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IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Another offer from the United States for Mexican Territory—The Departure of the Spanish Fleet—The Confiscation of the Church Property.

We have received by the way of New Orleans, our correspondence and files of newspapers from Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico to the 4th and 5th inst., respectively.

The news is important.

We learn that Secretary Marcy had sent a proposition to President Comonfort to purchase another slice of Mexico. *Marcy's offer, it is stated, was $6,000,000 for the thirty-first parallel of latitude for the boundary line to the Gulf of California.* According to our advices President Comonfort refused to entertain the proposition.

The war on the clergy was still continued by President Comonfort and the liberal party.

Congress had reported a new Constitution, which declares toleration of religion and prohibits priests from holding any civil offices.

The President has issued a decree requiring the church to sell its vast real estate within three months, and take mortgages for the purchase money. What then is to be done with these mortgages? That is the next question which will impoverish the clergy. This decree is only a half measure, and, like all half measures, it will soon be found not to answer.

President Comonfort has by a series of popular measures restored harmony in the ranks of the liberal party, and has thereby made himself extremely popular.

A treaty of amity and commerce has been concluded with Sardinia, and another has also been made with the Hanseatic cities. Mr. Schleiden, the Minister at Washington, was sent to Mexico to effect this important negotiation, and was successful. His short residence in the Aztec capital enabled him to become universally respected for his polished manners and generous hospitality.

The Spanish question has been postponed. The Spanish Minister has backed out from his demands, and his fleet has backed out from Vera Cruz. It is evident that Spain is afraid to push matters to extremities with Mexico, as there is a disposition in our neighbor to fight her old mother country. What becomes of the formidable preparations at Havana for the invasion of Mexico? Perhaps they will be expended on Walker in Nicaragua. Perhaps they will wait for the reinforcements now on the way from Spain, sent out after the unanimous vote of the Cortes to sustain the Queen in punishing the Mexicans for their insults to Spanish subjects; and perhaps they will hasten to do something after reading the last file of Mexican papers, ridiculing these warlike demonstrations. Spain has become very low, with even Mexico laughing at her.

Our City of Mexico Correspondence.

MEXICO, July 4, 1856.

The End of the Spanish War—Departure of the Spanish Fleet—Triumph of Mexican Diplomacy—Draft of the New Constitution—Church Property Sale Decree—Ratification of Congress—Rise in Government Stocks.

The Spanish question is settled for the present—that is, the Spanish Minister has ceased to be belligerent, and quietly withdraws the fleet before Vera Cruz. He will be officially recognized as Minister to this country, and will hereafter conduct his negotiations diplomatically, instead of menacingly. This result is a complete triumph for the Mexicans. They said they would not recognize the Minister until the fleet was sent off, and he said the fleet would not be sent off until the Spanish convention treaty was settled. Well, the fleet has left, and the vexatious business remains unadjusted. Furthermore, Mexico will not pay the amount demanded, nor will this republic arrange some other disputes which must arise on some other subjects. This matter is therefore postponed for the present; but it will soon turn up again, to afford plenty of speculation for another excitement.

Congress has at last received from one of its committees a draft of a new constitution, which has been duly printed and published. To-day the discussion opens on the various sections and articles, and on the innumerable amendments that will be proposed. This document is too long for translation, and not sufficiently interesting for your columns; but I may briefly let you know what it contains. A federal government is proposed, with a President elected for four years; and one Legislative Chamber, whose members will be chosen for two years. There is no Senate—no Vice President. The Chief Justice is to act as President in case of vacancy. In almost all other respects the constitution is borrowed from the constitution of the United States. It is true, there are some modifications and additions, which the peculiar condition of Mexico requires, but in all its outlines and general features it is identical with ours.

Congress has the revision of and the power to ratify treaties, as well as to confirm nominations made in the army and navy, but no control over appointments in the civil service. The first section is devoted, in thirty-four articles, to the "rights of man," which is for the most part a literal translation of the American "Bill of Rights." To this, however, there are some additions, such as article 10, which says, "In the republic all are born free; slaves that touch on the national territory will by that act receive their liberty, and enjoy the protection of the laws." Again, in article 11, "Treaties shall never be made for the extradition of political criminals, (that is, guilty of political crimes) nor for other offences perpetrated by slaves, in nations where the crime was done by a slave or slaves." The largest liberty is given to free speech, free writing and printing, and free meetings of the people. In fact, all the privileges which can be conceded to an individual are granted herein.

