Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

This document sets out with stating the number of men in service at any one time during the past year, which is 8,000. The difficulty of enlisting men has delayed the arrangements for employing cruisers on several stations. The force and operations in the Mediterranean are then spoken of, including the affair of the Carmelita. In this connection the Secretary speaks of privateering on the part of Mexico as inconsistent with the spirit of the age, resorted to as a means of revenue with a certain result of untold atrocities, if favored, and deserving as it has received, the reprobation of the civilized world.

The force on the coast of South America, the squadron on the coast of China, that on the Pacific, the operations in California, the operations of the Gulf squadron, and the loss of the brig Somers near Vera Cruz, are next severally dwelt upon with special praise of Com. Perry. In connection with the lost, the assistance rendered by the British, French and Spanish ships of war anchored near, is spoken of in the highest terms. The medals, which by act of Congress are to be presented to the officers and men who risked their lives on that occasion, will be transmitted as soon as Com. Perry shall have procured and communicated their names.

The Secretary urges an increase in the number of Assistant Surgeons. He also recommends an allowance to Naval officers collecting duties in Mexican ports of one per cent. on the sum collected. In the Gulf of Mexico between thirty and forty thousand dollars have been collected: the amount collected in the Pacific is not known. Of the vessels captured in the Gulf a good many have been valued, taken into service, and their value is to be paid over as prize-money to the captors, as soon as they shall have been legally condemned by the District Court of Louisiana. Those taken in the Pacific have been condemned by a Prize-Court there originated, but no prize-money is to be distributed till the proceedings of the Court have been revised by the Department.

The extension of our laws over Oregon territory, and the establishment of Courts with Admiralty jurisdiction, is recommended. The voyages of the Jamestown and Macedonian are next spoken of. Mr. Uriah Brown's liquid fire has been tried with the $10,000 appropriated, but his shot-proof steamship has not. The liquid fire is not approved of. The estimates of the next year are spoken of in the next paragraphs, which we quote:

I have the honor to present, herewith, the Reports from the several Bureaux of Construction, Equipment and Repair, of Ordnance and Hydrography, of Yards and Docks, of Provisions and Clothing, and of Medicine and Surgery, with estimates in detail for the several branches of the Naval service for the next fiscal year. They are based on the employment, pending the war, of ten thousand men, as allowed by law, and a number of vessels in commission requiring their services. These reports present a gratifying exhibit of the condition of the public works, and of the public property subject to the control and direction of the Navy Department—and the estimates have been prepared and revised with a careful desire to ask for nothing which is not necessary to the public interest. I respectfully ask the favorable consideration of the suggestions made by the experienced, able and faithful officers at the head of the Bureaux.

The gross amount estimated for is ten millions three hundred and sixty-five thousand eight hundred and twenty-two dollars. The amount appropriated for the current fiscal year is $10,652,636 10. The estimates now presented include an item of $1,200,000, to complete the four war steamers authorized by the act of the 3d of March last, an increase of the appropriation under the head of contingent enumerated, and three hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the prosecution of the work on the dry dock at New York. The reasons for these appropriations are given in the reports, and, I presume, will be satisfactory. There are other objects estimated for, requiring an inconsiderable expenditure, which seem to me to be necessary for the efficient discharge of the public duties devolved on the Department. Of the appropriations made for the current year, the unexpended balances will, without doubt, prove adequate to all the wants of the service.

I deem it not inappropriate to the occasion, as illustrating the expenditures of the Navy Department since the commencement of the Mexican war, to present a comparative statement of appropriations and expenditures for the three years, under the heads of the appropriation of "pay," "contingent," "increase and repair," "provisions and clothing," and "surgeons, necessaries and appliances." These may be denominated the variable appropriations, and will show the increase of expenditure, during the war, over that of corresponding periods in time of peace.

This comparison exhibits the following result:

For year ending	Appropriations	Available aggregate	Expenditures.
June 30, 1845....	$5,058,815 71	6,151,453 28	5,813,933 79
" 1846....	5,085,992 00	6,544,426 62	5,371,514 50
" 1847....	6,434,349 60	7,261,733, 48	6,435,416 36

And of the expenditure for increases and repair during the past year, three hundred and forty-five thousand one hundred and seventy-five dollars have been paid for fifteen vessels, storeships, and steamers, of suitable draft of water, purchased and sent to the Gulf of Mexico.

