AFFAIRS IN CUBA.

Our Havana Correspondence.

HAVANA, June 2, 1854.

Revolutionary State of Cuba—Alarm of the Government—Causes of the Discontent—The Ladies in the Case—Arrival of a Steamer from Cadiz—Mr. Soulé and the Settlement of the Difficulty.

The intelligence that Cuba is in a state of active revolution is premature, but it will eventuate in a general movement if the Captain General carries out his purpose of conscription, and puts arms in the hands of the people. The whites have no disposition for military association with the negroes, which have been first selected as most worthy of the confidence of the government; besides which, the revolution in public sentiment is complete, the island being divided into two parties only. On the one side the negroes stand pre-eminent in position and favor, sustained by the white military and naval forces—the rear being filled with the leeches of the various civil branches of the administration; and on the other hand stand arrayed the whole people, representing the commercial and agricultural industry of the island, without arms or the munitions necessary for organic demonstration. There has been much excitement—many meetings throughout the island; but no plan has been determined on for action. The government, however, are so much alarmed that they have administered another soporific manifesto, to quiet the reasonable apprehensions of the people, in which the usual implication occurs that the disturbing matter arises from "the covert and constant enemies of the Spanish name," permitting no opportunity to pass without disseminating their calumnies, promoting discontent and disunion among the inhabitants of Cuba, which points at your people and your press, and which is as true as the balance of the article.

The cause of discontent, with most humble deference to the superior wisdom of the superior authority, is wholly attributable to the publications of pieces of royal orders and vice-royal regulations, which have entirely confirmed the copies and extracts which had been previously taken from the official files and records of the palace, and circulated among the people. These communications, clandestinely obtained, for the public safety, were not relied upon, and not acted upon by the community, until they were endorsed and established by the Marquis himself, although they were used for the proper advisement of the public of the United States, and possibly of your government. I conclude that it is very evident that the manifesto of the maternal royal sentiment, and the vice-royal conscientiousness in relation to the interests of the people of Cuba, is, in its first paragraph, predicated upon a false statement, as those cannot be "enemies of the Spanish name" who are themselves Spaniards—as well derived, as proud, and as competent to write, without diploma from the Royal College, as the Marquis himself; and if they are so, according to mathematical science in the palace, then the chief enemy of the State, the arch-enemy of the Spanish name, and the fell destroyer of Spanish fame, is the noble Marquis de la Pezuela. The introduction of this "fence" exposition, which has like origin with the proclamation, charges that the Cuban women are the cause of the present alarm, and that their tongues are the cause of the mischief, which negatives the grave assertion of the Marquis as to "the enemies of the Spanish name"—which is a very indefinite allegation to emanate from the erudite pen of the Vice-Royal shop. The women declare that they are not safe under the present administration, (so says, or implies, the prepared leader of the *Diario*)—if so, the truth cannot be far from their lips—they are the home guardians, and their prudence and quite perceptions—more sensitive than those of the male, constantly occupied with the turmoil, care and anxiety of business—are barometric for the safety of the home-holds of their affections. If the females—daughters of those who gave birth to all of "Spanish name," are the cause of the excitement at present prevailing in our community, I deem it unreasonable to force upon it a strange paternity, and that the effort to do so betrays the weakness and trembling of those who hold the silver poringers for the "treasury pap," which flows so abundantly from the "maternal" pressure upon Cuban industry.

We had a steamer yesterday morning from Cadiz—the intelligence of which has not yet been permitted to transpire—but we gather of rumors, that to the 13th ult. Mr. Soulé was still at Madrid, remaining in favor with Ma—so-so, with the Queen mother's daughter—that all concessions are refused. The Spanish fleet for service in the Mediterranean ordered to Havana, to call at Barcelona for 3,000 troops, and at Porto Rico for 3,000 more. The old "Soberana," line-of-battle ship, to come again, (for repairs required), and the ship of the line, "The Queen," to be finished and fitted as soon as the royal treasury means will permit, and to follow. All very nice, as a Spaniard at my elbow says; "very convenient for the United States, for the increase of her naval force—better than the parade of "twenty-four feet," which I saw commented upon some few days since in a Yankee paper." I am too busy to ask him what he means, although he is eternally looking over my shoulder, which I forgive, because he is the favorite medium of Old Tubal, in our telegraphic communications, and must be kept in good spiritual working order. Our private written intelligence does not give any more favorable views as to the continuance of things in their present state with the court. A change in the head, will make of necessity no change in the political construction—and, as far as Cuba is concerned, things may be worse, but cannot be better, as long as the chains of her bondage are held with the shackle-keys in the hands of Pezuela and the negroes—his favorite associates. The last Madrid "on dit" has it that Mr. Soulé, in smoothing over the language of the President's Black Warrior message, in the course of apology, stated "That the President coming from the North-eastern part of the country, had not been used to good society." Isabel II. is a judge of what constitutes good society, and Mr. Soulé is an able expounder for her enjoyment and appreciation of himself. I shall leave in the Isabel, on the 8th, so by that vessel, I shall give you the last of TROUBLE.

HAVANA, June 7, 1854.

The Slave Trade Unchecked—Pezuela's System of Registry—Tyrannical Seizure of an English Fishing Craft—Powerless Condition of the Cuban People to Carry Out a Revolution Unaided—The Captain General's Circular on the Intermarriage of Blacks and Whites—Ball to Admiral Dusquesne.

As I am about leaving Cuba for a time, for reasons previously intimated, I propose giving a slight brush to things which do not seem to be understood at the North, and are not appreciated by any of your multifarious political cliques or parties. If they were, there would be harmony as to some given line of action that would bring correction to evils, which as they mature under the present administration of Cuban affairs, will not advance the cause of either fanatics, statesmen, philosophers or Christians, by whatever name they may be called, or serve to establish any principle that they may affect to advocate in their all-absorbing humanity and benevolence. As I shall stop a few days in the city of chivalry, for the purpose of seeing some friends of the "Union party," of year with the dead, and taking note of progress sinc the great anti-light went out, I shall not arrive in New York as soon as I expected. One of the cardinal points of the new policy which has been often alluded to by your correspondent, and upon which hinges all the anti-slavery philanthropy of the civilized world, and which has excited to renewed activity and seal the British government, the British anti-slavery society, and the French Institut d'Afrique, will prove abortive for the purpose intended, amelioration of the condition of the race, or suspension of the infamous trafic with the coast of Africa. England may put a check upon it, by the power she has of exposure, by placing her consuls on the southern coast of Cuba, with instructions to vigilance and watchfulness of these things, especially in the vicinity of Trinidad, which is the great mart for the negro trade, and which has advantage over all other positions, on account of the infinite places of concealment in the vicinity, impervious to the investigation of the cruisers, and the guards of the coast generally.

