SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

The steamship Ocean Queen, Capt. Gray, which left Aspinwall Nov. 12, arrived on Tuesday morning. The following is her specie list:

Frick & Co.	$32,500 00	Wells, Fargo & Co.	880 00
Eng. Kelley	65,280 00	Maitland, Phelps & Co.	1,000 00
J. W. Seligman & Co.	34,200 00	Isaac Ashe	1,150 00
Duncan, Sherman & Co.	37,871 00	Ribon & Munos	2,001 48
Dabney, Morgan & Co.	109,250 78	Sol. Lazarus & Son	1,242 00
Wells, Fargo & Co.	40,461 88	Hunt & Hall	1,509 00
Lees & Waller	247,061 93	Order	500,000 00
Panama Railroad Co.	26,989 40		
Total			$1,121,397 41

PANAMA.

COMPANY FOR SUPPLYING THE CITY WITH WATER—MOSQUERA AND THE STATE OF PANAMA—PREVENTION OF FIRES—ARRIVAL OF THE NEW-ZEALAND STEAMER.

From Our Special Correspondent.

PANAMA, Nov. 12, 1866.

In my last I stated that measures were being taken to effect the formation of a water company with the view of supplying the city with potable water. The law designed for the carrying out of this important undertaking passed the State Assembly on Oct. 24, conferring on Señor J. R. Casanova the exclusive privilege for the space of 50 years, and empowering him, either individually or by a company, to construct an aqueduct for supplying the city with water. At the termination of the 50 years, the whole of the works becomes the property of the Government. The enterprise is to be begun and arriced through within the space of two years, and earlier if possible. I believe that Señor Casanova is looking to the carrying out of this object by means of American capital, and there can be no doubt that the thing will and must prove a paying enterprise, because when we look to the number of persons living within the limited area of this city, there can be no doubt that, both for public and private purposes, the demand for water will be very great, and it would require only judicious management in conducting the affairs of the company in order to render it all that investing capitalists could desire. At any rate, the thing might be made to pay, in the course of a few years, from 10 to 15 per cent easily to each shareholder.

The bugbear of the independence of the State of Panama continues to alarm Mosquera. By the steamers Lafayette and Montezuma, news reached this city that at Santa Martha national troops were being embarked on board the war steamer Colombia for Panama. This news naturally created some excitement in the city, as it was feared that the entrance of these troops might have been opposed by the State, and so give rise to a serious row, if not a revolution. On the evening of the 5th inst., there was a secret meeting of the State Assembly, for the purpose of discussing this question, as to whether the troops sent by Gen. Mosquera should or should not be admitted, when it was, we think very prudently, decided that no resistance should be offered, and that the supreme Government had a right to send troops, provided that it was not done for the purpose of interfering with the sovereignty of the State. As a matter of course, there was at first a great many speculations as to the object had in view by Mosquera in adopting this course of procedure, each one giving to the circumstance the color that suited his own purpose; but there can be no doubt that the real intention was to oppose a declaration of independence, an idea, it appears, which has no existence in fact or intention, at least so far as the State Government is concerned.

The recent fire at Colon has also been under consideration, and in consequence a law has been passed prohibiting the construction of the exterior walls of buildings of combustible material within the District of San Felipe of the City of Panama. Wood is the only combustible material which can be used in such parts of the building to be constructed or reconstructed in the District of San Felipe in the City of Panama, and in the City of Colon, that is not prohibited. Kitchens, water-closets, and bath-rooms, are not included, except when the two latter are intended for public use. There can be no doubt but that as a preventive measure this is a very wise law, and it must have the further effect of giving rise to the construction of more substantial buildings in Colon at least, while the risk of fires will thereby be very much diminished. At the same time, the greatest precautions will not always prevent casualties occurring, so regarded. It seems that the Government [illegible] more to do, and that they should take pains to provide the means, not only in Colon, but also in Panama, of coping successfully with a fire in the event of its unfortunately breaking out. At Colon we believe that something has already been done in this way, but from information received by me it appears that there are no such conveniences provided here.

The above form the most prominent items of local interest just now. I may notice further the arrival of the steamer Kaihoura from New-Zealand on the 6th inst., two days over her time, the delay being occasioned by her having run short of coal on the passage. The news is not very important, except in so far as it relates to the point of arrival and departure of the mails from New-Zealand, different ports being named as better than the present, and suggesting a new route, which it is said will have the effect of obviating these delays.

PERU.

THE ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT—UNPOPULARITY OF PRADO—ARBITRATION OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN THE HISPANO-CHILIAN WAR—POSITION OF PERU IN THE MATTER—INSULT TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG BY BOLIVIANS—GUANO DEPOSITS—COUNTERFEITING PERUVIAN BANK NOTES—[illegible] DOCKS AT CALLAO.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CALLAO, Oct. 28, 1866.

