New-York Tribune.

VOL. XXIX.....No. 8,881. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1869. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

PARIS, Thursday, Sept. 23, 1869.

The Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Burlingame of the Chinese Embassy, have made arrangements for establishing improved relations between France and China, on the basis of mutual conciliation, and the French Government has sent out instructions to its representatives in China to act in accordance with this policy.

FATHER HYACINTHE.

The religious journals express grief at the letter of Père Hyacinthe. The *Monde* says the letter justifies the fears which have long been entertained in regard to him. No such language has been heard in the French church since the Middle Ages. The *Patrie* declares that the independent language and courageous tone of his sermons attracted much attention, and have drawn on the preacher the condemnation of the Papacy and of his superiors.

THE DEMANDED CONVOCATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY.

LONDON, Thursday, Sept. 23, 1869.

The Times to-day has an editorial on the present situation of affairs in France. It says: If the Emperor is now recovered, his conduct cannot easily be accounted for. The new Constitution may be regarded as already virtually in vigor. The granting of amnesty, the tolerance extended to the press, every circumstance contributes to foster the conviction that a new era has dawned. Yet the Emperor remains inactive, as if he considered everything done. Meanwhile public opinion demands the convocation of the Legislative Body. Uneasiness at the delay causes some members to contemplate the invasion of their own premises next month with the view of deliberating without the consent of the Executive. No one, however, expects a resort to such extremes. The legality of the Emperor's conduct in allowing six months to elapse between the dissolution and reconvocation of the Chambers depends upon a technical quibble. Although the Legislative Body separated before it was constituted, still it had given formal signs of its existence by several divisions.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE COTTON SUPPLY.

LONDON, Thursday, Sept. 23, 1869.

The Times in an article on the cotton supply says: Mr. Ashworth and Mr. Bright by different methods arrive at the same end, namely, that nothing is wanted but cotton. More cotton would start the mills, dispel distress and silence the clamors against free trade. Of this we are not sure; but we are well aware that the prostration of industry in Lancashire demands attention. Cotton is dear because it is scarce. Why scarce? The crop of the Southern States with considerable consignments from other points has enormously increased the supply. If less cotton arrives, Liverpool must investigate the cause. It would be safer to say that Lancashire suffers from loss of trade more than from dearness and scarcity of cotton. The demand for goods is less than it formerly was. If the Americans would take our manufactures as freely as we take their crop of cotton, the industry would be entirely ours and the supply of material theirs. It is not improbable that the protective tariffs of other countries are answerable in some degree for the depression in Lancashire. It is certain that in this case cheap cotton will not remedy the suffering. The loss of the market is not material. Our manufactures formerly commanded the world; they were better and cheaper than those of other countries. What is to be done now that people refuse to buy in the cheapest market? Without free trade manufacturing excellence loses its value. If trade is bad in consequence of the restrictions of other countries, the scarcity or abundance of cotton is immaterial. Without doubt Lancashire suffers because other countries refuse to trade freely with us. To attempt to relieve her sufferings by refusing to trade freely with them would be absurd.

PERSONAL.

Lord Westbury has been appointed Lord Justice of the Court of Appeals in Chancery, vice Sir C. J. Selwyn.

VENEZUELA.

ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF MONAGAS—MUTINY IN THE ARMY AT CARACCAS—DEFEAT OF THE CONSPIRACY.

CARACCAS, Sept. 7.—On the 18th of last month, a desperate attempt was made by the enemies of the Government to get up a revolution in this city. The conspirators, it appears, bribed with money some 40 or 50 soldiers of Monagas's Division, and it was settled that, on the evening of the day in question, these soldiers should mutiny and kill their officers; after doing which they should call upon their comrades to join them, and, sallying forth, seize all the executive members of the Government and hold them prisoners. They faithfully carried out the first part of their agreement, and succeeded in killing Col. Durand and the cornet-blower; but the firing of guns at the headquarters of San Carlos gave the alarm all over the city, and the authorities were promptly at their several posts of duty—Gen. Ramirez, the commanding officer of the Division, also hastening to the scene of the disturbances, and throwing himself into the midst of the rioters, heedless of his personal safety. The designado Villegas immediately called a meeting of the Ministers, to decide upon the measures required by the urgency of the case. The prompt action of the Government was warmly supported by the zeal of the people, large numbers of citizens immediately turning out armed to defend the cause of law and order, while before long people from the suburbs also began pouring into the city to render aid to the authorities. Unfortunately, through a sad mistake, two detachments of soldiers, marching from opposite directions, fired upon each other, and Col. Andres, the commander of one of them, was killed on the spot. Andres was highly esteemed, and the news of his death excited the people greatly. The mutineers having taken flight, all of them unfortunately making their escape, troops were stationed in different parts of the city as a measure of precaution, but, in addition to the regular soldiers, 1,500 of the citizens of Caraccas remained under arms the whole night. About midnight the excitement subsided; but to such a pitch did it rise at one time that had any of the well-known opponents of the Government shown themselves they certainly would have been killed by the enraged populace. A number of these went to the house of Dr. Urrutia, who, to escape their fury, had to jump over the wall of his garden and take refuge in a neighboring house. As he was suffering from heart disease, the excitement was too great for him, and he died shortly after. By the evening of the 19th the city had become perfectly tranquil, and has remained so to the present time. There is a stronger feeling than ever in favor of the Government, and its enemies hereabouts dare not open their lips at present.

