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a visit to our city for the last day or two, wound up their trip of pleasure by paying their debts to the city of New York, who are at present staying at the St. Nicholas Hotel, with her husband.

The "American party" of the Ninth ward held a meeting, last evening, at the Bleeker street House. A report of their proceedings is given in this paper.

See the inside pages for a description of the articles in the Austrian department of the Crystal Palace, and much other interesting matter to which we have no room to refer particularly.

The Cross and the Crescent.

Each mail which arrives from Europe brings us intelligence which renders the Russo-Turkish question still more complex and the result of war or peace a matter of as difficult vaticination as it was when Prince Menschikoff's ultimatum was first refused by the Porte.

If it should happen that the latter has been the alternative decided on, then it becomes of some importance that the citizens of the United States should understand the question at issue, and be able to form a just estimate of the merits of either side.

Both these papers will be found important to a right conception of the various interests involved in the Eastern question.

On the contrary, the young Sultan has distinguished his reign by acts of benevolence and kindness towards his Christian subjects.

But enough of this religious view of the matter. The other paper to which we have referred, and which would appear to have emanated, and for aught we know did emanate, from a representative of Russia,

Well, perhaps there may be a good deal in these menaces, and perhaps, too, some portion of them may be realized; but it would by no means afflict us past consolation to see the spoiler spoiled and the prey rent from the robber, and if the eastern controversy ended in nothing but bringing about that consummation,

The Consular System of the United States.—What is it?—What should it be?

The consular and diplomatic agents of the United States are the organs of speech employed to communicate with the authorities of governments—international advocates they may be termed, charged with the protection of the commercial and personal interests of our people.

mercial fetters, and advertise their productions and their necessities to the world. With, perhaps a single exception—that of the Spanish cabinet—there is not a power of any note which is not practically exerting itself to draw closer the bonds of trade, by interchanging its productions with others and by strengthening the ties of friendship which spring into being as the legitimate fruits of extended commerce.

We count nothing upon the military power of our people as an actual means of advancement. On that field, the veriest serfs of Russia, subject to the will of the Czar, and paid for two months hard service what will scarcely buy a dinner at the Astor House, are, perhaps, as destructive and powerful as ourselves.

Now, what is the actual condition of our diplomatic and consular systems? Have they been modified and re-organized so as to meet and answer the demands of the people in the altered condition and office of commerce to which we have referred?

The consular or strictly commercial agents, however qualified, with some exceptions, are so many hungry mendicants sent abroad to beg of the commercial interest, or perhaps worse. The system, as it is called, is a misnomer; it has neither beginning or end. If anything, it is a system of utter disorder.

enough to be marked, he is made to beg his living of commerce and to disgrace his government by mendicant appeals and Jewish contrivances to provide his "daily bread."

The consular office, we repeat, rightly administered, is one of the most important—practically and usefully, we believe, the most important of the foreign agents of the government. Occupying the position we do in the commerce of the world, our consular system is one of utter disgrace.

Probable Recall of the Governor of Queensland—Lord Elgin's Administration.

It is currently reported that the Governor of Canada, Lord Elgin is to return to England in the Sarah Sands, and that the post he has filled for some six years and a half is about to be conferred upon a nobleman high in favor with the Aberdeen ministry.

Now, however, that all is quiet, and everything betokens a new era of prosperity for the province, it will be difficult for the most captious to ascribe Lord Elgin's retirement to any other motive than one equally creditable to himself and the British government.

He entered upon the discharge of the duties of Colonial Governor at a most critical period. Though six years had elapsed since the establishment of a free constitution in the colony, the system had never received a fair trial.

feeling towards the Governor began to take place; a sense of the injustice done him in Montreal, was slowly pervading all minds. As time rolled over, fresh evidences of his sincere concern for the welfare of the colonists were constantly coming to light.

With such a retrospect to contemplate, Lord Elgin can well afford to leave the task of doing justice to his memory to the future historian of Canada.

