THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

A. C. HOSMER, Publisher.

RED CLOUD, - - NEBRASKA

CURRENT COMMENT.

MR. GEORGE H. PENDLETON'S grandfather was Hamilton's second in the fatal duel with Aaron Burr.

ALL the public gambling houses in Cincinnati were recently closed under notice from the newly appointed Police Commissioners.

REVENUE officers recently seized an illicit still in the house of John Stauffer, a farmer near Burlington, Iowa. He was an old offender.

MISS BAYARD, daughter of the Secretary, is an accomplished horsewoman, and is said to be at her best in the society that goes in for mild athletic sports.

EX-JUDGE JOHN K. PORTER, the well-known lawyer, was stricken with apoplexy recently, at his residence in Waterford, N. Y. He was not expected to live.

IT was understood that the annual report of the Atchison Railroad Company would show a surplus for 1884 of $850,000, without taking into account the advances to the Sonora road, which amounted to about $350,000.

S. C. MOWER, one of the proprietors of the Milwaukee *Sunday Telegraph*, committed suicide recently. Mr. Mower was favorably known in the military circles of Wisconsin. No cause was assigned for his act.

AN English railway employe wishing to leave the company's service, must give notice, but he can be discharged without warning; in France an employe can quit when he likes, but if he is dismissed he is entitled to fifteen days' wages. In the United States no notice or pay is granted on either side.

THE export of slaves from the Mozambique coast from 1807 to 1819 was 2,194,000, and from 1819 to 1847, 2,758,000 souls. In the palmy days of the foreign slave trade the Bishop of the diocese, seated on a marble throne, baptized and blessed the gangs of slaves as they passed, shackled, to the shore for embarkation.

W. MANION, who was sentenced in 1883 by the United States Court to ten years' imprisonment in the State's Prison at Moundsville, W. Va., has been pardoned by the President. Manion was the leader and brains of a gang of counterfeiters who infested several counties of West Virginia. Manion had at one time been a Baptist preacher, and had also been in the Legislature.

A PLAN to execute the spirit of the law relative to the unauthorized fencing of public lands is now being considered by the Interior Department. The plan involves a proclamation by the President calling the attention of the frontier people to this law, and giving them suitable time within which to remove the fences. If the fences are not removed they will be destroyed by the United States troops.

THE enormous wealth of the Orleans Princes is chiefly derived from Louis Philippe's mother, who, in consequence of the death of her brother, the Prince de Lamballe, became sole heiress of her father, the Duke of Penthievre, the richest subject of France. The Duke died in 1793. His daughter had two days before his death been divorced from her worthless husband, who was thus debarred from touching her property.

GENERAL SWAIM has asked the Administration at Washington to review his case, and the Secretary of War has promised to give him a hearing. It is said that Mr. Cleveland is disposed to relieve the army in some manner of the embarrassment in which it was placed by the sentence of the Swaim court-martial, which effectively vacated the office of Judge Advocate General and made it impossible for the President to appoint a successor for a period of twelve years.

RETURNS of April to the Department of Agriculture, at Washington, indicate a reduction of over ten per cent. of last year's area in winter wheat. The aggregate shortage amounts to three million acres. A decrease is reported in every State except Oregon. The present condition of wheat, as reported, is worse than in 1883. It is seventy-seven per cent. against ninety-six last year and eighty in 1883. In 1881, the year of the lowest recent date of yield, the condition April 1 was 85, and serious loss was sustained afterward. On the present showing, the reduction of the yield on the basis of last year's promises to be forty million bushels on account of the reduced area, and more than sixty millions from winter killing and low vitality.

THE Dutch are contemplating several modifications of their Constitution. In regard to the succession to the throne it is proposed that in default of male and female descendants the Crown should pass to the Princess of the House of Orange most nearly related to the last King in the direct line of descent from King William I. The right of voting at elections will be reserved to persons occupying houses at a minimum rental of fifty dollars. The system of scrutin d'arrondissement alone will be maintained. The first Chamber will be increased by eleven and the second by fourteen members, and general elections will be held every four years. Military service will be regulated by law, and the Government will have the power of sending the militia to the colonies if the law should declare it necessary.

THE WORLD AT LARGE.

A Summary of the Daily News.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

MRS. GARFIELD denies that she has thought of remarrying. The stories in circulation to that effect she condemns as cruel slanders.

THE Democrats elected John W. Moore for Mayor of Kansas City on the 7th by about four hundred majority over Duncan, the Republican candidate.

THE Prince of Wales left London on the evening of the 7th for Ireland.

THE Republican ticket was elected in Cincinnati by about 4,000 majority.

HENRY M. STANLEY expects to visit the United States in a short time. His stay will be brief.

REAR ADMIRAL MARSTON, of the United States Navy, died recently, in the ninetieth year of his age.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales were fairly received by the Irish people in Dublin. Along the line of procession the enthusiasm was conspicuous. A body of Nationalists attempted to raise a disturbance, but they were suppressed by the police and bystanders.

