hour or so and blow a complicated call on a demoralized fish horn. But these fellows will fight like devils let loose, as was proved in the battle at Monkey Hill and their combats inside the city. The vast majority of the inhabitants of the Isthmus have never emerged from a half-savage condition, or else have relapsed into that state; but since the day when the naked savages of Cetewayo broke the hollow squares of the English at the battle of Isandula, no one can afford to underestimate the prowess of savages when they are mustered in swarms, as they can be here from the miasmatic morass and the jungle-clothed mountains.

DISPOSITION OF AMERICAN FORCES.

Over at Panama the rebel chieftain Aizpuru is in possession, the American forces being outside the city on the property of the Panama Railroad and the Pacific Mail Steamship Companies. Transit across the Isthmus is kept open by the running of armored trains and the sending of guards with the unarmored trains. The naval force is disposed as follows: At Panama Colonel Heyward is in command as before with a force of 430 men, mostly marines, including a battery of Gatlings and a battery of howitzers. At this place Captain Highbie commands a garrison of 350 marines and blue jackets. At Matachin, about half way across the Isthmus and in the high lands, is a garrison commanded by Captain Huntington, who has fifty marines and a battery of one Gatling and one 3-inch rifled breech-loader. He has an outpost at San Pablo, about four miles this side of Matachin, where there is an iron bridge across the Chagres River. Twenty-five men and a Gatling are stationed there under First Lieutenant Elliot of the marines. There are 108 men with two Hotchkiss revolving cannon, two Gatlings and two twelve-pound smooth-bore guns engaged in train-guard duty under Lieutenant Mason.

In the harbor here are the flag-ship Tennessee, Admiral Jouett, and the Alliance. The Swatara is gone to the southward in search of Prestan, and the Galena has sailed to intercept Ruiz. The French man-of-war Jean Jean and the English gunboat Lily are also here. At Panama is the Shenandoah and a French man-of-war. General Ulloa, who commands the Colombian forces here, is living at the house of the French Consul, but no forces except the Americans have been or will be landed. Captain Dow, general agent of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, has offered a reward of $1,000 for Prestan, dead or alive. Captain Dow was one of the hostages seized by Prestan, and was sentenced to be shot. He escaped in the confusion of the fight at Monkey Hill. The action of Captain Kane of the Galena is variously commented on; but all agree that had he been less cautious on the day of the seizure of the steamship Colon, every American in the city would have been slaughtered. There were 100 men before the office of the Panama Railroad Company on that day with orders from Prestan to cut the throats of every "Gringo" there at the first gun the Galena fired. It is rumored here that General Santo Domingo Vila has beaten the rebels at Carthagena. The Bueyperment forces have been victorious in the State of Panama. They were reported several days ago to be moving on Panama. Aizpuru at first threatened to burn the city of Panama if an attempt was made to dislodge him, but now his scheme is to form a coalition with the army marching against him and "sweep the Americans into the sea." Sweeping the Americans into the sea is a popular form of amusement (in anticipation) among the half savages of the Isthmus, though circumstances ever which they have no control prevent the realization of it at present. Numerous armed rebels are lurking in the bush near here, but have not been foolhardy enough to attack our lines as yet.

THE REBEL LEADERS.

Rumor has it that Ruiz has eluded the Galena and landed near here, and that he is in command of the lurking rebels. Prestan's whereabouts are a matter of doubt. He is reported to be in a dozen different places at once. The latest account has him in Panama with Aizpuru. This Aizpuru, who now sits in his red palace at Panama and breathes forth threatenings and slaughter against the "Gringoes," is a mulatto who, a few years ago, was a waiter in a billiard saloon. He left that honest calling for the bad eminence of a revolutionist. Prestan was one of his subordinate officers. This fellow is anxious to get some of the American officers in his power and hold them as hostages. It is not safe for an American to enter the City of Panama, and no person connected with the United States forces there is allowed outside the lines. The American Consul is still in Panama in spite of threats that Aizpuru would seize him as a hostage. The only way of reaching the office of the Central and South American Cable Company in Panama is through the Messengers of the Panama Railroad Company, who faithfully and obligingly deliver messages. A message sent to any one else is sure to fall into the hands of Aizpuru. He seized a letter of mine yesterday which I sent by a chance messenger. The manner in which England has protected her subjects in all parts of the world is known, it would appear, even in the remote villages of the American Isthmus, for some of the huts along the Panama Railroad have white flags flying over them on which are rudely painted in black letters the words "British Subject."

When the Colombian troops took the burning ruins of Colon they captured a considerable number of prisoners. As far as I can learn there are now none in their hands. They used to take them out to Monkey Hill and shoot them, but as ammunition got scarce they tied their hands and feet and threw them off the ends of the ruined piers. The last batch was taken to sea and drowned last Thursday. The Chief of Police of the City of Panama is named Ambula; "General," of course. He has been in the habit of firing on the trains as they neared the city. He will be shot on sight by the train guard if he is caught at it again.

