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and the captain-general of Guatemala, with the President of the Audiencia of San Domingo, excited by those apprehensions and the complaints of the priests that the neophytes of the country were in danger of being perverted by the heresies of their invaders, made common cause in expelling the enemy. The governor of Havana despatched a fleet of four small vessels-of-war, under the command of Don Francisco de Vallalva y Toledo, to sail directly for the island of Ruatan with the view of surprising the English there. A sentinel on the English fortifications discovered the troops as they were disembarking from the fleet under cover of the night, and gave the alarm. Vallalva, the captain of the fleet, foiled in strategy, made a gallant attack at the head of all his men on the parapets, which were, however, successfully defended by the garrison. He withdrew to his ships as soon as the night had come on, and with the excuse of a scarcity of ammunition he immediately set sail for the port of San Tomas de Castilla, where he expected to obtain an ample supply of powder and ball. The ancient chronicles of the expedition go on, with the extreme minuteness of mere circumstance, coupled with the grandest and most exaggerated allusions to the issues of the contest—a style so characteristic of the old Spanish historiographers—to relate how the kingdom of Guatemala responded to Vallalva's request for assistance in exterminating the English pirates and fillibusters in Ruatan, and how a council of war was called, who voted a supply of fifteen kegs of powder and six quintals of shot to the "*Armada*," which consisted of two small vessels, carrying fifty men each. This accession, however, to Vallalva's forces made up quite a respectable figure, amounting in all to four hundred and fifty men. The expedition sailed early in the year 1650, and disembarked in one of the harbors of Ruatan, which had been fortified by the English. The Spanish met with a gallant resistance, but succeeded in making a breach in the works by their artillery; and after a bloody contest within the lines the garrison was totally routed. The Spanish immediately continued to advance on the English settlement or town in the interior. They were detained, however, in travelling over the island without guides for several days; and when they arrived at the town they were in search of they found that it had been abandoned by the English, who had escaped from the island in their vessels. The town was given to the flames. General Vallalva next proceeded to collect on board of his ships the entire Indian population of the island, and he settled them at the port of San Tomas de Castilla, where he disembarked in triumph.

The island of Ruatan remained uninhabited until near a century later. In 1742 it was again seized by the English, who immediately proceeded to fortify its harbor with materials brought from the ruins of the city of Truxillo. They remained in possession until 1780, when they were expelled by an expedition from Guatemala; and in 1786 a treaty was finally concluded by Spain with England, requiring her to "*evacuate the country of the Mosquitos, as well as the continent in general, and the islands adjacent, without exception.*" But with unwearied rapacity the English made a third attempt on the island; and having seized it in the year 1796, they left a gang of two thousand negroes and Caribs, brought from St. Vincent, to retain possession of it. As soon as intelligence of the invasion was communicated to the captain-general of Guatemala, a small expedition was sent out under command of Don Jose Rossi y Rubi, who was instructed to obtain information of the condition and circumstances of this unauthorized settlement, and, according to his report, to take convenient measures to reconquer the island. On arriving on the north coast of Ruatan, Rossi went ashore alone and proffered a capitulation, which was instantly accepted with every demonstration of joy and *vivas* for the King of Spain; and he concluded the third expedition by raising the Spanish flag without any opposition from the negro republicans, or from the Caribs, who inhabited a portion of the island to the south.

The English, however, were not induced by repeated failure to abandon their design of seizing the island. In her treaty with Spain in the year 1814, which revived the provisions, already referred to, of the treaty of 1786, England relinquished her claim to Ruatan. In disregard of this repealed quit-claim of England in the premises, and notwithstanding the fact that since her evacuation in 1796 Honduras had maintained a military post and kept up an establishment on the island, it was seized again in 1841 by Col. Macdonald, acting by order of the British government, and under the protest of Honduras; and it has since been settled by British subjects who came over in marauding expeditions from the Belize.

After a series of wise delays, characteristic of the territorial policy of England, and in the expectation that her successive aggressions might have mellowed by time into a color of right, the final act of usurpation of the island was consummated as quietly as if it had been known as British territory to all the world. On the 20th March, 1852, the Queen's warrant was issued, constituting Ruatan and the adjacent insular group, including Bonacca, formerly called Guanaja, Utila, Barbaretta, Helena, and Morat, a British colony, under the name of the "Bay Islands:" the appointments to rest with the government of Jamaica.

There has been evidently no particle of right, or even tolerable pretext, for the claim of the British government to occupy and colonize these islands, unless we admit as such the late explanation given by Lord Clarendon that Ruatan had been "*spontaneously* occupied by British subjects!" To dispose summarily of this and all other possible pretexts, we have only to remind ourselves that Ruatan never could have been properly considered as abandoned property, as Honduras had never failed to assert her right to the island, which, besides notoriously as a matter of political geography, belonged to her; and that the descents of Macdonald never could have conferred any right or title of sovereignty, made as they were in time of peace, and under the distinct protest of Honduras.

