KAISER WILHELM.

His Majesty's Health Improved—The Patient Out of Bed.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BERLIN, Dec. 24, 1873.

The Emperor William is much better.

He has been up all day.

THE VIRGINIUS.

Minister Sickles' Statement of Spanish Radicalist Feeling Towards America.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MADRID, Dec. 24, 1873.

The *Epoca* publishes a letter from General Sickles declaring that early in the Virginius dispute the intransigentes of Madrid proposed to make a demonstration hostile to the United States.

The *Epoca* denies that there was any such intention, and regrets that General Sickles took no pains to contradict the despatch from America reporting that such a demonstration had actually taken place.

BAZAINE.

The Convict Marshal Still Held at the Trianon.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, Dec. 24, 1873.

Marshal Bazaine is still confined in the Palace of the Trianon.

ITALY AND FRANCE.

President MacMahon's Reception of the King's Envoy.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, Dec. 24, 1873.

Chevalier Nigra was well received by President MacMahon yesterday, and the interview was of the most friendly character.

ENGLAND.

Bullion on Balance to the Bank.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 24, 1873.

The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day is £34,000.

SPAIN.

A Republican Army in Sore Strait from the Carlists—General Moriones' Preparation for a Retreat by Sea.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BAYONNE, Dec. 24, 1873.

The steamers are at San Sebastian for the purpose of embarking the force of republicans under General Moriones, which is surrounded by 30,000 Carlists and cannot escape capture except by taking refuge on the vessels.

Republican Preparation for the Assault on Cartagena.

LONDON, Dec. 25—5:30 A. M.

Despatches from Cartagena state that active preparations are making for an assault on the city. The besiegers have received large quantities of shells and grenades.

General Dominguez holds frequent conferences with the Admiral for the purpose of securing the co-operation of the fleet. The insurgents have made several ineffectual sorties.

THE GERMAN BOURSE.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

FRANKFORT, Dec. 24, 1873.

United States 5-20 bonds closed at 97⅝ for the issue of 1862.

ROME.

American Contributions Remitted to the Pope.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

ROME, Dec. 24, 1873.

The Rector of the American College has remitted to the Pope the sum of $25,000, contributed by the faithful in the United States.

NEWS FROM KEY WEST.

Sudden Departure of the United States Steamer Pinta for Cuba—Rumors of Fresh Complications.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 24, 1873.

The United States steamer Pinta was suddenly ordered to sea to-night, under sealed orders. Her destination is known to be one of the Cuban ports. It is rumored that some new complication has arisen.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON OF OPERA.

Mr. Strakosch commenced last night at the Academy of Music a short season of opera, to consist of three nights and a matinée. Nothing more welcome in opera could be selected to inaugurate the visit of Santa Claus than the masterwork of all operas, Meyerbeer's immortal "Huguenots," given with such a perfection of *ensemble* and finish in every detail as it is presented by the Strakosch company. The grandeur of the music and the genius displayed by Mme. Nilsson and Signor Campanini in the fourth act cannot fail to awake the liveliest interest in the minds of the musical public at all times. The subject is strange, however, for such an occasion. Christmas Eve and the eve of the massacre of St. Bartholomew can scarcely be reconciled. Yet the performance last evening was of such a superior character that few, probably, considered for a moment the incongruity of the subject and the occasion. Mme. Nilsson's other *rôles* sink into insignificance beside her artistic and passionate impersonation of the daughter of St. Bris, and Campanini has only reached the standard of his Raoul in the *rôle* of Radames. Miss Cary, in the two airs of the page, was as piquant and brilliant as ever, and the gloomy, revengeful, bigoted St. Bris of Maurel formed an effective contrast to the chivalrous, gallant Nevers of Del Puente. The best representative of the bluff old Huguenot soldier, Marcel, we have had on the American boards since the days of Formes is undoubtely Signor Nannetti. Even the smaller *rôles* in this opera are so admirably filled that not a flaw is allowed to mar the beauty of the *ensemble*. Chorus and orchestra are so carefully drained and rehearsed by Signor Muzio that not only absolute correctness, but even the most delicate *nuances* of expression, are attained. The performance of "Les Huguenots" last night, like its predecessors, will stand as a monument of the success of the Strakosch troupe. "Aida" is the feature this evening.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1873.

Captain Edward Barret has been ordered to the command of the Ticonderoga, at Key West.

Commander William K. Mayo to the command of the Omaha, relieving Captain John C. Febiger, who is ordered to return home and report his arrival.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Simon, Acting Assistant Surgeon Myers and Paymaster Smith have been detached from the Minnesota and placed on waiting orders.

Ensigns C. F. Emmerick and M. C. Dimmick, from the Minnesota, are ordered to the Roanoke.

Medical Director T. M. Foster, from the Mare Island Navy Yard, Cal., is placed on waiting orders.

