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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The latest news of the progress of the Ashantee war is satisfactory. The natives are in a state of semi-starvation.

The ceremony of turning the first sod for the first railway in Persia took place on the 25th ult., at Respd, in the presence of the leading Persian officials and of the foreign consuls.

A fire in the Athenæum Library, Manchester, Sept. 24, destroyed 20,000 volumes.

Egypt now extends from Alexandria to the Equator. The slave trade has been exterminated, and the Nile will shortly be made navigable up to the great inland sea, to which its course has been traced.

A court martial has been ordered for the trial of Captain Werner, of the Steamer Frederic Karl for the seizure of the Spanish steamer *Vigilante*, while flying the red flag of the Commune.

The debt of the city of Paris now amounts to \$320,000,000 involving an annual expenditure for interest and sinking fund of \$18,000,000.

Thomas Hughes gave a lecture at Marlboro' College last night, on the subject of America. He advised all who intended to emigrate to go to Canada or the United States. He spoke highly of the development of the British Provinces.

A despatch from Berlin hints at financial troubles in Germany. Fancy stocks and bank shares are not saleable and some have fallen as much as twenty per cent. There is some talk of Government interference.

John Bright has received the seals of the Duchy of Lancaster, and was formally installed as a Cabinet officer.

Special despatches from St. Petersburg reports that a rupture has occurred in the relations between the Governments of Russia and Japan, growing out of the question of the proprietorship of part of Sikhaven Island.

A despatch to the *Daily Telegraph* from Balkash, Central Asia, reports a severe defeat of the Afghans by the Persians.

Two Europeans named Picquet and Rivers supposed to be Swiss travellers, have been murdered by natives in Central Asia.

There is reason to believe that the Afghans design the conquest and annexation of Rolshara.

A writer in an English paper says "there can be no doubt now that the Vienna exhibition has proved a failure. Vulgarly speaking, 'it is not paid.' There is, indeed, a growing impression that no great exhibitions in future can be a financial success. The world is tired of exhibitions. They are no longer novelties, and therefore, no longer attractive.

Mr. John Hawkshaw, the eminent civil engineer, has been knighted by Queen Victoria. He constructed the Manchester and Bolton, and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railways. The Charing Cross and Cannon-street line, with the two massive bridges over the Thames is also his work. He has published several pamphlets on subjects connected with engineering. His chief book is "Reminiscences of South America."

Large numbers of Carlist deserters are surrendering to the republican troops in the Province of Lerida, with hope of receiving amnesty.

At a meeting of Conservatives on the 1st at which Marshal Serrano and Admiral Topete were present, resolutions supporting the Government and rejecting an alliance with Radicals were adopted.

The total casualties in Alicante from bombardment were eleven killed and thirty wounded.

The army of the North has been reinforced with 6,000 men.

Don Carlos, as King of Spain, has issued postage stamps, bearing his portrait.

The Portland Board of trade favours a renewal of reciprocal trade relations with Canada.

Another revolution is expected in Hayti.

Col. John H. Stewart, postmaster of Pittsburg, Pa., was arrested on Saturday, charged with being a defaulter. There are numerous complaints from business men of repeated failures of valuable letters to reach their destination. Stewart gave bail.

Lowenstein, the alleged murderer of Judge Weston, Brooklyn, in Albany last

August, was taken there from Canada last week and arraigned. He said he was too poor to employ counsel. His trial takes place on the first Monday in December.

New Orleans special despatches, from Bremlham and Bryan, Texas, to the *Picayune* states that there are panics in these places from an apprehension of yellow fever which has broken out in Calvert.

There were sixteen yellow fever interments in Memphis, on Monday. The weather is very unfavourable for the abatement of the disease.

In a skirmish in Java on the 20th, with the insurgents, the Spaniards killed ten and took several prisoners. The Spaniards had eighteen wounded. There is panicky feeling in Havana among bankers and merchants.

Col. Cox, pension agent for the District of Columbia, has recently paid 400 pensions to American citizens residing in England, Scotland, Wales, France and Prussia, and in many instances to pensioners residing in the islands of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, not belonging to the United States. The United States is the only Government that pays pensions to citizens who have taken up their abode in other countries.

James Gibbons, late President of the Fenian Brotherhood, died in Philadelphia, on Monday, aged 75 years.

Admiral Yelverton has surrendered the insurgent men of war seized by him to the Spanish Government.

Julian Roderick Benedict, a well known German comic poet, is dead.

Muley Abbas, brother of the deceased Emperor of Morocco, has been proclaimed as his successor.

The election for Lord Mayor of London resulted in the choice of Mr. Andrew Lusk, at present an alderman and also a member of Parliament.

There was a large meeting at Drogheda on Sunday evening in favor of the release of the Fenian prisoners. Several members of Parliament were present and participated in the proceedings.

Louise Muhlback, the celebrated German novelist is dead.