It may be added, with reference to any possible claim to Ruatan as a dependency of Belize, that any such pretension must be regarded as utterly absurd and hopeless after the recent publication, at the call of the House of Commons, of an official letter addressed on the 23d November, 1836, by Sir George Grey, then under-Secretary of the Colonies, to Mr. Coxe, defining by its boundaries "the territory claimed by the British crown as belonging to the British settlements in the Bay of Honduras." These boundaries are given to be "from the river Hondo, on the north, to the river Sarstoon, on the south, and as far west as Garbutt's Falls on the river Belize, and a line parallel to strike on the river Hondo on the north and the river Sarstoon on the south; the British crown claims, also, the waters, islands, and cays lying between the coast defined and the meridian of the easternmost point of Light-house reef." The Bay Islands are situate *sixty miles* to the eastward of the meridian of Light-house reef, and they, therefore, cannot be claimed by the British crown as at all included in its possessions on the coast of Honduras. The government of Great Britain could not be but fairly estopped by this recent record, besides being entrapped into a singular exposure of falsehood.

Respectfully, your obliged servant,

EDW'D A. POLLARD.

THE SALARIES OF ACTORS.—The Baltimore American says:

"The terms of actors and vocalists vary of course, according to their merits in the first place, and the appreciation of those merits by the public in the next. Jenny Lind can command a higher price, perhaps, for a single night, than any living vocalist of her day. Even now, an enterprising manager might secure her services for the United States, and give her a thousand dollars a night, for fifty or one hundred performances. Adelaide Ristori and Mad'lle Rachel are the greatest living actresses of the Old World, and are paid the highest terms. In the United States Mr. Forrest stands at the head of his profession, and his success for a period of upwards of twenty years has been remarkable indeed. Miss Heron realized something like eight thousand dollars during her recent engagement in New York, and Miss Davenport has already accumulated a handsome fortune. According to the New York Sunday Times, Mr. Forrest receives two hundred and fifty dollars per night, or at the rate of seventy-eight thousand dollars a year. It should be remembered, however, that he seldom plays six months in the year. Madame Lagrange commands something like thirty thousand a year."

THE DRED SCOTT DECISION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Under date of Harrisburg, May 11, we find the following special telegraphic despatch in the Pennsylvanian:

"This morning Mr. Welsh, from the select committee appointed by the senate on the Dred Scott decision, made an able and eloquent minority report. This report is signed by Messrs. Welsh and Walton, the only democrats upon the committee, and, after being read, was ordered to be printed in the record. I send you a hastily-prepared synopsis of the document, and am sorry that time will not permit me to extend this notice. The document should be published entire in every democratic paper in the land. After some preliminary remarks, the report continues as follows:

"'We cannot but express our deep regret that a hostile attitude has been assumed toward the recent action of the Supreme Court of the United States. Whatever difference of opinion may exist in reference to that decision, it should receive the respect and sanction of all law-abiding citizens until the same breath that gave it existence shall pronounce its principles erroneous, and its doctrines untenable. To 'repudiate' it—to say that it is 'inoperative as law'—and to proclaim its authors 'dictatorial,' 'tyrannical,' and 'unworthy of confidence and respect,' cannot but be regarded as startling propositions in the candid estimation of all who view that court as the great conservative element in our government, and the constitutional protector of the rights and liberties of the people.'

"After dwelling further upon this point, the report next refers to the 'propriety' of a State legislature attempting to review the action of the Supreme Court of the United States, and declare that 'it must be patent to every one that such a course is entirely futile and without any possible effect.' This position is ably argued, and cannot fail to shake the convictions of those whose prejudices have forced them into absurd position.

"The next point dwelt upon is, that 'it is clear and conclusive that ours was designed to be a government of white men. It was not intended by its founders that any other class or race should ever be permitted to control its destinies.' The report is eloquent while referring to the past history of the country, and the evils which a departure from the principle stated above would entail upon our national future, and says that, 'to protect ourselves and our posterity from such alarming results, we must carefully guard against the causes which certainly would produce them.'

"This can only be done by placing a barrier, wide and impassable, between the two races now in conflict; and such we hold to be the true merit of the recent decision of the court, which, in its future application and development, will amply shield us from the dangers to which we have adverted. However much we may regret the unfortunate condition of the colored race, we cannot, in our examination of a question fraught with so much interest, lose sight of the great truth that 'self-preservation is the first law of Nature.'

"The report concludes with the following eloquent paragraph:

"'The minority of your committee have no fears that the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States will not be sustained and upheld by the calm good sense of the American people. In the outburst of defeated sectionalism, tones of denunciation may be hurled against it by the party whose hopes it destroys and whose principles it overwhelms. But in the future, as in the past, the great mass of the people will be true to it, as they have ever been to the Union and the constitution. And if ever the broken fragments of constitutional liberty strew our pathway, it will be in that fatal hour when the strength and binding force of the judiciary shall be forever lost on the treasonable resistance of degenerate factions.'"

