CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Threatened Revolt in the Peruvian Navy.

The Appointment of the Ex-Rebel Tucker to be Admiral the Cause.

War Expected to Take Place Between Columbia and Venezuela.

The Chilian and Peruvian Navies Preparing for a Warlike Cruise.

The Pacific Mail Steamship New-York, Capt. W. Wier, with Aspinwall dates of the 11th instant, arrived here on Saturday.

The New-York remained 11 days after time, waiting for the non-arrival of steamer Golden Age, and left a few hours after the arrival of the steamer Northern Light at Aspinwall.

The following is her treasure list:

Slepier & Co.	$700	Trevor & Colgate	$4,601
Lachman & Kemp	165	Order	8,000
Wells, Fargo, & Co.	2,950		
Total amount			$16,016

The Isthmus.

The news from here is unimportant. The local papers are agitating the question of independence; but it is not believed their appeals will have much effect.

The U. S. sloop Lancaster left Panama for New-York and Callao on the 4th, and the Bionnler for Cape Haytien on the same day. The Mohongo is in port at Panama, and the Florida is at Aspinwall.

SOUTH AMERICA.

PERU.

Another revolution is threatened in Peru, arising from jealousy. The appointment of John R. Tucker, late of Confederate States Navy, as Admiral commanding the Peruvian Navy, has created a great deal of commotion in that squadron, fomented especially by Montero who was entranked by the appointment. The man Montero, who is young, was the present position by turning over his command some time ago to the Revolutionists, but now the present Government. He was in command of the Peruvian navy for some time, but his incapacity becoming evident he was superseded by Tucker. He immediately sent strong protests to the Government backed up with the threat to seize the squadron unless the Government recedes from its position. It is feared he will do so, or at least give the Government some difficulty in getting full control of the fleet. A correspondent writing to The Chronicle of Panama says:

On the 5th of July, the transport Chalaco sailed for Valparaiso, having on board the Minister of War and a number of officers to take charge of the squadron. Among the officers are Admiral Taleedo, Captains Garcia, Pardo Zela and Delbay. A battalion of troops accompanied them to man the forts at Arica, and another battalion will follow in a few days for Islay, for the same purpose. The conduct of Montero is universally condemned here, if we except those naval men of Peru who detest to see a foreign officer in the service of the country. Perhaps they foresee that Prado designs to secure the peace of the country by means of foreign officers in the navy; for it is a well known fact that while the navy remains true to the Government no revolution can succeed. It is to be hoped that the Minister of War will obtain peaceful possession of the Peruvian squadron now lying at Valparaiso. But should it happen that those in command refuse to surrender the vessels, they will be at once outlawed, and the assistance of the foreign vessels in the harbor solicited in order to take possession of them. We have every reason for believing that the authorities in Chili will assist Prado, rather in carrying out this plan for placing the squadron under the command of an American officer as Admiral Tucker.

THE SPANISH FLEET.

It is authentically stated by the Nacional of Lima that the majority of the Spanish fleet had reached Tahiti, the Berenguela and Vitoria on the 6th of June, and the Velocidon and Marques de la Victoria on the 10th. The latter had 100 men on board ill with scurvy. The Numancia was momentarily expected, as was also the Blanca. The rest of the fleet had gone to Montevideo or Rio Janeiro.

The vessels which reached Tahiti were all out of coal, and would be obliged to leave there under sail. The Berenguela was making a great deal of water, and was placed under repairs immediately on her arrival at Tahiti. The Spaniards reported that the 2nd May off the Chincha Islands (Spain) was a splendid victory for them, and that they had entirely demolished the town.

The wounds of the commander of the Squadron, Mendez Nuñez, were said to be so bad that little hope was entertained of his recovery.

CHILI.

Chili is remarkably quiet now, although there are mutterings of another revolution, but they do not amount to much. Congress has resolved to accept the loan tendered by the National Bank. The amount is $6,000,000, and the rate of interest obtained is eight per cent.

The united Peruvian and Chilian squadrons are still in the port of Valparaiso, but it is reported they have completely received sailing orders. The whole fleet cannot go for some time yet, as most of the vessels are undergoing repairs. The Peruvian iron clad fleet was attracting much attention, and great hopes that they would prove efficient were entertained. New crews are being placed in the vessels—in fact, everything is being done to make the combined fleets as strong as possible, so that in an encounter no fears need be apprehended that defeat will overtake it.

On the 13th a bell was given by the officers of the Peruvian fleet to the citizens of Valparaiso. It was a grand affair.

The Fourth of July was appropriately observed in Santiago, Chili. Kilpatrick gave a dinner to the diplomatic corps and the American residents, and in the evening a reception was held at his residence.

