

including the destruction in the State of New Jersey, in 1826, of 45,000 acres of timber land, and 8,000 cords of cut wood.

#### SOUTH AMERICA.

Dutch Guiana—Paramaribo: 1821, 1,000 buildings, loss very large.  
Demerara—Georgetown. April 3 and July 5, 1864, two fires, loss \$4,500,000.

Brazil—Not a single fire recorded.

Peru—March, 1799, 13,000 houses burned; no details. Iquique: October 27, 1875; the city was built mostly of wood, on a nitrous soil, and three-fourths of the buildings were destroyed; loss \$5,000,000.

Argentine Republic—Mendoza, March 20, 1861, a fire followed an earthquake, which destroyed a large part of the city, and 600 persons are said to have been burned to death.

Chile—Valparaiso: 1843, large fire, loss \$2,000,000; November 13, 1858, loss \$3,000,000; 1859, 1860, 1862, 1864, four destructive fires. Santiago: December 8, 1863, terrible destruction of a large church by fire, and loss of 2,000 lives.

[Theatres are not included.]

—American Exchange and Review.

#### President Grant's Indian Policy.

At a recent convention of representatives of the religious denominations of the country the following address to President Grant was adopted and placed in the hands of Mr. Tatham, the chairman of the convention:

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Feb. 8th, 1877.

His Excellency President Grant:

In a convention of friends of the Indians, of different religious denominations, assembled in Washington, February 7th, 1877, to confer with the Board of Indian Commission, the following minute was adopted and the undersigned were instructed to communicate the same to yourself: After the observation during eight years of the peace policy of the government toward the Indians, which was early resolved upon by General Grant, President of the United States; after seeing its good results in securing the services of upright men as Indian agents, who were appointed on the nomination of various religious associations, notwithstanding some cases of disappointment, as was to be expected; after witnessing the establishment of peace with Indian tribes formerly in a state of constant warfare; after learning the great and indeed remarkable advance of Indians on some reservations in habits of industry and self-support, in the education of their children, and in many instances in their adoption of Christian life and worship, the convention regards it as at once a duty and a pleasure to express its belief that the policy of peace and fair dealing with the Indians is wise, humane, and worthy of a Christian people. The convention also expresses its high appreciation of the firmness of the President in adhering to this line of benevolent action in the face of misunderstanding and opposition. The convention would therefore respectfully tender to him its grateful acknowledgment of his admirable course of procedure towards the long oppressed Indian tribes.

While aware that great difficulties in the way of Indian improvement are still to be overcome, the convention nevertheless expresses the hope that the work now happily in progress may go forward until the Indians all become a civilized and Christian people, prepared to become good citizens of our common country.

And in order to further this object, the convention approves of the plan of consolidating the Indian agencies; and particularly does it desire to see lands secured to Indian families in severalty by a title inalienable for a term of years, the protection of law extended to the Indian tribes, and provision made by the government for imparting the benefits of common school education to all Indian children.

Very respectfully, (Signed) B. Tatham, chairman; Richard Bentley, of the Friends Society; Edward Earle, of Orthodox Friends Society; J. M. Reide, D.D., Secretary Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church; S. S. Cutting, D.D., Corresponding Secretary American Baptist Home Missionary Society; J. C. Lowrie, D.D., Secretary Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian

an Church; M. E. Strieby, D.D., Secretary of the American Missionary Association, Congregational Church; Henry B. Whipple, Bishop of Minnesota Protestant Episcopal Church; Grindell Reynolds, American Unitarian Association—Washington Star, Feb. 14.

