

by 10 feet, are the fermenting vats, nearly a hundred in number, they are all of wood, and open on top. The entrance to their interior is gained through holes in the side large enough to admit of the passage of a man's body. It was into one of these ten feet across and twelve in length, that the four men went down at 10 o'clock yesterday forenoon to varnish the sides. They carried a can of shellac varnish and a hand lantern, the upper part of which was covered with leather. The work to which these men were assigned is dangerous, and George Arantz, was within call outside the vat. The men inside had been at work nearly an hour when suddenly there was a puff, as of a slight explosion, followed by shrieks. Braun appeared at the hole, his clothes and beard on fire, and scrambled through. He was followed by tongues of flames, through which Arantz pulled out John Pfauner by main strength. Bissler and Wintschurek were rescued with difficulty, being too badly burned to help themselves. Arantz was severely burned about the hands. The fire in the vat soon went out. Other workmen carried the injured men into the engine room and covered their bodies from which the skin peeled off with their clothes, with oil and cotton. As soon as an ambulance could be procured by the police the four who had been in the vat were taken to Bellevue hospital. Arantz went to St. Francis hospital himself and had his hands bandaged. As to the cause of the fire different stories were advanced. The oil in the lamp was non-explosive lard oil and the story that it exploded told by one of the burned men was shown to be untrue. It is probable that the flames from the inflammable varnish were ignited and the fire was thus communicated to the open can in which it was kept.

WASHINGTON, 7.

Representative Willis, of Michigan, who has charge of the Mormon bill, proposes to punish and discourage Mormons by denying suffrage to any who practice polygamy. He hopes to get it reported, and before Congress this session, so that the next Congress will deal with the question in a way that will wipe out this disgrace. The democratic members of the committee are not so much interested in keeping it back now as they were last session, when, it is understood, Proctor Knott had a scheme to admit Utah as a State if the democrats carried the election. This would have given two more democratic senators. There is now no such incentive to the democrats, and the Mormons find themselves deserted by their friends of last year.

DOVER, N. H., 7.—A fire was discovered in the main building of the Strafford County Farm about 4:30 this morning. When discovered the flames had made considerable headway, and many rooms were filled with smoke. One hundred and sixty-nine persons were in the building, and some had to be dragged out; 13 are missing, probably burned. Their names are: Frank Jones, Asa Hall, Peter Sargent, Burnham Nute, Jeff Holland, Thos. McDermott, Ivory Hanscomb, Joseph Cook, Chas. Riley, Sadie Abbott, Martha Jomell, Lizzie Wilton, Clara Scales. Loss \$70,000; insurance \$25,000. The inmates who escaped are clothed and sheltered by the neighbors. An engine was sent from Dover, but could not get to the fire on account of the snow.

Twelve, perhaps 13 lives were lost by the fire this morning. The county commissioner has been on the ground all day and made arrangements for the protection and shelter of the inmates. The waterworks were rendered useless by extreme drought. There seems to have been mismanagement, many inmates were locked in their rooms and there was no one to let them out. There was no watchman on the premises, and the fire had made considerable headway before discovered. The loss on the county building is \$65,000. Nothing further can be done toward recovering the bodies until the mass cools. No water can be applied. There were two fire escapes on the building, but the doors leading thereto were shut and locked, and that circumstance is the subject of no little unfavorable comment.

NEWARK, N. J., 7.—An explosion, heard for several miles, took place at 12:30 this morning, in the vitriol department of Balbach & Sons' smelting works on Passaic River. Two boilers exploded, instantly killing the engineer and three workmen and seriously injuring two others. Three buildings

and about \$7,000 worth of machinery were destroyed. One end of the house of E. Balbach, Sr., was wrecked, his conservatory and stables were also ruined and two valuable horses killed. The house of E. Balbach, Jr., was injured by flying bricks, and a woman in the third story seriously hurt. The bodies of the killed are frightfully mangled. All are married men and leave families. Their names are John Nutt, engineer, J. W. Schlee, Geo. O. Gorman, and John Owen. The badly injured are Oscar Jacobus and Joseph Verst. The loss is estimated at \$20,000.

