

A STORY OF SCIENCE.

BY ONE WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT IT.

A philosopher sat in his easy chair,
Looking as grave as Milton,
He wore a solemn and mystic air
As he Canada balsam split on
A strip of glass, as a slide to prepare
For a mite taken out of his Siltton.

He took the microscope out of his case,
And settled the focus rightly,
The light thrown back from the mirror's
face
Came glimmering upward brightly,
He put the slide with the mite in place,
And fixed on the cover tightly.

He turned the instrument up and down,
Till getting a proper sight, he
Exclaimed, as he gazed with a puzzled
frown,

"Good gracious!" and highly tightly!
"The sight is enough to alarm the town—
A mite is a monster mighty!"

From 't'other end of the tube the mite
Regarded our scientific;
To its naked eye, as you'll guess, the sight
Of a man was most terrific,
But reversing the microscope made him
quite

The opposite of magnific.

"One sees the truth through this tube so
tail,"

Said the mite, as he squinted through it;
"Man is not so wondrously big, after all,
If the mite-world only knew it!"

MORAL.

MEM—Whether a thing is large or small
Depends on the way you view it!

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 31.—To-night, at the Executive Mansion, was quite a scene of happy enjoyment on the occasion of the silver wedding of the President and Mrs. Hayes. The guests present did not number quite a hundred. The blue, red and green parlors were decorated with choice flowers from the conservatory of the Executive Mansion. The east room and main corridors were refulgent with light and odoriferous with evergreens and exotics. The wedding party was called to dinner, which took place in the state dining-room at 10 o'clock. The entertainment was enlivened with music by a portion of the marine band. The party partook, altogether, of the character of a quiet social entertainment, and was attended by none of the scenes that characterize official receptions at the Executive Mansion. The President and Mrs. Hayes received telegrams from old friends congratulating them. At a comparatively early hour the guests withdrew with many expressions of kind wishes for the future welfare and happiness of the distinguished hosts.

GARLAND, Colorado, 31.—A reign of lawlessness and bloodshed prevails here. Four men were shot this afternoon in a saloon, and this evening George M. Clay, a lawyer residing here, entered a concert hall, had a dispute with the barkeeper, whom he cut with a knife, and was then himself shot through the temple.

DEADWOOD, D. T., 31.—Major Conkling and Wm. Baldwin returned from the newly discovered petroleum springs on Saturday. They state that the springs are located in Wyoming Territory near the Cheyenne River and that there are two wells or springs from which a fine sample of crude lubricating oil is taken at the rate of two barrels per day. Several parties have already taken up squatters' claims on the ground. Mr. Baldwin, who has had extensive experience in the Pennsylvania oil regions, pronounces these indications superior to any he has seen.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., 31.—The Union Flouring and Linseed Oil Mills were destroyed by fire this evening; loss on building and machinery \$100,000, insured \$20,000.

DANVILLE, Va., 31.—Heavy rains have swollen the streams, damaging the railroad bridges. On Sunday one span of trestle of the new bridge over the Staunton River, Va., Midland road, was washed away preventing trains from passing. Transfers were made to-day. It will be one week before trains can run through, but connection will be made daily. In the evening two more spans were carried off. There will be delay by transferring to boats. No night trains till further orders.

SAN FRANCISCO, 1.—The Pacific mail steamer *China* has arrived, bringing the following news from Hong Kong via Yokohama:

Hong Kong, November 23, Shanghai, 24.—O. B. Bradford, the former United States Vice-Consul General, arraigned on twenty-five criminal accusations, including embezzlement, extortion, fraudulent returns of vouchers, and general malfeasance in office, pleaded "technically guilty," which plea was rejected by Consul General Wells, who ordered a plea of guilty to be recorded. Bradford petitioned that the case be referred to the home government. Wells consented, and was also granted the privilege of bail, but no security can be found, and Bradford remains imprisoned. The affair continues to excite great interest. Minister Seward has come from Peking to watch the proceedings.

Yokohama, December 6.—The chief political topic is the proposed revision of treaties, with a view to the resumption of control of the customs tariff and the exclusive coasting trade by Japan. The desires of this government are fully communicated through the Japanese envoys to the foreign powers.