THE SITUATION AT PANAMA.

Last Thursday afternoon I went over to Colonel Heyward's garrison at Panama. From the veranda in front of the Colonel's headquarters not a sound could be heard that night in the city. The only lights seen were those of the street lamps. But in the morning we saw that the towers of the Cathedral had been pierced with embrasures and soon a messenger from the city reported that a gun had been mounted in one of the towers, and trained on the Cuartel. The other embrasures were for rifles. That morning Captain McCalla came over to inspect the garrison. The ceremonies incident to his visit were over, and he was at the headquarters building, on the veranda of which I was sitting. Suddenly the sound of the long roll was heard. I went into a back room for my pistol and by the time I got back all the officers had rushed to the barracks. I went into the street and found it crowded with a wild, shouting mob of negroes, all urging a confused jumble of horses, carts and mules in the direction of the city. From up in the direction of the depot came the sound of firing. By the time I reached the barracks the troops had fallen in under arms and all was ready for an attack. As I ran toward the barracks I glanced up toward the city and saw the balconies of the houses and the towers of the Cathedral crowded with people, all gazing in the direction of the barracks. The cause of the alarm proved to be a body of armed men who had appeared before the American lines firing guns and pistols, and tried to impress into Aizpuru's service some workmen. The gang was supposed to be led by Ambula. The people in the city evidently knew the demonstration was to take place.

The position of the American forces on the Isthmus is a peculiar one. Here only to fulfil the treaty obligations of the United States and keep the transit of the Isthmus open, they are surrounded by an intensely hostile population who are only restrained by fear from attacking them. All the officers are careful not to excite the animosity of the natives in any way, but non-aggression is mistaken by them for a sign of weakness, as they are utterly incapable of appreciating generosity. The health of the American forces on the Isthmus is so far good. The commanding officer has issued an order forbidding the use of any spirituous or malt liquors by the members of the expedition, and enforcing strict hygienic regulations. Mr. Burt, the general superintendent of the Panama Railroad Company, has built ten houses here, which he has turned over for the use of the command, and has offered his own house for use as headquarters. There is some yellow fever in Panama, but it is believed not to be of the contagious kind, and the usual amount of Chagres fever all over the Isthmus; but with a strict enforcement of proper sanitary regulations it is hoped that the troops will escape these maladies. Lieutenant More, who was wounded while quelling a riot in this city, leaves here for New-York by the Acapulco, which sails to-morrow.

EX-PRESIDENT GONIMA IN NEW-YORK.

WHAT IS KNOWN HERE ABOUT THE SITUATION ON THE ISTHMUS.

The Pacific Mail steamer City of Para reached her pier at the foot of Canal-st. at 8:30 a. m. yesterday. She left Colon on April 19, having laid there just eight days. "It isn't the same city we saw on our last trip," said Purser Littlejohn, "by a long shot. Nothing much is left now but ashes. It would be quickly rebuilt, but the business people down there are afraid to invest money in the present state of uncertainty. They don't know who is master. They go to bed under one flag and get up under another. Every man is a separate and distinct government. If the Americans, or French, or English, or any responsible Power, were to guarantee protection, the city would be rebuilt in a hurry. The business people would welcome any government that promised stability, no matter to whom they had to pay allegiance. Of course they think their natural protector should be the United States. Technically, Colon is presumed to be in the hands of the Colombian forces now, but General Ulloa's force is reduced to a handful of men, and the arrival of the City of Para bringing the American marines and sailors, was very opportune for him. Virtually Colonel Heyward took command of the city, or what was left of it, as soon as we arrived. His measures were vigorous, and had an instantaneous effect upon the wary rebels. They fight hard when they are engaged, but they are careful not to get into trouble with a superior force. During our stay there things were comparatively quiet, though murders occurred plentifully after dark, and no American was safe at night in the streets. We brought back with us besides Lieutenant Moore, who was wounded in the arm, Lieutenant E. L. Reynolds, Midshipmen G. M. Little hales, J. H. Ellicott, C. H. Ledbetter and J. E. Palmer; H. Ferris, secretary of the Panama Railway Company; Dr. Lugo, who is said to have dispatches from the Consul-General in Panama to Washington, and General Carlos A. Gonima, the ex-President of the State of Panama."

At the office of Consul-General Calderon, No. 16 Beaver-st., the Consul and ex-Consul Pombo, who was Mr. Calderon's predecessor as the representative of the Colombian Government at this port, were found by a TRIBUNE reporter yesterday. Neither knew who Dr. Lugo was. "I have never heard of him before," said Mr. Calderon. "If he brings dispatches to me, he has not delivered them yet, and I don't think he does. I shouldn't suppose he brought messages from the American Consul to the State Department, for a Spanish-Colombian would scarcely have been selected to do that when United States officers were returning on the same ship. I know General Gonima well. He was the President of the State of Panama, and was succeeded by Aizpuru."