On the 22d inst., the elections for President and Members of Congress began. Col. Prado is very unpopular, as is manifested by the fact that up to the present time no respectable person has voted, and from the further fact that of all those entitled to vote not one in 500 has done so. The Administration of Prado is unpopular, not so much on his own account—for I believe that he means well—as on that of his Cabinet, which is a miserable affair. The election of President proceeds without opposition, because the opposing candidates, Col. Balta and Gen. Vargas Machuca are not in the field, the latter being prisoner in the Castle of Callao and the former sent into Bolivia on exile with some 20 others, leading men in the country. There is to be no Vice-President elected. It is also asserted that steps have been taken to arrest Gen. Castilla. The General is, however, in the hands of his own people, and no force that Prado can send will be able to arrest him. His province has notified the rest of Peru that they will take no part in the present elections, because they are illegal, and that they will not recognize the results of them. This is a bold stand, which has a significance that Col. Prado well understands, that is, that he will have to meet Gen. Castilla in the field, a risk, by the way, it is very unlikely that he will run. Out of a population of 80,000 persons residing in Lima, Callao and Chorillas, it is not likely that more than 1,200 votes will be recorded in favor of Prado. It is very possible that the *El Nacional* and *El Comercio de Lima*, will publish a larger number of votes, but the statement of these two papers will have to be received with considerable reservation, because the first is the organ of the Government, and of the last, the Government "grinds the organ." Just now a censorship is exercised over the press in Peru that probably would be tolerated in no other country. This sort of espionage is always the forerunner of a revolution in Peru, and as things now go here, it is only a question of time. It has already been reported that one of Prado's sides-de-camp has been arrested on suspicion that he intended to assassinate him. His is by no means a bed of roses, or if it be, it is just now thickly strewn with thorns, and more the latter than the former. His wife the other night expressed her fears that he would meet with a violent death, and added that she wished him to retire from public life and go into the country, for just now they were living in a state of continual fear.

The proposition made by the English and French Ministers to the Chilian Government to accept their arbitration, has been favorably received. In this matter the Government of Chili adopted a strange course by consulting with the Minister of Bolivia and Ecuador, but ignored the Peruvian Minister. [illegible]

Señor Paonecó, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, is now in Chili, and he gives the Chilian Government very clearly to understand that Peru will accept peace only on honorable terms, and should the Allies not agree with her she will carry on the war alone. Peru, from the recent acquisitions to her navy, is quite in a position to dictate terms to Spain; indeed, not many weeks will elapse before there will be a fleet that will astonish the Dons, not so much in number as in force, and which will be quite able to smash up their old fashioned ships and forts. The whole fleet will leave the Pacific for the Atlantic, and there join the newly acquired ships. Our coast will be sufficiently protected by the forts which are now in the course of erection, as they will be mounted with Blakeley, Parrot and Armstrong guns of the heaviest caliber. Peru has so husbanded her strength and resources for the last six months that she is now quite ready to meet and cope with the Spaniards. Prado will no doubt make capital out of this, and seek, if possible, to regain his popularity by another victory over the Spaniards.

Between the South American Republics and the United States there is likely to be some trouble. The American Minister at —— hauled down his flag, and from all that I have been able to gather from a gentleman, the reason for this proceeding is as follows: The authorities at La Paz conceived that somebody was conspiring or was about to conspire against the Government, and gave orders to arrest all persons who were not partisans of Melgarejo, the present ruler of Bolivia. Several young men, from their known disapproval of the conduct of the Government, fearing consequences, sought protection at the American Legation, which was accorded them. The authorities upon hearing that persons had taken refuge at the Legation, determined to take them out, and for this purpose sent a force; their attempt to enter the Legation was resisted by the Minister, who met them at the door revolver in hand and threatened to shoot the first man that attempted to cross the threshold. The Bolivians were taken aback, because they did not count upon the revolver business, and they remained outside the door. A messenger was sent to the Prefect informing him of what had happened, who immediately sent troops and surrounded the Legation so as to prevent all ingress or egress. Upon which the Minister demanded his passport and hauled down his flag.

As to the precise steps that our Government should take in the matter, I think, be rather a puzzle for the Secretary. Our fleet can do nothing. Bolivia can muster a combined forces o the world, as she has to meet with about five or six houses. They get there by way of Arica in Peru, this being the route to be reached only by troops, and it would require at least 10,000 men to whip them, and so thoroughly that they would "stay whipped." The Bolivians laugh to scorn the idea that any foreign troops can enter their country, but I think that this could easily be effected both on the side of the Pacific and from the Amazon River.

The Governments of Chili and Bolivia have arranged between them the question of the guano deposits at Colija. They are to work them conjointly, and a contract has been entered into by a French house to take 40,000 tuns annually, for which $5 per tun is to be paid for all taken from the deposits. The contractor has paid $10,000 to Bolivia as an advance upon her share.

