

WASHINGTON

Proceedings of the XV Congress

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, April 9.—Morrill, in the finance committee, reported a bill to repair and put in operation the mint at New Orleans—placed on calendar. Fry introduced a bill regulating the compensation to railroads for mail transportation—referred. Bill passed providing a code of army regulations. Also bill for the relief of W. C. Snyder, of Illinois. The Teller bill for a railroad from Bismarck to the Black Hills was considered, amended and went over. The Pacific railroad funding bill was considered. The bill to incorporate the bill of the judiciary committee. After considerable debate the bill passed by a vote of 40 to 19. The chair presented the House bill placing Gen. Shields on the retired list. Committee on the relief of W. C. Snyder, of Illinois. The Teller bill for a railroad from Bismarck to the Black Hills was considered, amended and went over. The Pacific railroad funding bill was considered. The bill to incorporate the bill of the judiciary committee. After considerable debate the bill passed by a vote of 40 to 19.

Wright offered a concurrent resolution proposing to issue \$500,000 of United States notes, to be known as "greenbacks," and to be legal tender for all debts—referred. Buckner, chairman of committee on banking and currency, reported a bill for issuing \$250,000,000 in treasury notes for the redemption of national bank notes, which are to be received in payment of one-third custom duties—referred to committee of the whole. Durham, from the conference committee, on the bill for the employment of temporary clerks in the treasury department, reported that the committee disagreed on the item inserted by the Senate, appropriating \$20,000 for postal clerks. A new conference committee was ordered. The House went into committee of the whole on the tariff bill. After some discussion the committee rose and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, April 10.—Yonkers offered a resolution directing the committee on pensions to report a bill granting pensions to soldiers of the war of 1812, and to their widows and orphans. The committee reported a bill for the relief of John C. McBarry, a late collector of internal revenue. Matthews offered an amendment to the bill to repeal the resumption act—referred. The bill to amend the bankruptcy law, which came up as unfinished business, Matthews offered a substitute to establish a uniform law on the subject of bankruptcy. After some remarks by Matthews, the bill was laid over to executive session, and soon after adjourned.

O'Neill presented the remonstrance of a large number of manufacturers against the passage of the tariff bill as vitally injurious to the business interest of the country—referred. Fuller introduced a bill authorizing the issue of treasury notes at the rate of 90 cents for greenbacks and national bank notes, prohibiting the contraction of currency and repealing the internal revenue laws. A bill was also introduced making it illegal for any member of either House to accept a general or special attorney for certain corporations and patents. Also, a joint resolution directing the committee on civil service reform of the two Houses, to inquire into the propriety of limiting the executive patronage by constitutional amendment. Also, a joint resolution adopting some new method of keeping the accounts of the Federal government. Foster introduced a concurrent resolution directing the committee on amendments providing that after 1880, there shall be but one session of Congress every two years, unless when convened by the President. The House went into committee of the whole on the pension bill, appropriating \$20,283,274. It provides that after July, 1878, the pensions shall be paid by the Treasurer of the United States, under the directions of the Secretary of the Interior. After the bill was read a motion was made without action on the bill, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, April 11.—Dennis presented Blair's resolution in relation to the Electoral Commission, and moved its reference to the judiciary committee—so ordered. Dennis, in presenting the resolution, expressed himself as opposed to it. He had voted for the appointment of the Electoral Commission and would stand by its decision. The bill to remove the restrictions on the shipment of colored men in the army was up, but was laid over. Sargent called up the joint resolution on the Chinese question, and urged the necessity of restrictions on Chinese immigration. Consideration was resumed of unfinished business, being the bill to repeal the bankrupt law. Davis, of Illinois, favored amending the present law if the Senate should reject the bill to repeal, and said he was authorized to say that Edmunds would not object to the amendment. The Senate proceeded to consider the deficiency bill. Several amendments were agreed to and the bill passed. Windom, from the committee of conference on the bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to employ temporary clerks and for other purposes, explained that the committee had agreed upon all amendments except two, on which they had not been able to agree. An item appropriating \$40,000 for salaries and expenses of collectors of internal revenue, and \$20,000 for railway mail clerks, inserted by the Senate committee, they had not been able to agree upon. The Senate then passed the bill, and a conference was ordered. The bill for the relief of the Methodist Church South was made the special order for Thursday next. Adjourned.