"The precise military situation in Panama is not generally understood here," said Mr. Pombo. "The United States of Colombia embrace nine separate States, each of which has a President and a distinct government. The general capital is Bogota and Dr. Raphael Nuñez, a most cultured statesman, is our President, elected in April, 1884, by the people of the entire nine States, for a term of two years. Early this year a severe rebellion broke out and centred in an attempt to capture Cartagena. General Santa Domingo Vila, formerly our Minister to this Government, was at that time President of the State of Panama. Cartagena was his native city, and he resigned his office to rush to its defence. He found the city to contain only a very insignificant force. But when Colombia was a Spanish province Cartagena was fortified by a magnificent wall, with splendid citadels, at a cost of about $55,000,000. It is absolutely impregnable by any force that could be sent against it from any of our rival countries. The rebels outnumbered General Vila's forces five to one, but we have never entertained any real alarm for the city's safety.

"This rebellion bred the Isthmian troubles. For some months things have been unsettled there, but with the appointment of General Gonima as President, we supposed tranquillity would be restored. The Colon re-bellion grew out of a system of brigandage carried on by Prestan. The Colombian troops were garrisoned at Panama, forty-seven miles from Colon. There also is the President's official residence. Prestan's robberies, therefore, went on for sometime unchecked until they became dangerous to the State. In the few conflicts he had with improvised militia, he was invariably successful, until he imbibed the ambition of a big conquest. The people in that part of the Isthmus are inflammable, and he quickly got together a considerable horde of ignorant rebels and marched on Colon. Our force there was totally unequal to such a foe, and the city fell, as you know, and was burned.

"In the meantime, President Gonima was taking measures to seduce Prestan, and sent a force of 400 men under General Ulloa from his own garrison at Panama to Colon. They were victorious, as the general dispatches have shown. Their departure left Gonima with only about sixty men at his command in the capital. Among the chief men was Aizpuru. He calls himself a General, but as a matter of fact, he is not a military man at all. About five years ago he was President of Panama, and has something of a following there. He saw his opportunity in the poor protection left to Gonima and organized a new rebellion of his own. He overpowered Gonima, captured him and put him in prison. Mr. Calderon's last advices from him were written from his place of confinement, and detail the facts I have just told you. We did not know that Gonima had got free, and only learned that he was on the City of Para this morning through the newspapers. He has not come here to the Consulate yet."

Consul Calderon added: "I understand that a force of 500 Colombian troops, commanded by General Santa Domingo Vila, have sailed from Buenaventura in transport ships for Panama, and are due there to-day. I don't see how it is possible for General Vila to be their commander, for he must be still at Cartagena, or if he has left there since his last engagement, he would not have had time to go away down to Buenaventura to join this force. But if they have reached Panama, or when they do, we shall certainly have enough men there to quell the rebellion thoroughly, and to protect the Isthmus and keep it clear. They are well armed with Remington rifles."

General Gonima went yesterday to the Spanish Hotel, in Fourteenth-st. He took a drive in the Park in the afternoon, and dined at 5 o'clock with Consul Calderon. He says he was Aizpuru's prisoner for nine days, and obtained his release by an exchange of prisoners. He will remain in New-York a few days and then go to Washington. After his business there has been transacted, he will return to Colon. He says the Colombian Government will have no difficulty in finally disposing of the rebels.

CARTRIDGES FOR COLON.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—A question has arisen at the Treasury Department in regard to a cargo of cartridges which had been shipped from New-York to Colon, where they were seized by order of Commander Kane, of the United States ship Galena on the supposition that they were intended for the insurgents of Central America, and were sent back to New-York. The owners of the cargo subsequently applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for permission to reship the cargo to Colon. The Secretary informed them to-day that he would not interfere in the matter, but would let it rest with the officers of the port for action under the ordinary rules of law.

The Navy Department received information this afternoon of the arrival of the Colombian National forces off Panama.

MANAGER MUTRIE INDIGNANT,

ACTION AT PITTSBURG—BASE BALL GAMES STOPPED BY RAIN—CONTESTS ELSEWHERE.

