THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

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BOTH EYES ON RUSSIA

Political Attention in France Focused On the Czar's Movements.

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GERMAN MUSIC AND POLITICS.

Katkoff Will Undoubtedly Succeed in Ousting DeGiers From the Russian Government—The Mikado at Berlin — Ex-Secretary Manning's Health.

Angels of Peace and War.

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PARIS, April 9.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—A storm struck the French coast April 7 and 8, delaying the mails between England and France, causing great havoc in the channel and along the coasts of Brittania and Normandy, and wrecking thirty fishing smacks off the headland stretching from Brest and Ostend. In Paris the weather continues cold and blustering. This is the most backward spring we have had for several years. Blazing fires indoors and thick overcoats outdoors still reign supreme.

WATCHING RUSSIA CLOSELY.

Political attention is focused upon Russia. The vaguest rumors, the slightest whisper that escapes from the czar's residence at Gatzchina, is carefully weighed and investigated by President Grevy at the Elysee and by General Boulanger at the ministry of war, for everybody feels convinced that whether we shall pull through the summer without war depends solely upon the czar. DeGiers is regarded as a sort of angel of piece, while Kathoff, the red hat Pan Slavist exponent of Russian "know nothingism," is felt to be the angel of war. Upon the struggle now going on between the two now depends the fate of Europe. The czar rewards both and reprimands both with an impartial. I have the best authority for saying that the czar's heart is with Katkoff, but his head is with DeGiers.

THE CZAR NO MADMAN.

The czar, in spite of all the wild sensational stories about his rushing about like a madman killing aides-de-camp, kicking ministers and smashing furniture, is really one of the coolest headed men and one of the shrewdest statesmen in Europe. It has been my privilege to have been near the czar under very trying circumstances. Men who are upon intimate terms with him have spoken with me freely about their personal relations with their imperial master. I have seen enough with my own eyes to feel convinced that Alexander III has been greatly maligned, especially in Vienna and London. Although forty-two years of age, he is one of those that mature late in life and his faults are those of exuberant youth. He detests etiquette and ceremony. He has a very violent temper. He never forgives anybody whom he detects in telling him a lie. He is outspoken and brusque in his manner. If he does not like anyone he lets the person know it at once, and has thus created hundreds of bitter personal enemies who immediately rush off and say that the zcar is a raving mrdman. Alexander III. has a thorough knowledge of men. He keeps DeGiers and Katkoff both well in his hand, never allowing either of them to get the bits in their teeth, although putting spurs or reininging in either one or the other, or both, as occasions requires. The czar got all he wished for in Afghanistan in spite of the bluster and threats of England, and he got the Battenberg out of Bulgaria in spite of the threats of nearly the whole of Europe. He becomes wise and more cautious as he gets older. As to his being brusque and excitable, I feel sure that the average New Yorker, taken at random from the Union club or stock exchange, if put in the czar's place and receiving, as the czar does, weekly death sentences from nihilists committees, and liable as he is every time he sits down to breakfast, to be served with a nihilist bomb with his coffee, would be far more brusque than the czar is.

IN CASE OF WAR.

I am assured from trustworthy source in St. Petersburg that the czar, although making every possible preparation for a sudden campaign against Austria, does not himself think that war will take place this year, and a Russion occupation of Bulgaria will only take place in case Bulgaria and Roumelia recall Prince Alexander or proclaim a republic; and, moreover, such an occupation would be a sure sign of peace, for the czar will under no circumstance send a single Russian soldier into Bulgaria unless he has the formal assurance of Austria's assent to such an occupation and Austria's explicit promise to remain neutral. Should Austria refuse this assent, or should Austria remain silent, then General Gourko, who to-day commrnds the largest cavalry force ever brought together in Europe, has orders to swarm across the frontier into Galicia and thus paralyze the entire mobilization scheme of Austria and force her to make her first serious defense behind the Carpathians. Thus General Gourke's dragoons and Cossacks would be overwhelming and would cut in pieces the Austrian cavalry divisions in Galicia. It is well known by all military men that there are no fortifications at Lemberg, at Przeemyst, or even at Cracow, nor anywhare north of the Carpathians, that would enable an Austrian army to hold its own against the vastly superior Russian forces that would be sure to attack it. Austria has already recognized her great numerical and strategical inferiority, and will make any honorable concession to avoid war.

HOLY WEEK CELEBRATIONS.

Holy week has been celebrated this year with the usual eclat. On Thursday thousands of people gathered at Notre Dame to see Mgr. Richard, archbishop of Paris, perform the annual ceremony of washing the feet of twelve little orphan boys. At 2 o'clock the archbishop, resplendent in gold and white robes and attended by the prelates and full canonicals, emerged from the sacristy. The boys sat in the nave of the cathedral with their right feet bared. The archbishop, who is only sixty-nine years of age, but who looks as if he were eighty, knelt before each boy and washed his foot. Then he pressed his venerable lips against the great toe of each, pronounced a blessing and handed a glass of wine, a loaf of bread, a new five-franc piece, and a bunch of violets to each boy.