From the Philadelphia Argus.

THE RECENT VOTE.

The black-republican and know-nothing journals are seeking to excuse their defeat at the recent municipal election by ascribing the result to a greatly diminished vote, arguing also that the democracy of the city manifested but little interest in the issue, and that the election was allowed to go by default. The vote was, it is true, considerably less than at the presidential election last fall, but, as compared with our municipal elections for the last three years, shows no such great falling off, as is alleged, and of itself no lack of interest on the part of the democracy, for the diminished vote as compared with the municipal elections of 1856 and 1855 is almost wholly in that of the opposition. The democracy did not, however, exert themselves to their utmost, otherwise our majorities would have been still greater; but as it is, they ought to satisfy the opposition of their thorough and complete defeat. Our city candidates have a majority verging closely upon 10,000 votes over the American candidates, and about 5,000 over the vote of the American and black-republican candidates combined. The total vote on Tuesday last was 51,705, whereas at the May election in 1856 it was 54,979, and at the October election in 1855, 54,852. The state of parties at these elections was as follows:

October.	Megee.	Kern.	Dem. maj.
1855	23,319	26,533	1,786
May	Vaux.	Moore.	Dem. maj.
1856	29,534	25,445	4,089
May	Dem.	Opposition.	Dem. maj.
1857	28,345	23,360	4,985

The diminished vote is here shown to be almost wholly on the part of the opposition, and the democratic majority has year by year increased. If we take the October election of 1856, with all the excitements of the national contest pending, the falling off is greater, but it also more strikingly exhibits the complete demoralization of the opposition. The total vote at that election compares with the vote of Tuesday last as follows:

October,	Dem.	K. N.	Repub.
1856	35,527	24,104	9,065
May	McGrath.	Potts.	Rowland.
1857	28,345	18,896	4,464
Falling off	7,182	5,208	4,601
Proportion	1-5th	Over--1-4th	Over--1-2

If, however, the democracy have absorbed—as has been the case in some localities—a large proportion, or say even one-half, of the nearly *ten thousand* votes lost to the opposition since October last, then it would follow that to that extent the democratic vote proper shows a greater diminution than the other; but even that cannot be ascribed to lukewarmness or carelessness as to the result. It might be the result of confidence, derived from everyday association and familiarity with the course and tendency of public feeling; but, be that as it may, the opposition ought to be satisfied of the justice of the public verdict, as we certainly are. If they argue lukewarmness and indifference on the part of the democracy, they certainly show large accessions to our party strength, and which, in part, are admitted. The total vote of the presidential election, when probably almost every legal vote was polled, was 70,150, of which James Buchanan received 38,222, or a majority of 6,294. This was the democratic vote in November, and shows fairly our party strength. If we add to this the probable accessions which have since taken place, our vote is increased to nearly 45,000, and our majority, when the effort is put forth, to about 15,000 in the city.

The Charleston Mercury learns from an officer just arrived from southern Florida that General Harney, with part of his staff, left Tampa on the United States steamer Fashion on the 28th, and was succeeded in the command of the department by Colonel Loomis, of the 5th infantry. The troops were still actively engaged in the field, and no orders had been received for their withdrawal. The scouts in the vicinity of Istopoga and Tohopocoliga had recently met with some success, capturing and killing several Indians.

Speaking of the effect of intermarriage among blood relations, the Fredericksburg News says: In this county, in which we are raised, for twenty generations back, certain families of wealth and respectability have intermarried until there cannot be found in three or four of them a sound man or woman! One has sore eyes, another scrofula, a third is an idiot, a fourth blind, a fifth bandy-legged, a sixth with a head about the size of a turnip, with not one out of the number exempt from physical defects of some kind or other.

The Daily Pennsylvanian is informed that Gov. Pollock has not yet done anything in the case of Wm. N. West, under sentence of death in the Philadelphia county prison for the murder of his wife. It is thought that he does not intend to sign the death-warrant, but let the matter lay over for his successor to dispose of. The condemned man, under the terrible circumstances, appears quite easy, having grown quite fleshy since the trial—an evidence of his strength of nerve and of the excellence of the prison fare.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The chief engineer of the Cincinnati fire department states that if a new steam fire engine is established, it will cost—for salaries, $6,650 a year; running expenses, $800; horses and harness, $1,500; hose carriages, $700; lot of ground, $3,000; house, $6,000; horse feed, $600; incidental, $100; total, $22,350. He also states that the expense of the fire department last year was $110,000.

A man appeared at Hartford, a few days since, professing to be agent for a company of singers, and made all preparations for a concert, and when the evening came stood at the door and took the money. After the audience were seated, he said he guessed he would go over to the hotel and get the singers; but the singers did not come, and it was found that the agent took the 8 o'clock train.

