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TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS. No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the contributor.

THE YALE FINE ARTS SCHOOL, from our special correspondent, and "At the White House" and "Among the Greenbacks," by A. D. R., will be found on the second page; the "Surreal Trial," and the "Money Article and Markets," on the third page; and the "American Institute of Instruction," "Williams College Commencement," or letter from our Paris correspondent, and "Labor news," on the seventh page.

Mr. Merrick last evening concluded his argument in the Surratt trial. Mr. Bradley follows to-day.

So much discussion has arisen in regard to the difficulties at Quarantine that the full statement and correspondence published in another column will be found generally interesting.

Gen. Sheridan took hold of Louisiana in earnest, and is working with his coat off for her regeneration. His order of yesterday effects a complete reconstruction of the Board of Aldermen of New-Orleans. He removes certain members because of "the efforts they have made and are making to impede the lawful execution of the laws of Congress."

It was to be expected that the Reform Union party would not be slow to enter an emphatic protest against the illiberal amendment to the Reform bill recently adopted by the House of Lords. It has, therefore, been arranged that another mass meeting shall be held on Monday next in Hyde Park to give expression to the opinions of the Reformers. A very large attendance is expected.

Great excitement has been produced in Chili and Peru by the report that the Spanish squadron has again sailed for the South American waters, and that a renewal of hostilities may be expected. Peru is preparing for a vigorous resistance, and desires to act on the aggressive, but the Chilean Government has officially declared that it means to carry on a defensive war only.

In the Convention yesterday Mr. Stratton offered a resolution of inquiry as to the number of police attendants upon the several Criminal Courts of this city. His resolution was laid upon the table, but in another column he will find how much it costs to run one of these courts, and he may make his own calculations therefrom as to the probabilities of the others. We think the exhibit rather interesting to tax-payers.

Secret tribunals are always looked upon with suspicion. Their power may be feared, but the secrecy with which their transactions are surrounded prevents that respect for their decisions which is felt for those made after public trial in open court. The Metropolitan Revenue Board has thus far sat with closed doors, which appears to us a great mistake. The public will feel better satisfied with its investigations into alleged frauds if it opens its doors and lets its work be known.

In Convention yesterday a resolution authorizing the Special Committee on Official Corruption to send for persons and papers was adopted. A motion to adjourn sine die on the 9th of September was tabled. The report of the Committee on the Organization of the Legislature was considered in Committee of the Whole. Mr. Greeley submitted a proposition to increase the number of Senators to 45, and providing for a representation of the minority. At the evening session this proposition was ruled out of order.

The Virginia Republican State Convention at Richmond yesterday was very largely attended, so largely that an adjournment from the hall of meeting to the Capitol-square was agreed upon. At that place, an attempt was made to array the delegates upon the Conservative side, but the majority rallied around Hunt and the Radicals. At the meeting of this body, the officers of the April Convention were appointed to officiate in this one, and the Convention adjourned until this morning. Mr. Rott has drawn up a platform which will be submitted to-day, favoring general amnesty and redaction to civil and political rights of the great body of the people. It was hoped that negotiations would insure harmonious action to-day.

The investigation of the Almshouse at Paterson, New-Jersey, has shown that a system of slow murder was established by its Superintendent. The cruelties inflicted upon the women and children, the sick and crippled, but insane, would not be credited upon rumor, but are too clearly proven. Yet these atrocities were practiced for months without the knowledge of the public, and appear to have been revealed by accident. The management of this institution is sufficient reason for an examination of all others, and the Governor might properly appoint a Commission to inquire into the treatment of our own paupers and lunatics. We have no reason for believing that such horrible tyranny as that of the Superintendent at Paterson would be discovered, but it is almost certain that many reforms are needed.