The system of registry, which has been paraded with so much form by Pezuela, and the violation of which is to be visited with such serious consequences, will prove utterly worthless and impracticable, even if Pezuela could be himself everywhere present personally to enforce the registration. The power of money is superior to the power of the viceroy is superior for the moment to the voice of the church, and not controlled by the decrees of our friendly "Providence." The system of evasion to respond to the registry, are already prepared; the labor forced upon the municipal authorities by the law could not be accomplished; but by the lists made by the planters themselves and the negroes presented in conformity to the officers of registry, (all others being disposed of at the pasturage of the estate or in the woods with the *douceur* accompaniments,) the labor will be performed and the law satisfied. This will be fully justified by the facts. I make no mistakes in these things, as no one better knows than his vice-highness, and as has been demonstrated to your public, from the beginning to this end of my labors.

In this connection, is there to be any cessation in the introduction of slaves? Not the least, but increased a thousand fold. Sama and Blanco, nephews of Joaquin Gomez Fauxcad, and a thousand other names wedded to infamy, besides our particular friend and banker, are as extensively interested now as they were during the palmy days of the administration of that pearl of Spanish chivalry, General Canedo. Landings continue to be effected with impunity.

Two angels of purity that were selected with great care, on account of their moral worth, and sent as Governors to the two important points of the south side by the Captain-General, he has been compelled to recall, and he finds himself in great embarrassment to procure a piece of honest Spanish humanity that will endure exposure for two months in office. The last two articles were soon initiated in all the mysteries and the emoluments of the trade, and the principal patrons of illegal gaming in their districts, without the prudence or the ability of making decent concealment so as to save their chief from the mortifying necessity of relieving them. The game is one of duplicity and cunning with governors and governed—to deceive each other, to mislead the unenlightened benevolence of the world, to preserve Cuba in chains, or to throw over her fair face the black mantle of death. One manifesto of deceit and equivocation follows another with the rapidity of Pezuela-thought, under the influence of his continued changing fears—all in contradiction, and no attempt at the preservation of the appearance of consistency.

To show the working of our vigilance on the south side, where we have two steamers and two brigs of war in constant motion to catch the traders from Africa, two large vessels have entered their ports, discharged their negroes, and are now preparing to take in European freights, unobserved of course. But at the same time, an humble English fisherman comes to an island off the isle of Cortes to look for water, more than three leagues from the main land, and beyond the reach of Spanish law for seizure, without fish in his vessel, and no evidence of contraband fishing upon our banks, and he is discovered on the instant, captured, himself and crew taken to Batamanao with his schooner, within five seconds of communication with our vice royal palace, and ten days are permitted to pass by his Excellency without advice of the circumstance to the British Consul-General. The name of this vessel, or that of the captain, we have not yet been able to obtain; but the facts are veritable, and my successor will furnish the items for full advisement.

The United States are not alone subject to the corsair propensities of this government; I presume, as in the case of the Algerine tribute money, they will have the power to make an effectual cure of the evil, for the advantage of their commercial world. They come to the work very slow, but they will come.

In relation to Cuba, and its power over itself for its own freedom, there is much to be said. You cannot understand—(I mean your readers—you have personally investigated this people, and the controlling sword and bayonet over them, from the cradle to the grave)—how little confidence they possess in their own physical power for resistance, without any of the arms or material of modern warfare within their reach, or the knowledge from practice of their management and use. No free thought, no free action permitted—suspicion of one or the other being high misdemeanor, *infidencia* or treason. The usual manly exercises of our youth in the open air, upon the waters, the plains, or the woods inhibited; the gathering together of the young for any purpose but the bull fight, chicken fight, church processions or balls, always guarded by a civil police and military force, strictly forbidden. Not permitted the use, wear, or exercise with any weapon that could be possibly converted into material for the general defence, or to the restraint of the wickedness of their rulers. It is not strange that the late attempts to organic local action should have failed so far. It is this absolute condition of young Cuba, that prevents resistance, and that will continue to do so, unless in his eagerness to consummate "Cuban glory," General Pezuela should force arms into the hands of Cuban youth, (white as well as colored,) and teach them what they so much require—the knowledge of the power of combination, discipline and the manual, and familiarity with the various weapons of defence. The call for the militia is a farce, not intended for consummation, but for the purpose of covering the want of confidence which the government has in the hearts and the arms of their "ever faithful" islanders. If General Pierce and his corps of advisers place confidence in the report that Cuba is in a state of revolution, and gives up your national honor to Spanish care, under such fallacious hopes the prize may escape, Africanization be secured, and a thorn fixed forever to rankle and disturb the peace and prosperity of your republic. It is possible that this hope may lead to prolonged negotiation with the wiley Spaniard, under the impression that Cuba will work out her own salvation, and throw herself into your kindly open arms, for the nation to imbibe the sweets of the rich inheritance, without labor and without cost. Cuba has the "fear and trembling" under the lash of the tyrant, but none other of the attributes of the Divine command. Cuba cannot be free by her own unaided action, unless General Pezuela does that which I believe him to have just sense enough to perceive would not answer, and which, I am well advised, he does not contemplate, unless it be by so small a fraction that he can bury it in such a huge mass of royalty under arms as to prevent the leaven from working to the detriment of the crown and the "integrity" of Cuba—just enough to make excuse to the Creole and to cover his coward policy. It would be far more generous—far more noble and consistent with good soldiership—to say, "We doubt you, and we will not trust you."

I have discharged my duty in the premises, to put your folks upon their guard, as to what they may do under the force of excitement, which may much embarrass the cause they pretend to have at heart. Here we are so far removed from Boston and Worcester that the strife there appears contemptible in the face of a movement which, if let alone for a little while, would bring the question to a solution—the same solution that was obtained in the Old Bay State without bloodshed of their neighbors and friends. When the negroes became a burthen to the owners, then philanthropy—Christian philanthropy—stepped in, and conveyed them to the penitentiary, the workhouse, and the grave.