The Newark Daily Advertiser says that a boy in one of the public schools of Newark was whipped a few days since by the teacher, who held his head downward between his knees while he inflicted the punishment. The holding of the head downward created a rush of blood to the head, causing brain fever, and death a few days afterward.

It is reported that John Dean is rusticating in Franklinville, a few miles east of Riverhead, Long Island. He is boarding in the family of Mr. John N. Sayer, and is being tutored and polished by the Rev. Mr. Reed, a Congregational clergyman. He was sent down there by his lawyer, and, to avoid recognition, assumed the name of John Johnson.

The Albany Evening Journal states that on Saturday evening last a horse, attached to a lumber-cart, became frightened and ran into a passenger train, while it was in rapid motion. The horse was thrown backwards, breaking off the shafts, but received no further injury than a "split nose."

Orders have just been received at Newport, Massachusetts, and offers made to charter ships to load guano at the guano islands in the Arabian sea for Great Britain on English account. The guano deposites on these islands were discovered in 1853 by Mr. John Ord, an English master mariner. The quantity estimated is from one to two millions of tons, and worth £10,000,000 to £15,000,000.

Twelve lottery offices in Boston were overhauled on the 12th instant by the police, in six of which tickets of the Delaware State lottery were found, and the parties were arrested. At Merrick's office, on State street, over 1,300 tickets were seized.

The business of the Bank of England is conducted by about eight hundred clerks, whose salaries amount to about £190,000. The bank in 1850 had about twenty millions of bank notes in circulation. In the same year there were about five millions deposited in the savings banks of the metropolis.

The New York Daily Mirror states that the Bank of Commerce, just erected on the corner of Nassau and Cedar streets, is 70 feet on the former and 108 feet on the latter street; is built in the Americo-Italian style, and cost, with the lot, $400,000.

The Charleston Courier says that, in response to an invitation from the city council of that city, the city council of Memphis have fixed upon the 27th of May as the time for visiting Charleston.

The Mobile Daily Register of the 8th inst. states that in the United States court, Judge John A. Campbell presiding, Lovelace, convicted of robbing the mail, was on Wednesday sentenced to five years' imprisonment in the penitentiary.

A Mobile exchange says that the rise of the Bigby is so great that the waters over the rock at Columbus are more than abundant for the largest boats; but, alas! there are none of the largest cargoes there. The Warrior, too, is booming. Late arrivals mention a rise of thirty-seven feet, and still the flood increases.

The Paterson (N. J.) Guardian states that on Sunday last another splendid pearl was found in the Oldham brook. Pearls have also been found in the Tuckanuck brook, Bergen county. Muscles containing valuable pearls have also been found recently in Monmouth county.

The afternoon session of the third day's proceedings of the National Typographical Convention at New Orleans was mostly devoted to the consideration of the constitution and by-laws of the Union, which were finally adopted in committee of the whole.

A young lady of *sixteen*, of distinguished birth and fortune, is about to marry the hero of the Crimea, Marshal Pellissier, who is *sixty* years of age! It is said to be an affair of the most romantic sentiment on the part of the youthful bride.

Dr. Brandreth, of New York, has offered to become one of twenty to make up a purse of $20,000 to be offered as a reward for the discovery of the murderer or murderers of Dr. Burdell.

Chief Justice Oakley, of the superior court, New York, died on the 12th instant, at the age of 73 years. John Turner, formerly a publisher of the New York Gazette, also died on the same day, aged 85 years.

The committee on prisons reported in the Massachusetts legislature that it is inexpedient to legislate on an order relative to abolishing the infliction of stripes in the State prisons.

The jury in the Dalton divorce case have been unable to agree. They stood ten in favor of granting a divorce, and two against it.

The weather on the 12th instant at Buffalo was quite cold, and snow fell to an unusual extent for May.

LOCAL NEWS.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION.—The anti-know-nothings have made all their nominations, namely:

For Collector—James F. Haliday.
For Register—William Morgan.
For Surveyor—William Forsyth.

CITY COUNCILS.

First Ward—Alderman, George W. Riggs; councilmen, John B. Turton, R. A. Waters, and S. S. Parker.

Second Ward—Alderman, Dr. Thomas Miller; councilmen, William Orme, Thomas J. Fisher, and Ferdinand Jefferson.

Third Ward.—Alderman, Thomas Donoho; councilmen, Joseph Bryan, Lambert S. Tree, and Joseph F. Brown.

Fourth Ward.—Alderman, John H. Goddard; councilmen, Richard H. Clarke, James A. Kennedy, and Elijah J. Edmundston.

Fifth Ward—Alderman, Edward Barry; councilmen, William Wallace, E. F. French, and William A. Mulloy.

Sixth Ward—Alderman, Aaron W. Miller; councilmen, Thomas Altemus, Thomas Champion, and James W. Robinson.

Seventh Ward—Alderman, William G. Flood; councilmen, Samuel Pumphrey, John T. Cassell, and John T. Bradley.

