

at once, but the House would not consent.

A bill to provide for a Ship Canal around Niagara Falls came up as a special order, but by the consent of Van Horne, who had the floor, it went over till to-morrow.

The House went into committee of the whole, and after a short session, adjourned.

GENERAL.

Washington, 11.—Butler's bill to repeal the tenure of office act has been introduced, Washburne's, of Indiana, being put through under a previous question by a large majority.

New York, 12.—The *Herald's* correspondent publishes an account of another interview with General Blair, in which the General reiterated his formerly expressed opinion that Grant will make a Dictator or Emperor of himself before he leaves the White House.

The Congressional committee for investigating the election frauds is still in session in this city. The committee claims to have obtained overwhelming evidence of repeating votes, and the use of false naturalization papers.

It is now generally understood that Grant will appoint Moses H. Grinnell collector at this port.

The President to-day, nominated Andrew J. Simmons, Collector of Internal Revenue for Montana.

Augusta, Me.—The senatorial question has assumed a new aspect. Parry a member of the House has declared that he threw a blank vote in the caucus unintentionally. This leaves Hamlin with a clear majority of Republicans in the Legislature. Morrill's friends now claim that Hamlin, not having been declared elected by the caucus, they are not bound to support him, and intimate that they will not. A movement is on foot to bring forward a third man as a compromise candidate. Hamlin's friends claim that he was clearly the choice of his party, and was fairly nominated, and if any member of his party refuse to vote for him he becomes a bolter.

San Francisco, 13.—The Legislative Council and the British Consul are considering the question of reciprocity with the United States. The English gun boat *Chanticleer* arrived from Victoria to-day for Panama.

Washington.—Mr. Evarts has issued instructions to the District Attorneys, directing that all suits for the crime of treason shall be discontinued.

A dispatch from General Sherman reports that Col. Evans has captured a Comanche village of sixty lodges. No Indians were killed. Col. G. A. Forsythe, who recently distinguished himself in an Indian engagement, has been Brevetted Brigadier General.

FOREIGN.

London, 12.—For some unexplained reasons the Grecian ambassador at Paris, who, it was supposed, would represent Greece in the conference, has been refused participation in the session. He protested against the exclusion and appealed to the Grecian government at Athens for instructions. The conference will await the action of Greece in the matter. The session announced for to-day, will be postponed for a time in consequence.

Madrid.—Four thousand soldiers have volunteered their services to the Government to assist in suppressing the insurrection.

San Francisco, 12.—The ship *King Philip* arrived to-night with Yokohama advices, to December 15. The reported surrender of Prince Aizu is confirmed and the civil war in Japan is considered at an end. A capitulation was concluded on November sixth, the birthday of the Mikado. Yedo has become the permanent residence of the Mikado. The Tycoon has retired to his private possessions, with all his people who wished to follow him. Those willing to take employment under the new government were retained. The removal of the people of the Tycoon from Yedo commenced December 15. Some 13,000 were to be sent to the Tycoon's new province of Shimidzu. The ship *King Philip* was chartered, and made one trip to the Province, carrying 1350 passengers.

Paris.—The Sublime Porte has dispatched Sadik Pasha to this city, as a special agent to negotiate a loan for war purposes.

London.—It is reported that the principal members of the insurrectionary government of Candia have fallen into the hands of the Turks and have been thrown into prison.

Vienna, 13.—The *Evening Post*, the official journal says Bismarck told Count Wimpoffen, Austrian minister

to Prussia, that the retention of Baron Beust in office would provoke serious action on the part of Prussia.

London.—The merchants have extensively petitioned government to restore the mail service between Southampton and New York.

Paris.—The official Journal reports that the Conference on the Eastern question held a brief session yesterday, and adjourned until Thursday next. Rangabe, the Grecian Minister, was not present; and the conduct of the Greek Government, in taking exception to the exclusion of its representative from the Conference, is condemned; for it is argued Greece assented to the propriety of a similar exclusion from the Conference of 1856, though the Sublime Porte was then represented in that body. This is held as a precedent for the action of the present Conference.

