

The United States is sending the *Charleston* to Honolulu to look after American interests.

The attempt to enlist American Indians as regular soldiers is said at Washington to be, so far, a failure.

In the New York Methodist Conference East a resolution to admit women to the General Conference has been defeated, 152 to 56.

Phineas T. Barnum, the great showman, died peacefully at his home in Bridgeport, Conn., on Tuesday. He had been ill for some weeks.

United States \$2 silver certificates have been extensively counterfeited recently. The bogus notes are said to be almost impossible of detection.

Sugar was admitted free into the United States on April 1st. There is in consequence an avalanche of sweet stuff let loose on the country and the price has dropped.

Italy seems inclined to go more slowly in the New Orleans massacre matter. War would be unpleasant for both parties. The recall of Baron Fava does not necessarily imply an outbreak of hostilities.

The ravages of the gripe in Chicago are frightful. A regular panic has set in, and statistics show that Chicagoans are dying at the rate of one every five minutes. The deaths last week reached the unprecedented figure of 1,200. This disease is almost as fatal as cholera. In Halifax many people have been and are still affected with it, but it is not so fatal a nature as the Chicago and Pittsburg variety of gripe.

The April *St. Nicholas* opens with a delightful illustrated sketch by Mrs. Foote, "The Gates on Grandfather's Farm,"—reminiscences of a New England farm, suggested by the associations with its old gateways. Mr. Welles gives us further autographs from his remarkable collection, especially a complete set of the Presidents' signatures, and a charming letter from Thackeray, hitherto unpublished. There is a peculiar sort of fanciful story by Tudor Jenks, amusingly illustrated by E. B. Bensell, and a story for the little folks, called "Charlie's Shadows and their Shadow House," by Mattie E. Pettus, which is well fitted for reading aloud. The verse is excellent. Katherine S. Alcorn gives us a poetic parallel for the Hare and Tortoise fable, called "The Little Foot-page," for which Birch has drawn the graceful pictures; Margaret Johnson in "The Merrythought" is as cleverly humorous as usual, and poetry of a less purely amusing type is well represented by Richard E. Burton, Helen Gray Cone, Katherine Pyle, Valentine Adams and others. The two serials, "Toby Trafford," and "The Boy Settlers," are steadily growing in interest, while Elise's Visit to Cloudland is concluded by an instalment fully illustrated by amusing drawings. The frontispiece is an engraving by T. Johnson, from Adriaen Hanneman's beautiful portrait of a child, and is a fitting introduction to this beautifully illustrated number.

• An attempt on the Czar's life was made on Monday, but it was unsuccessful.

The health of Prince Albert Victor, heir presumptive to the British crown, is causing anxiety.

It is officially announced that the assassins of Minister Butchell, of Bulgaria have been arrested.

A protest has been entered against the election of the McCarthyite candidate, Mr. Coltery, in North Sligo.

General Booth, of the Salvation Army is reported to be seriously ill. His condition is pronounced critical.

Lady Zetland and Miss Balfour have been warmly received in Ireland. They are making a tour of the Achill Islands.

It is announced that the German Government has definitely resolved to withdraw the embargo placed upon American pork.

The tide of Irish emigration is unabated. The prospect is that in the next three months the number of emigrants will equal that of 1890.

The baccarat scandal has forced the Cabinet to postpone its request to Parliament for a grant to the Prince of Wales to enable him to pay his debts.

Sharp fighting with rebellious natives continues in British India. The Miranzas rising is extending. Yesterday the 29th regiment lost nine men killed and four wounded.

The north of England iron masters have given notice of a 12½ per cent. reduction of wages, alleging that the cost of production exceeds the market price five shillings per ton.

Hon. James Fitzjames Stephen, justice of the queen's bench division of the high court of justice, whose mind is alleged to be impaired, was to retire from the bench on Wednesday.

The Russian government will take no diplomatic steps to prevent the reappointment of Prince Ferdinand as Viceroy of East Rumania, but will decline to recognize the Prince in any capacity.

In consequence of Russia's massing of troops on the Grecian and Silician frontiers, the German government has decided to strengthen the eastern frontier garrisons. Things are looking very war-like in Europe.

There has been more fighting in Manipur, India. Another British officer has been killed. It is presumed that this officer is either Lieut Grant, who commanded the British force which recently captured Fort Thabot, near Manipur, or Capt Presgrave, who was in command of the detachment of British troops sent to Lieut. Grant's relief.

A startling report is abroad that Mr. Parnell has been privately married since the O'Shea divorce case and that the lady is Mrs. O'Shea's eldest daughter. Mr. Parnell's friends regard the story as a stupid canard, yet stranger things have happened than this. It would be remarkable if Mr. Parnell should be able to clear his name after all.

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