Such was the foundation of abolitionism in the United States; and, so far, the results verify my declaration, as will be found by any one who seeks to find the remnant of those consigned to the mercy of Massachusetts freedom, which, being the very fountain, birth place, or "cradle," in the western hemisphere, should be A 1 in quality. But I have done. This is none of my concern. They may follow the Kilkenny cats in the practice of their philanthropic robberies; it will not much retard the progress of religious and civil liberty.

To come down to common-place matters of this belonging. It is but a few days since we were told by vice-royal authority that the story got up by the "enemies of the Spanish name" were all idle inventions and calumnies, strewed among the people to promote discontent and disunion—to destroy the general harmony among the ever faithful—that the idea of a law to permit the marriage of negroes and whites was utterly nonsensical, and had no place in the mind of the noble marquis or his royal mistress, &c. I hand you herewith the law edict, or vice-royal permit, which was then laying upon the table of the Captain General, ready for transmission to our most holy Roman Catholic father in the church, which has been since combined in his circular of the 29th ult., and addressed to the various curates throughout the land. This gracious permission is the only law of the land upon the subject, which will be enforced as an imperative mandate by the priests of the interior, although it has no such quality in its framework. It makes allusion, under past law, to the necessity of special license from the Captain General for such marriages, which, for the future, may be dispensed with for the cause assigned, except in the cases of noble blood or minors. If there had been any passed law, the *cedula* on the royal order would have been cited; if it had been a law of custom or regulation under the ancient administrations of Cuba, it had become abrogated by the positive enactment of the Cortes, without the approval of which none of the old customs or laws were to be esteemed legal or binding upon this community, and law, custom, or regulation for such "interlaces," never had the approval required. Many whites and colored persons have been united in matrimonial bonds in Cuba—pretty well bleached subjects by thinning of the black blood—but the process has obtained through ministry of the church "whipping the devil round the" altar, by permitting parents to hold their children to the baptismal font, and in response as to the color of the child, to give white. Once christened white, though black as the ace of spades, no one dare to make the declaration. It is the christened white negroes that have been married in Cuba to their own or to the natural white, and none other. Of these we have both noble and plebeian.

The following is a translation of the document:—

To avoid the disagreeable questions that may arise on the subject of the intermarriage of whites and persons of color between the civil and ecclesiastical authorities, the Captain-General is resolved that the *real audiencia pretorial* shall have jurisdiction without any further restrictions than those imposed by law in the case of minors, and where such marriages are reserved for his ultimate decision when some noble person is to be united with another of a distinguished family. And I am directed by his excellency to say that the license which it has hitherto been customary to obtain from the Captain-General for the marriage of whites with colored persons, will not be necessary for the future; and hoping that no further difficulty will arise under the supposed necessity of an express license, I communicate to you now the order from his Excellency and the Senor Archbishop, that you may take judicial cognizance thereof, and have it duly proclaimed in the church under your charge.

VELAYOS, Secretario.

A ball was given last Saturday evening to Admiral Duquesne and the officers of the French protectoral division of the Captain-General of Cuba, by the officers of the army and our writing chief. It was a magnificence of small things—no supper, no Creole ladies, no dust, no jam, and a very considerable quantity of mortification, at which the French officers seemed to curl their noses and mustachios towards heaven in awful scorn.

The Captain-General has sprung the registration upon the planters by surprise, having published that the law was to go into effect on the 1st of August. He now determines that it shall be done in eight days, more or less, according to distance from the city; and so it will be, and the most exceeding humbug yet—of Cuba—will be played upon, or by consent, of vice regal intelligence. My substitute must carry on the balance; I have to go back. You will see me shortly after my arrival in New York. God speed the right; and you and your readers may have one comfort, no matter what happens to the "weeping child of the ocean," you have the last of

TROUBLE.

Our Relations with Cuba—Spanish Views.

[From the New Orleans Bee, June 7.]

The *Diario de la Marina* of the 24th of May devotes over four columns to an elaborate examination of the charges of outrage, injustice and iniquity preferred by the Washington *Union* and other journals against the Spanish government in its relations to the United States. That our readers may comprehend the view taken of the question by the official journals of the Cuban authorities, we shall succinctly epitomize the article in the *Diario*, confining ourselves to a rapid condensation of its statements and positions. It will be seen that the entire contents of Mr. Soulé's note to the Spanish government have evidently been placed in the possession of the editor.

The *Diario* commences the array of grievances with the case of the seizure of the American vessels Susan Loud and Georgiana, which, it says, was fully justified, and is an illustration of the impartiality of Cuban justice, and of the benevolence of the Queen, since liberty and pardon were granted to those who had rendered themselves amenable to a penal sentence, convicted as they were of an unsuccessful attempt at invasion.

The firing upon the Falcon in August, 1851, and on the American schooner Lamartine in February of the same year are next investigated. The *Diario* admits that had these been really outrages, they would have called for reparation, but contends that these vessels repeatedly refused to hoist the flag when summoned to do so, and that this refusal was intended to provoke a difficulty.

The expulsion of the Crescent City from Havana on the 3d October, 1853, and the prohibition by the authorities to send her mails ashore, is treated by the *Diario* as follows:—

> The Crescent City sought to impose laws on our port, wished to assume the position of a foreign fortress within a Spanish port, wished to exercise the right of introducing conspirators into the country, to insult our authorities to their face, after having defamed them in New York. It was necessary to make her understand that in the port of Havana Spanish laws and authorities alone prevailed, and that he who failed to respect them could not be admitted into our territory. But who does not know that the obstinacy of the attempt of the supercargo supplied a new cause of difficulties, and brought about another wished for "bone of contention," *palo deseado*.

The case of the detention of the Ohio in March, 1852, during three days in Havana is treated as an absurd complaint—it being a universally acknowledged precept of municipal law, that useful and necessary sanitary laws may be maintained, though they may create individual hardships.

The boarding of the schooner Manchester by a Spanish vessel of war, and her detention for twenty-four hours, is treated by the *Diario* as a lawful act. The schooner was found among the small islands of the coast, having deviated from her route without apparent motive. The Spanish cruisers were on the look out for clandestine expeditions at the time, and boarded her. The *Diario* adds that the *Union* ought not to complain of this, since the Manchester had got aground, and was relieved and taken into port, without any charge for salvage having been made.