MUNDER'S SECOND MAY BALL.—This affair came off on Tuesday night, as beautiful and magnificent in all its appointments as the first. Among the dances that particularly delighted us, in common with the entire audience, were the following; *Pas de Trois*, by Scott Towers, Annie Morgan, and Kate Crozier; *La Mamola*, by Jennie Munder; *The Scotch Dance*, by eight small children; the *crowning scene* in the Shawl Dance, and the *American Flag Dance*, composed for the occasion by Munder himself, introducing all the national airs, and performed by thirty-two boys and girls beautifully costumed. This dance is truly a magnificent performance—at once immortalizing the composer by becoming itself a perpetual American favorite. It is soon to be published in beautiful style, with stage directions, when it will undoubtedly become very popular. We must not close our notice of this ball without mentioning the final performance, which was the *Highland Fling*, by Munder himself, in full costume. It is probably needless to say that the execution of this dance excited universal and unbounded applause.

H. B. WHITE AND COMPANY, 332 Pennsylvania avenue, between Ninth and Tenth streets, have received a complete assortment of summer hats of various kinds, together with gentlemen's under-wear, and outer-wear; the latter consisting, in part, of cravats, gloves, &c., to suit all tastes. The firm is enterprising, and always provided with articles adapted to gentlemen's use.

STREET ORGANS.—Some affected persons affect to despise the music of street organs. They seem to forget that this music generally consists of the very best and most popular tunes adapted to these organs by the most critical and skilful artists, and that the vulgar persons who operate the organs in the streets are not the producers of the music, but only the physical servants of the most celebrated composers and artists. Such persons would show better sense and better taste by acknowledging the real merits of this organ music, and occasionally throwing the humble performers a few coppers, than they do by running after and affecting to be delighted with the less musical performances of more "scientific," more expensive, and more fashionable artists.

PATENTS.—During the week ending on Tuesday fifty-nine or sixty patents were issued at the Patent Office; among them, one to William Morris Smith, of Washington, D. C., assignor to himself and Peter Hanney, for improvement in copying presses. All classes of persons are accommodated by the genius of our countrymen. "An improved stitch for sewing machines," "improvement in machines for making lozenges," "an improved machine for cutting match splints," and "an improved apparatus for roasting meat," are among the inventions; and a Syracusan has actually set up an opposition to the bees by patenting a method for making "artificial honey!"

THE ART ASSOCIATION.—We have been requested to state that the exhibition of the Art Association will close on Saturday evening next. The members of the association feel grateful to the public for the patronage which has been extended to this their first exhibition, and assure them that in the future they will endeavor to merit its continuance. The receipts have been larger than it was anticipated they would be, and the encouragement which has been given to the cultivation of art will stimulate the artists themselves to increased exertions.

THE DEXTER HOTEL SALE.—A trustees' sale of all the furniture, wines, liquors, &c., of Dexter's Hotel is now daily progressing at that establishment, under the auspices of auctioneer Jas. C. McGuire. The sale commenced on Tuesday morning with the kitchen and dining-room furniture, and will probably continue several days yet. The furniture throughout the house remains, and will be sold in the same position in which it was when in use. The sale is well attended, and the bidding is lively and runs high.

THE CANAL.—The late damage to the canal has seriously obstructed the business usually so active at this season of the year. On Tuesday evening, however, the water was let into the canal level, and boats, laden with coal, flour, &c., which passed dams numbers four and five during the freshet in the river, are beginning to arrive. The corporation of our sister city, Georgetown, has loaned five thousand dollars to the canal company, with which to assist in repairing damages.

THE WASHINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—There will be a meeting of the committee on exhibitions of this society on Friday evening at 7 o'clock at John Saul's seed store, on the corner of 7th and H streets, to make arrangements for an exhibition.

NAVAL COURTS.—In court No. 1 the case of ex-Lieut. Bartlett is still pending; the examination of witnesses in the case of Lieut. Thornton before court No. 2 has not been concluded, and the case of Capt. Wm. Inman has been taken up in court No. 3.

FISH.—The total receipts of shad at Alexandria on Monday were 8,000. On Monday, at the Sycamore Landing, 1,800 shad were taken at one haul, and at Moxley's Point, opposite Fort Washington, 1,500. Shad were selling at $11 50 and $12 per hundred, and herring at $10 50 per thousand.

MUSIC AT THE CAPITOL GROUNDS.—The attendance at the Capitol Grounds yesterday evening was large, and the performance of the Marine Band unexceptionable.

REAL ESTATE SALE.—On Tuesday afternoon a portion of lot No. 4, in square No. 516, fronting on K street, was sold by A. Green, esq., at 18½ cents per foot.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, the thermometer indicated fifty-two degrees. "Clear and pleasant" weather, and woollen garments not uncomfortable.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Later from California.

NEW YORK, May 13.—The steamer Empire City, from New Orleans via Havana on the 8th, has arrived, with the California mails of the 20th April. The George Law left Aspinwall on the evening of the 4th, with $1,700,000 in treasure.