The four war steamers authorized by the Act of March 3d, 1847, are rapidly building. The models, tonnage and machinery were adopted on the report of a mixed board of naval officers, constructors and engineers. The contracts for the transportation of the mail in steamers between New York and Liverpool, between New York and New Orleans, from Havana to Chagres, have been made with Messrs. Collins and Sloo in compliance with the act of Congress. The carriage of the mail monthly from Panama to Oregon has been assigned to the lowest bidder. The Secretary says:

Astoria, in the Oregon territory, was determined on as the northern terminus of the route, with a right of changing it reserved to the Department, and the law was construed to require a mail to be transported from one point to the other within thirty days. The distance is more than three thousand miles, and the currents known to be such as to render it impracticable to perform the required service in sail vessels. It was, therefore, determined to employ steamers. The great distance at which the service is to be performed, the heavy expenses which must be incurred by the contractors in providing, on the Pacific coast, the necessary ships and materials for repair, the indispensable fuel and depots for coal, induced me to adopt the term of ten years as the duration of this contract, which has been adopted by the Post Office Department, for its foreign mail contracts. But to guard myself against the reproach of exceeding the authority which it was the intention of Congress to confer, a clause is inserted in the contract, reserving to Congress the right to annul the contracts at its approaching session, if it shall be deemed proper or expedient to do so.

The contracts require the vessels to be ready for use in October and November of the year 1848, and the right of pay will commence with the commencement of the performance of the mail services stipulated. The annual compensation under the contract will be:

To K. Collins.....$385,000 00
To A. G. Sloo.....290,000 00
To Arnold Harris.....190,000 00

I regard them as favorable contracts, and the establishment of a regular and speedy intercourse by mail between the Atlantic cities and Oregon, as of the highest national importance.

I have cordially co-operated in the establishment of the several lines of steamers stipulated by these contracts. Thirteen new vessels will be constructed in the most skillful manner, which may be used as war steamers, and will be available for national purposes in any emergency.

The contracts stipulate that a mail agent, to be appointed by the Postmaster General, shall be placed and maintained on board. But as the contract is made with this department, and the payments will be made from the Treasury, on bills approved here, unless otherwise directed, it may be a question whether the law sufficiently provides for the regulation and collection of postages by the Post Office Department, and how far such receipts would be applicable to the payment of these contractors. I respectfully submit that the necessary legal enactments on the subject may be made by Congress.

The Secretary asks Congress to make an appropriation for these contracts and to approve or annul the term for which they have been made.

The Observatory is in successful operation. The refunding of $2,291 20 duties on instruments imported for its use is asked for. The Superintendent was to have a salary of $3,000, but owing to a clerical error in the act prescribing the salary, he has as yet only received his pay as a Navy Lieutenant. The necessary enactment is asked for.

At the Naval School 90 Midshipmen are in attendance; the school is doing well and an excellent thing. An increase of the number of Midshipmen in the Navy to 460 is recommended, making two for each representative in the House.

The full number of Marines authorized by the act of last March, have not been appointed. As the additional corps is serving on land and for the war only, they ought to have bounty land given to soldiers. The corps has served with distinction in Mexico, and is entitled to the favorable consideration of Congress.

The system of disbursing money and supplies in the Navy is a good one, and works well. The measures taken for the construction of floating docks at Philadelphia, Kitterey and Pensacola will be made the subject of a special Report.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Independent Whig.

The Real Cause of the War.

It seems to us that Mr. Clay has not made out his case in denouncing the war as unjust, by proving that the primary cause of it was the annexation of Texas. He must further prove that annexation was a wanton wrong done to Mexico. This, we think, is difficult to show. Texas was a free, independent State—acknowledged as such by the civilized world, and Mexico was notoriously incapable of reducing her to her former allegiance. Mexico had not for years before annexation, attempted such reduction; and the question of independence was merely kept open by her politicians as a topic of party contention and a pretext for levying military contributions upon her own people. In this view of the case, the people of the United States and Texas had a right to dispose of their national domains as they thought fit, and if they chose to join their destinies, they cannot be said to have begun a war unjustly because another nation took umbrage at what it could not help, and at what they had a right to do.

Mr. Clay may be right in saying that "the immediate occasion of hostilities arose out of the order of the President of the United States for the removal of the army of Gen. Taylor from its position at Corpus Christi to a point opposite Matamoras on the east bank of the Rio Grande;" yet, granting this much, it does not make out the charge of injustice. The question is, had the government a right to move the army across the Nueces? And this must be tested by concurrent facts. Mr. Clay, in his speech, asserts that in the purchase of Florida, the United States paid five millions of dollars and the right to insist upon the Rio Grande as the western boundary of Louisiana—which was, as Mr. Clay thinks, the true boundary of the French purchase. Now, this same question of boundary arose in the formation of the Republic of Texas, and Mr. Clay justly remarks that when Mr. Slidell was despatched to Mexico to treat of boundaries, the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande was disputed territory. Taking this to be the true state of the case, the United States had as much right to have an armed force on this neutral ground as Mexico had. Now, it is a notorious fact that Mexican armed bodies had crossed the Rio Grande before Gen. Taylor was ordered to cross the Nueces. It is also a notorious fact that Gen. Taylor was met at the Arroyo Colorado by an organized body of Mexicans, and that he was threatened with battle in case he crossed that stream. These facts are a part of the history of those times, and if entering the neutral territory with armed troops was an unjust commencement of the war, Mexico first committed the wrong. Moreover, not only had Carvajal, Canales and Romano Falcon crossed the Rio Grande before Gen. Taylor left Corpus Christi, but American citizens, traveling on lawful business through the disputed territory—men, women, and children—had been murdered by the followers of these Mexican officers in such a brutal manner, that what was right in respect to the previous acts of the enemy became a duty on the part of the government as a protection to our own people. Whatever motive may be ascribed to the Executive, the act of crossing the Nueces, at the most, not merely retaliatory, and at best needful to the safety of our citizens, and proper lest the exclusive military possession of the country be construed to weaken our title in the negotiations for a boundary. It was our duty, as public journalists, to keep ourselves advised of what was passing in the neutral ground at the time, and we speak with knowledge on this subject.