Vienna.—A circular from the Sublime Porte to the European powers, justifying its recent action against Greece, is published here. It says the Turkish Government does not expect that the Conference at Paris will arrive at any settlement of the ultimatum sent to Greece, which was a declaration that the Internal Affairs of the Ottoman Empire must not be interfered with.

London.—The reports of the capture by the Turkish forces, of the members of the Cretan insurrectionist Government, are confirmed. Four Cretan officials were killed and the rest taken prisoners. The books and documents of the Government fell into the hands of the Turks.

Florence.—The *Epoca* asserts that the Governments of France and Italy, Senor Oloz Aga, Spanish Minister at Paris, and at least one member of the provisional Government of Spain, advocate the claims Prince Amodeus, Duke of Avanta, to the throne of Spain.

Havana.—The police discovered a secret deposit of arms in this city, and upon attempting to take them, were fixed upon by the populace. A policeman and a soldier were killed two citizens were murdered. The arms were finally taken away and quiet was restored.

Paris.—The exclusion of the Grecian Ambassador threatens to break up the Conference. It is not considered probable that the Greek Government will acquiesce. Its reply to the demand of its representative for instructions is not likely to prove favorable, in which case the Conference, in all probability, will adjourn indefinitely. In the meantime the plenipotentiaries have applied to their governments for further instructions. It is understood Russia condemns the attitude which Greece has assumed towards the Conference.

New York.—The *Herald's* London special despatches from Madrid state that one of Maximilian's Mexican Generals is secretly engaged in that city, making arrangements with a number of Spanish scientific military officers, with a view to placing Count Girgenti, brother to the Ex-King of Naples, on the throne of Mexico. Two hundred officers of high rank are wanted to carry the movement into execution, their pay to be secured them from the time when they enter upon their duties. Several European Governments assist secretly in this enterprise, and General Prim grants a number of officers, desirous to join, unlimited leave of absence for the purpose of taking part in the expedition. Napoleon it is said secretly favors the project.

Havana.—The following intelligence is just received from Mexico: The Government of San Luis Potosi has been tried by the Legislature and found guilty of all the charges against him. Great misery prevails among the laborers in some parts of the country on account of the scarcity of money. The Indian war continues in Sonora. Much excitement is caused among the Mexicans by the artful reports of treaties with the United States, intended to entrap the republic into acknowledging debts heavier than she can pay, when upon default of payment, the United States will seize her territory and dismember the country.

SERICULTURE.—MY EXPERIENCE ON THIS CONTINENT.

BY LOUIS A. BERTRAND.

V.

In 1834, a disastrous speculative furor in the *Morus Multicaulis* broke out and raged, for a few years, through the United States like an epidemic. At that time, I was residing at New York, where I had established some commercial relations with France. I went heartily, but alas! too late for my finan-

cial standing, into that wild speculation, as the sequel will show.

In 1835, I imported from my native land ten pounds of the *Morus Alba* (white mulberry) seed. A silk-partner of mine, a smart Swiss gentleman, imported twelve pounds of the *Morus Moretty* seed from Italy. A beautiful nursery was started by us in the vicinity of New York, according to the rules exposed in my last chapters on the mulberry culture. About 1,600,000 (one million six hundred thousand) of fine young trees were the result of our sowing. A large *Morus Multicaulis* plantation, the property of an American speculator, was flourishing close by our nursery. I am compelled by the omnipotence of truth to state, here, that my partner's trees were far superior to mine in size and quality. However, the prospects before us were, indeed, very flattering.

The following year, I imported sixty ounces of the large white "Cevennes," and sixty ounces of the golden-yellow silkworm eggs from the same locality in France. At that time, so intense was the speculative fever at New York, that the former eggs were sold by auction at \$22 per ounce, and the latter at \$20 in gold.

Having kept an ounce of each variety in order that they might be tested, they were both naturally hatched, I mean without any artificial heat. The process of feeding our worms was, of course, the same as that used in every family in the south of France, that is to say with leaves only (and no branches) gathered from our young trees. Although they were raised in a small open shed and managed according to a most primitive mode, each one spun a large and beautiful cocoon. In a word, our little experiment was a perfect success. A few dozen worms were fed by myself, in my room at New York, but their cocoons were inferior to those of the other breed, because the leaves forming their food and coming every day from our nursery were frequently too dry.