Phelps offered a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the alleged violation of the personal liberty of Benjamin Hayes, a citizen of Connecticut; adopted. The House went into committee of the whole on the pension appropriation bill. Seales, of Connecticut, Fort and Hewitt of New York advocated the bill, and Hound, Thompson and O'Neill opposed it. A long debate followed. Pennsylvania moved to increase the amount appropriated for carrying the bill into effect, from \$65,000 to \$130,000; adopted. Powers moved to strike out the section which changes the mode of paying pensions, and insert in lieu thereof a provision fixing the salary of pension agents at \$4,000, and allowing them fees for vouchers, and actual expenses for rank clerk hire, and agreed to—121 yeas. Rice offered a resolution that from and after July, 1878, the offices of Pension Agents shall be filled by wounded or disabled Union soldiers. The committee rose and reported the bill. The same bill was considered in and the bill passed. The House then went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill. As soon as the bill was read by its title the committee rose and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Friday, April 12.—The bill authorizing the Secretary of War to relinquish portions of the Fort Hartwell military reservation in Nebraska to homestead and pre-emption settlers—passed. The House went into committee of the whole on the private calendar. The first bill was to reimburse the college of William Mary, in Virginia, for property destroyed during the war. The committee advocated its passage. Loring thought the appropriation not only a legal right, but desired it because he was so grateful to the college as he was to his Harvard for its aid to his country, and was willing to forget her errors. He called on the country to preserve the ancient landmarks of national greatness. Reed thought the passage of the bill would be a dangerous precedent, for Southern claims bills were already pending for \$300,000 for college property destroyed. Congress was encumbered with bills for the Southern States, which would be obliged to introduce to reconcile their constituents. Eden said more claims were pending in the Forty-third than in the Forty-fifth Congress. Townsend said he wanted to do justice to all parts of the country, and would set for Virginia as he would for New York or Massachusetts, but he could not favor the bill. On motion of Foster, the Senate amendments to the deficiency bill were non-concurred in, on motion of Singleton the Senate amendments to the diplomatic appropriation bill were non-concurred in. The speaker appointed Singleton, Sparks and Hale as a conference committee on the part of the House on the last named bill. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 13.—Cox, of New York, chairman of the committee on library, asked leave to report back the bill appropriating \$5000 for the erection of a monument over the grave of Thomas Jefferson—passed. The House then went into committee of the whole on the post-office appropriation

bill. The appropriation recommended is \$50,100,770, a reduction of \$967,770 from last year's \$51,068,540 for inland mail transportation, and \$7,350,000 for pay of postmasters. The bill provides that the postmaster general may appoint one agent to superintend the railroad postal service, and also to superintend the Star Line service, and also authorizes the postmaster general to reduce the compensation to railroads for transportation of the mails, 5 per cent. A long and general debate was interrupted by the committee rising, and soon afterwards the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Monday, April 15.—Rollins, from the committee on manufactures, submitted a resolution directing the committee to consider and report to the Senate the probable effect of any change in the tariff laws on the manufacturing interests of the country—agreed to. Hereford introduced a bill repealing the section of the resumption act which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to sell U. S. bonds and redeem and cancel currency—laid on the table. Hereford advocated his resolution, requiring the committee on finance to report the House bill to repeal the resumption act within a week, and gave notice that he would ask the vote thereon to-morrow. After the morning hour consideration was resumed of the bill to repeal the bankrupt law. The bill provides for the repeal of the bankrupt law of March 23, 1867, and all acts supplementary thereto, but that the repeal shall not be in validate or effect any case in bankruptcy pending, titled and now pending. Windom called the Senate bill for a narrow gauge railroad from Bismarck to the Black Hills. After several amendments were made the bill passed, and Eaton moved to reconsider the vote. Tjallingh called up the Senate bill to incorporate the National Pacific Railroad and Telegraph Company—postponed. Jones introduced a bill authorizing railroad companies to construct and maintain telegraph lines for commercial purposes and to secure to the government the use of the same for military, postal and other purposes—referred. The Senate bill appropriating \$750,000 for continuing the improvement of the Galveston harbor passed. After executive session the Senate adjourned.

