

By Telegraph.

DISASTERS IN THE WEST INDIES
CONFIRMED!

British Columbia desires Annexation to the U. S.

FOUR LADIES AND A MAN
BURNED IN A TRAIN!

CONGRESSIONAL.

Dr. Livingstone Alive and Well!
JEFF. DAVIS IN RICHMOND FOR
TRIAL!

Riotous Demonstrations in England!

New York, 21.

Porto Rico papers of the 6th, have full particulars of the great storm in the West Indies. The previous reports are almost fully sustained. On the Island of Tortola the destruction is lamentable, not a single house being left standing, and hundreds of lives having been lost. The same is true of the Island of Vieques. In St. Thomas the damage is very great.

The *Herald's* Laquyera letter says that the revolt of Mendoza has been quelled. President Falcon has granted a full amnesty.

The *Herald's* British Columbia letter says that every inhabitant, except the officials are openly advocating annexation to the United States.

There was a terrible accident at Cincinnati, on the Hamilton Dayton railroad this morning. A freight train ran into the rear of an express passenger train, while waiting at the station. Four ladies and one man were burned to death and nearly all the train was burned, the rear car burning a sleeping car from Toledo.

Cleveland, O., 22.

Weston expects to reach Toledo tonight. The roughs tried to jump on him at Fremont, but were prevented by the police. The enthusiasm is increasing.

Washington, 22.

The Senate met at noon, forty-two Senators were present. Sumner endeavored to introduce a bill to secure equal rights in the District of Columbia, being the same passed last session and pocketed by the President. Objected to. Edmunds offered a resolution which was ordered printed, declaring that the faith of the nation is pledged to pay the debt in gold, except where it is otherwise specially provided. The Senate then adjourned to Monday.

The House met at noon. The galleries were crowded. After the preliminary proceedings, the members elect from Tennessee were called by the Speaker to take the oath. Eldridge objected to administering it to Stokes on the ground of disloyalty, when it was moved to refer his credentials to the Committee on Elections. Brooks objected to the oath being administered to any of the Tennessee members on the ground that the State had not a republican form of government, also that 2 of the members elect had taken the oath of allegiance to the Confederate Government. Brooks denounced the franchise law of Tennessee and the manner of holding elections; and was specially opposed to the admission of Butler and Mullins, on the ground that both of the gentlemen had given proof, during the rebellion, of disloyalty to the Government by giving aid to the rebellion. Eldridge brought up against Stokes a letter to Duncan. A long debate ensued, and the various motions made were lost. Finally all the Tennessee members were sworn, except Butler whose credentials were not proper.

The delegate from New Mexico was referred to the Committee; and the delegates from Montana and Washington were sworn.

The Speaker said the next business in order was the execution of the order of posse, made July 20th; and that the Judiciary Committee should report immediately on the question of impeachment. Wilson, Chairman of the Committee, said the report would be ready on Monday, when the House postponed the execution of the order accordingly.

Robinson of New York introduced a question of privilege on the charges against Minister Adams of neglecting his duty in failing to protect the rights of American citizens in Ireland, demanding an investigation into the order of the present articles of impeachment; and, if the charges are true, also requesting the President to order Adams' recall.

New Orleans, 21.

General Mower has removed Lieutenant Governor Vorhees, and appointed Jacob

Hawkins, his successor; also P. H. Hardy from being Secretary of State, and J. G. Pilkin has been appointed his successor. All the other officers are removed.

Wilmington, 21.

The Convention is undoubtedly carried by the Radicals. The House has a large majority, and a few negroes are elected. The Conservatives lost several counties by indifference.

Washington, 22.

Grant's Report of the estimates of the expenses of the War Department for next year is seventy millions. The strength of the regular army will be fifty-four thousand. The Report is silent regarding the continuance of the Freedmen's Bureau; but endorses all the military commanders enforcing the Reconstruction Act. It says that Sherman is of the opinion that peace with the Indians is firmly established.

The *Herald's* special says the President proposes to recommend to Congress the reorganization of all the Executive Departments, with a view to secure the more efficient management of the business of each.

Jeff. Davis' counsel will object to Underwood trying the case, charging that it is shown that he has a bitter prejudice against the prisoner. He will also object to a negro jury as illegal and incompetent. If the Court overrule the objections, the counsel will abandon the case.

London, 21.

Dispatches from Florence say the Italian parliament convenes on December 5th. Ratazzi is certain to be made President.

Minebrea is said to have issued another note, wherein the action of France in invading the Papal States is severely denounced.