RICHARD GRANT WHITE, of New York, the well-known scholar and writer, died of gastritis on the 8th.

MR. PIERREPONT, charge d'affaires of the American legation in Rome, was reported to be lying at the point of death.

SECRETARY MANNING recently declined a reception by New York bankers.

GOVERNOR HOADLY, of Ohio, received a carefully-arranged infernal machine the other day from unknown parties.

GENERAL GRANT continued to improve. His friends, on the 11th, were quite hopeful.

PRESIDENT GREVY gave a banquet the other evening to the American and English Directors of the American Exhibition of Inventions, which is to be held in 1886. M. Grevy is greatly interested in the project, and suggests that a similar exhibition be be held in Paris.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE new French Cabinet insists on China ceding Tonquin as the basis of peace.

THE White Star steamship Germania passed through a fearful storm after leaving Queenstown, five hundred miles west of Fastnet. All the boats and the pilot house were carried away. Great damage was done to the saloons. One seaman was swept overboard and several others of the crew were injured.

UNOFFICIAL information was received in Washington that San Salvador intended invading Guatemala.

IT was reported that another prominent London solicitor whose name was withheld, had absconded with $500,000 worth of securities belonging to clients.

THERE were forty new cases of supposed cholera at Jativa, Spain, and twenty deaths in one week recently.

THOMAS MCCLINTOCK, of Chicago, was robbed on the train at Allegheny City, Pa., recently of nearly $5,000 in cash and notes. When the train stopped three passengers jostled against him, and after they left the cars he discovered his loss.

THE English ship owners at Hong Kong decline to ship rice for the northern ports of China. In consequence the entire trade is being diverted to German bottoms.

THE Tammany Committee on Organization adopted a resolution recently indorsing the prompt action taken by the Administration to protect the interests and rights of American citizens on the Isthmus of Panama.

WITH the assistance of bloodhounds officers succeeded in capturing the Ellis County (Tex.) negro who recently butchered his wife. The capture was only effected after an exciting chase through the jungle and the wounding of the murderer in the chest.

THE Mormon bishop, Stewart, and Elder J. C. Robinson, indicted for polygamy at Phoenix, A. T., were sentenced to ninety days in the Territory penitentiary for unlawful cohabitation.

SUIT has been brought against General B. F. Butler for $15,000 alleged to be due from him as Treasurer of the National Soldiers' Home.

ABOUT forty representatives of cattle interests had an interview recently with Governor Marmaduke and Norman J. Colman, Commissioner of Agriculture, at Jefferson City, Mo., in which the most energetic measures were advocated to prevent the spread of the pleuro-pneumonia in Callaway County.

THE Baltimore police arrested many mediums and clairvoyants recently, and each was fined $25.

JUDGE VAN BRUNT at New York on the 9th, granted the motion made in behalf of Lucille Yseult Dudley, who shot O'Donovan Rossa, for a commissioner to be sent to England to examine certain witnesses there regarding Mrs. Dudley's sanity. Proceedings were ordered stayed in the meantime.

AN anti-Chinese procession, headed by the City Coroner, went through the streets of San Francisco, on Sunday, the 5th, maltreating Chinamen as it went along. Nothing was thought of the matter until a few days later, when it was reported twenty Chinamen had been seriously hurt, one fatally.

HERR VON BERTOUCH, a German writer, has published a book advocating the partition of France on the ground of its chronic instability. Burgundy would be possessed by Germany and Nice and Savoy by Italy. The rest of France would be formed into an independent monarchy.

A COLLISION took place between the Russians and Afghans on the 30th of March. The latter were defeated, losing five hundred. The Russian loss was heavy. The news reached London on the 9th, causing great excitement. A war fever immediately set in, consols fell three points and Russian bonds ten. War was considered imminent and it was believed the Russian Ambassador would be handed his passports unless immediate and satisfactory explanations were made.

THE effect of the war news from London was mercurial on the wheat and produce markets on the 9th. As consols fell the markets boomed, some very heavy trading being done.

IN the British House of Commons, on the 9th, Mr. Gladstone, in reply to a question, said the Russian attack on the Afghans was unprovoked. Mr. Thornton, the British representative at St. Petersburg, telegraphed that the Czar had expressed an earnest hope that the unhappy incident would not prevent the negotiations for peace. This statement provoked derisive cheers.

WHILE a storm was passing over Washington the other afternoon, the Washington monument was struck three times by lightning without causing the least damage.

A MAN made an attack on the carriage containing the Crown Prince of Austria in Brussels recently, smashing the windows with his fists. He was arrested, but was found to be unarmed.

IN a terrible hurricane at Tamative, Madagascar, February 25, twelve vessels foundered in the harbor—five French and six native, and the American bark Sarah Hobart.

