

EVENING NEWS. *Published Daily, Sunday Excepted,* **AT FOUR O'CLOCK.** **PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE** **DESERET NEWS COMPANY.** **CHARLES W. BOOSE, EDITOR.** **Monday, December 12, 1907.** **THE FRENCH SENSATION.** **THE RUSH TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.**

The attempt by a revolutionist to assassinate M. Jules Ferry, on Saturday last, in the lobby of the French Chamber of Deputies, has turned the eyes of the whole civilized world toward that distinguished individual. An incident as startling as the one in point creates a natural desire in the public mind to know something concerning the personality and history of the chief figure of the dramatic occurrence.

Jules Ferry was born in April, 1832. He received his early education at Strasbourg and studied law in Paris. His father was a lawyer with republican tendencies. His political career began in 1856. Ferry's house at that time was the meeting place of such men as Ernest Picard, Charles Floquet, Clamageran, Emile Ollivier, and kindred spirits. In 1858, and subsequent years, Ferry contributed articles to Emile de Girardin's *Presse* and *Clement Duvivier's Courrier de Paris*.

In 1863 he published a number of complete diatribes against the government, and became involved in a number of trials on account of them. He also contributed largely to the *Temps*, and the compe fantastique of Haugmann are considered his best contributions to that paper.

In 1869 Jules Ferry was elected to the Chamber of Deputies from the sixth Parisian arrondissement and became once a most dangerous opponent of the government. After the fall of Sedan and the capitulation of Napoleon and his army Jules Ferry was made a member of the provisional government and secretary of the national defense committee. October 21st, 1870, he succeeded Etienne Arago as Mayor of Paris and was forced to flee at the outbreak of the commune.

After the suppression of the commune Ferry was appointed prefect of Paris, but he kept this position only ten days, and was sent to Athens, Greece, as envoy of the French republic, where he remained one year. To the Chamber of Deputies he was elected repeatedly during the presidencies of Flichers, MacMahon, and Grevy. When Grevy was elected president of the republic Ferry entered the cabinet as minister of instruction. In 1884 he was called upon to form a new government. The disastrous wars at Tunis and Tonquin which were carried on recklessly by Ferry's government, made him unpopular with the Parisians.

M. Ferry is, in the chamber, a member of what is called the left centre, this being the method adopted for designating the moderate republicans. The radical adherents of that party are known as the extreme left. In the recent election for president he received a large vote, but withdrew from candidacy in favor of Sadi Carnot, being one of the latter's strongest supporters. Latest advice conveyed to the intelligence that the wounds of the distinguished Frenchman are more serious than at first supposed.

The fact that the attempted murder was the result of a genuine revolutionary plot will have a disquieting effect upon the republic of France, and especially upon the nerves of the chief supporters of the present ministry and its head.

Why the bloody conspirators did not begin their sanguinary work on Sadi Carnot, the head of the government, instead of Jules Ferry, and M. Goblet as shining marks for Aubertine's bullets is a little mysterious, unless it could be explained on the hypothesis that if the props of the president were removed he would fall as a natural consequence. Perhaps President Carnot's taking off was only delayed for a season.

This revolutionary business is a startling development in modern politics. It is a chaotic and terrible subject, and is becoming so common in the civilized world that its murderous outbreaks only create, as a rule, comparatively moderate excitement.

It occurs to us that had the hand with the highest grade of civilization there presses onward the blackest phase of barbarism. That the latter is of a semi-enlightened character does not modify the hideousness of its nature.

A pertinent query just now among French statesmen will be, What will be the next victim on whose life will be cast by the conspiring revolutionary gang of which Aubertine is a member?

THE RUSH TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

LETTERS received here from parties who have taken up their residence in Southern California, convey the information, in almost every instance, that the great tide of business which commenced to flow there two years ago is flowing yet, with no sign of an ebb or a diminution.

The condition of things has rarely been equaled in our day and land, and it gives rise to the question as to its cause, effect and probable duration. There are no mines of any consequence in the neighborhood of Los Angeles, San Diego, Pasadena or any of the "booming" cities, and yet labor is high, prices are tolerably cheap and buildings cannot be put up fast enough to accommodate the demand for shelter and storage, even times out of the question.