This view of the causes of the war leaves out of question the insults and injuries which the government and people of this country had borne with patience from Mexico. The national magnanimity passed over slights and wrongs which might justly have provoked war; but to abandon the disputed territory to the exclusively military occupation of the enemy, and our citizens to the murderous practices of Mexican armed bodies, would have carried that virtue to the point of sacrificing the lives of our people and the property of our claims of the nation to a fantasy which the enemy even to this day cannot comprehend.

In respect to the terms upon which a peace is to be bought, we do not hold that the United States are bound down to the object involved in the commencement of hostilities. The fixation of the boundary of Texas may have been the only object of the war at first—or the conquest of a peace if you will—but in the prosecution of the war, the United States have acquired certain billigerent rights—rights of conquest and military occupation, which, under the laws of nations, we may hold or abandon as we see fit. Questions of this nature are the exclusive concern of our own people, and if, as we think, the war was just in its incipiency, all the rights growing out of its prosecution are legitimate property of the Union. Mr. Clay is for giving up the whole of it; but this, and other modes of bringing a peace, are questions too large to be discussed in the conclusion of an article. Whilst we agree with Mr. Clay that it would not be dishonorable to treat a beaten enemy with liberality—nay it would not be dishonorable to give them more than they had before, because we may do it of our own free motive; yet we think it would be foolish to take anything into consideration, in making a peace, except what may be deemed needful, prolific or convenient to this Republic. The olive branch has been thrust into the faces of the Mexicans till all the leaves are shaken off. Nothing more can be asked of us in this behalf, and now we think the conquered territory should be disposed of to suit ourselves—and of this hereafter.

ANNEXATION IN THE NORTH.—We do not advocate at present any agitation of this question, but as furnishing data for future historical events, many of the recent changes in Canada are worthy of notice. It is said that Peel lately affirmed in one of his speeches, that they were of no use to England. Lord Sydenham, then Poulet Thompson, said the same thing. We now give their geographical extent:

Canada contains	222,730,000	acres.
Nova Scotia	9,995,880	do.
New Brunswick,	17,280,000	do.
Newfoundland,	23,000,000	do.
Cape Breton,	5,000,000	do.
Prince Edward Island,	1,360,000	do.
Total,	276,355,880	

England, Ireland, and Wales, together contain 75,399,040. The area of Canada alone is about six times as large as that of England and Wales. Newfoundland is larger than Ireland, and Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island are fully the size of Wales.

So vast a country stretching along our frontier, and partially peopled by an enterprising race—in a great measure by Americans and their children—must be in its future destiny important to us and to the world. It cannot long continue to be ruled by a distant nation—indeed already it is more so in name than in reality, and the part of its population born in Europe must diminish with each succeeding generation, its predilections will naturally incline to this country, with which its commercial and geographical relations compel it to cultivate the closest connection.

The regulation of their custom house duties has already been ceded to the colonists. The postoffice seemed the chief object of which it was desirable that they should obtain the control. It is said in Canada papers, received yesterday, that the British government had consented that the Provinces of North America should arrange the postage as they might agree among themselves. For this purpose, delegates to Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have recently assembled at Montreal, and have agreed that a rate of three pence, Halifax currency, (5 cents) per half ounce, be the charge of a letter sent a distance of no more than three hundred miles, and beyond that distance sixpence (ten cents.)

A man named Lee exchanged $3600 of counterfeit paper at Petersburgh, Va., on the 9th instant, and immediately left in the Northern cars. The fraud was soon discovered, and a telegraphic despatch sent to Washington, where the guilty party was arrested the next day, and all but $10 of the money recovered.

From the N. O. Delta of Dec. 23, 1847.

Important from Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 13, 1847.

