

the associated press when the facts became known.

St. Louis.—The *Age of Steel* prints a statement on the authority of one largely interested in the iron trade, that a scheme is on foot to pool the entire pig iron industry of the country into six districts, each to be represented in the pool on a basis made up from the tonnage producing capacity of the district, and the profits of the earning capacity per ton as shown by the work of a series of years; each furnace in the district to share in the district's share of the general pool on a basis determined in the same way. One of the chief objects of the scheme is to ascertain the exact product of pig iron in the country, and this information in the hands of the executive committee having authority, a shut-down can be ordered at any time to let the demand catch up with the supply, and prices thus be made regular and steady. It is also proposed that at any time a furnace is ordered to stop for any reason each will draw its profits from the pool, as though they were in blast. The *Age of Steel* says the scheme originated among furnacemen in Lehigh valley, and that strong efforts will be made to carry it out among furnacemen in other parts of the country, and that this is the first public notice of it.

Chicago, 5.—The statement credited to Vice-President Hayes, of the Missouri Pacific telegraphed from New York to the effect that the Burlington had agreed to close a contract on the 17th inst., to pool competition business is denied by officials of the Burlington in this city, who positively declared that Burlington has not agreed with the new western alliance to do anything and the company has been committed to no announced policy.

It is not denied that frequent negotiations with the view to securing the co-operation of all western roads in the new alliance without result, have occasioned a strained condition of affairs which, if some understanding be not reached before February 1st, may result in precipitating a war of rates, and that the questions in dispute will have to be settled by that method. It is also asserted that if a new pool is formed with the Burlington on one side and the Union Pacific and its new allies on the other, the pool will necessarily extend to Ogden, and include the Denver & Rio Grande in the combination.

New Orleans, 5.—Judge Pardee in the United States circuit court to-day, rendered an opinion in the case of the New Orleans National Bank against Postmaster W. B. Merchant. The case came up on a notice to dissolve an injunction against Postmaster Merchant from interfering with mail matter addressed to the bank, such action having been taken by Merchant in obedience to the Postmaster-General's orders, on the ground that such letters were intended for the Louisiana Lottery Company, which had been denied the use of the mails to carry on the lottery business. The court held that the scheme denounced by law is that of the distribution of money through the mails by means of false and fraudulent representations. The facts found against the New Orleans National Bank are outside of the law, but defendant cannot be held responsible for obeying the orders of his superior officer. The court decided in favor of the bank, decreeing that it is entitled to the full and free use of the mails, and further that the motion to dissolve the injunction be denied.

New York, 5.—An action was begun to-day in the United States Circuit Court by Henry A. Brasse, of England, against the New York & New England Railroad company. The New York, New Haven & Hartford company, and the New York, Lake Erie & Western railroad company. The complainant is a large bondholder in the New York & New England road, and prays that the temporary injunction be made perpetual restraining Charles Brown, of the New York, Lake Erie & Western and New York New Haven & Hartford, from laying attachments upon the stock franchise of the New York & New England railroad; he also asks the appointment of a receiver for that road.

Cedar Rapids, 5.—A track walker named Rose, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul track, closely muffled, failed to hear the whistle, and was run over and killed near this city to-day.

Bolton, 5.—John F. Springfield, aged 26, was arrested on the charge of obtaining \$400 by forgeries on the Provident Institution for Savings, Jersey City, where he was a clerk.

St. Louis, 5.—At 9 to-night a fire was discovered in the extensive furniture establishment of Burrell, Comstock & Co., North Fourth street. Owing to the intense cold the firemen worked to a great disadvantage. The building and contents were entirely consumed. Loss, \$150,000; insured for \$90,000. The jewelry house of Merrick, Gray, Kaminski, china and hardware, occupying the adjoining block, was also burned. At midnight the fire is fiercely raging. It is feared that the Goodyear rubber store will burn; it is already damaged by water many thousands.

New York, 5.—Schedules in the assignment of Charles and Rudolph Von Bernuth, importers and merchants, are filed. Liabilities, \$150,921; actual assets, \$74,596.

Henry E. Hardy is appointed receiver for the firm of Wright, Gillies & Co., in a suit for dissolution of the co-partnership.