Colonial authorities have received dispatches from government officials in the West Indies, indicating that the accounts of the Tortola disaster are greatly exaggerated.

London, 22.

Dispatches have been received announcing the gratifying intelligence of the safety of Dr. Livingstone. The Doctor was known to be safe and well then, exploring the waters of Africa hundreds of miles from the sea coast.

The House of Commons has passed the annual supply bills.

Chicago, 22.

The Alabama Reconstruction Convention has finally adopted the franchise clause for the Constitution, and the following persons are disfranchised: Those violating the rules of civilized warfare in the late rebellion, or who inflicted cruel and unusual punishment on United States soldiers; Second, those who are disfranchised by the proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution, except those who aid the reconstruction policy of Congress and accept the equality of all men before the law, provided, the General Assembly may remove this disability; Third, those convicted of treason, and crime punishable by imprisonment. The oath of registration requires each elector to support the Constitution and laws, and accept the civil and political equality of all men.

St. Louis, 22.

Prairie fires are raging in all sections, and a great deal of property has been destroyed in the swamps, in the south-east of Missouri.

Richmond, 22.

Jeff. Davis has arrived.

Washington, 22.

It is generally conceded that Congress will repeal the cotton tax.

The Committee on Judiciary is preparing a report on impeachment, to be submitted on Monday. Wilson, of Iowa, the Chairman, has written an elaborate report. Eldridge and Marshall, Democrats, have reduced their views to writing. Boutwell, Williams, and Lawrence have prepared a separate paper.

London, 22.

Last night an effort was made to save the lives of the Fenians convicted in Manchester, which gave rise to a long, earnest debate. The motion was finally withdrawn.

The condemned Fenians have been granted a respite. Large public meetings have been held in Manchester and London yesterday, and resolutions adopted petitioning for mercy. A large public meeting has also been held in Birmingham for the same purpose. Riotous demonstrations occurred.

SERVANT looks into the breakfast room and says, "Please, ma'am, there's a beggar woman in the kitchen wants something to eat." "Give her the water in which the eggs were boiled this morning, Bridget; it is quite nutritious."

AN ORIENTAL DINNER.

The following sketch of a dinner in the East is taken from a recent number of *Leisure Hour*.

"People are not apt to think how much the enjoyment of convivial honors and polite hospitalities depend upon harmony of manners and identity of education. Travelers in foreign countries find it necessary to learn one lesson, which, when acquired, must add somewhat to their comfort, and that is, not to be too nice. A recent 'howadji,' writing of his journeyings 'On the Nile,' communicates some amusing experiences of his own, from which we take an extract:

"Fancy a rough, honest navy doomed to dine at a Belgravian dinner party! He would feel about as handy with his knife and fork and as happy in his surroundings as we did deprived of those useful instruments and eating before Mustapha Aga and the Cadi in that dimly-lighted but luxurious chamber of Amunoph's temple.

"Did you ever accomplish a meal with nothing to help you but your hands? No? Then just try it, and think what we must have suffered as course after course—fowl, pliaff, game—tripped up the heels of its fellow on the little round table whereat we were seated in such illustrious companionship.

"It is true that a slave brought round water after each course, and that a snowy napkin was given to each guest; but some of the dishes were soft and pappy, and each man dipped his fingers into the dish and fed by mouthfuls. The Cadi had a detestably indefinite way of hooking up his food in the hollow of his hand, which scandalized the professor, who sat next to him, mightily.

"Will you take some goose?" said Mustapha, addressing Smith. "It is one I shot yesterday."

"And he laid hold of one leg of the bird, while Smith tore away the other. It reminded me of breaking a merry thought with your neighbor, for neither was sure which would get the larger half. Afterward I was treated to a pull, and got a wing. The professor came in for the breast; there was some difficulty, I remember, in detaching the breast, but after a deal of sputtering it was accomplished.

"It is needless to say that our awkwardness at the feast was taken in good part, and that we all laughed heartily and enjoyed ourselves to the full. In fact, the Cadi, a fat, moon-faced man, apoplectically red, laughed till he nearly rolled on to the floor. A gilt ewer and basin were brought in at the finish, and water poured over the hands of each guest by a robed and turbaned Oriental, even as Elisha poured water on the hands of his master."

TEN FOLLIES.

To think that the more a man eats the fatter and stronger he will become.

To believe that the more hours children study the more they learn.

To conclude that if exercise is good for the health, the more violent and exhausting it is, the more good is done.

To imagine that every hour taken from sleep is an hour gained.

To act on the presumption that the smallest room in the house is large enough to sleep in.