Captain Lovell, bearer of despatches from Mexico to Washington, came passenger in the Empire City.

Arrival of the George Law.

NEW YORK, May 13.—The steamer George Law, with the San Francisco passengers and mails of the 20th and $1,700,000 in treasure, arrived here about 7 o'clock this evening. She connected at Panama with the Golden Age, which brought down $2,000,000. The latter steamer passed on the 20th ult. the steamer Orizaba, going into San Francisco; on the 24th the Golden Gate with the New York mails and passengers of April 5.

THE ISTHMUS.

The frigate Independence and sloop-of-war Decatur were at Panama, and the sloop-of-war Cyane was at Aspinwall.

The Panama and Aspinwall papers contain nothing from Nicaragua.

The governor of Panama had issued a proclamation prohibiting the entry at that port of adventurers who had taken or intend to take part in the Central American war.

Mr. Fletcher, the U. S. consul at Aspinwall, returned in the George Law.

CALIFORNIA.

A bill had passed the assembly appointing a board of examiners to fund the indebtedness of San Francisco, accruing previous to July, 1851. The assembly judiciary committee, by direction of the assembly, had reported a bill preventing the immigration of colored persons. The bill will probably pass.

The senate had passed a bill submitting the payment of the State debt to the people.

The legislature voted to adjourn on the 27th of April.

The mining news was very favorable. Business was dull.

A report was prevalent at Carson Valley that Brigham Young had been compelled to flee from Salt Lake city to save himself from the fury of his flock.

OREGON.

It was generally thought that the people of Oregon will adopt a State form of government, and a constitution prohibiting slavery.

The George Law brings Bogota dates of the 7th April. Sr. Arosemana introduced a project into the chamber of representatives for placing the isthmus of Panama under the protection of New Granada, England, the United States, and Sardinia.

Rumored Retreat of Walker.

NEW ORLEANS, May 13.—The Havana correspondent of the True Delta says that a private letter has been received stating that Walker had evacuated Rivas, and was on board a British man-of-war at San Juan del Sur.

The American Tract Society.

NEW YORK, May 13.—At a meeting of the American Tract Society this morning the report of the investigating committee as to the society's refusal to publish tracts against slavery was read by Judge Jessup. The report asserts that while the political aspects of slavery are clearly beyond the society's province, those moral duties which grow out of the existence of slavery, as well as the moral evils and vices slavery is known to support, do fall within the province of the society, and ought to be discussed. The report was adopted unanimously.

Virginia Nomination.

RICHMOND, May 13.—J. Randolph Tucker (brother of Beverley Tucker, late of the Sentinel) was nominated today by the democratic convention for attorney general.

Markets.

NEW YORK, May 13.—Cotton is heavy at a decline of ⅛ cent. New Orleans, 14¼ cents. Flour is lower—sales of 11,000 barrels; State, $6 50 a $7 70; southern, $7 a $7 50. Wheat is unsettled—sales of 10,000 bushels; St. Louis white, $1 90; Illinois red, $1 65. Corn is firm—sales of 21,000 bushels; mixed, 85 cents. Pork is higher—mess, $23 65 a $23 75. Beef is quiet at $16 25 for Chicago repacked. Lard is steady at 14¼ cents. Whiskey is firm at 31 cents for Ohio. Coffee is steady; Rio 11 a 11¼ cents. Sugar is heavy; Muscovado, 10¾ cents. Spirits turpentine has advanced to 48½ cents. Rosin is lower; common, $1 85. Rice has declined ¼ cent. Freights are heavy.

DIED,

ON Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., Mrs. SARAH E. COALE, consort of the late WM. COALE, of Maryland, and daughter of EDMUND and ELIZABETH W. BLUNDON, of Fauquier county, Virginia.

Her funeral will take place from the residence of her brother-in-law, T. W. BALL, corner of D and Fourteenth streets, this (Thursday) afternoon at 3 o'clock. Her friends and those of the family are invited to attend.

On the 30th of April last, at her residence in Calvert county, Maryland, Mrs. MARY WILLIAMS, aged 77 years.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Bureau of Yards and Docks,
May 10, 1857.

SEALED PROPOSALS, endorsed "Proposals for Improvements at Ellis's Island, New York," will be received at this office until noon on the 1st day of June next.

Bidders are referred to the commandant of the navy-yard, New York, for plans and specifications of the work; to be completed within six (6) months from date of contract.

Approved guarantors to the offer, and sureties to the contract, according to law, will be required.

May 14

Select Classical School at Oxford, North Carolina.

SINCE the establishment of this school in January, 1851, by the present principal, James H. Horner, A. M., it has received a large and steadily increasing measure of the public favor, as attested by an extensive patronage from abroad and its annual delegation of matriculates to the University at Chapel Hill. Hereafter it will be conducted under the joint supervision of Mr. Horner and Professor A. G. Brown, late of the said University, who has been many years a teacher of the ancient classics in that institution. Rev. T. J. Horner will continue to be an assistant instructor, and others well qualified for the office appointed as occasion may require.