The next charge is that in February, 1853, and subsequently, the mail sacks of the United States were broken open by the authorities of Cuba. This, says the *Diario*, was done in consequence of the immense number of seditious papers, tending to subvert the government, with which the mail bags were filled. It argues that the act was justified by existing laws, which interdict the admission of such documents; and that while the law stands on the statute book, the authorities cannot be censured for enforcing its execution.

The seventh accusation is the arrest during the month of May, of the same year, of three American sailors, on suspicion of being engaged in the slave trade. This the *Diario* admits and justifies, adding that the sailors were released upon establishing their innocence, and that the United States would have acted similarly, had the case been reversed.

The other outrages referred to by the *Union* are the arrest in 1850-'51 of two American citizens, and the expulsion of two more in 1853. The *Diario* declares that the first two were strongly suspected of filibusterism at a period when the country was threatened with a "piratical invasion." The third was expelled for conniving at the printing of incendiary proclamations, and the fourth was banished at the request of his own father, whose family had been disgraced and ruined by his disorderly conduct. The *Diario* implies that these four individuals, though claimed as citizens of the United States, were subjects of the Queen of Spain.

The case of the Black Warrior closes the catalogue of complaints. This, contends the *Diario*, is purely a case of enforcement of the revenue and port laws, and is so viewed by European journals, and by the moderate portion of the press of the United States itself.

In the note addressed by Mr. Soulé to the Spanish government, he mentions a number of causes of complaint not referred to by the *Union*, and on the other hand omits all notice of nine of those stated by that journal, alluding only to three of the latter. The *Diario* undertakes to examine Mr. Soulé's charges. One of them is, that in 1844 the bark Juliet was fired upon by the fortress of Tarifa, and that the government of Spain offered explanations, but did not make reparation. These explanations must have been satisfactory, according to the *Diario*, since from 1844 to 1854 the two governments have preserved friendly relations. Another is the disapprobation expressed by the Spanish government of the remission, by the authorities of the island, of certain articles of consumption, in consequence of the hurricane of 1844. The damage to American commerce is estimated at two hundred dollars, which the *Diario* considers a somewhat insufficient motive for plunging two nations into war.

A third source of complaint stated by Mr. Soule, is that of the heirs of Alexander Asang, and of a captain of a vessel named Goofral, who were ruined by the compulsory payment of certain duties. The *Diario* does not profess to know the merits of these cases, but offsetts them by that of the captain of the Spanish brigantine San Jose, who, being dismasted near Baltimore, by a storm on the 6th of September, and having reached Baltimore on the 19th, was compelled to take a tow-boat, with a view of being made to pay more than a thousand dollars by way of salvage. The court reduced the demand to forty-eight dollars, but condemned Captain Longa to pay altogether, the sum of $484 90-100—viz: $350 as a bonus to the pilots, forty-eight dollars for pilot dues, and forty-five dollars and ninety cents as costs of court.

The case of a citizen of the United States arrested at Sagua la Grande in 1850, and that of a shot fired at the Black Warrior in March, 1853, are dismissed by the *Diario*, with the remark that it is not aware whether any claims have been based upon these occurrences.

The case of the vessel North Carolina figures largely in Mr. Soulé's note. The *Diario's* account of this affair is, that the North Carolina was wrecked in November, 1850, at Guanico, on the southern coast of Puerto Rico, and the crew were taken to Mayaguez, and lodged in the barracks of the infantry during the judicial investigation of the affair. They were detained longer than was necessary by the Marine Assessor, who resided at the capital of the island. An American war frigate, learning the facts, made preparations for fight, but was deterred by the warlike attitude of the people of the island. The Captain of the Port was superceded. The *Diario* says that that officer might have been guilty of neglect, but not of outrage.

The last complaint urged by Mr. Soulé against the Spanish government is its refusal to allow American vessels to enter its ports on the footing of foreign vessels. The *Diario* is not aware of the motives of that government for this determination, but maintains that, though it may be a legitimate subject of friendly negotiation, it cannot be regarded as an outrage.

The *Diario* terminates its long review by avowing its astonishment that the Black Warrior affair should be regarded as an outrage, when, according to the *Union*, the American republic had patiently tolerated for years at least twenty-two insults and offences. It extols the justice of Spain, condemns the conduct of the filibustering spirits of the United States, but acknowledges that there are many amongst us who are honorable and worthy citizens, illustrious orators and profound statesmen.

The Cuba Question and the Empress Eugenie of France.

[From the Pennsylvanian, Government Organ.]

WASHINGTON, June 13, 1854.

The anxiously looked for message from the President failed to make its appearance yesterday, much to the disappointment of those who had been hazarding predictions in regard to its contents. It may have been that the pending negotiations between the new Spanish minister and Secretary Marcy have assumed such a shape as to render it necessary to alter certain passages in the message; but be the case what it may, the President does not deem it advisable at present to send any further communications to Congress on the subject of our Cuban difficulties.

The readers of the *Pennsylvanian*, no doubt, have stumbled upon a paragraph "going the rounds," in which the Emperor Napoleon is made to say some sharp things about us Yankees for looking with longing eyes and watering mouths at the island of Cuba. I have the best of reasons for believing that this stray waif of a paragraph had its origin in substantially correct information. It is well known that the present Emperor, like his illustrious uncle, is extremely anxious to perpetuate his dynasty in a direct instead of a slantin-dicular line; but it is not so well known that the Empress is undoubtedly in that situation which ladies delight in who love their lords. This bit of imperial gossip was received by the last steamer, and of course, has given rise to much piquant talk in the diplomatic circles of this city. These little annual episodes in the domestic arrangements of Queen Victoria have not the slightest influence on politics or the public funds. But the case is far different with the enchanting Eugenie. She is not only Spanish by birth, but concentratively Spanish in all her feelings, hopes and aspirations. She has now become the peculiar idol of Louis Napoleon's worship, and literally carries all before her. He enters into all her longings, and gratifies her every whim. Now it so happens that the Empress—which is an evidence that her education has been sadly neglected—has imbibed a bitter prejudice against our free, enlightened, enterprising, land-grabbing republic. In her conversation with Judge Douglas, when that distinguished Senator visited the French Court, she took no pains to conceal her feelings of hostility towards our country and our people. The Empress longs to humble what she calls the arrogant pride of the United States; and the Emperor, like a dutiful and affectionate husband, is disposed to gratify the "longing" even at the hazard of forming an offensive alliance with the government of Spain. Ah! these women folks! From the days of Eve to the days of the Rev. Antoinette Brown, they seem to have been animated by the one same insane idea to deprive us male wretches of a portion of our garments. For the first two years of our existence, when we are wholly within their power, they compel us to wear frocks. When we become united to them in the bonds of matrimony, a second attempt is made to deprive us of an article of apparel to which we are legally entitled. And, finally, when we are about to be consigned to the tomb, we are enveloped in a shroud shaped frock fashion.

