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## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 13.—The Post to-morrow will print an interview between Capt. Couch, leader of the Oklahoma "boomers," and the Secretary of the Interior in regard to Oklahoma.

Secretary Lamar said: "What is it you wish?"

"I want to know what course the administration has determined to pursue with reference to Oklahoma and to settlers," replied Capt. Couch.

"Well, sir, I will state to you the policy of this administration with regard to this Oklahoma country," said the Secretary. "It considers the Oklahoma territory, on which the persons you represent are proposing to make settlements, as within and part of Indian Territory. The administration regards it as not a part of the public domain open to entry and settlement and the acquisition of titles under the land laws of the United States, being in the Indian Territory; that is, territory required and reserved for Indian occupancy. The Government is pledged to the protection of it and the security of the Indians from intruders. No white persons have a right to go there and reside without a permit, and when they go they are intruders who are acting illegally and wrongfully. The policy of the President is to execute the pledges of the Government and to protect this Territory from the intrusion of white persons who claim to have a right to enter upon it, and that it is public domain subject to preemption and homestead settlement."

"Is that the final decision?" asked Capt. Couch.

"It is, and it will be enforced!" replied Mr. Lamar.

In reply to further questions, Secretary Lamar said the Administration was determined there shall be no cattle-men on the reservation. They will not be permitted to graze their cattle within the limits of that Territory. He repeated this declaration with emphasis.

NEW YORK, 13.—Eight five-story tenements on the south side of Sixty-second street, between Tenth and Eleventh avenues, that had recently been put under roof, fell this afternoon while efforts were being made to brace them up, that the yielding foundations might be made secure. The wreck was complete; not a stick remained standing; not a timber remained whole in the entire row. Half a hundred workmen were at work in or about the buildings at the time. At least thirteen of them were injured, none fatally. It was said, soon after the accident occurred, that twenty persons were buried in the ruins, but up to a late hour nobody had been found. The most superficial examination of the debris showed the cause of the disaster to be wretched workmanship and poor material. The mortar contained but little sand, but loam or mud instead, and was wholly unfit for use. This and the fact that the building had been erected during cold weather, of wet and frozen bricks, were directly the cause of the collapse. The builder, Charles A. Buddensick, who was responsible, left the neighborhood in a carriage immediately after the disaster and drove to his residence; where he went from there nobody could learn. The police, who arrested the master bricklayer, Charles Frank, could not find the builder. Buddensick has been for years in trouble with the authorities on account of the "skin" buildings he has put up. The evidence given by Frank and Charles Swager and other bricklayers is very damaging to Buddensick. The erection of the building has been going on since last November, during all the cold weather. The fourth story walls showed weakness in a sudden thaw before the fifth story was reached, and had to be taken down. Workmen were forbidden to carry home scraps of timber left by the carpenters. By the builders' orders these were to be used in filling in the walls to save bricks, which were sometimes put in by the armful. When a good thaw set in the walls began to weaken, and steps were taken to brace them up from both ends, so they would stick together until the roofs could be put on and the ends of the walls rebuilt. The walls stood thus for a week or two without, so far as could be learned, exciting the curiosity of the building department. The heavy rain of yesterday morning completed the work begun by the thaw. This morning it was seen that the three houses at the west end were in imminent danger of falling. The foundation had bulged noticeably and the walls were shaky. Builder Buddensick's attention was called to the matter and he set men to work to fix up the walls and foundation. Four stone-masons and eighteen carpenters were at work on this when the crash came. There were roofers, painters, lathers and plumbers, numbering perhaps thirty, at work about the premises at the time. Fifty men had been laid off, as some material had not arrived. About 3.15 p.m. a shout of warning went up that brought pale faces to many windows. The end of the building toward Eleventh avenue was seen to totter and then to fall with a thunderous noise. Both foundation walls had fallen out, and the body of the house, deprived of its support, fell to the cellar. The building adjoining it, having nothing to lean upon, fell next. Then the whole row followed like a line of card houses. A continuous roar followed that seemed to last many minutes, as one after one