Medical Inspector J. M. Brown, from the Naval Hospital at Mare Island, is ordered to the Navy Yard at that station.

Medical Inspector J. S. Dungan, from the Minnesota, is ordered to the Naval Hospital at Mare Island.

WASHINGTON.

Dissatisfaction with the Virginius Settlement.

The Name of Williams Not To Be Withdrawn.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1873.

The President Firm Regarding His Nomination of Chief Justice—Senator Edmunds Vindicated.

The President, since his return from St. Louis yesterday, has, in conversation with prominent republican Senators, plainly declared that he would not withdraw the nomination of Mr. Williams for Chief Justice, but that it must abide the verdict of the Senate. The Senate Judiciary Committee will therefore be compelled to patiently investigate every charge which comes properly before it affecting the character of the nominee for this position. It was stated in these despatches of the 11th inst. that Senator Edmunds, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, had sold his influence for $7,000 in favor of the confirmation of Mr. Williams. Your correspondent is confident that such a charge is as unjust as it is unfounded, and is assured that, whatever rumor may say, there is no member of the Senate who will more fearlessly and impartially fulfil his duty in protecting the honor of the judiciary than Mr. Edmunds. While he remains at the head of the committee the country need have no fear of any charges being "whitewashed." On the committee reporting the name, even should all the accusations prove groundless, upon the Senate will rest the responsibility of its confirmation.

Little Prospect of Reduction of the Estimates of the Department of the Interior.

The Secretary of the Interior, previous to his departure for Minnesota, to pass the Christmas holidays with his son, who is in bad health, held a consultation with the chiefs of various important bureaus of his department respecting the practicability of reducing the estimates to a smaller sum, as necessitated by a prospective deficiency in the revenues of the government, and as requested by Congress, in hopes of bringing the appropriations nearer to an accord with the financial situation. In the office of the Secretary the amount estimated for the year is needed almost entirely for salaries. In answer to a question as to whether it were not practicable to reduce them, it was stated that the force was now inadequate, and the few temporary employés were also fully occupied. The business is constantly increasing, and, if it were not for the present embarrassment, it would be necessary to ask for a slight increase of force. In view of these facts it will be impossible for the Secretary to make any reductions in this office under his immediate control. The office of the Commissioner of Public Lands might be slightly reduced in its allowance, but it is said injuriously to the interests of the sales of public lands. The amounts required for the survey and collecting the revenues from these lands is about $800,000 and the receipts from sales yield a total of $3,500,000 annually. There are many offices in which the business has materially declined, and it is thought not impracticable that a re-arrangement of the land districts might result in a diminution of expenses, without destroying the efficency of the important business connected with the administration and sales of the public lands. The office here, of course, vindicates the present arrangement, but the accounts show a decline in many of the offices, which will at once suggest to the Committee on Appropriations the propriety of consolidation.

The Commissioner of Pensions says that the act of Congress granting pensions fixes the pensions to which soldiers and sailors, or the widows and certain relatives, shall be entitled. The estimates of his bureau are based on this, instead of on the decreasing numbers, as might be presumed. As the years have passed by since the rebellion the fact is the other way. Every session Congress passes some law by which additional persons are let into the list of the famed, and to carry out these laws it is necessary to appropriate large sums of money. There are now 238,411 pensioners of the government. The increase of the pasty ear was 16,405. The increase in amounts over previous allowances was over $900,000 for one class and $50,000 more for another. The total thus required for any pensions for invalids, widows and dependent relatives, survivors of the war of 1812, including the expense of agencies for artificial limbs or apparatus for resection, with transportation or commutation and compensation of pension agents, amounts to $30,000,000, and for the same purposes in the navy is $480,000.

Considerable has been said about the growth of expenses of the Indian Bureau, and the enormous outlay on this account has naturally occasioned no little inquiry on the part of Congress. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in conversation to-day, remarked that there was no doubt about the increased expenditures, but that the responsibility of the government every year became greater as the Indian country became settled. It was impossible for the Indians to find subsistence in the chase, and, to prevent trouble, the government undertook to feed them, which was a very expensive item. The total amount required for the Indian service—current and contingent expenses, fulfilling of treaties with Indian tribes and paying the interest on trust fund stock—was nearly $7,000,000, and could not be accomplished on less without increasing the expenditures in another direction by warring upon them. He said the purchase of rations increased as the Indian came into the first stages of civilization, which was to consent to eat the white man's beef. During the past few years the Kiowas, a majority of the bands of the Comanches, the Apaches, Cheyennes, Arapahoes and Sioux have raided upon reservations and are served with rations by the government. Admitting that the race is declining, the Commissioner said that the number on the hands of the government has largely increased. During the coming winter, he states, at least 25 per cent more Sioux will have to be fed. The Apaches also are being drawn in by the military operations of General Crook. The Comanches have also increased; the Modoc of Oregon and Kickapoos of Mexico, now in the Indian Territory, also swell the number. In view of these facts, the Commissioner will be unable to recommend a reduction, and fears that there will be necessity for additional appropriations.

