

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Yesterday's Proceedings in Both Houses of Congress.

The Arrears of Pensions Act Receives a Raking Over in the Senate.

A Bill Introduced in the House to Settle the Ugly Mormon Business.

Miscellaneous Notes From the National Capital.

CONGRESS.

National Associated Press.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

WASHINGTON, January 16.—Mr. Edmunds, from the judiciary committee, reported the bill to provide for the payment of members of congress and officers and employes of the two houses when the office of the proper disbursing officer is vacant. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. Voorhees reported on the joint select committee on library for a new building. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. Davis (West Virginia) introduced a bill to establish the department of agriculture and commerce. Referred.

Mr. Logan, a bill granting arrears of pension to the widow of President Lincoln from the day of his death to the date of the act granting her a pension, July 4, 1870, and asked present consideration.

Mr. Ingalls said some days ago he had introduced a resolution directing the pension committee to inquire into the subject, and he had information that convinced him that, while he was willing to vote the largest amount to Mrs. Lincoln, this was not the proper mode of relief. He asked the bill be referred. So ordered.

Mr. Cameron (Pa.) at 1 o'clock called on his resolution declaring it expedient to remove all internal revenue taxes except on high wines and distilled spirits, and proceeded to address the senate.

In connection with his belief for the relief of Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Logan had read a letter from Dr. Hancock, of Philadelphia, and three prominent physicians of New York, stating that Mrs. Lincoln was suffering from inflammation of the spinal cord, which would terminate in paralysis of the lower limbs, a disease of the kidneys, and a catarrh on both eyes.

Mr. Hale, from the committee on appropriations, reported the house bill to supply deficiencies in the census bureau. The bill was passed.

At the suggestion of Mr. Voorhees, the regular order (the 3 percent bond bill) was laid aside and the senate took up the resolution declaring that the arrears of pensions act should not be repealed. Mr. Voorhees addressed the senate in support of the resolution.

Mr. Beck followed with a forcible speech on the other side.

The senate then went into executive session and at 4 p. m. adjourned.

The president sent to the senate today the name of Samuel Seaburg, of New York, to be naval constructor, a number of Indian agents, receivers of public money, registers of land offices, and a large list of postmasters.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Robeson called up his report recommending an increase in the membership of the committee. Objection was made, but the speaker ruled that it was privileged matter, but on the question the house voted no.

A large number of bills were introduced under call of states, the majority of minor importance.

Mr. Calkins presented one providing for registration laws in Utah, and that voters must take an oath that they do not believe in or practice polygamy.

Mr. Beltzhoover introduced a bill asking how much money had been expended for the signal service since 1875. The bill contemplates examination of all accounts of the signal service department since 1875, the special object being to learn the extent of the embezzlement of Captain Howgate. Mr. Beltzhoover said he would not be surprised if Howgate's embezzlement should reach nearly double the sum he is now charged with having taken.

After considerable debate on the bill incorporating the Garfield hospital the house, at 5 p. m., adjourned.

The number of bills introduced in the house to-day was 404, making a total since organization of 3,174.

CAPITAL NOTES.

National Associated Press.

AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, January 16.—The agricultural convention listened this morning to a paper on the sugar industry of the United States, read by Mr. Isaac Hedges, of Missouri. The paper was then generally discussed.

In the afternoon W. J. Chamberlain, of Ohio, read a paper on national and industrial crop reports.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The secretary of state having concluded the work of selection for government representation abroad, it is

expected that nominations for several important missions and consulates will be sent to the senate to-morrow or next day.

It is also reported that Deftrees is to be renominated government printer.

MURDERED THEIR FATHER.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., January 16.—A well-to-do farmer who formerly resided near Washington, Wayne county, in this state, aged 55, disappeared on the 4th of this month and has not been seen since. The family, in reply to questions from the neighbors as to the whereabouts of their father, would say: "Go and find him; it is not our business to hunt for him."

Suspicion of foul play existed, and on Saturday a band of sixty men assembled and proceeded to the farm and commenced to search the premises, which ended in their finding the remains in the bottom of a deep well covered with stones. When brought to the surface, two bullet holes were found in his head. The family, who are now under arrest, confessed the search with perfect indifference, but attempted to direct the attention of the crowd from the well to the house. The mother and two sons had frequently threatened to put the old man out of the way, and the younger children had been taught to hate him. There was a considerable light about the house during the whole of the night of January 4th. There is intense excitement at the scene of the murder.