the tall buildings went down. Workmen in buildings for blocks around, and people living on the street for half a mile were startled by the shock, and in a short time the locality of the wreck was packed by excited people, whose threats of vengeance on the reckless builder filled the air. When the heavy cloud of dust had cleared away, people looked upon a heap of broken bricks, and timbers piled only a few feet above the level of the street. Men with broken limbs and bruised faces were struggling out from under the wreck and dragging themselves painfully away. Shrieks and groans were heard from one or two places, and to these spots people rushed. Firemen and all available ambulances were summoned. People from all parts of the city flocked there. The Roosevelt Hospital ambulances were the first on hand and carried away nine of the wounded. Commissioner Brennan of the charities department undertook to direct the work of rescue, and Building Inspector Doench and the excise commissioners did work in the same direction. Four hook and ladder companies and the crews of three engine companies set to work to remove the debris. A large gang of workmen was pressed into service, and in 15 minutes the labor of rescue was well under way. Night had set in before the efforts were relaxed at all. Once or twice the workers fancied they heard a cry for help, but no person was found at either time. At 7 o'clock, Fire Chief Reeves thought he heard groans under the heap of the second building. Gangs went to work in front and rear, and at half past 7 a hole large enough for a fireman and two citizens to grope their way to the cellar was made. Search with a lamp revealed nothing but ruins. Nearly two hours' labor in the same place where groans came from disclosed a man caught in an upright position by many crossing timbers and held fast.

He was extricated with difficulty. He was Louis Walters, aged 40, a framer who had been bolstering up the building. He was removed to the hospital; then the digging was resumed under a strong calcium light. The policemen drew a line across the street. It was said the missing builder had been hurt by flying brick when the buildings fell. Charles Schwazer, brick layer, was standing by him at the time. Schwazer had refused a week before to work longer on such buildings. As the dust arose, Schwazer turned to Buddensick, and shaking his clenched fist in the builder's face, exclaimed: "You ought to be hung for what you have done here!" Buddensick made no reply, but limped away. There were many threats of lynching the man afterward, and it was lucky for him he staid away. Buddensick is notorious as a builder of cheap residences. He has generally of recent years built under another name than his own, and thus has been able to shirk responsibility. He was once indicted for violating the building laws, but escaped punishment. Four years ago he went through bankruptcy, but has since done plenty of business under another name. Frank says he spoke to Buddensick a couple of times about the quality of the mortar, and the builder replied it would be all right. It is said the building examiner made protest against the method of raising these houses to the department, and was soon removed to another district. Inspector Doench made a hasty examination of the other buildings near by, being erected by Buddensick, and remarked that he thought he would order extensive improvements in them. There were many narrow escapes. Andrew Love and John Gainer were painting on a third-story window of one of the houses when it fell. Love fell into the cellar and Gainer on the sidewalk almost unhurt.

At midnight it was thought four persons—two stair-builders and two plumbers—are still in the ruins.

OSCEOLA, Mich., 13.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon, Geo. Julton, Joe Biddle, Tom Mitchell, Geo. Gordon, Frank Maynard, John Hartwick and one man unknown, were clearing brick out of Gram's mill smoke-stack. The bottom tier gave way and the men were buried under 50,000 brick. Several hundred people were gathered around the stack, and every effort to secure the bodies alive or dead was made. The work was slow, and through about forty feet of debris voices were heard imploring help. Fulton was taken out severely, but not fatally injured, and Gordon, aged 17, marvelously escaped. The others were killed. The last man was not reached until 9 o'clock. Men will search all night for others who may possibly be in the ruins.

MORENO, Arizona, 13.—People are greatly excited over the reported appearance of raiding Apaches in this vicinity. M. E. Cunningham and Chas. Croach, ranchers, are missing, and it is believed they have been killed by Apaches.

CHICAGO, 14.—The five story stone building, 83 to 89 Wabash Avenue was burned this morning. The building was occupied by five firms, as follows: Smith & Patterson, photographers supplies; McLean and Retterer, hardware; Dean, Foster & Donney, druggists, sundries; Schett & Co., toys, and Lowenthal, Kauffmann & Co., tobaccoists. The loss was almost total; fully \$200,000; insurance nearly equal.

OTTAWA, Ont., 14.—Mr. Royal returned yesterday and simultaneously with his arrival a rumor was set afloat that an arrangement had been made by which a conflict with the half-breeds under Riel would be avoided. It was reported to-day that negotiations looking to peace were opened yesterday, by telegraph between Gen. Mid-

dleton and Louis Riel and that such negotiations are still proceeding.