The Commissioner of Patents, in addition to salaries, is at a large outlay for printing, photographing and draughting in preparing the documents and drawings of his office and publishing the *Patent Office Gazette*, the official publication of his office, and which takes the place of the old Patent Office reports. The estimates are about $700,000, and were computed on the smallest possible margin. This office, however, is self-supporting, and is, therefore, no actual expense. The fees paid by inventors and patentees amount to upwards of $700,000. There is also a fund composed of the excesses of a number of years and amounting to over $1,000,000. The Bureau of Education has already been reduced by Congress to its smallest possible working force, and will not admit of any further diminishing, except with the sacrifice of the usefulness of the bureau. Congress, it appears, therefore, may expect but little from the Department of the Interior in the way of responding to its request for reduced estimates.

Alleged Weighty Evidence of General Howard's Guilt.

A prominent army officer, who has investigated the accounts of General O. O. Howard, says that the real extent of his criminality will become more evident and incontrovertible as the investigation proceeds. One of the dark warriors who were victimized by the sanctified Freedmen's Bureau consoled himself, in making his complaint, by the refrain that when they were in the hands of the saints they were swindled; but now, as they had got into the hands of the sinners, they were going to have justice. The evidence against General Howard, it is said, will stamp him as guilty beyond a doubt, and there is great regret felt among West Pointers at his defection, for they say that the instances have been very rare in which they have been found unfaithful to their trusts in a fiduciary capacity, as their sense of honor has prevented them from proving recreant to an honest discharge of duty. The sense of the regular army officers is unreservedly expressed against Howard.

Economy on an Old-Fashioned Plan.

One of the secretaries, anxious to do his part towards the curtailment of the expenditures of his department, gave orders not to have the usual number of visiting cards printed for New Year's and charged to the "stationery account." He then told his chief clerk to have six packs of blank visiting cards purchased and to have a clerk, who writes a handsome hand, write on each, "The Secretary of," with the remainder of his official title. This is "retrenchment and reform."

Southern Republicans Disgusted with the Virginius Settlement—Revolt in the Dominant Party Imminent.

There is a great deal of indignation felt among the leading Southern republicans at the course of the administration in the Virginius affair. A movement will be organized among them looking to the combination of their influence to take a stand by themselves, and possibly to identify their action with the party of the future, perhaps the Grangers, who have shown such strength and are still displaying great activity. It is freely said that, on account of the bungling of the republican party and the discreditable manner in which they have acquitted themselves in the recent State campaigns and in Congress since its meeting, not one Southern State can be relied upon to be carried again by the republican party. They feel that the silly working of the Civil Service law has brought ruin on them and shorn them of the great strength they had when patronage could be most powerfully wielded to reward their favorites and provide for the working rank and file. A strong republican politician from North Carolina, who has been able to carry two counties in that State, having become embarrassed, came to Washington to seek government employ. He was respectfully heard, when the official whose aid was sought obsequiously handed him a copy of the "Civil Service Instructions," and told him how to proceed to undergo the examination prescribed. He left the Treasury in disgust, saying that in future he would work for some other party who would recognize his services. The repeal of the Civil Service law is loudly clamored for by the strongest workers in the republican party, which, having bridged over a Presidential campaign, can now be dispensed with.

No Irregularity in the Papers of the Edgar Stuart—Caution of the Government.

The investigation by the Treasury Department into the character of the steamship Edgar Stuart has thus far failed to discover the slightest irregularity in her papers, or anything concerning her employment which would prevent her clearing from Baltimore to-morrow. Secretary Richardson has been at much pains to inquire into every circumstance, that the Secretary of State may be able to assure the Spanish Minister of the integrity of the Edgar Stuart as an American vessel entitled to an American register, and her right to freedom from Spanish insolence on the high seas in the event of her departure to West Indian waters. It will be some weeks before the repairs of the Edgar Stuart can be completed. Her papers are now in the custody of the Collector of the Port of Baltimore, and he has been instructed not to deliver them except upon the order of the Secretary of the Treasury. Since the decision of Attorney General Williams in the Virginius case the government will carefully endeavor to prevent our vessels from further irritating the sensitive pride of our Spanish ally.

Credit Mobilier Takes Refuge in Contracts.

When Congress reassembles a call is to be made upon the District Board of Public Works for the names of all persons who have obtained contracts, with the names of those who have recommended their appointment. This may show that the relatives, friends and followers of some who have "put through" large appropriations have profited by the contracts under which this money has been lavishly expended.

