1161.

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VOLUME IV—NO. 203. NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1870. WHOLE NUMBER 1114.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
RE-ENGAGEMENT OF LINGARDS,
GREAT COMEDY COMPANY.
FOR ONE WEEK ONLY, COMMENCING
Monday, December 5, 1870.
To produce, First Time in this city, Robertson's Splendid Comedy,
SILVER LINING!
With New Scenery, Costumes and Powerful Cast.
Twenty New, Original Sketches and Songs by
WILLIAM HORACE LINGARD.
Concluding with the Screaming Farce,
THE CAPTAIN NOT A MISS!
THE CAPTAIN NOT A MISS!
Grand Matinee Saturday. de6

NATIONAL THEATRE.
Corner Perdido and Baronne Streets.
The lessee of the above favorite theatre, Mr. Guttman, has kindly tendered the use of the same for a Benefit to the
LATE VARIETIES THEATRE COMPANY,
which will take place
Tuesday Evening, December 6, 1870,
When will be presented Boucicault's comedy of fashionable life,
LONDON ASSURANCE,
Principal characters by Augusta L. Dargon, Phillis Glover, Frankie McClellan, Lewis Baker, Frank Evans, A. H. Davenport, M. Daly, T. Hind, Charles Jefferson, George Jordan, Jr., and others.
Prices, etc., as usual.
Performance begins at eight o'clock. de6

NEW OPERA HOUSE.
R. CALABRESI.....MANAGER.
Tuesday, December 6, 1870,
First night of Bazin's new Comic Opera, in three acts,
VOYAGE EN CHINE,
In which Mmes. Naddi, Dennery, and Messrs. De Keghel, Perie, Berton and Vallee will appear.
Thursday, December 8,
Verdi's Grand Opera
THE TROVATORE.
Doors open at half-past six, and the performance commences at seven o'clock, precisely.
Box office open every day from nine A. M. to four o'clock P. M. de6

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.
Engagement of the talented artiste,
MISS MAGGIE MITCHELL,
Supported by J. W. Albaugh, Mary Mitchell Albaugh, and the great star company.
Tuesday, December 6, 1870,
Will be presented the celebrated drama, written expressly for Miss Mitchell by Q. Waldauer, Esq.,
FANCHON, THE CRICKET.
Fanchon.....Miss Maggie Mitchell
Landry.....J. W. Albaugh
Old Padet.....Mary Mitchell Albaugh
Friday—Benefit of Miss Maggie Mitchell.
Saturday Noon—Maggie Mitchell matinee.
In preparation, LORLIE, etc. de6 1t

A GRAND VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT
Will be given at the Mechanics' Institute, on
Saturday Evening, December 10, 1870,
Under the direction of
PROFESSOR A. P. WILLIAMS,
Assisted by the eminent Creole Pianist,
BASILE J. BARES,
And a number of Lady and Gentlemen Amateurs of this city.
A GRAND BALL will take place after the Concert. A full Quadrille Band will furnish music for dancing.
Admission to concert and Ball, Fifty Cents.
no27 de4

BOARDING.

BOARD AND FURNISHED ROOMS—Rooms alone—on reasonable terms at that elegant residence No. 212 Carondelet street, immediately above Julia street. de3 2m

BOARDING—ALL WHO WISH TO OBTAIN Board with a genteel family, speaking English and French, are referred to the advertisement of N. Galatas, Esq., at No. 183 Rampart street, Second District, a delightful location near the public square. Mr. Galatas refers to several of our best citizens. no30 1m

BOARDING.—COMFORTABLE ROOMS AND good board, for families and single gentlemen, can be had by application at 164 Julia street. no29 2w

LOST.

LOST—A PROMISSORY NOTE, DRAWN AND subscribed by W. Van Norden, for the sum of One Thousand and Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents, dated the twenty-fourth of November, last (1870), and payable sixty days after date, to the order of Michael Hahn, was lost on the twenty-sixth ultimo. The note was not indorsed, and is therefore without any value whatever to any person but the owner, to whom the finder will please restore it, at the Republican office, 94 Camp street. de1 10t

LOST OR MISLAID—A CERTAIN PROMISSORY NOTE for the sum of five hundred and twenty-two dollars, drawn and indorsed by Jacob Ott, dated May 23, 1866, and payable four years after date, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from date till maturity, and eight per cent per annum thereafter until paid; said note being paraphed ne varietur by A. E. Bienvenu, notary public, on the eighteenth day of June, 1866. The public is notified not to negotiate said note, the payment thereof having been stopped.
FRANCOIS LACROIX. de1 10t

MARSHAL'S MONITIONS.