The second, third and fourth sections define the rights of Mexican citizens and foreigners. Then follow clauses respecting the form of government, the names of the States and Territories, the legislative power, the executive, the judiciary, the council of government, impeachments, of the States, of general provisions, amendments to the constitution and its inviolability. The judiciary is divided into a Supreme Court, district and circuit courts, with the same jurisdiction and powers given to the courts of the United States. The judges are to be appointed for a term of six years. I must not omit the 15th article on religion, which is:—"No law or decree shall be enacted in the republic which prohibits or molests the exercise of any religious worship; but the Catholic Roman Apostolic, having been the exclusive religion of the country, the Congress of the Union will take care, by means of just and prudent laws, to protect it, as far as it may be done without prejudice to the interests of the people, or the rights of the national sovereignty."

In another place it is declared that "no individual or corporation shall be invested with exclusive privileges, or with emoluments that are a burden to society; nor shall there be monopolies, nor forestalling of any kind, nor prohibitions under the name of protection to manufactures." Passports of all descriptions are abolished.

As the new constitution is thus about to confer toleration of religion in the largest extent, to the great disgust and disquiet of the consciences of the clergy, the Executive, in the meanwhile, are trying to relieve the church of its superfluous wealth, which it might be inconvenient to possess in the great changes about to take place. Therefore, President Comonfort, finding that the *religiosos* were not high in favor in Congress, tried next what he could do for the good of his country. He forthwith issued a decree, which is a preliminary step to depriving the church of its vast possessions and wealth. If Congress has hit them on one cheek, Comonfort has slapped them on the other—toleration of religion on one side, deprivation of their riches on the other side.

This decree is contained in thirty-four articles of much length—too long for translation. But as it is one of the utmost importance, I will endeavor to explain its import, and what is to follow next. All the real estate of the church at this time, which comprises about three-fourths of the valuable lands and city lots in the republic, is rented out to individuals, who pay annually a stipulated sum for each lease. When a piece of property is once rented from the church, possession is never resumed, unless there is a failure to pay the rent. Almost all these leases are of long standing, made at least fifty years ago, and many of them centuries since. The value of all lands and lots has been constantly increasing, especially since the independence in the year 1821. Therefore the rents in all cases paid to the church are far below the proportionate value of the lands. I know innumerable houses in this city paying a rent of a few hundred dollars to the church, which are sub-let for as many thousands. This is universally the case, both in the cities and country. This last decree of Comonfort declares that the renters shall possess hereafter the lands and lots; the rents shall be converted into a rent charge, and a mortgage given upon each property for the principal of the sum which the rent, calculated at six per cent would amount to. Thus, if a lessee pays sixty dollars rent, he will execute a mortgage for one thousand, and hold the real estate in fee simple. This change will be universally popular, as you can easily perceive.

But if in case any lessee will not give this mortgage within three months, then the property is to be put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder, who is to execute the mortgage on the same terms. After three months, all lands not converted in this manner are open to denunciation, and a third person, who makes the discovery of these church lands, can acquire them in the same manner as lessees. A great many of the articles of the decree provide against frauds of all kinds, and for the various contingencies which must arise, where two or more rent the same property, or where there are liens against the lessee, &c.

The general scope of the decree is to turn the real estate of the church into mortgages, and thus enable the government to discover the extent and value of all their property. A tax of five per cent is to be paid into the public treasury upon the value of every mortgage as it is given. And this, it is supposed, will amount to many millions of dollars in a few months. The interest on each mortgage is still is still to be paid to the church in the same manner as heretofore the rent was paid. But the mortgages cannot be cancelled, nor can the church exercise any right of ownership over this lien except to enforce the payment of the interest annually.

The church is further prohibited hereafter from purchasing or holding real estate, and all loans of money or other business done by any of that body must be authenticated before a notary, who is required within one week to inform the proper authorities of the same.

Such is the general nature of this new stringent measure adopted by the government against the church. Within six months mortgages will be executed to the amount of two hundred millions of dollars, and then the government will issue another decree, seizing these mortgages for the use of the public treasury. There is one drawback, however, to all this. Many suppose that a revolution will ensue, when these decrees and all proceedings under them will be annulled. It is said that in this event the Mexican purchasers would lose all they invested in the speculations; while it is supposed that foreigners who acquired property by force of the law would be able to hold, as their governments would interfere to protect them in their legal rights. But, in order to meet this difficulty, the government will place these mortgages beyond the reach of any revolutionary movement. With this fund, which cannot be turned into cash for a long time, but where the interest will always be promptly paid, the government will form a basis as a pledge upon which to procure a foreign loan, and these mortgages will be put up as a collateral security to secure the prompt payment of interest on the public bonds as it falls due. There is no doubt a loan of fifty millions of dollars can be thus obtained; and if Mexico stipulates in the debt that in the event of a failure to pay interest, diplomatic intervention will be conceded where foreigners are interested, no future government will dare to molest this security. You will perceive that by this method all foreign nations will be interested in protecting these mortgages, where their people are benefitted from their investments in this new Mexican loan.

