

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, April 14, to TUESDAY, April 20, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

In the House of Representatives on Wednesday, by a vote of 106 Democrats against 168, of whom 49 were Democrats, the proposition to seat Mr. Hurd (Dem., Ohio) in place of Romeis (Rep.), the sitting-member, was rejected.

The House Committee on Ways and Means on Thursday decided by a vote of 9 to 1 to report favorably the resolution recommending the abrogation of the Hawaiian treaty.

The report of the Committee on the Electoral Count upon the Hoar bill was presented to the House on Thursday. In that part of section 4 which prohibits the rejection of the vote of any State from which only one return has been received "except by the affirmative vote of both houses," the Committee has struck out the exception. A material amendment has been made in the latter part of the same section relating to two sets of returns from one State, so as to provide that those votes only shall be counted which are cast by electors whose appointment shall have been duly certified under the seal of the State and the executive thereof, in accordance with the laws of the State, unless the two houses, acting separately, shall concurrently decide such votes not to be the lawful votes of the legally appointed electors.

In the House Labor Committee on Friday a motion to report the Blair bill favorably was made by Mr. James, of New York, and was defeated by a vote of 4 yeas to 6 nays. Mr. James then moved to report the bill without any recommendation. This was also defeated. An adjournment was forced, pending a somewhat complicated parliamentary wrangle. The result of the action and non-action seems to indicate clearly that the bill will not be reported favorably, and that it may be reported either without recommendation or with a substitute. The House Committee on Education also considered on Friday the Blair bill on the same subject, which had been postponed before. The Committee at first voted to postpone it indefinitely, and did so by a vote very hostile to the bill. It was suggested, however, that such action was not courteous to the minority, whereupon it was reconsidered, and the Committee proceeded to consider the bill, section by section. The Committee had not concluded the consideration of the first section at the time of adjournment.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs on Tuesday adopted the bill of Mr. Belmont (Dem., N. Y.) for indemnity to the Chinese for about \$147,000 on account of the Rock Springs outrage.

Mr. Logan addressed the Senate on Thursday, vigorously advocating open executive sessions.

The Committee on Commerce of the United States Senate reported favorably on Friday a bill making the depositing of dirt, sand, or other like matter in the tidal waters of New York harbor a misdemeanor, punishable by fine, imprisonment, and, in the case of masters or engineers of vessels, by the revocation or suspension of their licenses. It also provides for the appointment by the President of a Board of Harbor Commissioners, to consist of three officers of the army and two civilians, one of the latter to be nominated by the Chamber of Commerce of New York and the other by the Governor of New Jersey. It appropriates \$30,000 to carry out its provisions.

Governor Bate, of Tennessee, has just appointed Washington Curran Whitthorne to succeed Howell E. Jackson as United States Senator. Mr. Whitthorne was born in Tennessee in 1825, was educated at the Knoxville University, and became a lawyer. During the rebellion he held the position of Adjutant-General

for Tennessee for four years. Congress removed his political disabilities in 1870, and in the following autumn he was elected a Representative. During the twelve years of his service in Congress he made himself conspicuous as a critic of the naval administration of the Government.

Attorney-General Garland testified before the Telephone Investigating Committee on Monday. He said that he had no consultation with any person connected with the Interior Department as to the hearing in the telephone case, and that he never talked with Solicitor-General Goode on that subject, except as to the amount of fees that should be paid to the Government's special counsel. He had never used his official position to promote the interests of the Pan-Electric Company. "In fact," said Mr. Garland, "as a private citizen I could have done much better for the company, and would have done so." His official position, as having any bearing upon the interest of the Pan-Electric, was never discussed between him and his associates. He prepared the original articles of incorporation, which were adopted with a view to incorporation in New Jersey or Tennessee. He thinks that Tennessee was chosen because there was no requirement as to the paying in of certain percentages.

The Secretary of the Treasury on Tuesday issued a call for \$10,000,000 3 per cent. bonds. The call will mature June 1.