News from Venezuela.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.]

LAGUAYRA, May 20, 1854.

The Government and Destruction of Foreign Property—Bad Condition of the Government—Large Official Defalcation—Small Army, but Numerous Officers and Large Pay—Naval Promotions.

The Congress of Venezuela has closed its session. Among the acts passed was one declaring that the government would not be held responsible for any acts of violence or destruction or loss of property to foreigners during political commotions or revolutions, unless committed by the legitimate authorities of the government. An act was also passed admitting a claim against the old Colombian government, of upwards of eighty thousand dollars, in favor of the heirs of the late Cap. John Clark, of Baltimore, and authorizing the payment of twenty-eight and a half per cent., the proportion payable by Venezuela. Fifty per cent is payable by New Grenada, and twenty-one and a half per cent. by Ecuador.

This claim was originally in the hands of the U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, and had it continued there, the award, it is said, might have been much greater. About five years ago Capt. Clark was taken very sick in Laguayra, and had not a single cent to procure any of the necessaries of life; he was in the house of an Irishman named Scanlin, made his will just before he died, leaving Scanlin his executor. When the claim was pending, and being prosecuted by Mr. I. N. Steele, late Charge d'Affaires, Scanlin took it out of his hands and compromised the matter with with the government. Had it continued in the hands of the Charge d'Affaires, the amount would have been recovered and remitted to the Department of State, at Washington, for distribution among the lawful heirs, which it is said consist of two daughters residing in Baltimore, and very poor.

The governement is in a wretched state of disorder. Gellineau the late Secretary of the Treasury, after feathering his own nest, resigned, and left the country; it is said discoveries have been made estimating that he absquatulated with half a million of dollars, after a service of two years with a salary of $3,000 a year. He had nothing when he entered the office.

The drafts on the Treasury keep the government very much embarrassed. Although they have only one thousand soldiers in the army, they have twenty-eight generals on the army list drawing pay, and other officers in proportion, and continually creating others. President Monagas has been created by the Congress General-in-Chief, with pay for life, $3,600 a year; this rank was conferred by Bolivar on a few of the most distinguished of his generals at the close of the Revolutionary war of Independence, and there remained only two alive, Paez and Marino; the rank has now been conferred on a person nearly unknown. Monagas is, however, in advance of all other nations; he has promoted two of the oldest navy captains to be generals in the navy. The navy list reads thus:—"Generals and officers of the navy, &c.; these promotions place Captain John Daniels, of Baltimore, at the head of the captains of the navy. Now if the captain will return again to Venezuela, and use a little soft soap, Monagas will create him a general in the navy. How clever that would sound—General Daniels, of the Venezuelean Navy, with a medal and ribbon at the button hole. Salary $2,400 a year, instead of $1,800, as captain, on the retired list.

Trial and Conviction of a Slave in Louisiana for Rape.

THE NEGRO SENTENCED TO BE HUNG.

[From the New Orleans Crescent, June 8.]

The trial of the negro boy Ned, belonging to Mr. Henry Dugué, of the parish of Jefferson, who stood charged with having committed a rape, on the 17th ult., on the person of Elizabeth Schlindwein, aged about eighteen, came off yesterday in the town of Gretna, before Judge Guy Dreux, and a jury of ten slaveholders, as specially provided for by law. The court room was intensely crowded by the population of the town, and a great interest seemed to be manifested in the result of the trial. The prosecution was conducted by Charles D. Dreux, the young but able District Attorney of the parish, and Messrs. Henry Dugué and Edward Bermudez appeared for the defence. The examination of the witnesses elicited the facts, as previously stated in the city papers at the time of the occurrence. The following will give our readers an idea of the testimony:—

On the morning of the 17th of May, Elizabeth Schlindwein, in company with her mother and three of her friends, went on the rear of Mr. Polycarp Fortier's plantation to gather blackberries. As they passed near Mr. Fortier's mill they saw two negroes lying on the ground, who both sprang up and looked at them as they passed. About half an hour afterwards, when they had reached the woods, they were met by a negro boy, whom they recognized as the prisoner, and also as being one of the two whom they had seen at the mill. He approached Elizabeth and said a few words to her in English, which she could not understand, and immediately afterwards drew a knife, and, in presence of the four terrified women, perpetrated the outrage. One of the persons present at the time was unwell yesterday, and consequently unable to attend the trial, but the testimony of four intelligent witnesses corroborated in every respect the relation of the above facts.

In the cross-examination it was shown that on the day succeeding the occurrence, Elizabeth Schlindwein, together with her friend, repaired to Mr. Fortier's plantation, and after a long and careful examination of all the negroes, could not succeed in identifying a single one present as the perpetrator of the crime. The second day they paid another visit to the plantation, and being admitted separately into a large room where twenty-six negroes were assembled, recognized each a different one, until the last witness, a sprightly little girl of twelve or thirteen, positively identified Ned as the boy whom she had seen in the woods. It was not until then that the other four were satisfied in their own minds as to the identity of the prisoner. The difficulty that the witnesses had met with in recognizing the offender for a while created a strong impression on the minds of the jury in favor of the accused, but it was soon counterbalanced by the testimony of a slave of Mr. Fortier, who said that he saw the boy Ned going towards the woods half an hour after the women had passed the mill; that Ned was to have stayed in the mill all day, but did not make his appearance until the next morning, etc.

Mr. Polycarpe Fortier, being next sworn, related in a few clear and forcible words the many circumstances which had led him to suspect Ned of the crime; that Ned was working in his employ; that he is a lazy negro, although a good boy; and that, before being taken to jail, Ned had confessed to him that he really was guilty of the charge.