The Protection of Patents.

The Hon. J. M. Thacker, Assistant Commissioner of Patents, together with Messrs. Hamilton A. Hill and William P. Blake, three members of the Permanent Committee appointed by the International Patent Congress, recently held at Vienna, have issued a call inviting all persons interested in the subject of patent protection to assemble in convention at Washington on Thursday, January 15, for the purpose of discussing this topic, and, if thought desirable, of organizing a National Patent Association. The call alludes to the difficulties to which American inventors are subjected in attempts to procure some protection for their inventions in foreign countries, and states that the International Congress at Vienna authorized the members of the Permanent Committee to organize branch associations in their respective countries, and in general to adopt measures in aid of the movement for patent protection inaugurated there. The committee also say that the unanimity with which the Vienna resolutions favoring the American system were adopted afford encouraging signs of ultimate success; but meanwhile our friends abroad greatly need the information and aid which we can readily furnish, for we are the foremost nation in the world in the liberality and success of our patent system.

Specimen Postage Stamps Not Obtainable.

The departments are constantly in receipt of letters from stamp collectors throughout the country enclosing money and requesting to be furnished with sets of the new department postage stamps. The requests have to be refused as there is no lawful authority allowing such use to be made of the stamps, and the money is returned to the senders.

Calls at the White House.

The President has received no visitors to-day, with the exception of two or three members of the Cabinet, and the Executive office will be closed until after New Year's.

Washington City Stock Exchange.

The first regular session of the Washington City Stock Exchange was held to-day. There are about 17 members.

FLIGHT OF A BANKRUPT.

Escape of Edson Bradley to Canada with $70,000 in Gold—H. B. Claflin, A. T. Stewart and Others Swindled—Arrest of His Partner.

The whereabouts of Mr. Edson Bradley, the Broadway merchant, who disappeared a few days ago, and who was supposed to have met with foul play, were ascertained by Detective Mooney yesterday. The latter was informed by his assistants that the missing man had fled to Canada with $70,000 in gold to escape from his creditors. It appears that Bradley was at the head of the cloth establishment of Bradley & Co., of No. 495 Broadway, his partners being his son, Major William G. Bradley; his son-in-law, Mr. Hoffman, and a gentleman named Church. The firm suspended payments on the 10th inst., and it was proposed by Mr. H. B. Claflin, A. T. Stewart, Dale Brothers and other creditors to put them into bankruptcy. Their liabilities were found to reach $500,000, while all they had as assets was about $15,000 worth of goods and notes representing $100,000.

To avoid being made a bankrupt the elder Bradley promised Mr. Claflin that he would pay

SEVENTY CENTS ON THE DOLLAR

if he was allowed to wind up his business himself. Last week the creditors began to suspect that the merchant was not acting honestly, and employed Mooney's detective agency to watch his movements. They ascertained, it is alleged, that he met with two of his partners at the house of Mr. Hoffman, in Brooklyn, on Sunday evening, and there

ARRANGED FOR HIS FLIGHT.

He had with him $70,000 in gold, which he had obtained in exchange for notes belonging to the firm's assets. From Brooklyn he went to the Grand Central depot, where he took the midnight train for the Clifton House, in Canada. Officers have been sent after him to secure his extradition.

ARREST OF HIS SON AND PARTNER.

His son Bradley was arrested at his store last evening by Detective Mooney, on a charge of attempting to swindle the creditors of the firm. The complaint was made by his brother-in-law, who alleges that he has concealed $35,000 in gold notes. The accused was committed to Ludlow Street Jail by Commissioner Betts.

MARSHAL BAZAINE.

Epitome of the Impeachment Against Him.

DAMNING CHARGES.

PARIS, Dec. 8, 1873.

As these lines are being written the trial of Marshal Bazaine is drawing to an end, and in a few days more all the world will be discussing a verdict which will be of permanent importance wherever armies exist. The point at issue has been whether the commander of a besieged fortress may under any circumstances, short of actual storming or starvation, surrender his citadel to the enemy, and if so what are the precise conditions under which he may capitulate. That is a subject which is of interest to France to-day, but which may concern any other nation to-morrow; and as a military precedent it is of such deep historical moment that American readers may like to have a full epitome of the events which form the Bazaine case laid before them, beginning from