James Mutrie, manager of the New-York League Baseball Club, was seen by a TRIBUNE reporter last night. Mr. Mutrie was in no enviable frame of mind, and he condemned the directors of the American Association in the severest terms for their action in expelling him from that body at their meeting in Pittsburg on Monday. "The American Association," said he, "expels me and then fines the Metropolitan Club $500. For what offence? I am sure the Metropolitan Club's only offence last year was in keeping the other nines from winning the pennant. Why I should be fined $500 I cannot see. I have broken no rule nor by-law. I have violated no agreements." Mr. Murtrie also said that the fine would be payed if the Association insisted upon it, but that the local management would demand a trial first, and if they had violated any trust or agreement, they would cheerfully pay several times that amount. One old baseball man said last night that some of the directors allowed petty jealousies to influence them instead of their better judgment. He said that a certain secretary and director of a club on the Ohio River was the chief mover against Manager Mutrie, and that the same person last fall offered Manager Mutrie a large bonus, about $2,000, if he would bring two players of the Metropolitan club to that city, giving him the management. It is also reported that Manager Barnie tried to get two of the local players lately to promise to go to Baltimore. The directors from the Brooklyn and Athletic clubs were the only ones in the meeting friendly to the local club. Manager Mutrie is expelled from an Association to which he does not belong, he having transferred his affections to the local League club last fall.

O'Rourke says he changed the ball in the New-York National game at Washington on Monday, over which there has been so much talk, because the Washington Club insisted upon playing with a soft dilapidated ball which the players could not bat outside of the diamond. He said that in changing the ball no unfair advantage was taken, and that it was as fair for one side as the other.

The game at the Polo Grounds yesterday, between the Metropolitan and Baltimore Clubs, was stopped by rain at the ending of the first inning. The visiting players made one run. The Metropolitan and Athletic Clubs play at the Polo Grounds to-day.

The schedule games at Philadelphia, Jersey City, Newark and several other places, had to be postponed on account of the rain.

PITTSBURG, April 28.—The baseball season was opened here this afternoon with an interesting, but one sided contest between the Pittsburg and Louisville teams. Notwithstanding a cold rain, which threatened to prevent the sport, 4,000 people witnessed the game and shouted themselves hoarse over the home club's splendid victory. After the first inning the weather cleared and was cold and windy. The score was as follows:

Pittsburg	r.	1b	po	a.	e.	*Louisville*	r.	1b	po	a.	e.
Brown, r f	0	2	2	0	0	Browning, c f	0	1	3	0	1
Smith, 2 b	2	1	2	2	0	Wolf, r f	0	2	1	0	0
Eden, l f	0	1	0	1	0	Kerins, 1 b	0	0	10	0	0
Kuehne, 3 b	0	1	1	1	1	Mackrey, l f	0	0	0	0	0
Mann, c f	0	0	2	0	0	Geer, s s	0	0	0	4	1
Richmond, s s	1	0	0	0	0	Foss, c	0	1	9	1	1
Field, 1 b	0	1	9	1	0	Bak r, p	0	1	1	1	0
Carroll, c	0	0	10	1	0	Miller, 3 b	0	0	0	2	1
Morris, p	1	1	1	2	0	McLaughlin 2b	0	0	3	1	0
Totals	4	7	27	8	1	Totals	0	5	27	10	4

Pittsburg	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	—4
Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—0

COLONEL AGUIRRE DESCENDS FOR A MOMENT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Allow me to beg you to have the goodness of inserting the following lines in the columns of your learned journal, for which kindness I will be extremely indebted to you:

A JUST INDORSEMENT.

The undersigned allows himself to descend, for a moment, from the moral position where his self-respect places him, in order to address the *careless* paper called *The Evening Telegram*, throwing back its gratuitous, unpremeditated words—"*petty and stupidly villanous*," applied to the Central American States, at the end of an offensive editorial against the Hon. John A. Logan, and which, under the heading of "*A Sorry Spectacle*," was issued in the No. 6,090 of such a paper.

COL. J. M. AGUIRRE, of Central America,
No. 50 West 16th-st., New-York City.

April 27, 1885.

POSTAL LAWS AND REVENUES.

AN EXHAUSTIVE REVIEW BY MR. HAZEN.

CANADA AT A DISADVANTAGE—THE RESULT OF RECENT CHANGES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The natural interest felt by Canadian legislators and postal officials in the postal legislation of the United States is considerably stimulated at this time by the fact that the new law doubling the weight of matter that may be sent for two cents will operate to the disadvantage of the Canadian Post-Office Department. For example, a letter weighing three ounces and to which a 2-cent stamp is affixed may be mailed at New-York for a person in Montreal, and the receiver will be required to pay 1 cent "due" postage. A letter of the same weight bearing a 3-cent stamp mailed at Montreal to a person in New-York, however, entails upon the receiver the payment of 15 cents on account of "due" postage—3 cents for each half-ounce not prepaid. In response to requests from the Canadian Postmaster-General and several members of the Dominion Parliament Third Assistant Postmaster-General Hazen has prepared a statement showing the effect upon the postal revenues of the reduction of letter postage from three to two cents per half ounce. In his letter of November 18, 1882, recommending the reduction, Mr. Hazen estimated that the loss of revenue in the first year would amount to about $8,000,000, and that the deficiency for the first year, to be met by appropriations from the Treasury, would amount to $3,000,000. In his opinion, the reduction of one-third in the revenues from letter-postage would be offset to a great extent by an increase in the number of letters sent owing to the reduced rate, to an increase in the number of circulars sent in sealed envelopes and by the substitution of sealed correspondence for postal cards. Experience has justified this opinion, it having been found that from the first two sources an additional revenue of nearly $2,000,000 was realized, while the substitution of sealed letters for postal cards yielded an additional revenue of about $830,000.