Edward H. Kabbe, clerk for Sperry & Barnes, who absconded after embezzling \$66,000 belonging to his employers, was arrested in a suit brought against him by the firm for the recovery of the money. Bail is fixed at \$50,000.

WASHINGTON, 6.—Congressmen Calhoun proposes on Monday, or the first chance he has to introduce a bill to arbitrarily prohibit the importation of French wines and brandies so long as the prohibition upon American hogs is allowed to stand in France. He thinks that Congress will be forced to take peremptory measures in order to remedy the injustice done to one of the chief products of American export. He thinks Congress has unquestionably the power to regulate imports in spite of treaties, especially where the initiative in discrimination was taken on the other side. In other words, he believes Congress has the right to retaliate for the benefit of our commercial relations with any other country in the world. Representative Anderson will introduce in the House to-morrow a bill making the same allowance of rent and fuel to postmasters of third class offices, as to those of the first and second class.

St. Louis, 6.—The following dispatch from Belleville to the associated press, gives further particulars of a frightful calamity:

The fire at the convent of Notre Dame last night was the most destructive to life and property that Belleville has ever experienced. A visit to the scene this morning found the fire department still on duty, endeavoring to quench the flames so as to preserve in recognizable shape the bodies of the victims.

When the ruins were sufficiently cooled and volunteer men went to work to bring out the bodies, there was a terrible sight. At times the searchers would find two or three charred masses huddled close together, seemingly seeking protection of one another from the advancing and terrible flames. Two bodies were found in the rear part of the building burned into an unrecognizable mass, but the majority were found beneath where the dormitory was situated. They seemed to have sought shelter in this room too late to recognize that their escape was impossible. The flames beneath eating away the supports, let them down through the floor into the seething vortex of fire below.

The loss of life is much greater than mentioned in last night's brief dispatch. Instead of being two as at first supposed, the total number of known deaths is 27, 22 only of which are pupils and five sisters; among the latter the Sister Superior. On the fourth floor the pupils, boarding with the three sisters slept; on the third floor the remaining sisters slept, and on the second or floor above the basement, what are termed the orphans slept. On this second floor the inmates escaped. The fire originated in the furnace below. The cold interfered with the work of the firemen. The manner of the escape of each of the survivors could not be learned. Daisy Eberman was slightly injured, Agnes Schneider jumped from a window but was not dangerously injured. Lou Matt was quite badly hurt. Dena Horn and Fannie Brinker were seriously if not fatally injured. At 4 p. m. there had been 11 bodies recovered from the ruins, and the sisters and friends of the unfortunates had succeeded in identifying the following: Miss Werman, Miss Struck, Miss Manning, Miss Heinzelman, Miss Isch, Miss Pulze. The bodies could only be identified by the clothing or rather a portion of the clothes, which having been saturated with water had escaped the flames. All that now remains of the famous convent of the Immaculate Conception are the charred, broken walls. In the debris there yet remain the bodies of several unfortunate victims. The building and furnishings were valued at from \$65,000 to \$75,000; insured for \$25,000.

WASHINGTON, 6.—A caucus of the democratic members of the House is proposed for an early day, the object being to consider the policy of the party on subjects likely to come up during the winter.

New York, 6.—The theatrical employees of this city have organized an association for mutual protection and benefit.

CHARLESTON, S. C., 6.—The thermometer at 4 this morning indicated only 13 degrees above zero. This is the coldest weather experienced here in 135 years.

WASHINGTON, 6.—Congress will reassemble to-morrow, its organization being complete. There is a feeling of caution amounting to apparent indifference in respect to political matters prevalent, and it is probable that no purely political measures will be brought forward for a few weeks. Individual views upon financial and economic matters as embodied in the great number and variety of bills already introduced and to be introduced, will be discussed probably without leading to any immediate action. The business first at hand in the Senate is the revision of its rules, to be followed by a consideration of the proposed joint rules. This discussion will continue the greater part, if not all the week. The work of the present week in the House, promises to be comparatively of little interest.

CHICAGO, 7.—Paris special cable: Miss Mackey disappointed her mother's society friends to-day in Paris by failing to make her heralded debut as soprano in the choir of the Passionist Church in Avenue Hoche. The church was crowded in anticipation of the event by an ultra-fashionable gathering who had been led to expect a great performance from the American belle, and who were bewildered by Miss Mackey's failure to appear. After mass it was explained that the young lady was quite ill from a severe attack of bronchitis.