Gen. Monagas has left for Maracaibo with 5,000 men, four steamers, and several schooners to attack Pulgar at that place.

THE NEW DOMINION.

PRINCE ARTHUR.

LONDON, Ont., Sept. 23.—Prince Arthur visited Petrolia to-day, and was shown through the large oil wells. He was much pleased at the sight, and returned at noon. In the afternoon the Prince, with Sir John Young, formally opened Helmuth College. In the evening he attended a ball given by the citizens, which was a splendid affair. The Governor-General and staff were also present. The city continues crowded, and the weather hot.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND CONFEDERATION—THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

OTTAWA, Ontario, Sept. 23.—Important dispatches have been received from Earl Granville in reference to the admission of British Columbia to the Confederation of Canada. He strongly urges upon Gov. Musgrove and the Council the propriety and advantages of a Union. The Hon. Wm. McDougall, the newly-appointed Governor of the North-West Territory, will leave for his seat of Government in about two weeks. It is understood that there will be no difficulty about the delivery of the deeds of transfer of the North-West Territory before the loan is raised. The solicitors of the Hudson Bay Company are prepared to deliver them at once. Mr. McDougall has made an arrangement with an American company to run a telegraph line to Fort Garry.

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSALISTS' CONVENTION.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Sept. 23.—This was the third day of the meeting of the National Universalists' Convention. A woman's mass-meeting was held at Dr. Hartzell's church at 8½ o'clock this morning to organize a Universalist association and to raise a Murray Centenary Fund. Three hundred names were appended to the list of membership. The Convention was occupied during the forenoon in discussing the report of the Centenary Committee. The report was unanimously adopted. The Rev. Asa Saxe, D. D., of Rochester was elected General Secretary of the Convention; the Rev. Jno. Moore, of Philadelphia was made trustee, in place of the Rev. D. K. Lee, deceased; E. R. Crowell, the Treasurer of the Convention, resigned, and D. D. Holden of New-Jersey was elected in his place. The next meeting of the Convention will be held in Gloucester, Mass., in September, 1870, where the first Universalist Church was established in America. The Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., of Boston will preach the annual sermon. The Convention adjourned sine die.

THE INDIANS.

FIGHT BETWEEN THE SIOUX AND PAWNEES—OUTRAGES IN MONTANA.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sept. 23.—An Omaha dispatch says: Gen. Augur left for Fort Bridger and Salt Lake yesterday. Several companies of troops will be quartered at Sherman Barracks during the coming Winter. Reports from the Pawnee Reservation, near Columbus, are to the effect that several Pawnees were killed by Sioux, and that great excitement exists among the former. The United States troops will punish the Sioux. Reports from Fort Buford say that the Indians there continue hostile, and that there is a large force in that neighborhood. Outrages are also being committed in Montana. A hunting party had been attacked near Helena and one man killed. Another man had been killed near the Blackfoot Agency.

THE GRAND LODGE OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Sept. 23.—At the session, last evening, of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars of the State of New York, the following officers were elected: Rev. Silas Bull, Grand Worthy Chief Templar; Mrs. Anna T. Randall, Grand Worthy Vice-Templar; H. F. Ferrin, Grand Worthy Treasurer; W. G. McKee, Grand Worthy Secretary; J. A. Vauer, Grand Worthy Counselor. The sessions yesterday were devoted to Lodge business exclusively.

To-day the Committee on the State of the Order submitted their report, which was adopted by articles. That portion of the report with reference to political action was adopted, as follows:

The first solid and great principles of our Order is in the assertion that every Good Templar is to do all he can, both by precept and example, to abolish the use of intoxicating drinks. The doctrine of prohibition for drinkers and for society stands first in the teachings of our Order, and while we are not a political organization, but rather an institution to educate the people up to political action, a Good Templar, in the discharge of his duties as a citizen, should recognize the claims of his obligation, and do all in his power to rescue and force restrictive and prohibitory legislation. The time has not come for the organization of a political party, but the time has come for every temperance man to engage in temperance politics, keeping in mind that we can labor for the largest immediate results now practicable. It is evident that prohibition is now presented us as the first available work to be done.

The newly elected officers were installed to-day with grand ceremonies.

