RUSSIA AND ASIA

British Remonstrance of Caution with Respect to the Imperial Movement Towards Khiva.

Queen Victoria's Ministerial Notification to Prince Gortsebakoff.

Anglo-Saxon Anxiety for Afghan Independence-The Czar's Treaties with the Khanates and Other Potentates-English Trading Interests in Turkistan-How Khiva's Policy Has Involved the Complications.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23, 1872. The Russian World, a newspaper published in this city, states in its issue this morning that His Excellency Lord A. Loftus, Brit.sh Ambassador at the Court of His Majesty the Czar Alexander, has had audience of the Russian Prince Chancellor. Gortschakoff, and notified him in the name of Queen Victoria that, if the Russian troops now operating against the Khan of Khiva penetrate the countries lying between Khiva and Afghanistan, England will be compelled to intervene in support of Afghan independence.

Russia's Relations to the Asiatic Khanates.

In St. Petersburg political and diplomatic circles the Asiatic question has become decidedly the most interesting topic of the day, both to adopted by the Czar's government will greatly influence their future relations in the Enst. To allay the fears expressed by a section of the English, the Russian Official Gazette has just lately published the text of the treaties of commerce entered into with several of the Khans of Asia by the representatives of His Majesty Alexander, and has given a summary of the events which led to the steps taken by Russia to ensure the protection of her subjects and the development of her Eastern trade. The attempt to disturb England in her possessions in India is treated as "an act of folly," not only on account of the difficulty and almost impossibility of success, but even in case of a victorious Russian issue, as but restoring the Indian Empire to the state of barbarism from which English rule has rescued it, whereas mutual and friendly cooperation in the work of civilization is justly held to be not only for the advantage of both nations out of the civilized world.

RUSSIAN TRADE AND ITS PROTECTION BY TREATIES. Since the establishment of security in the steppes of Russian Khirgizi, a security only obtained by a considerable accession of territory, Russian trade has considerably increased, notwithstanding the additional duties and fines levied on Russian merchants, contributions which amounted to double those levied on the Mussulmans. The vexatious persecutions to which Russian merchants were exposed induced the Russian government to authorize General Kaufman, the Governor of Turkistan, to obtain treaties of commerce with the Khan of Kackeni (one of the Khantas). of her subjects and the development of her Eastern

to obtain treaties of commerce with the Khan of Khokand [one of the Khanates], the Emir of Bonkhara, and Yakoub Bek, the immediate chief of the Seven Towns—Dita Schara. The conditions of these treaties are identical, but the policy of the Khan of Khiva is said to be antagonistic to the realization of the anticipated advantages.

The RUSSO-ASIATIC TRADE TREATIES.

A copy of the treaty which Russia has concluded with Khokand—and which is furnished—will suffice for an understanding of the other instruments. The treaty reads as follows:—

First—Every town and village of Khokand, without exception, to be open to Russian merchants, as all Russian markets will be to the merchants of Khokand.

Scond—Russian merchants to have the right to establish caravansaries wherever they think fit, and in which they will have the exclusive right of housing their merchantials. The same right to be enjoyed by Khokand merchants in the towns in Russia.

Third—Russian merchants to be enjoyed by the control of the same right to be enjoyed by Rhokand merchants in the towns in Russia. thants in the towns in Russia.

Third—Russian merchants to have the right to have where they think fit, in the towns of Khokand, agents whose duty it will be to watch over the regular march of commerce and the levyling of the legal custom house dutes. The Khokand merchants to enjoy the same right in Cressian Turkinston.

commerce and the lovying of the legal cannon house duties. The Khokand merchants to enjoy the same right in
Russian Turkistan.

Fourth—All merchandise passing from Russia to Khokand, or from that country to European or Aslank Russia, to be such that country to European or Aslank Russia, to be such that the such that the such and the

CHARGES.