COLUMBUS, 7.—The main building of the county jail was burned this morning. Forty-five prisoners were trans-

ferred to the city prison, none escaping. **WASHINGTON, 7.**—The Treasury reserve, of one and two dollar notes having become exhausted, Secretary Folger asked Congress for an appropriation of \$150,000 to print four million ones, and three million twos. Failing to get the appropriation the Secretary declares that he will have to suspend, or decrease their circulation. The appropriation for gold and silver notes and other notes of large denominations is believed sufficient.

New York, 7.—Nothing has been learned by his friends, or the police, of the well-known restauranter, Charles Delmouco, who disappeared on Saturday.

ELMIRA, 7.—There is great excitement over the discovery of the body of a young, well-dressed woman, frozen solid in the ice of a stream in the suburbs. The body was recognized as that of a woman from Watkins, who was at the Homestead Hotel on Monday with a man with whom she had a quarrel.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 7.—As the train from St. Louis for Louisville, on the O. and M. was pulling on to the side track at Charleston, Ind., on Saturday evening, in order to allow the Cincinnati fast express to pass, the latter came around a sharp curve at the rate of 40 miles an hour, and before the former could get out of the way a collision occurred; the special coach of the St. Louis train was struck and nearly demolished. The cars contained the well known College Glee Club billed for a concert here on Saturday. Two member, W. W. Creahore of Cleveland; Otes Strong of Auburn, Ky., were badly but it is thought not fatally injured. The club goes East on Monday morning.

FOREIGN.

BERLIN, 3.—The German Government has forwarded a favorable reply to the proposal of the government of Japan that the latter should establish courts of justice which will have jurisdiction over foreigners in that country as well as natives. It is understood that the United States government has given a similar reply to the Japanese proposition.

Cairo, 3.—It is reported that El Mahdi's brother-in-law, after occupying Kawa and Duem, arrived within thirty miles of Khartoum. The governor of Khartoum telegraphed that he was prepared to receive the enemy.

It is stated that Barrere, French consul general is informed that the Khedive says, if England is unwilling or unable to defend Egypt against El Mahdi, France is willing and able.

Paris, 3.—At a meeting of 800 striking cab drivers, it was decided to continue the strike until the masters accept their terms; 2,000 men will be out to-morrow.

Berlin, 3.—Emperor William to-day attended the consecration services at the Thanksgiving Church erected to commemorate his escape from the two attempts to assassinate him in 1878.

Dublin, 3.—The Orangemen gave notice that they will oppose the Nationalist meetings announced for Cavan and Bayle.

LONDON, 4.—The *Athenaeum* announces that a new book has been written by Queen Victoria, entitled "More leaves from the Journal of a Life in the Highlands from '65 to '82." Copies are already presented to a few privileged persons.

St. Petersburg, 4.—Over 30 arrests have been made of persons suspected of being connected with the murder of Lieut. Colonel Sudeikin.

Cairo, 4.—The relations of Egypt and England are strained. Egypt sent a note to Great Britain, pointing out that the present state of things in Egypt cannot continue, and asking for a final decision upon the Sudan question. If England refuses the assistance asked, the Khedive and ministry are determined to abandon to Turkey Eastern Sudan and reduce the Egyptian tribute to the Porte. The Egyptian troops will then be concentrated in Egypt proper, thus giving a force of 15,000 men to protect the frontier, without the aid of the English army. Evelyn Baring thinks 15,000 men will be insufficient for that service.

MONTREAL, 4.—A collision occurred last evening on the Canadian Pacific Railway, between this city and Ottawa, by which nine residents of Montreal and three officials were injured. Captain R. C. Adams, of this city, received the greatest injuries. But they are not considered fatal. The accident happened at Saint Martin.

LONDON, 4.—The Midland Railway Co's track and depots were specially guarded last evening to prevent Fenian outrages. Other railways are similarly protected.

Paris, 4.—The Nihilists are much disturbed in consequence of the activity of the police since the murder of Lieut. Col. Sudeikin. It appears that the Nihilist movement is directed from Paris and Geneva.