Or Good Friday Notre Dame was again thronged by thousands of good Catholics. Flowers of all kinds decorated every available space, bunches of white lilacs and jonquils strewing the ground. The Reverend Pere Mausabec, one of the most eloquent preachers in Paris, preached a sermon that created a veritable sensation among the bevies of fashionable ladies who had gathered around his pulpit. He began by reprimanding his fair listeners folly ruining their health by frivolity, luxury, flirtation and excess of gaiety. He then criticised their dresses, beginning with an attack upon their hats and ending with an onslaught upon high heeled shoes and pointed toes. Then he declared poudre de rise to be a combination of the devil and said that tight lacing was not only hideous but wicked.

St. Clothild's, the legitimist church par excellence, was lined with lots of roses, lilacs, violets, hyacinths, azaleas and camelias, ordered by car loads from the Riveira and Italy by the noblesse of France, who filed in silent procession into the church and viewed the crucified figure of the Saviour in bronze and ivory. In all the churches I noticed a large number of officers in civil dress.

The American colony put in a strong appearance on Good Friday at the Episcopal church in the avenue de l'Alma, near the hippodrome. The church was not decorated. The altar was merely hung with purple velvet and on it rested banquets of Russian violets. The rector, the Rev. Dr. Morgan, officiated.

The Catholic church on the avenue Hoche was also crowded with English speaking Roman Catholics. The Rev. Father O'Kelly officiated. In the congregation I noticed Mackay, the Princess Colonna and Mrs. Carroll, of Carrollton.

While church was in full swing the famous ham fact (faire aux Jambons) was inaugurated in the place de la Republique. Ten thousands of workmen with their wives and children revelled in the luxuries of garlical sausage from Arles, pigs feet and bacon, washed down by tons of vin ordinaire and beer. The entire place de la Republique is festooned with enormous strings of sausage, swaying backward and forward in the wind. The utmost good humor and Gallic wit prevails amid all the babel, and the venders of hom and petits verres do a roaring trade.

THE MOST UNPOPULAR MAN.

The most unpopular man in France to-day is neither Bismarck nor Moltke, but the duke of Edinburgh. The "incident de Cannes" is freely discussed in all the clubs, on the boulevards and in the cafes by all classes of society, from the Fauburg Saint Germain down to the heterogeneous masses at the "Foire Jamesons." The unanimous verdict is that the duke of Edinburgh was guilty of an act of gross rudeness in not returning the salute of the French vessels, for he knew very well his vessels went to Cannes with a social object and consequently should have been received with proper saluting batteries. His excuse that his ironclads had no guns to salute with is, judge Parasians, as merely adding insult to injury.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. J. Pierrepont Morgan, senior partner of the banking firm of Drexel, Morgan & Co., has arrived in Paris from New York, and with Miss Morgan is stopping at the Hotel Bristol. Mr. Morgan leaves shortly for Monte Carlo on a visit to his father, Mr. Junius S. Morgan, the London banker.

Mrs. Ronalds, jr., has been staying a few days with Mrs. Mackay and returned this morning to London. Mrs. Ronalds has been suffering from sore throat during her visit to Paris but this did not prevent her from trying on many charming dresses and visiting half a dozen of the most fashionable churches during holy week.

COERCION AND FISHERIES.

Comment of English Press on the Action of Americans.

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LONDON, April 9.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The London and provincial press continues to be largely occupied with American legislative action and comments upon the coercion bill. Similar references are expected to be made at the great Hyde park meeting yn Easter Monday. The Freeman's Journal copies in a conspicuous position, with sensational headlines in large type, the Herald's editorial of March 30, "Is Ireland on the Verge of Civil War." It accompanies it with the following short editorial:

"The American press denounces the policy of coercion as unstateslike, iniquitous and foredoomed to failure. English politicians frequently express pity for benighted foreigners, but the party now in power might learn a lesson of respect for freedom and practical wisdom from the criticisms of these unprejudiced observers. Great Britain is undoubtedly on the eve of a wonderful political agitation. "The liberal party has now got a distinct issue," said a distinguished leader in that party this morning. Americans must be sanguine that their symyathy over liberal exertions can defeat coercion. Even if half the liberals who have lately been following Chamberlain and Hartington should return to Gladstone on coercion, the tories still would have a large support from the union-liberals in the commons, and of course two-thirds of the lords. There are in the commons 315 tories to 276 Gladstonites and Parnellites. If thirty-four of the seventy-seven union liberals should join the Gladstonites and Parnellites, which is highly probable, only ten of those being considered by the whigs as shaky, and the thirty-three remaining union-liberals, after the thirty-four others had presumably joined the Gladstonites, should absent themselves, there would still be a coercion majority that, with the cloture now ruling, would enable the government to finally pass the bill. But that the bill will pass is a certainty. The agitation is for future effect. It must be remembered that the tories in metropolitan districts are fighting the landowners and artisans, and in agricultural places the credulous agarian workers with the bogy idea that Irish home rule means the inroad of a new set to compete with English laboring people. The excitement and agitation may bring Ireland on the verge of a civil war and is England vigorously backs up Canada or it fishery views, and your cabinet backs up the retaliation bill, your American government might unexpectedly get into a new British war. Then how about Canada's border and Ireland's undefended coasts? What a state our navy is in when the English fleet, under the nose of the queen at Cannes, had no guns suitable to salute here ally, whose hospitality she was enjoying."