THE OUTBREAK OF THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

The French government formally declared war against Prussia on the 15th July, 1870. Hostilities had long been regarded as inevitable, both in France and Germany; but when the Hohenzollern candidature, which formed the *casus belli*, was started by Count Bismarck, the French were not prepared for a great military struggle, as their own War Minister, Marshal Lebœuf, well knew. At the first rumor of diplomatic difficulties the Marshal hurried to Napoleon III., at St. Cloud, and stated his position frankly. He said:—"The Sadowa campaign opened our eyes to the fact that Prussia had an army at once larger, better organized and better armed than our own. My predecessor, Marshal Niel, set himself to reform our forces. He armed the infantry with the chassepôt rifle, gave us the mitrailleuse and brought in a bill which rendered military service general and compulsory by the institution of a mobile reserve. But Marshal Niel died last year, before he could put all the details of his new scheme into execution, and when I took his place I was given to understand that the outcry of the liberals against excessive armaments was so loud that I must go in for retrenchment. We have retrenched. The Mobile Guards have not been called out for drill at all this year; they have no stores, commissariat or arms, and the consequence is that, although we have an effective of 1,200,000 men on paper, we can only bring 400,000 men into the field, even if we summon all our garrisons from Algeria. It will require at least two years of incessant preparation before we can meet Prussia on equal terms." To this the Empress, who was present at the conference, answered, indignantly:—"If I were a French officer I would blush to speak in so faint-hearted a way. Do you count the valor of our troops for nothing, and do you suppose that we require to be equally matched with our foes in order to beat them? Austerlitz was fought at double odds, and the Prussians had 100,000 men more than ourselves at Jena!" The Empress was very eager for the war. The menacing progress made by the radical party in the elections, the insolence of the opposition press, and the fact that 53,000 soldiers had voted against the Emperor at the plebiscitum, all pointed to the urgency of obtaining some sensational military triumph which should restore the prestige of the Imperial name and enable Napoleon III. to strike a new *coup d'état* against the enemies of his throne. Therefore the Empress followed up her first words by others equally bitter, and Marshal Lebœuf was so hurt that he retired from the room and asked for a sheet of paper in the antechamber, in order to write his resignation on it there and then. But the Emperor came out and told him not to mind the ill-temper of a lady. He asked him to go and do his best, adding that France would not fight Prussia single handed, for that she was assured of the alliance of Austria and possibly of Italy, and that as to the States of Southern Germany, it was more likely that they would march on the soil of France than on that of the ambitious kingdom which was seeking to subdue them all. These things the Emperor honestly believed. His foreign Minister, Duke de Gramont, "the greatest simpleton in Europe," as Count Bismarck called him, had been Ambassador at Vienna, and was persuaded that the Austrians were burning to revenge the humiliations of 1866. The Emperor himself, who had lived among Bavarians and knew much of Wurtemburg 35 years ago, was convinced that there would be no friendship between these Catholic countries and the Protestant State of the North, and he counted that Sadowa had made an irreparable breach between them. He was also so little acquainted with the temper and strength of Denmark, Hanover and Saxony as to think that these three kingdoms would rise in rebellion against Prussia, and, with respect to Italy, forgetting how thoroughly the policy of France in the Roman question had alienated the gratitude of Italians, he supposed that Victor Emmanuel would side with the French, to repay the debt of Solferino. Marshal Lebœuf, being little conversant with diplomatic affairs, naturally accepted the Emperor's statements as correct; but when he discovered that the hopes of a foreign alliance were groundless, he proposed the only plan of war which, under the circumstances, seemed to him feasible. He suggested that all the French forces should be massed together and marched across the frontier to Saarbruck, there to fight one mighty battle—a very Armageddon—in which, by dint of numbers, dash and confidence, the French would be victorious. Now, a first victory gives French soldiers so much courage, and, consequently, such an advantage over their worsted rivals that they might have been relied on to march ahead and win a second battle, after which the Emperor could have offered to conclude peace. It was the plan of the Italian campaign over again, and, just as the Austrian Emperor had accepted the peace of Villafranca, when by forcing the French to continue the war he might have checked and eventually routed them by means of the Quadrilateral, so Marshal Lebœuf was of opinion that Count Bismarck would consent to make peace too, if the Prussian armies were twice beaten. However, Napoleon, acting under the advice of General Frossard, the Prince Imperial's tutor, who was the evil genius of this war, had already adopted another plan, which had been based on the original notion of alliances, and which consisted in scattering the French army over an area of some 300 miles. The Emperor started for Metz to take the command in chief, with Lebœuf for his staff commander; the right wing was entrusted to Marshal MacMahon—summoned in haste from Algeria; and, after several days of disastrous hesitation, the left wing and centre, including the Second, Third and Fourth Corps d'Armée, were placed under

MARSHAL BAZAINE.