AT Chicago, on the 9th, a striker attempted to stop a 'bus carrying men to work at McCormick's reaper factory. A Pinkerton detective shot him dead. At night a number of detectives going to the works in a 'bus with two hundred muskets were stopped by a mob, and after several shots had been fired the detectives were driven off, the guns captured and the 'bus burned.

QUEEN VICTORIA sent a telegram to Mrs. Grant recently, expressing her sympathy on account of the General's sickness.

THE striking quarrymen at Joliet, Ill., recently went to Lamont and compelled the men there to strike. Nine hundred men were driven to stop work.

RUMORS of fighting in Bechuanaland were recently current in Durban, South Africa.

A TELEGRAM from Berlin of the 10th said that Prince Bismarck had assured a banker that in spite of the incident of Penjdeh he hoped to preserve peace.

A DISPATCH was received at Battleford, recently, that the Frog Lake Indians had murdered eight persons, two of whom were Catholic priests.

BUSINESS failures for week ended April 9 numbered in the United States 189; Canada, 23; total, 212, compared with a total of 236 last week, and 277 week previous, showing a steady decrease.

NEWS confirmatory of the reported death of President Barrios has reached La Libertad, also intelligence of the installation of a successor to Barrios and giving the names of some of the Cabinet officers. The new President is General Manuel Lizandro Barrillos.

REPORTS to the Illinois Department of Agriculture left no room for doubting that the growing wheat crop had been seriously damaged by the protracted cold dry weather in March. It was thought the crop would average about fifty-two per cent.

AT a meeting of King Solomon Lodge of Free Masons at Toronto, Ont., J. Harrison, a member of the Lodge, was accused of being a secularist, agnostic and free thinker, and should therefore be expelled. After a very warm discussion, he was on a vote expelled. He will appeal to the Grand Lodge.

A SECRET vigilance committee was organized in Chicago for the purpose of watching for election frauds.

THE Nez Perces, near Fort Lapwai, W. T., were threatening an outbreak, and had killed a settler's wife.

THE Presidency of Bengal has offered $3,500,000 to aid in preserving the integrity of the British Empire.

THE report is confirmed that the British Government has invited Italy to occupy Cairo and the Soudan.

THE Suakim-Berber Railway has been completed as far as Station No. 1.

A DISPATCH from Paris, of the 10th, stated that France and China had finally agreed upon peace.

THE Espuela Land-Cattle Company's property, near Fort Worth, Tex., embracing 70,000 head of cattle and 50,000 acres of land, was sold to an English syndicate incorporated in London. The consideration was not known, but the property was valued at $3,500,000.

EMIGRANT traffic was unusually heavy at Kansas City. Carloads bound for points in Kansas, Nebraska and the far West were arriving at the Union Depot daily.

ADVICES from Kassala state that the garrison there has a sufficient supply of provisions for a month and plenty of ammunition. The rebels attacked an Abyssinian caravan which was en route to Galla and killed thirteen persons.

A BODY, supposed to be that of S. S. Conant, the missing editor of *Harper's Weekly*, was discovered in Coney Island Creek recently. The body was very much decomposed.

A SYNDICATE of Shenango and Mahoning Valley blast furnace owners has been formed for the purpose of buying a large block of coking coal lands in the Connellsville (Pa.) field. The furnace men are actuated by a desire to escape from the domination of the coke pool.

THE State Department at Washington has received information to the effect that the family of the late General Barrios had left Guatemala for San Francisco.

A. J. SNIDER, of Kansas City, the well-known stockman, offered his credit to the amount of $50,000, for the purpose of stamping out the pleuro-pneumonia in Callaway County, Mo. The offer was accepted by Governor Marmaduke and steps were at once taken to buy up and kill every animal that might possibly be affected.

A PRIVATE cable dispatch received in Boston on the 10th from London says: "It is reported that the English ultimatum to Russia is twenty-four hours in which to recall General Komaroff or go to war."

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

GENERAL KOMAROFF'S statement of the recent battle in Afghanistan throws the blame on the Afghans.

ORDERS to cease hostilities have been sent to the French troops in Tonquin.

Two St. Louis bucket shops went under during the "lull" in the wheat market.

RICH gold fields have been discovered in the Santa Rosa Mountains, one hundred miles west of Santa Rosa, Mexico.

THE strike of the employes of the McCormick reaper works, at Chicago, ended by the management offering to restore wages. The 1,000 persons employed returned to work.

THERE were rumors on the 12th in Winnipeg of a battle between the Indians and the Ninetieth regiment in which eighty men were killed. The rumors, however, were not confirmed.

TWENTY thousand unemployed laborers met in Hyde Park, London, on the 12th.

THE ulceration in General Grant's throat was reported as having increased on the 13th, but the inflammation was not so pronounced. The day previous he had passed through a very distressing time.

FRANK RANKIN, the noted scale manufacturer, was sentenced to the Penitentiary for life at Shelbyville, Ky. Rankin shot and killed Martin Cody, a bricklayer, in cold blood in November, 1884. It was his second trial, the sentence being the same in each.