THE NATIONAL MUSICAL CONVENTION.

BOSTON, Sept. 23.—In the National Musical Convention to-day, L. H. Southard of Baltimore, delivered an address on music as an element of worship. He protested against the adoption of vulgar or popular music in churches. He did not deem the music now in use adapted to congregational singing and consequently favored organized choirs. In his opinion Protestant Church music, except that of the English Church, has been retrograding for the past 20 years. Other speakers followed upon the same subject, generally agreeing with Mr. Southard. The Convention closed with a concert in the evening, which was largely attended. Bishop Clark of Rhode Island delivered an address in the evening, previous to the concert, on "Oratorio music as a means of elevating popular taste." At the close he was heartily applauded. The enthusiasm manifested during the closing proceedings would indicate very general satisfaction with the results accomplished by the Convention.

CONVENTION OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Sept. 23.—The Fourth Annual State Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of the State of New-York met here on Tuesday afternoon. R. R. McBurney of New-York City was unanimously elected President. The welcome-meeting, Tuesday night, was largely attended. The delegates present included many of the leading men of the State. A State Committee of Organization has been formed, to establish new Associations in places where none exist, of which John J. Platt of Poughkeepsie was chosen Chairman. The utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed during the Convention. The closing meeting, this evening, was one of warm earnestness. There are 57 Associations in the State, from the most of which reports were read, showing great advance in efficiency and work during the year. The Convention adjourned to meet on the 1st of September, 1870, at Poughkeepsie.

THE EMANCIPATION ANNIVERSARY.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 23.—The colored people of Dayton and vicinity yesterday celebrated the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Peter H. Clark, colored, of this city, delivered the address. Among other things he said: "I have within a few weeks had the good fortune to find myself in accord with the good old Democratic party—to have my sentiments applauded by its organs, &c." In the above he referred to the newspaper comments on his Louisville speech, of which he said: "I find, in reading over my speech which has so pleased my Democratic friends, that I demanded equal education, equal employment, and equal ballot for the colored man; and for this I am admitted in full standing to the Democratic Church."

A CONSPIRACY TO EFFECT COL. YERGER'S ESCAPE.

NASHVILLE, Sept. 23.—Recent Jackson (Miss.) advices give the particulars of a conspiracy, just discovered, to effect the escape of Col. Yerger, now in the custody of the military authorities at that place. A sergeant, two corporals, and seven privates are under arrest on the charge of being engaged in the conspiracy. Certain outside parties were working in concert with the guards, to whom was intrusted the work of spiriting Yerger away as soon as he was released. The matter is under investigation.

A WELL-KNOWN COUNTERFEITER ARRESTED.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23.—United States Treasury Agent John A. Clarvoe, this morning, arrested Capt. Leonard, a well-known counterfeiter. Upon the prisoner were between $3,000 and $4,000 in $20, $10, and $5, upon National Banks, and about $1,000 in 25 cent notes. The notes were well executed. Leonard was found in a house in the neighborhood of Seventh and Walnut-sts., where he had been living for some time past. The house was searched this morning and a large quantity of counterfeit money was found.

A NEST OF COUNTERFEITERS BROKEN UP.

LOUISVILLE, Sept. 23.—A force of detectives made a raid upon the establishment of one Henry A. Marchand on Mark-st. and found a large quantity of nickles and a die used in their manufacture, which were all confiscated and Marchand was arrested. It is believed that Marchand is a leader of a band of counterfeiters in the West who have been circulating a large amount of spurious coin.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT NEAR CANTON, OHIO.

CANTON, O., Sept. 23.—The engine of a special train of cars carrying to New York the excursion party of California pioneers, ran off the track near this place at half-past seven o'clock this morning, in consequence of an unguarded switch. Not the slightest injury was sustained, however, by any passenger.

FIRE IN ALLEGHANY CITY.

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 23.—A grocery store in Allegheny City was burned last night. The proprietor was engaged in drawing burning fluid, which united and ran through the floor into the cellar and afterward exploded. Henry Wagner, a fireman, leaped from an upper window and had his leg broken in two places. Four other men were hurt and slightly burned while escaping.

A NEGRO SHOT IN GEORGIA.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Sept. 23.—An affray occurred in Columbia County, on Saturday, between a planter named Baker and a party of negroes in which William Jones (negro) was killed. The published account represents that Baker acted in self-defense.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT HARTFORD.

HARTFORD, Sept. 23.—John G. Mix, well-known in business circles here for 40 years, was instantly killed to-day by the falling of a piece of timber, while superintending repairs in the basement of his residence. He was 67 years old.

A STEAMER SNAGGED ON THE ARKANSAS RIVER.

MEMPHIS, Sept. 23.—The steamer Guidion, hence for Little Rock, struck a snag at Red Fork, Arkansas River, on Tuesday, and sunk. She had a valuable cargo on board, which will be lost. The boat will be raised again.