Bazaine received his command on the 5th of August, and on the very day following the French suffered two crushing defeats at Forbach and Woerth. The corps engaged at Forbach was the Second, that is one of Bazaine's, and was commanded by Frossard, whom Bazaine personally disliked, as indeed did most other general officers, Frossard being, after the manner of court favorites, at once presumptuous and arrogant. There can be no doubt that Frossard's own blundering rashness, and his alone, brought about the catastrophe at Forbach. Having thoroughly studied the Forbach battle field, on paper, Frossard felt sure of it, and on the morning of the 5th he telegraphed to Bazaine that the enemy were about to attack him, but made no request for reinforcements. It is contended by the prosecution that Bazaine should have guessed for himself that reinforcements would be needed and have despatched the Third Army corps in order that the issue of the contest might be placed beyond doubt. Had he done so Forbach must have been a French victory, for it is acknowledged now that the Prussian General Kameke had been too hasty in attacking Frossard, and the arrival of the Third Army corps would have left him completely at the mercy of the French. To this Bazaine replies that he understood from Frossard's despatch that the Prussian force was but a small one, against which the Second corps could cope by itself, and he persists in declaring that Frossard was of this opinion himself and purposely forebore to ask for reinforcements in order that he might have the glory of winning a battle unaided and so earn his marshal's baton. This is certainly the truth; but, on the other hand, Marshal Bazaine was heard to say with a sneer on the afternoon of the 5th:—"Frossard has been studying the position of Forbach for three years and thinks it an excellent one for an engagement. Well, he has now what he wants."

It is obvious that there was ill blood and jealousy between all the generals at this period, each one being anxious to distinguish himself alone, and being, furthermore, hopelessly ignorant as to the real strength of the enemy. Bazaine may be excused for not sending to the relief of Frossard, the more so as this singular General was breakfasting coolly with the Mayor of Forbach while his troops were being beaten; but, after Forbach and Weerth, Bazaine has no more valid excuses to offer for the truly unaccountable series of errors which he perpetrated, one after the other, and it is here we reach the beginning of what the prosecution terms

HIS POLITICAL INTRIGUES.

The defeats of Forbach and Woerth caused a well justified panic in Paris. One defeat would have been serious enough; but the two together were felt with good reason to be calamitous, and public opinion loudly demanded that the command-in-chief should be removed from the Emperor's hands and given to some one more capable. On the 7th Bazaine's wife called, at eight o'clock in the morning, on Count de Keratry, one of the foremost members of the opposition in the Corps Législatif, and urged upon him to insist that the command should be delivered to Bazaine. She showed him a letter, in which the Marshal stated that he could save France if left to do it in his own way, but that he could not act under the Emperor's incompetent orders. Bazaine's counsel allege that Mme. Bazaine's visit to Count Keratry was one of simple friendship, and that no military or political questions were touched on during the interview. But visits of friendship from a lady to a gentleman are not paid at eight o'clock in the morning, and it is positive that on the 7th Count Keratry stirred up the whole opposition to clamor for Bazaine's appointment. He was successful. On the 12th Bazaine was gazetted to the command-in-chief, and two days later the Emperor left his headquarters at Metz for Châlons, whither MacMahon was understood to be retreating with his shattered forces and such reinforcements as were being sent every day from the different depots. Between the 6th and the 14th eight precious days had been lost in discussing and rejecting the impracticable idea of concentrating all the French forces round Metz, and it is due to Bazaine to state that he was the first to point out that the plains of Châlons would be a much better battle field for the French than the Lorraine country. The French armies were familiar with Châlons; the position was a strong one, and might be fortified to any extent; and, admitting the improbable hypothesis of defeat, there would be a far shorter and easier retreat from Châlons to Paris than from Metz to the capital. These counsels prevailed, but no sooner was Bazaine in possession of the 160,000 men and 570 guns which the Emperor had handed over to him than he changed his ideas and wanted to fall back on Nancy. He himself asserts that he had perceived the impracticability of the Châlons scheme, and had only yielded to it because it had struck the Emperor's fancy. The prosecution maintain that Bazaine grew averse to the Châlons plan simply because it was generally believed to be the Emperor's, and because, if successful, he (Bazaine) would not reap all the glory of it. Another construction put upon his conduct is that he lost his head on finding himself in command of 160,000 men and felt utterly unable to manage such a host. This is very probable; for, like all the French generals trained in Africa, Bazaine had no experience of large armies. In Mexico he had never had more than 20,000 men at a time under his orders in the field, and even this number had seemed to him unwieldly. However that may be, Bazaine's behavior from the 15th was utterly wild and extraordinary. Instead of distributing his army over several roads, to make their retreat the more expeditious, he massed them on the single road from Metz to Gravelotte and neglected to reconnoitre the approaches to his left, where the enemy were gathering prepared to attack him in flank. The consequence of this strange neglect was that the army was delayed an excessive time in crossing the Moselle and leaving Metz; its march was rendered fatally slow; and the Germans had an opportunity which they promptly seized of heading him on his retreat, and barring the road to Châlons. The battle of Mars-la-Tour followed on the 16th—and a murderous battle it was. The French fought splendidly, repulsed the enemy with loss and remained masters of the field. If Bazaine had renewed his attack on the 17th, as Prince Frederick Charles expected and feared he would, it is admitted that he could have reached the Meuse unhindered, for the Germans were not yet in a position to stop him; but, on the 17th, instead of advancing, he began a backward movement on Metz, allowing the Germans to bring their reinforcements, and on the 18th took place the sanguinary battle of Gravelotte which definitely cut off all Bazaine's communication with Châlons and drove him into Metz for good. Bazaine's own version of this matter is that his army had neither ammunition nor food enough to continue the march to the Meuse after the 16th; but these assertions are contradicted by facts. The prosecution have brought evidence to show that there was no want either of food or of ammunition, and they infer that Bazaine's object in retreating was to play a wholly independent part in the war. He calculated that after the Emperor and MacMahon had been beaten at Châlons he himself from the snug security of Metz could treat with the Prussians on his own account, and then with his army, 150,000 (for 10,000 had been killed or disabled in the battle of the 16th), march on to Paris as the master of France. At first it looked as if this dream—if so it be that Bazaine had ever dreamt it—was likely to be realized, for after three desperate battles on the Meuse MacMahon was finally vanquished at Sedan, the Emperor was taken prisoner to Germany, and Bazaine's army remained as the only one in France that appeared capable of fighting.