EDS. DELTA—We have advices from Queretaro to the 6th inst. The Mexican government is in a most deplorable condition. Although there are signs of a pronunciamento, with the object of overthrowing the Government now in existence, it is doubtful whether there is any chieftain, in the present distracted state of the country and the prostration of all business, able to command the elements necessary to succeed in such a movement, the principle requisite being money. Any man who heads a revolution, must satisfactorily show the persons he enlists in this cause, that he will be able to pay them better than they were paid previously, and that he has means sufficient to carry out all his projects. If, thereafter, he fails to comply with his pledges, his downfall will be more speedy than his rise to power and authority. Therefore I conclude that it is extremely doubtful whether any party will be able to succeed in overthrowing the present government, as it is with great difficulty that the party now in power can furnish the amount daily required for the ordinary routine of the affairs of Government, both their internal and coastwise revenues being almost entirely cut off, and every new party coming into power would have to depend upon their individual resources for the money necessary to support the Government proper, the army and "hangers-on," without which they could not exist a day. From such a state of affairs, the "private stealings" would be small, and therefore offer but little inducement to speculators. The only advantage a new party could gain by coming into power, would be to make a peace with themselves in power, but in case they would succeed in negotiating, the Congress to meet in January of the coming year would not confirm it, as a large majority have been elected from the present party in power, and are pledged to support the present government. With such a state of affairs existing, what can the revolutionary spirits accomplish.

I informed you, in my letter of the 4th inst., that the Government at Queretaro were anxious and willing to make a peace; that if the despatches of Mr. Trist had been three days longer reaching him, a treaty would have been concluded: of this there is no doubt. My informant is a gentleman at at Queretaro, who is well conversant with the movements and measures of the Mexican Government. He also informed me, as I then wrote you, that the convention of Governors, which adjourned about the 1st inst., were unanimous in their views, that the only way for the Mexicans to preserve their nationality and retain any portion of their territory, was immediately to conclude a peace—"an honorable peace"—and that it was "not dishonorable in them to sell their territory:" and furthermore, that the Governors there assembled, and the National Government had mutually pledged themselves to the support of each other, if they succeeded in concluding with Mr. Trist a treaty of peace. The commissioners on the part of Mexico have been in this city, and, I am informed, have been endeavoring to arrange with Mr. Trist. Whether they have succeeded, no person as yet is apprised; but I hope, for the interests of our country, that he will, if he is so enabled, go home with the treaty in his pocket. Not only the interests of the country, but the interests of the world, and the preservation of the honor of our gallant little army, who labored so hard, and accomplished so much, requires it at his hands. One thing is certain: Mr. Trist did not go home with the last train, which left here on the 9th inst. From this we might conclude that he intends having some understanding with the Mexicans before he leaves. I think it altogether probable he will either make a treaty or take home with him the propositions of the Mexicans. If he makes a treaty, there is but little doubt of its being confirmed immediately after the organization of the Mexican Congress in January. If he does so, it will prevent she necessity of our extending our military line of operations, at a great trouble and expense, some five hundred miles further. In the course of the next ten days I will be fully informed what is the correct state of affairs at Queretaro, and if there is any amicable arrangement entered into, you may depend upon being correctly informed thereof at an early date.

The army is now about being thoroughly organized—the new and the old regiments so disposed of as to give the whole a better tone, and I have no doubt add to its general efficiency—and if the present peace movement does not result in something definite, in the course of the next two weeks, a division of 4,000 effective men will be despatched to the mining districts situated in Zacatecas, and the States thereto adjoining. The object of this detachment will be to enable us to avail ourselves of the national resources of the mines.

On the 7th inst., Gen. Patterson, with his command, arrived at this point, 2,835 men.

Generally speaking, they are a good body of troops, and after they have been taught the necessary duties, drill and discipline, will be good soldiers. However, there came along with them the greatest American curiosities that as yet have entered the city of the Aztecs—they were the observed of all observers, and excited as much lively interest as if President Polk and the American Congress had suddenly set themselves down in front of the Palace to organize and regulate a government and laws for the people of this benighted land—crowds of men flocked to see them, (however always keeping a respectful distance,) and women, affrighted, rushed from the balconies into the houses. Perhaps you would like to know who these terrific beings are. Well, they are nothing more nor less than Jack Hays and his Texan Rangers, with their old fashioned maple-stocked rifles lying across their saddles, the buts of two large pistols sticking out of the holsters and a pair of Colt's six-shooters belted around their waist,—making only fifteen shots to the man. Do you think this was anything to be scared at? There are only 500 men in the regiment, and summing them all up, they have only got 7,500 shots, which it will take them at least from eight to ten minutes to fire into the ranks of an enemy, when they are at a charge. But then they have got a name, and I am beginning to believe there is something in a name. The Mexicans believe them to be a sort of semi-civilized, half-man, half-devil, with a mixture of the lion and snapping-turtle, and have a more holy horror of them than they have of the evil saint himself. And do not be surprised when I tell you that I have several times been asked by some of the inhabitants if the Texans will be allowed to go out into the streets without a guard over them. It is really surprising that men with such a reputation should be among the very best disciplined troops in our army, and not disposed to commit outrages, or create disturbance in any way. But the greasers must not interfere with them, as was illustrated this evening. About an hour ago some of them were quietly passing through one of the streets, when a crowd of leperos gathered around them and commenced throwing stones—the result of which was, that in a very few minutes there were ten dead Mexicans lying in the street, and two men, badly wounded, taken to the guard-house.