NEW YORK, 14.—At a fire early this morning in Huizer's Piano Factory, a number of members of the fire department were at work in the building when the second floor gave way and all on it were precipitated to the cellar. The men were Samuel Reed, Brice Grier and Foreman Colby, Lieut. O'Rourke and firemen Thos. Duffy, Edward McGowan, Hugh McBride and Dorman. The unfortunates were picked out as quickly as possible, but all had sustained bruises and contusions of more or less seriousness. Calls for ambulances were without avail. The men had to be carried to the Roosevelt Hospital on a truck. McBride is expected to die.

With daylight this morning it was easy enough to see the cause of the terrible accident in Sixty-second Street yesterday. The buildings fell because there was simply nothing to hold them together. Rudduseik, the builder of the tenements that fell, has constructed block after block in the neighborhood of yesterday's accident. Phillip Hausman, builder, said:

"The houses fell because they were rotten. They were built of refuse. Look at the bricks that were being used. They are not bricks, but halves and quarters, and chunks of bricks poorly burnt, the miserable offal of a brick yard. There is no mortar on them at all; the stuff used in laying the bricks in the wall was simply wet dirt."

ST. LOUIS, 14.—A sensation was caused at the Southern Hotel this morning by finding in a room a trunk containing the headless body of a man with a note within the trunk saying, "So perish all traitors to the great cause." The room was assigned March 30th Walter H. Lennox Maxwell of London, England.

Maxwell is described as a very girlish-looking, blond young man, wearing a dark wool cutaway suit of English stuff; face clean shaven, and wore his hair banged, not parting it at all. He was frequently seen in company with a dark looking gentleman, about five feet ten inches tall. The latter wore a dark mustache, and had dark hair. This gentleman registered as C. Arthur Preller, London, England, and was assigned room 184. Four days after Maxwell had registered, a telegram was received from Preller, asking whether Maxwell was a guest of the house. It was answered in the affirmative, and he came on and was assigned to the room named.

Both men occupied room 184, in common a considerable part of the time. Each called for the key, and the clerk gave it to each indiscriminately, as they seemed good friends and intimate acquaintances. The men were much talked about around the hotel for their dandish appearance and dandified airs. Maxwell left the hotel a week ago Sunday night, but had paid a full week's board promptly, and it was supposed he would return any day. No suspicion attached to his absence until a horrible smell called attention to the room and led to the opening of the trunk. When the trunk was opened it was found to contain the body of a middle-aged man, face and breast up. The body was so doubled at the hips and knees that it filled the receptacle. On the side of the trunk, over the head of the corpse, was printed in large letters the words: "So perish all traitors to the great cause." The trunk and ghastly contents were immediately hurried to the Four Courts. The body, as it appeared, presented a horrible aspect. The face and parts of the body were uncovered, the only garment being a pair of drawers, reaching just to the knees, which were entirely black and showed advanced decomposition. Preller's trunks were of much better quality than Maxwell's, being made of fine leather. The personal effects in them indicate that the owner was a gentleman of means and culture. The trunks have on them labels of the Cunard Steamship Company and Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, where he occupied Room 186, March 26th. He had also been at the Rossin Hotel, Toronto.

NEW YORK, 14.—General Barton left Grant's house between 4 and 5 o'clock. He said the General was certainly stronger and better, and that he sat in the library with his legs crossed, reading the morning papers. Yesterday morning the General's throat was easy, but a little sore. He desired this condition to continue, and spoke but little.

Soon after Dr. Douglas had issued the 6.30 a.m. bulletin, and while Mrs. Grant was in an adjoining room, the General bade the servant bring him a pad of writing paper, and on it he wrote a bulletin, as follows:

"The Doctor tells me I am better this morning. I am better than I have been in two weeks."

Signed, U. S. GRANT."

General Grant during the afternoon and evening walked several times from his bedroom to his library, and enjoyed the company of different members of his family. At 10 o'clock he retired, and since that time has been sleeping in his chair. His cough is not troublesome and the secretion of mucous is slight; pulse and temperature unchanged, and there is at present the promise for him of a quiet night.

Signed, GEO. F. SHRADY, M. D.

CHICAGO, 15.—Speaking of Cleveland's letter asking for a stoppage of silver coinage, Senator Fair, of Nevada, last night said to a reporter here: "What the President thinks about it does not amount to much. It rests with Congress, and Congress will not suspend coinage. There is practically

no such surplus of silver as reported. Nearly the entire amount of \$46,000,000 lying in the Treasury vaults is in reality in circulation by means of certificates. This agitation about silver is kept up, like a great many schemes in Congress, by men who want to show how much they know. It is all for effect."