WHO WAS THE MAN?—A correspondent of the New York Herald tells a strange marriage story as occurring a few years ago in Central Michigan. A rich man named Dodsworth, aged fifty, married a girl of twenty. The man died when his wife was thirty-five. He left his property, about \$30,000, to her, on condition that she marry again within thirteen months after his burial. The marriage was to be celebrated as thus provided—

"In taking a new husband, the marriage ceremony shall be performed in the big barn on my farm, on the H— road. It shall take place at ten o'clock in the evening, on the main floor, without lights of any description, with all doors shut, and a free invitation shall be extended to all. The clergyman shall stand in the stables and the bride and groom on the main floor, and the principal parties to the ceremony shall be dressed in black throughout."

The bride was willing and she was married accordingly. About 200 people were present at the ceremony, and at its conclusion a rush was made for the bride, she was kissed by a hundred men, and carried home about a mile and a half in a big arm chair. When set down at her own door, a widower, who was her choice, a bachelor, and two other young men each claimed to be her lawful husband. None of the crowd could say who was the real happy man, the minister could not, and even the bride had her doubts. The widower affirmed that at the time of the ceremony an attempt was made to choke him and get him out of the barn. The four men had a fight, and the crowd ducked two of them. The matter was finally settled by the widower assuming the husband's rights and paying each of the other claimants \$2,000 each.

## By Telegraph.

#### AMERICAN.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., 26. —By the fall of a scaffold in the blast furnace of the Bethlehem Iron Works two men were fatally and two dangerously injured.

WASHINGTON, 26. — Secretary Robeson says if the proposed reduction is made in the appropriation for pay of officers and men of the navy serving abroad, the ships and crews will have to be brought home at once.

NEW YORK, 26. —There is no longer any doubt that the plan for placing General Grant at the head of the great New York Bank will be consummated.

CHARLESTON, 26. —The Courier has had an interview with Governor Hampton, who says, concerning the proper course of the democrats in Congress, "I think it is not advisable to throw obstacles in the way of the decision of the electoral commission. We submitted our case to that tribunal, and we can better afford to suffer defeat, which brings no dishonor to our party, than to incur the imputation of acting in bad faith."

SAN FRANCISCO, 27.

Some weeks ago the burning of the court house of Monterey County, at Salinas, was telegraphed. Investigations since conducted by the local authorities, with the aid of San Francisco detectives, show that the building was fired for the purpose of destroying the records and covering a defalcation in the tax collector's office amounting to about \$20,000. It is proven to a reasonable certainty that most of the money has been gambled off by Wm. Rumsey, deputy collector, and that a number of prominent citizens of Salinas, including certain county officials, have been winning it. Collector M. A. Castro has resigned. Rumsey is locked up awaiting examination, and several prominent citizens have been arrested for complicity. The detectives intimate that a strong ring exists among the county officials and other members which have been plundering the public for a long time, and that many of the officials are doing everything in their power to defeat

the ends of justice, including County Judge Webb. The ring has a number of desperate characters in their interest ready to further their purposes either by perjury or violence. There is great excitement among the citizens, who claim that it is their intention to use every legal means to bring the offenders to justice.

WASHINGTON, 27. —Sargent's report from the joint committee to investigate Chinese immigration, sets forth that congressional action authorized the commission, and says in conducting the investigation required by the resolution, the joint committee visited the Pacific coast and examined a hundred and thirty witnesses. The testimony so taken covers over twelve hundred pages of printed matter, and embraces the views of all classes of the community and every variety of interest. The committee found great diversity of opinion, resulting from the different standpoints of the witnesses who were examined. In conducting this examination the committee divided their work so as to first hear persons opposed to the unlimited introduction of the Chinese, and to this branch of the subject limited time was given. They heard the testimony of persons favorable to such introduction, and concluded by affording time for witnesses in abutment. Although the subject by this means was pretty fully covered and inquiry perhaps exhausted, the conclusions to be drawn from the mass of testimony may be different to different minds. In the opinion of the committee, it may be said that the resources of California and the Pacific Coast have been more rapidly developed with the cheap and docile labor of the Chinese than they would have been without this element. So far as the material prosperity is concerned, it cannot be doubted that the Pacific Coast has been a great gainer. This is true at any rate of the capitalist classes. If the inquiry should stop there; if it should be satisfied by the certainty that money is made out of the present condition of things, and not look to the future moral or political welfare of our Pacific States, it must be conceded at least that many enterprising men find their profit in Chinese immigration, and the general resources of the Pacific are being rapidly developed by means of Chinese labor.