GENERAL TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

....The Western Union Company has opened a telegraph line to Lewes, Del.

....A strong easterly gale prevailed at Lewes, Del., yesterday, and there were 70 vessels inside the breakwater.

....Mrs. W. D. Miller of Springfield, Mass., committed suicide, yesterday, by jumping into the Connecticut River.

....A man named Hayes, from Syracuse, was arrested at Rochester, yesterday, charged with seizing $300 from a depositor at the Rochester Savings Bank.

....The Portland Dry Dock, at Cape Elizabeth, was opened on Wednesday. It is the largest in the country, with the exception of the Brooklyn Dry Dock.

....The break in the Erie Canal at Pool's Brook will have been repaired by Friday evening, and navigation will be resumed on Saturday.

....The Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad Company have filed their acceptance of the act of the last General Assembly of Illinois which allowed railroad companies to divide their directors into three classes for different terms of service.

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION.

CUBAN AFFAIRS IN SPAIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

MADRID, Sept. 6.—Private dispatches are received every week from the Captain-General, giving a full account of the operations of the troops. Caballero de Rodas is no longer confident of triumph, but says he will do his utmost, sends for 16,000 soldiers, and says that the arming of the volunteers has been fatal to the country. With regard to public opinion on the Cuban question, it should be kept in view that there is a young Spain who has been abroad, who has seen other countries, who is well educated and enlightened. Hence, there is a large party in favor of the relinquishment of the island in exchange for the millions offered, and a public manifestation in support of this idea is anticipated. The new Colonial Minister, Becerra, seems bent on preserving this beautiful Antilla to Spain. To my certain knowledge he has sent a communication to Morales Lemus through a distinguished Cuban, proposing an arrangement which will undoubtedly be rejected by the Cubans. He is even disposed to go to Cuba himself to negotiate a peaceable compromise with the rebels in case of necessity, so deeply has he taken the matter to heart.

The popular General Amable Escalante died a few days ago, almost immediately after his return from Cuba. His funeral was very largely attended, and much curiosity was expressed as to certain mysterious "instruments" which were noticed occupying a prominent place on the coffin: they were the insignia of his rank as Free Mason, and it was the first time that these emblems were ever publicly exhibited in Spain. In the year 1837 seventeen persons were executed in Granada because suspected of being Free Masons. And this is hardly strange, when only nine years ago Matamoros, Carrasco, Ruet, and others, were sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for the crime of being Protestants and reading the Bible.

STATEMENT OF A RETURNED CUBAN OFFICER—A DEFEAT AT LAS TUNAS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Sept. 19.—An ex-officer in Jordan's Cuban army, who was disabled in service and resigned, and who left that General's headquarters in the South Bayamo District on the 18th of August, and the Cuban lines on the 26th, has arrived here, and makes the following statement in regard to affairs since the 1st of July. Early in July about 800 Spanish troops left Las Tunas for Mariabon, a seaport, for supplies for the garrison. Gen. Garcia, who was operating in that district with 800 men, learned this fact, and made preparations to intercept them on their return. At Mariabon the Spanish troops were attacked with cholera, and it was not until 15 days afterward that they started with their convoy for Las Tunas. On their second day out skirmishing commenced, and continued until within 15 miles of Las Tunas, where they were attacked by Garcia in force and badly defeated, with the loss of their entire convoy; 80 killed and wounded, and 110 prisoners. The convoy consisted of 10 wagons and 250 stand of arms. The Cubans lost 80 killed and wounded. Two days after this Garcia attacked Las Tunas, whither the defeated Spaniards had retreated, and succeeded in getting into the city, but was finally, after fighting four hours, driven out with heavy loss.

DEFEAT OF THE PATRIOTS NEAR PUERTO PRINCIPE.

On the 5th of August Gen. M. Castillo, by order of Quesada, attacked Puerto Principe with 3,000 men, and after gaining the interior of the town was repulsed with the loss of 300 men killed and wounded. A few days after this (about the 10th) the Dominican General Puello, commanding the Spanish troops, attacked the Cubans under F. Castillo, between Baga and Nuevitas, but was defeated, with the loss of 33 men. On the afternoon of the same day, being reënforced, he again attacked Castillo's force, and this time succeeded in dispersing them. No further fighting of note (though there is daily skirmishing) had taken place, or at least none had been reported up to the time of my informant's departure, at which time the principal Cuban generals were commanding as follows: Gen. Quesada, District Puerto Principe: Gen. Figuerada, District North Bayamo; Gen. Jordan, District South Bayamo; Gen. Garcia, District Las Tunas; Gen. F. Castillo, District Nuevitas. Cespedes's government was located at the village of Deseada, in the center of the Puerto Principe District. Gen. Quesada holds about 1,300 Spanish prisoners, and Gen. Jordan about 800. The blockade of the island is not at all rigid. The expedition of Antonio Jimenes, with 60 men and 1,800 Remington rifles, and a large quantity of ammunition and supplies, were safely landed some time ago.