COMMENT ON CLEVELAND'S MANIFESTO.

This evening's Globe, a government organ, seems to recognize the belligerency of the situation. In a leader headed "Retaliation," it says: "President Cleveland's reply to the American fisheries union at Gloucester does not breathe a spirit precisely in unison with the associations of Easter tide. It is about as unfriendly to Canada and therefore England as a public manifesto could be, if it were not to be followed by a declaration of war. The whole nation is concerned,' says Mr. Cleveland, 'in the enforcement of the fisheries retaliation act,' and he gives it to be understood that he means to enforce its provisions with the utmost possible rigor. The president bids his fellow citizens to be prepared for sacrifices in maintaining the self respect and dignity of the nation and in supporting the honor of the government. No sacrifice of personal or private interest will be allowed th weigh with him. These be brave words, but it is necessary to attach to them all them all the meaning of which they are susceptible?"

The Globe concludes the fisheries question belongs to a class which American sentiment is not likely to allow to be closed except upon terms of its own dictation. The Canadians, on their side are not willing to abandon what they believe to be their rights, and it is impossible for us in this country to blame them for their firmness.

SOMETHING TO LAUGH AT.

Of course some fun comes out at the expense of American "meddling." Punch, I hear, meditates an American cartoon, and even to-day serious Saturday Review, in a parody of the Bigelow papers, has a poem on the subject. From it I take this verse:

'Twas the demoralizin' soun', I guess,
Of Captain Moonlight's bullets,
An' sight of law an order down
With Paddy's fingers on their gullets,
That drew ye to this hasty move
To save sassiety imperilled—
Before ye'd heard "we are approve"

From New York Tribune, Times or Herald.

MUSICAL AND POLITICAL.

The Gossip in Berlin Over Interesting Subjects.

[Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett.]

BERLIN, April 9—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—Germans are enjoying the usual Easter half holiday, but so profound is now the tranquillity in all matters affecting German interests that this holiday began two weeks ago and may last two weeks to come. The Easter decorations for the time being occupy public attention to the exclusion of politics. Goods in the store windows are arranged in every conceivable form. The easter eggs in the florists' windows are eggs of violets, roses or mignonette, with perhaps a butterfly orchid perched at the small end. In the green grocers the same forms are reproduced with radishes, asparagus or carrots. Even the butchers' shops have azaleas standing between the rumps of beef and legs of mutton.

CONCERNING MUSICAL MATTERS.

To-morrow music will begin again, both in the chnrches and in the concert gardens, which, during the past week, have been almost silent out of respect to the season. To-morrow and on Monday afternoon there will be great band concerts in the open air at the zoological garden, to which all Berlin will flock, if the warm spring weather continues' to drink in their beer and music at the same time. This evening five theatres presented plays and operas either entirely new or revived after lonf silence. The productions of "The Mikado," which had such a successful run last year, was awaited with great curiosity. It was thought the complete failure of Sullivan's "Golden Legend" might affect the popularity of opera, sandwiching in such an old favorite as "The Mikodo" for ten nights between the first production of "Patience," and the critical wrath aroused by the "Golden Legend" is considered to be both a wise and move of D'Oyley Carte. The second rendition of the "Golden Legend," by the way, was received by the critics either with absolute silence or with merely a word of praise for Mme. Albani's admirable singing. After a day or two of silence Die Post, as a final fling at Sullivan's mangled remains, said: "Through the co-operation of such a distinguished artiste assume Albani, the second production of the "Golden Legend', was better than the first, but the lack of creative fancy and artistic earnestness, and the want of originality, made the second representation even less striking than the first. Indeed, parts which at the first redition had a certain charm, at the second performance showed themselves to be only shallow music without inner harmony. In Germany the 'Golden Legend' can scarcely have a long life, because we are accustomed to find in works of a religious character true earnestness and purity of tone, pronounced with orignality, all of which fail in a large measure in the music of Sir Arthur Sullivan.

THE HALE OLD EMPEROR.