Swann presented the Blair Resolutions of the Maryland Legislature, re-opening the Presidential question. Kimball introduced a bill providing a mode for trying the title of President and Vice President. A long discussion took place on a parliamentary question, in which Stephens took the ground that the House had the right under parliamentary law to refuse to receive petitions, but that the question was whether it was wise to refuse to receive it. He thought that as this memorial was respectful and a subject of great importance, it should be read and referred to a committee. Before the question was decided, the time arrived for the special order—being the business of the District of Columbia. A bill was introduced and referred, as follows: By Willis, of N. Y., directing the President to make a public and solemn proclamation that it is the firm resolution of Congress to enact no further laws affecting the currency or finance until special payments shall have been actually resumed, and authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to prepare 4 per cent bonds of the denomination of \$25, \$50 and \$100, payable in standard coin at the expiration of forty years, exchangeable at no less than their value in United States legal tender notes. In the evening a session was held for debate on the tariff bill. McKittick, of Ohio, Bridges, Evans, Benson and Brewer opposed the bill. Adjourned.

How he Liked Eggs. "Vell, now, you take dot beneil, und mark vot I vos say mit you, und I dell you how it vas. By shimming, it vas so much fun like nodings I never saw. You see I vos go mit der goudny last week mit soom business dot I haff, und I stop in der davern to keet me soom tinner vun morning. Der landlort he vas goom rount und say dem heges goked, eh? 'Van man say, 'Friel,' und van 'Puil,' und dot unter man he say he haff soom 'Szgramblet,' but say, 'I dake zumdthraw.' Der landlort go himself mit der gichen, und I vas see dem garrels chapper mit dere tongues und shake demselves mit dere hands, und de landlort den goomes mit me soom more dimes, und say, 'I no vas make me out apout dot; how you vas like dem heges goked?' I say me yust like before, 'I dake zumdthraw.' He keep on ask me like dot, five, six, seven dimes, und I say me all der while, 'I dake zumdthraw.' He vas get like a brig house in his faze all over a ready, und den dot unter man vas make it all yust like zoom zshov pills when he say, 'I vas kees me, landlort, dot dese man vas like better haff zoom eggs yust like dey vas growed, mitout any gook at all, still.' Unt den ve vas all haff, und de landlort say, 'Py cholly! I vas a shack-ass.'"

Converting Christians. The heathen are organizing foreign missions for the conversion of Christians. The Hindus of the sacred city of Benares have founded a society for the propagation of Brahminism among the Christians of Australia. An eminent Brahmin of the name of Suradachi, a man of great authority, has recently been visiting some of the English colonies, and while traveling in Australia, was appalled and grieved at the fearful prevalence of drunkenness among the Christians. On returning to India he called together a number of thoughtful Brahmins, to whom he communicated his glowing zeal to do something for the salvation of their degraded fellow-men and fellow-subjects in Australia. The only perfect remedy, he considered, would be the conversion of these Christians to a better and purer faith. A large sum was collected for the pious and benevolent enterprise, and some of the Brahmins declared their willingness to devote themselves to the work, and to spend and be spent in this humane and holy cause. Suradachi is now engaged in translating fitting passages from the Vedas into the English tongue for the use of the missionaries.

The Railways of the World. According to some statistics published by the Economiste Francaise, the total length of railways in the world at the end of 1876 was 184,002 miles; America possessed 89,430 miles; America, 88,420 miles; Asia, 7,689 miles; Australia, 1,924 miles; and Africa, 1,519 miles. The United States had 74,085 miles; Germany, 17,181 miles; Great Britain, 16,794 miles; France, 13,492 miles; Russia, 11,555 miles; Austria, 10,852 miles; Italy, 4,815 miles, and Turkey, 960 miles. The railway system in India was 6,527 miles in length, while Canada had 4,200 miles; the Argentine Republic, 990 miles; Peru, 970 miles; Egypt, 975 miles, and Brazil 886 miles.—Full Mail Gazette.

