

THE EVENING NEWS.
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GEORGE Q. CANNON,
BRIGHAM YOUNG,
EDUCATOR AND PUBLISHER.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Read that communication signed Morris and Evans—if you can. It looks to us as though some mistakes were made in the spelling, but a Welshman may look at it in a different etymological light.

The Ogden Amateur is to be enlarged and improved. The young man of that city have done exceedingly well and deserve success. The first number of the new volume is to appear next Saturday.

The dead lock in the House is over. The sergeant-at-arms brought in stay members, the doors were closed and the representatives of the people soon became as gay in the hands of Clarkston Potter. His resolution passed by a vote of 157 to 2.

It is stated that a Christian school in Turtukai, which was protected under Mohammedan rule, has been closed by the Bulgarians. That is one of the benefits which have accrued to the Christians under the pretended championship of the Czar.

Those who attempt to apologize for the Ogden Postmaster in his attempts to take other people's property and defend the government, had better say nothing. Every excuse offered only makes his case look worse, and the Land Receiver's thin explanation is the most baseful of them all.

The Republican Congressional Committee have issued an address to the voters of the United States on the Potter resolution. It was evidently telegraphed this morning, but was not sent to this office till this afternoon, too late to be published. It is an important document, and calls for telegraphic explanation.

A real case of broken heart has occurred in Iowa. A witness who became excited while being cross-examined in court, and who was apparently stout and well, suddenly dropped his head on his breast, breathed heavily twice and was found to be dead. A post mortem examination showed that the heart was ruptured, the lungs were suddenly filled with blood and he died literally of a broken heart, a very rare occurrence.

An account of a Limerick man in moderate circumstances, failing heir to the O'Keefe estate, worth \$25,000,000, has been going the rounds of the press. Close inquiry elicits the disappointing information that not only is the statement untrue in regard to the person said to be entitled to the inheritance, but that there is no such sum bequeathed for anybody to inherit, and that the whole O'Keefe story is a myth. How these newspaper people do lie—under gross mistakes.

SELLING SHIPS TO REBELLIONISTS.

The New York Herald, of the 11th inst., publishes a list of one hundred and seventy-one steamers, available for use as cruisers, which are offered for sale to anybody that wishes to buy. Either Russia or England has a chance to purchase the lot, if the money is forthcoming, the terms being strictly cash. The vessels vary in size, from five hundred to five thousand tons, and they are all sound, staunch and seaworthy, and could be readily fitted up for active service in case of war.

This raises the question of the right of American ship-owners to sell vessels to a belligerent. It appears that this right is freely accorded by the best lawyers of the land. Private citizens may not sell ships but arms and ammunition to any government, either in times of peace or war. But the sale or fitting out of vessels in American ports, intended to be used against a belligerent with whom the United States are at peace, is unlawful.

This appears to be a very nice distinction, but it is a distinction, even if it has a very little difference. The Treaty of Washington contains the following rules in regard to neutrality, which this government is bound to observe in the event of a war between England and Russia, unless it should become an ally of either:

"1. To use due diligence to prevent the fitting out, arming, or equipping of any vessel, or of any vessel of which it has reasonable ground to believe is intended to cruise or to carry on war against a power with which it is at peace; and also to use like diligence to prevent the departure from its jurisdiction of any vessel intended to cruise or carry on war as above, excepting those which have been adapted in whole or in part, within such jurisdiction, to warlike uses.

"2. Not to permit or suffer either belligerent to use any port or waters as the base of naval operations against the other, or for the purposes of reparation or augmentation of military supplies or arms, or the recruitment of men.

"3. To exercise due diligence in its own ports and waters, and as to all persons within its jurisdiction, to prevent any violation of the foregoing obligations and duties."

The selling of ships, arms and munitions of war is considered nothing but ordinary commerce. Any dealer may sell the goods which he manufactures or trades in, and any government may purchase, the same as a private firm or individual. In times of peace this would be indisputable. There is no difference in the transaction in times of war, but the goods or ships would be liable to seizure by the enemy of the purchaser, and if captured before delivery, the seller would suffer the loss. The business

is risky but not illegal. So far as the vessels are concerned, the question of intent has to be considered. If it can be proven that any ship is sold to a belligerent with the intention of fitting it out as a cruiser, the seller exposes himself to heavy penalties.