CENTREVILLE, Ind., January 16.—The excitement here is at fever heat over the murder of Mr. Smith, a farmer, fourteen miles north of here. Lynching is freely talked of.

RICHMOND, Ind., January 16.—Dan, youngest son of David H. Smith, the old farmer found murdered in a well on Saturday night, to-day confessed to killing his father and exonerates the balance of the family. The father and son had a quarrel about a horse sale. Dan shot his father just outside the door seven times. He then broke his head with a hammer, dragged him to the well and threw him in.

Our Coal Station in Peru.

PANAMA, January 16.—Latest dates from Lima are to the 22d ult. The protocol of the proposed sale of Chimbo to the United States has been published, accompanied by a statement that the United States legation in Lima was informed under date of November 18 that the United States government declined accepting said protocol, in order that it shall not be believed to be interested in the offer of intervention in Pacific affairs. The protocol in behalf of the government of Peru concedes to the United States the right to establish a coal depot in the port of Chimbo, and all facilities they may require, so that their navy and merchant vessels may provide themselves with that article, and to station themselves in that port, Peru reserving to itself the right to make similar concessions to other friendly powers, the concessions to be of indefinite duration and to be in force after notice of one year, has been given to the United States. At the time Calderon was thus disposing of the port and land, Chimbo was in Pierola's possession and Pierola was exercising governing the greater part of the republic. The publication of the protocol, it is feared, may cause a reaction through the republic in favor of Pierola. Gen. Pierola remains in Lima. A fire occurred in Antofagasta on December 6th, doing damage to the extent of \$300,000.

The steamship Patagonia, reported disabled at sea, arrived at Valparaiso December 10th, having repaired damages.

Marine Intelligence.

NEW YORK, January 16.—Arrived—The Britannia from Liverpool, the State of Indiana from Glasgow, the Neckar from Bremen, the Saratoga from Havana, the City of Para from Aspinwall.

HAVE, January 15.—Sailed—The Amer for New York.

Arrived—On the 15th, the Canadian from New York.

HAMBURG, January 16.—Arrived—The Rhinia from New York.

LONDON, January 16.—Sailed—On the 14th, the Albatra from New York, the Holland from New York.

QUEENSTOWN, January 16.—Sailed—On the 14th, the Botana for New York.

LIVERPOOL, January 16.—Arrived—The Peruvian from Boston, the Caspian from Baltimore.

LORE, January 16.—Sailed—On the 15th, the State of Nevada for New York.

The Convict Extradition Case.

TORONTO, January 16.—Miller, the escaped convict from the Western penitentiary at Pittsburg, was brought up before Judge McKenzie this afternoon and extradition proceedings commenced. The prisoner was readily identified by Capt. Wright, warden of the penitentiary, and Detective O'Mara, of Pittsburg. Further investigation was set for two weeks to to-day. The prisoner, it is said, has received considerable money from friends and he will make a big fight before returning.

The Brakeman Arrested.

NEW YORK, January 16.—George Melius, the brakeman, was arrested for criminal carelessness in connection with the Spytten Duyvil disaster, and arraigned to-day before Coroner Markle and remanded to await formal investigation.

The remains of Oliver B. Keeley, of Spring City, Pa., were claimed to-day by his uncle and taken home.

Frank Burr, engineer of the Tarrytown train, which collided with the Atlantic express on the Central railroad at Spytten Duyvil on Friday night, made a sworn statement to the coroner to-day. He said that he did not start from Spytten Duyvil

until thirteen minutes after the express left. He entered the cut at the rate of 18 or 20 miles per hour. There was no danger signal there. When he emerged from the cut he saw a flagman swinging a signal and at the same time saw the red light on the express train about two or three car lengths ahead. He pulled the throttle wide open and put on the air brakes and blew the whistle, but could not stop his train. He remained at his post until after the collision.

Hanged for Murder.

SAVANNAH, Ga., January 16.—Jesse Williams, colored) murderer of Old Toby Locke, night watchman, July 10th, was hanged in the jail yard at noon to-day. The execution was private but large crowds of colored people were on the streets about the jail. He had a good night's sleep, ate a hearty breakfast, was baptized by a Baptist clergyman and expressed the hope of going to heaven and resignation to fate. He confessed his crime and bade his friends farewell. He dropped seven feet and died easily. This is the sixth execution since the war.