GEN. JORDAN'S LOSSES.

Of the officers Gen. Jordan took out with him he lost five, as follows: Dr. Amabile of New-York, killed at the Bay of Nipe, in the first battle. Capt. Dupont, formerly of the United States Army, and signal officer at the Brooklyn Navy-Yard. He was wounded at Canalito, in the second fight, and died a few days afterward at Bijara, to which place Jordan had moved. Capt. M. Limendue, wounded in the same fight, and died of his wounds at Bijara. Capt. de Giacouria, wounded, and left on the field of Cuavas; and Ponce de Leon, second in command of engineers, who surrendered at Cuavas, when both he and De Giacouria were put to death on the spot by the Cavalry Lancers.

THE REPORTED CAPTURE OF LAS TUNAS.

A letter has been received by the editors of *La Revolucion* from their correspondent at Kingston, Jamaica, to the effect that Las Tunas had fallen into the hands of the Cubans with 400 prisoners. Baire was said to have been burned the night after the assassination of the 17 prisoners at Jiguani, and some Spaniards perished in the flames. It is reported that the Spaniards cut the throats of 200 Cubans in Las Tunas. The news is not trustworthy, and until the report of Queseda is made out, no one will be disposed to lend that, or any similar story, credit. It is not understood that the conductors of the journal above mentioned are willing to accept the statement reported as true in the absence of something else confirming it.

RECOGNITION BY COLUMBIA.

The two Houses in Congress assembled have passed resolutions favorable to a recognition of Cuba as a free and independent nation. The Congress intimates to the President that a recognition by him of Cuba, as a new nation, would be universally applauded throughout the Republic.

THE CUBAN CONSTITUTION—MR. SUMNER CONTRADICTED.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Prominent friends of Cuba desire it to be stated that article 24 of the Constitution, adopted by the Cuban Congress in April last, declares "all the inhabitants of the Republic are absolutely free," and they deny the statement in Senator Sumner's recent speech, that any decree has been subsequently issued maintaining slavery.

SEVEN MONTHS IN A SPANISH PRISON—ROBBERIES AND MURDERS THE ORDER OF THE DAY—AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOT FOR DISLOYALTY—A SUIT OF $200,000 TO BE BROUGHT AGAINST THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

Dr. Albert T. Simmons, an American physician, who for the past 13 years has been a resident of Cuba, and who was confined for seven months in a Spanish jail at Puerto Principe, on the charge of *infidencia* (disloyalty), recently arrived in this city, having been finally released by order of Capt.-Gen. De Rodas, and transported to the United States. Dr. Simmons is a native of Ontario County, in this State, where he was reared and educated. When a young man he went to reside in Vicksburg, where he became editor and proprietor of *The Vicksburg Sentinel*, and was afterward elected a Senator to the Mississippi State Legislature. In 1856 he emigrated to Cuba, where he continued the practice of the medical profession at Santiago. On the 19th of August last, Dr. Simmons had been called away to Puerto Principe to attend a very sick patient, and while engaged in the performance of his duty he was arrested by Spanish Volunteers, and led away without further ceremony. Dr. Simmons states that the charge on which he was captured and imprisoned was wholly false, and that the only object the soldiers had in arresting him was to secure his money, knowing that he had a large sum in his possession. This they took from him, beside a large amount of gold which was afterward taken from his residence, leaving him almost penniless when released. The Volunteers at that time were receiving no pay from the Government, and relied entirely upon plundering the wealthy Cuban citizens. To procure money they would rob, murder, sack and burn, it is alleged, and after desolating a homestead of all its wealth, in many instances the men were murdered and the women ravished. Notwithstanding the ignorance of the Volunteers, they are filled with a spirit of bravado, and often indulge in threats, saying they would annihilate the inhabitants of the whole island if they did not succumb; saying they intended to kill all, beginning with the fighting young men, and ending with the old men and women. They also boasted that in case the United States interceded on behalf of Cuba, they would whip them too. They often made the assertion that 10,000 Spanish soldiers would go in at New-York and out at New-Orleans. Many horrible murders are related which came under Mr. Simmons's own notice. In one instance, some soldiers went out to a plantation in the country and demanded the owner's money. He was very wealthy, but refused to give them anything till they compelled him, by pricking him with their bayonets, to surrender. Under his bed was concealed $20,000 in gold. The soldiers took this, and, before leaving, raised the cry of rebel, and stabbed the aged man to death with their bayonets. After the amnesty proclamation of Capt.-Gen. Dulce, quite a large number of volunteers came over to be pardoned. They came in squads each day, and if their old companions in arms found them out they were sure to be killed. In one instance thirteen of these men were caught, and twelve of them were taken to the outskirts of the town and shot, while the remaining one was tried and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor. He was confined to the same prison as Mr. Simmons, and was serving with the chain-gang when he left. As an example of the honesty of Spanish officials, Mr. Simmons relates that after the earthquake in 1854, $100,000 was sent from Spain to be distributed among the sufferers of Santiago. The agents intrusted with the distribution of the funds went about and gave $5 to a person on condition that he would give a receipt for $55. The receipt being given, the agent paid out the $5, and put the remaining $45 in his pocket. In June last Mr. Simmons, becoming so impressed with the cruelties all over the island, wrote a long account of them to President Grant, giving the true state of affairs at that time, hoping it would have the effect of causing the United States to interfere. While in prison he again wrote to President Grant, asking him to demand his release, the Consul at Havana, Mr. Plumb, having stated that he was unable to assist the prisoner. He received no reply, however, and subsequently he addressed the Secretary of State, but with the same result. His first communication to the President was sent to Washington by a special messenger, paid by Mr. Simmons. During his confinement in prison he was obliged to support himself, as the prison diet was next to starvation. Having suffered in prison for five months without any hope of being liberated, he became desperate, and resolved to secure his liberty or die. As there were 70 prisoners beside himself, they planned a formidable conspiracy to break through and escape. As a last resort, however, Mr. Simmons had addressed a letter to the Captain-General himself, demanding his immediate release. Shortly after dispatching this letter, and before the plot for the escape was matured, the release of the prisoner was ordered.