Four Frenchmen have just been arrested, and are now in prison, for passing counterfeit notes of the Bank of Peru for $10 each. The notes of this bank are engraved by the American Bank-Note Company at New-York. The counterfeits were very fair imitations, somewhat lighter in appearance, but easily detected when held up to the light. They had succeeded in issuing $50,000 worth of notes. They have, however, been caught, and the money is now in possession of the police.

Plans have been submitted to the Government for the new discharging-docks in Callao. They have been drawn up by a French engineer, and the cost will be about $2,500,000. He is, however, to revise his plans, and thus, probably, the thing will be carried through for $1,000,000. Preparations are being made to commence the work.

CHILI.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH MEDIATION—REPORTED REJECTION OF THE TERMS BY PERU—MUTINY IN THE NAVY—POPULATION OF CHILI.

From Our Special Correspondent.

VALPARAISO, Oct. 17, 1866.

Everything considered, there is but little change to report in Chilian politics. The principal feature of the past two weeks, if common report at the capital is to be believed, is the Anglo-French mediation which has been offered to and accepted by this Government.

The proposals of the mediators are said to be these: 1st. An armistice; 2d. Spain and the Allied Republics to consent to the mediating Powers arranging the basis on which peace may be adjusted; 3d. The belligerents to remain free to accept or refuse the terms of mediation, as they may see fit.

Upon a consultation being held with the Ecuadorian and Bolivian ministers at Santiago, the other day, they stated that, on their side, they saw no objection to them—Bolivia and Ecuador having taken part in the alliance, simply in defense of common American interests, though they had received, individually, neither insult nor injury at the hands of Spain. It belongs, therefore, solely to Chili and Peru to decide whether the mediation of France and England shall be accepted or not. As before stated, the prevailing report here and at Santiago is, that Chili will accept; the opinion of the Peruvian Government is alone wanting to decide the general question of mediation or non-mediation.

It is presumed by many that the answer of Peru has already arrived, since Don Marcial Martinez, Chilian Chargé d'Affaires at Lima, arrived here by the last steamer, and is known to have conferred with President Perez and his Cabinet on matters of great importance; but the result of this interview—i. e., the answer of the Peruvian Government—has not yet been given to the public. Nevertheless, the vital question of peace or war has undoubtedly reached a critical stage in the deliberations of the allied Governments.

In the former offer of a mediation on the part of the Western Powers, Chili undoubtedly appeared to advantage. When England and France invited her to make peace—*before* the bombardment of Valparaiso—she did not hesitate to enter into negotiations; but, unfortunately, the hasty and outrageous bombardment of this port by the Spanish authorities interposed an invincible obstacle to all honorable arrangement.

There is another report here to the effect that Col. Prado, the head of the Peruvian Government, has sent an indignant refusal of the mediation, and that the formal rejection has already arrived here. If this is true, we may look for another visitation of the Spanish fleet. And, candidly speaking, if our fortifications here are not pushed forward with more vigor and dispatch, Valparaiso is but little better adapted to resist a bombardment than she was last May. The public opinion with regard to the war here is difficult to analyze; one thing is certain, and that is, that no single newspaper in Chili has yet dared to ask for peace, which would seem to argue a strong public feeling in favor of continuing the war. Commercial interests here, as elsewhere, naturally tend strongly to peace, and make great exertions to influence public opinion in that way; but the masses, who really constitute the nation, apparently regard the rise and fall of prices as of little moment compared to the honor of the country.

In summing up the considerations on both sides, I am disposed to think that the existing uncertainty regarding the relations between the belligerent Powers is likely to continue for some time.

About a week ago a mutiny occurred on board of the Peruvian corvette Union. Commodore Tucker, commander of the allied Peruvian and Chilian fleets, is unpopular with many of the Peruvian officers, on account of the rigorous discipline which he enforces. A subordinate officer, who happened to be in charge of the Union at the time, took advantage of this feeling among the Peruvians, and inciting a revolt among the crew, seized the ship, tripped anchor, and endeavored to run out to sea, and return to Callao. The mutinous movements were, however, detected in time, and boats dispatched to regain the ship. Perceiving themselves detected, the mutineers took to their own boats, deserted the corvette, and gained the shore. Here they were subsequently arrested by the police and placed in irons. This mutiny would not have been characterized by any feature of special importance, if it were had not been discovered (as is the general belief) by the Government, that it formed part of a conspiracy against the Government of Col. Prado, and in favor of Señor Balta, his opponent in the election which was to have taken place in Peru on the 15th—day before yesterday. The Peruvian opposition, headed by Señor Balta, has caused a profound and painful impression in Chili, where the cause of Prado is entirely in the ascendant.