The President has settled the long quarrel over the Louisville, Ky., Post-office by the reappointment of Mrs. Virginia Thompson, who has been Postmaster there under three Republican administrations. This appointment was opposed by some of the leading Democratic politicians of the State. A Democratic indignation meeting was held in Louisville, on Saturday night to protest against the reappointment. Representative A. S. Willis was vigorously denounced in the resolutions, which said: "We regret that the President of the United States felt called on to yield his own convictions to the demands of a Congressman who misrepresents his constituents, and puts personal considerations above his duty to his party." A meeting in favor of Mrs. Thompson was held on Monday. All parties were represented, but it was not enthusiastic.

The New York Assembly on Friday passed the Broadway Arcade Railroad Bill by 108 to 8.

Governor Hill, of New York, has vetoed the bill raising the salaries of police captains from \$2,000 to \$2,750, because it is a question which should be settled by local authorities and not by the State.

Governor Hill has vetoed the Capitol Appropriation Bill, objecting to the removal of Commissioner Perry and the substitution of an ex-officio board.

The Committee of the Ohio House appointed to investigate the charges of bribery in connection with the election of Henry B. Payne as United States Senator have submitted their report. It makes no direct charge of bribery, but says the election was surrounded with suspicious circumstances.

As a result of a personal inspection relative to the recent allegations of the Philadelphia Record charging gross mismanagement in the soldiers' orphans' schools in Pennsylvania, and the abuse and neglect of the scholars, Governor Pattison on Thursday demanded the resignation of the Rev. R. E. Higbee as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and summarily removed the Rev. J. W. Sayres, male inspector of soldiers' orphans' schools, and Mrs. E. E. Hutter, female assistant inspector.

A militiaman on guard at the Vandalia yards in East St. Louis on Thursday was fired upon by a striker. He returned the fire, but the man escaped.

There were three acts of violence by strikers in East St. Louis on Thursday night. Two Ohio and Mississippi Railroad switchmen were attacked by a crowd and badly beaten. When they escaped and ran for their lives they were fired upon. An hour later a deputy sheriff met the same gang. Several shots were instantly fired at the deputy. None of them hit him. Later still the pickets of Company B, who are guarding the Louisville and Nashville Depot, were fired on from a vacant house.

The Bridge and Tunnel and the Belt Line Companies of St. Louis have at last employed a sufficient number of men to man all their engines and switches, and they now announce their readiness to do all the transferring across the river and between the various railroad yards in East St. Louis which may be required. This removes the last impediment to free railway traffic at St. Louis.

The strike of switchmen in the Lake Shore yards at Chicago has prevented the handling of freight by that road. On Tuesday an attempt was made to run a train, but it was prevented by the strikers, who knocked a brakeman senseless.

The Elmira division of the Order of Railway Conductors, numbering 160 members, on Sunday, adopted a resolution declaring that "believing arbitration to be the only and proper method to pursue in matters of grievances, we condemn strikes, and assert, further, that they are invariably ill-advised, gotten up by agitators, socialists, incendiaries, and demagogues, rather than by the representatives of honest labor."

A letter from T. V. Powderly, Grand Master Workman of the Knights of Labor, was delivered to Jay Gould on Wednesday. In this letter Mr. Powderly gave a summary of his recollection of two discussions that took place between the Executive Board of the Knights of Labor and Mr. Gould, on March 28 and 30. He denied some of the statements that the latter had made respecting what was said by both sides, and explained what he said respecting the character of the strikers. Mr. Gould was urged to settle the strike at once, and told, if he would do so, he was at liberty to deal with the employees as citizens, not as Knights of Labor. Mr. Powderly challenged Mr. Gould to begin suits for damages against the Knights of Labor. In reply Mr. Gould sent a letter in which he quoted previous correspondence to show the reasons for his acts in reference to the strike, and then censured the threatening tone of Mr. Powderly's communication. Mr. Gould declared that the contest of the Knights of Labor was now not with himself, but with the laws of the land.

Four of the men engaged in distributing boycotting circulars against Mrs. Gray's bakery, in this city were arrested on Wednesday, and on Thursday were fined a dollar each for disturbing the peace.

All the lines of the Third Avenue Railway Company, in this city, ceased running cars on Friday, owing to the strike of 800 employees. On Monday the Executive Board of the Empire Protective Association ordered a tie-up of all street-car lines in the city, except those on Eighth and Ninth Avenues. The order was obeyed. This was done to force a compromise on the Third Avenue officials.