The following is an interesting portion of Mr. Simmons's letter to the Captain-General:

"I hope your Excellency will pardon me if I venture to give it as my opinion that the policy of the Government in the mode of carrying on this war is very distinct from that of the Volunteers. The programme of the latter, as they have on many occasions confessed to me, is the utter extermination of the whole white Creole population. They say they intend to place the island in such a situation that another revolution will be impossible. The only way to accomplish this is to *assassinate, on whatever pretext, all Cubans, whether found with arms in their hands or not.* At first I supposed this was only said to frighten people from taking part in the insurrection, but subsequent events have clearly proved that such is their real policy, not only of the Volunteers of this place, but the Volunteers generally all over the island. This, it seems, is what has produced so much misunderstanding between them and the regular troops, the latter being generally in favor of carrying on the contest according to the rules of civilized warfare; the former of the indiscriminate massacre of all natives, whether taken prisoners of war or found quietly attending to business on their estates. Horrible as this programme may appear to your Excellency, the history of the last six months too clearly proves the truth of what I have stated.

"Six months ago, the rebels established a camp within one league of this town. I can see its flag, even now, floating triumphantly in the breeze on the *loma de la tunda*. Within this period, there have arrived at Puerto Principe more than ten thousand regular soldiers; yet the flag is still there. Instead of attacking the rebels, and destroying the camps of those who were in arms against the Government, they have been occupying themselves during this time in the destruction of private property, sugar and cattle estates, violating women, and assassinating old men and boys who have taken no part in the revolution. Following the example given by Valmaseda, nearly every estate in this jurisdiction has been laid in ashes, and their occupants compelled to flee to the woods for shelter. Even during the forty days' amnesty granted by Gen. Dulce, a raid was made by the regular soldiers in the country, headed by Cols. Gogenche and Aquilar, assaulting the estate of Miguel Saldivar; and, not content with the destruction of the machinery, and burning the cane-fields, and driving off all the cattle and horses, they forcibly robbed the women, who had taken refuge at the house, of all their clothing, jewelry, and $8,000 in money. Not long after, they made another raid, and visited the country-seat of Mr. Rodriguez. He was an old man, and had always remained very quiet, and had taken no part whatever in the revolution or politics, but unfortunately he was reported to have money. After the soldiers had taken possession of all his silverware, they then demanded his money. Refusing to tell where it was, they commenced pricking him with their bayonets, and threatening him with instant death unless he gave up his treasure. At last, in order to save his life, he was obliged to do so. Tearing up the bricks of the floor under his bed, they came to a box containing $20,000 in cash, beside watches, diamond rings, and other valuables. The captain of the party then accused the old man of being a rebel, and a soldier, who undoubtedly understood the sign, run him through with a bayonet. To crown this bloody tragedy, and keep it a secret from the world, all the house servants were collected together and shot. But it seems that this grand feat of arms was too good to be kept secret, the soldiers in a few days discovering the whole transaction. These are only two out of the many examples I could cite of this character. It is calculated that over 200 peaceable citizens, within this jurisdiction, have been assassinated in this way since the commencement of the war."