Our silk enterprise and fine nursery proved, so far, a very promising concern. But in 1837, the wheel of blind fortune turned positively against us. Two hundred ounces of silkworm eggs having been imported by me from France, were found entirely hatched on board the sailing vessel. A large quantity of the Moretty mulberries were received by my partner from Italy; but so great was the reaction against the *Morus Multicaulis* fever that our splendid imported trees could find no purchaser at any price whatever. On the following year, the banks of New York having suspended their specie payments, a tremendous commercial crash was the result. Then the reaction fell heavily upon the mulberry culture and the silk-raising industry, covering the whole business with odium and ridicule. Do you want to know what final wholesale price was obtained by us in exchange for our 1,600,000 mulberry trees? (*Risum teneatis, amici*, do not laugh, kind reader)—Two horses. Disgusted with such a paltry result, I went back to Paris.

Now, in writing spontaneously and freely upon the same subject, I do not wish to create a new *Morus Multicaulis* speculative furor in Utah. But, mark my words, the far-seeing chief who is presiding over the glorious destiny of our people, having taken the lead in everything relative to that industry, I will make my best exertions to create a Utah silk fever in the silk producing counties of Europe for the exportation of our eggs. The time is coming when the rich silk merchant, the business silk manufacturer, and the skilled silk-producer, will turn their eyes towards Utah as a place of refuge and safety.

In the mean time, I will elucidate, here, an important question on cuttings which has been laid verbally before me by my friend Paul A. Schettler, Esq., an intelligent mulberry culturist. "In your third chapter I have found," says he, "the following rule on the propagation of the mulberry by cuttings: *The planting according to the soil and climate, must vary from 10 to 20 inches deep.* Now, George D. Watt, Esq., in his very able and interesting lectures, advises his hearers to plant the mulberry cuttings three inches deep. What rule or counsel must we follow?"

I feel happy to answer that question. In the south of France, a semi-tropical country, the mulberry cuttings are generally planted 10 or 20 inches deep, according to the locality, but with one-third sticking out above the ground. They are always planted in the spring season, and the mulberries proceeding from those cuttings are cultivated as standard or half standard trees. But in Utah, we must raise our mulberries only as dwarf trees, for several reasons.

Next spring, I will try a new process for planting our cuttings. In the mean time I will transcribe here the rule, proposed in his manual, by Mr. L. Prevost, the French pioneer silk culturist of California.

"Have your cuttings about six or eight inches long, the tops cut near one eye or bud; plant deep enough to have the top covered about half an inch. This is sufficient to prevent the action of the sun, etc., and in this way you will have them all grow, if planted in a proper soil."

I will now quote another Californian authority: "The cuttings should be taken from the tree, in this State, in December or January, and immediately planted in the ground; though, if the ground is not ready, they may, like the cuttings of the *Multicaulis*, be kept until February or March, by burying in a sandy dry soil or, placing them in a cool cellar. For planting they should be cut in pieces containing from two to three eyes each, and placing them in an upright position in the ground, should be covered so that the upper end will be about an inch below the surface."

T. N. HOAG.

Transactions of the California State Agricultural Society, page 485, 1866—1867.

Lastly, here is another quotation extracted from the same work, page 438. "The cuttings are cut with three eyes to each. The ground well ploughed and worked, then furrows opened three and a half feet apart. Put in cuttings six inches apart and cover and press the dirt upon them about three inches deep. The ground is then kept free from weeds and well cultivated through the season. They are then kept pruned low, say six to eight feet, to avoid extra labor in gathering the leaves. By this method of planting and cultivating we obtain the first year about eight tons of good leaves per acre. The second year the trees are all pruned or cut off close to the ground in January, and the Summer following we can pick from the same acre about sixty thousand pounds of good mulberry leaves."

WM. M. HAYNIE.

Every new agricultural industry must be grounded on experiments. Then, before closing the present chapter, I will say: Let every planter adopt the mode best adapted to his soil and circumstances. In planting my cuttings, I will report my success, if any. Let every friend of the great silk cause do the same for the general benefit of his fellow-men.

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