The session of Congress seemingly very effectual. Chilians the debate question of a Spanish-American war. The great war jubilee which was cast in the arsenal of Limachs struck between Santiago and Valparaiso, did not answer the hopes of the founders, for, on the second or third discharge at the trial, it became unfit for use. Not at all disheartened, however, the Chilians have again set to work to construct another gun. It is believed in Chili (not without good reason) that it is one of the first matters of public importance to construct a cannon of sufficient caliber that may serve for the defence of its territory, in order to prevent a recurrence of the scandalous acts which took place at Valparaiso & the Spring.

REPUBLIC OF COLUMBIA.

The Lima El Nacional has the following summary of the news:

Gen. Kilpatrick, the United States Minister at Santiago, has transcribed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Chili a note addressed to him by Mr. Seward, in which this statesman declares that when a foreign power should attempt to alter the institutions of these countries as it has happened in Mexico, the Government of the United States will exercise its influence in their support, but in any other case, the policy of his country has been, and will ever be, not to interfere.

Congress was to dissolve on the 30. Both Houses have been very busy of late, passing important laws. The contracts entered into by Gen. Mosquera in Europe, have been all definitely approved after great opposition. The project of issuing two millions of paper money was also on the eve of being approved.

The Senate had held five secret sessions, and it is reported that they discussed the subject of making war on Venezuela among other important matters.

Considerable changes are spoken of in the Ministry.

An army of 3,000 has been ordered to be formed under command of Gen. Santos Acosta, to be placed on the frontier of Tachira. One thousand men are to be sent to the States of Magdalena and Bolivar under command of Gen. Santa Coloma, and 400 to Panama with Gen. José María Mendez Llanos, as Commander-in Chief. It is reported that the troops intended for Magdalena are sent there to change the local government, and probably those for Panama come with the same object.

Mosquera has reinstated his son-in-law, Pedro A. Herran, as General, for his services rendered to the American cause in the Congress at Lima.

A curious proclamation has been issued by the President. It complains bitterly of the opposition made against him by Congress, and appeals to the people to declare either for that body or himself.

A circular letter of the Minister for the Home Department states that in future all armed revolutions against the established authorities will be put down by the National Government.

An attempt would, it was expected, be made in the Santander Legislature to annul the laws passed by the present Congress in regard to the Mosquera contracts, and it was even thought by some that resistance would be made by that State to the entrance of the troops ordered there by the General Government.

The Engineer-in-Chief of the Republic has reported to the Government the existence of rich and extensive bituminous coal mines near Rio Hacha.

ECUADOR.

The country is tranquil. The amount for the construction and renovation of the bridge of Pisque in the Province of Imbabura has been collected. The Government have appointed Mr. Thomas Reed, the Architect, to inspect and carry out the works that may have to be done.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

GUATEMALA.

Considerable excitement was recently occasioned at the port of San José by the officer in charge of the guard there attacking the Judge and his Secretary, tearing up certain main legal papers pertaining to a criminal suit entered against the officer, firing on the Judge and his Secretary, and afterwards stealing from the residents some $8,000. He then marched for the interior at the head of 22 men, but was intercepted at Chequenulilla by the Comandante there, and some of his men killed. He made good his escape with the remainder of his party, and at last accounts was closely pursued by the authorities.

Costa Rica has refused to join the South American alliance.

A contract for a telegraph from Punta Arenas to San José de Costa Rica has been made with Mr. Nobles.

There is no general news of importance from the Central American States.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

We have Victoria dates to June 29. Our British neighbors in the Pacific Colonies have been thoroughly scared at the prospect of a Fenian invasion. The Sparrowhawk, Alert and Forward have been cruising to and fro, watching every suspicious sail and overhauling American steamers from the Sound and elsewhere, to look for armed Fenians among peaceful passengers.

Their Volunteers at Victoria and New-Westminster have been drilling nightly, and both towns have been kept in a state of excitement. It was rumored that the banks had sent their specie on board Admiral Denman's ship, but this, we believe, was an exaggeration. The citizens of New-Westminster were very indignant that H. B. M. ship Sparrowhawk should take up a position opposite the suburbs, where the Government offices are, instead of at the city. A British Columbia newspaper says that the Navy seemed more anxious to save the furniture of the officials than the property in the capital. One reason for the colonists' alarm is that they believe Felix O'Byrne to be an influential Fenian in San Francisco, and that he might organize an expedition to avenge himself on his colonial creditors.

The House of Assembly having passed a series of resolutions on the state of the colony of Vancouver, forwarded them to the Governor, requesting that he would telegraph them to the Crown. The Governor refused, and the Speaker was authorized to send them himself. The Assembly has followed it up by a long address to the Throne, setting forth the enormous expenditure of the present double system of government for two countries whose united population is estimated at 10,000 or 12,000 persons. Property is very much depreciated in value by the decrease of population and the dullness of trade. A great number of houses are tenantless, and this beautiful little town is likely to be comparatively depopulated, unless a more economical form of government is speedily adopted.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The latest dates from Honolulu are to the 16th June. The Legislature was still in session, and was occupied in considering several measures proposed by the Ministry. The most prominent among these measures is a bill to authorize the issue of Treasury Notes to an indefinite amount, of two, three, five, ten and twenty dollars redeemable in cash, on presentation at the Treasury. This paper money project seems to be very unpopular, and is not likely to succeed.