About ten days after the date of Dr. Simmons's letter to the Captain-General, he was liberated from prison, and sent to the City of Havana under guard, and from thence by the American steamship Missouri to the United States, arriving in this city about the middle of last month. For the damages he has sustained he has retained the services of Mr. John W. Grattan, counselor-at-law of this city, to institute an international suit against the Spanish Government for the recovery of $200,000; and in a few days the Spanish gunboats now building in our waters will be attached to await the issue of the trial of this important case, which involves the right of innocent American citizens to be free from insult, robbery, and imprisonment by foreign governments. There are a number of the residents of Puerto Principe and vicinity, and also of other ports of the Island of Cuba, who can furnish undisputable proof of the facts related in the Doctor's letter to the Captain-General, and of the other statements made by him relating to Cuban affairs.

OPPOSITION TO THE JUNTA—A NEW DIRECTORY TO BE FORMED.

Strong feeling is manifesting itself against the Junta. Cubans charge that certain members of the present Junta have been and are still basely appropriating to their own uses the moneys raised for the purpose of carrying on the war; that they make all of their transactions too public, and instead of having any system to govern them in the purchase of supplies, arms, &c., the matter is unwisely intrusted to many hands, thus rendering exposure almost unavoidable; that the cause of the failure of certain expeditions is attributed in part to the fact that the Junta supported for a period of six weeks some 1,500 volunteers, who were carelessly distributed throughout this city; that on the night of the 26th of June last, the time appointed for the sailing of the steamer Catharine Whiting (Col. Ryan's expedition), so loosely were the details carried out by the Junta (Ryan being then in prison), it is notorious that squads of Cuban soldiers were seen parading the streets leading to Jones's Wood, the place of embarkation, with carpet-bags and arms in their hands. In this way was the eye of the law drawn upon them, and the whole party eventually captured. After the three small vessels—the Cool, Mable, and Chase—had reached Gardiner's Island, loaded with troops and implements of war, the Catharine Whiting laid under the guns of a revenue cutter more the eight hours, every facility being offered for their escape. The fault is charged upon Señor Alfaro, the reputed Secretary of War, or War Agent of the Junta. Señor Joseph M. Mora, Jos. Mora, and P. Gonzalez, very prominent Cubans, have already withdrawn from the Junta, on account of the bad odor resting upon that body in the eyes of the United States Administration.

The plan for the future may be briefly summed up as follows: First—To form a new Junta, composed of men of unimpeachable integrity. Second—To "push things," and close the present do-nothing style of management. Third—To raise an ample war fund at once, by throwing the Cuban bonds upon the market, and appointing responsible banking-houses in the United States as agents for the sale of the same. No difficulty whatever is apprehended in raising everything required to prosecute the war properly, if the Junta only be composed of the right class of men, and their plan of operations be managed with wisdom.

It is a well known fact that prominent capitalists in this and other cities stand ready at any time to set afloat privateers and also blockade-runners, furnished with all necessary supplies and reënforcements whenever they can be assured of the responsibility and sincerity of the Junta. Many advantageous offers from operators here have been daily made to the present Junta without eliciting any response. Indeed some parties have offered and still offer to land supplies, arms and men on the island, requiring no compensation therefor until after the landing and delivery shall have been safely effected. Under the new plan proposed and above set forth, the war will be carried on vigorously, and intelligent Cubans are confident that within the next six months the independence of Cuba will be accomplished. Prominent Cubans and their American sympathizers are surprised that Señor Aldama, a very wealthy and influential Cuban now in this city, does not take a more active part in the struggle of his nation for independence. His name would be a tower of strength to a new Junta, and hopes are entertained that he will, in the present exigency, at once come forward and lend his energies and great influence to the work in hand.

THE FERNANDO-PO PRISONERS.

C. C. Francisco, J. Balmaseda, and Evaristo Lamar, have arrived in this city from Liverpool, per steamer Colorado. They passed along all the African coast in the Gulf of Guinea, from Gaboon, a French possession, to Bathurst, an English colony, and got into the English mail steamer at Bony. The gentlemen were floating about many days in the Gulf of Guinea, exposed to the hot sun, and in a boat which had no covering overhead. They underwent great sufferings. One of them states that the Spanish guard on board the ship which conveyed them to exile was on one or more occasions about to put all the prisoners to death, but that the marines prevented the execution of the dastardly project. A serious fight broke out at one time between the latter and the soldiers with reference to this murderous scheme.

WASHINGTON.

NO CABINET MEETING YESTERDAY—SECRETARY BOUTWELL AND THE GOLD OPERATORS—THE FRAUDS ON THE REVENUE—PROBABLE REASSESSMENT OF INCOMES—THE VIRGINIA SENATORS—POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN TEXAS—RECEIPTS OF FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Sept. 23, 1869.

The expected Cabinet meeting did not take place to-day. Gen. Grant called at the Attorney-General's office, and spent two hours in consultation with Judge Hoar.