BAZAINE IN METZ.

However, Bazaine had not reckoned Paris. He never supposed that a city so large could think of standing a siege, and when news reached him that General Trochu and the Parisians were actually preparing for resistance he solaced himself—so argues the prosecution—by reflecting that the giddy, unwarrior-like capital would soon be forced to yield, and that then his plan of concluding peace with the Germans and placing himself at the head of affairs in France would become easy. What gives a strong color to these accusations is that already in his Algerian days Bazaine had dipped in intrigues which proved him to be a man of unscrupulous ambition. He had risen from the ranks to the Marshalate, and in Mexico had acted so curiously that it was thought he had some idea of supplanting Maximilian and becoming Emperor of Mexico himself. He had been heard to say at that time that if Maximilian could not keep his throne he (Bazaine) would set a better example, and that Napoleon would be proud to see a French man effect that which an Austrian Archduke had been unable to accomplish. When the attitude of the United States in the Mexican question counselled the French government to recall their forces, Bazaine was fain to forego his exalted ideas; but, on returning to France, he had astonished many high political personages by his flippancy in exclaiming—chiefly in after-dinner conversations—that France wanted a strong man at the helm, and that if the Emperor would call him to the Premiership he would show the world how a fractious nation should be ruled. It is certain that from the first Bazaine refused to hold any communications with the goverment of the National Defence, and lost no occasion of declaring to the generals shut up in Metz with him that it was a revolutionary government of cutthroats and lawless, and that Trochu, for heading such a gang of demagogues, ought to be shot. Despatch after despatch was sent him by Gambetta, but he returned no answer, and declined to co-operate in any way with the armies being levied on the Loire to force the Germans to raise the siege of Paris. On the other hand, when an unknown person, called Regnier presented himself, without credentials of any sort, and announced himself as an emissary from Chiselhurst, Bazaine treated with him and asked of Prince Frederick Charles a pass for General Bourbaki to go to London and negotiate with the Empress Regent. Regnier turns out to have been a Prussian spy, who had no mission of any sort from the Empress, and all that Bazaine said to the man was by him faithfully reported in the Prussian camp. The Germans thus learned what were the resources of Metz, and when Bazaine, perceiving that the resistance of Paris was likely to disappoint his expectations by lasting several months, tried to negotiate with Prince Frederick Charles, he found all his offers haughtily repulsed. Bazaine wished to sign a peace, march out with his 150,000 men and help the Germans to subdue Paris as an insurrectionary stronghold in the possession of an illegally constituted government. The Germans would hear of no terms but absolute surrender, and Bazaine, who now saw into what a pitfall his ambition had dragged him, applied himself to disheartening the garrison and population of Metz in every way in order to prepare them for a capitulation. Instead of reviving the energies of his soldiers by consoling words he spread it everywhere that the Germans were gaining victories all over France, and were gathered in such numbers round Metz that to attempt sorties would be madness. The better to force this truth home he sent out occasional raids of 5,000 men, which were repulsed by forces 10 times as numerous, and these foregone defeats he magnified into crushing disasters. In his proclamations in the leading articles he caused to be inserted in the official newspapers, in his casual conservatism, he always did his utmost to dishearten, never to cheer, and the result of all this was that, on the 25th of October, Metz formally capitulated, though there were still six weeks' provisions in the city. As the Germans themselves admit, a resistance of but 10 days more would have changed the whole aspect of the campaign; for the Loire armies would have come to the relief of Paris, and, as the Germans were forced to keep 200,000 round Metz they would not "have been sufficiently strong to continue the siege of the capital, and would have been obliged to raise it. But Bazaine preferred to surrender his army sooner than act in concert with the republicans and hear it said that they had saved France. Since he could not play the leading part himself he was resolved that the whole country should go to ruin and that every general should fail as he had done. He accordingly signed the most humiliating capitulation ever recorded, for not only was the citadel of Metz, with all the arms, stores and ammunition in it, given up—not only were the whole garrison of 150,000 men made prisoners of war, but 57 regimental standards, which, by all the laws of military honor, ought to have been burned up, were surrendered too. The prosecution accuse the Marshal of having yielded these flags under threat of Prince Frederick Charles that if aught were withheld from the Germans the Prince would publish the intrigues into which Bazaine had dipped and the unworthy negotiations he had undertaken with a view to extinguishing the republican government for his own advantage.