The Russians allege that while the above recited The Russians allege that while the above recited negotiations were drawing to favorable issues attempts were made to introduce regular and friendly communications between Kniva and Russia. For some years, it is said, Russian fishermen and traders had been attacked, robbed and carried of as slaves to the Khan of Khiva, who protected the pirates and refused to give up his captives. Remonstrances were answered by contemptuous silence or extravagant demands and the constant repetition of the offence. In spite of the advice given him by the majority of his Ministers the Khan persisted in his course, nourishing the belief that he was topographically unassailable. The advance of the Russians into the steppes of Orenburg and on the eastern coasts of the Caspian, the construction of Fort Alexander on the Isthmus of Manghishiak, the station at Krasnovodsk, at the entrance of the Gulf of Balkhan, the ancient mouth of the Amaubaris (Oxus) tanght him that his position was not so impregnable as he had deemed it. Fort Alexander has put down the brigandage which he countenanced, and is the rallying point of the Kirghisi tribes, who, through fear or other motives, have placed themselves under Russian protection.

Krasnovodsk has become the base of Russian army operations in case the Khan persists in his dostile attitude.

MATIVE APPEAL TO THE RUSSIANS AND AFFECTING INCIDENTS OF THE DIPLOMACY.

One of the heads of the Abdallah tribe of the

dostile attitude.

NATIVE APPEAL TO THE RUSSIANS AND AFFECTING
INCIDENTS OF THE DIPLOMACY.

One of the heads of the Abdallah tribe of the
Turkomans, Artchek Khondai Nazarow, a man
of emimence among the Turkomans of the
Manghishak, presented himself at Fort Alexander in January, 1872. He had just returned from Khiva, and was the bearer of
several letters from the Russian prisoners detained
by the Khan. According to his account, on the
first notice of the Russian military movements the
Khan convoked a council of the chiefs of all the
nomad tribes to advise on the steps to be taken.
Nearly all were of opinion that it would be rade,
and, in fact, impossible to resist. The desertion
of several important tribes to the enemy on the
first appearance of the Russian troops, and the
Khan's inability to arm those who remained faithiul and were willing to resist, appeared certain.
An insincere manoeuver and its Punishment.

In this extremity the Khan sent for the aged
Ichan, of the Turkomans of the Manghishiak, NourMuhammed, held in deep veneration by his people,
and who, at the moment, was present at Khiva,
whence he was going to undertake a pilgrimage
to Mecca with his family. Artchek, who was the
Ichan's guest at the time, accompanied his host to
the council. The Khan received Nour-Muhammed
most graciously.

Ichan's guest at the time, accompanied his host to the connocil. The Khan received Nour-Muhammed most graciously.

"Thy father," said he, "was my father's best counsellor; what shall do?" "Will my counsels be better than those you have till now followed? For many years your powerful neighbor, absorbed in the grave affairs of the west beyond the sea, has not noticed you. What did you do, insect, almost imperceptible to the human eye? While the Colossua, with turned back, noticed you not, you had the impertinence to harses him from behind, even to carry off his children into flevery. Now, when he turns his face towards you, and glares on you will need to the human eye? The Khan, it is said, was profoundly moved by this speech. He ordered the immediate liberation of his Russian prisoners, and begged the ichan to accompany them back to their own country. Arichek left Khiva soon afterwards, and, according to his account, he heard that the prisoners were to be restored immediately. Nothing of the sort took place. The Khan sent ambassadors to gain time; they arrived, Mahmet-Amin, the Grand ichan of Khiva, at their head, bringing a letter to His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Michel, Lieutenant General of the Caucasus, the contents of which were either absurd or valueless, and hence Russia feels insulted as well as interested for profit.

Russia feels insulted as well as interested for groft.

BRITAIN'S FEAR FOR AFGHANISTAN.

The relations existing between the Emir of lickhara and Afghanistan are worthy of notice. During the stay of the Russian Embassy at Bokhara, in 1870, the Afghanistans pressed the Emir to drive out the Embassy, promising to assist him with 10,000 men in case of a war with Russia. The Emir hesitated long; but, remembering the recent dering to accept the proferred assistance, he granted to the Russian Embassy all they desired. Still, after the Embassy had leit, those negotiations were continued, and, it appears, ended to the satisfaction of both parties, for there has been an authentic report stating that, to insure the cooperation of the Afghanistans in case of a war with Russia, the Emir has ceded to them several Bokharian towns, of which Koulab was aiready occupied by the Afghanistans about Midsummer in the feature of the feat

nother noteworthy fact was the sending of a haring Embassy to Constantinopie. The object

of this Embass, similar to that of Khiva to India, was to insure Turkey's assistance in case of a war with Russia. So that the British interests in Asia will be most decidedly complicated should the St. Petersburg Cabinet policy be persevered in.