N. J. and P. G. Bigley vs. Steamboat Bossier, her tackles, etc., and property on board.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT District of Louisiana, No. 9629.—In obedience to an admiralty warrant, to me directed in the above entitled suit, I have seized and taken into my possession—
The steamer BOSSIER, her tackle, etc., and property on board, now libeled by N. J. and P. G. Bigley, for the causes set forth in the libel now pending in the District Court of the United States.
And I do hereby cite and admonish the owner or owners thereof, and all and every person or persons having or pretending to have any right, title or interest in or to the same, to be and appear at a District Court of the United States, for the District aforesaid, to be holden at the city of New Orleans, on or before the third Monday of December, 1870, to show cause, if any they have or can, why the said steamer and property should not be condemned and be sold agreeably to the prayer of libelants.
United States Marshal's Office, New Orleans, nineteenth day of November, 1870.
S. B. PACKARD,
no20 de6 13 20 United States Marshal.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALES.

J. M. Peterson vs. Steamer Welcome, her Tackle, etc.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT District of Louisiana, No. 9820.—By virtue of an order of sale, to me directed in the above entitled suit, I will proceed to sell to the highest bidder, on SATURDAY, December 10, 1870, at 12 o'clock M, at the entrance to the Customhouse, on Old Levee street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in this city—
The steamer WELCOME, her tackle, etc., now lying opposite the Ursulines Convent, Third District.
Terms—Cash at time of adjudication.
United States Marshal's office, New Orleans, twenty-ninth day of November, 1870.
S. B. PACKARD,
no29 de3 10 United States Marshal.

STOLEN.

NOTICE.—STOLEN FROM THE RESIDENCE OF S. Sisa, at the corner of Annunciation and Tchoupitoulas streets (Triangle Building) on the evening of Friday, December 2, 1870, between five and six o'clock, a Mortgage Note for the sum of Two Thousand Dollars ($2000), dated New Orleans, September 2, 1870, drawn to the order of John G. Roche, and by him indorsed, payable twelve (12) months after date, and bearing interest at the rate of eight per cent per annum from date until paid, and paraphed "ne varietur" by W. B. Kleinpeter, notary public, to identify it with an act of mortgage passed before said notary on the second day of September, 1870.
The public are cautioned against negotiating for said note, as its payment has been stopped.
de4 3t* SALVADOR SISA.

BY TELEGRAPH.

LATEST NEWS FROM ALL POINTS

OPENING OF CONGRESS

MR. SYPHER TAKES HIS SEAT

READING THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sale of a Railroad Enjoined

THE FRENCH EVACUATE ORLEANS

WASHINGTON.

Opening of Congress—General Sypher Takes His Seat—Routine Business in the Senate—Shreveport a Port of Entry—Removal of Political Disabilities of Louisianians—Bill to Abolish Marine Tax—President's Message Telegraphed to New York Quickly—Reading of the Message Caused no Sensation—Wires Crowded—Sale of New Orleans and Texas Railroad Enjoined.

WASHINGTON, December 5.—*House*—One hundred and seventy-three members answered the roll.

R. W. T. Duke, of Virginia, was seated, taking the old oath.

J. H. Sypher was seated from the First Louisiana District.

After the reading of the President's message, the House adjourned.

Senate—A various routine of business was transacted including the introduction of bills to constitute Shreveport, Louisiana, a port of delivery.

For the removal of the political disabilities of citizens of Louisiana, and to abolish all income taxes.

After the reading of the President's message, the Senate adjourned.

The President's message, of 9085 words, was telegraphed hence to New York in 37¾ minutes. Ten wires were used.

The reading of the President's message caused no sensation.

The money markets exhibit no material change.

The transmission of the President's message crowds the telegraph wires.

Judge Bradley, in chambers to-day, granted an injunction restraining the sale of the Texas and New Orleans Railroad under an advertisement of Receiver Crosby, but the parties were put upon short notice to settle their claims before the time of sale as advertised by Governor Davis.

NEW YORK.

Governments Very Dull—Southerns Dull and Unchanged.

NEW YORK, December 5, Evening.—Money 6@7, closing easier. Sterling 8⅝@9. Gold closed at 110⅞@111. Governments very dull and unchanged. Southern securities very dull and unchanged.

LONDON.

Storing Provisions at Havre for Paris when the Siege is Over—Granville's Reply to Gortschakoff's Note.

LONDON, November 5.—It is rumored that M. Erlanger is storing vast quantities of provisions at Havre for Paris when the siege is over.

Earl Granville's reply to Prince Gortschakoff's last note is published. It is dated November 29. The British minister says there is nothing for him to add to his previous appeal to international law. He is aware that the suggestions for a congress of the Powers to settle this and other questions have been made but not adopted. He is also aware that in the contingency of the possession of the principalities by Austria, Prussia could question the provisions of the treaty of 1856.

He is, however, ignorant of such a purpose; therefore that question could not be introduced. He trusts that all obstacles to the continuance of peaceful relations will be removed. If Russia has formed an opinion as to her rights, but does not intend to act without consulting the other powers, the controversy is already partially closed.