This week's lovely weather has set people thinking of the various baths and watering places. On Thursday crown prince's family go to Ems, where they are expected to stay several weeks. The emperor's physicians are showing some anxiety to get their aged but now strong and well patient away from Berlin routine work to the complete quiet of summer life. The emperor recovered wonderfully from the strain of his birthday celebration, but nevertheless his people, as well as his physicians, would be glad to see their young-old emperor leave the city. As the mainspring of the German empire, her remains in the center of political activity, but he drives or walks occasionally into the country near Berlin. On Tuesday he left his carriage outside Berlin and walked to Schoeniberg to visit Superintendent Vorberg, who officiated at the marriage of Bismarck's daughter and at the baptism of his grandchild. To his great delight the emperor found himself for the time unnoticed by the villagers, so that he was able to walk along and observe the life of the people without being himself observed. Outside a small bakery he stopped sometime to watch the distribution by a peasant mother of a loaf of bread among her family of hungry children. Their pranks kept him interested until some passer-by recognized the visitor. Then a crowd of people, whom he good naturedly greeted, drove him back to his carriage and Berlin.

EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL POLITIES.

Although Berlin is politically dull just now, I have found one great political authority willing to acknowledge that Germany still has external and internal politics even though it is the day before Easter. Talking of M. Catkoff, the gentlemen said to me: "De Giers has undoubtedly resigned, but the czar will not allow him to leave office. De Giers will receive some signal mark of imperial favor. I have been expecting all the week to hear an official confirmation of the rumor that DeGiers had been made chancellor of Russia. Such a promotion would enable him to endure without loss of dignity the unrebuked abuse of Katkoff. You are a little puzzled by Katkoff. You don't remember, then, that Katkoff obtained great ascendency over the czar before his accession. Katkoff is the czar's trusted personal friend. Moreover, as leader of the powerful old Russian party whose ideas are to some extent the emperor's own, there are political ties between the two which the czar is unwilling to break by any severe reproof to him. Katkoff would like to see Ingatief secretary of the state. Perhaps this might happen if both Katkoff and Ingatief were not so well recognize here as the turbulent, warlike elements of Russia. Such an appointment would be so openly and plainly a threat of war to Germany that it is not at all likely to occur for some time to come. Katkoff and DeGiers will play at happy family for months.

NO SIGN OF WAR.

"So rumors of our new imperial cause anxiety, do they? Yes, I suppose it is a fact that the new loan will be about $50,000,000. Of this nearly one-half goes for new fortifications and new troops, the right for the deficiency of the past year, and for new internal improvements, such as railways, etc. But all this is no sign of war. On the contrary, if it means anything it is only that by readiness for war we presume peace. There has been one continuous negotiation during the last few day which the newspaper men failed to hear of. The persistent refusal of Alsace-Lorraine to accept German advances so exaspirated the higher circles of Berlin that after the late elections a plan was at once formulated to divide Alsace-Lorraine among the nearest German stores, Prussia and Baden taking the major part. This plan went so far as to be submitted for the kaiser's approval, but was at once negatived by him. Then came the proposal to govern them entirely from Berlin, but this also failed to be approved by the kaiser. He insisted that the government of the reichstag shall remain practically as at present."

KATKOFF WILL DEFEAT DEGIERS.

Another gentleman, who of necessity followed closely the political situation, said to me about Katkoff: "As the personal friend of the czar, and a man of powerful mind, whose ideas to a certain extent agree with those of the czar, Katkoff is in the end certain to drive De Giers out of office. This may not occur for some months. Even then it is hardly likely that Katkoff will be able to put one of his men in as secretary of state. It will take another struggle of some months to accomplish this. The truth is, Katkoff at the helm means war. Russia is not ready for war, so Katnoff must wait. The German press abuse of Katkoff means that it was necessary to show the czar plainly that he must choose between Katkoff and peace."

"How long will it be before Kalkoff will control the action of the Russian state department?"

"Well, say six months, at least, perhaps more, for it is a matter of which no man can speak with certainty."

The general effect of all these conversations is precisely as I cabled a month ago—that until fall war is impossible, and that the best trained observers expect unbroken peace during 1887, all, however, with due respect for the unexpected.

ANOTHER AFRICAN COLONY.

On Wednesday evening I nad an interesting talk with Dr. Carlo Peters, who set off next day for Zanzibar with a party of twenty men to start new stations along the recently annexed African river coast bank of the sea coast, ruled over by the sultan of Zanzibar. Families are to be taken out later to settle in the higher plantation district. Tobacco, cotton and tropical products are to be raised with native labor. Two small steamships already ply on the rivers and the twelve stations give promise of being self supporting. Altogether there is quite sufficient activity and success to cause England just alarm.

PRODUCTION OF THE "MIKADO."