ROME.

Papal Allocution Delivered in Consistory at the Vatican.

Pontifical Protestation Against Italian Legislation on Hierarchical Affairs-A Counterblast to Germany and Spain-Schism Near the Orient.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

ROME, Dec. 23, 1872. His Holiness Pope Pius IX, held a consistory of the members of the Sacred College in the Vatican to-day. Twenty-two cardinals were present in obedience to the call of the chief pastor of the

The Pontiff delivered an allocution, in the course of which he said the Church was still sorely persecuted. The purpose to destroy her was shown in the acts of the Italian government, which compelled the ciergy to serve in the army and imposed heavy taxes on Church property. He solemnly protested against the bill now pending in the Italian Parliament for the suppression of religious corporations, and declared that title to property acquired by this means would be null and void. He repeated his censures of those who encroached on the rights of the Church, and deonnced Germany, "where the pitfalls of open violence, calumny and ridicule were employed to destroy the Church by men who, ignorant of

The allocation concludes with a protest against the Clergy Dotation bill recently passed by the Spanish Cortes, and a general condemnation of the Armenian schism.

SHIPWRECKS.

A Packet Ship Stranded on the French Coast-Her Decks Swept by the Ocean Flow-Exciting Rush to the Rigging-Thirty Persons Washed Into the Wave Waste.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, Dec. 23, 1872. A telegram addressed to this city from Bordeaux narrates the following melancholy detail of one of the sad occurrences which have resulted from the sweep of the recent storm :-

The Liverpool packet ship Germania went ashore on Saturday evening, during a violent storm, on a sand bank at the mouth of the River Gironde. The water soon began to break over the vessel and the passengers and crew were compelled to take to the rigging, from which thirty persons were washed away and drowned.

RESCUE OF THE REMAINDER. The remainder of the people on board were, after passing the entire night in their perilous position, rescued on Sunday morning by a French steam

THE STEAMSHIP GERMANY.

Rumored Loss of the Vessel.

LONDON, Dec. 24—1 A. M.
It was reported at miduight that the steamship Germany, of the Allan line, was totally wrecked yesterday. No details were given, and up to this hour the report has not been confirmed. It is nos sible that the rumor has originated in the similarity of the names borne by the Allan steamship and the Liverpool packet, the Germania, previously re-ported lost off the mouth of the Gironde.

[According to the latest files of the London Ships ping Gazette, the Allan steamship Germany was to have sailed from Liverpool, December 17, for Havana and New Orleans-Ep.1

ENGLAND.

The American Cotton Supply.

LONDON, Dec. 23, 1872.

Six thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight bales of American cotton were landed at Liverpoo

FRANCE.

A Military Traitor Executed.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD. PARIS. Dec. 28, 1872.

by court martial and found guilty of betraying the Mayor and another inhabitant of Soissons to the Prussians, by whom they were shot, was executed

GERMANY.

Prince Bismarck Relieved of the Presidency of the Ministerial Council-Imperial Roscript Defining His Official Position.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BERLIN, Dec. 23, 1872. The Prussian Cross Gazette publishes the following imperial rescript addressed to Prince Bismarck:-"I relieve you of the Presidency of the of Foreign Affairs for the Empire and are empow ered to vote in the State Ministry through the mierahip devolves upon the senior Minister."

The Porto Rico Slaves Manumission Bill Before the Senate.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALS.

MADRID, Dec. 23, 1872. The Spanish Colonial bill, providing for the emancipation of the slaves in Porto Rico, was read in the Senate to-day.

AFRICA.

Responsible Government at the Cape of Good Hope-Diamonds and the Gem of Justice.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 23, 1872. The mail steamship from the Cape of Good Hope has arrived.