KINGSTON, Ont., 15.—The imperial pensioners being paid to-day, were warned that in the event of war between England and Russia, all under 50 years of age might be called on to serve.

NEW YORK, 15, 9 a. m.—Gen. Grant enjoyed a refreshing sleep for eight and a half hours. His pulse is 74 and of fair volume, and temperature normal. He is inclined to be cheerful and chatty. Has at present no pain in his throat.

CHICAGO, 1 p. m., 15.—Markets ruled excited during the entire session. On conflicting foreign dispatches June wheat rose to 92, three times but fell back and closed at 4 cents under the highest figures of yesterday 87½ cash, 88½ May, 91½ June, 93½ July. Corn easier 46 cash, 7½ May, 7½ June. Oats lower 35½ May, 5½ June.

ST. LOUIS, 15.—Walter H. Lennox Maxwell, the supposed Southern Hotel murderer, purchased a through unlimited ticket for San Francisco on Monday morning, April 6th, signed his name to the ticket before leaving, and left the same evening on the San Francisco R. R., and was recognized on the train by two St. Louisans, who talked with him and saw him as far as Pierce City, Mo.

WASHINGTON, 15.—Secretary Whitney has received the following telegram from Admiral Jouett: "I crossed the Isthmus yesterday. Good order continues. Our men are all sound and comfortable."

NEW YORK, 15.—Various reports have been in circulation in Wall Street during the forenoon to the effect that the Union Pacific had made an arrangement for the cancellation of its floating debt. President Adams, who is now in the city, admits that negotiations are pending, but says they are not in shape to be made public.

MONTREAL, 16.—Great surprise has been caused here by the receipt of news that the sixty-fifth (Montreal) regiment of volunteers, now at Calgary, refuses to proceed against Riel, making the excuse that they need equipments. Col. Quimet, of that regiment, has returned to Winnipeg. This is the only French-Canadian regiment of Montreal, and its refusal to proceed is generally supposed to be due to unwillingness to be led against the French half-breeds under Riel.

NEW YORK, 6.30 a. m.—General Grant passed a very quiet night, the improved condition continues. He has slept well and naturally for seven and a-half hours nearly continuously, taking his nourishment well at longer intervals. He feels stronger and his voice indicates it.

LINCOLN, Illinois, 16.—The Lincoln Coal Company's shaft and landing caught fire early this morning and were soon a mass of flames. From ten to twenty miners are at the bottom. The loss is about \$100,000 and no insurance. The fire was caused by the explosion of a torch in an oil room. The following men are known to be at the bottom. Theodore Reed, John Walsh, Pat Campbell, Mike Savage, Jack Cane and Jerry Comfort. It is hoped they will be saved through a side shaft.

NEW YORK, 16.—The St. Louis tragedy continues to be the absorbing sensation. Intimate friends of Preller state that his religious convictions were very singular. His relatives did not fully understand them and refrained from talking with him about the subject. He belonged to a curious demonstration or community of distinctive ideas, very small as yet in America, but with quite a foothold in England. Believers refer to one another in such terms as "Kindred Spirit," "Dear Brother," and similar expressions. Few believers are in this city; they have no regular place of worship, but meet in public halls and private houses, devoting much of their labor to young men. Preller's connection with these people made him acquainted with Richard Owens. Frank Schlesinger, of the firm of H. Kalenbach & Co., is cousin of the Prellers, and has been very intimate with him. Schlesinger took charge of Preller's letters while he was traveling, and forwarded them to him on request. Before he bade his cousin good bye, Preller spoke of Maxwell, and said that he had arranged to meet him in St. Louis, April 4th.

NEW YORK, 16.—Vice-President Crocker, of the Southern Pacific Company, having been asked the probable reply of his company to a proposition from the Pacific Mail and Union Pacific Company based on Gould's resolution concerning the withdrawal of China lines, says that as the Occidental and Oriental line of steamers was organized to bring tea to the Pacific railroads, and an acceptance of the Pacific Mail proposition would result in tea going by way of the Isthmus, it is not likely the line will be withdrawn.

WASHINGTON, 16.—Secretary Manning to-day appointed John A. O'Neill, of Hoboken, N. J., Superintendent of Engraving in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, vice George W. Caslear removed. There are no charges against Caslear, and he feels somewhat surprised at his summary removal. He has been employed in the Bureau many years and is considered one of the best engravers in the country. O'Neill was formerly mayor of Hoboken.