The King's health is in an unsatisfactory condition. Fears are entertained that he is threatened with softening of the brain. Were he to die now it is feared there would be another revolution for the succession.

IRISH-AMERICAN FREEDOM.

THE TROY FENIAN DEMONSTRATION—THE FENIAN CHIEFS IN FAVOR OF UNIVERSAL LIBERTY—ANDREW JOHNSON DENOUNCED.

At a large Fenian demonstration which took place at Troy, N. Y., on last Friday, Col. W. R. Roberts, President of the Fenian Brotherhood, said:

Slavery had left its stains upon the Irish people, and the Irish landlords were an illustration. Their natures were blunted, or they could not witness untroubled the horrible existence of the masses. In this country, too, there were many who refused to do their duty, which is another instance of the result of Slavery; but republicanism teaches Irishmen to profit by its institutions, and engrafts better sympathies upon them. Going back to Ireland 50 years, he said that it had a population of 8,000,000, and to-day it is but 4,000,000. Five millions of Irishmen were now in this country, and their efforts had been directed, for the first time in a hundred years, to trail the hated emblems of England in the dust.

From the North, South, East and West their adherents swarmed to fight England and gratify the vengeance of centuries. When they got to the borders they found a foe whom they little expected to meet—the United States soldiers—holding a flag threateningly over their heads which they had carried in triumph through many a battle-field on this continent. The United States Government told them that they would see only what they could not help, and then seized their arms. Was it right for the head of a nation when England had tried to crush to send orders to shoot down the champions of liberty? The speaker said that on the part of the Fenian Brotherhood he had thanked Johnson for the alleviation of a prisoner, and the President said that he did so out of compliment to the men who were associated with John Mitchell. But Seward, Johnson's satellite, suppose that the Irish were to be made catspaws of to draw English chestnuts out of the fire, by procuring the settlement of the Alabama claims! He had certainly used them, and used himself—up. If Johnson came before Irishmen for their votes again they ought to be strangled if they gave them. He had promised to be the Moses of the negro, and he had turned out to be a Pharaoh to crush them. He would like to be their Moses, but Irishmen were afraid of his turning Pharaoh again.

The speaker, alluding to the difficulty of the reclamation of Irish-American citizens when arrested in Ireland, said the United States administration refused to interfere in their behalf, and men who had purchased the protection of the Government by blood were allowed to rot in Irish jails. This anti-republican doctrine should be condemned by every American citizen. Were Irishmen then, because of the difficulties encountered, going to abandon the movement? He would certainly tell them no.—as long as life lasted would effort be made. The path of the future was clear, and not a shadow was over it. The Irishmen of America were now ready to strike the flag of the oppressor.

The applause which followed the address is described as terrific.

Brig.-Gen. Michael Murphy, who commanded at Malone, N. Y., during the late Fenian invasion of Canada, made a short address indorsing the sentiments expressed by Col. Roberts.

Senator D. O'Sullivan said he considered that the Government's interpretation of the neutrality laws had built a wall of iron around the monarchical footholds on this continent, which, he showed, those powers were not slow in appreciating. Canada and the adjacent British provinces would shortly be a confederated power, which it would puzzle the advocates of the Monroe Doctrine to extirpate. His brief but brilliant remarks elicited frequent rounds of applause.

Prof. Bierman made a brief speech, after which the meeting adjourned.

Speech of Gen. O'Neill, the Hero of Limestone Ridge.