Numerous telegrams were received by Secretary Boutwell to-day, from prominent bankers of New-York and Philadelphia, in relation to the present excitement in the New-York money market, and the great advance in the premium on gold. Most of these contain suggestions and plans for breaking the combination of the gold bulls. The Secretary does not seem to be at all alarmed, but, on the contrary, he thinks he will soon be able to smash the ring and ruin the individuals who compose it.

Reports of frauds on the Revenue in the matter of income returns are received daily at the Revenue Bureau, not only from detectives and officers of the Department, but from citizens cognizant of the facts. It is believed that in no previous year have there been so many fraudulent returns, and that the collections will not reach more than half the amount which ought to be realized from this source under the present law. These frauds arise from persons liable to tax evading the law and the officers by changing their residences, and in other ways, but it is thought that the loss from the inadequate statement of incomes, or in making oath to false statements of exemptions, is the greatest. The Treasury Department, in view of these facts, and the general complaints from all parts of the country, has now under serious consideration the propriety of ordering an entire reassessment of incomes, and this course is recommended by some of the most prominent men in the country.

The interest in the Virginia Senatorial campaign increases daily, and, although the contest develops but little excitement, the fact that the Legislature meets so soon as the 6th of next month makes the subject one of considerable importance. The opinion that the Legislature will elect Senators is generally expressed here, and the President is known to favor an election. Gov. Walker will not be a candidate for Senator, and the present indications seem to be that Lieut.-Gov. Lewis will be chosen as one Senator, and Gen. Robt. Williams the other. The latter, however, declines to enter the contest personally, and remains at his duties in the War Department. His personal strength is very great, and his friends are very active.

A citizen of Texas, who has held an important office, and is familiar with the status of political parties in that State, arrived here to-day direct from Galveston. He says it is probable that Democrats, who meet in Convention next Tuesday, will nominate out-and-out Democrats as candidates from Governor down. He says such a ticket can be elected, if first-class men be selected by the Convention, as the Democrats have a majority of about 25,000 in the State, but the Democrats fear that the voters will not come up readily to be registered. Hamilton, he states, is very unpopular among Democrats, who regard him as utterly untrustworthy, and they will be glad to get rid of the necessity of voting for him. He also reports that the Republicans of Texas are very confident of electing Davis if the Democrats shall nominate and shall agree to vote for Hamilton.

The Treasury Department is now receiving nearly $200,000 fractional currency daily from the Bank Note printers.

The arrival of the President, and presence of all the members of the Cabinet in the city, has started travelers this way, and several members of Congress and other persons of note arrived to-day.

A meeting of citizens of Washington was held this evening, to give further consideration to the project of an International exhibition, to be held in this city in 1871. Mr. Henry D. Cooke acted as chairman of the meeting, and after listening to a statement by Dr. Stansbury, ex-Commissioner of the United States to the British exhibition of 1851, the reading of letters from prominent citizens of other parts of the country, and speeches from ex-Mayor Berret, Col. Drinkard, and others, the meeting adjourned, after adopting unanimously the resolution of A. S. Salomons, conferring power on the Chairman to appoint an Executive Committee of fifteen members to frame a plan of organization, and submit the same to the General Committee at as early a date as practicable. In the course of the debate, Mr. Bodisco, Secretary of the Russian Legation, who had been previously placed upon the General Committee, but had declined, fearing his official duties would prevent his acting with them, announced to the meeting that the newly accredited Russian Minister had not only given consent to his serving on the Committee, but, on the part of the Russian Government, desired to lend every assistance and encouragement to the undertaking. Mr. Bodisco therefore withdrew his resignation. It is contemplated that the Executive Committee, whose names will be announced by the Chairman in a few days, will recommend that, in order to give the scheme a purely national character, the profits should be devoted to some national project, such as the completion of the Washington Monument, and the organization of a national Polytechnic College, and that the permanent committee should be composed of prominent men from all parts of the Union, who would open agencies for subscriptions to the stock of the Exhibition Company in their respective States.

About two months ago the Haytian Government purchased of the United States the steam sloop-of-war Algonquin. Ample time was given the purchasers to examine the vessel and satisfy themselves that she was worth the price they were asked to pay. Last week the Haytian Minister here complained to the Executive that the ship was not what she was represented to be, and that her boilers and much of her machinery were unfit for use; the Secretary of the Navy has therefore ordered that a board of naval officers shall immediately convene and give the vessel a four days' trial trip in New-York Bay and Long Island Sound. It will be remembered that the Algonquin was the vessel on which the Dickenson machinery was placed for trial against the Isherwood machinery on the Winooski about four years ago.

The Committee selected by Commissioner Delano to decide upon a stamp to be adopted by the Bureau for the cancellation of Revenue stamps, have held one meeting and examined the various devices presented. Another meeting will be held on Monday next, and it is expected the Committee will then decide and submit their report to