She brings intelligence that the first Ministry

under the system of responsible government has been formed at the Cape. THE SPARKLE OF DIAMONDS AND THE SCALES OF JUSTICE. A diamond weighing 288 carats has been found in

the diggings. There is much complaint yet of the manner in which justice is administered at the diamond fields.

HTAH INTELLIGENCE.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 23, 1872. Washakie, the celebrated Shoshone chief, lately reported dead, is alive and well.

Mrs. Chanfrau is seriously ill and unable to fulfit her theatrical engagements.

THE FIRE FIEND.

AND THE ARM OF THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF T

Fire in Ninetcenth Street. A fire broke out last night, at half-past eleven o'clock, in the four story brick building No. 537 o'clock, in the four story brick building No. 537
West Nineteenth street, which caused a damage of
\$40,000. Officer Hoyt, of the Nineteenth precinct,
discovered the fire and gave the alarm. In a
lew minutes Engine Company No. 3 answered
the Summons, and through the exertions of the firemen the fiames were
soon subdued. Beamer & Co., who occupied the
lower floors, suffered a loss of about \$15,000, and
Jacob Lincks, who owned the building and carried on the business of box manufacturing
and flows of about \$20,000. The house was insured in the Missouri and Andes Metropolitan
Companies for \$15,000. Fire Marshal McSpedon
will commence an investigation to-day.

Fire in Brooklyn. Shortly after ten o'clock last night a fire was discovered in the upper part of William D. Barber's stationary elevator, on the river front, near the foot of Pacific street, Brooklyn. Two alarms were sounded, which brought out a strong working force of the Fire Department, and the fre was soon under control, and completely subdued by half-past eleven o'clock. The loss will not, probably, exceed \$15,000.

A Public School Building Nearly Destroyed in Jersey City-Loss \$30,000. At twenty minutes before nine o'clock last night a fire broke out in Public School No. 5. Bay s'reet. Jersey City. The pupils of the evening school were within the building at the time, and the Board of within the building at the time, and the Board of Education were in session. The fire originated in the fourth or upper story, from the fine leading from the heater of the building. In the construction of the building. In the construction of this building the tubes for heating were made tubes for ventilation, and were simple wood and mortar. The roof and upper floor were destroyed, and the school furniture throughout the ouilding was damaged either by fife or water. The loss is fully \$30,000; insured for \$10,000 in the State Insurance Company, of Jersey City; furniture \$3,000, in the Hudson Insurance, of Jersey City. It was feared during the progress of the fire that the surrounding buildings would be destroyed, as a stiff breeze blew from the westward; but by the praiseworthy exertions of the firemens a conflagration was averted.

Seventy-five Thousand Dollars Worth of Property Destroyed in Boston.

Bosron, Dec. 23, 1872.
The people of this city were greatly excited last night in consequence of the frequency of fire alarms, one of which was a general alarm caused by the fire on Washington street and Temple place. The thermometer was near zero, and the firemen had a rough experience. It is snowing this morn-

ing.

The fire on Washington street this morning, in addition to burning out Mrs. Charlotte Adams' cor-The fire on Washington street this morning, in addition to burning out Mrs. Charlotte Adams' corset establishment, badly damaged the stock of the Messrs. Williams, merchant tailors, in the same building. The fire then spread into Temple place, partially burning Nos. 57, 59 and 61, occupied by T. F. Furber, gentlemen's furnishing goods; H. J. Meagher, picture frame dealer; Mrs. Grace, milliner, and others. The occupants of No. 311 Washington street also suffered from the fire and water, including John H. Pray, boot and shoe dealer; W. H. Brett, stationer, and A. Mosman, tailor.

The total loss is about \$75,000; mostly insured.

Destructive Fire at Helena, Ark.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 23, 1872.