The strict enforcement of the neutrality laws will be found extremely difficult, and as the tide of sympathy runs in favor of Russia as against England, the policy of the latter government as explained by an ex-attache of the English legation may be to some extent imitated in this country. Writing to the London Truth he says:

"Our notion of maritime international law has always been to vary our views according to our particular interests."

This is frank, if not admirable, and represents in a few words the spirit of diplomacy in general. However, the United States will certainly endeavor to prevent privateering by American ships and citizens, and to carry out the provisions of the treaty of Washington so far as possible. It will therefore be a dangerous matter in case of war for any American ship-owner to supply Russia with vessels intended to be used as privateers. But if it can be shown that vessels sold to either belligerent are merely for transports, the danger vanishes and the transaction becomes legitimate.

The essence of crime is in the intent, and this principle seems to be recognized in the matter under consideration. The selling of a ship to a nation at war it appears is all right enough so long as the trader's intentions are good. We are inclined to the belief that when the Russo-English war is over, it will be found that British commerce has suffered mightily from numerous cruisers purchased or chartered from American ship-owners.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPHIC.

EASTERN.

The New York Press on the Potter Resignation and the Action of the House.

NEW YORK, 18.—The Times, commenting on the action of the House yesterday, says: This whole business of investigation is the work of a band of men individually and collectively possessed of the machinery of the cause to commit the party in spite of the better judgment of the majority of its members. The resolution does not express the mature result of a conference representing the views of the party in Congress on the purpose of the faction which Tilden is the guiding spirit, and its adoption by the party in Congress indicates how abjectly the members bowed to the requirements of the unscrupulous men who held the reins of power.

A Vienna dispatch says: Alarming reports come from Agram, Ragnous, Sarajevo and Antivari of the massacre of Serbs in the part of the Bosnian refugees.

Russia has replied to the last Roumanian circular that the troops returning from Bulgaria will only stay in Roumania temporarily, and that the occupation of Bessarabia will be a strong measure against the enemy landing on the Black Sea coast. Roumania is dissatisfied and has protested again.

A correspondent at Constantinople says: I am informed on good authority that Todesien sent a note to the Porte, yesterday, saying that what was wanted was a meeting of the military situation to make the following demands, and requesting the Turkish government to accede to them as soon as possible.

First—The evacuation of Shumla, Varna and Batoum.

Second—The removal of the Turkish camp at Malak.

Third—Permission to occupy Buyluk.

No answer has yet been given by the Turkish Government, but there was a council of ministers and generals held last night, over which the Sultan presided, to consider what to do about the subject. It is considered almost certain that the Turks will decide to fight rather than yield.

The Times says the war has already cost Russia about one hundred million pounds.

Stocks.

Console 96 7-16; bonds 4½ 104½; new fives 104½; Acre 12½.

(For the DESERT NEWS.)

INFIDELITY.

BY CHARL W. STAYNER.

Chapter I—Cause of Infidelity—Infidel Reasoning—Chinese Records, Etc.

People certainly are entitled to believe anything of which they are convinced, or to reject whatever seems to them unreasonable. And as long as they are injured by their ideas, they will have the privilege to think along as well as right. More than this, it is every man's duty to listen, to read and to reflect, and especially to investigate with care the arguments in favor of Revelation, before rejecting a matter of such importance as the existence of Deity and the eternal future of man beyond the grave. It is not sufficient that the subject has been discussed and rejected by others, even by some in whose judgment we have confidence, for there is no subject on which men of intellect, and even of learning, form such crude ideas as do infidels. An individual's reasoning and moral sense are our own judges of the arguments and the proofs advanced; we can not accept the opinion of others, nor risk eternity upon their decision.

The Tribune regards the movement as revolutionary, and says:

"This great blunder of the democratic party is to set up a new standard without the party will exhibit a truly remarkable example of political suicide. The indignant opposition of the country to an attempt to Mexicanize our institutions will render the democratic party as odious to public opinion as any conceivable." In number, as at the close of the civil war.

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