Earl Granville concludes by accepting Russia's invitation to a conference, without admitting a foreign conclusion as to the result.

TOURS.

Orleans Evacuated by the Army of the Loire—Prussians Re-enter Orleans—Fighting Before Orleans Unfavorable to the French.

TOURS, December 5.—The Army of the Loire, after spiking guns and destroying ammunition, evacuated Orleans. The Prussians re-entered Orleans at midnight.

The French retreated orderly.

[New York Herald special.]

TOURS, December 5.—The results of the fighting before Orleans are unfavorable to the French. Orleans was evacuated Saturday night and the Army of the Loire retreated to Blois. There was much desultory fighting Friday and Saturday along the whole line, from Ouzore to Arthenay, and the left wing of the Army of the Loire was doubled up. The Prussians reached the railroad between Orleans and Tours at Lachapelle, near Orleans, on Saturday afternoon, when a train which Gambetta was on was fired into.

The army of the Loire then concentrated in lines at Orleans, entrenched a camp 200,000 strong, defended by 500 from the navy and determined to hold out there to the last moment, notwithstanding the line of retreat was threatened by the success of the Prussians' left wing, and it was rendered ineffective for defense. The Prussians threatened to bombard the city, but to prevent this General Patheres consented to evacuate the city at midnight, when heavy cannon were spiked and ammunition destroyed. The army then withdrew in good order, retreating to the left bank of the Loire.

VERSAILLES.

The French Driven from Chevilly—Troops Suffering from Intense Cold.

VERSAILLES, December 5.—The French have been driven from Chevilly, and have abandoned Compigne.

The French are massing at Creteil.

The troops are suffering from the intense cold. General Manteuffel is at Rouen.

SPAIN.

Duke of Aosta Congratulating Spain.

FLORENCE, December 5.—The Duke of Aosta, upon receiving the crown, congratulated Spain upon successfully reconciling order with liberty.

ST. PETERSBURG.

Moscow Journals Denounce the Prussian Press.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 5.—The Moscow journals denounce the Prussian press for silence in regard to the treaty of Paris.

CONSTANTINOPLE.

Turkish Apprehensions Removed.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 5.—Russia's granting furloughs to her troops, and her consent to a conference, removes Turkish apprehensions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Alabama Legislature—Messages from the two Governors—Ballot for United States Senator To-Day—Official Vote of New York State—Preparations for a Convention at Buffalo.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., December 5.—Both Houses of the Legislature were at work today. Messages from Smith and Lindsay were sent into the Senate.

The message from Smith was lengthy, and the Senate ordered 2000 copies printed. Lindsay's was not acted on.

The election for United States Senator is exciting some attention. A ballot will be had to-morrow.

There are no new developments as to the gubernatorial contest.

ALBANY, N. Y., December 5.—The official vote for Governor will be declared by the State canvassers as follows: Hoffman, 399,532; Woodford, 366,436; Graham (Labor Reform), 1907; scattering, blank and defective, 1895. Total vote, 771,229.

BUFFALO, N. Y., December 5.—The Roman Catholics are making extensive preparations for a convention of the prelates of the church, to protest against the late indignities for the Pope, by Victor Emmanuel. Archbishop Spalding of Maryland, Farrell and Lynch, of Canada, McCloskey, of New York, and Bishops McQuade, of Rochester, Kelroy, of Canada, and other dignitaries will be present.

River Intelligence.

SOUTHWEST PASS, December 5, 6 P. M.—Barometer 30.10. Wind southwest, and light.

Arrived: Spanish ship Nueva Aurelia, Pogago, master, sixty-two days from Marseilles, in ballast to Puig Bros. Schooner Lizzie Webster, Creighton, master, eleven days from Ruatan, with fruit to S. Oteri.

Bark Emma C. Litchfield, Haydon, master, seventy-three days from Cardiff, with railroad iron to order.

No departures.

PASS-A-L'OUTRE, December 5, 6 P. M.—Wind southwest and very light. Arrived: Steamship Tappahannock, 2 P. M., McBaker, master, from Havana via Florida ports, with an assorted cargo, United States mails and passengers, to F. W. Perkins & Co. Sailed: Schooner C. H. Macomber.

The schooner Fanny Fern, three days from Pensacola, bound to Galveston, passed this bar at 5 P. M. yesterday.

VICKSBURG, December 5.—Passed up: Marcella, two P. M.; Yazoo City, six P. M. Down: Hartford, four P. M.; Clarksville, four P. M.

River rising. Weather clear and pleasant.

MEMPHIS, December 5.—Passed up: Virginia. Down: Waunita, Belfast and Rubicon.

River stationary. Weather clear. Mercury 55.