To argue that whatever remedy causes you to feel better, is "good for" the system, without regard to more ulterior effects.

To commit an act which is felt in itself to be prejudicial, hoping that somehow or other it may be done in your case with impunity.

To advise another to take a remedy which you have not tried yourself, without making special inquiry whether all the conditions are alike.

To eat without an appetite, or continue to eat after it has been satisfied, merely to gratify the taste.

To eat a hearty supper for the pleasure experienced during the brief time it is passing down the throat, and at the expense of a whole night of disturbed sleep, and a weary waking in the morning.

WESTMINSTER GREAT CLOCK.

It is impossible to overrate the advantage of a reliable knowledge of exact time in all great centers of industry; and yet, although time passes daily through London to many parts of the country, from Greenwich, the people of London have, with one exception, few clocks on which they can implicitly rely. The exception—and a notable one—is the great clock in the new palace at Westminster; for, although so costly a production, it turns out, as respects performance, to be perhaps the finest clock of the kind in the world. Telegraphic communication with Greenwich exists for the purpose of enabling the clock to report automatically its state every day to the Astronomer-royal; the Greenwich record, therefore, demonstrates the goodness of the machine. It is not allowed to deviate more than two seconds from the true time, and we are told in one of the astronomer-royal's reports that "the rate of the clock may be considered certain to be much less than one second per week."

When we consider what is the duration of a second of time, and that such a huge machine is able to perform for a week within that limit, we may well marvel at the result. The clock-frame, carrying the various trains of wheels, etc., is fifteen and one-half feet long, and four feet seven inches wide; the pendulum, which makes one vibration in two seconds, weighs between six and seven hundred weight; the dial's, of which there are four, and which are illuminated at night, are each twenty-two and one-half feet in diameter, and it is a day's work for a man to wind the clock up, both going and striking parts. [*Chamber's Journal*.]

KILLING THE CHOLERA BY ARTILLERY.—It is a well known fact that the presence of ozone is fatal to the existence of cholera. Telegraph operators are rarely attacked with this disease for this reason, and the accumulation of atmospheric electricity during thunder showers exerts a salutary influence in infected districts. Depending on this fact, Dr. Zantedeschi, of Padua, Italy, has proposed a plan for the destruction of the poison of cholera, by the explosion of gunpowder mixed with common salt and the chloride of lime and of sulphur. The Doctor suggests the placing of cannon loaded with the disinfecting mixture on towers or high eminences in the locality where cholera exists, then at every discharge the air would be cleared of its poison by the combustion of the sulphur generated by the sulphurous vapors, and the consequent formation of ozone. Caution must be practiced, by closing doors and windows, as the descending gaseous substances are very irritating if inhaled.—*Scientific American*.

DUTCH LAUNDRESSES.—The Dutch possess the art of washing, bleaching, and doing up linens long before it was understood in England. During the reigns of Charles I and II, and as lately as that of Queen Ann, many English families used to send their household family linen all the way to Holland to be washed and bleached. Frequent mention of this fashion is made in the comedies written about these periods. The Dutch used to pride themselves upon the beauty and costliness of their linen, and, we may add, their china, in which articles many families have been known to expend several thousand pounds. The laboring classes were wont, in those days of Dutch prosperity, to partake largely of their national pride; and few mechanics could be found who would sit down without having a damask napkin to hang before him. Perhaps it is not generally known, that the names of some of our finer tissues are derived from places in or near Flanders. Diaper is a corruption of D'Ypres, and cambric is from Cambray.

SCOLDING.—If laughter begets fat, it is no less true that scolding is the parent of meagreness. Who ever saw a fat termagant? The virago is scraggy—scragginess is the badge of all her tribe. It would seem that the attrition of a fierce, exacting temper gives sharpness to the human frame as inevitably as a gritty grindstone puts a wiry edge on a broad axe. Artists understand this fact, and govern themselves accordingly. They invariably represent ladies supposed to be given to "the rampage" as most remarkably high in bone. Shrews are thus depicted in comic valentines, and all the illustrations of "certain lectures" have represented the "rib" of Mr. Caudle without a particle of fat. Lavater, referring to female firebrands, says flatly to their faces that their noses are sharp. We have a dim idea that he mentioned some exceptional cases of ladies with snub noses, who are given to snubbing their husbands, but these form a mild variety and only a small proportion of the genus scold.

It is asserted that a printing press has been invented in France capable of printing six hundred sheets a minute. *Le Petit Journal* is to have four which will strike off 144,000 in an hour.