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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1871. NO. 2.

Review of Events of the Nation.

Our Relations with Foreign Powers.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The following is the President's message delivered to Congress to-day, at noon:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your message of the 11th inst., and to reply to it as follows:

The Republic of Mexico has not yet repudiated the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and the Government of the United States has accordingly declined to recognize the Government of Mexico which is now in power. It is the duty of this Government to maintain the integrity of the Territory of New Mexico, and to protect the rights of the citizens of that Territory. It is also the duty of this Government to protect the rights of the citizens of the United States who are now in Mexico, and to secure the restoration of their property to them.

The Government of the United States has accordingly taken the following measures: It has declared that it will not recognize the Government of Mexico which is now in power, and it has refused to issue passports to the citizens of that Government. It has also refused to issue visas to the citizens of that Government who are now in the United States, and it has refused to issue letters of marque to the citizens of that Government who are now in the United States.

The Government of the United States has also taken the following measures: It has ordered that the United States Army and Navy be kept ready for service, and it has ordered that the United States Army and Navy be kept ready for service in the Territory of New Mexico. It has also ordered that the United States Army and Navy be kept ready for service in the Territory of New Mexico.

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Recommendations Concerning Tariff and Taxation.

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Emancipation in Brazil.

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The Washington Treaty.

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Old Jestbooks.

Johns Current Among Our Ancestors.

Few plays were anciently considered complete without a clown, and he was a much more important and privileged person in his day than in our own. He not only entered upon the stage at the proper times, but continually mixed with the company, and attempted to excite merriment by any species of buffoonery that occurred to him. Richard Tarlton, who played between 1570 and 1588, was one of the most popular and notorious of these extemporizing clowns. Always on the lookout for a joke, he was not content with confining his attentions to the company on the stage, but constantly sparred with the audience. Nor were the latter backward in laughing him to rhyme on themes which were generally considered before-hand, in order to puzzle Tarlton when he appeared before them. Thus is related "Tarlton's Jest of a Gridiron," which we give in its original quaint style for to translate it into modern language would destroy the best part and injure the rest:

"While the queen's players lay in Worcester city to get money, it was his custom for him to extemporize of themes given him; amongst which they were appointed to play the next day. Now one fellow of the city, among the rest that seemed quoth of conceit to lead other youths with his fine wit, gave out that the next day he would give him a theme to put him to a nonplus. Divers of his friends acquainted with the same, expected some rare conceit. Well, the next day came, and my gallant gave him his invention in two lines, which was this:

"'Tis a thing that is a thing out,
To see a gridiron turn the spit."

The people laughed at this, thinking his wit knew no answer, which angered Tarlton exceedingly, and presently with a smile, looking about, where they expected woe, he put it off thus:

"'Tis a thing that is a thing out,
To see a gridiron turn the spit."

"An old painter, at the repairing of a church was writing sentences of Scripture upon the walls. By chance a friend of mine came into the church and reading them perceived much false English. 'Old man,' said my friend, 'why do you not write true English?' 'Alas! sir,' said the painter, 'they are poor, simple people in this parish, and they will not go to the cost of it.'

"A justice of peace being angry with a piffing knave, said, 'Sirrah, if thou dost not mend thy manners, thou wilt be shortly hanged, or else I will be hanged for thee.' The bold knave replied, 'If that is your worship for that kind offer, and I beseech your worship not to be out of the way when I shall have occasion to use you.'

"A cardinal kept a knavish fool for his recreation, to whom he said, 'Sirrah! suppose that all the world were dead but thou and I, and that one of us should be turned to a horse, and the other of us to an ass, say which of the two wouldst thou choose to be?' The fool answered, 'Sir, you are my master and I will be content to take that which you leave.' 'Why then,' said the cardinal, 'I would be a horse.' 'No,' said the fool, 'let me out your worship to be an ass, for I would choose to be an ass above all things.' 'Why?' quoth the cardinal, 'I have known many asses come to be justices, but I never knew any horse to come to the like preferment.'

These and similar anecdotes supplied our ancestors with food for many a hearty laugh, and filled the place of Punch, in the eating houses of the seventeenth century.—College Review.

Victor Emmanuel's Opinion of Napoleon.

A characteristic story of King Victor Emmanuel is related by M. d'Alville, formerly French chargé d'affaires at Turin, in his diary now in course of publication in the Journal de Paris. The King having received a letter from Napoleon III. in which the latter repeatedly assumed promises he had made to him on a former occasion, was furious, and took the first opportunity of venturing his anger on the Emperor's representative. At the next court ball he summoned Prince Latour d'Auvergne to his presence in a private room, and addressed him in these words:

"After all, what is this Emperor of yours? The last comer among the European Sovereigns—an intruder and a parvenue. Let him remember that he is, and what I am—I, the head of the first and oldest Royal dynasty that now reigns in Europe." Prince Latour listened to this outburst with as much calmness as he could command, and then observed:

"Sir, you will permit me not to have heard a single word that you have spoken." The King said nothing but turned away. In the course of the evening, however, he came again to the Prince, and tapping him familiarly on the shoulder, whispered in his ear with a smile, "You need not report our conversation of to-day to Paris, sir. Besides, you told me yourself that you did not hear what I said."

A Concocted Lady Bally Sold.

The postoffice department recently received from the Secretary of the Treasury a box containing 19,500 cancelled postage and revenue stamps. These stamps were forwarded to the Treasury by a lady residing at Bridgeport, Conn., who says that she is one of a Bible class; that she was told by the superintendent of her Sunday School that if she would collect one million stamps the government would give her \$300. She, therefore, forwarded a part of the required number and requests pay for them *pro rata*. She states that if the government wants a collector of defaced stamps she will accept such a position for a reasonable compensation. Gen. Terrell, Third Assistant Postmaster General, replied to her letter, saying that cancelled stamps possess no value whatever, and that the newspaper rumors that the government will pay for such stamps is doubtless intended as a "sell."

The People of the Western Territories.

The people of the Western Territories, who have long been clamoring for one consistent treatment and action, can say, that they have now a man who will do all that is just and honest, and who they may look for protection, and very energetic protection too, from the class of men who, in too many cases, have excited Indian difficulties by their corrupt and reckless conduct, as subordinate agents of the Government. Nor will they allow a sentimental desire to permit the Indians to stand in the way of making them obey the laws and keep the peace with their white neighbors.

Sixteen deaths in December have been caused by whiskey within a year.

Government Expenses.

There are some estimates for the year 1872 for the government for the coming year, but the precise statement beyond the general one for the year has not yet been prepared. It is estimated that the total amount for the year will be \$1,000,000,000.

Political Difficulties.

More than 40,000 men are supposed to be in the army.

The New Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

The appointment of Gen. Francis A. Walker, lately head of the Census Bureau, to be Commissioner of Indian Affairs, is one which reflects the greatest credit upon the President, and which we feel prominently satisfied to all who desire a proper solution of our Indian difficulties.

Gen. Walker is clear-headed, decisive, energetic, unimpeachably honest and humane. He will not suffer the Indians to be abused or cheated; but he will require them to keep the peace, and he will see to it that they are not unduly petted, nor cheated by speculators in the Indian Ring, nor allowed to plunder at will. He will be a terror to dishonest agents, and his appointment gives reason to hope that the mismanagement and corruption which have caused in the past, and under other Administrations, so much waste and trouble among the Indians, will now be finally remedied.

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