The following census of Chili, taken April 9 of this year, will probably be of interest to your readers:

Population of Chili	2,001,145
Population of Araucania	80,000
Population of Patagonia and Terra del Fuego	3,800
Total	2,084,945
Area of Chili in square miles	122,009
Foreigners resident in Chili	23,220
Exports of the Republic in 1864	$21,760,942
Imports of the Republic in 1864	24,304,350
Excess of exports over imports	$7,396,592
Revenue for 1864	$6,574,918

There are in Chili 832 inhabitants of from 100 to 140 years of age.

The number of persons physically and morally helpless is 9,636.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

WAR AND PEACE—AN INSTRUCTIVE PARALLEL—PROGRESS OF RAILROADS—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS—SOUTH AMERICAN TREASURY NOTES—THE WOOL-GROWERS IN DISMAY ON ACCOUNT OF THE UNITED STATES TARIFF—INCIDENTS AT A FUNERAL—THE PEACE CONFERENCE BETWEEN PRESIDENTS MITRE AND LOPEZ AND WHAT CAME OF IT—MINISTER WASHBURNE TELEGRAPHING IN SOUTH AMERICA—WOOL CLIPS, &c., &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BUENOS AYRES, Sept. 26, 1866.

This country presents the spectacle seen for four years of war in the United States. There is in progress a gigantic war, taxing the genius and the strength of the Government to its utmost, and, at the same time, progress in the peaceful pursuits, that both cause and indicate greatness, is more marked than during the previous peace. Some of these steps recently taken deserve especial notice.

The Western Railroad was opened on the 11th inst., 10 leagues further, to the town of Chivilcoy. This finishes 119 miles of railroad westward from this city, heading for the Andes. There was an immense concourse of people, and the Governor and his Cabinet, in able discourses, showed themselves to be men of progress as well as of power. This railroad traverses a fine country, and already has a great business. It is owned by Government.

What is a still greater wonder, a Convention has assembled to reform the Constitution of the Republic, and it finished its business on the first day of its working. On September 10 it met at Santa Fé in a kind of general caucus, on the 11th it had a preliminary meeting, and on the 12th inst. they met, proposed amendments, discussed them, voted on them, and adjourned! The only point of amendment intended was to give the permission to Congress to levy duties on exports. This has been done up to the present, but the period has expired within which the Constitution permitted it. The vote stood 22 to 19. All the provinces were represented in the proportion of their representation in Congress.

This Government has imitated the wise policy of that of the United States in issuing Treasury notes bearing interest, for payment of Government dues, and to be received in payment of custom-house duties. They are to represent silver dollars, and will be of the denominations of $5, $10, $20, $50 and $100. It is a wise step toward making the silver dollar the unit of value instead of the paper dollar, as heretofore. These notes will bear ⅔ of 1 per cent interest per month, and will no doubt pass into general circulation.

The recent rise in the tariff of the United States has produced great dismay among wool-growers here. But, fortunately, for some years great efforts have been made to refine the wools of this country, and, in proportion, the finer wools pay less duty. No wools will go to the United States this year but those that are fine and clean. The shearing will begin this year Oct. 1. The wool bids fair to be finer, cleaner, freer from burs, and of better color than ever before.

On the 13th inst. Gen. Guido, an old and worthy man, was buried, having fallen in an apoplectic fit the day before. It is the custom of the natives here to bury their dead in great pomp, especially the worthy and well known, and at the tomb citizens, politicians, poets, deliver orations or recite poems. When this great man was buried, 100 carriages were in the procession, and Governor, ex-Governors, Ministers of State, Congressmen and multitudes were present. The religious service (Roman Catholic) being ended, the orators were heard. One, Dr. Viola, is reported to have made a speech red all over with republicanism. "Sharpening the dagger of Brutus over the marble slab of this tomb for the Maximilians and Almonites," sounded sharp. It is not usual to hear so fierce a speech at a burial, but it indicates a habit of thought and an incident in customs.

On the 9th of September Gen. Lopez sent to the Allied camp a flag of truce, which, by some mistake, was fired on. It was repeated next day, when a letter was given to Gen. Mitré, Commander-in-chief, proposing a peace conference between the two opposing chiefs. This was arranged for on the 12th September. At a given hour and place the two Generals, who are also both Presidents, met, leaving each a retinue of about 20 officers a little distance apart. They dismounted, shook hands, and were in council for about half-a-day, but it is feared with no definite results as to peace. After separation, Gen. Mitré ordered a strong force to be prepared at once to attack Port Curupaiti. Preparations to attack the most formidable kind were made at once for this purpose.

Gen. Mitré is said to have spoken very highly of Gen. Lopez as a gentleman in his manners. At parting they exchanged gold-headed riding-whips, in token of personal friendship.

The estimate for the wool clip this year is 100,000,000 of pounds. The export duty on wool, hides, bones, tallow, &c., produces about three millions of silver dollars per annum. This tax is designed chiefly for interest and for the reduction of the public debt. As the amount of exports doubles every four years, this export duty must soon lift the nation out of debt.