Contrary to the forebodings I have already alluded to, the performance of the "Mikado" this evening was witnessed by a large and enthusiastic auelence, which filled all the seats in the body of the house and stood in the side aisles. Several times attempts were made by a small body of listeners to hiss down the encores but each time the audience showed its feelings by the applause outlasting the hisses long enough to obtain the desired encore. The piece was well mounted, but the actresses had decidedly prettier voices than faces. The audience followed the English words of the opera laboriously and with many German versions of the words. As a rule the mere plays on words failed to be understood, if understood at all. The few Americans or English present usually led the way with a laugh, while the Germans, glancing down at the librettos, followed with a somewhat belated amusement. Good points in the music or acting were instantly recognized by all and liberally applauded and encored. Germans taste enjoyed the mere horse play of the actors more than either the Americans or English. The love scene between KoKo and Katisha was one of the greatest hits. The audience was delighted when KoKo made a furtive attempt to examine Katisha's be-praised heel; also whenever KoKo, as a clown, got an unusually hard clip on the head.

The ridiculous get up in this company of kings creates more amusement than at home. A song in German by Poo-Bah drew the the heaviest applause of the evening and also the only basket of flowers. The curtain dropped mid applause, showing the undoubted success of the revival and promising well for the production of "Patience" next week. After the curtain was down there was some solid hissing at the "Z" who attempted to introduce English habit of leaving their seats before the scene was over.

THE FORTY ROBBERS,

Among the other four revivals, or first nights, which ushered in the Berlin Easter, the only one of note was the revival, after sixteen years, of Jahnn Strauss' "Indigo, or The Forty Robbers," which, when it was prodcued in 1871, was thought to mark an epoch in German oprrato. To-night, at the winter garden, Edwin Strauss had a great ochastral concert while his brothers work achieved only a moderate success at Frederick Wilhelm theatre. The audience fairly filled the best parts of the house, foreigners being especially numerous. The other parts of the theatre was almost emptied by the rush to more modern novelties on the boards. German taste seems to have changed from "Incico," for it needed two acts to raise the audience to a point of applause Even then the applause was rather forced. The music, as judged by the German ear, lacks in its abruptures the universal piquincy of such operas.

ON THE ENGLISH STAGE.

What American Actors and Singers Are Doing in London.

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LONDON, April 9.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—No paper has been so severe upon Mrs. Potter as the Dramatic News. This is perhaps accounted for by professional jealousy. To-day's Era says: "Beauty and distinguished parronage are not, it would seem, the only requisites necessary for theatrical success, for we understand that Mrs. Brown Potter's performance as Ann Sylvester in 'Man and Wife' at the Haymarket has failed to attract either large or fashionable audiences to the theater."

DEADLY STAGE THUNDER.

A singular accident occurred on Thursday evening at the theater at Newcastle-on-Tyne during a performance by the Carl Rosa troupe of the opero "Nordisa." The storm business was on. The sound of thunder was made by heavy cannon balls rolling along gutters lined with sheet iron, which were twenty feet above the stage. In some unaccountable way one ball was dislodged immediately after a vivid scenic flash of lightning, and fell in the midst of a group in the wings between Miss Julia Gaylord and some other performers who were waiting for their call, and landed upon the head of a stage carpenter, who has since died.

OTHER DRAMATIC NEWS.

Yet another dramatic singer. She hails from San Francisco, her stage name is Anita Alamedo. Her debut was made at Milon. The Pringal, published there, says she is gifted with a very high soprano voice of a most vibrative and sympathetic quality, and is certain to make a most brilliant career. She appears as Amina in "La Sonombula."

In this same role Mme. Nevada reappears at Convent Garden next Thursday.

Mapleson's season has turned out very successful with his fine American prima donas.

Mary Anderson continues her provincial tour next week at Nattingham. "One hour after the box office had opened," says the Lewing Journal, of that city, "every eligible seat was booked."

The American play, "Held by the Enemy," which was recently placed at a trial matinee and praised by every London paper, goes into the regular evening bill to-night for the Easter holidays.

HAYTI THREATENED.

An Anti-English Sentiment Stirred Up in France.

[Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett.]

PARIS, (via Havre), April 9.—[New York Herald Cable-Special to the BEE.]—The threatened bombardment of Hayti, coming as does on top of the Connes incident, which was felt throughout France to be a gratutious insult on the part of the Duke of Edinburgh to the French nation, causing a strong anti-English indignation. To-night Saturday France says in a leading article headed "Bombardment En Perspective:" "The British claim against Hayti is a mere pretext by which England hopes to get possession of the Isle de la Torrue and thus create a new Giberalter to commend and entrance to the Panama canal whenever complete. It is impossible for France to remain an impassive spectator to such an event for it's against France entrance to the Panama canal that England now directs her forts. We cannot forget that Hayti was once French territory, and the day may come when we will wish the isle itself under our protection. It is now a long time since England bombarded anything. The Duke of Edingburg, who pretends to have no small guns on board his fleet to return salutes, or who when the time comes for gentlemanly instincts and international politeness goes sound asleep that all salvoes from the French fleet do not awake him, should claim the honor of directing the bombardment at Haytian ports. In any case a French cruiser will soon arrive in Haytian waters to protect French interests, and let us hope international crimes like the bombardment of Copenhagen and Alexadria will not be repeated, or at least the United States will not tolerate new shameful of putting into practice the fable of the wolf and the lamb." France is a stalwart republican paper and the above leader exactly expresses the views of the French government and an overwhelming majority of the French people on the question of threatened bombardments.