Gen. Sheridan's removal will not satisfy the disloyal men of the South; they clamor for that of Pope, and the other day a deputation of Alabama Rebels appeared before the President and demanded it. Mr. Johnson dismissed them with assurances "that Alabama would be vindicated," which means, we suppose, that

Pope will be turned out when it is safe to do so. But why should the President stop here? Why not dismiss all five of the District Commanders; put Custer in place of Schofield, Fullerton in stead of Ord, Rousseau in stead of Pope. Let Sheridan succeed Sickles, and Quantrell Sheridan. We can assure Mr. Johnson that these appointments would make uson that these appointments would make uson necessary any further opinions from Mr. Stanbery, and would end at once all those annoying complaints of the niggers and the Union men. Those embarrassing questions about colored men on juries, labor laws, registration, oaths of loyalty, &c., would be settled. Quantrell, for instance, has shown extraordinary resolution in putting down saucy darkeys in Texas, and crushing the insolence of Southern Union men who were traitors to the Confederacy during the war. He would never initiate Sheridan's insubordination in contradicting the President's assertion that Congress instigated the New-Orleans massacre, and blaming the innocent Herron, the lamb-like Monroe, and the tender-hearted and impartial Abell.

Our returns from Tennessee are very meager; enough are received, however, to indicate the reelection of Gov. Brownlow by a large majority, and the election of most, if not all, of the Republican candidates for Congress. Leftwich, the late Democratic delegate for the Memphis district, is certainly defeated. Brownlow's majority in the City of Memphis is 3,292, which is doing well for the city which Emerson Etheridge once represented in Congress, and which is still his home. If the result in this city is to be taken as a criterion, it is evident that the colored votes have been mostly cast for Brownlow. In 1862, Shelby County, which includes Memphis, gave Bell 3,048 votes, to 744 for Breckinridge, and in 1861 it cast 7,132 for secession to 5 against.

Montgomery County, which reports 1,000 majority for Brownlow, gave Bell 1,426 votes to 1,043 for Breckinridge. In 1861 the vote of the county stood, 2,631 for Secession to 33 against. Madison County, which now gives Etheridge 900 majority, gave Bell 981 majority, and cast 2,754 votes for secession to 30 against. Haywood County which gave Bell 500 majority, and secession 791 majority, now gives Brownlow from 500 to 700. Hardman and Fayette Counties, which now give conservative majorities, voted almost unanimously for secession in 1861. Nashville gives Brownlow 2,459 majority. The majority for Brownlow in the State, from indications received, will exceed 30,000. Every Radical candidate for Congress will be elected by majorities of from 3,000 to 8,000 each. So far as heard from, the election was proceeding with quietness.

MEIDLING IN MEXICO. That a burnt child ought to dread the fire, we know; we are not half so sure that he generally does. Indeed, it has often seemed to us that burnt children had a special proclivity for "the devouring element." Whoever knew a man ruined in character and fortune by gambling who thenceforth shunned inflexibly the black-leg's den? Whoever knew a man who had poured all he was worth down his throat that did not love the fiery fluid that had proved his perdition?

Still, we submit that he who has seen others fearfully burned, while himself unharmed, should know enough to keep cool, and it utterly amazes us, in view of the recent and bitter experience of France in Mexico, that we should have countrymen eager to imitate Napoleon's folly. There is no proof that the French were peculiarly obnoxious in Mexico; the natural instinct of independence, which the distrust and hatred of foreigners common to all ignorant and some tolerably intelligent people, fully accounts for the overthrow and death of Maximilian. The dullest, most illiterate "greaser" comprehends that the rule of foreigners in his country implies her incapacity for self-government, and he resents this all the more since he has a smothered suspicion that it is true.

The Times is moved by a recent preposterous manifesto to say:

"We are very happy that Señor Romero has seen fit to postpone the formation of a treaty between the United States and Mexico, for mutual protection against invasion and rebellion. It may be all very well for us to do what we can to help Mexico out of her troubles; but for Mexico to send an army to help us in case of rebellion, or invasion, is something we would rather not agree to. The idea was suggested to Romero by 'Mr. A. Watson,' not by Secretary Seward."