Such are the charges adduced against Marshal Bazaine, and it may be said that the sum of them forms the most heinous impeachment ever brought against a general.

RHODE ISLAND.

Fire in a Rubber Factory—A Boy Drowned—Burning of an Old Woman.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 24, 1873.

A fire occurred this morning in the cast room of the National Rubber Company of Bristol, and was confined to that room, which is fireproof. The loss is between $5,000 and $6,000, fully insured.

Ira, son of William Bicknell, 12 years of age, was drowned yesterday in Belleville Pond, North Kingston, having broken through the ice while crossing on his way to school.

Patience Watson, wife of Robbin Watson, a colored woman, over 70 years old, was fatally burned on Monday when alone in her cottage at Allenton, North Kingston. Her clothes caught fire and she was unable to extinguish it.

Died.

SHERIDAN.—On Thursday, December 25, 1873, at his residence, No. 344 East Thirteenth street, EDWARD SHERIDAN.

Due notice of the funeral will be given.

[*For Other Deaths See Seventh Page.*]

A.—Espenscheid Excels in His Holiday style for 1874. Moulded with exquisite taste and skill, it brings out the best expression of the face, as a fine setting gives new lustre to the diamond; and, mark! very reasonable in price. Try them, at 118 Nassau street.

A.—Herald Branch Office, Brooklyn, corner Fulton avenue and Boerum street. Open from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M. On Sunday from 3 to 9 A. M.

Ask for Goodall's—The Finest Imported and cheapest Domestic PLAYING CARDS. Beautiful new patterns. Sold everywhere.

A.—The Russian Baths, 25 East Fourth street, are open this morning, for gentlemen only, until 12 o'clock.

A.—Hernia.—The Surgeon General of the United States, Washington, has arranged with the ELASTIC TRUSS COMPANY, 683 Broadway, to supply their TRUSS, as needed, for ruptured pensioners, soldiers, sailors, &c.

A Pure and Delicious Smoking Tobacco is SURBRUG'S GOLDEN SCEPTRE.

Baker's Chocolate.—If You Wish the best VANILLA CHOCOLATE get BAKER'S.

Baker's Chocolate.—A Good Cup of Co-coa is easily had if you will insist on your grocer furnishing W. BAKER & CO.'S BREAKFAST COCOA.

Batchelor's Hair Dye Is Splendid— Never fails. Established 57 years. Sold and properly applied at BATCHELOR'S Wig Factory, 16 Bond st., N. Y.

Chocolat Menier for Breakfast. Defies all honest competition. Awarded medal Vienna Exhibition. Sold by all grocers, druggists and confectioners. Depot 45 Beaver street. CHOCOLAT MENIER for luncheon.

Extra Dry Cabinet of MOET & CHANDON at ACKER, MERRALL & CONDIT'S, Chambers street, and Forty-second street and Broadway.

Electrical Currents of Health for Dys-peptic, rheumatic, neuralgic, sciatic, &c., administered by Dr. CHAMBERLIN, No. 7 West Fourteenth street.

For Coughs and Throat Disorders Use BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES, having proved their efficiency by a test of many years.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is the prescription of one of the best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and has been been used for 30 years with never-failing success by millions of mothers for their children. It cures wind colic, regulates the bowels, corrects acidity and gives rest and health to the child.

Merry Chistmas.—Boots and Shoes, In-DIA RUBBER, GENTS' TOILET SLIPS, CHILDREN'S LEGGINGS, at MILLER & CO.'S, No. 3 Union square.

Red Hands and Faces, How Ugly They are!—Use Mme. LAMARTINE'S ORIENTAL MIXTURES to get them white. Price 50 cents. Depot at Mme. ROMER'S, 48 East Twelfth street, near Broadway.

Wigs, Toupees.—G. Rauchfuss, Practi-cal WIG AND TOUPEE MAKER, 44 East Twelfth street, near Broadway, New York.

$500 Reward for an Incurable Case.— Dr. SAGE'S CATARRH REMEDY. Particulars in pamphlet around bottle.

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