It is reported here that the American Admiral on this station has received orders to convey Mr. Washburne, Minister to Paraguay, to his destination. It is unfortunate that the order was so slow coming, as now the fleet has no steamer of draught light enough to go up the Paraguay River, as that stream is now very low. The Shamokin, the lightest of draught, is a river, double-ender, but draws 8 feet.

For two days a fearful storm has been blowing, and some damage has been done in the harbor. The American passenger steamer Oriental, built in Boston, owned by Messrs. Savory & Co. of New-York, about two weeks ago struck an old anchor in the harbor, and sank almost instantly. Her upper deck was above water, and every effort was made to save her. To-day she is dashing and drifting and beginning to go to pieces. She was a splendid steamer, and we shall not soon see her equal in these waters.

Two American gentlemen, Messrs. Hopkins and Cary, have just obtained a charter from Congress for a telegraph from Buenos Ayres to Chili.

The cable for the telegraph between this city and Montevideo has arrived, and will soon be laid. It is to go over the tops of the houses in this city and to lie on the bed of the river, between this city and Colonia, a distance of 26 miles.

Exchange on England 49½d. to the silver dollar. Money abundant in form of gold, but paper scarce.

THE WAR IN PARAGUAY.

MORE FIGHTING—HEAVY LOSSES OF THE ALLIES—THEIR IRON-CLAD SQUADRON ROUGHLY HANDLED—UNITED STATES WAR VESSELS.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—Rear-Admiral S. W. Godon, commanding the South Atlantic Squadron, under date of Rio Janeiro, Oct. 8, reports to the Navy Department that the latest advices from the seat of war in South America is anything but favorable to the allies. They captured Fort Cumsea some time since with heavy loss and then prepared for an attack on Lumpali, a strong point on the route to Humaita.

The new Ministry have urged the attack which proved most disastrous to the allied forces. They acknowledge a loss of 5,000 in all, in killed and wounded, but the accounts are Brazilian, and it is thought that 10,000 will prove nearer the truth.

Gen. Flores, the President of Uruguay, has withdrawn from the front with the remainder of the Uruguayan forces, about 400 men.

The iron-clad squadron has been very roughly handled and Admiral Godon says that the last events in the field confirm him in the belief that the Allies will not have control of Paraguay for some time to come.

The United States steamer Nipsic had arrived at Rio Janeiro, from Pernambuco, on the 6th of October.

The Lackawanna sailed for the Straits of Magellan and the Pacific Squadron.

The Shawmut was to leave for the United States on the 16th of October.

The Navy Department is in receipt of a dispatch from Commander S. P. Carter of the United States steamer Monocacy, announcing the arrival of his vessel on the 10th ult. at Pernambuco, Brazil.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

GUATEMALA.

The dates from this State are to the 14th of October last.

The Supreme Government had issued a decree prohibiting the circulation of Mexican gold coin in the official transactions.

A German doctor, Mr. Dempffin, had discovered some new gold mines in the interior departments of the Republic, and it is said they are rich and situated in fine positions.

SALVADOR.

President Duefla's birthday had been celebrated with enthusiasm. There had been official balls, military parade, divine service in the churches of the capital, and all this with order and cordiality.

NICARAGUA.

Until the 13th of October last Sr. Don Fernando Guzman obtained the majority for the future Presidency of the Republic. So that the partisans of Sr. Sacasa as well as those of Gen. Bonilla have been defeated in the electoral camp.

On the 19th of September the Supreme Government issued a decree establishing rules for the introduction of foreign merchandise.

COSTA RICA.

The news from this Republic is not of interest. Peace reigns through the country, protected by the wise administration of President Castro.

AUSTRALASIA.

We have dates from Australasia via Panama to the 6th ult., on which day the Royal Mail Company's steamer [illegible] arrived at Panama on the 16th inst. The news is not of much importance.

AUSTRALIA.

FAILURE OF AN EXPLORATORY TOUR.

McKinley's exploratory tour in North Australia has proved a failure owing to heavy floods cutting the party off. They were compelled to kill their horses for food, and in canoes made of horse skin they descended Alligator River to the Gulf of Carpentaria. The new settlement will likely be abandoned and a new colony formed near Port Anson.

INTERCOLONIAL EXHIBITION.

The Intercolonial Exhibition building at Melbourne had been completed, partially filled with exhibits, and would prove too small for all offering.

TELEGRAPHIC CABLE.

The Tasmanian Government offers 6 per cent per annum on costs to any company that will lay a telegraphic cable between Victoria and Tasmania.

PUBLIC FINANCES.