The American people may better understand at the outset that all schemes of "mutual protection," or whatever specious name may be given to the meditated arrangement between our Government and Juarez mean the saddling upon us of the Mexican Debt. It is just this that makes Louis Napoleon so anxious now to get us into Mexico as he recently professed to be to rule us out. If Uncle Sam would just swallow Mexico bodily, he could not refuse to assume and pay her Debt—and its amount, if he were once "in for it," would cause him to open his eyes. A few men would get rich out of Mexican mines and marts; but the great mass of us would find our already heavy burden of taxation largely increased.

LET MEXICO ALONE. That is the sum of all wisdom on the subject. She has given us to understand, in executing Maximilian, that our Government's influence with her chieftains is nought—that she chooses to manage her own affairs—so let her. It is best in the long run for her—best every way for us. Let Napoleon seek reimbursement for his luckless venture anywhere but here. Hands off!

THE STREETS. If Street Commissioners can feel remorse, we pity Judge Whiting, when, on his daily and thorough tour of the city, he goes up Eighth-ave., and down Tenth, and through Sixth-ave., and into the numerous lanes and by-ways and cross-roads which we have not space to catalogue. In the faithful and diligent discharge of his duty there can be no doubt that Judge Whiting constantly visits those numberless streets into which the unofficial citizen declines to penetrate, or passes through upon compulsion only, holding his nostrils, and averting his eyes. Even the undertaker, who is popularly supposed to rejoice in the prospect of an epidemic, shudders at the probable alarming increase of his business. For the streets of this city are in a shameful condition. West of Sixth-ave. dirt has become chronic, and even the churches contradict the scripture that cleanliness is next to godliness. Judged by that declaration, New-York is very wicked, for it is certainly very dirty.

We do not see the use of a Street Commissioner who will not or cannot clean the streets. It is not forgotten that during the Winter, when the snow choked up the streets, and the cars were prevented from running, Judge Whiting's neglect was censured by the Common Council, and the monthly appropriation for his department was nearly withheld. At that time he gave tolerably good reasons why the snow was not removed, and the rains which soon after washed it away helped him out of his unfortunate position. But now we know of no

excuse. The dirt in Eighth-ave. did not fall from above in a day as did the snow; it has long been accumulating, and to the best of our knowledge very feeble effort, or no effort, has been made to remove it. We suppose the Street Commissioner knows that the streets are dirty, but perhaps he is ignorant that the people expect him to clean them. We have only to ask him to clean them thoroughly, and to do it at once.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CROPS. A hideous plot has just been discovered in Pennsylvania, having for its object the destruction of the crops throughout the country. The band of midnight conspirators, who met in Philadelphia, have long meditated a sweeping blow, by which all kinds of Food should be forever annihilated. We have the full particulars of this vile conspiracy, of which the notorious Joe Flanagan was the chief. Flanagan has long been known as one of the bitter enemies of the great political parties from both of which he has repeatedly been expelled, under aggravating circumstances. Writhing under this disgrace, he resolved to ruin them both, that his own small party might spring suddenly into power. Various plans were suggested; throwing vast quantities of strychnine into the lakes and rivers was thought of, but rejected, as it was known that the Democrats never drink water. Then it was proposed to put arsenic in the whisky, but this was also abandoned as utterly harmless to the Republicans, and because the immense quantity of whisky consumed by the Democratic party would dilute, till it became powerless, all the poison that could be obtained. Other plans, costing to execute five, ten, and thirty dollars each, were rejected as too expensive. The plot was rapidly becoming what the Philadelphia papers call an imbroglia, when as Joseph was one day mingling his tears with a plate of soup, it occurred to him that the capabilities of soup as an engine of national destruction had never been thoroughly developed. He thought with admiration of the superb scheme by which the Union-Conservative-Hunger-Committee of New-York intend to turn Gen. Grant in a Soup-Ladle, and how he might imitate if not excel their effrontery. Before the soup was finished, the plot was matured.