A special despatch from Helena, Ark., to the Avalanche says:-"A disastrous fire broke out about four o'clock this morning. Before the Fire Department could reach the spot the Department could reach the spot the fire had destroyed about haif a dozen build ings, and before it was arrested destroyed three-fourths of the block in which it originated, on the east side of Main street, between Porter and Righter. The buildings destroyed were mostly built of wood; but the loss fails heavily on some fitteen merchants, who are aimost entirely broken up. The names of the losers are:—A. Bonhold, dry goods and clothing, loss \$5,000, no insurance; J. H. Grant, furniture dealer, loss \$5,000, insured for \$2,000; Mrs. Raget, loss on building \$2,000, insured for \$1,000; Charles Solomons, loss not stated, no insurance; Royer Loy, dry goods and clothing, loss \$7,000, insured for \$2,000; G. F. Blang's saloon and building, loss \$3,000, no insurance; J. J. Barlin, loss \$350, no insurance; B. Levy's millinery and fancy goods, loss \$7,000, insured for \$3,000; J. O. Bagnall, photographer, loss \$1,500, fully insurance; Isaacs & Seeling, dry goods and clothing, loss \$5,000, insured for \$2,000; Russell Righter, on building, \$2,000; J. Olfiger, loss \$1,500, fully insured; S. J. Frotzen, queen's ware, loss by moving \$800, fully insured; Samuel Bender, dry goods and clothing, loss \$5,000, insured for \$250; Spitzer & Frank, loss \$5,000, insured for \$250; Spitzer & Frank, loss \$5,000, insured for \$1,500; Morris Munot, loss \$1,500, fully insured; H. Weinlaub, loss \$2,000, insurance \$1,500; John Clannifay, loss \$5,000, no insurance; John Cannifay, loss \$500, no insurance; Loon Bertin, loss \$1,500, insurance; Loon Bertin, loss \$2,000, insurance; L fire had destroyed about half a dozen build

Fire in Portland, Oregon.

PORTLAND, Dec. 23, 1872. A disastrous conflagration occurred in this city to-day. The fire broke out in a Chinese wash-Alder and Morrison streets, and burned the entire block and nearly the entire block on the west side of the same street. At noon a general confiagrations in this part of the city seemed imminent. Property was removed in the houses for several block in the direction the fire was taking. Fortunately at half-past twelve o'clock the wind changed, driving the flames back on the burned portion, which enabled the firemen to gain control and confine the flames to three blocks. Engines came from Vancouver, Oregon City, Salem and Albany. The Washington and Emmett Guards were ordered out to protect exposed property and prevent the crowd from interfering with the operations of the firemen. Several firemen were seriously injured by the falling walls of Carter's building, and one, named Gallagher, is supposed to be fatally hurt.

The loss is estimated at \$350,000, on which there was \$150,000 insurance. The fire was finally extinguished within the limits of three blocks, which constituted a part of the business portion, of the city. The principal sufferers are J. B. Congle, saddler; W. B. Currier, clothier; Occidental Hotel proprietors, George Velume, Hall & Hendley, H. L. Pittock, the Orangeman Publishing Company, G. W. Vaughan, Simott & Co., P. G. Stewart, A. Walling, Job printer; Quimby & Perkins, Progg & Harris, the Oregon Merald office (slightly damaged), C. M. Carter, C. H. Woodward, druggist; B. L. Stone, leweller; S. L. Stone, Clint & Reed. Corbett's brick building, corner of Alder and Front streets, was totally destroyed; loss not ascertained. The material of the Oregonian was removed in anticipation, but the fire did not reach there.

THE FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL FIRE. block and nearly the entire block on the west side

THE FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL FIRE.

The Coroner's Investigation Closed. The Fifth Avenue Hotel inquest was resumed last evening at the hotel. With the exception of those who were immediately interested in the case there

who were immediately interested in the case there were but few spectators, and very little interest was manifested in the proceedings. Soveral witnesses were examined, and after a brief charge from the Coroner the jury retired to a separate room to deliberate upon their verdict.

The yeardict.