REPRESENTATIVE J. SHAW, Democrat, of the Illinois Legislature, died on the 11th. The choice of a Senator appeared more hopeless than ever.

EX-PRESIDENT FISH, of the Marine Bank, recently on trial in New York, was found guilty on eleven counts in the indictment.

A LONDON syndicate has entered into a contract with Honduras to build and operate in that country an interoceanic railway. The concession granted the syndicate by Honduras includes land grants and mining privileges.

ALL the mills at Fall River, Mass., except the Union, have signed an agreement to shut down four weeks between now and the 1st of July. Some mills in New Bedford, Lowell and Rhode Island will also join in the movement.

A TREATY was reported as having been signed between Salvador and Honduras against Guatemala.

JOHN V. ONDERDONK, editor of the *Independent Advertiser* of Nyack, N. Y., was publicly assaulted with horsewhips recently by the wives of two police constables for publishing offensive articles about their husbands.

THE Stillman Hotel, at Cleveland, O., was partly burned recently. Loss, $70,000.

THREE days' quarantine has been ordered at Marseilles against arrivals from Spain, on account of the suspected prevalence of cholera at Spanish ports.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS.

AFTER a prolonged effort with at first an unpromising outlook Omaha has finally organized a base-ball club.

W. V. KELLEY, who was on his way to Abilene, Kan., with his family, from Indiana, was recently robbed while getting on the train at Omaha of a draft for $1,000, $200 in bills and five railroad tickets.

CHARLES NUTT lately had his arm so badly crushed in a mill at Wilber that it had to be amputated.

NEAR North Platte the other day the house of Richard Bascombe, an aged farmer, was burned. The charred remains of Bascombe and his wife were discovered in the ruins by the neighbors who reported the facts to the authorities. The strong suspicions of foul play entertained by the neighbors were confirmed by the investigation of the Coroner's Jury. The post mortem went to prove that Bascombe and his wife were murdered and the house fired to destroy all traces of the crime.

AT a late meeting of the State Teachers' Institute at Lincoln the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: President, W. W. W. Jones, Lincoln; Vice-President, J. J. Points, Omaha; Recording Secretary, Edward Healy, Crete; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Anna Gray, Osceola; Treasurer, H. N. Blake, Beatrice. A resolution was adopted that the Nebraska State Teachers' Association cordially joins in the request to the National Educational Association to hold its meeting for 1886 in Topeka, Kan.

IT is estimated that 100,000 bushels of grain are now stored at Papillion.

THERE are said to be over one hundred and sixty applications already on file for the three secretaryships of the State Railway Commission. The pay is $3,000 each.

THE acreage of both corn and wheat in the vicinity of Ewing for this season, it is estimated, will exceed that of 1884 by fifty-fifty per cent.

THE husband of Mary Shelton, of Springfield, thought he was a gambler, and with little effort left $250 of his hard earnings with George Ringo, who was. Mary has now brought suit against Ringo to recover the amount lost by her husband.

HEAR the Columbus *Democrat*: "Verily, the smell of the flesh pots is sweet. We've got a United States land notice for publication at last. All join hands and circle to the left."

TWO young men named McMurray and Burns, from Appanoose County, Iowa, while recently on their journey through Nebraska with a four-horse team and wagon, when a short distance from Fremont were asked by a tramp for a ride. This was accorded, and the man accompanied them until they had arrived within a mile and a half of Columbus, when the tramp attacked the two men with a hammer, beating them severely about the head. They both fell from the wagon and the tramp took flight, and was subsequently captured in Butler County.

IN Gage Valley, Howard County, Mrs. Isaac Davis was the victim of a singular but serious accident. She was attending her sick mother, and while in the kitchen a gun in the bedroom fell and was discharged. A ball passed through the door and entered the fleshy part of the thigh of Mrs. Davis. Her mother was terribly frightened and the daughter rushed to her bedside, declaring she was not hurt, but had to be taken to bed. She had been married but a few weeks.

THE Methodists of Bellwood are building a church.

THE winter packing at Omaha represented 114,990 hogs; the March packing over 92,000 hogs, of a total value of fully $2,000,000. This is an increase of about eighty per cent. over the packing of last season.

PEOPLE should be very careful in setting out prairie fires. This is the season of the year the wind is liable to blow without much warning, and great damage may be done, and besides, there is a heavy penalty attached to setting out fires.

THE tower of the Congregational Church at Fremont is completed. The height from the ground to the top of the spire is 110 feet.

JUDGE ROBERTS, of Atkinson, claims to have issued 140 marriage licenses and performed sixty marriage ceremonies during the past year.

THE Oakland *Independent* says the Nebraska Central is a sure thing, and that one hundred miles have been let to be graded, which will take it to about the west line of Madison County. An agent of the company is now in Paris completing negotiations for the sale and transfer of the company's bonds as soon as issued and placed on the market. Grading will commence about June 1. That paper also says that a charter for the construction of a bridge across the Missouri River at Decatur has been secured, and that a number of roads east of the "Big Muddy" that have no connecting lines in Nebraska will aid in its construction.