Joseph contemplated nothing less than the creation of a Famine throughout the land. Five or six men equal in capacity to himself might, he thought, speedily produce a famine if the opportunity were afforded. With this end in view he made known his nefarious scheme to one John Welsh, one Coshall, one Sawyer, and one Bevan. Dreadful oaths of secrecy were sworn over a bowl of soup, and the conspirators in their midnight conclaves practiced nightly, and tested their power of consumption. The result inspired them with enthusiasm and confidence, and their long deprivation of office, formerly regretted, was now looked upon as a Providential overruling intended to increase their appetites. A few weeks of this practice was followed by such an alarming rise of the price of food in Philadelphia that the conspirators were obliged to desist for want of funds, and compelled to strike the blow. They left Philadelphia, where the price of provisions immediately fell, and went to Washington, where it immediately rose.

Their scheme was to ask the President to appoint them to office. That done, the fate of the nation would be sealed. They had obtained, by peeping through the key-holes of the Agricultural Bureau, the knowledge that the wheat crop would be 200,000,000 bushels; the Indian corn crop, 1,000,000,000 bushels; the oat crop, 200,000,000 bushels; the rice, barley, rye, and other crops, 500,000,000 bushels, and these statistics filled them with gratitude to Providence. Joseph decided that each of the five conspirators should hold as many offices as he could get; that the crops should be divided into five rations, to be equally distributed, he being responsible for the consumption of the rye-baked or distilled, as personal idiosyncrasies should determine. Everything being thus settled, the five conspirators—disguising their hunger lest it might reveal their plot—waited upon the President, and requested to be appointed Postmasters. But, fortunately for the country, Mr. Johnson invited them to dinner, and after witnessing that performance with astonishment and fear, plainly told them that in duty to his own family he could not grant their request. He could not contemplate without weeping, he said, the spectacle of Minister Campbell crying for bread in vain, of Steedman and Fullerton reduced to the necessity of devouring each other, and expiring office-holders everywhere reproaching him with their untimely ends. No, gentlemen, he said, firmly, I cannot permit you to reverse the miracle by which a few fragments were made 12,000 loaves, and to turn 12,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 loaves into a few fragments. Hearing these terrible words, the conspirators burst into tears, and retired, resolving to extort from Gen. Grant his views upon the impartial distribution of soup, and of fish-balls as a reward of Spartan fidelity to the Constitution. Such was the narrow escape of the people of this country! Had the arch-conspirator Joseph and his myrmidons obtained office, the crops would have been devoured, the Democracy and the Republicans annihilated, and starvation would have stared the nation in the face.

The discrepancy between the statements of Gen. Butler and Mr. Ould, respecting the exchange of prisoners, requires elucidation. The controversy is by no means settled, and it is too important to be left unsolved. There can be little difficulty in getting at the truth if a committee of Congress set resolutely to work. Mr. Ould says he made an offer to release 15,000 Federal prisoners unconditionally. Gen. Butler says he received no such offer. To whom was it made, and why was it not accepted? These are questions to which the country demands an answer.

A Legislative Committee came down from Albany last Winter to see how the New-York ferries were managed. At the same time, the people who daily risked their lives in crossing the East or North Rivers were eager in calling for reform in the ferry system, as it is here conducted. The ferry companies were calmly superior to all the clamor, and their incorporators pocketed their dividends with utter indifference to the public outcry. They neither provided more nor better boats; they erected not a chain nor a gate to restrain the struggling crowds, who contended like a mob of wrestlers at the edge of boat and bridge. The legislators went back, and the boats went on, occasionally crashing together in mid-stream, or running at full speed into their docks, and a belated passenger, hurrying to catch the departing boat, being now and then drowned because there was nothing at all to prevent his running directly into the water. But somebody has been at work amid the general apathy, and yesterday an ordinance was actually intro-

duced into the City Council-chamber requiring every ferry company to erect gates which shall effectually prevent the passage of any person to or from the boats except when the latter are securely fastened to the bridge. It would be almost too much to expect this ordinance to pass, or to expect its thorough enforcement if it were passed; but it would be worth something to know that a formal complaint could not be as cavalierly ignored by the corporations as all remonstrances now are.

