

ness of the withdrawals of bullion from the bank of England is due to the fact that bonds are going to America instead of gold.

There has been severe fighting on the Turkish frontier near Buscovitz; the latter place was completely plundered by a body of 500 Arnauts.

A dispatch from Athens says: The Austrian squadron has left Piræus for Salonica, but its ultimate destination is believed to be Besika Bay.

A dispatch from Berlin says: Russia has advised Turkey to ask all the signatories to the treaty of 1856 to dispatch a squadron to the Dardanelles, in case the English fleet enters the straits. The whole of the St. Petersburg press is violent in its tone on the question.

A Kabul dispatch says: Two Khans have reached here from Caudahar, who report that the road between Khelat, Guelasia and Kabul is very much disturbed.

Paris, 18.—M. Lepere, Minister of the Interior, has issued a circular to the prefects calling their attention to the omission of priests to pray for the safety of the Republic. He wishes to be informed whether the omission is prompted by the bishops. He also desires to be informed whenever a bishop leaves his diocese without authorization and more particularly if he visits Rome.

Madrid, 18.—The Cuban Senators and Members of the Chamber of Deputies have resolved to support the bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba in the form in which it was proposed by the Government.

Alexandria, 18.—The *Moniteur Egyptien* publishes the decree recognizing the functions of Anglo-French Comptrollers General and declaring the domains pledged to secure the Rothschild loan to be free from seizure. The English and French Comptrollers General rank as ministers and are irremovable without the consent of their respective Governments. Their functions respecting the service of the Egyptian debt give them absolute control. The proceeds of the Rothschild loan will be applied exclusively to the liquidation of the floating debt.

St. Petersburg, 18.—The Moscow committee on volunteer cruisers has called a meeting to discuss the ways and means for raising subscription for the construction of cruisers, in view of Russia's relations with England.

#### What's the Matter With Jupiter?

One of the most remarkable spots that has ever appeared on the streaked disk of Jupiter can now be seen with telescopes of moderate power. It is in shape a very eccentric ellipse, being seven or eight times broader than long, and it lies south of the southern equatorial belt, making a sharp contrast with the white expanse around it. This spot made its appearance several months ago. A close inspection reveals some remarkable things about it. In the first place its color, a light maroon, differs strikingly from that of any other portion of the disk, although resembling the purplish hue of the northern belt. This color is so pronounced that it immediately strikes the eye even of one who is unaccustomed to the use of a telescope. It is not fiery, but somewhat resembles the red glow observed in clots of molten metal when cooling.

The position of the spot is hardly less remarkable than its color. There is a striking difference in the tint of the two equatorial belts, the northern being of a reddish purple, and the southern gray. Curiously enough the great spot adjoins the southern belt instead of the one that it most resembles in color, and this gives it a striking appearance of isolation. It is as if a piece of the northern belt had been carried across its gray neighbor, and thrown down upon its white surface far beyond it, undergoing at the same time a considerable change of hue.

The enormous size of the strange spot is another marvelous circumstance, especially when it is remembered that it made its appearance quite suddenly, and, as may be inferred from the history of previous great spots on Jupiter, is liable to disappear with equal swiftness. A simple measurement shows that this spot probably covers not less than sixty million square miles, an area far exceeding that of all the continents and islands of our globe combined.

Another peculiar feature is the

seeming repulsion between the spot and the great south belt. In the longitude of the spot there is a perceptible narrowing of the belt, and a bending away from the neighborhood of the spot, as if in obedience to some repellant force. If the spot were assumed to be the culminating point of an extensive elevation of the planet's surface, this appearance might be accounted for by the tipping of the belt in passing across one face of the elevation.

What this great spot is and precisely what form of physical activity it represents are questions to which astronomers would probably hesitate to give a decided answer. *New York Sun.*

#### A Miraculous Escape.

A thrilling incident occurred on the Brooklyn Bridge to-day. The iron bands to the cables to which suspenders to hold up the roadway will be attached has been in progress this week on the part of the structure between the Brooklyn tower and anchorage. For the purpose a platform a few feet square hangs from the great cable. It is attached to two huge pulleys which travel over the upper surface of the cable, just as a sliding door is hung from an iron rail at its top. The platform, or buggy as it is technically termed, was lashed to the cable at a point nearly 200 feet from the ground. The incline at this point is greater than at any other. Between the top of the tower and the anchorage five men were in the buggy adjusting the bands, when the lashing which held it in position gave way. A rope ladder led up from it to a platform built across the cables some feet above and at the time a man was coming down it. When the lashing broke the fastening at the foot of the ladder also parted and the man was left swinging in the air like an immense pendulum. He swung back and forth for over a minute, but preserved presence of mind, and when the first shock was over, ascended the rungs and reached the platform above in safety. Meanwhile, the buggy gained velocity with every foot it traveled along the cable, and apparently nothing could save the occupants from being dashed to death against the stone facing of the anchorage. The men in it clung to its sides. As the buggy was at its greatest speed, some rope ends became entangled in the grooved wheels, which were revolving with fearful velocity. The rope wound around the axles, checking them gradually, and finally, when a little more than six feet from the face of the stone anchorage, the buggy came to a standstill. All its occupants escaped unhurt, and when they reached the ground in safety a wild cheer from the excited crowd, which had been attracted to the scene by the occurrence, rent the air. In the afternoon a stone, weighing four tons, which was being hoisted into position on the Brooklyn side, fell with a crash, in consequence of the breaking of a guy rope. No one injured.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, Oct. 1.

#### The Pronunciation of "U."

As the schools have just opened and as everybody reads your paper, if you will allow me the space I wish to call the attention of the teachers and pupils to a fault in English pronunciation exceedingly common in the North, rarely heard in the South or in England, but which seems to be spreading here. (We have faults enough in the South, without grafting some northern ones upon them.) I refer to the vulgarism—if I may so term it—of giving the long "u," which is in so many of our common words, the sound of "oo."

For instance, ninety-five out of every 100 Northerners will say in-sti-toot, instead of in-sti-tute, dooty instead of duty—a perfect rhyme to the word beauty. They will call new and news, noo and noos—a perfect rhyme to pew and pews—and so on through the dozens and hundreds of similar words. Not a dictionary in the English language authorizes this. In student and stupid the "u" has the same sound as in cupid, and they should not be pronounced stoo-dent and stoo-pid, as so many teachers are in the habit of sounding them.

If it is a vulgarism to call a door a doah—as we all admit—isn't it as much of a vulgarism to call a newspaper a noospaper? One is Northern and the other Southern—that's

the only difference. When the London *Punch* wishes to burlesque the pronunciation of servants it makes them call the duke the dook, the tutor the tooter and a tube a toob. You never find the best Northern speakers, such as Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner, George William Curtis, Emerson, Holmes and men of that class saying noo for new or Toosday for Tuesday, avenoo for avenue or calling a dupe a doop. It is a fault that a Southerner also never falls into. He has slips enough of another kind, but he doesn't slip on the long "u." As many of our teachers have never had their attention called to this, I hope they will excuse this notice. —*Washington Star.*

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