The above is a statement of all the evidence given at the trial. The District Attorney submitted the case to the Court in a few brief and and forcible remarks, and was followed in an eloquent appeal by Mr. Edward Bermudez. The jury retired, and, about fifteen minutes afterwards, returned with a verdict of "Guilty." Judge Dreux then proceeded to pass the sentence of the law upon the accused, condemning him to be hung within the walls of the parish prison, on the 19th day of June. The prisoner was very much affected when he heard his sentence, and burst into tears, thanking his master for the interest manifested in his behalf, and evincing a state of great nervous excitement. He is a young, stout, and well built negro, about twenty-five years of age, and, although always known to have been somewhat lazy and little inclined to work, had never yet shown any symptom of vice or villany.

The tack makers of Taunton, Abington, Braintree, Bridewater, and other places in Massachusetts, nearly one hundred in number, held a convention at Bridgewater on Friday, the 9th inst., and adopted a scale of prices, making an average advance of ten or twelve per cent upon the present prices of manufacture, and passed resolutions to adhere to and sustain the prices agreed upon.

Native American Police in Philadelphia.

Judge Conrad, the newly elected Know Nothing Mayor of Philadelphia, on the occasion of his installation, on the 13th inst., delivered an address, of which the following, in relation to appointing native Americans on the police, is an extract:—

> Careful and anxious investigation and reflection, since the election, have impressed me with the conviction that, in the present state of public sentiment, and under existing circumstances, any police force in this city, to be safe in itself, or a security for others, *must be constituted of men known as born in this country*. This conclusion has not been lightly nor loosely, nor without painful consideration, arrived at. Regarding with the respect and esteem which their intelligence and moral worth challenge, the large body of our adopted citizens who sincerely and zealously abjure all foreign domination, I am still constrained to acknowledge the unambiguous and decided expression of the popular will upon this subject; and if my personal views differed from those entertained by a very large majority of our citizens, I would—the most efficient police being my aim—consider the constitution from foreign materials of that police, as unwise and dangerous. The prevalence of an intense and hostile popular sentiment, may render a class of men inefficient and unsuited for police service, who would be worthy and well qualified for other stations. It cannot be doubted that such a sentiment now prevails, and would render the employment of foreigners in the police imprudent, not merely in regard to their own efficiency, but their own personal safety, and the preservation of the public peace. Americans are justly jealous of the combined and secret influences which have been exerted to deny them their birthright of self-government; they, almost without distinction of party, assert that Americans are adequate to the enactment and execution of their own laws; and that while the enforcement of our laws by our own people is natural, appropriate, and will meet prompt respect, obedience when required, by men of other lands and other tongues, and other modes of thought and action, is offensive, provokes resistance, and induces violations of the law. It is certain that the most organized and formidable resistance to the law is to be apprehended from a *certain class of foreigners*; and it is equally certain that a police force of an opposite class of foreigners, employed against them, adds a new aggravation to the subject of excitement, and is rendered, if not the cause of additional transgression, at least wholly ineffective and useless for its suppression. No one can doubt that a police force composed of vigorous, resolute and temperate Americans, will be more efficient in a trying exigency, especially if employed to suppress riot or insurrection among aliens, than one constituted of those not born in this country; and this fact—their superior adaptation and efficiency—being ascertained, nothing is left for doubt as to the duty of the appointing power.

The new Mayor also avows his determination to enforce the law against the Sunday liquor traffic.

The Steam Boiler Explosion in Boston.

FIVE MEN SEVERELY INJURED.

[From the Boston Mail, June 14.]

The steam engine used by S. J. Taylor, hat manufacturer, Nos. 18 and 20 Brighton street, exploded yesterday afternoon at a quarter past two o'clock, with a noise that created much alarm among the people residing in that vicinity. The engine was in the basement, and the sudden expansion of the steam tore up the floor of the first story of the building, and raised that of the second from the beams. The lower part of the chimney was badly shattered, and was partly detached from the wall near the roof. The bricks and fragments of broken machinery were scattered around in dreadful confusion. The two outside grates in the sidewalk were thrown up, and the office chairs and furniture on the first floor, were hurled into the middle of the street.

The engineer, who, according to his own account was in the basement, and just in the act of taking off the pump which supplies the boiler, at the time of the catastrophe, is supposed to have been thrown across the building. He was found beneath the outside grate, his clothes torn off, and his flesh frightfully scalded. His name is Thomas Beach, an Englishman, twenty-three years of age, and resides on Cypress street, where he has a wife. Besides the injuries received from the hot steam, his back was badly bruised. The physicians at the hospital, where he was immediately taken, gave a favorable opinion of his case, though his recovery must be regarded as doubtful. William Ellison, a man 60 years of age, had his hands torn to pieces, and was badly scalded. His recovery is also looked upon as doubtful. He has several children, some of whom are married. He is now at the hospital. George Francis, about 40 years of age, while attempting to escape from the building fell through a grate and severely bruised his head and back. He was also taken to the hospital. His family have been assured that, though badly scalded, he will recover.

Ebenezer Safford, a man of family, about 40 years of age, was badly scalded about the face and arms. His wounds were dressed at the hospital, and he is not thought to be dangerously injured.

Christian Raake, a man about 51 years of age, was bruised and badly scalded. He was taken to his residence, 46 Brighton street, where he has a wife and family.

William Cayser, an old man 80 years of age, was at work in close proximity to the engine, but almost miraculously escaped without serious injury.

A boy employed on the first floor was thrown up to the ceiling, but fortunately escaped with a few slight bruises. Four of the men were at work directly over the boiler at the time it exploded, and it is a cause for rejoicing that they escaped with their lives, when one of the huge tubs, at which they were at work, was hurled from its place, and portions of the floor were thrown upward and scattered through the room in all directions.

The end of the boiler towards the street remained in its bed, and a large aperture, displaying an insufficient strength of iron, was plainly discernible from the outside. The other end seemed to have been blown to pieces, judging from the tearing up of the bricks in which it had been imbedded.

The engine was two and a half years old, and although of only 25 horse power, had been made to drive the machinery of the hat manufactory, a cabinet work shop, a blacksmith shop, and a lamp manufactory—works requiring at least a 50 horse power.

Mr. Ellison, one of the persons injured, died at the Massachusetts General Hospital on the 15th inst., and Mr. Beach, the engineer, cannot live more than an hour or two.

Statistics of Mecklenburg and Halifax Counties, Va.