Fatal Accident to a Soldier.

PHILADELPHIA, January 16.—The man who was received into the Pennsylvania hospital yesterday suffering from severe injuries occasioned by jumping from a south bound train near Marino station, Pa., and who died this morning, was identified this afternoon as Ferl Jergens, a sergeant in the Seventh United States infantry, stationed in Minnesota. He had been on a two months' leave in Germany and was returning to his regiment.

Sad Result of a Joke.

OWENSON, Ky., January 16.—At 6 o'clock yesterday evening Scott Hayden and John Colvert, two young men about eighteen years old, went to W. A. Montgomery's, on Twin creek, and before going in thought to frighten Montgomery by rapping on the window. They did frighten him, and he got down an old gun, and, in trying to find out who was there, the gun went off. The lead struck Hayden in the forehead and killed him instantly. He claims it was an accident.

Hot Times in the Jersey Legislature.

TRENTON, N. J., January 16.—In the house this afternoon there was a long discussion over the senate's Gardner resolution. Hipp (democrat) moved to strike out the clause saying Guitreau was sane, as the New Jersey legislature was not a jury. After the debate only one man (republican) voted against the amendment. Hipp then moved the assassination was the result of the pernicious republican political system. After a hot discussion the amendment was withdrawn.

The Tax Frauds.

PHILADELPHIA, January 16.—It has been discovered by Tax Receiver Hunter that a number of back records which contain important evidence bearing on frauds in the tax office have been stolen. Access to the room in which the books were kept was obtained through an unprotected plate glass window. The theft was discovered by a clerk named Caldwell, who has been accused but denies any complicity.

Heirs to an English Estate.

CINCINNATI, January 16.—The four persons who claim to be heirs to the old Hyde estate of London, England, now known as Hyde park, valued at \$300,000,000, are endeavoring to form an association to press their claims. The heirs are Mrs. William H. Strathman and Mr. Stout, of Indianapolis, Mr. Compton of this city, and one other. They raised \$20,000 to prosecute their claims.

Railway News.

CINCINNATI, O., January 16.—The Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific railway company, lessees of the Cincinnati Southern, held their first annual meeting this forenoon and re-elected all the board of directors. A dividend of 12 percent was declared, and a financial report was made showing the gross earnings for 2 months and 19 days to be \$612,098-27.

Accident on the Missouri Pacific.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., January 16.—Five cars of a Missouri Pacific freight train jumped the track immediately below this city about 9 o'clock this evening, caused by the breaking of a frog in the switch. No damage was done except by the detention of trains. A similar accident occurred at the same place this morning, one car being thrown off.

Fell From a Balloon.

LARDO, Texas, January 16.—At Cuautla, Mexico, Saturday, Senorita Catalina Gouzera, a beautiful girl of 17, made a balloon ascension without a car, but performing on a trapeze attached. When three-quarters of a mile high the balloon burst, and the girl fell to the ground and was crushed to death.

No World's Fair for Boston.

BOSTON, January 16.—The committee appointed last October to canvass for subscriptions and thus ascertain the sentiment in favor of a world's fair, reports that it is inexpedient to hold a fair in 1885, and recommend its indefinite postponement.

Strike of Coal Miners.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., January 16.—Two or three hundred colliers at the Raymond mines in Ray county are on a strike against a reduction of one cent a bushel. The operators say they will not pay over six cents. As a very small quantity is on hand, a coal famine is feared.

CLOSING UP.

Scoville's Argument to Save His Brother-in-law.

Confining Himself Exclusively to the Theory of Insanity of the Assassin.

And Asking the Jury Not to be Influenced by Personal Feelings.

Guitreau's Abortive Attempt to Make a Pun.

National Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, January 16.—Mr. Scoville began his argument by publicly returning thanks to the many who had by mail assisted him with such good counsel relative to a proper presentation of the defense so as to enable him to accomplish what he had done and might yet do in criminal practice. The jury should divest themselves of emotion and sentiment, and consider the case from a purely intellectual standpoint. The case was one in which the plaintiff was called to sit in judgment upon the defendant and which this jury were interested equally with other citizens in presenting. The jury were a part of the government, part of the people, part of the nation, for the killing of whose chief magistrate the prisoner was called on trial, and on that account were bound to be extraordinarily careful to divest themselves of their personal feelings before forming judgment. They should forget that President Garfield was one of themselves and perhaps personally acquainted with some of them. They should steel their hearts against the attempts which Judge Porter would undoubtedly make to appeal to their feelings. The speaker had from the first held that Guitreau was insane, and that insanity was the only issue in the case. The district attorney, Porter, Davidge and Dr. Hamilton, Mr. Donald Kemnoster, Gray and Worcester had conspired together to hang the accused. American journalism displayed gracefully anticipated the verdict. Judge Davis' charge in the Coleman case was an attempt to influence the decision of the court in this case.

Davidge interrupting, Guitreau told him to keep quiet. "You talked two days and said nothing. Now give us a chance."

Scoville continued: The jury were bound to acquit, even if they found Guitreau knew the difference between right and wrong on July 2d, if they also believed he, through mutual desire, believed that God required him to do the act for the good of the country and to avert a civil war. The prosecution had failed to show anything tending to prove that Guitreau was a bad man and unlikely sincerely to be afflicted by any religious feeling or delusion.

The burden of Scoville's argument was that the prosecution had labored to bring against Guitreau an avalanche of little things in order to build up a charge. They had failed to bring against him a single thing done before July 2d, for which he should hang if he had except adultery, a charge.

"Yes," said Guitreau, "and I'll venture to say there is not now in this court room one innocent person on that score."

Then Scoville recited the story of the woman taken in adultery, quoting, "Let him amongst you who is without sin, cast the first stone," and saying, "When he looked up the woman's accusers were gone."

"I presume it would be the same way here," said Guitreau.

After recess Scoville continued the attack on Davidge for alleged perversion of testimony in his address to the jury.

During a pause in the proceedings, just after reference had been made to his many debts, Guitreau shouted: "I have lots of money now. Let my creditors send in their notes, and I will pay square like a man."

"They think," said Scoville, after enumerating numerous small items of witness brought forward by the government, "they think that with this vast amount of odium heaped upon him, with his history raked up and thrown against him, they will manufacture in your minds such weight or force against him, such an intense hatred of the man, that you will not stop to consider a little circumstance as to whether he was of sound mind when he shot the president. But you will say on your oath, let that man go to the gallows; he is of no use to the community; he is a liar, cheat and swindler; let us hang him on general principles."

Scoville was about to discuss the evidence of the witnesses who testified to the prisoner's intention of imitating Wilkes Booth (Shaw), when Guitreau roared: "Better leave him with a paw." No one laughed and he added: "I mean P Shaw," spelling it. Still there was no response and as a last resort he cried: "They don't appear to see the fun, do they?"

Laughter. Later he declared he was content to let the future ages attend to his reputation.

Counsel, after reviewing the testimony of this witness, charged that both he and his clerk, who corroborated him, had perjured themselves.

"I know they have," chimed in the prisoner.

"I could honor men like Mason and Jones," continued Scoville, "because they were willing to take personal liberty without even running the risk of prosecution, which he knew could not be brought against a living witness except Guitreau."

"This whole Shaw business is a lie from beginning to end," said Guitreau, "I wish your honor would read my

speech this evening so that I can talk with you about it to-morrow." Court then adjourned.

Attorney General Brewster sat on the bench with Judge Cox during the latter part of the session.

John W. Guitreau has published a letter on his brother's case. He says he hopes the jury will disagree or acquit. Cox's instruction will be more favorable than he had feared it might be, and public sentiment is now changing in favor of the belief in his brother's insanity. He says Guitreau has been misrepresented by the press, and it will be a wonder if he is not hung before April 1st. He says in Washington people understand the case better than outside, and people there believe largely in Guitreau's insanity.

Boston, January 16.—The article entitled "The Guitreau Experts," quoted by Guitreau in his undelivered speech as coming from a Boston newspaper, originally appeared as an editorial in the last issue of The Liberty, an insignificant seven-by-nine fortnightly organ of anarchists and socialists, started in this city last summer.

New York, January 16.—Referring to the statement of Guitreau published this morning, in which he claims to have received a sympathetic letter from the executive officer of the Western Union telegraph company at New York, inquiry at that office met with prompt denial that any such letter had been written by an officer of that company, but subsequent investigation disclosed the fact that a young clerk had written for Guitreau's autograph on a sheet bearing the official heading of the executive officer and used the language quoted. He was promptly dismissed for violation of the company's rules in this improper use of its official headings.