DUBLIN, 4.—United Ireland says O'Donnell was not acquainted with Carey on the voyage from England to the Cape of Good Hope. He was not a member of any society; recognized Carey by a wood cut which he saw at Capetown, and resolved to kill him. He intended to go with him to the farm to Port Elizabeth, which Carey had told him he was going to take, and thus show there was no spot where Carey could be safe. Finding himself, however, alone with Carey, he could not resist the desire to kill him. Carey perceived his danger and said: "Do you know me?" O'Donnell replied: "You are Carey, the informer; to hell with you." The bullet sped with the words, and the

deed was done. Carey clutched his own revolver, but too late. O'Donnell fired two shots, and Carey crawled to the deck. Nobody saw the encounter except O'Donnell's companion, who threw her arms around him and filled the ship with cries. He told her that morning he meant to kill Carey, and would hang for it. When Mrs. Carey reached the scene, O'Donnell said to her, "I had to do it."

Vienna, 4.—The latest version of the recent accident to the Czar is as follows: The Czar was returning on the afternoon of Dec. 17th to Gatschina palace from a shooting excursion, accompanied by his suite, in eight sledges, with a number of servants. Although darkness was coming on, the party noticed ahead six men, apparently peasants. The Czar's aides drove forward and ordered the men to clear the way. The men saluted the officers, and appeared to obey the order, but when the Czar's sledges came on a level with them, they suddenly wheeled around and fired at the Czar thrice and two of them ran toward him. The horses drawing the imperial sledge became frightened and galloped some hundred paces, when the Czar was thrown out of the sledge. A bullet lodged in the Czar's shoulder. The Czar's followers immediately mounted the sledge horses and followed the assassins, who escaped to a neighboring wood. Owing to the depth of snow, the pursuit was a fruitless one. The pursuing officers ventured too far and have not returned. The *Telegraph*, referring to the foregoing, says whether the story is true or untrue, it marks the revival of Nihilism; undoubtedly. The Nihilist executive committee promised to give the present Czar a fair trial. No constitution and no reform have been granted, although all were promised. The trial, therefore, is ended.

Alexandria, 4.—The vanguard of El Mahdi's army has arrived at Elaim, on the Blue Nile.

The populace on the Island of Massowah, Red Sea coast, destroyed the dyke uniting the island with the main land.

St. Petersburg, 5.—The bodies of DeLong and his comrades were borne through the streets of Tomsk on Wednesday, the military bands playing and large crowds in attendance, despite the heavy snow storm prevailing. Much sympathy was manifested.

Paris, 5.—A well-to-do tradesman committed suicide in the Bois de Boulogne. He placed around his neck a flexible iron tube of explosives, and was literally blown to pieces. His legs and arms were thrown a great distance and shreds of flesh were found hanging on distant trees. The report was heard at Neuilly.

LONDON, 5.—A *News* Madrid correspondent says: Commercial arrangements between the United States and Spain have been signed. Protectionists appear furious.

Dublin, 5.—United Ireland publishes an account of the murder of Carey, written by a gentleman who received it from O'Donnell, and it was to be told only after all chance to save O'Donnell's life had passed. The account shows that O'Donnell deliberately killed Carey. There was no struggle and Carey made no attack on O'Donnell. Had Judge Denman permitted O'Donnell to speak he would have told the whole story of the killing.

Rome, 5.—The Ceremony of transferring the remains of King Victor Emanuel to the chapel in the Pantheon took place to-day. The public were not admitted. The coffin was borne to the last resting place by a detachment of cuirassiers.

MADRID, 4.—It is announced that a commercial arrangement will shortly be concluded between Spain and the United States, by which Spain agrees to apply the so-called 30-column tariff to imports from America into Central America and Porto Rico, which is tantamount to suppressing the flag and differential duties. Spain also agrees to abrogate the special duties on live fish incubated in fish ponds and imported in foreign bottoms, and to suppress consular and tonnage duties on vessels leaving the United States for Cuba or Porto Rico. The United States abolish the 10 per cent. ad valorem duty on imports from Cuba and Porto Rico under the Spanish flag. Complete equality of treatment will be established between Cuba and Porto Rico on the one hand, and the United States on the other. American custom house officials will furnish Spanish consuls statistics regarding the quantity of sugar and tobacco imported from the Antilles. The arrangement comes into force March 1st, and will be the prelude to a complete treaty of commerce and navigation between Spain and the United States.