At the Grand Fenian pic-nic near Chicago, on the 15th inst., Gen. O'Neill, the Fenian commander at Fort Erie and the victory of Limestone Ridge, was present, and made a stirring speech. He said that he did not know why he should be called upon to speak, except that his countrymen thought that, as he was brave enough to go to Canada, he would be bold enough to stand up before them and make a speech. He had seen bullets, and that too much and acted too little; and to do so after listening speech maker. He thought that was an Irish fault. They did he would rather face them than to address them; he was not a to the eloquent and beautiful discourses they had heard would be presumption. The cause of Fenianism was great and glorious one. It must be so when the Governor of the State, Gen. Logan, and Speaker Colfax had expressed their sympathy with the order. The cause which these men were willing to advocate was that of human liberty for all men, black and white, who had been made after the image of God. He was willing to lay down his life at any time to secure the victory of those principles. He knew Abolitionism was not a popular theme with his countrymen, because it had been denounced by a party who would deceive and sell them, and traffic in their votes and patriotism, yet would not delegating to the popular even with his own countrymen, and a treacherous party would hold them bound to them no longer. What others, and among them the President, had said of their friendship to the Irish was false. He had broken his pledges to them. The speaker's friends at Nashville had urged him not to assail the President, claiming that he was a friend to the Fenians; but though he had never before voted, he intended hereafter to vote for the party and the men who by their deeds and not words had shown their sympathy for Irishmen. They had been deceived often enough. President Johnson and canvassed Tennessee against the Know-Nothings, but that was merely to become Governor. He did not love Irishmen. Of late, that man construed the neutrality laws in such a manner as to ruin their hopes, while if he had given them a fair chance they must have been successful. Many men did not believe they could put 10,000 soldiers in Canada, but if it had not been for the great vigilance of the President and his subordinates, 200,000 men would have been there, and they would in a month have held every fortified position in Canada. Those Democrats who had pretended to be their life-long friends had betrayed them. He believed President Johnson would turn him (the speaker) over to the British, if he dared, but the American people would not permit it. Their pretended friends had sold him, but he trusted they would be disappointed no longer, and while he did not intend to become a politician, he was going for the party that would assist them, and he hoped that every Irishman there would do the same. They had been deceived and cajoled long enough. But that Democratic party had showed that when the Irish were prepared to strike off their chains they would not allow it, fearing that they might lose something thereby. At the time when the freedom of their land was within their grasp, it was snatched from them by the President and his associates. Their army was not a purely Irish one. Hundreds and thousands of Americans who had fought North and South were ready to join in striking a blow for Ireland. Many officers were ready to go with them, but the President had, in his great speediness, stopped that. He was probably afraid to let the Irish go to Canada lest they could not be present to vote the Democratic ticket. Had those men been allowed to stay in Canada, the English would have been on their knees to the Fenians. With Canada they could have fitted out privateers, destroyed English commerce, and before two years have brought her on her knees. It was his opinion they could have liberated Ireland without striking a blow there.

CITY FENIANISM.

ARRIVAL OF AN ENVOY TO JAMES STEPHENS FROM IRELAND—SECRECY MAINTAINED AT THE ROBERTS HEADQUARTERS—ANOTHER CANADIAN INVASION IN PREPARATION—MR. STEPHENS AND THE FENIAN PRIVATEER.

Fenianism has again revived, and from all appearances is likely to engross public attention for some time to come. In the city it has so far been revived that meetings are held by the various circles in all parts of the city. These meetings are crowded and enthusiastic, and that very essential requisite, money, continues to pour into the Fenian exchequer. Both parties or sections of the organization profess satisfaction at the present condition of their affairs. Each appear to be confident of final triumph, and each abuse the other without reserve.

An envoy arrived on Saturday from Ireland with documents and information of a private and important character, for Mr. Stephens. He reports the present condition of the cause in Ireland as highly satisfactory. Each day adds fresh members to the ranks of the Brotherhood, and the men themselves are ripe and ready for action. His report is of an exceedingly flattering character, and if to be relied upon, indicates that the day may not be so very far distant when Ireland shall be an independent nation. The pic-nic which was first announced for last Monday, was to have been held yesterday at Jone's Wood, but owing to the influence of certain parties that place could not be obtained for the purpose. It will be held, weather permitting, next Friday at the Bellevue Garden, foot of Eighteenth-st. Mr. Stephens will be present and will address the meeting. It is expected that a very pleasant day will be enjoyed and that the pic-nic will be of a monster character.

At the Roberts headquarters but little information can be elicited. Whatever operations may be in preparation for another descent upon our Canadian neighbors are only known to the initiated. That they have not given up the idea is apparent, and that extensive preparations are being made for something is patent to all. The officials and clerks are kept busily employed, and each day they receive accessions to their numbers. The Roberts wing exhibit considerable caution in imparting information even of the most insignificant character, and the result cannot but be beneficial to the cause. They seem confident and sanguine of the future, and report affairs as being favorable at the present time.

Notwithstanding the satisfactory state of things reported at the Stephens headquarters, it appears that a little quarrel, of a somewhat interesting character, is going on at the present time.

It appears that Mr. Pierce Skehan, Center for Kings County, purchased a vessel valued at $50,000. It was intended to be used as a privateer to prey upon British commerce, and for that purpose one handed over to Mr. Stephens, who was to have had it fitted out. An impression has got abroad that Mr. Stephens intends to sell the vessel, which is now lying at the Atlantic Dock basin, and employ the money for other purposes. In order to prevent this, the Brooklyn circles have taken the matter in hand, and should Mr. Stephens really desire to sell the vessel, they intend taking legal proceedings. As the case stands at present, it is an interesting one, and may result in another split in the Fenian camp.

EUROPE.

BY THE CABLE.

London Dates of Friday Evening.

Final Negotiations in Progress Between Austria and Prussia.

Peace Negotiations.

LONDON, Aug. 17—Noon.

The final negotiations for the establishment of peace between Prussia and Austria, and between Austria and Italy are in progress, and peace is regarded as certain.

The Scotia Out.

LIVERPOOL, Aug. 17—Noon.

The Royal Mail steamship Scotia, Capt. Judkins, from New-York on Wednesday, the 8th inst., arrived at Queenstown this morning.

The Red, White and Blue at Deal.