The power of printers' ink is well illustrated by the anecdote told of Stephens: Three days previous to losing his umbrella he advertised it in the paper, and on returning home found it snugly ensconced behind the front door.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

General.

The Chesapeake & Ohio railroad has been sold at auction for \$2,750,000. A fire in Galveston, Texas, April 9th, destroyed \$50,000 worth of property. The Busey block, at Urbana, Ill., was entirely destroyed by fire April 10th. Loss, about \$25,000.

Eddy & Rose's liquor establishment at Providence, R. I., burned April 13th. Loss, \$25,000; insured. Eight stores were burned in America, Va., on the 12th of April. Loss, \$50,000; insured, \$30,000.

Gov. Tyler Bigelow, ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, died in Boston, April 12th.

At Trenton, N. J., April 12th, Michael Lynch was fatally shot by James McCarty, in a quarrel about a dog fight.

The Union school building at Dundee, Ill., was burned to the ground on the morning of April 9th. Loss, \$25,000.

At Snow Hill, N. C., April 12th, John Shottling, (colored), was hanged for the murder of his step-daughter, last fall.

A man named Vorgharty, aged forty, killed his wife, aged thirty-five, in New York, April 11th, and then killed himself.

Thomas L. Wiswell, a distiller, at Tippecanoe, Ohio, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. Liabilities \$70,000; assets small.

J. Fellows, Foster & Co., importers and dealers in watches, New York, have failed. Liabilities, \$130,000; nominal assets, \$150,000.

Wm. M. Tweed is confined to his bed in Ludlow Street jail, New York, broken down, his counsel says, by constant suspense and anxiety.

The rope manufactory of Bolte & Co., at Dayton, Ky., burned April 10th. The loss is estimated at \$65,000; insurance, \$25,000.

Gen. H. A. Smalley, receiver of several institutions in New York, is missing, and defalcations of over \$30,000 have been discovered.

On the 9th of April an explosion of sulphur in the mines near Pottsville, Pa., killed Thomas Benny and fatally injured Harry Brennan.

James Ward, the senior of the firm James Ward & Co., iron merchants, Cleveland, has failed. Liabilities, \$1,000,000; assets, \$600,000.

A skiff capsized in the Ohio river, just above Wheeling, West Va., a few days ago, containing six young men. Three of them were drowned.

At Emporia, Kansas, April 10th, Rev. A. J. Shannon, Congregational minister, was accidentally killed by the discharge of gun in the hands of a militia man.

One of the buildings of the Steuben county poor house, near Bath, N. Y., burned a few nights ago, and fifteen inmates perished. The fire was set by an insane pauper.

A tank containing forty gallons of benzine in the factory of a paint company, in Cincinnati, exploded a few days ago, injuring several persons, and killing a colored man.

Hiram Weeks, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., formerly a director of the Merchants' National Bank of that place, is reported to have absconded with \$45,000 in trust and borrowed funds.

J. D. Clay, Clerk of the County Court of Halifax county, Va., and formerly a member of the legislature, has been arrested on a charge of forging pension claims against the government.

Chapman, the notorious land title swindler, who has operated extensively in the Northwest, and who has been in jail nearly a year at Urbana, Ill., has been sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary.

The directors of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad elected—President, Robert Harris; Vice-President and General Manager, C. E. Perkins; Treasurer, Amos T. Hall; Assistant Treasurer, J. N. Dennison; Auditor, Geo. Tyson.

L. Delos Mansfield, Assistant Principal of the Dearborn Seminary, Chicago, and formerly chief owner of the Rockford County Female Seminary, Nayak, New York, has filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy. Secured debts, \$54,000; unsecured, \$42,000.

On the 8th of April a gold brick was cast at Helena, Montana, valued at \$50,000. It was the product of the Penobscot mine, located 13 miles from Silver City, Montana, and was from one hundred and fifty tons of ore. The cost of production was \$4,000.

A detective of Pinkerton's Agency in New York, March 23d, arrested three men and a woman charged with robbing, on January 2d, the office of James H. Young of \$200,000 in cash, certificates, bonds and stocks.