The jury find that Honora Ward and ten others, occupants of rooms Nos. 511 and 513 on servants' corridor, located in the attic of the Fitth Avenue Hotel, came to their death on the night of December 10, 1872, by suffocation and from under the following circumstances:—The rooms occupied opened on a corridor enclosed at both ends, and the means of egress were by the way of a narrow platform staircase, built entirely of wood, of which the fire was burning. Small skylights opening into the roof and windows opening into each room, said windows opening into each room, said windows opening closed by wire screens; and the jury further find that the proprietors of the hotel gave orders to facilitate the escape of the inmates in order to preserve life; and we further recommend that the proper authorities be requested to immediately inspect every hotel in this city in order to prevent a recurrence of a like calamity.

Signed by William Johnson, Foreman, and all the calamity.
Signed by William Johnson, Foreman, and all the jurors.

THE BURNED TABERNACLE.

Last evening Fire Marshal Kendy, of Brooklyn, Talmage's Tabernacle on Sunday morning.

Mr. Rowan, the Treasurer, makes the following

Mr. Rowan, the Treasurer, makes the following statement:—There was a mortgage of \$30,000 on the property held on the North American Life first and transferred by them to the Government Life Insurance Company, who hold it now. It was on the building and they hold the policies. We made some changes in the insurance after the Boston fire, and the list as published was not correct. The following is the correct list:—On building—Etna, Hartford, \$10,000; Farragut, New York, \$5,000; Rutgers, New York, \$5,000; Farragut, New York, \$6,000; American and furniture—Guardian, New York, \$5,000; Total, \$15,000. Grand total, \$45,000. A meeting of the trustees was held at B. R. Corwin's office, 315 Broadway, New York, at the office of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, to day. There were present Rev. Mr. Talimage, Messrs. Corwin, Baker, Rowan, Hobbs, John F. Talmage. Mr. Corwin was in the chair. We laid out plans to raise money and put up a brick church. We have not come to any definite conclusion yet, Different plans were suggested.

THE EVER FAITHFUL ISLE.

The Proposed Coalition by the South American Powers.

COLOMBIA'S PROPOSITION.

A Plan of the Republics to Set Cuba Free.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1872. The representatives of the South American re-publics at Washington have received from the newspapers the first intimation of the official correspondence passed between the governments of Colombia and San Salvador, proposing that a coall-tion be formed against Spain by the South Ameriforce that Power to relinquish the Ever Faithful Isle. This correspondence includes a suggestion that a money indemnity be offered Spain for the surrender of Cuba, and that negotiations be initiated to that effect through the representatives of the South American governments at Washington. It would seem strange that these Envoys have received no official information on this subject from their respective governments. An explanation for this may perhaps be found in the fact that your high officials are slow to decide and s'ill slower to move, and that newspapers were in the present case ahead

THE MINISTER OF COLOMBIA says he was greatly surprised when he saw the idea of the coalition first mooted in the Heralb, and that he has no advices relating to it from his gov-ernment, though instructions for him tallying with the tenor of the published correspondence are probably under way. The representative of San Salvador has been absent from this city for several days, and it' seems that he is not better informed than his coll pague aforesaid.

Mr. Frere, the courteous Minister of Peru and Bolivia, teld your correspondent that he had heard Colombia had addressed circulars to all the South American republics with regard to Cuba, but he did not know how the matter had been treated by them. He did not think that his gov-ernment would enter into such a coalition as pru-posed by Colombia.

had given beiligerent rights to the cubans, but more she would not and could not do. When the allied republics, Peru and Bolivia, Chili and Ecuador, were engaged in hostilities against Spain the recognition of the Cuban patriots as beligerents was a war measure in order to weakon their common enemy, Spain; but an armistice of three years having been concluded between the allies and Spain, Mr. Frere, speaking for his own government, thinks that Peru is not in a situation to enter into any negotiations with regard to Cuba. The attitude of his government towards Spain must remain severely neutral until a treaty of peace is made, or the present armistice expires. Peru could not enter into friendly negotiations with Spain, nor could she resume hostilities against that Power as long as the armistice is in force.

tilities against that Power as long as the armistice is in force.

Mr. Gonzalez, the Charge d'Affaires of Chile, says that he has heard nothing from his government with regard to negotiations to free Cuba from Spanish rule. He believed his government would take no such action for the present, at least.

COLOMBIA AND SAN SALVADOR.

