

rived in Washington and reports perfect quiet once more restored on the plains along the old emigrant route.

Washington, 17.

The secretary of war has ordered Lieut. Col. Spaulding under close arrest. Other arrests of government officers who deposited funds with the Merchant's National bank are likely to follow. It appears from official investigation, that on the 20th of April paymaster Spaulding attended a meeting of the directors of the bank, held to arrange for a transfer of public funds to the bank and by the bank to Baine & Co., to save both from suspension. The cause of the failure of this bank is a most unmitigated swindle.

The House Committee have begun an examination of witnesses which will show that some interest is paid on government deposits. It appears from the Treasury statement that there are \$21,780,358 of public funds deposited with the national banks, including \$11,400,481 in cities where there are sub-Treasuries established. There will be an entire overhauling of this system.

New Orleans, 16.

Gwyn has been released on parol, without conditions; he refused to take the oath of allegiance, preferring to leave the country.

New York, 17.

Mr. Barreda, just arrived in Washington from Europe, brings information that 2,000 Austrian troops had been sent to Mexico since the termination of withdrawal the French troops was made public; he suspects, from the state of their shipment, that the protest directed by Seward had already been made to the Austrian government.

It is said that the indictment of Jeff. Davis was drawn to meet the provisions of the Act of July 17th, 1862, which provides that any person who shall hereafter put on foot or engage in rebellion against the United States shall be imprisoned not exceeding 10 years, or fined not exceeding \$10,000; and that Judge Field, of the Supreme Court, has expressed his opinion that that law repeals all previous provisions of law for the punishment of treason.

New York, 17.

The *Tribune's* Florence, Italy, correspondent, April 30, opens his letter thus.—Within a fortnight we shall be involved in war. The abandoned fortress of Cremona is being fortified in haste; the fleet is concentrated and all soldiers on furlough are recalled, even the reserve of the classes of 1834—35 and 36. All the official papers fire the Italian heart. Generals Mamora, Petlinago and Pettì, are assembled in military council. Everybody prepares for war, and still they try to shift responsibility upon the Austrian armament. In fact Napoleon is the great wire puller who first pushed Bismark and now pushes La Marmora, so that Austria cannot avoid war.

In the House of Commons, May 3, Gladstone read the annual financial statement for the ensuing year, estimating the expenditures at £66,225,000, and the revenue at £67,575,000, leaving a surplus of £1,350,000. Gladstone, in referring to the American debt, said I must confess that I think the future of America, so far as finance is concerned, will not be attended with any embarrassment. I do not believe the debt will constitute any difficulty for the American people. In a moderate time it would be brought within very small limits, and it may be paid even within the time of persons now living; although at this moment America is in a tax war, and the amount of revenue of the United States is not less, I apprehend, than about £80,000,000, the largest sum ever raised in any country for the purposes of a central government.

The Venice correspondent to the *Paris Patrie* says Austria is placing herself in a state of complete defence. Troops are arriving from all points, and, without neglecting Pershia and Legnano, the military authorities are storing more, especially in the fortresses of Verona and Mantua. The artillery of Verona consists of more than 500 cannon in battery, besides a large share of guns. At all the main points between Verona and Mantua the Austrians have erected redoubts and entrenchments, which will be strongly filled; the Quadrilateral is, therefore, an immense entrenched camp where all the advantage will be on the side of defence.

Napoleon has made an exposition of the position in France towards Italy and the contending German Powers, to the French legislature through M. Rouher, Minister of State. It is terse and decisive, declaring a pacific policy, on honest neutrality and the entire freedom of action for the Empire. Italy, the Emperor says, is free to choose her own course, but like Austria must

take on herself alone all the risks and perils of war.

The Mexican *Estafette* states, as bad news, that the Imperialist Gen. Losado had been obliged to abandon his campaign in Sinola, for want of money.

Jamaica advices, to the 7th, says that letters from England indicate that Sir Henry Storks will be confirmed Governor of Jamaica; he is at St. Thomas in bad health, completely prostrated in both mind and body. Col. Hobbs, who commanded the forces sent against the blacks during the late disturbances, had become insane and, being put on a steamer enroute for home, jumped overboard and was drowned.

Chicago, 18.

The metric system of weights and measures adopted by the House yesterday is merely permissive. Kasson stating that the committee did not feel authorized to make the law compulsory, but desired to legalize the new system, leaving the trades to adopt it upon choice. The new five cents coinage will be according to the metric system, each piece weighing five grammes, so that three pieces will weigh half an ounce avordupois, equal to the weight of a single letter.

New York, 18.

The Fenian Stephens, who prefers the title of Chief Organizer to that of Head Center, raised some \$3,000 by the Jones' Woods demonstration the other day, and will start shortly for a tour of the principle cities on a financial errand; He refuses to publish the results of the investigations concerning O'Mahoney. The Fenian Senate and Roberts ignore Stephen's authority altogether, and are mustering for a military demonstration.