A deadwood dispatch mentions the excitement caused by an assay of \$300 gold per ton, obtained from quartz which was taken from a mine in Whitewood Gulch, about a mile from Deadwood. The vicinity heretofore has been very little prospected.

It is announced at Denver that H. A. McIntire, president of the National Bank of Lake City, and vice-president of the First National Bank of Colorado Springs, has absconded with \$70,000. It is feared that further disclosures will swell the amount stated.

Edward F. Massurett, cashier of the Tremont House, Boston, shot himself fatally, April 13th. He lost funds of the house at Faro and sought to compromise with the proprietors of the hotel, who declined and sent for an officer.

At the time of Tweed's death petitions were in circulation throughout the State of New York, asking the Governor for his release. They were being numerously signed, and it was intended they should be sent to Albany the next week.

John E. Lyon, president of the Boston, Concord & Montreal railway, was burned to death at the Penikese House, Plymouth, N. H., on the night of April 11th. Being ill, he arose during the night, fell, and the lamp in his hand breaking set fire to his clothing.

A telegram from the proprietor of the Lick House, San Francisco, addressed to Mrs. Vance, Cincinnati, Ohio, states that her husband, Ex-Congressman J. S. Vance, who mysteriously disappeared from Cincinnati some time ago, is in San Francisco and is insane.

Judge Mitchell, of Philadelphia, has overruled the motion for a new trial in the case of Elias Pistorius, the ex-priest, convicted of the murder of Jaquette, in Montgomery county, 1876, and sentenced Pistorius to be hanged. His counsel gave notice that the case would be carried to the Supreme Court.

The Northwestern National Bank, at Chicago, is redeeming all its circulating notes in gold, being the first of the National banks to take this step. The Broadway Bank, New York, is paying out gold in sums of \$500 and under. The Third National Bank, Cincinnati, commenced April 13th, to redeem its notes on presentation, in gold, and other National banks of that city were expected to adopt the same course.

Wm. M. Tweed died in the Ludlow Street jail, New York, April 13th. At the time of his death there was no struggle. He passed away in sleep, with his head lying upon his arms. The last words that he uttered were: "I have tried to do some good. If I have not had good luck, I am not afraid to die. I believe the guardian angels will protect me." He was conscious until within a few minutes before his death.

Sam Steenburgh, awaiting execution for the murder of Jacob S. Parker, at Amsterdam, N. Y., November 17th, 1877, has made a full confession. He says he has committed eleven different murders—the first when he was but fourteen years old; also innumerable burglaries, robberies and incendiary fires in and around Amsterdam. The story is horrible in the extreme, and nearly all corroborated. He says he murdered Parker.

The Chicago Times prints dispatches from nearly two hundred points in Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Missouri, Dakota, and Kansas, covering the whole of the western spring wheat region, which show, when summarized, that the average is nearly fifty per cent greater than last year, that the condition and prospects are better than at any time since 1860; that the season's work and vegetation are three to six weeks ahead of the usual time, and that there is an average of between fifteen and twenty per cent of the old crop still on hand.

Another train robbery occurred on the Texas Pacific railroad, thirteen miles east of Dallas, Texas, on the night of April 10th. When the train stopped at the depot the engineer and fireman were taken from the engine and placed under guard. The express messenger and route agent barricaded themselves in their car, but the robbers saturated it with coal oil and set fire to it, soon forcing them out. The express and mail were then plundered. Conductor Alford and two robbers were wounded. The plundering party numbered fifteen or twenty. The passengers were not molested.

The Cincinnati Price Current's twenty-ninth annual report of pork packing in the West is published. Total winter packing in the West, 6,500,000; average net weight, 236.04; yield of lard, 38.61 per hog; cost per hundred pounds net, \$4.99. Compared with last winter there is a gain of 1,404,000 in the number of hogs packed; 10.12 pounds in the average net weight; 4.33 pounds in the average yield of lard; and a decrease of \$2.19 in the average cost per hundred pounds. The net total production of barreled pork was 728,398 barrels, an increase of 8,801. The aggregate packed for the year ending March 31st, was 9,048,566 hogs.