A train left here for Vera Cruz on the 9th, accompanied by many officers going home, a greater portion of whom have been wounded in the battles before this. Gens. Twiggs and Pierce also went down, the former to take command of the post at Vera Cruz, and the letter to report at Washington.

Gen. Butler, with his command, is expected to arrive to-morrow or the next day. The old general will be heartily welcomed back to the army.

Capt. Fairchild, with about 30 of his company, arrived yesterday, having escorted Mr. Doyle, the English Charge d'Affaires, from Vera Cruz

Vera Cruz Correspondence.

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 9, 1847.

On the 1st of December, a gentleman arrived here from Jalapa, reported all tranquil in that city. Gen. Patterson and staff, accompanied by a company of dragoons, left on the 25 b, while the large train under his command was in advance. He left 600 infantry to garrison that point, so that at present the road from there to this place is entirely open to travellers.

The schr. Elizabeth was blown ashore on the 1st inst. by a heavy norther, and has since been sold.

A train left here last week under the command of General Butler; and on the 3d, Gen. Marshall, who had been ill for some time, having received, left with a train. His command amounted to 1780 men, rank and file.

On the 4th, a detachment of Louisiana mounted men and U. S. infantry left this place for a small town named Madelin, where it had been reported that a body of guerrilleros were quartered. Our troops arrived at that place at 12 o'clock at night. On reaching a house where there was a fandango, or ball, they were fired upon and two of their horses disabled. Our troops immediately returned the compliment, and no less than six Mexicans were killed and about fifteen wounded. Lieut. Col. Biscoe, who was in command, then ordered his troops to withdraw. The conduct of the Americans is generally approved, even by the Mexicans.

Capt Wheat, who arrived to-day (9th) from Jalapa, reports that Gen. Butler and staff left Jalapa for Puela on the 6th. He met Gen. Marshall at Plen del Rio.

Capt. Fairchild, of the Louisiana Dragoons, who left this city to accompany the British Minister, on arriving at Jalapa, finding that there were no Dragoons at that post, continued on to Mexico. The mounted men are nearly all posted on the road from here to Jalapa. Capt. Kerr, is posted at the National Bridge. Capt. Lewis has gone to Mexico with Gen. Lane. Capt. Bensancon's company (under the command of Lieut. Hawkins) is at San Juan. The corps, is very useful.

A sailor who had deserted from the man-of-war Flirt, and had joined a company of volunteers, was arrested by order of the commander of that vessel. In attempting to make his escape from the guard-house, he was shot dead by the sentinel. His name was John Ireland.

Yours, &c., ULUA.

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 15, 1847.

Quite an excitement was produced here on the arrival of the British steamer Teviot, from Havana, a few days since. In coming into port she was hailed by the sloop-of-war John Adams; the hail not being answered, the commander of the Adams ordered one of the long-guns to be double-shotted. John Bull observed the preparations, and deeming "discretion the better part of valor," he came to his senses and made the requisite answers.

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 16, 1847—2 o'clock.

The English courier has just arrived from Mexico, and brings the following intelligence.

The Commissioners appointed by the government of Queretaro to meet Mr. Trist, on arriving at Mexico, finding that his powers had been withdrawn from him, returned to Queretaro to get further authority to go to Havana, and there meet commissioners to be appointed by the United States to treat of peace.

The train under the command of Gens. Twiggs and Pierce left Mexico on the 9th inst., for this place.

Mr. Trist does not come with the train as was anticipated; but awaits in Mexico the return of the Mexican Commissioners.

Gen. Patteson's train had arrived at Mexico, and Gen. Butler and Col. Johnson were met at Puebla with their respective commands.

The following order was received by Gov. Wilson, with directions from Gen. Scott to have it published in the city.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, Mexico, Dec. 12, 1847.

General Orders—No. 372.—1. The highways of Mexico, used, or about to be used, by the American troops, being still infested, in many parts, by those atrocious bands called *guerrilleros* and *rancheros*, who under instructions from late Mexican authorities, continue to violate every rule of warfare observed by civilized nations, it has become necessary—in order to insure vigor and uniformity in the pursuit of the evil—to announce to *all* the views and instructions of general headquarters on the subject.

2. Every American post established in Mexico will daily push detachments or patrols as far as practicable, to disinfest the neighborhood—its roads and places of concealment.

3. No *quarters* will be given to known murderers or robbers, whether called guerrilleros or rancheros, and whether serving under Mexican commissions or not. They are equally pests to unguarded Mexicans, foreigners, and small parties of Americans, and ought to be exterminated.