Washington, 18.

The examination of the Merchants National Bank shows \$42,000 paid to Oscar King and other third parties, for distribution among disbursing officers who kept public funds in the bank. It is expected that the bank assets, not counting the personal liabilities of the stockholders, will pay three per cent.

Chicago, 19.

The Tennessee senate yesterday rejected the resolutions looking to the erection of East Tennessee as an independent State.

The Louisiana episcopal convention rescinded the resolutions of 1861, withdrawing from fellowship with the church in the United States, and the clergy elected Bishop Lay, of Arkansas, successor to Bishop Polk. The lay members disagreed to the election and declared it unconstitutional. The convention is still in session.

Montreal, 18.

The steamer Lyon, on a trial trip yesterday afternoon, exploded a boiler two miles below Montreal; 60 lives were lost and 7 persons severely injured.

Washington, 19.

The President has nominated Gen. Osterhaus, of Missouri, Consul at Lyons; Gen. W. H. McCartney to be collector of internal revenue in the 3d district of Massachusetts, and G. McCandless to be collector of internal revenue in the 23d district of Pennsylvania, Ex-Governor Johnston having been rejected for that position by the Senate.

It is proper to state that the Rev. Edward S. Fitz was removed from the superintendency of the Trent river freedmen's settlement several weeks ago, and is no longer in the service of the Bureau.

Brig-Gen. Sol. Meredith has been nominated assessor in the 5th district of Indiana, where a sharp canvass for Congress is going on between Julian and Kilgore; the latter, a Johnson Republican, is adopted by the Democrats.

Washington, 18.

It is reported that short diplomatic notes have recently passed between Seward and the French Minister, in regard to the French and Austrian troops lately landed in Vera Cruz. Seward insists that no more French troops must be sent to Mexico, even to take the place of those killed or disabled or whose term of service has expired. The French Minister says the landing of these or subsequent reinforcements will not delay the evacuation as heretofore specified.

New York, 18.

The French transport Amphion foundered in the Gulf of Mexico on the 22d of April, with 450 men aboard; all are supposed to be lost.

The stock market shows more firmness than for some time past; nearly every leading stock is under the influence of combinations operating for a rise. Governments show rather more firmness; the decline in 5-20's is bringing out buyers, and the market resists with remarkable firmness. The return of a large amount of bonds from Europe and sales of Treasury gold have the effect of checking an upward tendency in the gold market, it being understood that

the Assistant Treasurer is a standing seller at 130 and commission. The shipment of specie to-morrow will be large, probably not below \$3,000,000. A single sale of gold is reported on government account, amounting to \$1,500,000, was made this afternoon.

[From the London Money Market Review.]

THE BULLION VAULTS OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

Of late years the stores of gold in the Bank of England have generally amounted, in round numbers, to from 13,000,000 to 16,000,000. The amount according to last week's return, was about 14,000,000. Such an amount of bullion, we have often thought, must be a "goodly sight to see," and we had a longing desire to see it; and the governor of the bank made our editorial mouth water, and our editorial eyes sparkle, when he told us that he had once seen, at one view, no less than 16 millions of pounds sterling in gold bullion and coin!

The rules adopted by the bank directors, even amongst themselves, for the "safe binding and safe finding" of the securities and treasures of the bank, are extremely stringent. All the securities are every evening safely locked up in their proper depositories, and the keys thereof are placed in a bag; the bag is placed in a cupboard; to that cupboard there are three locks and keys, and one of the three keys is kept respectively by the governor, deputy governor, and another of the directors of the bank. Every morning, therefore, before the business of the bank parlor can commence, those three gentlemen must be present, each with his own proper key, to unlock the cupboard and obtain the keys which unlock the safes where all the securities of the bank are deposited. And it is regarded as a point of honor with each director never to trust his key out of his own custody.

By the courtesy of the governor of the bank, Mr. Ellis, the head of the bullion office, was permitted to show us everything we desired to see in his department. The bullion warehouses of the bank, it is well known, are the temporary receptacles of occasionally immense quantities of specie and bullion belonging to merchants and consignees in the city, for whom the bank takes charge of it in consideration of a small percentage; and it is deposited in these vaults until it is sold or disposed of and is required for delivery or exportation. This is, of course, quite apart from the bullion against which the Bank has issued notes from its issue department, as stated in the weekly return. The vaults are plain bare brick and stone structures, with a number of strongly made trucks and carriages, on which the bars or bags of gold or silver are placed, for the convenience of being wheeled or moved about. At times Mr. Ellis told us, those vaults are all filled to overflowing with bullion in bars and coin belonging to the Bank or to merchants and bullion dealers. But at the time of our visit, some weeks ago, they were comparatively empty.