Sima Naonoba, now vice-minister of foreign affairs, sails for Europe in January. His position will be minister to Paris, senior of the diplomatic corps abroad. His actual duty is to watch over the treaty revision. No proposal relating to extra territorial jurisdiction will be submitted. If the control of tariff is restored to Japan, export duties will be abolished and new ports opened.

The national Exposition in Tokio closed on November 30 with imposing ceremonies by the emperor and the highest officials of the state, after 100 days of uninterrupted success.

The United States ship *Tennessee* sailed on December 4th from Yokohama on her homeward voyage. The officers were entertained at a brilliant ball given by the community on December 3rd.

A massive iron bridge over the Rokugo River, constructed for the use of the Tokio and Yokohama line, at an estimated cost of \$32,000, was opened for traffic on November 27th.

Dispatches from all portions of the State, published this morning, show that the southern counties have had from four to six inches of rain, nearly equal to the entire fall of last season. The northern portion of the State has had from three to four inches. The crop prospects are generally very encouraging.

NEW YORK, 1.—The *World's* Philadelphia says the statement of Superintendent Pollock, of the mint, covering operations for the year, shows there was coined in 1877, gold, silver and base money, 30,826,149 pieces, of the total value of \$18,639,414.50. The recapitulation of coinage is as follows: Gold pieces, 406,699, value \$7,679,844; silver pieces 29,566,950, value \$10,651,045.50; base money, 352,500 pieces, value \$8,525; total, 30,826,149 pieces, value \$18,639,414.50.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says the President gave peremptory orders, to-day, for the suspension of Walsh, superintendent of the St. Louis Custom House building. Numerous accusations were made against him during Grant's administration, but sufficient political influence was always brought to bear to prevent hostile action on the part of the authorities here. When the present district attorney took hold of the matter, and prosecuted the indictment against Walsh, the latter was defended by nearly all the government officials in St. Louis. A majority of the newspapers and his friends boldly asserted that he could not be convicted.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says: The President, at the request of Representatives Mills and Scheicher, the only members of the Texas delegation now in Washington, has directed that a commission be appointed to investigate and report facts in regard to the El Paso troubles. General Ord has been requested to detail two officers of the army to act with a citizen of Texas, to be appointed by Governor Hubbard, the three to constitute this commission. After an organization these gentlemen will proceed to the scene of the riot, summon witnesses, take testimony, and report all the facts. Among other subjects to which their attention is specially directed is an inquiry whether or not Mexicans from Mexico took part in the attack on the State troops at El Paso, and if they did, the number of them.

The latest dispatches received from El Paso, through military channels, bring information from Colonel Hatch that a considerable portion of the rioters were from the south side of the Rio Grande River, and that many of them were freebooters, whose object was plunder as well as revenge. Before returning to the Mexican side of the river they broke into stores owned by citizens of Texas, and carried off considerable property.

At midnight the streets were crowded with enthusiastic people, mainly Germans, watching the old year out and the new one in. The chimes in the steeples rang popular airs, and there was also a grand chorus of tin horns and general merry-making. The excise law was generally disregarded, though the crowds were generally good natured.

RICHMOND, Va., 1.—For the first time in the history of Virginia since colonial times, its Governor, Col. F. W. Holliday, was inaugurated, to-day, with all the pomp and display of a grand public demonstration. The Governor in his inaugural address, takes the strongest grounds for the maintenance of the State credit, making the points that the debt was created to provide which the State now possesses and from which it daily derives profit, and that the war effected no change in relations between the State and its creditors.

WASHINGTON, 1.—The New Year's reception at the Executive Mansion was held in the blue parlor, after which the callers passed through into the east room, where promenading and exchanges of compliments of the season were indulged in. The President and Mrs. Hayes were assisted by Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Platt, Mrs. Breckenridge, Judge and Mrs. Force, Miss Foote, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Herron. The marine band was stationed in the ante chamber, and as the foreign ambassadors, in full costume, with ladies of their respective households, and cabinet officers with their wives, entered the wide hall strains of enlivening music filled the air.

CHICAGO, 2.—The *Tribune's* London special says: The gravity of the political situation is such as to make the news from the battle field of a secondary importance, and even the *Daily News* and *Times* show greater anxiety at the indications of war than ever before. It is known not only that Russia has declared England's offer to mediate, but that every action points to an expected continuance of the war on a grand scale. While Russia's answer is in courteous language, and while she declares a desire for peace, she refers Turkey to her army commanders to begin negotiations. This can be construed only as intending to make separate peace with Turkey without recognizing any other interests than those of the two belligerents.