4 Offenders of the above character, accidentally falling into the hands of American troops, will be momentarily held as prisoners—that is, not put to death without due solemnity. Accordingly, they will be promptly reported to commanding officers, who, will, without delay, order a *Council of War* for the summary trial of the offenders under the known laws of war applicable to such cases.

5. A council of war may consist of any number of officers not less than three, nor more than thirteen, and may, for any flagrant violation of the laws of war, condemn to death, or to lashes—not exceeding fifty—on satisfactory proof that such prisoner, at the time of capture, actually belonged to a party or gang of known robbers or murderers, or had actually committed murder or robbery upon any American officer or soldier or follower of the American army.

6. Punishments awarded by councils of war will be reviewed, approved or disapproved by the commanders who respectively order the councils, and in cases of approval, be immediately put into execution by their orders; but councils of war, except in extreme cases, will be ordered only by commanders of detached divisions of brigades, or by commanders of military department

7. All punishments, under this order, will be duly reported to general headquarters.

8. The new post, Rio Frio, will be considered under the direct command of the General-in-chief and in correspondence with him, until further orders.

By command of Major-General Scott,

H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.

The Difficulty in the Army.

The difficulty among prominent officers of our army appears to have been quite as serious as was apprehended. We publish here the orders of Gen. Scott reflecting upon the officers who are said to be under arrest. They betray no little temper—perhaps we should say—acerbity of temper:—

GENERAL ORDERS—No. 3.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJ. GENL'S OFFICE, Washington, January 28, 1847.

The following regulation has been received from the war department:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, January 28, 1847.

The President of the United States directs that paragraph 650 of the General Regulations of the Army, established on the 1st of March, 1825, and not included among those published January 25, 1841, be now published, and that its observance as a part of the general regulations, be strictly enjoined upon the army.

By order of the President:

[Signed] W. L. MARCY. Secretary of War.

The following is the paragraph of the General Regulations of the Army, established on the 1st March, 1825, referred to above:

"650. Private letters or reports, relative to military marches and operations, are frequently mischievous in design, and always disgraceful to the army. They are, therefore, strictly forbidden; and any officer found guilty of making such report or publication, without special permission, or of placing the writing beyond his control, so that it finds its way to the press, within one month after the termination of the campaign to which it relates, shall be dismissed from the service."

By command of Major Gen. Scott:

[Signed] WM. G. FREEMAN, Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS—No. 349.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, Mexico, Nov. 12, 1847.

The attention of certain officers of this army is recalled to the foregoing regulation, which the general-in-chief is resolved to enforce so far as it may be in his power.

As yet but two echoes from home of the brilliant operation of our arms in this basin have reached us: the first in a New Orleans, and the second through Tampico papers.

It requires not a little charity to believe that the principal heroes of the scandalous letters alluded to did not write them, or especially procure them to be written, and the intelligent can be at no loss in conjecturing the authors, chiefs, partizans, and pet familiars. To the honor of the service, the disease—pruriency of fame, *not* earned—cannot have seized upon half a dozen officers (present,) all of whom, it is believed, belong to the same two coteries.

False credit may, no doubt, be obtained at home, by such despicable self-puffings and malignant exclusion of others; but at the expense of the just esteem and consideration of all honorable officers who love their country, their profession and the truth of history. The indignation of the great number of the latter class cannot fail, in the end, to bring down the concealed and the envious to their proper level.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott:

H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.

The letters alluded to by Gen. Scott as "the echoes from home," are evidently the "Leonidas" letter, and the other a letter which appeared first in the Pittsburgh Post, was thence transferred to the Union, whence we copied it on the 8th October, with some introductory remarks, and the whole then appeared in a Tampico paper, in which Gen. Scott saw first the letter. Upon the publication of Gen. Scott's orders, given above, Lieut. Col. Duncan came out promptly in the North American, with the following frank avowal of his connection with the "Tampico letter," so called. According to the North American, the "Tampico letter" was "compiled from two letters written by officers of the army in Mexico to a brother officer in Pittsburgh, for his eye alone." But read what Col. Duncan has to say of it:

MEXICO, Nov. 13, 1847.

To the Editor of the North American—Sir: I herewith present a copy of the "Tampico letter," characterized as "scandalous," "despicable," "malignant," &c., in general orders No. 349, published in the American Star this morning.

To the end that the true character of this letter may be known, I desire that you republish it in your paper; and that none of my brother officers may innocently suffer for a republication so obnoxious, I hereby publicly acknowledge myself to be its author. The substance of it I communicated from Tacubaya soon after the battles, in a private letter to a friend in Pittsburgh.

The statements in the letter are known by many officers of the army to be true; and I can but think that the publication of truth is less likely to do violence to individuals or the service than the suppression or perversion of it.

