

that his advance has felt the Russians and will give battle without delay. Heavy fighting is expected from him, but no success, as the Russians occupy a position nearly as strong as that of the Turks at Plevna.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The following is the text of the bill introduced by Senator Ingalls authorizing the coining of the standard silver dollar and restoring its legal tender character:

*Be it enacted, &c.,* That there shall be, from time to time, coined at the mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of 412 grains standard silver to the dollar, as provided for in the act of January 18th, 1837, and that said dollar shall be a legal tender for all debts, public and private, except where payment of gold coin is required by law.

Congressman Haskell, of Kansas, is lying very dangerously ill in this city with Bright's disease of the kidneys, complicated with affection of the liver.

KANSAS CITY, 19.—A most gigantic swindle was brought to light here yesterday by the arrest of J. R. Ham, Edward L. Stevens, and George Miller, on the requisition of Governor Hubbard, of Texas, on a charge of forging land titles and issuing deeds for large tracts of land in Texas. The swindle originated with Ham and a man named Tullis, of Austin. Ham and his confederates had made duplicate copies of the national and other seals, and had obtained the signatures of many officials. They also had printed here blank forms and perfect copies of deeds necessary for their operations. All the titles and patents, representing either State or government lands used by them, were forged. An immense amount of land has been conveyed by them under many aliases, and to many different parties. About a year ago the attention of Governor Hubbard was called to the matter, and on looking into it a monstrous swindle was detected, involving both the State of Texas and the United States. The authorities at Washington were informed, and a special agent Foster was sent out here, who obtained a clue, which has been closely followed ever since, resulting in the simultaneous arrest of sixty persons in different parts of the country who belong to the gang. No less than thirteen court houses have been burned the past year to destroy the evidence that could be brought against the swindlers. Ham, Stevens, and Miller were conveyed to Texas in charge of officers from that State.

George M. Wheeler, of W. Bailey, Long & Co., iron merchants, is under arrest, on a charge of fraudulent bankruptcy, brought by Frederick S. Comstock, one of the creditors. Judge Blatchford directed the United States Marshal to take possession of the assets of the firm left out of the schedule, which are said to amount to several hundred thousand dollars. The creditors claim that with this addition the assets will cover the liabilities, estimated at about \$450,000.

SAN FRANCISCO, 15.—A Victoria dispatch says, the *George S. Wright* murderers have been discharged, Government being unable to secure evidence to corroborate that of the Coma Indian who professed to have been on board the steamer when she blew up, and to have seen the captain and five others murdered.

In the contest between the trustees of the Lick estate and the Academy of Natural Sciences, the judge to-day overruled the demurrer of defendants, and sustained the legality of the present board of trustees.

WASHINGTON, 19.—The action of the Senate yesterday concerning the Louisiana contested seats, is a great disappointment to the democrats and completely falsifies widely believed predictions of quidnuncs, that a sufficient number of dissatisfied republicans would combine with the democracy to give them immediate control of the Senate. The Spofford case was selected for first presentation, because his claims were considered strong, and for many reasons more acceptable to republicans than either of the others, and the cohesiveness of the republican vote was therefore very strikingly manifested when the democrats failed to obtain a single accession from the remaining carpet-bag senators, or any from the so-called moderate republicans or independents, except Judge Davis, in favor of his immediate admission. Then the failure in a similar effort for Eustis to-day was still more signal, as Davis vot-

ed with all republicans, for delaying action until the committee investigate and report on the case. The result on the Louisiana cases, when the vote is taken on the direct question subsequent to the committee's report, cannot, however be considered foreshadowed by the preliminary action now taken.

NEW YORK, 19.—The President has pardoned James White of Cincinnati from the Ohio penitentiary, for complicity in election frauds in Cincinnati in '75.