IPSE DIXIT. We are living in a rainy season of rumors. The public likes to have its intelligence fresh, hot, and spicy; and what the public likes it generally succeeds in obtaining. Many large and many little men joy to be mentioned in the journals, and dilate with pleasurable delight upon seeing their private conversation carried to all points of the compass upon paper wings—their jokes, their jibes, their solemnities and their sarcasms, their bracing and their unbending. We do not know that the President is pleased with this trumpeting of his small talk, which came to us sometimes in native purity from its original source, and sometimes through the obliging interpretation of Mr. Stanbery; we do not, in truth, know that the President is just now in a frame of mind to be easily pleased by anything; and if he be in the least sensitive by nature or education, we can imagine how much his delicate spirit must be grieved by the liberal disclosures of the correspondents. It is, indeed, another matter if he talks to be reported, and in default of a decent organ, takes this method of communicating his views to the country. In such case we ought to be much obliged to him, and cheerfully struggle to reconcile the most contradictory statements. By the last accounts he was saying that "the Democrats are, some of them, very reasonable, and some of them very unreasonable. Some wanted him to give them all the offices, and some did not ask anything of the kind." If he will now communicate to an astonished world the names of those gentlemen who "don't ask anything of the kind," he will tell us something worth knowing. We fear it will be found upon such disclosure that Democrats of the moderate species by no means expect to be left out of the partial distribution which they so magnanimously approve. The party has lost almost everything else, but it has retained an extraordinary quantity of human nature—enough, in fact, for a party of twenty times its size. If the Democrats are "very reasonable" upon the loaf-and-fish point, it is but lately.

Another gentleman whose colloquial waifs are waited to us upon the tide of intelligence, is that brave man, Gen. Grant, who is, or was lately, disporting himself by the sad sea-waves at Long Branch, as one newspaper correspondent is good enough to inform us, "with a genteel suit of 'dress-clothes on.'" "At other times," we are told, he appears "in a finely-fitting dress uniform, his slim and fragile figure shining out to great advantage." But these points of intelligence are of importance only to army-tailors and to Jenkins. Clothes, in the view of all sensible men, must yield to conversation, and epaulets to opinions. Unfortunately, Gen. Grant smokes, and a smoking man may talk or not as he pleases. When attacked by the Boswells, the chief resorts to a full-flavored Havana, and confines himself pretty much to puffs and monosyllables. If still more closely beleaguered, he calls for his horses and, like a faithless lover, rides away. Should the emergency arise, should the crowd of cross-examiners become too great, we expect to hear of this reticent commander rushing into the billows of the ocean in full regimentals, and nobly surrendering his best buttons to the deteriorating brine. Thus far, he seems equal to the situation. Something is extracted from him, but not much. His utterances are brief. His words are shadowy. He doesn't put his opinions on parade. He refuses, with rare sagacity, to be confidential. He is proof against the passion for being printed. He might have two or three columns to himself in almost any issue of almost any morning paper, but he emulates the lamb in the hands of the sheeters, and opens not his mouth, except for necessary fumigatory purposes. This may be prudence; it may be contempt for his enemies in the guise of friends; it may be a love of smoking—for all true smokers are taciturn—but be the motive or cause what it may, the General does well, and shows himself worthy of the fine old Grecian name which he bears, in thus husbanding his strength for the day of battle, and in declining to talk himself into a political tomb. He is surrounded just now by a sharp set of schemers and engineers, and silence may prove his salvation.

What the President says is entertaining; what Gen. Grant might say, if he talked, would probably be just and true; what Jones, Smith, Brown, Robinson, and many other minute notabilities say, though duly and extensively reported, are so inclined to regard as oracular. But we get it from all quarters, and are duly informed that Jones is with the President on the Reconstruction question; that Smith is of one mind and Brown of another, while Robinson continues to occupy the interesting position of the ass between two stacks of hay. If a man's opinions are of importance to the country, they will be sought for by responsible bodies, and when the proper hour has arrived he duly and authoritatively announced. To pump the President is disrespectful to his office, and is taking undue advantage of his fine, natural candor; to pump the Lieutenant-General is a waste of wind and of time; to pump Jones & Co. is to play upon their credulity, and to awaken hopes in their bosoms which must be cruelly blighted. Our word for it, a President can be elected without these political hydraulics.