From the census tables for the year 1850 we compile the following facts, which may be of interest to our readers:—The aggregate population of the county of Mecklenburg in 1850, was 20,630, composed as follows: of 7,257 whites, of whom 3,611 were males, and 3,645 females; of 912 free colored persons, of whom 423 were males, and 489 females; and of 12,462 slaves, of whom 6,446 were males, and 6,016 females. From this it will be seen that the excess of the slave over the white population was 5,206, being nearly seventy-two per cent more. The free colored population was nearly one-eighth as numerous as the whites, and constituted nearly one twenty-third part of the whole population. It will be seen that of the whites the females exceeded the males in number by the small sum of 34; among the free colored people this excess was 66, while among the slaves the excess was in favor of the males, and amounted to 430.

The staple agricultural products for 1850 were as follows:—4,863,184 lbs. tobacco, 113,016 bushels wheat, 552,466 ditto Indian corn, 184,695 ditto oats. We have not at hand the census table for 1840, and therefore cannot state the exact ratio of increase in these products during the ten years, but we are informed that such increase was very great.

The aggregate population of the county of Halifax in 1850 was 25,962, composed of 10,976 whites; divided into 5,427 males, and 5,549 females; of 534 free colored persons, males 268, females 266; and of 14,452 slaves, 7,416 being males, and 7,036 females. From these figures it will be seen that the slave population of Halifax exceeds the white by the sum of 3,476, being an excess of a fraction over 31 per cent, not one half of the excess in Mecklenburg. Among the whites there was an excess of females over males amounting to 122. Among the free colored population there was an excess of males over the females amounting to two; and among the blacks a similar excess of 380.

It will be seen that both in Mecklenburg and Halifax, while the females among the whites outnumber the males, the reverse is the case with the slaves. Why this difference we do not know. It has been suggested that it may be attributed to the higher value set by the owners upon men, and the consequent disposition to sell the women first. But this theory is at least rendered doubtful by the fact that in very many slaveholding counties the number of female slaves is greater than that of the males.

Halifax county in 1850 produced 6,485,762 lbs. tobacco, 146,769 bushels wheat, 649,896 do. Indian corn, and 365,182 do. oats.

In the production of tobacco the county of Halifax surpasses Mecklenburg, not only absolutely but relatively—the former having produced, in 1850, 448 lbs. for each slave, and the latter 390 lbs. Of all the counties in the State except those in which large cities are located, Pittsylvania is the most populous. The inhabitants number 28,796; and unlike Halifax and Mecklenburg, are composed of a majority of whites, the proportion being 15,263 whites to 12,798 slaves. The free colored population was only 735.

LIFE OF MARTIN VAN BUREN.—Mr. Van Buren employs the leisure hours of his foreign sojourn in writing the memorials of his own remarkable career. No man is more capable of giving a dispassionate and just account of the events of the last sixty years, or of divesting them of the false character which momentary passions and strifes have imparted to them, or of clothing the narrative of great events in the eloquent yet measured language of history. But the hours which foreign travel or residence afford for literary labors are few, and a work of the character of which we speak would require a consultation and comparison of authorities such as foreign residence will not admit of. Whether a work, thus commenced, ever reaches the public is probably a contingency that gives little concern to the author, who having satisfied all the ambition of his life, is not likely to vex his tranquil and philosophic age by a hurried strife after literary fame.—*Albany Atlas, June 14.*

New Patents Issued.

List of Patents issued from the United States Patent Office, for the week ending June 13, 1854—bearing that date:—

Dominique Emile Coutaret, of Roxbury, Ma[ss.]—For improvement in the manufacture of sulp[huric] acid. Patented in England, Dec. 16, 1853.

Wm. R. Palmer, of Elizabeth City, N. C.—Fo[r im]provement in threshers.

Joseph Iler and Wm. Fitzpatrick, of Troy, [N. Y.]—For improvement in nail plate-feeders.

Tyler Howe, of Cambridgeport, Mass.—Fo[r im]provement in bed bottoms.

Thomas Ashcroft, of Dorchester, Mass.—Fo[r im]provement in operating cut-off valves for stea[m en]gines.

David Prew, of Taunton, Mass.—For imp[rove]ment in cast-iron car-wheels.

Casimir Abos, of New Brunswick, N. J.—Fo[r im]provement in spark arresters.

John M. Batchelder, of Cambridge, Mass.—[For] improvement in insulating telegraph wires.

Samuel Childs, of New York, N. Y.—Fo[r im]provement in stills for distilling fatty bodies.

Silas Constant, of Brooklyn, N. Y.—For lens [for] chimney.

Nathaniel Dodge, of Orford, N. H.—For impr[ove]ment in the construction of tanning apparatus.

Anthony Faas, of Philadelphia, Pa.—For impr[ove]ments in the construction of accordeons.

Eli H. Green, of Baltimore, Md.—For impr[oved] carriage axle.

Geo. P. Gordon, of New York, N. Y.—For im[prov]ed printing press.

F. M. Harriss, of Carroll, O.—For improvement [in] tail boards of wagons.

B. R. Hundley, of Lynchburg, O.—For impr[ove]ment in bed bottoms.

Bernard Hughes, of Rochester, N. Y.—Fo[r im]provement in vises.

Wm. E. Jones, of the United States Army.—[For] improvement in saddle trees.

Joseph Keech and Stephen Stilwell, of Wate[rloo,] N. Y.—For improvement in winnowing machin[es.]

Wm. Montgomery, of Roxbury, Mass.—For [im]provements in machine card teeth.

J. Vaughan Merrick, of Philadelphia, Pa.—Fo[r im]provement in exhaust fans.

Andrew Overend, of Philadelphia, Pa.—For [im]provement in printers' friskets.

Chas. A. Wilson, of Newport, Ky.—For impr[ove]ment in operating valve for steam pumps.

Martin Newman, (2d,) and N. C. Whitcomb, [of] Lanesboro', Pa., and G. C. Cole, of Hartford, C[onn.] —For improvements in coupling.

David L. Latourette, of St. Louis, Mo.—For [im]provement in mills.

Bronson Murray, of Farm Ridge, Ill., assig[nor] (through T. Rush Spencer, of Geneva, N. Y.,) [to] John S. Wright, of Chicago, Ill.—For improvem[ent] in harvest cutters.

David N. Kownover, of Danville, Pa., assigno[r to] Richard L. Kownover, of Milton, Pa.—For impro[ved] mode of closing wickets in canal gates.

Lyman Clark, of South Royalston, Mass., assig[nor] to Lyman Clark and Jos. Sawyer.—For instrum[ent] for trimming welts of boots, shoes, &c.