MR. BELMONT'S LETTER.—OUR MINISTERS ABROAD.—The letter of August Belmont, which we published yesterday, in reply to an invitation by his personal friends of this city to a public dinner, before his departure for the Hague,

As a private citizen, and as a man of business, he has practically and avowedly made himself known to this community; but in politics it was only universally understood last autumn that he was an active and liberal democrat.

His complimentary allusions to the sturdy and intrepid Hollanders are also in good taste. They are a brave people. Not only their own liberties, but the liberties of England, and the independence of this great nation of ours, are largely due to that little sea-washed collection whence the ancient Knickerbocker settlers of New Amsterdam set sail.

Gen. Pierce has amply vindicated himself against any suspicions which may have been raised against him during the Presidential canvass, of a prejudice against our adopted citizens.

THE MEXICAN BOUNDARY AND THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.—A LITTLE TOO FAST.—It appears by a late despatch to this paper, from Washington, that the Freeman's Journal, of this city, has been a little too fast in the promulgation of the instructions alleged to have been given to Gen. Gadsden, our new minister to Mexico.

We apprehend, however, that there is some basis for the Journal's statement of the case. It is well known that Gen. Davis, the Secretary of War, stands high in the confidence of Gen. Pierce; that the former, in behalf of the latter, broke ground recently with marked explicitness in favor of the Pacific Railroad as a government work.

debouch to the southward, going round the chain of mountains of the Gila. The object, therefore, of Gen. Davis, in securing a line further south than the Gila, was to secure a defensive boundary through an open country, adapted to military movements and military stations, and capable of affording supplies by attracting settlers and encouraging the rearing of cattle and the cultivation of the soil.

It is natural, too, that the Secretary of War should prefer this route to any other. It is the most Southern route, and he is an extreme Southern man. But, independently of a railroad, we presume that the Secretary of War would even now prefer a boundary south of the Gila mountains to the present indefensible line, in a simple military point of view.

That Gen. Pierce and his cabinet, to please the South, intend to assume the responsibility of locating the Pacific Railroad on Mexican territory, is simply absurd. That they intend to make the location of the said road a condition in the settlement of questions pending between us and Mexico, is equally ridiculous.

We can only say, then, that from the reasons indicated, and setting aside entirely the Tehuantepec route and the Pacific Railroad, it is the manifest policy of our government to secure another slice of Mexico, and of Mexico to let us have it upon reasonable terms.

THE POPE'S NUNCIO AND THE WAR STEAMER MICHIGAN.—A CONSIDERABLE FEAS ABOUT NOTHING.—We published the other day, a paragraph from the Detroit Tribune, setting forth that the captain commanding the United States steamer Michigan, stationed on the lakes, had surrendered his ship to the discretion of Archbishop Hughes, and was carrying our distinguished prelate from point to point, on his business connected with the Catholic Church, and at the expense of the United States treasury.

It now appears that the steamer Michigan—no doubt by order of the administration—has been turned over to the accommodation of the lately arrived Monsieur Bedini, the Pope's Nuncio, in his travels along Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, and that our venerable Archbishop was with him only as his travelling companion. Monsieur Bedini is the Pope's Nuncio to Brazil; and en route through this country, under instructions, has called to look after the interests of the church in the United States, bringing with him a congratulatory letter from His Holiness to His Excellency President Pierce.

In reply to the *Overland*, it has never, to our knowledge, been decided that Bedini is the "representative of an independent sovereign." But it is denied that he is a representative to the government of the United States, in any diplomatic capacity whatever. He may have brought a "congratulatory letter" from the Pope to President Pierce. "Congratulatory" letters, or letters of foreign dignitaries, introducing "the bearer" to the officials of this nation, are a kind of routine work that our executive officers are often afflicted with. But that Bedini, as a diplomatic agent from the government of Rome to the government of the United States, had official letters to the President, is not true.