The New South Wales Parliament was still in session, and had passed several measures of domestic utility. On the 27th of September the treasurer made his financial statement of the affairs of the colony, and the facts revealed were of a gratifying character. The deficiencies of former years have been in great part made up, and the ordinary revenue not only meets the current expenditures, but leaves a handsome balance in hand. At the close of the present year there will be an estimated surplus of more than £70,000, and the revenue for the year 1867 is estimated at £2,250,000, which, after deducting the expenditure as at present estimated, would leave a surplus of £310,000 at the close of that year.

POPULAR EDUCATION.

The Government of New South Wales had brought in a bill to abolish the two Boards of Education, and to establish a Council of Education, to consist of five persons, together with the Colonial Secretary for the time, who is to be President *ex officio*. The education is to be secular, but facilities to be given to clergymen of the different denominations to teach religion for one hour each day. The debate on the motion for its second reading is adjourned.

COTTON CULTIVATION.

The following remarks on the success which has attended cotton planting in Queensland are taken from *The Queensland Guardian* of September 19: "In spite of the decrease in the price of cotton, occasioned by the termination of the American war, and in spite of the inducements to the cultivators of other products, it would appear that those who have systematically entered upon the planting of cotton are sufficiently well satisfied, in many instances, not only to continue their labors but to extend the area of their operations."

WANT OF EMPLOYMENT.

In South Australia large numbers of laborers are besieging the Government offices for employment.

DISCOVERY OF COPPER.

Some very valuable deposits of copper had been discovered within a few miles of Ipswich, Queensland.

THE GOLD FIELDS.

There had been no important news from any of the gold fields during the month. No large finds had been reported, nor had any new fields been discovered. The accounts from the northern and western diggings were encouraging, so far as they went, and the yield of gold had not decreased at all. The workings of the Bergalia Mineral Reef Company were turning out well. The yield of gold as per last returns was 1½ ounces to the tun. A new gold mining company had just commenced operations at Araluen.

COMMERCIAL.

Californian and Chilian breadstuffs are in full supply and at present prices leave a loss to importers. Chilian Wheat is worth 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. per bushel. Californian do. 5s. 9d. to 6s. Chilian flour, £13 10s. to £14. Californian, £15 to £16. Californian Oats, 3s. 9d.; Barley, 4s. to 4s. 3d. Lumber scarce and much wanted. American manufactured goods in full supply, present prices leave a small profit. Exchange on England and discount rates remain unaltered.

The following is a list of duties on articles of American production hitherto imported free, which are taxed under the new tariff, and also the Market report.

Wooden Buckets, 2s. per doz.; Wooden Doors, 1s. each; Lasts, Wooden pegs, 1s. per cubic foot; Kerosene and other Mineral Oils, 6d. per gallon; Sash windows per pair, 1s.; Wood tubs, per nest, 2s.; Turpentine, 6d. per gallon; Lumber sawed, 100 foot sup. 1s.; Shingles and Laths, 1000 1s.; Palings, 100 1s.; Posts, 100 4s.; Rails, 100 2s.; Tar, 1s. per bbl.; Nails, 1s. per cwt.

NEW-ZEALAND.

POLITICAL MATTERS.

In political matters there is but little of interest from this colony. Parliament was to have been formally prorogued on the 8th of October. The new Ministry had succeeded in having its measures passed through without much difficulty.

POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.

The Government has passed a new postal bill imposing a postage of three pence on each newspaper transmitted to America or Europe via the Panama route. The postage on newspapers will be as follows: On all newspapers posted within the colony for transmission via Panama or Marseilles, three-pence; and on all other newspapers posted within the colony, a charge of one penny each, together with an approximate charge equal to the actual amount paid by the Government to any other Government or company for their transmission, which additional charge shall be fixed by order in Council, published in *The New-Zealand Gazette*. Fortunately this measure does not come into force till January, 1867, and newspaper proprietors will have time to make fresh arrangements with their subscribers. Practically, however, the Panamaline is shut up to newspapers.

THE PANAMA MAIL SERVICE.

The Panama Service question was still partially unsettled. The contract, by a singular fatality, had not yet been signed, but that would not long be the case, as New South Wales having lately demanded that it should be made the terms of the service, and to be conceded several other things, Mr. Stafford had replied that the New-Zealand Government substantially agrees to the proposal made, and an instrument will be forwarded for execution by New South Wales, embodying the terms of agreement assented to by both the Colonies.

TROUBLE WITH THE NATIVES.

The West Coast natives still continued troublesome. Several skirmishes had recently taken place between Major McDonald's forces and the rebels, in which the former have generally been successful. In the last encounter the Hau Haus are reported soundly beaten, with a loss of 21 killed and 9 wounded, while the loss of the Government forces was 3 killed and 1 wounded.

JAMAICA.

CHOLERA—CESSATION OF DIRECT STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH NEW-YORK—IMMIGRATION—THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

We have advices from Kingston, via Aspinwall to the 5th inst.

