadian contemporary then goes on to allude at some length to the recent discoveries at Big Bend, and gives the mining results as they appeared to the press of these colonies. "What is now required," it says in conclusion, "is to give an impetus to the development of the gold mines on the eastern slope of the mountains, and to make Canada and the Lower Provinces the highway to the Pacific Colonies, in the speedy settlement of the North-west question, the formation of a satisfactory union between the eastern or Atlantic colonies, and the opening up of the land and water communications with the great West. With the means of reaching the head waters of the Saskatchewan rendered tolerably convenient, a mining population would soon be found firmly planted upon the eastern slope; the development of the rich agricultural lands of that country would follow, and before long, the Atlantic and Pacific Colonies would be found united in a Confederation of all the British North American Colonies."

TELEGRAPHIC.

By the Arrival of the California, we have files of San Francisco papers to the 7th, kindly supplied us by Parker Morton, containing Eastern news to the 6th. The following are the chief items of interest:

The Navy Department has received a dispatch from Com. Rogers and his subordinate officers of the Vanderbilt, Powhatan, and Monadnock, announcing their arrival at Valparaiso, Chile. The dangers of the trip are deemed to be ended, the remainder being plain sailing. He says the powers of the Monitors have been more than equal to the voyage. It was observed that in the South Pacific's long seas the Monadnock took very little water, rising over waves easily and buoyantly.

JEFF DAVIS.
New York, April 6th.—The Times' Richmond correspondent says, after consulting it has been agreed by the friends of Jeff Davis, who had proposed to sue out a writ of *habeas corpus* in his behalf, to abandon the movement, as the cause might embarrass President Johnson.

THE TEST OATH.
New-York, April 6th.—The Times' Washington special despatch says the President will, in a few days, send a message to Congress asking a modification of the test oath, in order to enable the Government to appoint revenue officers in the South. Col. A. A. Markland has been appointed Special Mail Agent for the Pacific coast.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEACE PROCLAMATION.
I. Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the insurrection which has heretofore existed in the States of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida and Texas is at an end, and henceforth to be so regarded.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the city of Washington, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord 1866, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 90th.

ANDREW JOHNSON,
President of the United States.

W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO.

The Civil Rights Bill was carried in the Senate over the President's veto by 33 to 15, amid great rejoicing.

EUROPEAN.

The San Francisco papers contain the following additional European telegrams:

The Reform bill was explained in the House of Commons by Mr. Gladstone on the 12th. The main features of the bill are, a reduction of qualifications of county voters from £50 to £14, occupancy, and for boroughs to £7 rental, and to lodgers paying £10 per annum for apartments. The measure adds about 4,000,000 to the number of voters. The bill deals only with franchise, leaving the redistribution of representation for another session.

After many speeches for and against the proposal, Mr. Bright expressing satisfaction with it, the bill was read the first time.

The different journals generally approve the measure, although it hardly comes up to their wishes. The chances of the bill

continue to be the subject of discussion. The Conservative journals demand its rejection. Others call for amendments. The *Daily Telegraph* declares it is growing quite clear it will become a law. The real crisis of the measure was its first appearance, which it passed through safely.

The Parliamentary oath proposed by the Government, as modified in the first two clauses by Disraeli, is adopted. Accidents from Spain state the Spaniards to be in a perfect fury at the disorders which have befallen their squadron in the Pacific and the papers breathe vengeance against the Chileans, who fished their Convoys from them, and drove their Admirals to commit suicide. They are however too sensible without armament to remonstrate either from North America, or from England, for no one has a right to interfere between them in the performance of what they believe to be such rights and their duty.

MEXICAN NEWS.

New York, April 4.—Advices from the City of Mexico to March 19th say that Gen. Ostrea had proclaimed himself President of the Republic by virtue of the Constitution of 1857, at the town of Culiacan.