I need only add that this decree of Comonfort's was published last Friday, and on the next day Congress ratified the act with great unanimity. The credit of the government immediately took a rise, and government paper advanced ten, fifteen and twenty per cent.

Our Vera Cruz Correspondence.

VERA CRUZ, July 7, 1856.

Revenue from the Church Lands—How the Mexican Government Catches Spain—Gen. Gadsden, Mr. Marcy and All the Conventions—Heavy Rains—The Forbes and Barrow Case.

I enclose a decree signed by the new President, by which all holders of property belonging to civil or ecclesiastical corporations become proprietors of the same, continuing to pay, however, the rent or interest at six per cent, payable to the former parties.

The next step of course will be to make the six per cent payable to the national treasury; and even now the government will derive a considerable income, as the transfer will cost five per cent, which will amount to about fifteen millions.

The mint of the capital has just been rented at half a million of dollars.

Government has raised the embargo laid on the Spanish bonds, and a Commissioner will proceed to Madrid, to lay before the Spanish government the facts of the case, proving that lots of illegal debts had entered the convention, and the expulsion of which is said to have been demanded by the other creditors themselves.

The Spaniards will receive in payment 8 per cent of all import duties, which is a new proof that the present government has the good will to pay, and it will also have the means, as besides the above mentioned income, our liberal tariff is working well, and heavy importations are made.

It now remains to be seen how long our great statesman Marcy will keep up his theory that Mexico must not be pressed, that she is poor, and God knows what other nonsense; which has always been put forth to keep our citizens out of their money, owing them for depredations committed under former governments.

Gen. Gadsden could tell a tale if he chose, showing that no endeavors of his have been spared to see justice done, but to no avil, because Marcy has set his mind upon it that our citizens may be ruined, and he neither stir hand nor foot to save them.

All his reasons fall to the ground, as may be easily conceived, as this republic can and will pay, which is proved by the following per centage on import duties allowed, as follows:—

25 per cent for the English bondholders, extending also to tonnage, exports, &c.
16 per cent for the English Convention.
20 per cent for the French Convention.
8 per cent for the Spanish Convention.

—and by which means it is easy for the creditors to liquidate their claims with their own import duties.

Part of the capital is inundated by the heavy rains, and the roads are in a very bad state.

The Barrow and Forbes case is still going on. However, the house has behaved at Tepic in such an intolerant manner that the sympathies of foreigners are on the other side.

The Sanitary Regulations of Quarantine.

VISIT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND COMMISSIONERS OF EMIGRATION.

The Board of Health, the Commissioners of Emigration, and several of the public authorities of this city and Brooklyn, paid a visit yesterday to Dr. Thompson, the Health Officer of the port, in compliance with an invitation from that gentleman. It was for the purpose of affording the Board of Health and Commissioners of Emigration an opportunity of realizing the actual condition of things at Quarantine, that Dr. Thompson invited them to visit him yesterday.

Among his visiters were Mr. Simeon Draper, Mayor Hall of Brooklyn, Captain Pillsbury, and several of our city authorities. The whole company, after partaking of a dinner that would have done credit to our best hotels, indulged in the usual amount of toasts, sentiments and speech making. Altogether they had a pleasant day of it. When the speech making was over, the visiters proceeded on board a steamboat, which had been engaged for the occasion by Dr. Thompson, and which took them as far as Gravesend Bay, where they saw the obnoxious vessels lying at the distance of three quarters of a mile from the shore. They also saw the fleet of infected vessels, which extend in a long line in front of the Quarantine Hospital, and which have been wisely placed at a safe distance from either shore.

The Doctor says he is greatly annoyed by a class of boatmen who are constantly lying about these vessels waiting for a chance to convey the passengers on shore. He has made frequent complaints to the lower civil courts in regard to this matter, but the penalty, which is a fine of a few dollars, is so seldom inflicted, that it is entirely ineffectual as a means of prevention. He regards this as a matter of vital importance to the health of New York, as the escape of a single infected person in this way would endanger the health of the whole city.

After a rapid glance at the long array of vessels at quarantine the steamboat landed the company at Castle Garden.

Destructive Conflagration at Newark, N. J.

SIXTEEN BUILDINGS DESTROYED—ACCIDENTS TO FIREMEN.

[From the Newark Advertiser, July 18.]