CINCINNATI, December 5.—The river has fourteen feet. Risen seven inches the past twenty-four hours. Arrived, Mollie Ebert, from Pittsburg, and is preparing to depart for New Orleans; also Nightingale, for Arkansas river.

There was a strong wind prevailing during the day, which interfered with the movements of boats. Weather cloudy; thermometer 50.

LOUISVILLE, December 5.—Arrived: Shannon, from New Orleans, and Anna, from Memphis. Boats will not be able to pass through the canal before Thursday evening.

The river is rising slowly with fifteen inches in the chute, and eight feet on Portland bar. A large number of boats, with tows of coal for Southern markets, will pass through the canal this week if the water permits.

Weather cloudy; heavy wind prevailing since 1 P. M.

MARKETS.

Domestic Markets.

NEW YORK, December 5, Evening.—Cotton dull and lower; middling uplands 13⅝c; sales 5000 bales. Flour: Southern steady, common to good extra $5 95@6 25. Whisky a shade easier, closing at 89¾@90c. Wheat 1@2c better; fair export demand; winter red and amber Western $1 45@1 46. Corn dull at 2@3c lower; new 74@75c. Pork, old, $22 50. Beef quiet and steady. Lard a shade firmer; kettle rendered 13@13½c. Turpentine 47½c. Rosin scarce and firm at $2 05. Tallow at 8½@9c. Freights unchanged.

CINCINNATI, December 5.—Cotton dull and lower; middling 14½c. Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat dull and unchanged. Corn quiet and weak at 50@52c. Oats 45@47c. Pork in fair demand and higher; mess $19 50. Lard: rates asked are, steam 11¾@12c; kettle 12½c. Bulk meats, advance asked, but not established. Bacon: limited demand; shoulders 12¼; clear rib 15c. Hogs quiet and weak; $6 25@6 50. Green meats dull; shoulders 6c; sides 8½c; hams 10½c; hardly anything done: the weather being mild but now turning cold, with a strong gale of wind. Whisky 84@85c.

ST. LOUIS, December 5.—Flour unchanged; winter $4 65@5 10. Wheat slow; No. 2 spring $1; winter firm and prices better; red $1 29@1 35; Corn firm; yellow 55@58c. Rye 68@70c. Oats 42½@46. Whisky steady.

[Yesterday's Evening Dispatches.]

CHICAGO, December 5.—A vigilance committee at Round Hill, Colorado, hung three stock thieves Thursday.

LONDON, December 4.—The military situation, in the best informed circles, is regarded as critical.

Manteuffel has been ordered to march to Paris.

It is stated that Bismarck will retire from office unless the convention with the South German States is adopted without alteration.

LONDON, December 5.—Saxon losses in the fight before Paris, from the thirtieth to the second, 1800. Four Saxon regiments lost, in officers, fifteen killed and sixty wounded. French prisoners taken, about three thousand.

Advices from Paris to Sunday night state that no further attempt has been made to force the Prussian lines.

TOURS, December 4.—On Friday the Prussians recaptured Fermiviveres, Guillonville, Neuville and Villepain. Heavy fighting reported yesterday all along the line. The Pontifical Zouaves were terribly cut up, and their commander, Charette, wounded. The Germans are bombarding Belfore.

Gambetta has gone to Chalons to consult with the officers of the army of the Loire.

The battle on Friday, in which the sixteenth and seventeenth corps were engaged, was protracted and sanguinary, the Prussians using heavy artillery.

The army of the Loire will receive heavy reinforcements.

It is rumored that Ducrot is still near Paris, and having been reinforced will soon take the offensive.

BERLIN, December 4.—The French loss in the fight on the second was seven guns, one general, twenty superior officers and 1800 men captured.

The King telegraphs to the Queen: "No fighting of moment yesterday."

VERSAILLES, December 4.—Prince Frederick Charles drove the French into the forests of Orleans, capturing two cannon.

VERSAILLES, December 4, Evening.—The French before Vincennes have been reinforced.

Treskow's division, in Friday's fight, took seven guns and 1800 prisoners.

LYONS, December 4.—Fighting all day Saturday between Garibaldi's and Werder's forces near Autun. The French were successful. General Cremer is now actively following the flying Prussians.

LILLE, December 4.—The Prussian army which has been operating in the north of France is retreating toward Rheims.

FLORENCE, December 4.—Duke Aosta officially notified the deputation from the Spanish Cortes of his acceptance of the Spanish crown. He will probably accompany the deputation to Madrid.

The Wrecked Steamship Mariposa.

Captain Sampson, of the steamship Cortes, arrived from New York yesterday, reports having spoken a pilot-boat, off Key West, and learned from her that a portion of the crew of the ill-fated steamship Mariposa had been picked up. The Cortes put into Key West.