Gen. Mendez Imperialista had instigated a severe reverse upon the minor of Unanue, where, it is stated, 200 prisoners were shot in retaliation for the execution of Liberals under the recent decree of Maximilian.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The Mexican Minister has received intelligence from El Paso confirming the reported successes by the Liberals and announcing the expectation that Juarez will establish his seat of Government at Chihuahua at once.

CANADA.

MORE FENIAN EXCITEMENTS.

Chicago, April 5th.—The Canadians are again in great alarm. They have reliable reports that war vessels and convoys, including two schooners loaded with cannon, are fitting out at Chicago. There are rumors that an expedition under B. Doran Killian, consisting of three steamers with 5,500 men, has sailed from New York for New Brunswick, and another report gives Bermuda as its destination. It is believed that General Swett designs an attack on Central Canada. An official proclamation from Colonel O'Mahony announces the escape of James Stephens from Ireland, his arrival at Paris, and his speedy arrival in the United States to lead the Fenians. Dissensions are prevalent among the Fenians.

EUROPEAN NEWS SUMMARY.

DATES TO FEBRUARY 24TH.

The Bishop of Oxford has recommended the clergy of his diocese to set apart a day of fasting and humiliation during Lent on account of the cattle plague.

The usual Easter Monday review of the South of England is to be held this year at Brighton.

Mr. David Munro, the Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives, has been knighted.

The Lords of the admiralty have resolved that lads under 18 years of age shall not in future be subjected to the terrible punishment of flogging.

Retaining a reserve fund to meet outstanding liabilities of £4,000, the committee of the late Dublin Exhibition states their net profit to amount to £10,000.

The Sunday *Gazette* says that Mr. Layard has been appointed to the vacant trusteeship of the National Gallery.

The number of wrecks reported last week was 43, which makes the total for the present year 426.

The Earl of Kinnoull died at Torquay, on the 18th, in his 81st year. He is succeeded in the title and estate by his son, Lord Dupplin.

The Bishop of Ely has recommended his clergy to invite their parishioners to set apart a day of humiliation early next month on account of the cattle plague.

The Royal English Opera, Covent-garden, London, was suddenly closed on the 17th, owing to pecuniary difficulties.

Mr. Adame, the American Minister in London, will not yet quit his post. His Government has requested him to remain longer, on the ground most honorable to him, that they cannot spare him.

A telegram states that inquiries are general in ports of Spain for foreign vessels, as Spanish ship owners object to the risk of encountering Chilean cruisers.

The 29th of June, 1867, will be the 1800th anniversary of St. Peter's death. On that occasion the Pope is to invoke all the bishops of Christendom to Rome, where a grand jubilee will be celebrated.

Advices from Copenhagen state that the young King of Greece is expected shortly in that city, and will remain there about three months. In the interval a regency will take charge of the Government.

Intelligence from Copenhagen states that the marriage between the Princess Dagmar and the Hereditary Grand Duke of Augustusburg is determined upon, and that the ceremony will take place in April, on the anniversary of the birth of King Christian IX.

The Spanish squadron in the Pacific will, says a Madrid journal, soon be increased to two armor clad frigates, eight screw transports, and seven screw sloops of great power.

A balloon train, to run between the Place de la Concorde and the Champs de Mars, is spoken of as one of the schemes to be tried during the great gathering in Paris next year.

The cholera still prevails in Southern Russia, where the mildness of the winter has produced a great deal of illness. At Moscow there have been seen so many cases of typhoid fever lately that the hospitals are quite full.

Petitions have been presented against the return of seventy-one members of the House of Commons. The Conservatives petition against forty-one Liberal seats. The Liberals oppose twenty-five Conservative returns, and there are five contests between Radicals and the sitting Liberal members.

It is understood that upwards of £800,000 have been privately subscribed by the Atlantic Telegraph Company, and an appeal will probably be made to the public for £250,000 to complete the manufacture of new cables, with a view to another attempt at submerging them during the present

number of persons in custody appears to have been exaggerated. It was previously stated at two hundred and fifty, but later and more trustworthy advices from the Irish Capital affirm that there are between one hundred and twenty and one hundred and thirty under arrest.