AN ASCENDER RELEASED. The Sultan made a little speech at Guildhall, where the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London feasted him the other day, and we are not surprised to be told that it made a sensation such as is not often aroused by after-dinner orations. Just a hint of the Grand Turk getting up among a room full of infidels and announcing his desire to establish not only among his own subjects, but between his people and the other nations of Europe, "that feeling of brotherhood which is the foundation of human progress and the glory of our age." When the Sultan learns to appreciate universal brotherhood and human progress, the day of universal political regeneration ought to be at hand, and we might hope for his country were many of his subjects half as wise as himself. But the trouble with Turkey is not Abdul Aziz, but the Turks.

SINKING OF A MISSOURI STEAMER. St. Louis, August 1.—The G. B. Amen was sunk in the Missouri River, near Clayville, yesterday. The steamer was valued at \$60,000, and was insured for \$200,000 in St. Louis, Philadelphia, and New-York Companies. It is probable that she had no passengers.

BODY RECOVERED. PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 1.—The body of Capt. Morrill, who was killed in the battle of Gettysburg, was recovered. He resided near Portland, Maine.

WASHINGTON.

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA—WORK IN THE PATENT OFFICE—THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

It was mentioned in those dispatches some two or three weeks ago that negotiations were going on which bid fair to result in a settlement with England of the Alabama claims, and the acquisition on our part of the British possessions on the Pacific coast intervening between our present territory and the lands recently acquired by treaty with Russia. The truth of this report was contradicted by one or more Washington correspondents. My original statement was substantially correct, and there is now authority for the announcement that this attempt at settlement has failed, and is abandoned for the present. The matter did not assume the severity of formal diplomatic correspondence, however, but was the subject of informal conferences, to discover if there was encouragement sufficient to warrant the opening of official correspondence between the representatives of the United States and Great Britain. At first it appeared as though some satisfactory agreement might be concluded, but eventually it was deemed impracticable.

An examination of the work performed at the Patent Office shows that the number of applications, at the present rate of increase, will reach 20,000 during the present year, and that patents are being issued at the rate of nearly 500 per week. The applications have increased during the past four years on average of nearly 5,000 per year, while the means for facilitating business have not been added in a proportionate ratio. The necessity for keeping the records and papers in the Patent Office Building requires that some form for the increased force authorized recently by Congress to meet the demand, shall be made by transferring the clerks of some of the other departments to the Post-Office Department. Arrangements for this move will very soon be completed.

The War Department has just completed and sent to the President for his signature between 500 and 600 commissions for military officers recently appointed and brevetted.

Bids were opened by the Secretary of the Treasury to-day for furnishing stationery, blanks, &c., for the Fifth Geographical District. The West and North-West internal revenue awards are to be made next week.

T. J. Carter, esq., Governor of the State of California, reports to the Secretary of the Interior the progress of the road for Julesburg, 377 miles; the track laid 410 miles, and grading completed 450 miles, and an active progress, with efficient force, to Cheyenne, near the base of the Rocky Mountains, 577 miles. There has been some delay in the delivery of iron, from difficulty in crossing the Missouri during the season, much embarrassing the operations of the road, and demonstrating the great importance of bridging the river at the earliest period practicable for the benefit of the Company and the public. Large quantities of iron material, engines, and cars are now waiting delivery across the river at this point, causing delay in the progress of the road, and likely to incur often an enormous expenditure of money in the repair of the road, and the loss of property.