THE Columbus skating rink rolled away in smoke one night recently, causing a loss of about $4,000.

NORFOLK has 650 school children, an increase of sixteen per cent. over last year's record.

AN Omaha merchant recently took all his employes to the theater, and thereby secured a half column of free advertising.

A GENTLEMAN from New York recently arrived at Lincoln having in charge his nine-year-old son, who came to Nebraska for a change of climate. It is stated that the little fellow became infatuated with roller skating, and unknown to his parents, was an almost constant attendant at the rink for some five or six weeks. The steady strain upon his young and growing muscles was so great that at the end of that time the lad lost all control of his members and has since been a helpless paralytic. The father brought him West upon the advice of physicians with the hope that a change of climate might restore him.

THE school population of Sidney is 180.

AS the overland train was entering Kearney the other night a San Francisco passenger named Gotlieb Cook jumped from the train and ran north from the track as fast as he could. The next day he was found in an almost nude condition by some farmers sixteen miles north of Kearney. He was crazy and the authorities were unable to obtain information from him concerning his friends or wishes.

H. H. CARPENTER, convicted recently at Minden for shooting and sentenced to one year in the Penitentiary, escaped from the guard and had not been captured at last accounts.

THE bridge over the river at Guide Rock was badly damaged by outgoing ice.

THREE steamers were sold at Omaha the other day. The steamer Benton, 394 tons, was sold for $6,000 to the Benton Transportation Company. The steamer Bachelor, 313 tons, was sold to the Bismarck Transportation Company for $10,000. The steamer Helena, 292 tons, was sold for $8,000 to the Helena Transportation Company. They were all purchased for service on the Upper Missouri River, and were sold under order of the court.

IT is stated that Dodge County school teachers propose to post conspicuously the legend: "Spare the rod and spoil the child."

BURGLARS continue to disturb the slumbers and appropriate the valuables of Omaha sleepers.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

A Battle Precipitated and War Thought to be Inevitable—Gladstone on the Situation.

LONDON, April 9.—The news of the engagement on the Afghan frontier between the Russians and Afghans has caused great excitement here. The people are incensed at the Russian duplicity, pretending to be anxious for peace, while the object was merely for the purpose of gaining time. The fight on the frontier is generally viewed as the first step by Russia in the long contemplated struggle for supremacy in Asia, and that a bloody and desperate war between her and England is inevitable. The feeling in financial and commercial circles is panicky. In the Stock Exchange the gravity of the situation is reflected by a heavy falling off in consols and Russian bonds. The former have declined fully two per cent. since yesterday, while Russian bonds have declined more than ten per cent. The Egyptian section has also taken four per cent. The whole market is off. There are fears of a panic.

NOT SO SERIOUS.

LONDON, April 9. Baron de Staal, the Russian Ambassador at London, was called on by a Central News reporter this morning. He appeared not to be surprised by the news of the outbreak on the Afghan frontier. He said he only wondered it had been so long deferred. "The affair is serious," said the ambassador, "but I fear the worst is not known and that the fighting has been on a larger scale than the dispatches indicate." De Staal would not venture on an opinion as to the result. He refused to talk on the subject until he had received official advices from his Government concerning the affair.

WILL DECLARE WAR.

LONDON, April 9.—On receipt of the telegrams announcing the outbreak of hostilities between the Russians and Afghans a hurried consultation is being held at the staff look place. The wires between London and India were busied in transmitting dispatches between the Ministry and the Governor-General of India. The Secretary of State for India was from home when the news first arrived. He was immediately expected. It is now reported telegraphed from Meshed to-night it is believed that a formal declaration of war will be made.

CONFIRMED.

LONDON, April 9.—A dispatch from Meshed confirms the report that an battle between the Russians and Afghans beside the Afghan camp at Murghab on the Murghab River was opened by the Russians after a brief but sanguinary battle. Five hundred Afghans were killed. The Russian loss is fifty killed and wounded. The camp contained a large quantity of arms, ammunition and military stores all of which fell in the hands of the Russians.

A STUBBORN BATTLE.

LONDON, April 9. Latest dispatches from the Afghan frontier state that the fight at Murghab was a most stubborn battle. It was fought in a driving rainstorm which rendered the arms carried by both ineffective. The Afghans fought with desperation. They have been slowly step by step the advance of the Russians. Two companies of Afghans defended one position until they were completely annihilated by the deadly artillery fire opened on them by the Russians. The Afghans retreated in perfect order. After inflicting severe losses the Russians were evidently surprised by the stubborn resistance. They did not follow up their advantage, being evidently content with the capture of the camp. The British officers present during the fight are loud in praise of the valor displayed by the Afghan officers and at once proceeded to the headquarters of Sir Peter Lumsden, English Commissioner, and made a full report of the fight.