LIVERPOOL, Aug. 17—Noon.

The little ship Red, White and Blue, Capt. Hudson, from New-York, arrived at Deal to-day.

Commercial Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL, Friday, Aug. 17—Noon.

The Brokers' Circular reports the sales of Cotton for the week at 86,000 bales. Prices have improved in the same period ¼d. per pound. Middling Uplands are quoted at 13½d. The Breadstuffs market is firmer. Consols are quoted at 88 for money. United States Five-Twenties are quoted at 69½. Erie Railway shares are quoted at 42½. Illinois Central shares are quoted at 75.

LIVERPOOL, Friday, Aug. 17—Evening.

The Cotton market is unchanged. The market has been quiet to-day, and the sales foot up 8,000 bales. Flour has advanced 3d. ⅌ bbl for American. Western Mixed Corn is quoted at 27/. The Provision market is without alteration.

LONDON, Friday, Aug. 17—Evening.

The following are the official quotations at the close of business to day. Consols for Money, 88. United States Five-Twenties, 69½. Erie shares, 42½; Illinois Central, 75.

NOTHING FROM THE CABLE.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND LINE DOWN.

PORT HOOD, U. S., Aug. 19, 1866—10 p. m.

The Newfoundland telegraph line is still down, and no later dispatches from the cable have been received. It is anticipated the line will be in working order to-morrow.

ALLEGED ARSON BY A MERCHANT.

ARREST OF A SALESMAN AND HIS EMPLOYER ON A CHARGE OF ARSON—CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE CHARGE—THEY ARE HELD FOR EXAMINATION IN $5,000 BAIL EACH, AND LOCKED UP IN DEFAULT.

A fire occurred on the 30th of July last, at No. 5 College-place, in the premises of Charles Worms, manufacturer and dealer in fancy silk neck-ties. The flames burned with great vigor and caused considerable damage to the building and contents. The occupant of the rooms where the fire first broke out, Mr. Worms, stated at that time that the fire originated from the upsetting of a Kerosene oil-stove, which was used for heating sad-irons, and that the boy who had committed this mischief had had a narrow escape from death.

It being found that Worms had an insurance for $6,000 on his stock and fixtures, and certain facts coming to the knowledge of Fire Marshal Baker which led him to believe that the value of the stock had been overestimated, he made further investigations in common with Capt. Greer of the Third Precinct. The result was that Capt. Greer went before Justice Dowling, at the Tombs, and made the following affidavit:

James Greer, Captain Third Precinct Police, testified—I attended a fire in my Precinct on Monday, July 30, at No. 5 College-place; the fire originated in the premises occupied by Worms, manufacturer of neckties. Worms were burned out and the stock and fixtures were totally destroyed; from the very sudden manner in which the flames were seen to burst forth, together with facts and circumstances which have come to my knowledge since the fire, I am of the belief that the fire was not the result of accident, but done feloniously and designedly, with intent to defraud the Park and other Fire Insurance Companies; and further that said Worms, the following named Louis Strauss, Worms, aided and assisted by his brother-in-law, Samuel Worms, aided and assisted by the said Worms and the said Strauss, be arrested and dealt with according to law.

The magistrate at once issued his warrant for the arrest of the accused, and on Saturday evening Capt. Greer and Detective Tilley arrested both Worms and Strauss and locked them up in the Third Ward Station-house over night. Yesterday morning they were brought before the magistrate bearing the warrant, and the following affidavits were made:

Elias S. Van Arsdale, No. 25 Twenty-ninth-st., testified: I went into copartnership with Charles Worms at No. 5 College-place, on the 16th of September, 1865, for the manufacture of neckties. Worms put into the concern $3,000 capital, I put in some stock and fixtures valued at $450; subsequently Worms added $2000 to the capital, for which he was to receive 7 per cent interest. We dissolved partnership on the 14th of March, 1866, on the 1st of January last we took an account of the stock which amounted then to $8,000, including everything; after the dissolution of partnership I continued to do business for Mr. Worms; he paid me $25 per week salary and 5 per cent upon all the sales I made; I continued to do business in this manner until the 26th day of May; from the 14th of March to the 26th day of May my sales amounted to about $5,000; during that period Worms did not effect sales over $1,000; about the latter part of April, Worms stated to me that he would like to sell out the business; he saw the advertisement of a party who he thought might effect a sale for him; he sent me to this person, putting a memorandum on the back of his card, offering to sell the business, stock and everything in the place for $6,000; the person advertised the business, but no one called in reference to it; just about this time, one evening we left the store together and went through Park place; I had asked Worms for some money that day, and he said he did not have any; I then remarked as we walked along that I should require some money; he then said it would be a glorious thing if the d——d thing would burn up, then I should have some money; I inquired how; he then said he would give me $7,000 cash to testify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the stock and fixtures in the place were worth upward of $5,000; I replied that there was no danger of anything of that kind occurring, and we separated at Broadway; at the time of the fire I believe the stock and fixtures were not worth over $6,000; I recollect the purchase of a kerosene oil stove; we had used it once or twice; that was in October last; I considered it perfectly safe; it stood very firmly and not at all liable to upset.