Among others who testified were those who largely employ Chinese, or are interested in their transportation, and who find profit therein. These testified that the result of Chinese immigration had been invariably beneficial in enhancing the material prosperity of the coast, but some were not entirely clear that there were not special moral evils springing from this immigration, which in future would counterbalance the advantages gained by the present rapid production of wealth. Opposition to any move restricting immigration of the Chinese was also developed among religious teachers, who testified before the committee that the presence of Chinese among us imposes duties and gives opportunities of Christianizing them. On the other hand, the committee found that laboring men and artisans perhaps without exception, were opposed to the influx of Chinese on the ground that hard experience had shown that they are thereby thrown out of employment and the means of a decent livelihood are more difficult of acquisition. But opposition to Chinese emigration was not confined to the laboring men and mechanics. In the testimony will be found that of lawyers, doctors, merchants, divines, judges, and others in large numbers, speaking of their own observation and belief that the apparent prosperity derived from the presence of Chinese is deceptive and unwholesome.

#### FOREIGN.

CALCUTTA, 26. —The official report for the week ending February 22nd, states that rain has fallen in Madras in the districts of Kistna, Melare, Kurnola, Cornibatore, and Tinnelly. The number of people employed on the relief works has decreased in every district except South Arcot. The Bombay situation shows no change.

LONDON, 26. —The Governor of the Vilayet of the Danube sends a dispatch to the Turkish ambassador at London, asserting that the recent affray with the Roumanian troops was caused by an attack made by the latter [on the Turkish laborers, who were on the Island, belonging to the Turks, and declar-

ing that the Vilayet, in the exercise of its rights, will take the necessary steps in the matter.

The roof of the Old Bailey sessions room was burned to-day. The report that the Old Bailey was on fire created considerable excitement in the city.

HALIFAX, 26. —It has been discovered that the seal attached to the commission of the Queen's Counsel, appointed by the local government, is not the great seal of Providence, but the old seal, ordered to be returned by the Imperial Government in 1869, and this seal has been used continually since that date; therefore, all acts done since then and requiring the great seal, are totally void. This state of affairs leaves Nova Scotia without a parliament and without a government, with all the grants of marriage licenses, and consequently the marriages and all commissions since 1869 are totally void. The greatest excitement prevails in consequence. The Chief Justice, after intimating that it would require imperial legislation to rectify the matter, adjourned the court for ten days for a full investigation.