A grand march—the march of improvement. All good Republicans keep step to the music.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

A year of peace and general prosperity to the nation has passed since the last assembling of Congress. We have, through a kind Providence, been blessed with abundant crops, and have been spared from complications and war with foreign nations. In our midst comparative harmony has been restored. It is to be regretted, however, that a free exercise of the elective franchise has, by violence and intimidation, been denied to citizens, in exceptional cases, in several of the States lately in rebellion, and the verdict of the people has thereby been reversed. The States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas have been restored to representation in our national councils.

Georgia, the only State now without representation, may be confidently expected to take her place there also at the beginning of the new year, and then, let us hope, will be completed the work of reconstruction. With an acquiescence on the part of the whole people in the national obligation to pay the public debt, created as the price of our Union, the pensions to our disabled soldiers and sailors and their widows and orphans, and in the changes to the constitution, which have been made necessary by a great rebellion, there is no reason why we should not advance in material prosperity and happiness as no other nation ever did after so protracted and devastating a war.

Soon after the existing war broke out in Europe, the protection of the United States Minister at Paris was invoked in favor of North Germans domiciled in France. Instructions were issued to grant the protection. This has been followed by an extension of American protection to citizens of Saxony, Hesse and Saxe Coburg, Gotha, Columbia, Portugal, Uruguay, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Chili, Paraguay and Venzuela. In Paris the charge was an onerous one, requiring constant and severe labor, as well as the exercise of patience, prudence and good judgment. It has been performed to the entire satisfaction of this government, and, as I am officially informed, equally to the satisfaction of the government of North Germany.

As soon as I learned that a republic had been proclaimed at Paris, and that the people of France had acquiesced in the change, the minister of the United States was directed by telegraph to recognize it and to tender my congratulations and those of the people of the United States. The re-establishment in France of a system of government disconnected with the dynastic traditions of Europe, appeared to be an appropriate subject for the felicitations of Americans. Should the present struggle result in attaching the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government, it would be a subject of still further satisfaction to our people.

While we make no effort to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in civil contests elsewhere, we can not be indifferent to the spread of American political ideas in a great and highly civilized country like France.

We were asked by the new government to use our good offices, jointly with those of European powers, in the interests of peace. Answer was made that the established policy and the true interests of the United States forbade them to interfere in European questions jointly with European powers. I ascertained, informally and unofficially, that the government of North Germany was not then disposed to listen to such representations from any powers, and though earnestly wishing to see the blessings of peace restored to the belligerents, with all of whom the United States are on terms of friendship, I declined on the part of this government to take a step which could only result in injury to our true interests, without advancing the object for which our intervention was invoked. Should the time come when the action of the United States can hasten the return of peace by a single hour, that action will be heartily taken. I deemed it prudent, in view of the number of persons of German and French birth living in the United States, to issue, soon after official notice if a state of war had been received from both belligerents, a proclamation defining the duties of the United States as a neutral power and the obligations of persons residing within their territory to observe their laws and the laws of nations. This proclamation was followed by others, as circumstances seemed to call for them. The people, thus acquainted in advance of their duties and obligations, have assisted in preventing violations of the neutrality of the United States.

It is not understood that the condition of the insurrection in Cuba has materially changed since the close of the last session of Congress. In an early stage of the contest the authorities of Spain inaugurated a system of arbitrary arrests, of close confinement, and of military trial and execution of persons suspected of complicity with the insurgents, and of summary embargo of their properties and sequestration of their revenues by executive warrant. Such proceedings, so far as they affected the persons or property of citizens of the United States, were in violation of the provisions of the treaty of 1795 between the United States and Spain. Representations of injuries resulting to several persons claiming to be citizens of the United States, by reason of such violations, were made to the Spanish government.

From April, 1869, to June last, the Spanish Minister at Washington had been clothed with a limited power to aid in redressing such wrongs. That power was found to be withdrawn in view, it was said, "of the favorable condition in which the island of Cuba" then "was;" which, however, did not lead to a revocation or suspension of the extraordinary and arbitrary functions exercised by the executive power in Cuba, and we were obliged to make our complaints at Madrid. In the negotiations thus opened, and still pending there, the United States only claimed that for the future the rights secured to their citizens by treaty should be respected in Cuba, and that as to the past, a joint tribunal should be established in the United States, with full jurisdiction over all such claims. Before such an impartial tribunal, each claimant would be required to prove his case. On the other hand, Spain would be at liberty to traverse every material fact, and thus complete equity would be done.

A case which at one time threatened seriously to affect the relations between the United States and Spain, has already been disposed of in this way: The claim of the owners of the Colonel Lloyd Aspinwall, for the illegal seizure and detention of that vessel, was referred to arbitration by mutual consent, and has resulted in an award to the United States, for the owners, of the sum of nineteen thousand seven hundred and two dollars and fifty cents in gold.