AFGHANS THE AGGRESSORS.

LONDON, April 9. Lessar, the special envoy of the Czar, was called upon and viewed the news as serious. He regretted that a conflict should occur at this time. "Matters," said he, "with regard to the Afghan frontier were progressing nicely. There was a fair prospect of a peaceful adjustment of all disputes. But now I can only hope for one. The Afghans must undoubtedly have been the aggressors. I have the best authority for knowing that the Russian commander had short instructions to keep the peace."

What Gladstone Says.

LONDON, April 10.—Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons, last evening, in answer to interrogations, said that on Saturday the Cabinet had considered Russia's reply to England's proposal to limit the zone of survey to debatable points. Russia's reply was an agreement to do this, provided the zone of survey as marked out by England was extended southward, so as to include the Petapamissan range of mountains. The Government considered that this reply did not advance the question toward a conclusion and was dissatisfied with it. "Within the past twenty-four hours, however," said the Premier, "a subsequent communication had been received from Russia, and this appeared, in the opinion of the Government, to place the matter in a more hopeful position." The Government had been informed, Gladstone further said, that the Russians had made every endeavor to induce the Afghans to begin the fighting. Russian troops had even twice

ATTEMPTED TO FORCE THEY PASS

through the Afghan picket lines. After one of these attempts had failed to provoke an Afghan attack, Captain Yates met a Russian chief of staff and talked to him about the conduct of the Russian soldiers being an evident violation of the Russian agreement to not advance pending the outcome of the negotiations. The Russian officer stated that he had no knowledge but any arrangement existed against a Russian advance. Captain Yates referred to the official dispatch sent from St. Petersburg on March 17 assuring England that orders would be at once sent to the Russian officers at the front directing them to halt and advance and to do all in their power to prevent provocation of the Afghans. The Russian officer declared that he knew nothing whatever of any such arrangement. Being asked what the value of this subsequent communication was, Mr. Gladstone said that it would be impossible at present for the Government to make any further statement concerning the pending negotiations about the Afghan frontier in view of the state of affairs just reported.

The Union League.

NEW YORK, April 10.—The Union League Club meeting last night was one of the largest in its history. Loyal toasts were passed reaffirming and declaring the club's allegiance to the resolutions of 1863, which announced that the club expressed the hope that the Committee on Admissions would not report for admission the name of any person whose views on public matters did not, in their opinion, agree with those of the Republican party as heretofore expressed. Resolutions were also passed deploring the dangerous illness of General Grant, and extending sympathy to his family.

A Difference of Opinion.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Mr. Bayard is one of the most extreme advocates of not disturbing officials whose records are good during the life of their commissions. It is understood from a trustworthy source that none of the subordinate officers of the leading legations will be removed, and the majority of the Consuls will be left undisturbed. Mr. Endicott is also understood as favoring Mr. Bayard's views. The remainder of the Cabinet are not of this opinion. They believe, in the main, that all of the Republican officials should be supplanted in the course of a reasonable time by Democrats. If this is not done they hold it would not be a truly Democratic administration.

THE CROPS.

Washington Official Reports Give a Rather Serious Aspect to the Winter Wheat Outlook.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Returns of April to the Department of Agriculture, indicate a reduction of over ten per cent. of last year's area in winter wheat. The aggregate shortage amounts to 3,000,000 acres. A decrease is reported in every State except Oregon. It is 22 per cent. in Kansas and Virginia, 20 in Mississippi, 15 in California, 14 in Alabama, 13 in Tennessee, Illinois and Missouri, 11 in New York and North Carolina, 10 in Maryland and Texas, 8 in New Jersey, West Virginia, Kentucky and Indiana, 7 in Georgia and Ohio, 6 in Pennsylvania and Delaware, 5 in Michigan, 3 in Arkansas and 2 in South Carolina. The present condition of wheat is reported is worse than in 1883. It is 77 per cent. against 96 last year and 86 in 1882. In 1881 the year of the lowest recorded date of yield the condition April 1 was 85, and serious loss was sustained afterward. The real status of the crop will be better shown a month hence, when the extent of the roots has been demonstrated and the character of the spring determined. On the showing of the reduction of the area and the loss of last year's promises to be forty million bushels on account of the reduced area, and more than sixty millions from winter killing and low vitality. Whether the crop will exceed expectations depends in the main, of course, upon the reliability of present appearances and on future conditions affecting the growth and ripening. For such work in April nothing at the time of sending in the Atlantic Coast from New Jersey to Georgia and in West Virginia and Tennessee. It was better in the South and West in Missouri, Illinois and Michigan. In the Ohio Valley it was generally worse in Indiana, Illinois and Kansas where portions of the reported area will not be harvested. In Nebraska and Dakota there has been no material change in the condition. In Oregon the prospect is about fifty per cent. against proportions as which is the average being 85 per cent.