Late on Monday afternoon the Third Avenue Line attempted to run a car. It was assailed by the strikers, and the driver and conductor badly beaten. The police used their clubs vigorously and soon settled the trouble. They made a number of arrests. Early Tuesday morning the Empire Association ordered the general "tie-up" off, on the ground that there was no proof that the other companies were aiding the Third Avenue. If any outside assistance by other companies is extended, the "tie-up" is to be ordered again.

Tornadoes in Minnesota, Iowa, and Dakota on Wednesday did great damage to property,

besides destroying about fifty lives and seriously injuring 200 people.

By the breaking of a reservoir dam near East Lee, Mass., on Tuesday, the town was terribly devastated and seven people drowned.

Mr. John Bigelow has sent to the Chamber of Commerce an elaborate report of his observations during his visit to the Panama Canal, in which he enumerates the tremendous financial, executive, sanitary, and other difficulties attending the work. He says: "To determine when this canal will be finished, one must know, first, how much work is yet to be done, and, second, how much money the company will be able and disposed to spend annually upon it, and, third, how many laborers or their equivalent in machines it can command. That information has not yet been revealed to man. No one living can even now give anything more than a guess as to the amount of work to be done. All these uncertain elements are rendered more uncertain by the financial situation of the company. It is about entering the market for a new loan of 600,000,000 francs. The price it will have to pay for this money is uncertain, and the price of a future loan, if one should become necessary, is still more uncertain. Till the money is secured, and the cost of getting it ascertained, it would be about as safe to predict the quarter in which the winds will be setting next Christmas Day at St. Petersburg as the time when the canal will be finished or what it will cost. That the canal will now be prosecuted to its completion without any very serious interruption is fairly to be presumed, for too large a proportion of its cost has already been incurred to make a retreat as good policy as an advance. Even if abandoned by the company, the contractors themselves would probably find it for their interest to combine and finish it."

Messrs. Cornelius, William K., Frederick W., and George W. Vanderbilt have given jointly the sum of \$250,000 to the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in this city, for the erection and endowment of a building 75 feet by 100 feet, at Tenth Avenue and Sixtieth Street, to be known as the Vanderbilt Clinic. The institution will supplement the work of the Sloane Maternity Hospital and of the College.

John H. Noyes, founder of the Oneida Community, is dead at the age of seventy-five. He was born in Vermont, and in 1834 began to preach "perfectionism." In 1846 he founded the Putney Community, and two years later removed it to Oneida, County, N. Y. The system of complex marriages which he preached was abandoned by the community in 1879, and he himself retired into a sort of exile in Canada.

Squire White, aged eighty-eight years, known as a leader of the Rhode Island Dorr war, and famous in his day as a lawyer, died on Thursday at Quinebaug, Conn.

FOREIGN.

Mr. Gladstone propounded his Irish Land Bill to the House of Commons on Friday evening. In substance his statement was as follows: The Land Act was intended to go into effect on the same day on which the Home-Rule Bill would become operative. It would not go on without the operation of the other, which would provide a legislature in Ireland to appoint statutory authority to deal with the landed estates and act between vendor and purchaser. The purchases would be made through the issue of £180,000,000 of 3 per cent. stock issued at par. These new Irish consols might, with the consent of the Treasury, be commuted for stock of a lower denomination. If the stock could not be issued forthwith, scrip of equal value would be issued for the same purpose. The act was to give the landlords the option to sell out under its terms. Its enactments were confined to agricultural holdings, and did not include mansions having demesnes and woods. The state authorities acting between the peasant and land-owner

would purchase the land from the land-owner and put the peasant in possession as absolute proprietor, subject to an annual rent charge until the total payments equalled the purchase money. The state would not force the small occupiers to become proprietors. In districts where the population was congested, the state would have the power to decide whether expropriation of the too crowded land should be compulsory. Nobody except the immediate landlords would have the option to sell to the encumbrancer, and then he must sell by foreclosure, and not at an option for himself. Applications to sell would have to be made by all the tenants on an estate, and all these applications and sales would be registered. Applicants would be required to give security for costs in certain cases. The Land Commission would be empowered to refuse applications. The basis of prices would depend upon the rental for a fixed period. The judicial rental of 1845 would be the standard in all cases wherein the rent of the land to be sold was then fixed; in all other cases the Land Commission would have the power to arrive at a price by comparing the other judicial rentals with Griffith's valuation. The Land Commission would also be allowed to examine the state of the books concerning estates for ten years back. Twenty years' rental would be a normal purchase; in exceptional cases twenty-two years' rental would make a purchase. Applications for sale would not be received after March 31, 1890. Ten million pounds of the stock would be issued during 1887, £20,000,000 in 1888, and £20,000,000 in 1889.