The plan of studies is designed to prepare young men for advanced classes in college, and also to fit those who may not expect or desire to obtain the benefit of a full collegiate course for respectable stations in life by instruction in the ordinary branches of a sound English education. For the sake of the greatest efficiency, the number of classes will be limited, so that ample time may be devoted to examination and lecture upon the subject of every lesson by each instructor in his own department.

Care will be taken also to adapt the text books and modes of instruction to the latest advancement of knowledge in each of the several branches. While the methods recommended by experience shall be consistently preserved, no expense will be spared to provide the best apparatus for the work.

Important arrangements are in preparation to increase the advantages and promote the permanent success of the schools.

The instructors are natives of North Carolina, have been long engaged in the profession, and are authorized to refer those who may desire further information as to their personal or official qualifications to many distinguished citizens of this and other States in the South.

Among these are Hon. Wm. A. Graham, Hon. W. P. Mangum, ex-Govs. Morehead and Manly, Hon. Asa Biggs, Rt. Rev. Thomas Atkinson, Rev. Alexander Wilson, D. D., Rev. Samuel Watt, D. D., Rev. C. F. Deems, D. D., the president of the North Carolina University, and various members of the board of trustees.

The next term will commence on the 15th of July.

Other particulars made known on application.

May 14*

Summer Hats! Summer Hats!

OUR stock of men's and Boys' straw and felt hats for summer wear is now complete.

Every style, such as Panama, satin braid, Leghorn, Canton, and Sennet, will be found in our establishment.

All who favor us with a call may rely on polite attention, and low prices.

GEO. H. B. WHITE & CO.,
332 Pennsylvania avenue, between
Ninth and Tenth streets.

N. B.—Our assortment of light felt hats are of the choicest styles, embracing all shades, heights, and prices.

May 14—eod2wif [Star&States.]

Gentlemen's Under-Wear for the Summer.

WE call the attention of our friends and the public to our superior assortment of—
Silk, gauze merino, Lisle thread
Gossamer cotton, linen and twill cotton
Under-shirts and drawers of every size, quality, and price.

Also, a beautiful assortment of summer cravats, ties, gloves, and half hose in great variety, which have been selected with great care, and are warranted low in prices.

GEO. H. B. WHITE & CO.,
Gent's Furnishing Store,
332 Pennsylvania avenue, between
May 14—eod2wif Ninth and Tenth streets.
[Star&States.]

THE Life of Charlotte Bronte, author of "Jane Eyre." By Mrs. Gaskell. 2 vols. $1 50.
Quackenbos's History of the United States. $1.
The Olive Branch; or, White Oak Farm. $1.
New Biographies of Illustrious Men. By Macaulay and others. $1.

May 14 FRANCK TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS VOLUNTEERS, 1st REG'T 5th BRIG. M. D. C.,
Washington, May 4, 1857.

The Brigadier General having, as required by law, appointed the hour of ten o'clock, a. m., on the fourth Monday, being the 25th day, of this month as the time, and the usual parade ground at the City Hall as the place, of muster for the exercise and inspection of this year, the companies composing the battalions of this regiment will assemble at the said time and place, according to law. The officers of the regiment will, therefore, according to their rank and position, give the proper notices to their respective commands and appear with them on parade, as above directed.

By order of Colonel Hickey:

H. N. OBER, Adjutant.

WILLARD'S HOTEL.—J. C. & H. A. Willard, Pennsylvania avenue and Fourteenth street, Washington, D. C.
Jan 29—dift

L. J. MIDDLETON, Ice dealer, office and depot southwest corner of F and Twelfth streets, Washington, D. C.
Ap 11—d1y†

BURNETT HOUSE, southeast corner Pennsylvania avenue and Four-and-a-Half street, Washington, D. C., Mrs. SILAS REYNOLDS, proprietress.

Boarders by the day, week, or month.

Several large and comfortable rooms suitable for families. Permanent and transient boarders comfortably accommodated; and meals furnished to those who room elsewhere.

A choice selection of wines, liquors, and cigars, will always be found at the bar.

Free lunch every day at 11 o'clock.

Ap 18—tf

GENERAL WESTERN LAND OFFICE.—Fillmore, Osborn, & Co., corner Main and Second streets, (up stairs,) nearly opposite the Julien House, Dubuque, Iowa; Broom, Osborn, & Co., 56 Clark street, Chicago, Illinois; Broom, Hussey, & Co., Keokuk, Iowa, real estate agents, stock and exchange brokers, will give their prompt attention to the sale of real estate, stocks, and bonds; loans negotiated; money invested; locating lands, either with cash or warrants. Will locate on time, joint account, or on commission.

Every location is made from personal examinations only. Taxes paid, &c., &c., &c.