Mr. Hazen's statement shows that the actual reduction of revenue amounted to $6,573,959 on the first year's business at the reduced rate, and the deficiency required to be met by appropriations from the Treasury for the same period was about $4,971,000. The deficiency, however, was increased by other legislation than that which reduced the rate of letter postage. For example, the act of March 3, 1883, which provided for a readjustment of postmasters' salaries, took $1,687,000 from the postal revenues, which, with other items of expenditure, taken into account of other changes in the postal laws, reduced the actual deficiency on account of the reduction of letter postage to a sum about equal to the original estimate of $3,000,000. Mr. Hazen remarks that this showing is even less favorable than it would have been had it not been for the general depression of business during the year under review—the year ending September 30, 1884. The estimates were predicated upon an assumed normal increase of 10 per cent, but owing to commercial depression the increase amounted to only 8 per cent. From 1879 to 1883 the average yearly increase was almost 11 per cent.

From an investigation of the facts relating to the effect upon the postal revenues of the reduction of the rate of letter postage in 1845 and 1851, Mr. Hazen derives the conclusion that the year ending September 30, 1887, will show a marked increase in the revenues from letter postage. In 1846 the revenues fell off 18 7-10 per cent, and in 1852 they declined 19 1-10 per cent, while in 1884 they were diminished only 6½ per cent. In 1848 the revenues were 17 per cent greater than in 1847 which showed an increase of 11 per cent over 1846 and in 1853 the revenues were nearly 19 per cent greater than in 1852, which showed an increase of only 1 per cent over 1851. In the first year after the reduction of 1845 the deficiency amounted to 14 4-10 per cent of the entire revenue, and in 1851 it was 27 per cent, whereas in the year ended September 30, 1884, it was only 10 4-10 per cent, despite other legislation beside the act reducing letter postage, to which should be charged nearly two-fifths of the deficiency.

Mr. Hazen estimates that the act reducing to 1 cent per pound the postage on second class matter will cause a loss of revenue amounting to about $1,000,000 in the next fiscal year, and he expresses the opinion that the act making the rate of letter postage two cents an ounce instead of two cents a half ounce will result in a gain rather than a loss in the revenue from letter postage.

MR. DURHAM'S HIGH-HANDED ACTION.

HIS REASONS FOR CUTTING DOWN SUPERVISOR MUIRHEAD'S ACCOUNTS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, April 28.—It is hardly necessary to read between the lines of Controller Durham's elaborate decision in which he sets forth his reasons for disallowing items amounting to more than $9,000 of Chief Supervisor Muirhead's accounts for the year 1884 in order to discover that Mr. Durham is determined to emasculate as far as he can the law enacted by Congress to secure honest elections of Representatives. The Controller finds fault with a great many items and throughout his decision shows a disposition to construe the law in its narrowest sense and to set up his idea of what is reasonable in the matter of expenditures against what has been found necessary by the officers charged with the enforcement of the laws. He says: "The Controller may not be able to revise the Chief Supervisor's discretion to the extent of saying that not twenty papers but five of a particular kind should have been made; but he can say that he will not certify for payment charges for twenty papers and then have the Chief Supervisor himself to revise his own discretion, or else to secure payment of his fees otherwise than by making the First Controller a party to the payment."

One of the items which the Controller refuses to allow is the charge for the examination of 21,000 houses and voters in the cities of Camden, Hoboken, Jersey City, Newark and Trenton, where the total number of registered votes was about 96,000. Mr. Durham thinks it impossible that nearly 22 per cent of the voters of these cities cannot be relied on to state the truth in regard to their suffrage qualifications. He says: "If such a charge be allowed, then why not allow for every house and voter in said cities? It is hard to tell how much of such charges should be allowed. Perhaps the whole should be rejected; but as some service of this kind may have been necessary, one fourth of the same will be allowed. As has been stated, I cannot be a party to allowing any more than this sum, and Mr. Muirhead's remedy, if any, must be as above indicated. I do not pretend to say that this is a correct estimate, but to my mind it looks reasonably fair under all circumstances."