Chas. Perley, of New York, N. Y.—For impro[ve]ment in adjustable rails for replacing cars on track.

Chas. Perley, of New York, N. Y.—For impro[ve]ment in chain cable stoppers.

Samuel Perkes, of London, England.—For impro[ve]ments in crushing and grinding quartz and mi[ne]rals. Patented in England, October 12, 1852.

Merritt F. Potter, of Charlemont, Mass.—For [im]provement in railroad odometers.

Ebenezer N. Price, of Salem, Mass.—For impro[ve]ment in bridle bits.

Isaac Starks, of Genoa, N. Y., and Lyman Pe[...]go, of Groton, N. Y.—For improved device for ho[ld]ing pieces in spoke machines.

James L. Rowley, of Steuben county, Indiana.—For improvement in carriages.

Ira Reynolds, of Republic, Ohio.—For impro[ve]ment in harvesters.

Chas. Schinz, of Camden, N.J.—For improveme[nt] in processes for hardening tallow.

John Stowell, of Charlestown, Mass.—For i[m]proved steering apparatus.

Peter Sweeney, of Buffalo, N. Y., for improveme[nt] in steam boilers.

Wm. Shove, of Elizabethport, N. J, for impro[ve]ment in buckles.

E. H. Sprague, of Zanesville, Ohio, for impro[ve]ment in locking up printers' forms.

Thos. Silver, of Philadelphia, Pa., for impro[ve]ment in tightening windows.

David J. Stagg, of Hoboken, N. J., for impro[ve]ment in operating bolts and locks, for controlli[ng] series of doors.

G. B. Simonds, of New Haven, Conn, and Ab[...] Breaer, of Saugatuck, Conn., for improvement [in] spark arresters.

Henry C. Sergeant, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for i[m]provement in feed-water apparatus to steam boile[rs.]

Thomas, Earl of Dundonald, of London, Eng., f[or] improvement in compositions for coating tel[e]graphic wires, and for other purposes. Patented [in] England, Oct. 6, 1852.

J. C. Taylor, of Camden, N. J., for improveme[nt] in soap compounds. Patented in England, Sept. 1[...] 1853.

J. C. Taylor, of Camden, N. J., for improveme[nt] in soap manufacturing processes. Patented in Eng[...]land Sept. 17, 1853.

Anthony Vitally and Carl Kolb, of Newark, N. J., for improvement in securing tools to their ha[n]dles.

Geo. Yates and Eli Clayton, of Lancaster, Pa.—for improvement in looms.

Jno. Bevan, of Jersey City, N. J., for railroad ca[r] ventilator.

Jas. Wightman, of Pittsburg, Pa., for improve[ment] in steam boilers.

Geo. W. Wood and Lucius O. Webster, of Utica, N. Y., for improved canal lock gates.

Geo. Westinghouse, of Central Bridge, N. Y., fo[r] endless chain horse power.

Jas. Weight, of Lawrence, Mass., for improve[ment] in machinery for napping cloth.

Edmund Victory, of Watertown, N. Y., assigno[r] to D. M. Lindsay and Geo. Goulding, of same place, for improvement in machinery for spinning wool.

DESIGN.—Apollos Richmond, of Providence, R. I., assignor to A. C. Barstow & Co., of same place, fo[r] design for cooking stoves.

A NEW ROUTE TO THE PACIFIC.—We learn that Gov. Stephens, of Washington Territory, has very recently made a report to the Secretary of the Interior Department, wherein he urges the necessity of holding a general council with the Indians of his Territory, in which the latter have already signified their willingness to take a part. Among other reasons for so doing, he is said to urge the fact that, very shortly, the great current of the overland emigration to Oregon must take a new channel—that is, must go up the Missouri to the falls of that river, and from thence to about Waw-waw, on the Columbia, by land; from whence to the Pacific coast by water, according to data, with which he accompanies the report to which we refer—it having been ascertained that the Missouri can be navigated to very near the falls with eighteen inches of water, at the river's lowest stage, and for much the longest portion of the year with twenty-four inches of water—parties are preparing to place there iron steamboats, similar to those drawing only twelve inches of water, with which the Accessory Transit Company have been for more than a year successfully navigating the San Juan river, in Nicaragua, transporting on them, probably, hundreds of thousands of passengers, on their way from ocean to ocean.

From the falls of the Missouri to Waw-waw, (on the Columbia,) the distance is but about five hundred miles. At present the Columbia is only navigated by steam to the Dalles, but those running the boat are already busy with preparations to extend their operations to Waw-waw, using suitable boats for the shallower water. Gov. S. is said to express his conviction that there cannot be the slightest doubt of the entire and easy success of the enterprise.

The shortening of land travel portion of the overland route to the far West to but five hundred miles in length, will be the great industrial achievement of the times, stimulating overland emigration almost beyond conception.

MADAM ADA PFEIFFER.—This world renowned lady, and celebrated traveller, arrived at New Orleans on the 7th inst., in the steamer El Dorado, from Aspinwall. She is described as a small genteel looking woman, very spare, but remarkably active and energetic in her carriage, and exceedingly intelligent and agreeable. The New Orleans *Delta* thus speaks of this remarkable woman:—

Madam Pfeiffer, after making the tour of the whole world, and penetrating many regions where no white person has ever been since, including the principal islands of the Pacific, reached California, where she remained for some time, observing the peculiarities of this new State. She also visited several of the ports of South America, had made her arrangements to explore the valley of the Amazon, through its whole course, but was prevented by insurmountable difficulties, in obtaining means of travelling. She therefore concluded to make a tour of the States, and for that purpose, came over on the El Dorado. Madam Pfeiffer is one of the most extraordinary women of her age. She has reached the age of sixty, has a comfortable home, and a family of children, who are all settled in life.

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH IN CINCINNATI.—On Wednesday evening John Barrett went to his home on Columbia between Rose and Park streets, very much intoxicated, and commenced a tirade of abuse on his wife and children. He struck his wife and child with a poker, and broke up the furniture and threw the pieces into the street. While the quarrel was progressing, the clothes of the child, named Victor Barrett, aged about nine years, caught fire from a lighted candle, and in a very short time her entire body was enveloped in flames, which was extinguished by the wife as soon as she could release herself from the violent seizure of her husband. The child died during the night, in great agony, and yesterday the Board of Directors of the City Infirmary gave an order for its interment.—*Cincinnati Gazette, June 10.*