Another and long pending claim of like nature, that of the whale ship Canada, has been disposed of by friendly arbitrament during the present year. It was referred, by the joint consent of Brazil and the United States, to the decision of Sir Edward Thornton, her British Majesty's Minister at Washington, who kindly undertook the laborious task of examining the voluminous mass of correspondence and testimony submitted by the two governments, and awarded to the United States the sum of one hundred thousand seven hundred and forty dollars and nine cents in gold, which has since been paid by the Imperial government.

These recent examples show that the mode which the United States have proposed to Spain for adjusting the pending claims is just and feasible, and that it may be agreed to by either nation without dishonor. It is to be hoped that this moderate demand may be acceded to by Spain without further delay. Should the pending negotiations unfortunately and unexpectedly be without result, it will then become my duty to communicate that fact to Congress and invite its action on the subject.

The long deferred peace conference between Spain and the allied South American Republics has been inaugurated in Washington, under the auspices of the United States. Pursuant to the recommendation contained in the resolution of the House of Representatives of the seventeenth of December, 1866, the executive department of the government offered its friendly offices for the promotion of peace and harmony between Spain and the allied Republics. Hesitations and obstacles occurred to the acceptance of the offer.

Ultimately, however, a conference was arranged and was opened in this city on the twenty-ninth of October last, at which I authorized the Secretary of State to preside. It was attended by the Ministers of Spain, Peru, Chili and Ecuador. In consequence of the absence of a representative from Bolivia, the conference was adjourned until the attendance of a plenipotentiary from that republic could be secured, or other measures could be adopted toward compassing its objects. The allied and other republics of Spanish origin on this continent may see in this fact a new proof of our sincere interest in their welfare, and our desire to see them blessed with good governments, capable of maintaining order and of preserving their respective territorial integrity, and of our sincere wish to extend our own commercial and social relations with them.

The time is not probably far distant when, in the natural course of events, the European political connection with this continent will cease. Our policy should be shaped, in view of this policy, so as to ally the commercial interests of the Spanish American States more closely to our own, and thus give the United States all the preeminence and all the advantage which Mr. Monroe, Mr. Adams and Mr. Clay contemplated, when they proposed to join in the Congress of Panama.

During the last session of Congress a treaty for the annexation of the Republic of San Domingo to the United States failed to receive the requisite two-thirds vote of the Senate. I was thoroughly convinced then that the best interests of this country, commercially and materially, demanded its ratification. Time has only confirmed me in this view. I now firmly believe that the moment it is known that the United States have entirely abandoned the project of accepting as a part of its territory the island of San Domingo, a free port will be negotiated for by European nations, in the Bay of Samana. A large commercial city will spring up, to which we will be tributary without receiving corresponding benefits, and then will be seen the folly of our neglecting so great a prize. The government of San Domingo has voluntarily sought this annexation. It is a weak power, numbering probably less than one hundred and twenty thousand souls, and yet possessing one of the richest territories under the sun, capable of supporting a population of ten millions of people in luxury. The people of San Domingo are not capable of maintaining themselves in their present condition, and must look for outside support. They yearn for the protection of our free institutions and laws, our progress and civilization. Shall we refuse them?

The acquisition of San Domingo is desirable because of its geographical position. It commands the entrance to the Carribean Sea and the Isthmus, transit of commerce. It possesses the richest soil, best and most capacious harbors, most salubrious climate, and the most valuable products of the forest, mine and soil of any of the West Indian islands. Its possession by us will in a few years build up a coastwise commerce of immense magnitude, which will go far toward restoring to us our lost merchant marine. It will give to us those articles which we consume so largely and do not produce, thus equalizing our exports and imports. In case of foreign war it will give us command of all the islands referred to, and thus prevent an enemy from ever again possessing himself of rendezvous upon our very coast.

At present our coast trade between States bordering on the Atlantic and those bordering on the Gulf of Mexico is cut in two by the Bahamas and the Antilles. Hence we must, as it were, pass through foreign countries to get by sea from Georgia to the west coast of Florida. San Domingo, with a stable government under which her immense resources can be developed, will give remunerative wages to tens of thousands of laborers not now upon the island. This labor will take advantage of every available means of transportation to abandon the adjacent islands and seek the blessings of freedom and its sequence, each inhabitant receiving the reward of his own labor. Porto Rico and Cuba will have to abandon slavery as a measure of self-preservation to retain their laborers. San Domingo will become a large consumer of the products of Northern farms and manufactories. The cheap rate at which her citizens can be furnished with food, tools and machinery, will make it necessary that contiguous islands should have the same advantages, in order to compete in the production of sugar, coffee, tobacco, tropical fruits, etc.

This will open to us a still wider market for our products. The production of our own supply of these articles will cut off more than one hundred millions of our annual imports, besides largely increasing our exports. With such a picture, it is easy to see how our large debt abroad is ultimately to be extinguished. With a balance of trade against us, including interest on bonds held by foreigners, and money spent by our citizens traveling in foreign lands, equal to the entire yield of the precious metals in this country, it is not so easy to see how this result is to be otherwise accomplished.

