

NEW TURKISH IRADE.

Desperate Fighting in Greece With Ottoman Troops—Military Augmentations in France.

Captain Mahan on the British Navy—France and Madagascar.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—An irade has been issued granting amnesty to all Armenian prisoners, except those sentenced to death for murder.

An Athens dispatch to the Daily News says that a desperate fight occurred on Sunday at Prophetias, in the Olympus district, between a Turkish detachment of eighty strong, conveying an investigation committee of eight Turkish officials, and a Greek insurgent band under Veloudas.

In Brazilian quarters in London it is denied that Brazil has any claim on Venezuelan territory as stated in a despatch from Buenos Ayres.

A cable message received to-day from General Gallieni, French commander in chief in the island of Madagascar, states that the insurrection in the Imerina district is virtually mastered and adds that but few remaining bands are hiding in the forest.

The German warship Irene, with Admiral Tirpitz on board, sailed for Manila under orders from Berlin to protect German and the subjects of other powers in the event of the severe fighting which is anticipated.

Gen. Von Bismarck, who was prominent for many years in the German reichstag, died yesterday in this city.

The French cabinet council has decided to introduce the bill which has already been approved by the superior council of war to establish a fourth battalion in the infantry regiments, which would increase the fighting strength of the army by 160,000.

An official denial has been published of the report that the gendarmes have dispersed a small revolutionary band which had been organized near Madrid.

The London Chronicle prints a column interview to-day with Captain Alfred T. Mahan, of the U. S. navy, retired, which is eulogistic of the British navy and of its long service system.

The second officer of the steamer Neptune from Newcastle December 13 for Baltimore has arrived at Vigo, Spain, reports that he left the Neptune on Sunday in latitude 43 degrees north and longitude 14 degrees west, drifting, but propeller having been lost. A tug has gone to her assistance.

The secretary of the Spanish embassy in Paris, Marquis de Novalles, in an interview declared that but for "American interference" the Cuban question would have been terminated long ago.

Solei says: "If the United States recognizes the independence of Cuba, European opinion will support Spain against the United States."

It is semi-officially announced in Rio Janeiro that the Brazilian government is in possession of documents of the greatest importance in relation to that part of Guiana, which is now in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela.

The colliers' disaster at Reschitz, Western Russia, resulted from an explosion of fire damp and has proved more serious than at first reported, forty persons having been killed and twenty-seven are still missing.

Eight of the anarchists who recently had their trial in Barcelona for throwing a bomb into a Corpus Christi procession last June, have been sentenced to death.

A special dispatch from Paris says it is suggested that Great Britain, France and Italy, the three powers most interested, offer their services in the Cuban question in order to prevent a conflict between Spain and the United States, and terminate the revolt.

An additional batch of anarchists was sentenced to-day at Barcelona. Forty of them were condemned to 20 years' imprisonment and twenty-seven to eight years in prison.

STEAMER "AORANGI" READY FOR THE WORST

The Spanish Government Preparing for Ultimate Contingencies—Impatience of Delay.

Rebel Demonstrations in Spain—Conceding the Philippine Situation—Fighting in Cuba.

MADRID, Dec. 22.—The cabinet meeting to-day was presided over by Senor Canovas del Castillo, president of the council.

In connection with the North American squadron of warships, the Cordelia, the Partridge and the Buzzard are expected to be relieved by new ships at an early date.

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THE GOVERNMENT INTERVIEWED BY AN IMPORTANT DELEGATION FROM ROSSLAND.

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(From Our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, Dec. 22.—The Ottawa Women's Council will make another effort to start a public library here.

The Department of Trade and Commerce has been advised that the date of sailing from London of the steamer Aorangi, the new vessel of the Huddart line, which is to ply between Sydney and Vancouver, has been changed to March 17.

The sale of the Enterprise in the Slooan country for \$300,000 to M. D. Hyman of Denver, Col., is confirmed. This property was bonded fourteen months ago for \$25,000 by the Finch syndicate.

Hon. Mr. Davies and Mr. Maxwell reached here from the Coast to-day. Mr. Bostock leaves for British Columbia to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Speaking of the tariff bill, which will be introduced at the next session of congress, Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, said to-day: "Protection is the great purpose of the bill. Protection to American industries will be the actuating motive in framing the bill, and that protection which is needed will be given. It matters not whether the duties necessary to give protection be high or low, that has nothing to do with it. It is protection that we are after."

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—Gilbert Parker, the well known Canadian litterateur, arrived to-day on a visit. Owing to the severe weather prevailing in the Territories cattle have suffered severely.

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—The National Bank of Illinois, generally considered one of the strongest financial institutions in the West, closed its doors yesterday, the failure dragging down three other concerns, E. S. Dreyer & Co., Wasmarsdorff, Heineman & Co. and the Roseland Bank.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 22.—The Bank of Minnesota, capital \$600,000, one of the best known and generally considered one of the strongest in the Northwest, was closed to-day. The last published statement was on October 6, 1896, and showed resources and liabilities of \$3,330,369.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—The Paris newspapers are full of gossip about Dr. Grenier, who has been elected deputy for Pontarlier as a Radical. Dr. Grenier is a rigid Mussulman, and intends to wear the turban and burnous in the chamber of deputies.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A special cable dispatch to the Herald from Constantinople says: "The large measure of clemency on the part of the Sultan towards Armenians recently referred to will probably bring about the release of four thousand prisoners and the remittance of all sentences of death."

WINNIPEG, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Justice Bain accepted to-day the resignation of liquidator Ferguson of the Commercial Bank, but declined to sanction the appointment of a new liquidator, decreeing that Messrs. Ewart and Hespeler, the co-liquidators with Mr. Ferguson, should wind up the estate.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 22.—Rev. David Kirkpatrick, pastor of the Second Universalist church of this city, was arrested to-day on the charge of, without authority, attempting to exercise the functions of a police officer.

OTTAWA, Dec. 22.—J. F. McLaughlin, president of the Roseland, British Columbia, Board of Trade; N. R. Bogle, vice-president; J. A. Smith and A. R. Armstrong, all of Roseland, are here to-day. They came with the view of laying before the government the necessity of adopting a vigorous Western mining policy.

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NEWS OF THE DOMINION.

(Special to the Colonist.)

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The election trial is proceeding slowly and will probably be adjourned over the Christmas holidays.

OWEN SOUND, Dec. 21.—George Jones, aged 35, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. He was a butcher by trade.

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WYLER'S MOVEMENTS

The General to Take the Field—Cubans Infuriated Over Zertucha's Treachery.

The Cuban Resolutions in Congress—A Strong Movement Towards Opposing Them.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—A special to the Commercial Tribune from Key West, Fla., says: That Gen. Weyler is going into the field again is confirmed to-night by passengers on the Havana boat.

The Cubans in the army are infuriated also over the treachery of Dr. Zertucha. Dr. Zertucha is a marked man, too, and it is reported that a move will be made to abduct him.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—A Key West special to the World says Gen. Weyler proposes to take the field in Santa Clara province, it is learned from Havana, and force the fighting.

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TO GARRISON ESQUIMALT.

HALIFAX, N.S., Dec. 22.—Recent imperial announcements in connection with the army, navy and fortifications in British North America and the West India islands have raised a steady public interest in them.

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