In some of the vaults, there were, here and there, trucks with a few bars or bags of gold coin of some foreign country upon them, amounting in value to one or two hundred thousand pounds sterling; but this was a mere trifle to what they usually obtain. In one vault, however, there was a truck heavily laden with gold bars, which was very pretty and interesting. Each bar was worth upwards of £800, and the value of the whole was upwards of half a million sterling.

All the bullion, we should mention, whether in bars or coin, is estimated according to its weight and fineness, by our standard, and not according to the number or nominal value of the coins; and all the entries appertaining to them in the books of the office are based upon this principle. In regard to these bars, there was the report of the assayers on each bar, accompanied by the part cut off and assayed, showing the precise quality or fineness and sterling value of each. There is a powerful machine in this vault for cutting off the portion to be assayed, and there is another powerful machine for numbering or stamping the number upon each bar. But the most interesting machines are those for weighing coin and bullion. These are masterpieces of delicate and perfect mechanism, and there are several of them. None of them, perhaps, are what would commonly be called handsome machines, but they are admirably constructed for their purpose; and there is one in an inner vault which is always kept locked up, and to which recourse is had only in case of any doubt or dispute as to the perfect accuracy of any of the others.

There is another vault in which is deposited the great bulk of the Bank's

stock of gold. That is the bullion vault of the Bank of England; but that vault is never opened and never seen except by two of the Bank directors, the governor and deputy governor, the chief cashier, and the porter of the Bank parlor. The governor and deputy governor and the chief cashier have each their separate keys of this great iron and stone chest, and it can only be opened by the common consent of all these officials. Whenever Mr. Ellis' own vaults got choked up or too full, he intimates to the governor his desire to hand some bullion over to them. Then the two governors and the chief cashier go with their keys to open the great iron door, and to receive, examine, and verify what Mr. Ellis hands over, and to place it in the vault. Having done that, they give Mr. Ellis a receipt in discharge, and then the vault is again closed, and the door locked, not to be opened again until more gold is ready to be put in or gold is required to be taken out for exportation. In the latter case the same parties must personally attend with their respective keys, and similar formalities must be observed. These, we believe, are the only parties who are ever permitted to attend on these occasions, or who are privileged to see or enter this sacred domain.

Mr. Ellis is an old official of the bank, and has occupied his present position for many years, but up to this time he has never yet been permitted to enter that vault. Possibly it may be considered that, as it is he who delivers the bullion to that vault and receives bullion from it, he is the last person who ought to be permitted to enter it; but still the fact shows the stringency with which the necessary precautions are observed and consistently enforced. The vault itself, we believe, is absolutely impregnable, and would baffle the attempts even of Mr. Caseley, with all his "lawful" and "unlawful" appliances. In fact, we are assured that nothing less than the force of powerful artillery could possibly effect an entrance. And, inasmuch as the Bank is nightly guarded by detachments of the Queen's troops, lodged inside, we suppose there is little need to apprehend any danger to the Bank's stock of gold from hostile or burglarious attempts.

THE FACTIONS IN THE BLACK REPUBLICAN RANKS.—Some conservatives, classify the Black Republican factions, as they term them, thus:

The Radical Republicans, generated by Thaddeus Stevens.

The Conservative Republicans, generated by Henry J. Raymond.

The Semi-Copperhead Republicans, generated by Senator Cowan.

The Abstract Republicans, generated by Senator Sumner.

The Practical Republicans, generated by Senator Fessenden.

The Black Republicans Proper, with Frederick Douglass at their head.

The Woman's Rights party, led by Mrs. Swisshelm.

The Garrisonian Abolitionists.

The Wendell Phillips Abolitionists.

The Gerrit Smith Abolitionists.

ENGLISH TRADES UNIONS.—A London letter says: There is a popular movement in England, however, that has some force and efficiency. All the principle Trades Unions are united, with such a power of combination, and such an amount of funds, that they can maintain a successful strike in any branch of business. The tailors of London and Edinburgh are now on a strike for increase of wages, and if their demands are not granted, we shall have twenty or thirty thousand of them out of work. Some of the large employers sent to the continent for hands, but the trade societies blocked that game. They telegraphed to the continental societies and stopped any workmen from coming, and the tailors will be supported by all the other trades. Here is a power beyond that of Parliament or reform bill.

PRINTING TELEGRAPH.—Two London telegraphers claim to have contrived a printing telegraph, by which, with one wire, 300 words a minute can be printed.

MUSIC FROM STONES.—M. Baudre, from Paris exhibited and played upon a most remarkable musical instrument at the last meeting in the Royal Institution. This instrument is composed of 29 stones, principally flints (collected in the south of France,) suspended and so arranged as to represent two and a half octaves, resembling those of the pianoforte. The tones produced differed from those of any other instrument. It is said that M. Baudre spent five years in forming the collection of stones, and that they will shortly be exhibited in public.