The two leading South American Republics being out of the field, there would remain only Colombia and San Salvador to form the proposed coalition with the United States. Spain looks upon Colombia as non est, and would, with characteristic insolence, spurn any proposition emanating from a government whose very existence she retuses to recognize. The question is, now, shall these little republics teach the United States government its obvious duty, or shall not rather our State Department take the initiative in favor of Cuba?

A high official remarked, in conversation with your correspondent, that the United States would not depart from their traditional policy, which is to avoid alliances in every shape with foreign Powers. With regard to Cuba, he said the great Republic will not follow where Columbia leads. If our government takes any step in the matter, it would do so of their own accord. He also remarked that the recent Herald letters had done more for Cuba than any coalition of South American republics could do.

SYMPATHY FOR CUBA.

The Colored Citizens of Massachusetts Determined to Aid the Struggling Patriots in Their Fight for Freedom-Gratitude and Thanks to the Herald for Investigating the Insurrection.

Boston, Dec. 23, 1872. An initiatory movement on the part of the colcity this evening. The meeting, although not large the proceedings all through were characterized by called the meeting to order, and Charles C. Pindell was made Chairman. In opening the proceedings New York, and followe I with an able and eloquent appeal for immediate and effective action in behalf of the enslaved and oppressed of his race in the

Among the speeches of the evening was one by Mr. Williams, of the Newton Theological Society, who advanced the idea of a general mass meeting of the colored citizens of the State and the adoption of a memorial to President Grant asking him to use his influence to blot out slavery in Cuba and rescue American colored citizens now held in slavery in Cuba. This sentiment met with the popular approval of the meeting, and a mass con-

siavery in Cuba. This sentiment met with the popular approval of the meeting, and a mass convention for this purpose will be held at an early day. The meeting all through was very harmonious and enthusiastic, and, as an initiatory movement, was eminently successful.

RESOLUTIONS ADDPTED BY THE MEETING.
The following resolutions were adopted:—

Whereas, it has been long claimed as the right of the people of these United States to protect thenselves from all the people of these United States to protect thenselves from all the people of these United States to protect thenselves from all the people of the summary of of the summary

plete triumph.

nas. through its professional policy, as well as its desire to benefit all mankind, shown its sincere desire to aid the cause of freedom in Cuba; therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be extended to the proprietor of that paper, and also to its correspondent who has furnished recent and reliable information of the Cuban struggle in behalf of freedom and humanity.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OPPICE OF THE CRIEF SIGNAL OPPICES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 24-1 A. M. Probabilities.

erly to westerly winds, rising barometer and generally clear and cold weather; for the South Atlancreasing cloudiness; for the Gulf States cloudy weather and rain; from Tennessee and Kentucky to Southern Missouri northerly to easterly winds and partly cloudy weather: from the latter region to the Upper Lakes northerly to westerly winds, generally clear weather and low temperatures.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours in the temperature for the past twenty-rour hours in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's Pharmacy, Herald Building:—

1871. 1872.

3 A. M. 26 10 3:30 P. M. 36 34 6 A. M. 30 12 6 P. M. 46 29 9 A. M. 52 15 9 P. M. 46 29 12 M. 34 23 12 P. M. 55 15 12 M. 34 23 12 P. M. 55 15 12 Margae temperature vests clay 2034

12 M. Average temperature yesterday. 20%
Average temperature for corresponding date last year. 39%

A QUARER CHRISTMAS EVE.

Last evening in the sober Quaker tabernacle on Schermerhorn street, in Brooklyn, there occurred a very unique ceremony of the unveiling of the Christmas tree to the bewildered and wondering gaze of the little ones of the Quaker Sabbath school. It was a sort of folk-rite, and was attended by the members of families coming in troops through the cold Winter streets, with rosy faces, bright eyes and chatting laughter. The little meetbright eyes and chatting laughter. The little meeting house was quite full. In the quiet hall of worship quite a change had mysteriously been wrenght, and the seats were piled up along the walls, leaving a space in the centre cleared, and the floor poissined to a showly whiteness by the efforts of the industrious, matronly jaintress. Here the company assembled. There were a great many of such dear, jolly, roguish girls, you know, that didn't at all bear about them the quakerish air that common superstition would lead the stranger from the outer world to expect to behold. They were dressed charmingly and Bright-eyes spoke love to eyes that spake again.