The *Daily Telegraph* says: Notwithstanding the attempts to lessen the gravity of the Russian answer, the fact remains that it is an insult so great that a British cabinet council will be held this evening, to discuss the Russian note, which is expected to arrive to-day.

BETHLEHEM, Penn., 2.—John Haddock, aged 21, fatally stabbed Lizzie Davis, aged 19, last night, and then killed himself.

NEW YORK, 2.—A financial article in a recent issue of the *London Times* points out that the proposition to re-monetize silver has nothing to do with the projects for unlimited paper issues, and says revaluation is a word that can, in no sense, strictly apply to the United States. Supposing it should decree silver as the sole lawful money of to-morrow, and we doubt whether bondholders would lose much by the change. At the present price of silver, say 55 pence per ounce, the loss to bondholders would be much smaller than is commonly supposed. If paid off at par in gold in New York his \$1,000 bond would be worth £206 4s. in London, and if paid in silver it would be worth £191 12s., a difference of 7 1/2 per cent. only, and it is not for a moment to be supposed that the difference would remain so great for a single day. Were silver again monetized we should probably see it at once jump to fully five shillings per ounce, at which price the above would be nearly obliterated.

T. S. Lambert, ex-president of the American Popular Life Insurance Company, convicted of swearing to a false annual report, was arraigned for sentence this morning,

in the Oyer and Terminer. He spoke for about two hours and a half, claiming that he was hounded down by the press, and the witnesses against him were interested, and he asked for the lightest sentence possible. Judge Brady said the prisoner deserved to be punished, and the court, without sympathy or regret, sentenced him to five years in the State prison.

Arthur Sewell, of the suspended firm of Bonner & Co., has sent a communication to the Stock Exchange asking for a committee of investigation into the affairs of the firm. Sewell claims to be entirely innocent of any connection with the hypothecation of securities.

An official statement here, prepared under the direction of the assignee, shows that Bonner struck 27 different victims, namely 15 brokers, nine banks, two trust companies, and one railroad company. The total amount of re-hypothecations is equivalent to \$1,854,000.

WASHINGTON, 2.—The public debt statement for December shows a decrease in the debt for the month of \$71,223, and following balances in the treasury: currency \$5,498,844; special fund for redemption of fractional currency, \$10,000,000; special deposits of legal tenders for redemption of certificates of deposit \$32,830,000; coin \$139,518,405; including coin certificates \$33,424,900; outstanding legal tenders \$349,943,776. This is the first decrease of debt in December since 1873.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., 2.—A fire was discovered shortly after midnight in the manufactory of Shirley & Roumell, 713 Market Street. The rear portion of the building was entirely consumed, and it is thought the greater part of the stock, valued at \$75,000, was destroyed. About 180 hands were employed by the firm. The publication house of J. B. Lippincott & Co., adjoining, was damaged by water.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., 2.—This community was startled this morning by the announcement that the extensive and well-known banking house of Jacob Bunn of this city had failed and made an assignment. Mr. Bunn has long been known as one of the heaviest and strongest bankers in the State, and in whom everybody had unlimited confidence. The assignment was made to Hon. C. C. Brown, of Springfield, to whom Bunn gives up everything he has. His wife joining him in the assignment. The liabilities, it is said, will reach about \$800,000; the assets are said to be sufficient to pay everything if time is allowed and the property not sacrificed. The immediate cause of the failure are said to be the large amount of unproductive real estate the bank had, together with a heavy line of saving deposits. Universal sympathy is expressed for Mr. Bunn by every one in this vicinity, where he has been known for the last 40 years as an upright, honest business man.

FOREIGN.