RUMORS BELIEVED UNTRUE.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, April 9.—News has been received from Hayti to the effect that an amicable settlemeut of the British claims may be expected. The Haytian assembly has had two special sittings—one public and one private—to consider the demand made by Hill, British special agent, now in Hayti. He wishes to have the principle admitted. President Salomon declined taking action on the expression of opinion from the assembly. To admit the principle is to admit the English claim of $1,000,000. The island of Tortugas was offered to England two years ago in settlement of this claim.

The French frigate Minerve arrived here the day before yesterday for orders. She was ordered to proceed to Hayti, It has been stated that the orders said that trouble was imminent. The vessel proceeded to Port-au-Prince. The highly alarming rumors that have recently come from Hayti seem to be baseless, as the United States steamer Yantic left there three days ago for this port and the Haytian man-of-war Dessalines, Captian Cooper, is also here. Cooper stated positively that rumors of a revolutionary uprising there and another massacre of Malattes were absolutely groundless.

TO FURNISH PROTECTION.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Although no official announcement has been received at the department of state of the report that Great Britain has threatened to seize Tortugao island, yet it is learned that the American consul at Hayti has kept the department fully informed as to the nature of the British claim and all proceedings taken by that government against Hayti during the past three or four years. Now that the matter is reported to have assumed so serious a phase, the government, with a view to being prepared for any emergency, is beginning to canvass its resources in case it should become necessary to again assert the intention of this country to maintain the Monroe doctrine to the extent of protecting these small republics of the American continent against the encroachments of European powers. The result of the inquiries into the naval resources of the United States is not encouraging so far. Several wooden vessels, forming the training squadron, are now on their way northward from the West Indies, and at present there is no vessel bearing the American flag in Haytian water. The Yantic is at Key West and the Galena at Aspinwall, and it is possible that one or both of these vessels may be ordered to the vicinity in event that it may become necessary to enter a formal protest against European encroachment in the West Indies.

AGAINST COERCION.

The Coming Meeting in London—Gladstone's Manifesto.

LONDON, April 9.—The anti-coercion meeting to be held in Hyde park, Monday, promises to be the biggest outdoor political meeting ever held in London. Gladstone to-day issued to the miners in the north of Great Britain, a majority of whom are enthusiastic followers of him, the following letter, which amounts to a manifesto: "I cannot refrain from calling your attention to the meeting to be held in Hyde Park next Monday, and to which I understand ten thousand of the workingmen of London intend generously to devote their holiday. If ever there was a time when it was to the interest of the English workingman to bethink himself, this is the time. It is the first time when a coercion bill, if passed, is to be passed by England's vote alone, against the wishes of Scotland, Ireland and Wales. It is the first time when such bill will have been passed under the sanction of the householders at large, who were never enfranchised before the last elections, 1885 and 1886. It is the first time coercion has been proposed without an attempt by a minister to say what we know they cannot show—a state of exceptional and flagrant growing crime. If England is to coerce Ireland for crime, Ireland can reply that relatively to population she has less crime than England. In my opinion the rejection of the bill is even more needed by England. For Ireland it is a question of suffering and she knows how to suffer. For England it is a question of shame and dishonor, and to cast away shame and dishonor is the duty of a great nation. The meeting of English workingmen in 1879 was the first effectual attempt in the movement for the liberation of Bulgaria, which brought about the election of 1880. The meeting on next Monday should ring the death knell of the worst, the most insulting and most causeless coercion bill ever submitted to parliament."

Attempt Upon the Czar Frustrated.

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VIENNA, April 9—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—A special telegram, purporting to have been received directly from St. Petersburg, and published here tonight by the Allgemeine Zeitung, announces a fresh plot to assassinate the czar on his way from the winter palace to the railway station. It was frustrated by the timely arrest on Wednesday last of a young man and woman. The attention of the police had been attracted to them as they stood together on the steps of a house in the Morshala strasse by the fact that both had thick plaids tied around their shoulders. These plaids are said to have contained several explosive bombs, according to the Allgemeine telegram. A man, who just before the arrest had presented a petition to the czar in the street, was supposed to be in the plot. Up to a late hour no confirmation of this news has been received here, although several cipher dispatches have come from St. Petersburg.

Ex-Secretary Manning Improving.