Small Pox.

RICHMOND, Va., January 16.—The house passed a concurrent resolution that the city authorities be requested to furnish a suitable small pox hospital within three days for the sole benefit of the members and attaches of the legislature. The senate refused to concur and it is now stated that the house will to-morrow pass a resolution for the removal of the legislature to Norfolk.

Boston, January 16.—There are half a dozen cases of small pox at Wilmington, Mass.

Port Jervis, N. Y., January 16.—Five new cases of small pox have developed at Pond Eddy, a small hamlet on the Erie road, ten miles west of this city. A death from the disease has occurred in this city. Three new cases in the infected district were reported to-day.

PHILADELPHIA, January 16.—There were nine deaths from small pox in this city for the week ending Saturday last.

St. Louis, January 16.—One new case of small pox was reported here to-day.

Several hundred persons attended the funeral of a child that had died of the disease to-day, and bad results are apprehended.

Georgia Casualties.

ATLANTA, Ga., January 16.—A negro woman was run over and killed by a train near Millidgeville, Ga., yesterday.

A special from Byron reports the killing of Jno. Lee (colored) by being caught in the machinery in the engine house of W. E. Warren.

Failures.

ATLANTA, Ga., January 16.—A. C. & B. F. Wylie, the largest grocery house in the city, assigned to B. E. Crane to-day. Assets, \$125,000; liabilities, \$120,000. Bad debts caused the failure.

Brook Bros., tobacconists, have failed. Assets and liabilities are unknown.

Suicided.

LOUISVILLE, January 16.—David Douch, an industrious German, for a number of years afflicted with cancer in the face, shot himself with a pistol this morning. He was unable to take solid food and would have starved within a few days.

Prisoners Killed in Attempting to Escape.

ATLANTA, Ga., January 16.—Yesterday morning Deputy Sheriff Walker was making his rounds in the Chester (S. C.) jail when two prisoners attacked him. Both prisoners were shot and probably died.

The Triple Murderers.

CATLETTSBURG, Ky., January 16.—All is quiet here to-day, as the trial of the Ashland murderers does not commence until to-morrow, when Neal's case comes up. One hundred men have been summoned from whom to select a jury.

National Associated Press.

ATLANTA, January 16.—Wm. H. Locke, late postmaster at Enfant, Ala., died yesterday by shooting himself through the head. He was arrested on Saturday on the charge of embezzlement while postmaster.

Arrested for Rape.

ATLANTA, Ga., January 16.—A special from Davison reports the arrest of Alex. Williams, charged with outraging the person of Mollie Tyecklor, 12 years old.

To Hang for Murder.

BROWNSVILLE, Tex., January 16.—Quirion Gattau was being sentenced to be hanged in this county February 10th for murder.

Executed the Gallows.

National Associated Press.

RILEY, N. C., January 17.—Richard Morgan, in jail here under sentence of death, died from abscess of the lungs to-day.

TROUBLE IN CAMP.

Rumor That Jay Gould and Sidney Dillon are Out.

The Union Pacific Hard Up, and Gould Gives \$5,000,000 to Help it Out.

Project for Opening the Yellowstone Park via the Northern Pacific.

Miscellaneous Rambles of the Rails.

National Associated Press.

ST. PAUL, January 16.—Six prominent capitalists of St. Paul and Minneapolis, among whom are Senator Windom and J. B. Gillilan of Minneapolis, E. H. Bly of Biwabik, and Mr. Hobart of the Northern Pacific road, have entered into an agreement with the Northern Pacific to build a railroad, standard gauge, from the point on the Northern Pacific nearest the park to the geysers and National Yellowstone park, or to speak more definitely, forty miles of road outside the government park reservation and forty miles within it. This road, it is believed, will cost \$20,000 per mile, making the total cost of the eighty miles \$1,600,000, or more likely, allowing for contingencies, \$2,000,000. As an earnest of good faith they are to put up \$10,000 each, a total of \$600,000. The Northern Pacific syndicate, of which Mr. Villard is head and front, then agree to furnish the money to build and equip the road, taking as security a mortgage thereon, on which interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum is to be paid by the supplementary syndicate of six, but there is a further agreement; the enterprising half dozen citizens have secured the guarantee from the government that they will not suffer molestation or hurtful competition in hotels they may build in the park and accordingly they have promised the government and the Northern Pacific railroad company that they will expend \$150,000 in building large hotels. One of 500 rooms is contemplated as a starter, with all the necessary equipments; said hotel to be ready for occupancy by the time the new railroad is in running order.