The Democratic State Convention of Illinois met at Springfield, April 11th. All the counties were represented, and over 500 delegates were present. The following candidates for State officers were nominated: State Treasurer, E. L. Crankshaw; of Stephenson; S. M. Eter, of McLean, the present incumbent, Superintendent of Public Instruction. The platform favors reduction of taxes and expenditures; the taxing of United States bonds and treasury notes; the payment of the obligations of the government in lawful money, except where otherwise expressly provided on the face by the law under which they were issued, opposes making any further reduction of the principal of the national debt for the present; favors the unconditional repeal of the resumption act; commends the action of Congress in the passage of the silver bill; declares that no further contraction of the legal tender treasury notes ought to be allowed; that National bank notes should be retired and an equal amount of treasury notes issued; that no more subsidies should be granted, etc.

Foreign.

ENGLAND.

A London dispatch of April 13th, says: There is less excitement at Portsmouth dock yard. Work is fast assuming the ordinary routine character. Over-time has generally stopped. Very little remains to be done in the way of warlike preparation.

It is claimed on all hands, except in purely partisan discussion, that the Cabinet is sincerely desirous to avoid war. The withdrawal of the treaty of San Stefano, or its unconditional submission to the judgment of Europe, are regarded as the only alternatives to war.

The Times' leading editorial of April 9th says that Prince Gortschakoff's reply shows a genuine desire to insure a peaceful solution. The Pall Mall Gazette says: In view of the factious opposition which, not daring to move hostile resolutions, seeks to hamper the government by such speeches as Lord Granville's, Lord Derby's, the Duke of Argyll's, and Gladstone's, calls upon the government to dissolve Parliament and thus terminate the anarchy which has partially paralyzed it during the last two years.

The London Times of April 10th says: The speeches of Lord Beaconsfield and Salisbury are thought at Vienna to point to the probability of a war, and hold out small hope of a Congress, which is there believed to be the only possible reaching of a pacific solution. This supposed attitude of England is not approved at Vienna because the Austrian Government has made no provision for the eventuality of the final failure of the Congress project. The pacific and argumentative tone of the Russian reply to the Lord Salisbury circular is recognized by the London papers, indicating the purpose and giving hope of finding an arrangement for negotiations.

A London dispatch of April 11th says a rumor is current in military circles that the British have sustained a disastrous defeat in South Africa. The colonial office is ignorant of such defeat.

Canada.

A Montreal dispatch of April 2d, says the demand for horses for England is increasing, several car loads being taken over the Grand Trunk Railway, destined for Europe.

They are intended for military service, and branded with the letter S. Large shipments of cattle, also, are being forwarded from the lower provinces, and the country east and west is being searched for suitable horses for war purposes.

THE ORIENT.

A Constantinople dispatch says: The Russians are completing the fortifications begun by the Turks at Sahkmedja and Serkes. Fresh purchases of arms are being made by the Turkish war office. The drift of news from Constantinople is again distinctly pro-English. New objections have been taken by the Turks against the Russian military movements. Russian garrisons have relieved the Roumanians at Widdin, Nekopolis and Riva, and the Russians now hold the Danube from its mouth to the Servian frontier.

The situation at Constantinople is still regarded as dangerous to peace, notwithstanding the protestations of the Porte. There are intrigues going on among the Pashas, and the discretion of the Russian commander, and of Layard are doubted. A Belgrade dispatch says: A council of war between the Minister of War and general staff have arranged for disembarking the greater part of the Servian forces. A sufficient force will be maintained to preserve order in old Servia. It is considered certain that Servia will not participate in any further hostilities.

A London dispatch of April 11th says the warlike preparations of the Russians and Turks about Constantinople continue. Apprehensions are expressed in Bucharest that the Russians intend enforcing strict martial law. Gortschakoff has requested the Roumanian government to repress the bitter tone of the press. News from Getinge says the districts in Albania on the sea coast and beyond the river occupied by the Montenegro have been so ravished by war that the inhabitants are starving. The Montenegro are unable to help them, being scarcely able to feed their own people. An appeal has been made to Austria for help.