NEW YORK, 8.—The Herald says: The prayer meeting in Plymouth Church last evening was signalized by an outbreak of freedom of speech that has not been equalled since the days of the scandal. For a long time it has been known to the initiated that among the leading members there has been smoldering a feeling of dissatisfaction with the spiritual condition of the church. It found vent last evening when Beecher complained of spiritual dryness.

In the discussion which followed, Dr. White thought there was too much of Mr. Beecher in their meetings. He suggested that the pastor let the brethren do all the preliminary talking and that Beecher should come in and round it off with his rich experience.

Mr. Richardson said that the evil was in too much admiration of Mr. Beecher. He believed that when Beecher died, Plymouth Church would scatter to the winds.

Mr. Beecher, "No, it will not." Mr. Richardson said there was a feeling of too much dependence upon the pastor by all the members.

Beecher made the closing remarks. He said, you are not in dead earnest. You come into the prayer meeting languidly? with a thousand things in your head, and not the slightest idea of God's presence in your mind. The good Lord of Heaven is he not here? and what am I when he is present? It seems to me that you try to make me God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, whereas I am nothing but what I am, willing to take half the blame of the present condition of things, but if you will take other half and distribute it among yourselves there is more than you can afford to have. What I say is that you have not the permanent presence of the Holy Ghost among you, and in the future I shall try to be about half as smart as I have been in my talk, and see what that will do.

WASHINGTON, 8.—The discussion of the funding bill, under the five-minute rule, in the committee of the whole, developed an almost unbounded diversity of opinion in regard to its most important details, as well as the expected conflict on the main proposition, whether or not there should at present be any funding legislation at all. Hence it is more than usually difficult to make a safe forecast of the final outcome of the elaborate consideration which this bill is now receiving, but assuming that some funding measures will obtain a majority vote, which there is very little doubt, the contest will narrow down next Monday or Tuesday to a trial of strength between the committees. The representation will perhaps be modified so as to make the new bonds redeemable in 10 or 15 years from this date, and some substitute plan which shall provide for a very large issue of interest bearing treasury notes redeemable at the pleasure of the Government and a comparatively small issue of new bonds, redeemable after a very few years, whether the rate be fixed at 3 or 3½ per cent.

In the House, this afternoon, Frye said, after talking with a large number of business men, he had reached the deliberate conclusion that it would be utterly impossible to float a 3 per cent. bond running less than 30 years. He believed the attempt would be disastrous. The government had never sold 3 per cent. bonds, and no country on earth had ever done so at par. He was fully convinced that a 3 per cent. bond could not be placed, and if Congress undertook to do it, it would fail.

Senators Withers, Eaton and Blaine, the sub-committee on the army appropriation bill, to-day heard the Secretary of War, Paymaster General and Chief of Ordnance, in explanation of some of its details and subsequently agreed to report it to the full committee on Monday next, without material amendments.

The War Department abolishes caps for officers, and hereafter helmets will be worn, with trimmings to designate the different branches

of the service. The infantry color will be white, cavalry yellow, artillery red, signal service orange.

NEW YORK, 8.—Bradstreet has a comprehensive article on the production and export of Indian corn in the United States. The exports from New York in 1880 were 49,875,430 bushels; from Philadelphia, 18,172,396 bushels; from Baltimore, 15,244,895 bushels; from Boston, 12,454,256 bushels; from New Orleans, 9,195,984 bushels; from Montreal, 7,622,161 bushels. Total, 112,585,123 bushels against 86,166,250 bushels in 1879 and 83,583,345 bushels in 1878. Shipments from Baltimore, New Orleans, Boston, Montreal and Portland in 1880 were 139,216,950 bushels or 33,742,507 bushels in excess of 1879. The point to be noted is the high position taken by Indian corn and its products in the country and the change since 1860, ranking second as it now does only to wheat. This leads to the question of prices. It will be remembered in 1869-70 when our exports dropped to 1,302,115 bushels, corn was in such large supply in England from the Danubian and Black Sea ports that it could be laid down in America at a profit.

The statistics of the total quantity of grain, exclusive of flour, shipped to Europe from this port during 1880, shows that 49,966,579 bushels were carried by steam vessels, and 663,376,584 by sailing vessels. This is an increase over 1879 of 9,000,000 bushels by steam and 5,000,000 sail. The large increase in carriage by steam is accounted for in part by the increased number of irregular steamers that came here seeking cargoes.