In many cases the prisoners protested that they were mere victims of suspicion and injured Fenianism with considerable energy. Many more stood on their dignity and bravely cautioned their captors that the American citizen was not to be trifled with and the President would exact a terrible revenge. Neither persuasion, entreaty, nor threat, saved the suspected.

The news spread with extraordinary rapidity, and those fortunate strangers who were not captured were as much in danger.

Those lodgings were immediately vacated, remained in cover until night, when an unusual number of cabs were seen driving along the North Wall. The miffed passengers stopped nowhere, passed all their usual haunts, asked no questions, carried no luggage, and made all speed on board the Liverpool steamers. Fortunately for them, the police interposed no hindrance, and as the departing excursionists had suddenly forgotten their own rank and dignity, they did not receive any notice from the crowd that looked on.

Another detachment of Federal officers fled by the mail train to Cork, and these, in all probability, have already sailed by the Cunard steamer. But beyond doubt many are still secreted in Dublin, and even there is to be an outbreak, the suspension of the act must precipitate the action of the Fenian leaders.

According to one account, no fewer than from 1,400 to 1,500 American officers took their departure on Saturday night by the Liverpool steamer. Fortunately for them, the Irish population forms a very strong proportion of the inhabitants of Liverpool, a good deal of uneasiness was created by this sudden and unexpected eruption.

The London *Times* of February 19th, says there is reason for believing that small arms, of spurious manufacture, have been sold in extraordinary numbers by a firm in the city of London, and that a fresh consignment has been made to them.

There is no question but that they have disposed of as many as eight thousand muskets of the kind mentioned, and have in their possession three thousand more barrels supposed to be of

original fabric for the Confederate service during the American civil war; but that is only conjecture.

The *Moniteur*, of February 26th, says that private letters from Rome to the 14th instant, announce the official rupture of relations of Prussia with the Pontifical Government. Cardinal Antonelli is said to have received a note from Prince Gorziskoff, who refuses to disavow the language uttered by Baron De Neudorf in an audience he had with the Holy Father on the occasion of the Christmas festivities. Russia will merely retain an unrecognized agent at Rome.

It is stated that the advanced liberals in the Prussian Chambers had resolved to call on the government to withdraw a letter addressed to the Chamber by Count von Bismarck, otherwise they will decline to discuss any future bills presented by the government.

Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department, in asking leave to bring in a bill suspending the *Habeas Corpus* act in Ireland, at a special meeting of Parliament held on the 11th, said that the Fenian conspiracy had only recently assumed its recent proportions.

It was necessary to strike an effective blow at the Fenian schemes, which were wholly discredited by the American Government.

The loyalty of the British army was beyond a doubt. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland earnestly requested the suspension of the act, saying that he could not hold himself responsible for the safety of the country if power were withdrawn from him.

Mr. Disraeli, leader of the advanced liberals, concurred in the remarks of Sir George Grey. Mr. Bright protested against the suspension of the act, but said he would not oppose the government. Leave was then given to suspend the *Habeas Corpus* act in Ireland by a vote of 364 to 96.

The bill was then passed through all the stages and sent to the House of Lords, who likewise passed it without opposition. The royal assent was given to the measure at eleven o'clock the same night.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF BIG BEND.—The *Toronto Globe* of March 9th contains a long and favorable article on the Big Bend diggings. The San Francisco journals continue to give the reports from these mines a contentious place, and from passengers who arrived yesterday by the California, we gather that they were creating considerable excitement in California. Owing to the cheap rates of fare however to Portland and other causes, many preferred taking the more circuitous and in the end more expensive and tedious route up the Columbia River.

Nevertheless the succeeding boats to this port will, it is thought, bring a good number of passengers.