George Purcell, No. 240 Broadway, testified—I am in the real estate business; about the middle of May last Charles J. Myers called on me for the purpose of going into some kind of business, and I inserted an advertisement to that effect; Chas. Worms, of No. 5, College place, called on me, and stated that he was a manufacturer of neckties; that the profit of the business was about 33 per cent; that his stock was worth about $6,000, not exceeding that sum, cost price; and that he would require Mr. Myers to put in that amount of money if he went in as a partner; after one or two interviews Myers concluded to go into the business, but Worms then declined; he told me he had made up his mind not to take a partner, but would sell out the whole concern.

John Kramer, aged 13, residing at No. 82 Chrystie-st., testified—I worked for Charles Worms at the time of the fire; I had been employed there for nearly a year; Worms, about eight days before the fire, told Mr. Strauss, his brother-in-law, to get out the kerosene oil stove, which had been put away under a shelf; Strauss got it out, set it on the cutting table in the small room, got a can of kerosene oil, and filled the lamp; for several days I heated the irons, and was employed in smoothing out neckties; on Thursday, prior to the fire, I put some more oil into the lamp; there was then some oil left in the can; on Monday, the 30th day of July, I did not put any more oil in the lamp; the stove stood firm on the table, and was not easy to upset; I had been smoothing neckties up to 12 o'clock that day; when I went to dinner and returned at 1 o'clock, Mr. Strauss was in the small room and spoke to me about getting some mucilage; Worms soon afterward told me to go to No. 10 John-st., and get a bottle of mucilage; I was not gone more than 15 or 20 minutes, and on my return found the building on fire; I heard Mr. Worms say that business was very dull; I did not see anybody come in to buy goods; this was the first time the kerosene oil stove had been used since I had been there.

John Treacy of No. 1 Washington square, East, testified—I am owner of the building No. 5 College-place; I let out the front part of the floor to Charles Worms at a yearly rent of $800; on the 1st of August, 1866, one quarter's rent was due; on Monday, the 30th of July, I was informed that my building was on fire; I hurried down to the premises and saw Mr. Worms in the doorway of an adjoining building; I said to Mr. Worms, how and where did this fire take place? he replied, "Doctor, it took place in my office, from the bursting of the kerosene lamp which my little boy let fall upon the floor, by striking his arm or the lamp against the table, causing it to explode; and instantly the place was all filled with a thick smoke, and I could not see anything; even my safe I was obliged to leave open; I groped about and could not find anything; my books and papers are all destroyed;" I then left Mr. Worms, and have since several times requested him to pay me the rent, but up to this time he has not paid it; a day or two after the fire I asked Worms how much he was insured for, he said $10,000, but that would not cover his loss.

John C. Cunningham, President of the Kerosene Lamp Heating Co., testified that he visited the premises and examined the remains of the lamp, and gave it as his opinion that there had not been an explosion; the tin parts of the lamp were only unsoldered by the heat and bore no appearance of having been subjected to an explosive force; I have never heard of the bursting of any of these lamps, having had one in my own family for years.

John W. Cleary, Secretary of the Brooklyn; George Alger, Secretary of the Park; John L. Douglass, Secretary of the Merchants', and Samuel C. Harriot, President of the Greenwich Insurance Companies, testified that Worms and effected an insurance of $12,000 in their companies on his stock and fixtures, one of $3,000 in the Greenwich Co. having been taken out on the 16th of July.

On this evidence the accused were ordered to find bail in the sum of $5,000 each for examination, and they were locked up in default. Ex-Judge Stewart is retained for the defense.

RECONSTRUCTION.

THE STEEDMAN-FULLERTON INVESTIGATION.

A LETTER FROM THOMAS W. CONWAY.

HARLEM, N. Y., August 17, 1866.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

SIR: I beg leave to respectfully reply to so much of the report of the President's Commissioners, Messrs. Steedman and Fullerton, as relates to my administration of the Freedmen's Bureau in the State of Louisiana.

The Bureau has had three Commissioners in Louisiana, one of whom is still acting. Why my administration should have been specially selected as a subject of investigation, while nothing is said of Gen. Fullerton's conduct as Assistant Commissioner, and but a bare mention made of Gen. Baird, can only be accounted for by the fact that the Commissioners were well aware that I have been, from the outset, opposed to what is commonly known as the "President's policy." One of the Commissioners whose name is signed to this report was my successor. He was the Second-Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau in Louisiana, but has taken good care to keep silent concerning affairs under his own authority. Gen. Fullerton well knew that he, not I, was Gen. Baird's predecessor, so that instead of reporting that the administration of the latter officer was an improvement on mine, he should have reported it as an improvement on his own. His silence as to himself, and his outrageous conduct during the month he was permitted to act as Assistant Commissioner in that State, render it necessary that I should fill the gap in the report, and thus enable the public to have a true statement of the case. I have no fears as to the verdict of the people, when, after having read the statement of the Commissioners, they shall have also examined my rejoinder.