Two fatal cases of Asiatic cholera had occurred in that city—the last one being that of the dispenser of the public hospital, who died at 9 o'clock on the night of October 31.

The annulment of the contract with the West India and Pacific Steamship Company for carrying the mails from Kingston to New-York is announced. This leaves the island without any direct means of communication with the United States.

Referring to the importation of coolies *The Standard* remarks: "We understand that over 2,000 coolies are to be brought to the island as immigrants between this and the early part of next year. We hope this report may prove correct, as the coolies have proved and are still proving themselves valuable acquisitions to the planter. We may here observe that on 'Pennant's and Denby's estate, in Clarendon, there are 85 adult coolie laborers employed, who have already made deposits in the Colonial Bank to an amount averaging £40 each, and they furthermore possess among them breeding mares worth in the aggregate £300."

The new Legislative Chamber was opened on the 16th of October. Bills had been introduced increasing the duties on rum from 2s. 9d. to 5s. per gallon; fixing the salaries of the Colonial and Financial Secretaries at £1,500 per annum each; and providing for the appointment of Stipendiary Justices.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE ANNEXATION MEETING IN VICTORIA.

The following letter from *The Alta* gives an interesting account of the annexation meeting recently held in Victoria. It is stated that the meeting was one of the largest ever held in Victoria for political purposes, and was probably attended by one-third of the male population of that city:

"Last Saturday we had one of the largest political meetings ever held here. It was at the theater, and the object is neither more nor less than the annexation of this colony with the United States. The principal man was Leonard McClure, M.C.A. Several other members of the House, including the Speaker, had given promise to be there; but when the time came they were found wanting. Still McClure came forward fearlessly, and brought in the resolution as more fully set forth in the telegraph of 30th September. He spoke well, and was repeatedly applauded during the whole of the evening. The only interruption came from a clique of Government hummers headed by —— and ——. It is noteworthy that none who spoke on the British loyal side could get a word in. Alston, otherwise generally liked, was drowned out by a perfect flood of hisses and groans. Twice the official crowd tried to put out the lights, and, although several drunken men were brought on the stage in the hope of ridiculing the meeting and eventually breaking it up, the feeling of the majority was so intense that the official element had to beat a retreat, and after these and their friends, not amounting to forty, had left the theater, the meeting, some four or five hundred, continued to listen to McClure, who had his resolution, after it was seconded, brought fairly before the meeting by C. B. Young, M. C. A. (Member of the Colonial Assembly?), the Chairman, and carried by an overwhelming majority—I should think ten to one. *The Chronicle*, for the moment the office-holders' organ of Monday last makes a desperate attempt to give the impression abroad that the meeting was a farce. This it was not; it showed the startling fact that a member of our Assembly and others cannot only call a meeting for the purpose of discussing annexation to the United States, but that he is listened to, and still more than a resolution containing clauses of annexation was carried by an overwhelming majority, and that the British elements in opposition there were merely paid officials. I am convinced that if the United States Government would only use energy in the matter the annexation of this colony would soon be an accomplished fact, and if so, I would not ask for a better and more pleasant place, both as far as residence is concerned and business. Gold, copper, coal and silver mines would be worked, and our deserted harbor and deserted streets would soon teem with signs of commerce and Yankee enterprise. If this place remains another year under British rule it will then be what it was before the Frazer River rush—a mere Hudson Bay trading post. But I hope Uncle Sam will take mercy on us before it is too late."

THE PACIFIC COAST.

ROBBERY OF AMERICANS BY MEXICAN BANDITS—COMMERCIAL.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—The Mexican brig Basco, having as passengers Captain John B. Urmie and others, was boarded at Cape St. Lucas, October 23, while on the way from Lapaz to San Francisco, by Gaston D'Arteis and two others, armed with pistols, who demanded the Captain's papers, and at the same time declaring the Captain to be a Mexican pirate, and themselves authorized to search the vessel for articles contraband of war. When D'Arteis was called upon to produce authority for the seizure of the vessel, he showed them a copy, purporting to be from Corona, and said the original order was left on shore. Four more armed men subsequently joined D'Arteis, when the Captain and passengers were robbed of everything valuable and the vessel plundered. The brig was released the next day, after giving bonds for $10,000, and arrived here last night.

The schooner Elisa, Tahiti, brings 4,000 pounds of cotton. Brig Carl Ludwig, from Hong Kong, brings 4,000 bags of rice and 200 chests of tea.

Rice is quoted at $2 60. Shanghae cotton, $26 50. New Patna opium, $5 80.

A private letter from Honolulu, of November 1, says that Admiral Thatcher will remain there with the steamer Vanderbilt during the present month.

Mining stocks closed to-day as follows: Belcher, $130; Imperial, $125; Ophir, $172; Savage, $1,740; Chollar Potosi, $203; Yellow Jacket, $912; Crown Point, $825. Legal Tenders, 72½. No transactions in Wheat.