DANVILLE, Va., 8.—Last night the fast mail going south on the Richmond and Danville Railroad, while running very rapidly ran into a rock slide one and a half miles east of Lexington, N. C. The engine and postal car were completely wrecked. The baggage car and all the passenger cars, including the sleepers were more or less damaged. The postal clerk, baggage master and several passengers were slightly injured. Engineer Mike O'Donnell and his fireman were instantly killed.

CINCINNATI, 8.—Fifty coal barges were broken up by the ice causing a loss of \$50,000.

It is now known that about \$100,000 to \$150,000 worth of barges have been destroyed, 40 miles above and below here, by the ice gorge. The loss is divided among about 20 firms. The steamer *Lytle* is in bad shape and may be ruined. She is now in 18 feet of water.

CHICAGO, 8.—The Journal has an interview with Allen G. Campbell, the Gentle Utah bonanza king, who contests the claim of Cannon as Delegate from Utah to Congress. He believes Governor Murray will give him the certificate. He would offer, if in Congress, legislation to root out the iniquitous Mormon practices. These Mormons living in polygamy should be disfranchised, and with them the women who are now voting without their papers—a common practice among them. Another step might be to put the Territory under martial law, or rule it with a commission until only the naturalized and law-abiding citizens of both sexes could vote, which would soon use up polygamy. Campbell is a democrat.

NEW YORK, 10.—The Times Washington says: Cannon, Delegate to Congress from Utah, is very indignant over the report from Salt Lake City, that the Governor had refused to issue him the certificate of election upon the ground of imperfect proof of his being a naturalized citizen. This action of the Governor is denounced here to-day by both parties as a great outrage. High legal authorities in speaking of it to-day, say the Governor had only one duty to perform in the case, and that was to award the certificate of election to the man indicated by the universal returns as having the largest number of votes. It was none of his business to decide whether the man receiving a majority of votes was a murderer, foreign born, a citizen, or in any way to consider his personal qualifications or their lack. Congress alone is the judge of the qualification of its members. For the Governor to usurp the power of Congress is to display great ignorance or else a disposition to persecute the Mormon representative under cover of the recent demand that the polygamists of Utah should no longer be tolerated. Members in talking about this subject to-day say Cannon will not have a ghost of a show in the next Congress. The certificate of election has already been issued to Campbell who received but a very small portion of the number of votes cast. Cannon is put in the position of contestant, and with an unfriendly committee he can be kept dancing in the lobbies of Congress without any decision until the end of the term.

## FOREIGN.

DURBAN, 5.—An official dispatch from Pieterwartzburg, dated to-day, states that Captain Lambert, lately a prisoner at Widelburg, has just arrived. He was released on parole with Captain Elliott. Both were sent to the Orange Free State, unarmed, but when crossing Vaal River, the Boers, who accompanied them, fired on them, and Captain Elliott was killed. Sixty-two prisoners of the Twenty-ninth regiment released by the Boers, are on their way down.

Captain Lambert gives the following account of the disaster to the Ninety-fourth: On the road from Pretoria to Lydenburg the detachment was met by two men with letters summoning the colonel to surrender, allowing two minutes for decision. The colonel refused to comply with this demand and formed his men, when the fire was immediately opened on all sides, the officers were almost instantly shot down and the force disabled. The colonel then ordered a surrender. Eighty-six men were buried on the field, and 26 have since died. Captain Lambert estimates the number of Boers at Heidelberg to be 3,000. He met a large number going in from the Orange Free State. The commanding officer at Newcastle reports that 3,000 Boers have entered Natal and have taken up a strong position on the road to Transvaal, about five miles within the border. They are pushing the patrols to a point 16 miles from Newcastle.