It may have occurred to fair-minded persons, since these Commissioners have made their various reports concerning the Freedmen's Bureau as conducted in the various Southern States, that their method of reporting has been one of gross injustice. Their examinations have all been ex parte, and were it not that we have a free press in this country, which, in a large degree, is ready to act impartially between disputants, these Commissioners would have retired from their field feeling that they had perfect liberty to brand the Commissioners whom they started out to condemn, as guilty of all the crimes charged against them in their reports, and that they could "plant the banner of victory undisturbed." They reported against Gen. Whittlesey in North Carolina, but were not willing to meet the charges when brought up for investigation in a military tribunal. To have remained in North Carolina longer than they did would have given too much opportunity for exposing their own conduct while in that State, and their unwillingness to meet Gen. Whittlesey face to face is mainly owing to this fact—and also to the fact that they are aware that properly—the subject have been placed in the hands of Gen. H. Hurlbut.

They made a report against the administration of Gen. Saxton in South Carolina, at a time when Gen. Saxton was lying sick at his residence in Philadelphia. Could they not have faced the General, and have had the charges fully tried in a proper court? They reported against the conduct of Gen. Gregory in Texas, and against that of Gen. Thomas in Mississippi, when both these officers were far away. In like manner they proceeded to New-Orleans, and gathered around them such men as I had discharged from the Bureau for conduct too contemptible to be mentioned. From these they eagerly drew such highly-colored and malicious statements as they wanted for their report. Could they not just as well have taken the testimony of respectable persons? No, they sought out only those filled with malice because of their dismissal. B. Rush Plumley and Matthew Whitaker would never have made the statements reported as having come from their lips had they been permitted to live in idleness while engaged with the Bureau, or to have continued bringing disgrace upon it by their daily conduct.

We do not hear of their having taken the testimony of Gen. Canby or Gen. Sheridan. Both of these distinguished officers were familiar with my conduct during all the time that I was Assistant-Commissioner of the Bureau. Neither did they take the testimony of either Gen. Banks, Gen. Hurlbut or Gen. Sherman, each of whom knew all about my administration as General Superintendent of Freedmen in the Department of the Gulf, long before my appointment as Assistant-Commissioner of the Bureau as at present organized. The testimony of all these officers was within reach of these Commissioners, and why did they not avail themselves of it? Is it not clear that they did not want testimony calculated to strengthen me or to aid the Bureau they went forth to destroy?

I am glad to inform you, however, that the testimony of these officers has been taken and that it is on record. Each and all of them gave me the highest credit for having faithfully executed both the office of Assistant Commissioner and that of General Superintendent of Freedmen. [See appendix to this letter.]

The Commissioners state that testimony was taken under oath, to the effect that in September, 1865, schools were reported by my Superintendent, when but 2 were in existence.

This statement though taken under oath, is false. The injurious thing to say, but let me go on to inform you. I can prove the falsehood of this testimony by nearly 200 teachers employed at the time in my school department. I can also prove by nearly 20,000 scholars, that the Commissioners may have conceived the notion which the scholars were they have conceived the notion which the scholars were they having as a disbandment of the school establishment. A well made list entry New-York during the season of school vacation in the Summer and pronounce the schools entirely discontinued, and the school department of the city disbanded. Gen. Fullerton knows as well as I do that these schools were not broken up, but that soon during his own administration as my successor, a little teachers were come upon the pay rolls of the Bureau; and those around the War Department, the Executive Mansion, or elsewhere, who desire to have the truth of this statement confirmed, may visit Gen. Howard's office and there find duplicate pay and receipt rolls for the month of September.

The Commissioners inform you that as much money has been expended in Louisiana as in any three States of the South. We were not honest enough to have also informed you that as much had been done for the Freedmen in Louisiana as was done for them in the three adjoining States. But as much as had been done for them in any other three States of the South? Why did they not report that the Bureau in Louisiana in three years there had been manufactured in Louisiana a school fund of $1,000,000? Why did they not report that the Bureau in Louisiana had to maintain four Home Colonies or Poor-houses for 11,000 crippled and helpless Freedmen, and that the support of these establishments had to come from the funds of the Bureau, except the rations, and even these at one time had to be purchased for cash? In the manner, all our medical stores for a long time, to the thousands of wounded or sick Freedmen had, at first, to be purchased. We could not have surgeons employ them, and they service, and had for a long time to pay in our hands, pay their salaries out of our funds. Our hospitals, dispensaries, nurses, cooks, porters, spades, shovels, axes, chisels, and everything else needed by the Bureau for its prosecution, had to be purchased by the agents of each, whereas in other States nearly all these articles were furnished from the Government. What could have induced these Commissioners in withholding these facts? Truly, my friend Fullerton was so familiar with them as I was. Why did they not have the manliness to say that I had, by economy, in the purchase of the Bureau different years have to the heads of other Commissioners or other States? Louisiana had been in part occupied by our Army in 1862, and when from the date of occupation the Bureau had to spend money in the service of the Freedmen. There were forty thousand colored people in New-Orleans alone. See what a course of expense these were—not all of course, but a great proportion of them.