THE RING.

FIGHT BETWEEN MIKE CARR AND BOB WHITE—WHITE THE WINNER BY A FOUL BLOW.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—The prize fight, that has been in contemplation for the last month, between Mike Carr, alias Bill English, of this city, and Bob White, of Baltimore, Md., came off this morning, between the hours of seven and nine, at a point of the Virginia shore of the Potomac called Miller's Springs, six miles below Alexandria. The fight was for $300 a side, catch weight. Carr, alias English, is about twenty-two years of age, five feet seven inches in hight, and his fighting weight is about one hundred and twenty-six pounds. White is twenty-five years of age, five feet nine inches in hight, and his fighting weight about one hundred and twenty-eight pounds. White is a novice in the P. R., never having fought before. This is English's third battle, he having whipped a pugilist named Bolster last June, and was whipped by Sam. Collier, of Baltimore, some nine months ago.

At the fight to-day there were about 200 spectators present, composed mostly of sporting men of Washington and Baltimore. After 41 rounds had been fought, consuming 36 minutes' time, White was declared the winner of the fight, in consequence of a blow of English's being decided a foul one by the referee. This decision of the referee brought matters to a very abrupt termination, and caused a great deal of excitement between the friends and backers of the respective men. There were indications of a general row, but fortunately it did not occur. English received very little punishment, while White was pretty well bruised and battered.

CRIMES.

A COLORED PREACHER SHOT.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

RICHMOND, Va., Nov. 20.—The Rev. Jacob James, a colored preacher, was shot last night by another colored man, named Thornton Holmes, and died this morning. Holmes also shot his wife, who, however, will recover. He was arrested and acknowledged the deed, but says he found James and his wife *in flagrante delicto*.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

BOSTON, Nov. 20.—Four prisoners, named Samuel Neville, Frank Richards, Charles Brawerds and Melvin Renniston, escaped from Portland Jail about 1 o'clock this morning. They were State Prison convicts, whose sentences had all been commuted to punishment in the County Jail. Three hundred dollars reward has been offered for information which will lead to their arrest.

THE SUPPOSED POISONING CASE AT LOUISVILLE, KY.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

LOUISVILLE, Nov. 19.—The Coroner's Jury, which examined the remains of Mrs. Ben Ponell, report that no traces of poison were found in her stomach, and consequently exhonerated her husband and every one else from suspicion. The recent report of the arrest of Mr. Ponell, in reference to this matter, was incorrect.

THE FIRST AVENUE HOMICIDE.

ARREST OF THREE OF THE ACCUSED PERSONS—THEY ARE DETAINED TO AWAIT EXAMINATION.

On the morning of the 3d inst. four men entered the oyster saloon of Michael Myers, No. 443 First-ave., and asked for liquor. All of the party were considerably under the influence of liquor, and as the proprietor of the place was about to close up for the night on account of the lateness of the hour, he declined to accede to their request. The party then commenced to break the furniture in the place, and the glass in the doors and windows. Myers attempted to eject the ruffians, and in so doing was assisted by an acquaintance named Walter Westcott, who was sitting in the saloon when the scoundrels entered. Their attempts were at length successful, the intruders were turned into the street; but in doing this Westcott was cut by one of the men with a knife in the lower part of the abdomen. The weapon cut clear through the clothing of the unfortunate man, and inflicted a wound through which the bowels protruded. The ruffians then made their escape. The wounded man was then conveyed to the Bellevue Hospital, in the immediate vicinity, and every attention paid him, but he died on the 11th inst. Coroner Nauman held an inquest, and a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered by the jury. The case has been already published at length in THE TRIBUNE.

Immediately after the assault information of the affair was conveyed to the Eighteenth Precinct Police, and Capt. Cameron and some of his most trusted officers have since then been actively engaged in endeavoring to discover who the attacking party was, and, above all, to discover the man who stabbed young Westcott. None of the inmates of the saloon could tell who composed the party, never having seen them before, but they were confident they could recognize them if again seen.

Recently Officer Harris of the above Precinct obtained a slight clue to the party, and following it up, succeeded in arresting two of the number, named Michael Maher and Michael Hughes. Neither of these, however, was the man who had stabbed Westcott, and it was highly important that he should be secured before news of the arrest of his companions had reached him. His residence was closely watched by Officer Harris, the whole of Monday night, and his vigilance was rewarded. On Tuesday morning, at ¼ o'clock, the looked for man made his appearance, and, as he attempted to enter the house, was arrested by the officer. He proved to be a young man named James Dougherty, a native of Ireland, aged 22 years, and claims to be a laborer. He is described by the Police as a hard character, one of that crowd of roughs who have so long made the Eighteenth and Twenty-first Wards notorious. The fourth man is still at large, but is known, and will probably be arrested in a short time. The prisoners were yesterday conve