ST. LOUIS, 19.—The *Kansas City Times* account of the Texas land swindle, reported last night, says one of the largest banking houses in Austin, Texas, two Chicago houses, bankers, and two real estate dealers, and two attorneys in St. Louis, a bank and two real estate dealers in Indianapolis, and others in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Pittsburgh are to be or have been arrested for being connected with the fraud. It also says there has been a well organized system of forgery in full practice in this western country for the past eight or nine years. The same organization which is now forcing Texas scrip on the market has been perpetrating some of the most terrible forgeries ever perpetrated. The mode of working by the gang is this: They have agents in each district, with attorneys in the cities. An old man or woman of wealth falls sick, and doctors give her or him up as likely to die. In some places the gang has a doctor as one of their agents, and he assumes the death of the victim at the proper time. A person having been assumed to die, and the gang having examined the record of the property belonging to the doomed persons, the heirs are sought for and duly examined by the gang. Then deeds are prepared in due form, and the woman or man (each members of the gang) appear before the justice or notary, and the dying man's property is duly deeded away before his death. His name is forged, and that of his wife, and the same placed on record.

NEW ORLEANS, 19.—The Southwest Pass steamer *Teutonia*, drawing 20 ft. 9 in., went to sea through this pass to-day without detention.

Captain Pendleton of the tow boat *Harry Wright*, reports having passed the brig *Geo. Gilchrist* about seventy miles southeast of the Pass, dismantled and abandoned. The cabin and deck are all right. The sea is breaking over her amidship. Rough weather prevented assistance.

NEW YORK, 20.—The *Times* Washington special says Congressman Manning, democrat, from Mississippi, has a list of charges against G. Wiley Wells, his predecessor in Congress, who has been sent as consul general to China, the purpose of these charges being to prevent the confirmation of Wells. The report concerning this affair is that Manning showed the charges to Senator Lamar, who refused to have anything to do with them, and replied, in pretty strong terms, to the purport that he intended to support the confirmation of every nomination made by the President to the Senate.

The cigar makers' strike seems to be growing. The strikers are firm, and have increased to nearly 12,000. Money and other assistance is coming in from all parts. Manufacturers in other cities are negotiating with the strikers, trying to get the cigar-making business away from New York. Cincinnati and New Haven firms are foremost in this business.

The shipments by the European steamers, to-day, include 155,000 bushels of wheat, 15,000 boxes of cheese, 300 kegs of honey, and large quantities of cotton, flour, and provisions.

SAVANNAH, 20.—The steamer *George Appold*, cotton laden, is on fire. The vessel is to be scuttled.

WASHINGTON, 20.—The wheat crop this year is the largest ever produced in the country.

GLEN FALLS, N. Y., 20.—Clintonville is devastated with small-pox. Twenty persons have died within a few days. Travelers are prohibited from entering the place. All highways are blocked.

WASHINGTON, 20.—The State Department to-day received official confirmation of the press dispatch announcing that the authorities in Matamoras had released the four remaining riders from the Rio Grande jail. Official reports state that this action was taken upon the plea that the prisoners are Mexican subjects, and therefore

liable to extradition. Notwithstanding the Mexican general government had ordered them to be surrendered to our authorities regardless of their nationality. Gen. Cavales, in command of Diaz' forces at Matamoras, found the pressure of local sentiment so strong that he resigned rather than execute the order, and further news as to the power and intention of Diaz' government to maintain its position on this subject is now awaited with interest.

BOSTON, 20.—In wool a fair business has been done, but prices ruled weak; the market is not in a satisfactory condition. Manufacturers are evidently more or less disappointed with the trade in goods, so far, and purchase wool with great caution. Sales of domestic, however, continue to exceed the receipts, and stocks are becoming gradually reduced. Manufacturers will scarcely be able to hold off more than a few weeks longer, and November will probably bring about more active movements. Sales comprise Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces No. 1. XXX, XX and above 42 1/2 @ 47 1/2. Michigan X and No. 1 39 @ 41. Wisconsin X and No. 1 39 @ 42 1/2; washed combing and Delaine 45 @ 55; unwashed Delaine 34; tub washed 44 @ 45. Texas 28 @ 32. Territory, medium and fine, 24 @ 35; scoured 40 @ 75 (?) sup. and X pulled 80 @ 44. Spring California 20 @ 35, fall California 15 @ 22. Total sales of the week 1,363,700 lbs. of domestic and 23,200 lbs. of foreign.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The following is the full text of the timber land bill, introduced in the Senate by Chaffee, and now before the public lands committee:

*Be it enacted, &c.,* That all citizens of the United States, and other persons bona fide residents of the State of Colorado or Nevada, or either of the Territories of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Dakota, Idaho, Washington or Montana, shall be and are hereby authorized and permitted to sell and remove for building, agricultural, mining, or other domestic purposes, any timber or other trees growing or being on the public lands; said lands being mineral and not subject to entry under the existing laws of the United States in either of said States or Territories, of which such citizens or persons may be at the time bona fide residents, and that section 2462 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, and all other acts and parts of acts prohibiting the selling or removing of timber or trees growing or being on public lands of the United States, or providing penalties therefor, so far as they conflict with this act, are hereby repealed.