It will be observed that the Controller's disallowance of three-fourths of the item is a purely arbitrary act based upon nothing except his assumption as to what amount of work was necessary to be done by the Supervisors. He also disallows the account presented by the Chief Supervisor for preparing an alphabetical list of the voters as required by Section 2,031 of the Revised Statutes. Mr. Durham holds that the reports of the Supervisors in the different cities and precincts are the only records required and remarks that he can discover no "utility" in the preparation and preservation of permanent records.

"NICK" BELL'S PLACE, AND HOW HE GOT IT.

WASHINGTON, April 28 (*Special*).—Mr. Crawford, who has been Superintendent of Foreign Mails since the death of Superintendent Blackfan, and who was for many years previously a clerk in that office, has returned to Washington from the International Postal Congress at Lisbon to find his office in the possession of another man. While Mr. Crawford was attending closely to his duties at Lisbon as a member of the congress, a position in which his knowledge and experience made his services of great value to the postal interests of the United States, "Nick" Bell, of St. Louis, an active "practical" Democratic politician was in Washington clamoring for an office. Mr. Bell's claims were based upon his services as reading clerk in several Democratic National Conventions and his past and prospective usefulness as a "worker" in Democratic politics in St. Louis. In the opinion of himself and his friends—among whom he is proud to number Mr. Vilas, who warmly espoused his "claims"—nothing less than an appointment as Assistant Postmaster-General would be a suitable recognition of his eminent services. The President did not place so high an estimate upon them, however, and lest the eminent Missourian should fail to receive any reward, the Postmaster-General decided to dismiss Mr. Crawford, a faithful, efficient and experienced officer, and appoint Mr. Bell in his place.

In this instance the Government loses the services of an excellent officer and gains a man absolutely without knowledge, training or experience in an office, the duties of which are responsible and intricate, and require a comprehensive and thorough knowledge of international postal laws, treaties and regulations.

HOW "DICK" BRIGHT FLANKED A CONGRESSMAN.

WASHINGTON, April 28 (*Special*).—"Some people are altogether too sensitive," mused an Indiana statesman to-day in the presence of a *Critic* reporter, as he contemplated the ceiling of the Ebbitt House, "and particularly Congressmen. They never know when anybody does them a real favor. They want to do all the work and get all the glory. Now, there's my friend 'Dick' Bright. He has been in Washington for some time and has the lay of the land. Last Friday we brought in a delegation of Indiana Congressmen, including Holman, Cobb, Lamb, Bynum and myself, and we were going to help 'Tom' Hendricks 'open up the departments and let the light of Heaven shine in.' Well, Saturday morning we fell in with 'Dick' Bright, one of the pleasantest and most accommodating men in Indiana. 'John,' says he to my friend Lamb, 'I got information the other day that Secretary Manning had decided not to appoint as Superintendents for the construction of Public Buildings any citizen of the city in which public buildings were to be erected. So I went over and recommended a man to run your new buildings down at Terre Haute'; and Colonel 'Dick' Bright beamed graciously on Mr. Lamb. Now, would you believe it, Mr. Lamb turned red and green and purple all in a minute, and interrogated Colonel 'Dick' very closely about his plenary powers in the premises. He even demanded to know by what authority Colonel Bright had recommended a man for this district without consulting me *pro* Dan'; those were his very words. Late Saturday afternoon the two statesmen were gesticulating wildly at Secretary Manning, and it is probable are now that John Lamb has battered down the gates of the Treasury Pendeh and marched into Terre Haute.

"That's why I say that some men are too sensitive and others have too much nerve."

HANKERING AFTER THE POST OFFICES.

WASHINGTON, April 28 (*Special*).—The flood of applications for appointments to office does not diminish, certainly not at the Post Office Department. On an average there are still received about 500 letters daily, each urging the claims of a hungry and thirsty patriot to recognition. In the neighborhood of 5,000 applications for as many different post offices have been received since March 4. They are indorsed and filed as rapidly as they come in. A few receive immediate attention. But this is the exception. To-day the Postmaster-General signed the commissions of about eighty postmasters of the fourth class.

LIMITING SHERIDAN'S AUTHORITY.

THE CONFLICT BETWEEN HIM AND THE WAR DEPARTMENT RENEWED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, April 28.—There are strong indications, *The Star* thinks, of trouble brewing in the War Department, growing out of a renewal of conflict of authority between the Secretary of War and General Sheridan, and it is understood that an order by the President will be forthcoming upon the return of the Secretary of War, which will prescribe the limits of authority of the Lieutenant-General in exact terms, so that similar difficulties will be obviated in the future. This conflict of authority between the Secretary of War and General Sheridan is nothing new, but it was supposed that the whole matter had been permanently settled. Some little time before the close of Secretary Lincoln's Administration the Secretary was embarrassed by what he considered the unauthorized assumption of power by Lieutenant-General Sheridan in issuing orders to the Army without the direction or approval of the Secretary of War, and he felt compelled to call General Sheridan's attention to the matter. The well-known independent disposition of the latter rendered him loath to recognize any higher authority than his own in connection with military matters, and a sharp correspondence ensued, which was concluded by Secretary Lincoln's final letter to the Lieutenant-General, stating just now far his individual authority extended in controlling the Army as interpreted from law and adding in effect that if the Lieutenant-General insisted in assuming the prerogatives of the Secretary of War, the interference of the Executive would have to be invoked.