N. B.—All property left with us for sale will, if required, be placed upon our registers at Chicago and Keokuk, as well as here, giving the seller three markets. Correspondence solicited.

Ap 28—d3m

FOR SALE OR RENT.—That desirable brick dwelling-house situated on the east side of Congress street, near Road street, on Georgetown Heights. The house contains ten rooms, including the kitchen and all necessary out-buildings. It is surrounded by a lot 150 feet front by 240 feet deep, with a 30-foot alley running the whole length of the south side of the same.

Adjoining the above property I have several fine building lots, which I will sell on reasonable terms. Title indisputable, and immediate possession given.

For further particulars apply at my office, opposite the Treasury.

Ap 11—dtf BROOKE R. WILLIAMS.

MATTHEW HALE SMITH, Counsellor-at-law in the United States courts, and in the courts of the State of New York, No. 119 Nassau street, New York, N. Y.
Ap 16—tf

WANTED.—Persons desiring to give private dinner parties can be supplied with a first-class French cook at $2 for his services on application at

GAUTIER'S RESTAURANT,
Dec 6—2aw3mif 252 Penn. av., between 12th and 13th.

GENTLEMEN'S Under Dress for the Spring trade.—STEVENS, Brown's Hotel, now offer their large stock of—

Gauze silk under shirts and drawers
Do merino do do
Do cotton do do
Do thread do do
Linen and cotton do

To their customers, as being superior in quality and variety, and at the lowest and uniform prices. Buying exclusively for cash, we are enabled to supply the trade at New York prices.

STEVENS'S Salesroom,
May 9—6tf† Browns' Hotel.

YOUNG'S NAUTICAL DICTIONARY. 1 vol., London. $2 50.

Naval and Military Technical Dictionary, in French and English; by Capt. Burn, Royal Artillery—1st edition. 1 vol., Woolwich. $1 25.

Falconer's Marine Dictionary. 1 vol., quarto, London. $9.

James's Military Dictionary. 1 vol., London. $4 50.

Technological Military Dictionary, German, English, and French; by Capt. Duckett. 1 vol., London. $4.

Stocqueler's Military Encyclopedia. 1 vol., London. $3 25.

Campbell's Dictionary of Military Science. 1 vol., London. 87 cents.

Encyclopedia and Aide-Memoire to the Military Sciences; by the Corps of Royal Engineers. 6 vols., London—filled with engravings. $24.

Dictionaire de Marine a Voiles; sous les auspices du Ministre de la Marine. 1 vol., Paris. $6. In fine calf binding.

Dictionaire de Marine a Vapeur; sous les auspices du Ministre de la Marine. 1 vol., Paris. $6. Fine calf binding.

Dictionaire des Machines a Vapeur, par E. M. Bataille. 2 vols., quarto and atlas, Paris. $18. Fine calf binding.

Encyclopedie Historique et Militaire. 6 vols., octavo, Paris. Fine calf binding. $18.

Encyclopedie de l'Ingenieur. 3 vols., Paris. Fine calf binding. $7.

Code-Manuel; ou ce qui concerne les Departements de la Guerre et la Marine; par Durut-Lasalle. 1 vol., Paris. In fine calf binding, $3 50.

And many other works on the various branches of naval and military science and service, imported from Europe by

FRANCK TAYLOR.

***Of some of the above books only single copies are on hand—none can be replaced at the prices named. May 12—d&cp

SUTER, LEA, & CO., Bankers, WASHINGTON CITY. } THOMAS R. SUTER, LUKE LEA, LUTHER R. SMOOT.

SMOOT, RUSSELL, & CO., Bankers, Leavenworth City, K. T., dealers in exchange, uncurrent bank notes, and land warrants. Agents for the purchase and sale of lands and city lots, and all business appertaining to a first-class land agency.

Collections made on all accessible points in the United States and Europe.

LUTHER R. SMOOT,
WM. H. RUSSELL,
(Of Majors, Russell, & Co.,)
THOMAS R. SUTER,
LUKE LEA,

Corner Main and Shawnee streets, opposite Planters' Hotel,
Ap 16—d&cp6m Leavenworth City, K. T.

OFFICIAL.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
March 12, 1857.

Notice is hereby given to holders of stock of the loans of the United States, that this department will purchase the same until the 1st day of June next, unless the sum of $1,500,000 shall be previously obtained, and will pay, in addition to the interest accrued from the date of the last semi-annual dividend of interest thereon, together with one day's additional interest for the money to reach the vendor, the following rates of premium on said stocks:

For the stock of 1842, a premium of 10 per cent.

For the stock of 1847 and 1848, a premium of 16 per cent.; and for the stock of 1850, commonly called Texas Indemnity Stock, a premium of 6 per cent.

Certificates of stock transmitted to the department, under this notice, must be assigned to the United States, by the party duly entitled to receive the proceeds.

Payment for the stocks so assigned and transmitted will be made by drafts on the Assistant Treas