The acquisition of San Domingo is an adherence to the "Monroe doctrine." It is a measure of national protection. It is asserting our just claim to a controlling influence in the great commercial traffic soon to flow from West to East by way of the Isthmus of Darien. It is to build up our merchant marine. It is to furnish new markets for the products of our farms, shops and manufactories. It is to make slavery insupportable in Cuba and Porto Rico at once, and ultimately so in Brazil. It is to settle the unhappy condition of Cuba and end an exterminating conflict. It is to provide honest means of paying our honest debts without overtaxing the people. It is to furnish our citizens with the necessaries of every-day life at cheaper rates than ever before, and it is, in fine, a rapid stride toward that greatness which the intelligence, industry and enterprise of the citizens of the United States entitle this country to assume among nations.

In view of the importance of this question, I earnestly urge upon Congress early action, expressive of its views as to the best means of acquiring San Domingo. My suggestion is that by joint resolution of the two houses of Congress, the Executive be authorized to appoint a commission to negotiate a treaty with the authorities of San Domingo for the acquisition of that island, and that an appropriation be made to defray the expenses of such commission. The question may then be determined, either by the action of the Senate upon the treaty, or the joint action of the two houses of Congress upon a resolution of annexation, as in the case of the acquisition of Texas. So convinced am I of the advantages to flow from the acquisition of San Domingo, and of the great disadvantages, I might almost say calamities, to flow from non-acquisition, that I believe the subject has only to be investigated to be approved.

It is to be regretted that our representations in regard to the injurious effects, especially upon the revenue of the United States, by the policy of the Mexican government in exempting from import duties a large tract of its country on our borders, have not only been fruitless, but that it is even proposed in that country to extend the limits within which the privilege adverted to has been hitherto enjoyed. The expediency of taking into your serious consideration the proper measures for counteracting the policy referred to, will, it is presumed, engage your earnest co-operation.

It is the obvious interest, especially of neighboring nations, to provide against the impunity of those who may have committed high crimes within their border, and who have sought refuge abroad. For this purpose extradition treaties have been concluded with several of the Central American Republics, and others are in progress.

The sense of Congress is desired as early as may be convenient upon the proceedings of the commission on claims against Venezuela, as communicated in my messages of March 16, 1869, March 1, 1870 and Marh 31, 1870. It has not been deemed advisable to distribute any of the money which has been received from that government until Congress shall have acted upon the subject.

The massacres of French and Prussian residents at Tientzin, under circumstances of great barbarity, were supposed by some to have been premeditated and to indicate a purpose among the populace to exterminate foreigners in the Chinese Empire. The evidence fails to establish such a supposition, but shows a complicity between the local authorities and the mob. The government at Pekin, however, seems to have been disposed to fulfil its treaty obligations so far as it was able to do so. Unfortunately, the news of the war between the German States and France reached China soon after the massacre. It would appear that the popular mind became possessed with the idea that this contest, extending to Chinese waters, would neutralize the Christian influence and power, and that the time was coming when the superstitious masses might expel all foreigners and restore mandarin influence. Anticipating trouble from this cause, I invited France and North Germany to make an authorized suspension of hostilities in the East, where they were temporarily suspended by act of the commanders, and to act together for the future protection in China of the lives and properties of Americans and Europeans.

Since the adjournment of Congress the ratification of the treaty with Great Britain for abolishing the mixed courts for the suppression of the slave trade has been exchanged. It is believed that the slave trade is now confined to the eastern coast of Africa, whence the slaves are taken to Arabian markets. The ratifications of the naturalization convention between Great Britain and the United States have also been exchanged during the recess, and thus a long standing dispute between the two governments has been settled in accordance with the principles always contended for by the United States.

In April last, while engaged in locating a military reservation near Pembina, a corps of engineers discovered that the commonly received boundary line between the United States and the British possessions at that place was about forty-seven hundred feet south of the true position of the forty-ninth parallel, and that the line when run on what is now supposed to be the true position of that parallel would leave the fort of the Hudson Bay Company at Pembina within the territory of the United States. This information being communicated to the British government, I was requested to consent and did consent that the British occupation of the fort of the Hudson Bay Company should continue for the present. I deem it important, however, that this part of the boundary line should be definitely fixed by a joint commission of the two governments, and I submit herewith estimates of the expense of such a commission on the part of the United States, and recommend that an appropriation be made for that purpose. The land boundary has already been fixed and marked from the summit of the Rocky Mountains to the Georgian bay. It should now be in like manner marked from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

I regret to say that no conclusion has been reached for the adjustment of the claims against Great Britain, growing out of the course adopted by that government during the rebellion. The cabinet of London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not appear to be willing to concede that Her Majesty's government was guilty of any negligence, or did, or permitted any act during the war by which the United States has just cause of complaint.