New York, January 16.—It was reported in the stock exchange to-day that Jay Gould has drawn his check for \$5,000,000 to be loaned to the Union Pacific railway company to be used in paying the January dividend and for other purposes for which the company is in need of money. A statement is further made to the effect that the \$10,000,000 lately received by the company from subscription was absorbed in paying off the floating debt. The company has been somewhat embarrassed by purchasing non-paying railroad bonds. It was stated in Mr. Gould's office to-day he is always ready and willing to loan money when good interest and ample security is afforded. It is also rumored that the amicable and confidential relations so long sustained between the U. P. (Sidney Dillon) and Jay Gould have been interrupted in the most deplorable manner, owing to the inevitable outgrowth of rivalry which must obtain between the Union Pacific and Texas Pacific roads. The latter road has long about got things in shape for permanent operations. You see, the consolidation was effected between the Pittsburgh, Rochester & Sharpsville railway and the Shenango & State Line railroad companies. The former is to build at once from Pittsburgh to Sharpsville, Pa., and the other from New Castle junction to the Ohio and Pennsylvania state line. The officers of the consolidated company are Joseph Forker of Sharon, Pa., president; John Spearman, P. L. Kimberly, David Adams, Henry W. H. Wharton, Francis H. Peoples, George H. Taylor of Sharon, and General John Sanderson, W. J. Hitchcock of Youngstown, O., directors. At the Pennsylvania and Ohio state line they will connect with the Pittsburgh, Youngstown & Chicago railroad now building.

CHICAGO, January 16.—This week the office of Mr. Merrill, now assistant general superintendent of the whole line of the Wabash road, is being moved to St. Louis, where hereafter all the general offices will be located, and the clerks are busy packing up, and expect to be domiciled in their new quarters by the latter part of the week. Mr. Merrill's present quarters will, after his removal, be occupied by C. L. Rising, the general agent.

New York, January 16.—The Mail and Express says: "We are able to state on good authority that the railroad war has been settled by an agreement to pool the earnings of the roads on the basis of freight rates of 1880."

This morning the trunk lines issued a schedule of rates for freights on a basis of 30c per 100 pounds for first class to Chicago.

CHICAGO, January 16.—To-day grain rates on the east took another advance. The Lake Shore & Michigan Southern and the Michigan Central roads make an advance to the basis of 15c to New York, the Pennsylvania to a basis of 10c to New York. The rates on the Vanderbilt roads are: Buffalo 10c, Albany 15c, New York 15c, Baltimore 15c, Philadelphia 15c, Boston 20c. The rates on grain by the Pennsylvania are: Baltimore 17c, Philadelphia 18c, New York 20c, Boston 25c.

By the Baltimore & Ohio, 17c to Baltimore.

Foreign News.

VIENNA, January 16.—Reinforcements continue leaving Austria for Walmatia and Herzegovina. The

latest news from there stated that the insurrection was spreading and that the troops now in the field at those points were powerless to preserve order. Field Marshal Bauer has been sent to take command of the troops in that department and has instructions to spare neither men nor means in putting down the insurrection at once. A ministerial council has been called in this city to consider measures for the suppression of the insurrection.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 16.—A dispatch was received here yesterday announcing that five more sailors belonging to the crew of the Jeanette had arrived at Irkutsk.

CONSTANTINOPLE, January 16.—The porte has addressed a note to the English and French governments declaring that the recent action of the two governments towards Egypt is contrary to precedent, uncalled for and a violation of the sovereign rights of the sultan.

A Turkish commission has been appointed to inquire into and report on the system of German consular arrangements with a view to its application in Turkey.

Grutch, Servian minister, has been instructed to propose to the porte the conclusion of commercial, extradition and other treaties with Servia.

ROME, January 16.—It is announced that in response to an application from the vatican, the czar has granted a general pardon to the Polish Catholic bishops.

BELGIUM, January 16.—Reichstag have decided upon the immediate restoration of German consular arrangements with a view to its application in Turkey.

It is expected that a cabinet council will be summoned very shortly to prepare a reply to the porte's note.