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BOURNEMOUTH, April 9.—[New York Herald Cable Special to the BEE]—The most lovely Easter weather and not easterly, for the latter is unknown in the sheltered spot, prevails here to-day. I saw ex-Secretary Manning enjoying the day and taking a short walk with his wife and daughter. Outwardly he looks well. What he is internally his physician, Dr. Horace Dobell, will not exactly say. But the doctor, however, says his patient is daily improving and he only visits him on alternate days. Mr. Manning takes daily drives and is the object of much attention, for American ex-cabinet ministers are rare visitors. Among those whom I have seen greeting him are Sir Henry and Lady Rawlinson and M. George Mewnes, M. P., for Newmarket, A. Gladstone, liberal and proprietor of Tid-Bits and other serials, who are here for their health.

THE RUSSIAN TREATY.

Opinion of a Nihilist on the Compact Lately Signed.

NEW YORK, April 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The World says that the proposed extradition treaty with Russia, which it recently published, has received the signatures of T. F. Bayard, secretary of state, and Charles Destruve, Russian minister at Washington, and has been forwarded to St. Petersburg for the approval of the czar. In a talk with the World reporter, Leo Hartman, the famous Russian nihilist, says: The treaty is a direct violation, it seems to me, of the letter and spirit of your constitution. Under this treaty a man can be arrested by the Russian police as easily in the United States as in Russia. All safeguards for the protection of the liberties of the people are thrown down. I do not believe that the American people are in sympathy with such a treaty. The state department cannot represent the popular will of this country. Since the publication of the treaty in the World an association has been formed here called the Russian-American National league. I have been elected president. In two weeks we will have a membership of 2,000 and before the end of the year it will be increased to 10,000. The object of the association is to protect the interests of Russians coming to this county and to help our friends at home in their struggle for freedom. We admit all nationalities of Russians. Russia's emancipation from the yoke of tyranny is not far distant. The movement is steadily progressing until now it has penetrated even to the czar's own household. The ratification of this new treaty on the part of the American government will not be such a serious blow to the growth of nihilism in Russia as might be supposed. Nothing can stop the spread of nihilism in Russia. The leaders of the nihilist party in Russia are not anxious to have an asylum open for them to retreat in America. They are brave men and understand that their lives may be sacrificed any day. They do not care for that. They do not wish to retreat but will push ahead if only to certain death for the cause of "Liberty." Every lover of liberty should protest against the ratification by the senate of Mr. Bayard's infamous treaty.

Dakota's Prairie Fires.

HURON, Dak, April 9.—The prairie fire last night swept over a great portion of Grant township in this county, doing immense damage. Fred Town's house, seven miles south, his barn and other buildings together with furniture, machinery and several head of stock were destroyed. The house was occupied by Edward Maloney and his sister Kate, and with them when the fire occurred was Annie Marine. The wind was blowing a gale and before they were aware of their danger the fire was upon them. In attempting to reach a plowed field all were overtaken by the fire. Edward Maloney and Annie Marine were burned to death and Kate was so badly burned taat her recovery is doubtful. Edward's remains were taken to Preston, Minn., this afternoon, where his parents reside. Other losses a are reported in the same locality.

HIGHMORE, Dak., April 9.—An immense prairie fire raging about a mile south of town driven by a strong wind from the south, called out the citizens 150 strong yesterday. A fire break two miles long was made and the town is now free from danger. At 3 o'clock the temperature was ninty-three in the shade. Signal Observer Lyons at St. Paul says that unless the northwest has rain within a few hours the condition will be highly favorable for a cyclone. The weather here to night is warm and sultry.

Would Strain Diplomatic Relations.

NEW YORK, April 9.—A Washington special to the Mail and Express says: "A state department officer, speaking of the decree promulgated in Germany recently declaring that German citizens remaining away five years or more from Germany and becoming naturalized citizens of any other country would thereby become liable to expulsion from German soil, said: 'As soon as it is enforced it will involve the United States in diplomatic difficulties with Germany. Of course it is primarily intended as a bar to emigration and naturalization. Many Germans who think of coming to this country will reconsider their determination when they know that it virtually makes a return to the Fatherland impossible. It will no doubt keep many Germans at home who would otherwise emigrate. But suppose a German-American citizen chose to return to his native country in spite of the prohibition and he were imprisoned or forcibly removed from German territory. Would he not at once appeal to the American minister? And could this country submit to its citizens being treated as suspects when engaged in lawful and peaceful business?'"

Blaine Appears Better.

ST. LOUIS, April 9.—A dispatch from Gibson station says Dr. Mudd and Kereno arrived there this morning and had a short talk over the telephone with Colonel Coppinger. He said Blaine rested well last night, sleeping soundly, and this morning appears to be much better. No danger is apprehended. The fever has subsided. Nothing further could learned, but any change for the worse will be reported at once.