LONDON, 6.—The Queen, in her speech opening Parliament said:

*My Lords and Gentlemen:*

I have called you at a period earlier than usual to the resumption of your labors, as some affairs of more than common urgency demand your attention. My relations with foreign powers continue friendly and harmonious. The question relating to the frontier between Turkey and Montenegro has been solved. The Powers are now engaged in communications which have in view the determination of the frontier between Turkey and Greece. Some important portions of the treaty of Berlin, which have so long remained without fulfillment continue to form an object of my anxious attention. A rising in the Transvaal has recently imposed upon me the duties of taking military measures with the view to the prompt vindication of my authority, and has of necessity laid aside for the time any plan for securing to European settlers that full control over their own local affairs, without prejudice to the interests of natives, which I had been desirous to confer. I regret the war in Basutoland continues notwithstanding the efforts of the Cape Government. It would cause me much satisfaction if a suitable occasion should present itself for friendly action on my part with the view to the restoration of peace. The war in Afghanistan has been brought to a close, and with the exception of the Candahar force, my troops have been recalled within the India frontier. It is not my intention that the occupation of Candahar shall be permanently maintained, but the still unsettled condition of the country and consequent difficulty of establishing a native government, have delayed for a time the withdrawal of my army from there.

She says trade is gradually improving. Abundant harvests have greatly decreased the distress in Ireland. She continues: "But I grieve to state that the social conditions of the country have assumed an alarming character. Agrarian crimes in general have multiplied far beyond the experience of recent years. Attempts upon life have not grown in the same proportion as other offenses, but I must add that efforts are being made for personal protection, far beyond all former precedent, by the police under the direction of the executive. I have to notice other evils yet more widely spread. The administration of justice has been frustrated with respect to these offenses through the impossibility of procuring evidence, and an extended system of terror has thus been established in various parts of the country which has paralyzed almost alike the exercise of private rights and the performance of civil duties

in the State, things new in some important respects, and hence with little of available guidance from former precedent. I have deemed it right to put in use the ordinary powers of law before making any demand, but a demonstration of their insufficiency, amply supplied by the present circumstances of the country, leads me now to apprise you that proposals will be immediately submitted to you for intrusting me with additional powers, necessary in my judgment, not only for the vindication of order and public law, but likewise to secure on behalf of my subjects protection for life and property and personal liberty of action, subject to the primary and imperative obligation to which I have just referred. I continue, not less than heretofore, to prosecute the removal of grievances and the work of legislative improvement in Ireland, as well as in Great Britain. The Irish land act of 1870 will be productive of great benefits, and has much contributed to the security and comparative wellbeing of occupiers of the soil without diminishing the value or disturbing the foundations of property. In some respects, however, and more particularly under the strain of recent and calamitous years, the protection which it supplied has not been found sufficient either in Ulster or in other provinces. I recommend you to undertake the further development of its principles in a manner conformable to the special wants of Ireland, both as regards the relation of landlord and tenant, and with the view to effective efforts for giving a larger portion of the people by purchase a permanent proprietary interest in the soil. This legislation will require the removal for the purposes in view of all obstacles arising out of the limitations on ownership of property, with due provision for security of the interests involved. A measure will be submitted to you for the establishment of county government in Ireland, founded upon representative principles and framed with the double aim of confirming popular control over expenditures, and of supplying a yet more serious want by extending the formation of habits of local self-government.

She enumerates different matters of English domestic policy which will be laid before Parliament, and concludes with a benediction and commendation of her people to divine care.

The House of Commons reassembled for the evening sitting. The attendance was very large. Goschen, minister to Turkey, was present. The ministers, on entering the house, were cheered by their supporters. Premier Gladstone entered and immediately after him came Parnell, both loudly cheered, the home-rulers being especially demonstrative. Forster, chief secretary for Ireland, gave notice that he would move, to-morrow, a bill for the better protection of person and property in Ireland; also a bill respecting the carrying of arms. Cheers greeted the announcement of these measures. Parnell gave notice that he would oppose these bills. Gladstone announced, amid cheers, that he would move, on Monday, that the bills just announced have precedence every day over all other matters, until they were passed. Parnell gave notice that he will shortly call attention to the relations between England and Ireland, and he will move a resolution. Labouchere, advanced liberal, said he would shortly move that the hereditary chamber cannot be a permanent institution.

The English steamer *Harvalda*, from Palermo, bound to London, collided with the Spanish steamer *Leon*, from Liverpool for Manila, twelve miles from Cape Roca. Both vessels sank. Nine Englishmen and fourteen Spaniards landed at Lisbon. Nothing is known of the fate of the rest.

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