The director of the mint is in receipt of information that the recent rise in the price of silver is due to the famine in certain districts of India, for which large quantities of rice were procured directly from Siam, and silver sent there in payment, which silver came from London, where the general government freely supplied it. A treatise on money and legal tenders in the United States, by Dr. Linderman, director of the mint, will be issued by a New York publishing house in a few days.

NEW YORK, 22.—The *World* has the following: It is now definitely announced that the Woodruff Scientific Expedition around the world will not start before June 1st, 1878, as it has been ascertained, upon examination, that the steamer in which the voyage was to have been made, is unfitted for the purpose. The director, therefore, has contracted with John Roach to build a new one, specially arranged for the expedition, to be ready by the 18th of May. This vessel is to be 325 ft. long, and 40 ft. wide containing the latest and best improvements in machinery, &c., and will be one of the handsomest and strongest steamers afloat. The plan and route will remain substantially the same as heretofore published, except that the route will be almost reversed, going first to England, thence to France and the Great Exposition at Paris, possibly to St. Petersburg, and on the return voyage visiting the Sandwich Islands and San Francisco; from there probably to Peru, the Society Islands and Feejee Islands, and thence home via the Straits of Magellan, being absent about two years. Details are now in course of preparation. The same educational plan and purpose will be maintained in every respect, with substantially the same management, officers and faculty.

John Brougham, the veteran actor, who was to begin this evening, a week's engagement in Pittsburgh, is confined to his rooms in this city, suffering from inflammatory rheumatism.

Mrs. Gilman, wife of the convicted forger of insurance scrip, has been removed to the retreat for the insane of Hartford, and the children, two little girls and a boy, have been placed under the charge of Gilman's sister, at Norwich. Before entering Auburn prison on Saturday night, Gilman spoke of his recent position as treasurer of the Prison Association, and said that in his present condition he could gain practical experience for improving the prison system. He said he could have been in Europe now but he scorned the role of a fugitive from justice.

CHICAGO, 22.—The *Times* special from Fort Walsh, Northwest Territory, via Fort Benton, says the commission had met Sitting Bull and utterly failed to obtain any satisfaction or terms of settlement from him. The Canadian authorities had experienced great trouble in inducing Sitting Bull and his warriors to meet the commission, and the Sioux chief had believed none of the statements which had been made concerning them. He held the Americans in contempt, and deemed them thieves and liars. He utterly refused to see them, and it was only after Major Walsh, the officer in command at this post, had remained in his camp three days, that he succeeded in inducing them to make the journey. The camp of Sitting Bull is at present located on the north side of White Mud River, 100 miles east of Fort Walsh, and fifteen miles north of the boundary.

When the Indians arrived at the post, they were assigned a large-sized room in one of the log houses, and were given all the food they desired to eat. During the intervening time, while they remained to await the arrival of the American commission, the Indians became very restless, and threatened to return to their village; Sitting Bull particularly was troublesome and appeared to fear trickery. He has been told that a price has been placed on his head. He was also told that the proposed truce was a trick of the Canadians to give him over to the American government, and he charged Major Walsh with being concerned in such a scheme.

Sitting Bull was not to be seen among the crowd of Indians who witnessed the arrival of the Americans; he remained in his temporary quarters during the night and a portion of the next day. He was afraid of treachery, notwithstanding the assurance of the Canadian officers, and his chiefs watched all the movements of the Americans closely.

When the wagons arrived with the company of infantry, the fact was reported to him, and during the night one of his followers left the post to communicate the intelligence to his people in their village. From the time he left his camp to meet the commission, several hundred of his warriors were ready for an attack, if the Americans or Canadians showed signs of treachery.