INDIAN MASSACRE.

The Northwest Indians Kill a Number of Whites, an Indian Agent Among the Number.

WINNIPEG, April 10. Word has just been received from Battleford of the massacre of white settlers at Frog Lake, north west of Fort Pitt. The following are the names of the victims:

I. T. Quinn, Indian agent.

John Delaney, farm instructor.

Geo. W. Lindsay and wife.

Father Fabre.

Father Leduc.

Two others, the names of whom are not learned, were killed.

Mrs. Delaney is a prisoner. It is not known what has become of Cameron, the Hudson Bay Company's agent. Word was brought to Battleford yesterday by W. Quinn, nephew of the Indian agent, who escaped. The wife is known. Battleford is in a crowing has been hitherto the excited and the excited was established for a short time, allowing messages to reach Ottawa. It is stated in the same message that Battleford is surrounded by thousands of Indians, but no attack has been made on the barracks. Indian Agent Rae has not been killed as was reported. The Hudson Bay officer has received intelligence by way of Edmonton and Calgary that the Saddle Lake Indians have joined the Frog Lake murderers, and that part of the Lake Cross. They number about two hundred. There was a Roman Catholic school for Indian children at Frog Lake which was in a prosperous condition last summer. That this massacre has been the work of Frog Indians alone does not seem probable as they have hitherto been quiet and well behaved.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

The Kansas Live Stock Commission in Regard to Preventative Measures.

TOPEKA, KAS., April 11.—At a meeting of the Kansas Live Stock Commission, the Board of Commissioners decided to recommend to the Government that the States of Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee, and the counties of Gallatin, Andrain and Montgomery in Missouri, be quarantined against. Dr. Hovendale was authorized to send a letter to the Commissioner of Agriculture, as follows: "I am directed by the Live Stock Sanitary Commission of this state to transmit to you the following preamble and resolution adopted by them at a meeting of the board held here yesterday:

"WHEREAS, Contagious pleuro-pneumonia of cattle has within the past few months infected several of the Western States and given rise to serious fears for the interests of the state of Kansas, therefore

"Be it resolved, That we, the Live Stock Sanitary Commission of the state of Kansas, do most respectfully request and urge the Hon. N. J. Colman, Commissioner of Agriculture, to adopt and enforce the most rigid and effective measures of quarantine and suppression against the disease, and that the quest can whether or not danger is to be apprehended from cattle shipped from Southwestern to Austin, Tex., be fully determined and made public by order of the Board.

"An order to all the railroads doing business in the State was issued directing that all cars used or offered for use for the transportation of stock in the State be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. An order was also issued to the Sheriff of the County of Sumner directing him to learn the facts regarding the bringing into the State of certain Mississippi cattle, with instructions to hold them in close quarantine if they were brought here in violation of the Texas fever law, and to report his findings to the board."

Sending Witnesses Away.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 10.—George Q. Cannon is sending the witnesses against him out of the country. Sanders, the fellow who has been teaching Cannon's school on up on the Jordan, and who was before the grand jury a few days ago, has been sent on a mission to New Zealand, and on Saturday evening last was given a "send off" by his brethren at Cottonwood. By the time 500 polygamists are indicted, and 2,500 witnesses are sent out of the country, or kept in hiding, the Church will find the tithing fund inadequate to bear the expense of these absentees and pay for much temple building.

The Cattle Disease.

MEXICO, Mo., April 10.—Colonel Green Clay, of this city, and Charles A. Bailey, of Fulton, both prominent stockmen, returned from St. Louis to-day, whither they went to see Commissioner of Agriculture Colman relative to the matter of retaining Veterinary Surgeon Trumbower in this State pending the present cattle plague. Colonel Colman acceded to the request of Messrs. Clay and Bailey, and Dr. Trumbower will make his headquarters in this city until pleuro-pneumonia is stamped out of existence in the State. Our people are more than rejoiced to know, after the thorough investigation made, that the dreaded disease does not exist in Audrain County.

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

—Congressman-elect J. D. Richardson, of Tennessee, will be the tallest member of the next House. He stands nearly seven feet high in his stockings.

—It is well to remember that in the worst of all critics sees only the faults, the latter are seldom the greatest spirits the good critic sees both good and bad. —*Literary World.*

—Judge R. H. Emerson, Territorial Supreme Judge of the First District of Utah, has resigned, having completed two full terms of four years each on the Utah bench.

—Rev. George H. Hepworth, for many years pastor of the Church of the Divine Love, lately made the pastorate of Rev. J. P. Newman, in New York, has been appointed editorial [illegible] of the New York *Herald*.

—David Woodruff, of New Haven, Conn., who went to California [illegible] years ago by working his passage on a vessel, returned to his old home the other day a bank President and [illegible] —*Boston Herald.*

—Rev. Edward Beecher, D.D., who was ordained in 1828, the year in which the American Home Missionary Society was formed, [illegible] a home missionary at Parkersburg, though he is past eighty years of age.