Our firm and unalterable convictions are directly the reverse. I therefore recommend to Congress to authorize the appointment of a commission to take proof of the amounts and of the ownership of the several claims, on notice to the representative of her Majesty at Washington, and that authority be given for the settlement of these claims by the United States, so that the government shall have the ownership of the private claims, as well as the responsible control of all the demands against Great Britain. It can not be necessary to add that whenever her Majesty's government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims, the United States will enter upon their consideration with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the honor and dignity of both nations.

The course pursued by the Canadian authorities toward the United States during the past season has not been marked by a friendly feeling. By the first article of the convention of 1818, between Great Britain and the United States, it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States should have forever, in common with British subjects, the right of taking fish in certain waters therein defined, the waters not included in the limits named in the convention within three miles of the British coast. It has been the custom for many years to give to intruding fishermen of the United States reasonable warning of their violation of the technical rights of Great Britain. The imperial government is understood to have delegated the whole or a share of its jurisdiction to or control of these in-shore fishing grounds to the colonial authority known as the Dominion of Canada, and this semi-independent but irresponsible agent has exercised its delegated powers in an unfriendly way.

Vessels have been seized, without notice or warning, in violation of the custom previously prevailing, and have been taken into the colonial ports, their voyages broken up and the vessels condemned. There is reason to believe that this unfriendly and vexatious treatment was designed to bear harshly upon the hardy fishermen of the United States, with a view to political effect upon this government. The statutes of the dominion of Canada assume a still broader and more untenable jurisdiction over the vessels of the United States. They authorize officers or persons to bring vessels hovering within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks or harbors of Canada into port, to search the cargo, to examine the master, on oath, touching the cargo and voyage, and to inflict upon him a heavy pecuniary penalty if true answers are not given; and if such a vessel is found "preparing to fish" within three marine miles of any of such coasts, bays, creeks or harbors without a license, or after the expiration of the period named in the last license granted to it, they provide that the vessel, with her tackle, etc., shall be forfeited.

It is not known that any condemnations have been made under this statute. Should the authorities of Canada attempt to enforce it, it will become my duty to take such steps as may be necessary to protect the rights of the citizens of the United States. It has been claimed by her Majesty's officers that the fishing vessels of the United States have no right to enter the open ports of the British possessions in North America, except for the purpose of shelter and repairing damages, of purchasing wood and obtaining water; that they have no right to enter at the British customhouses or to trade there, except in the purchase of wood and water, and that they must depart within twenty-four hours after notice to leave. It is not known that any seizure of a fishing vessel carrying the flag of the United States has been made under this claim.

So far as the claim is founded on an alleged construction of the convention of 1818, it can not be acquiesced in by the United States. It is hoped that it will not be insisted on by her Majesty's government. During the conferences which preceded the negotiation of the convention of 1818, the British commissioners proposed to expressly exclude the fishermen of the United States from the privilege of carrying on trade with any of His Britanic Majesty's subjects residing within the limits assigned for their use; and also that it should not be "lawful for the vessels of the United States engaged in said fishery to have on board any goods, wares or merchandise whatever, except such as may be necessary for the prosecution of their voyages to and from said fishing grounds, and any vessel of the United States which shall contravene this regulation may be seized, condemned and confiscated with her cargo."

This proposition, which is identical with the construction now put upon the language of the convention, was emphatically rejected by the American commissioners, and thereupon was abandoned by the British plenipotentiaries, and article I, as it now stands in the convention, was substituted. If, however, it be said that this claim is founded on provincial or colonial statutes, and not upon the convention, this government can not but regard them as unfriendly and in contravention of the spirit if not of the letter of the treaty, for the faithful execution of which the imperial government is alone responsible. Anticipating that an attempt may possibly be made by the Canadian authorities in the coming season to repeat their unneighborly acts toward repeat their unneighborly acts toward our fishermen, I recommend you to confer upon the Executive the power to suspend by proclamation the operation of the laws authorizing the transit of goods, wares and merchandise in bond across the territory of the United States to Canada; and, further, should such an extreme measure become necessary, to suspend the operation of any laws whereby the vessels of the Dominion of Canada are permitted to enter the waters of the United States.

A like unfriendly disposition has been manifested on the part of Canada in the maintenance of a claim of right to exclude the citizens of the United States from the navigation of the St. Lawrence. This river constitutes a natural outlet to the ocean for eight States, with an aggregate population of about 17,600,000 inhabitants, with an aggregate tonnage of 661,367 tons upon the waters which discharge into it.

The foreign commerce of our ports on these waters is open to British competition, and the major part of it is done in British bottoms. If the American seamen be excluded from this natural avenue to the ocean, the monopoly of the direct commerce of the Lake ports with the Atlantic would be in foreign hands, their vessels on trans-Atlantic voyages having an