Mr. Chamberlain made a speech, in which he said that the land proposals, although they had been modified since he had left the Cabinet, would still impose a great burden on Great Britain without sufficient security for the loans advanced. The bill was calculated not so much to benefit the tenants as a sop for the landlords. Although only £50,000,000 was to be issued, the option to sell was offered to landholders holding land valued at £150,000,000. Supposing that the full number of options to sell should be accepted, how would all the money be provided? He opposed the bill on principle, because it specially protected the landlords. His speech contained the significant statement that he was not an irreconcilable opponent of Mr. Gladstone's policy. If the land proposals should be sufficiently modified, he would be happy to be relieved of the duty of continuing his present attitude of opposition. Permission was given to introduce the bill, and the second reading was fixed for May 13.

A full meeting of opponents of Mr. Gladstone's policy was held at the City Hall, Glasgow, on Wednesday evening. Dr. Hauna, leader of the Presbyterians of Belfast, said that he wanted Mr. Gladstone's measure rejected with contempt and scorn. It was the most unworkable, grotesque, and mischievous proposal that had ever emanated from the brain of a statesman, sane or insane. It would hand the peasantry over to the most illiterate priesthood in Christendom.

A mass-meeting of 3,000 opponents of the home-rule scheme was held in London on Wednesday night. Speeches were made by Lord Hartington, Lord Salisbury, and Mr. Goschen. Mr. Gladstone's name was treated with great disrespect, and during his speech, Lord Hartington with great deliberation said: "I hope I may appeal to you not to make the task which I have before me more difficult than it is, by indulging in any manifestations of disrespect to one whom I shall always admire and revere as the leader of a great party; who, in my opinion (I do not expect you all to agree with me), has conferred great advantages on the country; who, at this moment, in my judgment, although I am bound to differ from him, is actuated by feelings as noble and as honest as any that have ever inspired the conduct of an English statesman."

Monday being "Primrose Day" (the anniversary of the death of Lord Beaconsfield), the

Conservatives everywhere appeared decorated with his favorite flower. The political crisis was used to emphasize the observance of the fifth anniversary of the Tory leader's demise.

Sir William Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced the budget in the House of Commons on Thursday evening. He stated that the expenses of 1885-6 were £1,393,327 less and the receipts £1,208,699 less than the estimates made by Mr. Childers a year ago, making an actual deficit of £2,642,943, instead of £2,827,171, as estimated. The diminution in revenue was most marked in the case of alcohol, the receipts derived from which were £971,000 below the estimate and £1,179,000 below the receipts in 1884-5. Within a decade there has been a decrease in revenue from alcohol of £4,500,000. This has been due to changes in the habits of the people, and has been concurrent with an enormous increase in revenue derived from comforts of life. The falling off in receipts from alcohol has been reduced about one-half by increased receipts derived from tea, tobacco, and fruits. For the fiscal year of 1886-7 the expenditures are estimated at £90,428,599, and the revenue at £89,885,000. It is proposed to meet the deficit by taking £800,000 from the £6,750,000 applicable to the reduction of the national debt, which has been reduced £30,000,000 in the past five years.

The Queen's Proctor has decided to intervene in the Dilke case as a private person. Sir Charles will call a great meeting of his supporters to hear his statement.

Sampson Low, the oldest London publisher, died on Friday at the age of eighty-nine.

The Greek Chamber of Deputies has voted all the bills for military preparations. The Government on Saturday sent an uncompromising reply to the note of the Powers, insisting upon the execution of the Berlin Treaty.

The General commanding the Greek troops on Zarkos Heights, which command the Plain of Larissa, was summoned by the Turkish General on Sunday to withdraw from that stronghold. The Greek General flatly refused to withdraw. The Turkish force, consisting of 7,000 men and several batteries, thereupon advanced to the foot of the heights. Greek troops are being pushed to the frontier as rapidly as possible.