The movements of the Russian forces on the Danube and in Roumania indicate a determination to prepare thoroughly against the contingency of an Austrian attack in the rear. All the passes over the Carpathians practicable for artillery and trains are covered by positions which the Russians have just occupied. The Russian troops are constantly moving from Bulgaria into Roumania. Large shipments of powder from Dortmund, Prussia, into Russia, are reported. Russian troops have commenced another move. Only depleted regiments are sent home to recruit, whose positions are immediately filled by fresh troops from the North. A Constantinople dispatch says: Layard, the British Ambassador, has received a report from the British Consul at Rusebuk claiming indemnity from the Russian Government for outrages committed by the Russian troops in entering the consulate there and taking possession of the archives, notwithstanding the British flag was hoisted over the building at the time.

The Khedive of Egypt is expected soon to visit Constantinople to pay his respects to the Sultan. Hobart Pasha has obtained a short leave of absence to visit England. A report from Constantinople states that Layard has succeeded in paralyzing for the present Russia's endeavors to obtain the friendship of the Porte. In view of the increasing tension of Anglo-Russian relations, the greatest importance is attached to a recent long interview between Layard and Reouf Pasha and Osman Pasha, who are prominent in military affairs.

It is said Anglo-Austrian influences are now in the ascendant at Belgrade, and there is a disposition on the part of Serbia, Roumania and Montenegro to make a joint remonstrance to the powers against the treaty of San Stefano. The Porte has issued a circular to its representatives abroad. It recognizes the treaty of San Stefano as the result of the reverse sustained by Turkey in the late war, and expresses a determination to carry out the terms of the treaty, but declares the Porte would nevertheless regard as opportune any modifications which might be made by the benevolent intervention of the Powers, and mediation of Russia. A dispatch from Belgrade says Roumania's recent efforts to induce Serbia to make a common cause with her has been unsuccessful.

A St. Petersburg telegram of April 9th says the feeling gains ground that some formula will be invented which will remove the obstructions to the assembling of the Congress. The Journal de St. Petersburg says Russia demands that the benefits obtained for the Christians shall not be secured by ineffectual stipulations like those of 1856, but by material guarantees. Russia cannot accept the ephemeral direction of a Congress because it would not assure peace. If Europe be disposed to undertake the settlement of the Eastern question in the sense of emancipating the Christians, Russia will not raise any difficulties but the discussion of the question at issue must be inspired by confidence, not jealousy.

The St. Petersburg Agency Russia states that the character of the latest news encourages the belief of the possibility of the resumption of the congress proposal. The general impression of the news seems less pro-Russian than of late, and there is a feeling here and in the European Colony at Constantinople that the dislike of the Turkish people is so great that the Pashas would not dare to venture on Russian alliance even if they wished.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says that in that city, opinion regarding Gortschakoff's circular is much divided. Some consider it a complete political programme, and worthy of a great Power; others regard it as a formal refutation of Salisbury's accusations. Some think it is Russia's last word, and others the introduction to negotiations on a new ground. It has displeased those who have wished the government to nail the colors to the mast and risk all, rather than make the slightest concessions.

The St. Petersburg Agency Russia says the Russian Government, by discussing in its answer to Lord Salisbury the objections raised by him on every point of the treaty, has practically established a discussion of the whole treaty, and thus shown how small a foundation there is for British objections. There seems to be some disposition at St. Petersburg to show Roumanians more consideration. It is announced that Gortschakoff meant that the stipulation for the passage of Russian troops through Roumania, not the question of the cession of Bessarabia, could not be submitted to the Congress. It is also stated that the Russian Commissioner will go to Bucharest to treat with the government.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says: Gortschakoff's circular to the ambassadors accompanying his reply to Lord Salisbury's circular,

regrets that the letter, besides criticizing the treaty of San Stefano, did not say what the British government desires. He believes if Lord Salisbury will make known their wishes, a better understanding of the situation may be reached as to a congress. The circular says Russia can only reiterate the declaration that each power, Russia included, would have full liberty of appreciation and of action more peaceful. The St. Petersburg Agency Russia makes the following announcement: An active exchange of communications is proceeding, under the moderating influence of Germany, with a view of arriving at a pacific understanding the natural path to which would be a congress. The improved aspect of affairs has developed so as to justify the hope of a speedy attainment of a favorable issue if England does not raise fresh obstacles. A correspondent at St. Petersburg says: Notwithstanding the gloomy views of the leading Russian newspapers, it is believed in official circles that the congress will shortly meet. The correspondent adds he has reason to believe this conviction has pretty solid foundation. Germany has not abandoned her intention of using her influence in favor of peace.