Justice to Gen. Worth (who is evidently one of the "heroes" pointed at in order No. 349.) requires me to state that he knew nothing whatever of my purpose to write the letter in question, nor that it had been written till well on its way to its destination; he never saw, or did he know directly or indirectly, even the purport of one line, word or syllable of it till he saw it in print, and he is equally ignorant of my design to make this declaration, which I do, as I wrote the letter, unprompted and on my own responsibility.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

JAMES DUNCAN,
Brevet Lieut. Col. U. S. A.

After the publication of this letter, Col. Duncan was placed under arrest, and subsequently Gen. Pillow was arrested, and next Gen. Worth. The North American is of opinion that Gen. Pillow was not arrested on account of the "Leonidas" letter, but on the following grounds:

There has been another arrest, that of Gen. Pillow, one of the chiefs aforenamed, but not, as appears, on account of the letters of which he is the hero. We hear, generally, that the cause was this: Gen. Pillow, having taken exceptions to the finding of a court of inquiry, which finding has been approved by Gen. Scott, addressed a paper relating to the matter to the Secretary of War, through the commander-in-chief, preserving a copy, which he avowed, in a letter accompanying, *he had sent*, (or would send) directly to the Secretary at Washington. This transaction is judged to be contempt, and for the so judged contempt, Gen. Pillow is arrested.

Gen. Worth's arrest is thus noticed in the North American of the 26th ult:

The last arrest occurred yesterday—that of Brevet Major Gen. Worth, and the charge is, we believe, contempt towards the commander-in-chief. Without a full knowledge of all the facts, we do not purpose to lengthen this article by any remarks upon this proceeding.

We shall have more to say on this grave subject another day.—*N. O. Delta.*

MARRIED—At Bowling Green, Clay co., Ia., on the 2d inst., by Prof. C. *Nash*, of the Asbury University, Mr. SAMUEL CATHERWOOD, Esq., to Miss S. ELIZABETH STRONG, of Indianapolis.

MARRIED—On New Year's Eve, in Greencastle, by Rev. Mr. *Hall*, Mr. WM. F. THORNTON, late of the U. S. Army, to Miss ANGELINE STEWART.

☞We are requested to announce MATTHEW LITTLE as a candidate for Superintendent of the Central Canal. tf

SEALED PROPOSOLS

WILL be received by Samuel M. Rutherford, Choctaw agent and acting superintendent Western Territory at the Choctaw agency west of the State of Arkansas, until 12 o'clock, meridian, March 1, 1848, for furnishing subsistence to the Choctaw Indians who shall emigrate from the States of Mississippi and Alabama to the Choctaw country west of the late of Arkansas, during the year 1848 for the term of one year after their arrival; and to those who have emigrated since the 1st of June last, for the unexpired term of one year from that time. The daily rations to consist of one pound of fresh beef or fresh pork, or three fourths of a pound of salt pork, and three fourths of a quart of corn or of corn meal, or of one pound of wheat flour to each person, and four quarts of salt for every one hundred persons.

The number removed since the 1st June is about twenty-five, and it is estimated that there are about 3000 yet east of the Mississippi to be removed. Measures have been recently taken by the Indian Department to facilitate their early emigration, but the situation of the Indians is such that it is impossible at the present time to indicate the number of those still east who will determine to remove west, or the time that those who shall remove will arrive in their new country. It is supposed, however, that a small party will emigrate during the succeeding month of January, and others at different periods during the year as they can be collected and prepared for the journey.

A contract will be made for those who have removed since June, and of all who may emigrate during the year 1848, more or fewer; the subsistence to be furnished by the contractor at such times, and a suitable place in the Indian country, as the agent of the Choctaws for the time being, or such person or persons as he may appoint, shall designate. The Department, and its agents, will use all proper exertions to hasten the emigration and make it general, but it will not be responsible in any way for the failure or refusal of the Indians to remove.

The proposals must be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that those making them have the ability to execute the contracts,—the names of the persons they intend giving as their sureties therefor,—and a written guaranty from such persons that a contract will promptly be entered into in conformity with the proposals if accepted. The reliableness, business capacity and pecuniary ability of the proposers, and the sufficiency of their sureties, must be certified to by an officer of the United States. No proposal will be considered in regard to which these requirements are not complied with.

It must be distinctly understood that all and every expense connected with or incident to the transportation of the provisions to the place or places which shall be selected for their issue to the Indians, and with or to issuing of them, is to be borne by the contractors, and that the United States reserve the right, whenever the proper officer of the Government shall be of opinion that the contractor or contractors is or are not performing his or their contract faithfully, and in the proper spirit, to declare the same null and void, and to cause the proper issues of rations to be made for the remainder of the time specified in the contract, on account of the contractor or contractors, and for which he or they, and his or their sureties shall be liable.

Bond with two or more sureties in a penalty of $25,000 will be required for the faithful performance of the contract. The sufficiency of the sureties to be approved by a Judge or a District Attorney of the United States.