It is rumored that the Greek Consul at Candia, Crete, with the approval of his Government, has been actively engaged in plotting a rebellion among the people, a majority of whom are Greeks, against Turkish authority, and that the Consuls of the other Powers have asked their respective Governments to interfere to prevent the movement from being carried out.

The Porte has been informed by Germany, Russia, and Austria that they are taking fresh steps to compel Greece to disarm.

England has sent a circular to the Powers proposing that if Greece does not disarm, the Powers cease diplomatic relations with her and blockade the Greek ports.

The Russian Ministry have ordered the chief authorities of all the universities in the empire at once to adopt means for the immediate and permanent suppression of all forms of political agitation by young students.

At 10:30 o'clock on Sunday morning, while the Bishop of Madrid was ascending the steps of the Cathedral, he was shot three times and fatally wounded by a priest who had recently been dismissed from the priesthood, and had vainly importuned the Bishop to be reinstated. The assassin was arrested and was followed by an immense crowd, who were only prevented from lynching him by gendarmes. The Bishop died on Monday.

MM. Ducquercy and Roche have been sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment for fomenting riots in the French mining districts.

A serious flood in Montreal has damaged property to the amount of \$1,600,000.

WHO ARE "THE LABORERS"?

THERE are about 11,000 men employed now on the Southwestern railroads who have taken the place of the strikers of their own free will, and the employers are satisfied with them, and the roads are doing a large business in the transportation of freight and passengers. Nevertheless, we are hearing still from the Knights of Labor, through their officers, Mr. Powderly, Mr. Turner, Mr. Martin Irons, and others, not only that the strike is not over, but that the railroad companies are still engaged in the perpetration of some sort of wrong against a large body of laborers belonging to their organization, concerning which they are asking not only for arbitration but for some sort of Congressional interference. Now we know what they mean when they say the strike is not over. They mean that the men who struck six weeks ago have not gone back to work, and are not willing to do so until they are asked by the companies to return on their own terms. We see nothing reprehensible in this. No man ought to go back to work for either the Missouri-Pacific or the Texas-Pacific unless the terms offered by these corporations are satisfactory to him, and he thinks he can do no better.

But what wrong are the companies doing to the Knights of Labor, or to "labor" in general, or to the community at large? What is it that the Congressional Committee is going down to inquire into? About what did the Citizens' Committee propose arbitration the other day? What is it exactly that the Master Workman is complaining of? In like manner, what is it that O'Donnell and his Empire Protective Union have against the Third Avenue Street Railroad? The members of the Union have refused to work for the road because they do not like the terms of the service. This is their right. No one has any business to quarrel with their decision except their creditors or persons dependent on them for support. The company has accepted their decision and is employing other men, who are presenting themselves in great numbers, to take their places. What, then, are O'Donnell and his Union complaining of? What wrong is the company doing them? Why are they hanging about the road, and why has an immense body of police to be employed to keep the track clear, and prevent attacks on those men who are driving and conducting the cars?

These questions go to the bottom of the labor problem as now presented to the American public, and they cannot be considered too carefully or answered too clearly and distinctly. We believe that in its manner of answering them the American people will furnish almost as valuable a test both of their own temper and capacity, and of the strength of democratic institutions, as was furnished by their answer to the Southern challenge to take the field in defence of free labor. What they are now asked to do is to permit a few hundred thousand laborers, of foreign birth mainly, to set up a government to take the place of that already in existence in the State and nation, and enforce submission to it not by means of open warfare, but by a vast number of riots, assaults, and iso-

lated acts of violence and disorder directed against persons and property, and other more petty annoyances, in the hope that the public may be worried into acquiescence.