When Secretary Endicott assumed the duties of his office he became cognizant of this correspondence, and, it is understood, was pleased that Secretary Lincoln should have taken the necessary steps to nip a growing misunderstanding in the bud, placing the responsibility upon his own shoulders without allowing a new Secretary to act in such a matter, whose action might be misconstrued upon a change of administration. From what can be learned it appears that Mr. Lincoln's prompt action did not have the desired effect, and it is understood that the new Secretary has called upon the President to interfere in the matter. Just what the expected executive order will contain cannot be learned, but it is understood to be a radical one, which will effectually prevent a recurrence of the difficulty.

The immediate cause of the renewal of the conflict of authority between the Secretary of War and General Sheridan is understood to be the general order of April 9 directing the change of stations of the 5th Cavalry; the 18th Infantry with the 20th Infantry and the 2d Artillery with the 3d Artillery; the changes to be made not later than June 1. This order was issued by command of General Sheridan without the cause of the Secretary of War appearing as having directed or approved it. It might be presumed that the Secretary had been consulted in making these important changes, involving considerable expense, but for the fact that the Secretary was absent from the city between March 28 and April 7, the period when the order was probably prepared. Orders of this character issued before General Sheridan assumed command of the army invariably contained the expression, "By direction of the Secretary of War," or "With the approval of the Secretary of War the following transfers are ordered." The order of April 9 not only involves a large amount of money to make the changes, but sends the 2d Artillery stationed in this vicinity to the Gulf States in the spring, when there is some danger of sickness following on account of the unacclimated condition of the men. It is whispered that the inadvisability of making that change just now, as expressed by prominent medical and line officers, coupled with protests, was instrumental in bringing matters to a head.

A DENIAL BY SECRETARY ENDICOTT.

SALEM, Mass., April 28 (*Special*).—Judge Endicott, Secretary of War, was seen at his house here to-night, and asked about the alleged difference between him and Lieutenant-General Sheridan. The Secretary said that he was much surprised at the publication. So far as he was concerned there was not a word of truth in it. His relations with General Sheridan had been of the most cordial nature. He knew of no difference between them, and could not understand how the report was started.

SEEKERS FOR A ST. LOUIS OFFICE.

WASHINGTON, April 28 (*Special*).—"The Appraisership of the Port of St. Louis is getting to be an interesting cause of contest," said a Missourian today: "Of course it is a local office, and ought to be filled by a citizen of St. Louis, but the Senators from Missouri have united on John F. Corkery, who is the superintendent of some mines in the southeastern portion of the State. Congressman Glover, in whose district the office is really situated, wants the appointment of his young friend, Clem Crowsley, while Congressman O'Neil arrived to-day to fight for his friend, Henry D. Cleveland. But a man who unquestionably stands high with the Administration for that office is W. E. Louderdale, one of the most expert bank clerks in the West. Louderdale has had interviews with the President, Secretary Manning and others, and departed last night for New-York."

MR. MANNING'S ECONOMY IN CARPETS.

WASHINGTON, April 28 (*Special*).—Secretary Manning feels that he must not be outdone in economy and retrenchment by Secretary Lamar. He has not, like the Mississippian, sold the Department naps and devoted the proceeds of the sale to the construction of a bathtub, but he will do something equally bold and ingenious. An order is to be issued shortly, with the approval of Gene' Higgins, which prescribes that in the future all carpets for buildings shall be so cut as to leave a space between the border of the carpet and the wall of the width of at least one yard. This, the Secretary thinks, will impress visitors with the idea that the Department knows what is the fashion, and at the same time will save thousands of dollars by reason of the lesser amount of material necessary to cover the floors.

MR. KEILEY NOT GOING TO ROME.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—Secretary Bayard told a *Post* reporter to-night that Mr. Keiley had declined the Italian mission.

RICHMOND, April 28 (*Special*).—There is a good deal of uneasiness here over the chances of Mr. Keiley for a desirable foreign mission, and it is wondered whether he will risk a trip to Rome after the gentle hint that his presence is not wholly desirable there. His friends say that Mr. Bayard told him that he had $7,000 at his disposal forty days to go to Rome and be received or rejected. Mr. Keiley preferred to wire Signor Mancini to know about his reception and save the expenses of the trip. It is not yet known what reply Mr. Bayard has received. It is unfortunate for Virginia pride and the State Department that this hitch occurred.