LONDON, 31.—The new anxiety touching the Caffres, as indicated in ordering the 90th Regiment to be in readiness to depart from Aldershot for Cape Town, and the remarks of Sir Bartle Frere, Governor and commander-in-chief of Cape Colony, that he considers the situation on the Caffre frontier extremely dangerous, results from the return of Krelli Galek the chief, at the head of his tribe, into the Transkei Territory and the threatening state of relations with Cetewayo, Chief of the Zulus, owing to a dispute about certain territory heretofore held by the Transvaal republic, but claimed by Cetewayo. Notwithstanding that negotiations are pending with the Zulus, news has reached Natal that Cetewayo's army has occupied the disputed territory. Cetewayo is the most powerful of the native chiefs contiguous to the British settlements. It is not believed that war with the Zulus will result. The imminent danger is the spread of trouble in other tribes in consequence of the return of the Galekas, who were believed to be thoroughly defeated.

A correspondent at Vienna says Lord Derby has sent a note to Count Andrássy, expressing the hope in view of the desire of Europe for peace, other powers will assist, as much as possible, England's steps in favor of mediation.

The following is stated to be the text of England's note to Russia: "Her Majesty's Government begs to inform the Emperor that the Porte is ready to open negotiations. The Emperor's wisdom and repeat,

edly expressed love of peace, justify Her Majesty's Government in the hope that he will lend a favorable ear to the Sultan's request."

It is said that Russia has already replied to England's note that if the Turks desire an armistice they must apply direct to the Russian Commander-in-chief.

A Paris correspondent also says he has reason to believe Prince Gortschakoff has declared that Turkey must know that Russia has always been ready to listen to proposals of peace and that the presentation of peace proposals by an intermediary appears unnecessary.

After an exceedingly difficult passage over the snow-covered mountains and frozen footpaths, the vanguard of a Russian division has occupied the Balkan passes between Crabakon and Sophia, and cavalry has already been stationed on the Sophia roads. The Turks were taken by surprise, consequently the Russians lost only five wounded. Along the eastern front, namely the River Lom, the Turks have withdrawn from all their positions, leaving only small armed bodies, composed of troops and inhabitants. The latter, with arms, retire to the woods after burning their own villages.

It is rumored that the Turks retreated from Sophia after burning it, and are marching towards the Ichtiman defile to bar the Russian advance upon Lataz Bazardjik.

Negotiations for the surrender of Antivari have been broken off because the commander demands that the garrison should be allowed to leave with all their arms, and even artillery, and go to Scutari. The Montenegrins recommenced a bombardment.

An American draughtsman has been employed at Woolwich arsenal for some days sketching the latest improvement in projectiles, in virtue of permission accorded Welsh, the American minister, by the British war office.

A Paris dispatch says the Spanish ambassador here has formally notified Minister Waddington that the Spanish government has broken off all relations with ex-Queen Isabella, whom it regards as insane. She will never be permitted to return to Spain.

ROME, 31.—In compliance with a summons by telegraph, Midhat Pasha has started for London. His journey is said to be connected with England's acceptance of the Porte's request for mediation.

LONDON, 1.—A Vienna correspondent, referring to Russia's reply to the English note concerning the opening of negotiations for peace with Turkey, which reply, as reported last night, is to the effect that Turkey should apply direct to the Russian commander-in-chief for an armistice, says: This intelligence was not altogether unexpected. Ever since the idea of a possible mediation was mooted, feelings have been thrown out from Berlin and St. Petersburg indicating that Russia regarded an armistice as a preliminary step to any pacific overtures, the additional hint that the Czar would require the cession of the Danubian fortresses as the preliminary condition of an armistice, but owing to the weather it seems almost impossible for the Russians to think of leading a large army across the Balkans. It may be expected that they will not exact too hard terms for an armistice, but will content themselves with Erzerum and one or two fortresses on the Danube.

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in a leading article commenting on the reported Russian answer to England's note, says: It is what most people expected, and it will be more profitable to consider what is likely to follow than fling angry words at what was well foreseen. We may now expect the strongest pressure to be put on Turkey to make peace outright with her foe. We suppose a re-settlement of the eastern question by Russia and Turkey is not thought desirable by any Englishman who understands the tenure on which our empire is held; nor is it conceivable that England, with safety, can allow the acquisition of the Black Sea ports and the rectification of the Asian frontiers to be made while she remains mute.

The troops, under Fuad Pasha, defending Ichtiman Defile, have been reinforced, and it is believed the defile is now impregnable.

A junction between General Melikoff and Tergukassoff's corps south of Erzerum, is believed to be imminent.

The Russians are advancing on Baiburt, where the Turks are col-