

## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—D. G. Metaxer, Greek charge d'affaires, called at the foreign office yesterday and presented a note expressly stating that the Greek government has decided to prevent Turkish troops from debarking in Crete, by all means in its power.

TRIPOLI, Feb. 12.—Turkish officials having withdrawn the guard from the Jewish quarter here, a mob of Mussulmans invaded it, pillaged the synagogue and destroyed the scrolls of the law.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Feb. 12.—A telegram has been received here giving an account of a desperate battle between Sheriff Jones and posse and a band of cattle thieves which took place in Kimball county, Tex., in which J. C. Jones and Jim Crain, two of the thieves, were killed and Jack Underwood fatally wounded.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 12.—Miserable weather today again prevented the North Atlantic squadron from putting in the customary target and rowing practice. It is reported by the tow boat that the battleship Indiana has arrived. The flag ship New York, the cruisers Marblehead and the Monitor Amphitrite have been assigned to patrol duty at the south channel entrance. It is pretty well settled that the dispatch boat Dolphin, the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius, the torpedo boat No. 6 and probably the Cushing will be the blockade runners. The Dolphin, which was reported to be at Jacksonville yesterday, is expected to make an attempt to run by the blockade tonight. The Vesuvius and the torpedo boat No. 6 will also attempt to slip into a port without first reporting to the admiral. The armored coast defensive ships Puritan and Terror are the latest vessels to arrive.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—A dispatch to the Herald from Havana says: Rumors continue to be spread abroad that Gomez has extricated himself from Gen. Weyler's column and is on the march toward the west. It is even said that he is near Colon. Four thousand troops left Havana on Tuesday morning for Colon, and parties of Castillo and Aranguren are in Matanzas marching east.

Gen. Weyler has left for Santa Clara and is now at Placetas.

The events which may happen in the next few days are awaited here with intense excitement.

It is stated on the authority of Agent Leman who has just arrived from Jamaica, that he had seen Gen. Garcia there. An expedition is reported to have safely landed at Maria La Gorda on the north coast of Pinar del Rio province.

ATHENS, Feb. 13.—[Copyrighted, 1897, by the Associated Press.]—There is a change for the better here today. People are becoming calmer and the officials are betraying anxiety as to the eventual outcome of the efforts of Greece in behalf of the Cretan insurgents.

It is now known that strong pressure has been brought to bear upon King George and the sultan of Turkey to prevent the outbreak of hostilities between Greece and Turkey. The lat-

ter country is understood to have agreed not to send troops to Crete. The powers in return are believed to be restraining Greece from actively interfering in Crete.

At the same time there is evident danger in the direction of Thessaly and Macedonia, for Greek troops are being hurriedly dispatched to the frontiers and reports from Salonica say the Turks are quietly mustering an army corps there in order to be prepared for emergencies.

The situation in Crete has somewhat improved. Desultory fighting is still reported. It is stated here that the insurgents practically are in possession of the whole island except the largest towns. If this is the case, the union of Crete with Greece having been formally proclaimed, the independence of Cretans from Turkish rule is almost a fait accompli, and it is difficult to see how the pre-existing order of things can be restored without joint action upon the powers and the military occupation of Crete by the foreign fleets. In official circles here this outcome is not believed to be possible and there is a disposition now to quietly allow events to take a natural course, the idea being that Crete is practically free and likely to remain so unless subdued by the powers. Therefore the question to be discussed, it is said, is whether the powers will permit the Cretan insurgents to enjoy their independence and eventually ally themselves with Greece.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 13.—[Copyrighted 1897 by the Associated Press.]—There is a disposition in official circles here to hold the powers responsible for anything that may happen in Crete. The sultan has been prevailed upon by the ambassadors to refrain from sending reinforcements to Crete and also has been assured that the powers have decided not to permit the landing of Greek troops in Crete. The council of ministers, it is semi-officially announced, has decided that Turkey will remain pacific pending the efforts of the powers to prevent direct Greek intervention in Crete, but it is further stated that if the powers are unsuccessful, the Turkish government will be compelled to begin military operations on the Thessalian frontier, or in other words, Turkey will declare war against Greece and promptly invade that country.

The decision of the Porte has been officially communicated to the different embassies. There is no doubt that the willingness of the sultan apparently to bow to the will of the powers in the present crisis was largely due to the impoverished state of the Turkish treasury. The situation is grave and as usual the sultan is calmly reckoning on coming out ahead by trusting to the jealousies of the powers and the advent of the unexpected.

CANEA, Feb. 13.—[Copyrighted, 1897, by the Associated Press.]—It is reported here this morning that the Greek torpedo flotilla, commanded by Prince George of Greece, which arrived yesterday, succeeded, in spite of the vigilance of the foreign war ships, in

landing last night a quantity of arms, 800 cases of ammunition and 800 cases of provisions intended for the Cretan insurgents gathered in large numbers on the hill tops near this town. It is also stated that the Greek war ships have the intention of landing a Greek company of artillery of 80 Greek artillerymen and some guns. The Cretan insurgents after proclaiming independence and the union of Crete with Greece on Thursday, formed a provisional government. The Cretans are now in possession of a large part of the island and are threatening the important towns. The landing of blue jackets and marines from the foreign fleets is contemplated.

It is reported a Turkish ship which attempted to leave Heraklion today was forced to return by a Greek cruiser.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The comptroller of currency received a notice today that the Merchants' National bank, Helena, Mont., had suspended. According to the last report the bank had a capital stock of \$350,000; surplus, \$70,000; undivided profits, \$69,000; due other banks, \$123,000; individual deposits, \$981,000; United States deposits, \$70,000; circulation outstanding, \$50,000; notes and bills discounted, \$25,000; bills payable, \$175,000; overdrafts, \$39,000; loans and discounts, \$1,246,000. Acting Comptroller Coffin said today that for some time he had been looking for the bank to fail. Bad management was the primary cause. Receiver J. Brown, now in charge of the First National bank, Helena, has been put in temporary charge.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 13.—John W. Marre, ex-city treasurer, today killed his 6-year-old son and also shot his daughter and sister. The ladies will recover. After attempting to kill the whole family, Marre killed himself. He had been in an asylum ten years ago but since has been well.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The Greek colony in Chicago was greatly excited last evening over the news of the nominal declaration of war against Turkey by their mother country. These people all say that if there is war they will hurry back to Greece to take up arms for the land they have left but have not ceased to love.

There are now about 2,000 native born Greeks in Chicago, and something over 20,000 in the whole country.

Among those who could be seen last evening after the cablegrams announced the firing on the Turkish flag by the Greeks, there was no difference of opinion.

Should affairs continue to assume a more serious aspect there is no doubt that a regiment of fighting men will be enlisted in this city. Mazarakes, who holds a high position in the esteem of his countrymen, is outspoken in declaring that this should be done. It is said he would not have to call twice for volunteers.

Among the Greeks there are a number of friendly societies which extend over the whole country, wherever a Greek has gone in search of a new home. The members of the societies keep in the closest communication with each other, and any news which concerns their native country is spread far and wide as rapidly as the wires will carry it.