LONDON, 5.—The Secretary of State for foreign affairs, chancellor of the exchequer, first lord of the admiralty and president of the board of trade, and minister of commerce are in consultation to-day upon Egyptian affairs. The secretary of state for war will meet the commander-in-chief of the British army in the war office this afternoon. Although no official orders have been issued, 12,000 men are ready to embark for Egypt within a week.

The cabinet met in Granville's private room in the foreign office. The session occupied nearly two hours. Lord Fitzmaurice, under foreign secretary, and Rivers Wilson, formerly English controller general of Egypt, were especially invited to-day. The meeting was arranged for yesterday. It is reported that a British man-of-war will be instantly ordered to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. The foreign secretary will remain in London to-night. Gladstone Left for Hawarden early in the day, and was not pre-

sent at the council. A retary of war was also absent.

LONDON, 5.—A Paris correspondent writes that the report that the Rothschilds offered to purchase government railways is untrue. The correspondent states that the French government proposes to sell the lines to the seven companies, which will be formed for the purpose of acquiring them. It is believed therefore the issue of a new government loan is imminent.

Pull Mall Gazette learns that Marquis Tseng, Chinese ambassador to France has not held a communication with the French government since the capture of Sontay; also that the menaces of the French press with regard to indemnity for expenses of invasion campaign will not deter China continuing to assert her rights.

A Durban dispatch says the Malagasy agree to accept the ultimatum the French to cede to France the northern part of the island from Cap Saint Andre to Cape Belloune. The settlement of guarantees will be referred to the Hova government, but an agreement thereon is expected, as the Malagasy are desirous of getting rid of the French upon any terms short of the establishment of a protectorate over the island.

MADRID, 5.—The Chamber of Deputies debated the counter draft of a reply to the address from the throne. The reply was compiled by members of the Sagasta party, and deprecates reform in the constitution the present session but admits the principle of electoral reform.

LONDON, 5.—Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera, "Princess Ida," was produced to-night at the Savoy theatre which was crowded. The audience was the most brilliant of the season's performances. It was a triumph for the authors and management throughout. The music, dialogue and scenery were rapturously applauded. Critics pronounce the music as fine as anything Sullivan has composed. The principal artists, Gilbert, Sullivan and D'Oyley Carte, were called before the curtain at the close of the performance and received an ovation.

CAIRO, 6.—It is denied that a British fleet will be sent to the Red Sea. Beyond her previous orders to protect Egyptian interest, England has taken no further measures.

LONDON, 6.—The Khedive, defending his position, in an interview with Cairo correspondent of the *London Times*, showed that he is personally prepared to yield to the demand of the English note, and repudiated the report that he designed to abdicate. It is believed that if the ministry of Cherm Pasha should retire their successor could easily be found.

Although Great Britain insists on the abandonment of South and West of Wody Halfu, she will assist the Egyptian army in its defense of the frontier. The Egyptian ministry will demand that England shall either annex Egypt or depart from the country, as the ministry were allowed neither to help themselves or apply elsewhere for help to which they were entitled, except England.

Paris, 6.—Deputy Talardier's paper the *Republique Democratique et Sociale* states that it knows that in a few days numerous reprisals against the English will occur in Ireland to avenge the execution of O'Donnell. It adds that the Irish revolutionists will burn London and the American Fenians have studiously the operations to be carried on by them.

CAIRO, 6.—The Egyptian Cabinet in session at the residence of the Prime Minister. The Khedive is absent. The ministers have resolved to resign and will tender their resignations this evening or to-morrow.

Paris, 7.—It is said that Admiral Courbet met with such stubborn resistance from the enemy in his attack on Sontay that he has decided to wait reinforcement before making further movements.

Paris, 7.—A young American lady named Wheelock, who has been studying music here, recently attracted attention of the director of the Italian Opera Co. and was engaged by him to make her debut on Saturday under the name of Mlle Valda as "Elvira" in *Hernani*. She was fairly applauded.

LONDON, 7.—A portion of the bridge on the R. R. between Wigan and Preston collapsed, killing seven workmen and injuring many others.

Liverpool, 7.—The steamship *Botnia* which has arrived here, reports that she passed on Dec. 29th, latitude 42, longitude 53, a four-masted steamer evidently the *Celtic*, under sail against contrary winds, her progress was very slow.

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Editor of The Crescent

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