Another gentleman whose colloquial waifs are waited to us upon the tide of intelligence, is that brave man, Gen. Grant, who is, or was lately, disporting himself by the sad sea-waves at Long Branch, as one newspaper correspondent is good enough to inform us, "with a genteel suit of 'dress-clothes on.'" "At other times," we are told, he appears "in a finely-fitting dress uniform, his slim and fragile figure shining out to great advantage." But these points of intelligence are of importance only to army-tailors and to Jenkins. Clothes, in the view of all sensible men, must yield to conversation, and epaulets to opinions. Unfortunately, Gen. Grant smokes, and a smoking man may talk or not as he pleases. When attacked by the Boswells, the chief resorts to a full-flavored Havana, and confines himself pretty much to puffs and monosyllables. If still more closely beleaguered, he calls for his horses and, like a faithless lover, rides away. Should the emergency arise, should the crowd of cross-examiners become too great, we expect to hear of this reticent commander rushing into the billows of the ocean in full regimentals, and nobly surrendering his best buttons to the deteriorating brine. Thus far, he seems equal to the situation. Something is extracted from him, but not much. His utterances are brief. His words are shadowy. He doesn't put his opinions on parade. He refuses, with rare sagacity, to be confidential. He is proof against the passion for being printed. He might have two or three columns to himself in almost any issue of almost any morning paper, but he emulates the lamb in the hands of the sheeters, and opens not his mouth, except for necessary fumigatory purposes. This may be prudence; it may be contempt for his enemies in the guise of friends; it may be a love of smoking—for all true smokers are taciturn—but be the motive or cause what it may, the General does well, and shows himself worthy of the fine old Grecian name which he bears, in thus husbanding his strength for the day of battle, and in declining to talk himself into a political tomb. He is surrounded just now by a sharp set of schemers and engineers, and silence may prove his salvation.

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THE WAR OF THE EXPRESS COMPANIES. The opinion exists quite extensively that there is not room for more than one Express Company on any one line, and that the result of the quarrel will be that the weaker of the companies must go to the wall. Our impression is that there is room for two companies on any line, and that the public will be the gainers by a healthy competition. Let the Merchants' Union and whichever company is competing with it charge fair and uniform rates and get what business they can. It is not for the interest of the public that either should kill the other. The Merchants' Union was established and is in large part owned by small proprietors, who went into the business with their eyes open, and appearances do not indicate that they intend to abandon the fight. The Adams, the American, and the United States Express Companies have done, in years past, a very profitable business. The public complained that their charges were sometimes too high, and the Merchants' Union was established. They fixed a lower tariff than the old companies, but at rates which they thought would pay a fair profit. The old companies reduced their rates still lower, and it is said that none of them are now making money. We advise the old companies to charge fair rates, and abandon the idea of killing the Merchants' Union. There is room and reasonable profit for all.

THE PATERSON ALMS HOUSE INVESTIGATION. The investigation last night proceeded, Mr. A. B. Woodruff of Paterson, appearing for the people. Belinda Murray testified that she saw Eliza Dooley whip a child, and that she should have no more, her eldest child was sick with dysentery, and she had no light; thought he was dying, and lighted a candle, and she took with her that child of her dying child, and that she wanted a light, but he refused her; she took some extra tea two or three times when she was sick; once got some water the most she could get, but it was not boiled; if beef-tea, it was not what the witness would call beef-tea; the milk given witness's baby was watered with milk; sour milk given to witness's baby; the witness who is a very weak and nervous woman, contradicted herself on her cross-examination. The excitement is still intense, and the feeling against the keeper of the Alms House bitter. The investigation is to be continued.

CUSTOM RECEIPTS. WASHINGTON, August 1.—The following are the receipts from Customs from July 20 to July 27: at the ports below mentioned—New-York, \$2,277,000; Boston, \$291,847; Philadelphia, \$95,200; St. Louis, \$100,000; New-Orleans, July 27, \$27,418; San Francisco, July 8 to July 22, \$74,441. Total, \$3,515,417.

THE FEMANS AND THE CHURCH. BUFFALO, August 1.—The Fenian Brotherhood of this city passed strong resolutions to-night, denouncing the Rev. W. Gleason for refusing to administer the funeral rites to the body of Sergeant Lynch, while persons wearing the Fenian uniform were in the Cathedral.

YELLOW FEVER AT GALVESTON. GALVESTON, August 1.—The yellow fever is increasing steadily, and the physicians are urging those who are unacquainted to go away.

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