A "boom" cannot grow out of newspaper puffing and general advertising, although, through these are indispensable and freely used adjuncts. This has been tried in a good many places, but was as ineffectual in every instance as wet powder in a gun.

There must be something real which at least gives promise of good and early returns at the back of the early whooping and hurrahing, and then if the first timid capitalist invests, others will speedily follow and a few in number gradually swell to multitudes. So long as the returns are forthcoming or not too long delayed, so long will the rush hold high carnival; but when it falls for even a moderate period, its failure is final.

Of course there is something tangible and visible to cause the investment in the first instance. This, in the case of the places named, was supplied by the salubrious climate, the abundant and productive soil, the semi-tropical products, the nearness to the seaboard, and the persistent efforts of a few indefatigable workers among those who contemplated forsaking the overcrowded east for the bounding, commodious west.

A few investments made in real property were trumpeted abroad in high sounding words and exaggerated figures, to which performance the investors naturally had no objection; this caused others to turn their atten-

tion to that direction, who came but to mingle with the giddy throng, and add their voices to the volume of praise which was borne abroad upon every breeze.

First they came in tens, then in hundreds, and thousands, and now many having no other object in view than the obtaining of a small piece of real property in or near one of the growing cities, to hold it till the constantly growing increase in prices enables them to multiply their money many times over, sell, and go on to other speculative, get more land, and so on.

But there is plenty of land and everything else a titler of the soil requires, and everybody can get all he wants. All must be satisfied some time; the faster they come, the sooner the end of the influx.

Of course everything goes with a whirlwind a rush just now, and liveliness in the real estate market will hold on till, by reason of everybody getting there that intended to and the unfeeling supply, the demand can no longer approach so nearly to it, and the first slight downward movement will be the first few drops of water crawling over an anathema dam.

Even now there are more transactions going on between those who are and have been for some time permanently located than otherwise; they are buying and selling to each other just as naturally as the Nevada and Idaho and selling mining stocks in 1892. They don't invest for any other purpose than letting go again the first favorable opportunity, and so long this can be kept going—which is all accomplished by means of fresh supplies from the exterior—the "boom" booms no longer.

To tell the exact truth about this whole business would not be at all palatable to the short-sighted whose calculations reach out only to the gains and profits of today.

It does not matter how rapidly a town grows if the additions are of desirable character; if the transactions flow in and it all rests upon a mature, stable and prosperous basis. Each citizen then added and every dollar so invested, marks so much additional stability and permanent uplift. But the moment the element of gambling, which seems so hard to exclude, enters into it, that moment the transactions flow in and it all rests upon a mature, stable and prosperous basis.

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by the French nation. Justice here could not be contested, notwithstanding certain conditions which to individuals might seem to be of a trifling nature. One can, if one wishes, admit that Mr. Grevy has been misled by family sentiments and interests. Still at the last moment, when Mr. Grevy had resolved to quit the Elysée palace, he is reported to have said: "I am leaving myself at the feet of my father, in informing him to not forget his religious duties." This is sufficient to show that he is in the government of the Republic, and it is this precisely which distinguishes the republic from a monarchy. Where should be the difference otherwise? Interest in the interest of duty and political interest are absolutely one and the same thing.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

The report of the Department of Agriculture which will be issued about the last of this month, contains estimates of the area, products and value by states of corn, wheat and oats. It will also be found the average price of farm products throughout the United States, which goes to show that the financial status of the farming community for 1907, is in a remarkably healthy condition as compared with that of previous years.

For instance the average value of corn per bushel this year is given as 43 cents against 36.6 cents last year and 32.8 cents in 1905. The average value of wheat 60 cents, or three mills higher than the price last year. The average for oats is 37.7 cents against 29.3 cents last year.

Back wheat is 54.0 or 1.7 cents higher than last year. The only depreciation in the price of cereals seems to be in that of barley, which is 52.2 cents, against 53 cents last year. The price of hay is 10.00 cents, against 9.50 cents last year. The average for oats is 37.7 cents against 29.3 cents last year.

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