—One of the largest [illegible] received was bought yesterday [illegible] queen at Hennessy [illegible] days ago, the purchaser being [illegible] Chicagoan, of Chicago. The [illegible] Eve M. Dunlap, of Chicago. The couple had been [illegible] in Hoboken, N. J. *Bulletin.*

—The President's wives [illegible] are Mrs. Polk, at Nashville; [illegible] Mrs. Tyler, at Richmond; Mrs. Grant, in New York; Mrs. Hayes, at Fremont, O., and Mrs. Garfield, at Cleveland, O. Of these the widows Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Tyler and Mrs. Garfield draw from the Government pensions of five thousand dollars a year each. —*Chicago Times.*

—Mrs. E. D. Rice has recently died at Newry, Me., [illegible] was a daughter of Colonel Benjamin Mason, of Spring old. Mrs. [illegible] young the mother of [illegible] Sir Lee S. Stringfield [illegible] Howe's, who encouraged her and helped her all the and he took her. [illegible] she became a contributor to [illegible] Harper's, the Atlantic and [illegible] Edited a book of poems. In [illegible] the death of her father Miss Rice went abroad, where she met and married Carlo Richards, a professor of [illegible] the educational institutions of Florence. —*N. Y. Sun.*

—Lafayette, at the age of twenty-[illegible] his young wife and fleet [illegible] in France. He loaded a ship with supplies which were mostly needed by the American troops, and helped them so that the tide of his money, with [illegible] experience, and all the [illegible] command. He had [illegible] soldiers but clothed and fed them when his own means were [illegible] exhausted to the [illegible] When the Indies of Rhode Island [illegible] to give a ball to the French officers [illegible] beyond to them. Lafayette [illegible] exposed to danger [illegible] and here have no shirts. He [illegible] personnel, and the ladies of Providence sports for the soldiers. —*Providence Journal.*

HUMOROUS.

—A prominent elder [illegible] five "the playground of [illegible] then a hankering after [illegible] prairie. —*N. Y. Graphic.*

—Canton (O.) capitalists [illegible] factory and make sugar out of beets. Then was [illegible] of capitalists. —*San Francisco News Letter.*

—Counsel: "Then you think it [illegible] you were manoeuvring [illegible] Witness: "You can't move me [illegible] that. I've told you twice he [illegible] won a block."

—Must Be Very Merry.

[illegible]

—Patient Lover: "I have called [illegible] to ask your permission to pay [illegible] disease to your daughter." Old Gentleman (coldly): "Pa, he's [illegible] Why, certainly, my dear sir. Here [illegible] the cells." He gave one [illegible] and fled. —*Goshen Democrat.*

—The Italians believe that mutton [illegible] is a worm of her nose. The Italians should come to this country and [illegible] to a rural mother call [illegible] dren, who are playing in a wood [illegible] distant. When a cyclone comes [illegible] wave along, it knows [illegible] either jump over it or get wrecked. —*Norristown Herald.*

—"Sh-h-h-e," said a husband to his wife, "I am unable to get any sleep. I have tossed around in bed [illegible] I wish you would get up and give me a little laudanum." "It is not [illegible] worth while now," she replied, consulting her watch; "it's almost time to build the kitchen fire." Then he went into a quiet, restful slumber. —*Texas Siftings.*

—Grocer (Strainer [illegible] ers)? Why, no, Mr. Gabb, we don't keep them but our cooks [illegible] attaching if you know how to make [illegible] chowder (testily) "We don't worry ourselves about any [illegible] know how to make coffee [illegible] better than you do. My [illegible] coffee as clear [illegible] want a strainer for [illegible] sugar." —*Philadelphia Call.*

A rather shabby looking [illegible] called to the chair of the [illegible] for a position. "Have you [illegible] had any experience as a [illegible]?" "Oh, yes," was the confident [illegible] "I once saw a man [illegible] killing." "Do you mean to [illegible] commended a boomerang?" "No, [illegible] a sort of a murderer. He was [illegible] pretty." "He was [illegible] killed himself, you know." [illegible] dogs.

—"Fetch there," he said as he [illegible] ling in from a hard [illegible] drink out of well and make [illegible] "No, my son, I never did." "I [illegible] hopes you had for I was [illegible] this time." "Well, you may [illegible] that, although I never drank [illegible] well and made speeches and [illegible] once drilled me and made [illegible] which is about the same thing, I guess." —*Wall Street News.*

—Natural Gas.—"How does it happen, Bridget, that there are so many feet of gas charged for this month [illegible] last, when Mrs. Blossom and [illegible] have been out of town three weeks?" "Sure an' I can't tell, sor, saving that whin the gintleman came to look at the mayther there was six fate of coal an' wood on top of it, an' he observed that I needn't bother wid it. He did tak a look at the pracaydin' figgers. Maybe he added the six fate of wood an' coal I don' know." —*Harper's Bazar.*