## FOREIGN.

LONDON, 13.—After the risings of the cabinet council this afternoon, Earl Granville, Foreign Secretary, sent a long dispatch to the British minister at St. Petersburg.

The government has received official dispatches fully confirming the report of the Russian advance in force.

LONDON, 13.—The Telegraph editorially remarks: "No diplomatic alliance can now rescue De Giers and the Czar from their fighting Generals."

With few exceptions the press of London and the provinces, of all shades of political opinion, attack the tone and question the accuracy of General Komaroff's statement. It is supposed the Russian Minister of War shaped Gen. Komaroff's telegram.

The Standard says: The Czar has, within the last 48 hours, telegraphed to Berlin an expression of his desire for peace.

Teheran, 13.—News has been received from Askabad that Russian troops to the number of 45,000 were on the march to Sarakhs.

St. Petersburg, 13.—It is reported the Afghans have made an attack on the Russian outposts.

LONDON, 14.—Government has received a telegram from the English agent at Meshed stating that it was rumored among the Afghans that the Russians are at Marnchak.

VIENNA, 14.—The Russian Grand Duke Vladimir has been ordered to Archangel to review the troops and fleet congregated at that post. There is news from Russian Poland to the effect that the Russian police are searching all the chateaux and castles in Podolia and the Ukraine for arms, seizing all they find unless the possessors hold a special license to own them. This is attributed to fear of a Polish uprising in the event of war between England and Russia.

LONDON, noon, 14.—The stock market has a downward tendency. Home and foreign funds weak.

1.30 p. m.—Consols now 94½ for both accounts. This is ½ below the closing figures of last night.

2 p. m.—Consols for both accounts are now 94 9/16.

3.30 p. m.—Consols 94½ for both accounts.

4 p. m.—Consols 94½ for both accounts. This is ½ below the close of last night.

Preparations for war continue with increasing vigor. A force of extra workmen has been engaged at Chatham dock yard to-day.

5 p. m.—The cabinet has been summoned to an immediate council in consequence of the receipt by government of further important dispatches in regard to the Afghan question.

Lord Dufferin has informed the government that the Ameer consents to the passage of British troops through Afghanistan. The Daily News, in an editorial this morning, says:

"If General Komaroff's report were the only answer Russia would give, there would be little need of the formality of a declaration of war. The guns would go off of themselves. We have rather to fear bland, evasive answers."

PARIS, 14.—A special dispatch from Berlin to the Journal des Debats says: England and Russia have not sought the good offices of Germany as a mediator in the Afghan difficulty, and Germany has not offered to act in this capacity.

SUAKIM, 14.—British cavalry visited Otao, eight miles beyond Handoub. No hostile Arabs were encountered. Water was found plentiful. The country appeared to be entirely open. The Arab population freely sell supplies to the English. Italian troops occupied Arafali on Austri Bay, on the Red Sea, and have hoisted the Italian flag along side of that of Egypt.

Douglas, 14.—Deserters from El Mahdi's army report that the rebels have evacuated Berti and Metemneh, and that the garrisons of those two places have gone respectively to Berber and Khartoum. A number of the Bishareens are leaving Osman Digna's country and taking their families to Berber.

LONDON, 14.—At Cirencester, in Gloucester, to-day, during a parade of 250 Gloucester militia, the recruits were invited to join the regulars, and 180 men responded to the invitation. The military preparations of the British government continue unabated. The government has decided to purchase four more steamers similar to the America, and to equip them as armed cruisers. The number of British men-of-war now being prepared for service is so great that it is believed active officers cannot be found for them all, and it will be necessary to resort to the retired list. The steel armor plated turret ship Colossus, of 9,150 tons register and 7,490 horse power, one of the most formidable ironclads in the British navy, will be soon ready for sea, and is believed, will be attached to the Baltic fleet. Gibraltar and other British strongholds are to be put in a complete state of defense. An additional supply of torpedoes of the latest improved patent are being forwarded to all naval stations, both at home and abroad.

Sir Peter Lumsden's reply and Gen. Komaroff's report are expected in London on the 23 inst.

Bombay, 14.—The government has decided to overhaul fifty vessels comprising the Indian fleet and is making large purchases of provisions from private firms. Fifty thousand animals en route to Pishin are loaded with stores and provisions.

LONDON, 15.—The Daily News editorially this morning says: "The situation shows a more peaceful tendency, but, though the intentions of Russia