What Powderly and Turner and Irons are trying to do in the West, and what O'Donnell and his men are trying to do here, is not to secure employment for labor, on terms satisfactory to the laborers—for a vast army of laborers stand ready to do and are doing the work which the strikers refuse—but to establish the rule that nobody has any right to be considered a laborer, or be employed as such, except members of their respective organizations. They want us to admit that the 11,000 men now employed by the Southwestern roads are not real laborers or entitled to sympathy or protection from the militia or the courts, and that the Knights of Labor should be allowed to make war on them with pistols, and knives, and brickbats, and drive them from their work, and rob their families of their support. They want us to admit, also, that members of their respective organizations, by merely becoming members, acquire a vested right to remain in such employment as they may happen to have at the time of joining, no matter what their behavior may be and whether the employer wants them or not, and as long as they please, on their own terms. This would convert every laborer's place into an office for life, on wages and hours of work fixed by himself, or, in other words, an office for which there has been no parallel in the history of mankind, except that of a military despot. It is only military despots who have ever made places for themselves, or determined how long they should hold them, and what their rate of pay should be, without consulting those who paid their salaries.

Does any sane man suppose that the American people are going to organize their business on a basis of this sort, and try to do the work of the nation through agents whom they can neither hire nor dismiss, and whose wages they cannot fix? We think it will be discovered, even by the most ignorant and simple-minded of the Knights before long, that the world is not going to be carried on in that way just yet, and that in considering the claims of labor and the interests of labor and the needs of labor, the American people will not overlook the vast army of the poor and unemployed, whose existence is revealed by every strike of the unskilled or slightly skilled. There is no claim to human sympathy and help arising out of poverty and readiness to work for a livelihood, which the men who take the place of strikers do not possess in a higher degree than strikers. It is they who are really "Labor," and it is they who present the true labor problem with which the philanthropist and legislator are called on to deal.

PARLIAMENTARY ANARCHY IN GERMANY.

THE latest debates in the German Reichstag—we refer to those already known to us *in extenso*—show more clearly, perhaps, than any previous discussions in that body how far parliamentary government is still from being a reality in Germany. In a lugubrious tone the aging Chancellor declares, on an occa-

sion apparently least appropriate for political pathos, that he despairs of finding a support for the unity and power of the nation in its Parliament, the majority of which rests, and will undoubtedly continue to rest after many an election, on "fractions hostile to the Empire from necessity and principle." These fractions, which not only support but almost constitute the majority, are the Ultramontane Centre, the Socialists, the Poles, the Alsace-Lorrainers, and other Separatists, with whom the German-Liberals, themselves the warmest friends of German unity, generally coöperate in their opposition to what they consider Prince Bismarck's excessive demands of power or economic vagaries.

Being "convinced" of the untrustworthiness of the Reichstag for the defence of his creation, the Chancellor, as he frankly tells it, the more eagerly looks for firmer support in a well-provided army, and in finances little dependent upon legislative grants and the contributions of the single States. He sees dangers ahead—dangers threatened by socialism within and coalition without—expects soon to be removed from the helm, sees no successor who would continue his labors in his own way, and gently intimates that the constitutional structure might be exposed to serious shocks—after him; for himself, he would surely not lay hands on what he had helped to build. He once more recommends one of his pet financial measures, in these curious words: "I would still beg you to-day, though it might almost appear like irony, to accept the monopoly; by the monopoly you strengthen the Empire, by declining it you hurt the Empire."

This appeal, evidently as seriously meant as pathetic, did not prevent the complete defeat of the Government measure, and a few days later the warfare of fractions—which in the German Reichstag replaces the great party duels of other parliaments—was resumed on another occasion. The Minister of the Interior, Puttkamer, pleaded for the renewal of the Anti-Socialist Law for five years. The Centre party had proposed an amendment limiting the prolongation to two years. The Minister depicted the horrors of anarchic rioting just going on in the mining districts of Belgium, and upbraided the German-Liberals with defending a degree of freedom, of governmental impotence, which the bloody scenes in the neighboring kingdom proved to be fraught with perils of every kind. In the next minute he turned toward the Ultramontane opposition allies of the advanced Liberals, and twitted them with the remark that Belgium was "a thoroughly and truly Catholic country," that "ninety-nine per cent. of the strikers were true sons of their church," which thus proved as "little able to cope with certain agitations" as the Liberal Government. He then implored all parties to stand by their Emperor, who "had given his blood for bringing about this law, and who had expressly commanded the declaration before the nation's assembled council that no keener grief, no bitterer disappointment, could be prepared for him, in this late evening of his life, than to find himself deserted by the representatives of the nation in his attempt to maintain and secure the domestic peace." The leader of the Centre, Windthorst, took up the gauntlet, reproached