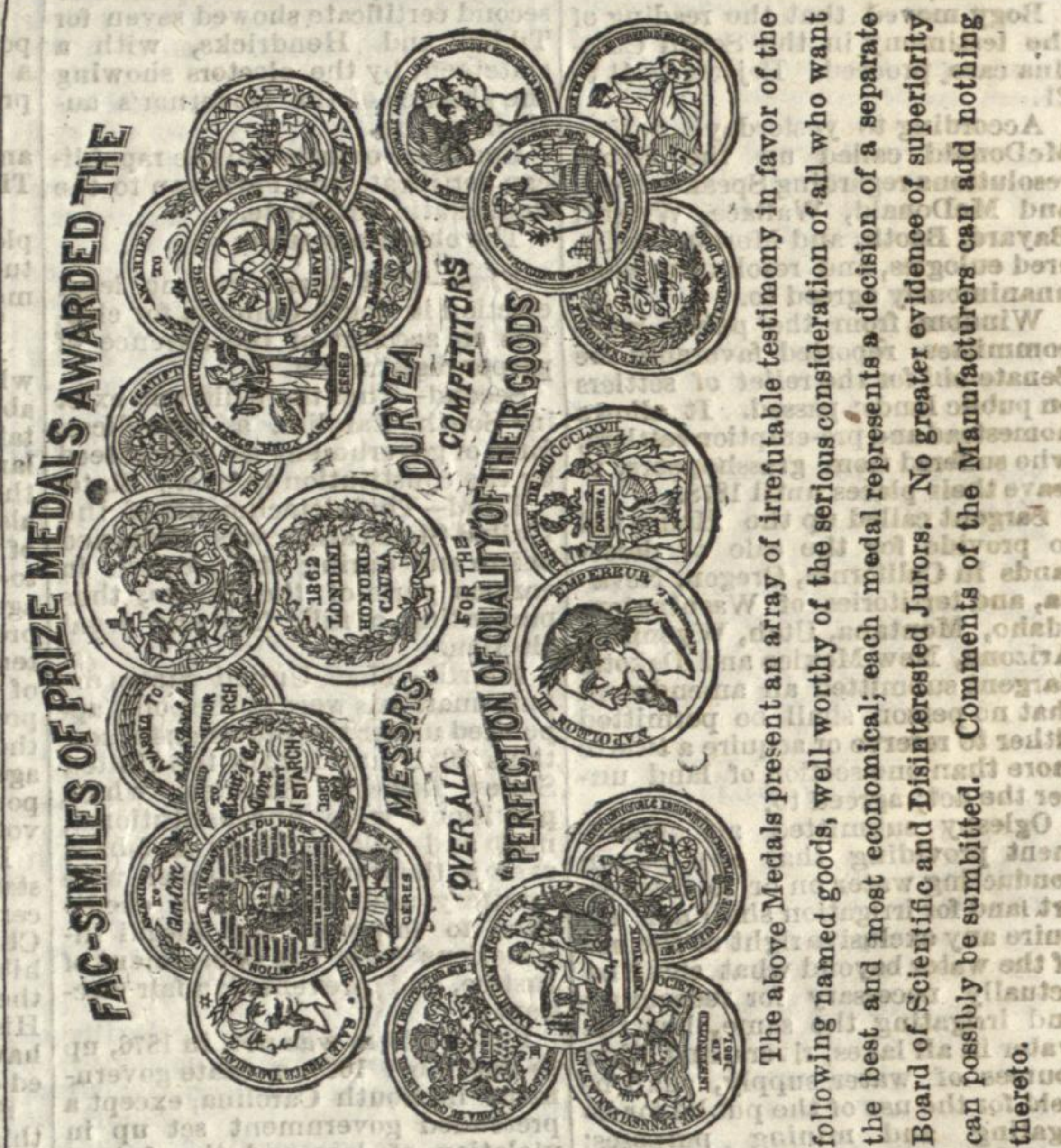
LONDON, 26. —In the House of Lords to-night, Lord Stratheden moved an address to the Queen praying that Her Majesty would adopt measures to prevent hostilities in the east and secure adher-

ence to the treaties of 1856, and promote the welfare of the races subject to Turkey. He urged that the government should, by the acceptance of his motion, declare they would adhere to the treaties so far as Parliament would permit them. By their thus taking up a more decided attitude than hitherto, very little doubt would remain that the peace of Europe and Asia would be secured.

Earl Grey made a strong anti-Russian speech. He deprecates interference between the Turks and their subjects.

Earl Derby replied that his main point was in refutation of Lord Stratheden's argument that England's treaty obligations were unchanged, whatever might be the result of the conference. He said if the powers once bound themselves by treaty to protect a state they must still continue bound.

The Berlin correspondent of the Times says the Russian government has no wish to make war and would be happy to desist from hostilities were some regard paid to her feelings and to the position in which she is placed. There is, at this moment, every chance of averting a conflict if Turkey can be induced to appoint Christian governors, and make a bona fide attempt at the administration of reforms.



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