War Department, Office Indian Affairs, 21th December, 1847.
66-eptstIth Feb.

JOHN M. CLARKE'S Lottery Office.

14th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

CLARKE has been a Vender for the last 15 years in the cities of Pittsburgh, Pa., Wheeling, Va., and Richmond, Va., and refers to the Managers in proof of the fact that he has sold more Large Capitals than any vender in the United States. He offers to his patrons the following *Splendid Schemes for January*, 1848.

Clarke sold during the month of December, 1847, 25 Capital Prizes. Prizes advertised by him can always be seen at his office.

$10,000!

ALEXANDRIA LOTTERY—Class No. 5. for 1848.

To be drawn at Alexandria, Saturday, January 15, 1848.

Lowest Three Number Prize $300!

MAGNIFICENT SCHEME.

One prize of $10,000, 1 do 10,000, 1 do 6,000, 1 do 5,000, 1 do 3,500, 1 do 2,913 2 do 2,000, 3 do 1,500, 3 do 1,200 5 do 1,250, 200 do 500, 126 do 100, 166 do 50, 126 do 40, 3,780 do 20, 23,436 do $10—27,814 prizes, amounting to $521,293.

Tickets $10—shares in proportion.

$30,000!

ALEXANDRIA LOTTERY—Class No. 7, for 1848.

To be drawn in Alexandria, Saturday, January 22, 1848.

12 *drawn ballots out of 66 numbers!*

SPLENDID SCHEME!

One prize of $30,000, 1 do 12,000, 1 do 8,000, 1 do 5,000, 1 do 2,780, 3 do 2,000, 10 do 1,000, 10 do 500, 20 do 250, 172 do 150, 198 do 100, 162 do 50, 3,294 do 20, 17,172 do $10—20,956 prizes, amounting to $366,080.

Tickets $10—shares in proportion.

$10,000! $30,000! $20,000!

ALEXANDRIA LOTTERY—Class No. 9, for 1848.

To be drawn in Alexandria, Saturday, January 29, 1848.

13 *drawn Nos. to each package of 25 Tickets.*

MOST BRILLIANT SCHEME.

One prize of $40,000, 1 do 30,000, 1 do 20,000, 1 do 10,000, 1 do 6,000, 1 do 5,000, 1 do 4,000, 1 do 3,243, 3 do 1,750, 75 do 1,000, 200 do 500, 130 do 200, 130 do 100, 180 do 60, 130 do 50, 4,550 do 30, 27,040 do $15—32,990 prizes, amounting to $893,893.

Tickets $15—shares in proportion

Orders for certificates of packages, single tickets and shares in any of the above schemes, addressed to the undersigned, will receive most prompt attention, and an account of each drawing forwarded as soon as it is received. Address, postage free,

66-5tr JOHN M. CLARKE, Richmond, Va.

State of Indiana, Marion county, Sct.

IN THE MARION CIRCUIT COURT.

In Chancery to foreclose a Mortgage.

Charles Brenkman *vs.* George W. Mears, administrator of the estate of Frederick Schwiecke, deceased, and the unknown heirs of said deceased.

THE said Charles Brenkman having on this 6th day of January, 1848, filed in the office of the clerk of the Marion circuit court his bill of complaint in the above entitled cause, with an affidavit attached thereto, showing that said defendants, the unknown heirs of said Frederick Schwiecke, deceased, are not residents of the State of Indiana; therefore said defendants, the unknown heirs of said Frederick Schwiecke, deceased, are hereby notified of the filing of said bill of complaint, that the same is pending in said Marion circuit court, and that unless they appear and plead to, or answer said bill on or before the calling of said cause at the next term of said court, the same and the matters and things therein contained, will be taken as confessed and held as true against them.

Attest, R. B. DUNCAN, Clerk.
R. L. Walpole, Solr. Jan. 5, 1848. 65 3w

BOOKS. BOOKS.

A LARGE lot of school books just received, and will be sold as low as they can be bought at any establishment in the West.
66 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

THE Philosophy of Life and of Language in a course of lectures, by Frederick Von Schlegel, just received from New York and for sale by
66 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

SMITH'S Researches in China in 1844, '45 and '46, just received by
56 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

DAILY Scripture Readings, by the late Thomas Chalmers, D. D. LL. D., in three volumes, vol. 1st just received by
65 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

ELLEN Herbert, or Family Changes, embellished with six illustrations, fancy covers, gilt edges, for sale by
65 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

AMERICAN Tract Society Publications constantly kept on hand and for sale, in large or small lots, by
66 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

THE subscribers are prepared to furnish any quantity of books calculated for sunday school libraries at the publishers' prices.
66 HOOD & NOBLE, Bates's new building.

HOOD & NOBLE would inform the public, that they act as agents for the Literary World, published in N. Y., edited by C. F. Hoffman, the only Weekly Critical