Bright eyes spoke love to eyes that spake again, And all went merry as a marriage bell.

Bright eyes spoke love to eyes that spake again, And all went merry as a marriage bell.

which, by the way, might possibly have been ringing right pleasantly in the imaginations of the happy manimas who were looking on with the same anxious eyes that traditionally belong to the dowagers who grace the crowded balirooms of fast life. Cupid seemed as busily at work with the "laddies and maids" as was Memory, that should have recalled the story which the festival is meant to perpetuate.

The little children, however, were marshalled in order, and were addressed very happily by Mr. Aaron M. Powell, who has recently returned from his tour of Europe. Then there ensued a space of a quarter of an hour, during which refreshments of a very fitting kind were passed around through the assemblage. Then the children, who, by the way, were all elaborately gotten up in sitks, and velvets and furs, so that they verily looked like little fairies, were permutted to play certain childsh games among themselves that have come to be known among almost all the children of civilized Christianity since Chaucer sang. "Blind man's buff" and "hide and seek," those comedies and tragedies of iniant life, delighted them for a while; but the zest of the sport was destroyed by the fact that they were all longing for a glimpse of that wonderful supernatural tree that was in readiness to be beheld of all men, women and children.

The Sabbath school classes descended the stairs to the basement, where a cosey little committee room was decorated with evergreens, in the midst of which could be read the legend:—

"PEACE ON EARTH; GOOD WILL TO MEN."

At one end stood the tree. It was erected upon a hollow pedestal. Its branches gleamed with treasures. The little ones clustered around it, stood up on tiptoe, and the graver faces of the elder folk gleamed with sympathy. An original speech, written for the occasion, was recited by the superintendent of the school, Mr. Josiah Tubby, and was simple, playful and really appropriate. Then the tree, which had been, after some German ideal, addressed as a thing of supernatural qualities, was heard to answer, deep down in its roots. That, too, was simple and litting, only the tree's memory at one points almost faited it, and it had to to be prompted. After this formality the gifts were distributed. Then there were nappiness and laughter and astonished ejaculations. The ceremonies were ended, and after a while the children, the young ladies and the young gentlemen and the middle-aged fathers and mothers started for home amid a mutual interchange of many good wishes for the holidays and the coming new year.

TITUSVIILE OIL PRODUCERS' COUNCIL.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 23, 1872. City an agreement made by their Executive Com-mittee with the Refiners' Association, providing that the latter shall buy 15,000 barrels of crude oil daily from the Producers' Association and co-oper-ate in other ways to maintain the price of crude oil at \$4 per barrel and upwards.

RAILBOAD SNOW BLOCK

ST. JOSEPH, Mich., Dec. 23, 1872. unchanged. All the road cleared out yesterday unchanged. All the road cleared out yesterday has been filled again. Snow, accompanied by a high wind, has failen continuously for the past three days. The storm exceeds any ever known in this part of the State. The ruain difficulty on the railroad is now between Coloma and Bridgeman, a distance of twenty-three miles. The drifts are from three to ten feet deep. The worst place is between Pendwater and Montague, All the trains are withdrawn to-night, but if the storm abates by morning the road will be cleared by Wednesday.

The thermometer is twenty degrees below zero, and it is feared that the fruit crop is ruined.

We are authorized to state that in the list of th Associated Insurance Companies represented by the Executive Committee the name of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company of Newark, N. J., erroneously appears.

While that company disapproved of the reduction of premium rates by the Mutual Life Company, they believed that the remedy was in a different

Burnett's Mininture Tollets.—Elegant ASSORTED COLORED BOXES, containing a complete Tollet Appendage, admirably adapted to the Tollet Table and traveller's portunation. A Coll'Itable Bollady PRESENTS. Wholesale by druggists' sundry men every-where.

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251 and 252 Broadway, corner of Murray street

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