ROME, April 28.—The *Tribuna Rassegna* and *Opinione* express pleasure at the report that Mr. Keiley has resigned the office of Minister to Italy and surprise that the Italian Government should have approved his nomination.

ARMY AND NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The resignation of First Lieutenant Alexander L. Morton, 5th Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect October 31, and his leave of absence has been extended until that date.

Lieutenant Charles A. Foster has been ordered to examination for promotion; Paymasters C. F. Gould and J. F. Tarbell to continue on present duty till September 30; Chief-Engineer T. Zeller to continue present duties till December 1; Captain W. E. Fitzhugh, Commanders G. W. Sumner, A. S. Crowninshield, C. R. Chester, F. E. Chadwick and T. F. Jewell; Lieutenant-Commanders G. W. Pigman and T. A. Lyons; Lieutenants William W. Reisinger, C. G. Bowman and A. R. Conden; Medical Director A. C. Gorgas; Surgeon G. F. Winslow, Assistant Surgeon Thomas Owens, Paymasters J. E. Tolfree and F. H. Hinman, Chief-Engineer H. L. Snyder and Assistant Naval Constructor F. T. Bowles, to continue present duties till May 1, 1886; Commander H. F. Picking, Lieutenant-Commander C. A. Schetky, Professors S. Newcomb, A. Hall, William Harkness, J. R. Eastman, J. R. Soley and E. Frisby, Naval Constructor George W. Much, Civil-Engineers N. S. G. White, M. T. Endicott, A. G. Menocal and C. C. Wolcott to continue on present duties until May 1, 1888.

The Bureau of Construction and Repair in the Navy Department is more embarrassed because of lack of funds for the present fiscal year than any other bureau in the Department. There is a balance of only about $50,000 for this bureau for the next two months. To provide additional funds for repairing vessels and making payments for such work as is necessary in the bureau, it has been determined to reduce the forces in the various navy yards. This reduction will be made among the "bosses"—the former "leading men," etc., in the yards. There are about 400 men thus employed, and it is thought by naval officers that this number can be reduced without embarrassment to 250 or 300 men. The amount saved by the reduction will be from about $400 to $600 daily.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, April 28, 1885.

FRAUDULENT PENSIONS SUSPENDED.—The Commissioner of Pensions to-day directed the suspension at the Philadelphia agency of 102 pensions which have been drawn, although the pensioners are dead. In some cases, the Commissioner says, the persons in whose names the pensions were drawn have been dead since 1871. He has also directed the suspension at the same agency of pensions to seven widows who remarried in 1881, but who have continued to draw pensions ever since. The Commissioner has addressed a communication to the Attorney-General requesting him to bring suit against the pension agent and his bondsmen for the moneys so unlawfully disbursed.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.—The President today appointed the following collectors of Internal Revenue: Cornelius Voorhis, for the District of Missouri, vice Daniel A. Stewart, resigned; John Whiteaker, for the District of Oregon, vice John C. Cartwright, suspended; D. Frank Bradley, for the District of South Carolina, vice Ellery M. Brayton, suspended; Hamilton Shepperd, for the VIth District of Virginia, vice William E. Craig, suspended. He also appointed John Hobson to be Collector of Customs for the District of Oregon, in the State of Oregon.

SHIPPING COMMISSIONER.—The Secretary of the Treasury has appointed Alphonzo M. Bullock to be Shipping Commissioner for the port of Norfolk.

ILLEGAL FENCING OF PUBLIC LANDS.—It is understood that a proposition to issue a proclamation warning ranchemen of the penalties for illegal fencing of the public lands has been under discussion in recent Cabinet meetings. A short time since several hundred copies of the new anti-fencing law were mailed from the General Land Office to various portions of the West. Within a few days a number of responses have been received from ranchemen informing the authorities that they are about to remove their fences. Hitherto they have sought safety by securing title to narrow strips of land surrounding large tracts of public property. The new law meets this device squarely by making an enclosure illegal when any part of the inclosed area is public land.

GENERAL LAWTON QUALIFIED.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL SAYS HE IS ELIGIBLE—NOT GOING TO RUSSIA.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The Senate, on the last day of the special session, having raised the point against General A. R. Lawton, of Georgia, that he was ineligible for appointment to the office of Minister to Russia under the terms of the Fourteenth Amendment, the President withdrew his nomination and referred the question of his disabilities to the Attorney-General. In his opinion, rendered to-day, Mr. Garland says:

I am requested to give an opinion in the following case: Alexander R. Lawton, who had been a cadet at West Point and held a commission as lieutenant in the United States Army, and in one or both of those characters had taken an oath which, it is contended, and which I am to assume as part of the case submitted, bound him to support the Constitution, afterward bore arms against the United States in the War of the Rebellion. On February 6, 1867, he received a full pardon and amnesty for the part he had taken in the Rebellion, and the question