The place of meeting selected was a large room in the building occupied by the commander of the post. Two long tables had been placed in the apartment, at one of which were seated the members of the commission, Gen. Alfred H. Terry, Gen. A. B. Lawrence and Col. H. C. Corbin, the official stenographer Mr. Jay Stoney and Major Walsh. At the other table were seated two newspaper representatives and Col. J. F. McLeod. In the back ground were standing a number of officers of the mounted police. The floor was reserved for the savages.

Precisely at three o'clock, the first Indian, a Minneconjou Sioux, named Flying Bird, entered the room and was introduced by Col. McLeod to the members of the commission. He shook hands with all of them, and retired to a corner. A few minutes later Sitting Bull appeared at the door way, accompanied by Maj. Walsh. Col. McLeod extended his hand and said, "How."

Sitting Bull replied quickly in return, "How, how."

When one of the commission greeted him he looked at the three and said "How," very slowly, and walked away without extending his hand. When the Indians had seated themselves, Sitting Bull rose and said:

"I want them," pointing to the commission, who were seated be-

hind a table in his front, "to sit here." He pointed to the floor in front of where the savages were seated.

General Terry replied, "It is a habit of the whites to sit on chairs."

The Indians explained that they could not see the Americans, and partly complying with their request, the chairs were placed with their backs to the table, so that the Commissioners sat in full view of the savages. After this preliminary, General Terry rose and addressed the Indians through the interpreter: "We are sent here to induce the Indians to return to the United States, give up their arms, and cease hostilities, and that if they would return, and hereafter refrain from acts of hostility against the United States, a free pardon would be given for all acts committed in the past." The speech of the General produced no effect on the savages. The offer of peace was rejected. The council broke up, and the Commissioners turned their faces homeward.

WASHINGTON, 22.—Senator Blaine was taken suddenly ill, last evening, with a chill and slight fever, which prevented his departure for Augusta. He is much better this morning, and his physicians state that his illness is not serious.

## Correspondence.

Baptisms—Successful Missionary Work.

ROME, Ga., Oct. 11, 1877.

Editors *Deseret News*:

After an absence of four months Brother Lisonbee and myself returned to this part of the country to attend the semi-annual conference of the Saints of North Georgia and Alabama.

Since I last wrote you I have baptized seven more persons, among the rest a young minister of the M. E. Church, whom I met with last July, and who invited me to preach to his congregation, which I did from time to time during the summer, resulting in his acceptance of the gospel, as well as quite a number of his flock, he is a young man of more than ordinary ability and if he will hold out faithfully to the end, can do a good work in assisting to build up the kingdom of God, we think of ordaining him an Elder and letting him continue preaching to his former brethren and sisters who have not yet come to a knowledge of the truth. The result of Brother Lisonbee's and my journey during the summer, was twenty-one baptisms, and a field of labor opened up for some Elders to go into and do much good during the coming winter, we regretted to be compelled to leave our new made friends, but were forced to on account of the preparations we had to make in assisting about emigration.

Cotton picking time has come around again, and the people are busily engaged in picking out their cotton; the prospect for hard times during the coming winter is staring the people in the face, and day by day the poor are getting poorer, drawing nearer and nearer to the final point of misery and want that is slowly but surely overtaking the people of this land, their cotton crop will all be taken to pay their debts, and they will still owe more than all their property will pay, "no money and hard times," is the cry on all sides.

In this section we have sounded the Gospel to the people, and while many have obeyed it, the great majority have turned a deaf ear, and will not hearken to the counsel of God, preferring to believe "strong delusions," in fulfillment of prophecy. Very respectfully,

J. MORGAN.

During the month of September there were forty-seven failures in New York City alone, the liabilities footing up \$3,371,689, while the assets did not exceed a third of that amount. And yet they say business is improving.

## DIED.

In Sugar House Ward, on the 18th inst., of diphtheria, ABRAHAM B., son of Jacob and Sarah B. GIBSON, aged 9 years.

At the residence of his parents in the 11th Ward, Salt Lake City, October 13th, 1877, of diphtheria, CHARLES, son of John and Sarah Jane Coulam, aged 5 years and 7 months.