They withheld one aspect of the case and carefully that which helped their object. Was this fair? Was it honorable? Another feature in connection with Louisiana was omitted by the Commissioners. Gen. Fullerton knew, if Gen. Steedman did not, that from the surrender of the Rebel forces in the middle of the autumn of the Summer, I had the entire control of the Freedmen in the Military Division of the West Mississippi, embracing nearly all the Gulf States. The money supplied, embracing many all the Gulf States. The money supplied to carry on the work in all this vast military but to come out of my Louisiana funds. The amount expended at any one point may not have been great, but in the aggregate it made up a large sum. Gen. Fullerton knew all the facts in this matter and could have stated them if he were not determined to conceal them for a purpose. He had for a long time been Gen. Howard's Chief of Staff and must have seen all my reports to that officer.

That Gen. Steedman, if alone, might have erred, would not be surprising; but that he could have committed these blunders, or published the falsehoods contained in the report, can be accounted for in no other way than that he was misled by his associate who was better informed.

Gen. Fullerton must have known that he was giving falsehood to the public when he made those statements concerning Louisiana, and the public should know that much of the matter to which Gen. Steedman affixed his signature must, in the nature of the case, have come from the willful informer who was with him.

It was not desired that the truth should be told. The public would have had great reason to rejoice at the good achieved by the Bureau, if that good had been faithfully set forth, and so it was withheld.

So far as I am concerned, I am willing that 200,000 freedmen and all the loyal whites of that State shall bear in their hearts the testimony of my services, and I am equally willing that the public shall draw their own estimate of their character.

I would be glad to meet my accusers face to face in a military court, or in a court where there would be a promise of justice. Before such a court, when the charges against myself and some of my officers had been dispensed with and acted upon, I would prefer the following charges against Gen. Fullerton, viz.: Having reduced the colored people of New-Orleans to practical Slavery; having broken up the free school establishment of the State, so far as his jurisdiction extended; having disbanded the asylums for the orphans of colored troops who had died in the service of the country, and other orphans of Freedmen; having arrested hundreds of colored people and confined them in jail, because they could not produce employment certificates from white men; having imprisoned United States troops who had just been mustered out of the army, for no other reason than because they could not show, by credentials from white inhabitants, that they had employment; having, without proper consideration and care, and without due regard for the welfare of the country, restored the vast estates of leading Rebels who had pledged their lives and fortunes to destroy the Union, and with having made Rebels his confidential advisers during his administration in Louisiana.

In conclusion allow me to say in regard to the charges made, in the report of the Commissioners, against the officers whom I appointed—namely, Capt. Morse, Provost-Marshal-General; Capt. Pease, General Superintendent of Education; and Lieut. Foster, who was in charge of the Tax Office—that I believe these charges to be unfounded. Capt. Morse is charged with having made his office a "Slave-Pen." Gen. Fullerton's order to the police of New-Orleans to arrest all the unemployed freedmen—a slave order—resulted in the filling of the Provost-Marshal's Office with these persecuted people. It was never a "slave-pen" till Gen. Fullerton, with the aid of the police of New-Orleans, made it so. Gen. Fullerton's order on the subject was issued before Gen. Howard reached headquarters. The people of Louisiana know, as Gen. Fullerton does, that my Provost-Marshal-General and myself had all we could do to empty the slave-pens, without having engaged in the infamous work of filling them, as Gen. Fullerton did, to the intense satisfaction of all the Rebels in the State. The idea of "selling freedmen at five dollars each" is, in my judgment, an unblushing falsehood. If the Commissioners have proof to their satisfaction, why is not Capt. Morse arrested and made to suffer for the crime of kidnapping and transporting men to Adams's sugar refinery in Boston and can he be reached without trouble. Capt. Pease is charged with forging payrolls, destroying his records, &c. These charges have already been tried before a military court, appointed in New-Orleans by Gen. Canby and they were not sustained. Why are these repeated by the Commissioners when they knew them to have been unfounded already? Lieut. Foster is charged with seizing Rebel property, collecting and enforcing certain taxes, and with having carried off some of his records. When I left the bureau in New-Orleans I left such. Foster with Gen. Fullerton, together with all the tax books. If the officer behaved as badly as is reported it is an unfortunate circumstance, in connection with Gen. Fullerton's administration. It only demonstrates how loosely he managed his affairs. Lieut. Foster behaved well while with me, and I doubt the statement that he became so perverse under the administration of one of his accusers.

Gen. Fullerton is, in a large degree, the author of the present unhappy condition of Louisiana. On his arrival in