AUGUSTA, April 9.—Mr. Manley received the following dispatch from Emmons Blaine tod-ay: "Father is better to day and leaves Fort Gibson Monday morning for Chicago."

Wyoming's New Secretary.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., April 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Major S. D. Shannon, who was to-day appointed secretary of Wyoming territory, served in the confederate army during the war on General Lee's staff. Subsequently he engaged in the newspaper business, being connected in an editorial capacity on the Charleston News and Courier. Ill-health drove him west about two years ago. He lived here about six months and acted for a time as secretary to ex-Governor Baxter. He went to Washington two months ago to push his claim for the position which he has now received.

Pacific Road Investigations.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The president this evening appointed as commissioners to investigate the affairs of the Pacific railroads under the act passed by the last congress: Robert E. Paterson, of Pennsylvania; E. Fiery Anderson, of New York; David T. Littler, of Illinois.

PURITANICAL DISTRICT LAWS

Consternation Prevails Among the Business People of Washington.

SUNDAY WILL BE OBSERVED.

Senator Sherman Regufes to Talk On His Own or Blaine's Chances For the Presidential Nomination —Capital News.

Sunday to Be Kept Strictly.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—[Special Telegram to the BEE]—Consternation prevails among various classes of business people here tonight on account of the determination of the District commissioners to carry into effect every law relating to Sunday observance. An ordinance passed by the corporation council of the district of Columbia on December 2, 1864, has been dug up and is to be enforced, although merchants threaten to resist it to the bitter end. It forbids every class of business on Sunday except that of druggists, undertakers and landlords, who cater only food and nothing intoxicating. The offices of the commissioners have been flooded with excited business men and landlords and landladies all day, and it has been finally decided to postpone until next Sunday week the enforcement of this law. The point has been made that the ordinance was not signed by the mayor, but the commissioners declare it was allowed to become a law without the mayor's signature, and that they will enforce it. The commissioners have gone even beyond this ordinance and found one covering almost precisely the same ground enacted and duly signed by the mayor in 1843. This will also be enforced. The two ordidinances taken together will prohibit the sale of a cigar, glass of soda or pop or hiring of a livery rig. They may stop street cars. There is no doubt they will be enforced, beginning a week from to-morrow.

SHERMAN SILENT.

An effort was made to interview Senator Sherman on the published statement that Blaine and friends had arranged his trip to Europe to keep him from speech making, that it was politically significant, etc.

"You are as competent," said Sherman to the reporter, "to judge the value of such reports as I am. Besides, it would be manifestly improper for me to take any part in these discussions."

The reporter endeavored to draw from the senator some expression of opinion on the present political outlook, or some speculation in regard to the probabilities of the presidential campaign, but the senator would not say a word, either about the relative chances of the rival candidates for the nomination or about the relative election prospects of the two parties. "Nobody," said he, "can see at this distance what may happen next year, and any discussion of these subjects now would be manifestly improper," manifestly meaning of course that it was well known that he was a candidate himself.

Representative Holman of Indiana, speaking about the report that Blaine's trip means a trade and that the Plumed Knight is to be premier of the next republican president's cabinet, etc., says: "To be secretary of state to some other president rather than be president himself is not the wish of James G. Blaine, and the remarks of that humble and confiding soul are never made by a man like Blaine. He is too ambitious ever to have uttered it. Blain's ambition is unbounded. He has unlimited confidence in himself and means to be presihent. It is well known that Blaine is friendly to Senator Allison and if he should find himself unable to command the nomination he might possibly, do what he could to give it to his friend from Iowa. But that will not happen until the last chance of the man from Maine is exhausted. There is going to be a remarkably hot contest, for the republican nomination campaign is already opened. Sherman is a man of hardly less ability, self-confidence and ambition than Blaine himself. He, too, is a man of magnetism, and he is without Blaine's disadvantage of farmer defeat. His fighting power is immense. He bears a fighting name and between Sherman and Blaine it will be a hard fight. They are the two strongest men the party can procure."

MILITARY MATTERS.

Major George H. Burton, inspector general, has returned to Fort Leavenworth, from Delaware with his family.

Major Curwen B. McClellan, Tenth cavalry, has been transferred from command at Fort Verde to station at Fort Thomas, Arizona.

First Lieutenant Palmer, Ninth infantry, is to be married April 12 at Waukehaw, Wis., to Miss Bertha E. Wardrobe, of that place.

Lieutenant Colonel Larhett L. Livingston, Third artillery, who was recently promoted, reported at Baltimore this week to command Fort McHenry.

Lieutenant Ernest Virget Smith, Third infantry, is to be married next Wednesday at Watervliet Arsenal, New York, to Miss Cora Young, daughter of Captain Daniel H. Young.

Army leaves: Captain William H. Corbusir, assistant surgeon, Fort Grant, Arizona, one month; Captain Stephen W. Groesbeck, acting judge advoc