AUSTRIA.

In Vienna, where only a telegraphic summary has yet been received, the most serious deduction is that the hope heretofore held out from St. Petersburg of the revival of the conference negotiations is not confirmed by the Gortschakoff circular, which says nothing about accepting England's condition for going to Congress. Without some such concession on the part of Russia, no step can be taken toward a peaceful settlement.

A London dispatch of April 12th says: At Vienna Prince Gortschakoff's reply created an impression of Russia's willingness to find acceptable methods for reopening negotiations. This moderate spirit is believed to be in part due to altered tone of comments of German, French and Italian presses and politicians concerning the treaty of San Stefano, which pointed to the probability of Russia instead of England being isolated in case of a rupture.

A Vienna dispatch of April 13th says: A Russian courier has arrived here, bringing an autograph letter from the Czar to the Emperor Francis Joseph. The relations between both countries have assumed a more conciliatory tendency.

GERMANY.

Der Nord Deutsche Zeitung, of Berlin, hitherto pro-Russian, lectures Russia and Austria harshly for not concurring in the agreement for peace while the war continued. Nevertheless Der Nord Deutsche Zeitung hopes that, in view of the general desire for peace, an understanding will yet be reached. This article caused a sudden cessation of warlike utterances by the Austrian semi-official press. The Ministerial Montag Revue says the hope of a peaceful settlement was justified by the fact that Bismarck is earnestly exerting himself to prevent a European conflict.

A leading Vienna paper says: Peace can only be maintained by Russia modifying the treaty of San Stefano in conjunction with other powers. Another paper considers that England has gained a moral victory for herself and Europe.

The opinion at Berlin continues skeptical about the final success of the negotiations. The Nord Deutsche Zeitung, in referring to Germany's mediation, says: The joint appeal of England and Russia for the good offices of Germany could have meaning if only the Porte was willing to make such concessions as would obviate the possibility of either party challenging the other.

Acquiring a Handicraft.

So it appears to me that what you want is pretty much what I want; and the practical question is, How you are to get what you need, under the actual limitations and conditions of life of handicraftsmen in this country?

I think I shall have the assent both of the employers of labor and of the employed as to one of these limitations; which is, that no scheme of technical education is likely to be seriously entertained which will delay the entrance of boys into working-life, or prevent them from contributing toward their own support, as early as they do at present. Not only do I believe that any such scheme could not be carried out, but I doubt its desirableness, even if it were practicable.

The period between childhood and manhood is full of difficulties and dangers, under the most favorable circumstances; and even among the well-to-do, who can afford to surround their children with the most favorable conditions, examples of a career ruined, before it has well begun, are but too frequent. Moreover, those who have to live by labor must be shaped to labor early. The colt that is left at grass too long makes but a sorry draught-horse, though his way of life does not bring him within the reach of artificial temptations. Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not; it is the first lesson that ought to be learned; and, however early a man's training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly.

There is another reason to which I have already adverted, and which I would reiterate, why any extension of the time devoted to ordinary school-work is undesirable. In the newly-awakened zeal for education, we run some risk of forgetting the truth that, while under-instruction is a bad thing, over-instruction may possibly be a worse.

Success in any kind of practical life is not dependent solely, or indeed chiefly, upon knowledge. Even in the learned professions knowledge, alone, is of less consequence than people are apt to suppose. And, if much expenditure of bodily energy is involved in the day's work, mere knowledge is of still less importance when weighed against the probable cost when weighed against. To do a fair day's work with his hands, a man needs, above all things, health, strength, and the patience and cheerfulness which, if they do not always accompany these blessings, can hardly in the nature of things exist without them; to which we must add honesty of purpose and a pride in doing what is done well.—Prof. Huxley, in Popular Science Monthly for March.

Michigan University now has 1,230 students. The plan of allowing the graduates of certain high schools in the State to enter the University without examination has been very successful