The most destructive fire which has occurred in this city for a long time, broke out about noon to day in South Bridge street, and consumed sixteen buildings—mostly small tenant houses. One fireman was seriously injured by the falling of a chimney, and the heat of the fire and sun was so intense that two more were prostrated from that cause. The loss is estimated at from $7,000 to $10,000—mostly insured. The fire broke out in a stable at No. 22 South Bridge street, owned by John A. Miller, having probably originated from fires which the children in Stephen's court were in the habit of making near the stable. From the stable the fire communicated with Stephen's court, comprising eleven two story frame buildings, which were destroyed. From thence, two two story frame buildings, Nos. 28 and 30 South Bridge street, took fire, and were totally destroyed. Two two story frame buildings on the opposite side of Front street were also consumed. The buildings in Stephen's court were occupied mostly by Irish and German tenants, who barely escaped with their lives and property. The houses in South Bridge street were occupied by James Mansfield and Lawrence McGuire, and owned by John H. Stephens. Nos. 46 and 48 Front street were occupied by Messrs. Frederick Zollicoffer and Carl Scheider, and owned by the Lime and Cement Company. Loss about $1,000; fully insured. The three story frame building No. 30 South Bridge street, occupied by Mr. Peter C. Johnston, of New York, and owned by John A. Miller, was also slightly burned. Both were fully insured. The building No. 32 South Bridge street was slightly damaged in the roof.

The total loss is about $7,000, of which a large portion was insured. Thirteen of the buildings were owned by John H. Stephens, Esq., who is insured for $5,550, as follows:—New Jersey $3,150, and Newark Mutual, $2,400. The firemen were soon on the spot, and notwithstanding the excessive heat of the day, worked manfully for the safety of the property. Several of the firemen, however, were seriously injured by the falling of the buildings and the heat of the sun. A member of No. 6, named Robert Rivers, was struck in the back by the falling of a chimney from No. 46 Front street, and injured so seriously that he was carried home. A member of No. 3, named Johnson, and of Hose No. 1, named Charles W. Crane, were sun struck, and conveyed to neighboring houses. A woman was also sun struck in the vicinity. The fire raged with almost unabated fury for about three hours, and made an almost insufferable heat. The firemen, nevertheless, were steadfast, though they were somewhat delayed in obtaining water, which was brought in a line from the river.

In relation to the origin of the fire we have two statements—one that it was caused by smoking a pipe in the stable, and the other—that the little children of the neighboring tenants were in the habit of building bonfires in the court, against which they had repeatedly been warned.

Jersey City News.

DEATH FROM SUN STROKE.—At noon, yesterday, a man, named Thomas Hayes, in the employ of Breeze & Kneeland, of Jersey City, fell in Railroad avenue, near Warren street, upon the railroad track, from the effects of the heat, and died soon afterwards. He was unwell the day previous, and indiscreetly exposed himself to the heat of the sun.

Horrible Murder in Broadway.

NO CLUE TO THE ASSASSIN—CORONER'S INQUEST.

The particulars of a most foul and cold blooded murder have just come to light. Bartholemew Burke, the porter in the tailoring establishment of Mr. Samuel Joyce, No. 378 Broadway, corner of White street, was found brutally murdered yesterday morning in the store of his employer. The deceased was in the habit of sleeping in the store, and it is supposed while he was lying in bed he was attacked and murdered. About half-past 11 o'clock on the night previous deceased was seen sitting at one of the side windows in White street, and seemed to be conversing with a man who sat opposite to him. The apple woman who keeps the stand at the corner of White street and Broadway is quite positive she saw deceased talking to this stranger at the hour above mentioned. The deceased was never seen alive after this. When the workmen and clerks in the employment of Mr. Joyce went to the store yesterday morning they were astonished to find the door locked. They knocked loudly, but no signs of life within could be discovered. The door was then forced open, when, to the surprise of all, a large pool of blood was discovered on the floor quite close to the bed of deceased. Drops of blood leading to a closet or anteroom off the main store were then followed; on opening the door they were horror stricken. On the floor, in a corner, near the wash basin, was the naked body of the porter mangled and cut in the most shocking manner. The entire room and walls were covered with blood, in drops and large clots. The deceased's throat was cut almost from ear to ear by some sharp instrument, while on the right side of the forehead was a fracture of about six inches in length, evidently produced by a large pressing iron which was lying within a few feet of the corpse, and covered with blood. The gold watch and chain usually worn by deceased could not be found, neither could the keys of the store be found, showing evidently that the murderer had locked the door after making his escape, and had taken the keys along with him. The bank book of the deceased was also missing, and it is supposed to have been stole by the murderer.

The large table in the warerooms used for tailoring purposes was stained with blood, and marks of bloody fingers upon its surface could be easily discernible. On the cot or bed of deceased was found the scabbard of a sword, while upon a case of goods some twenty feet distant was discovered the sword itself. The weapon was covered with a bloody cloth, but it did not bear any stain of gore at all.

The general appearance of the room in which the murdered man was found was truly sickening, and was enough to make the stoutest heart quail. The deceased, without any clothing except a linen shirt, lay in a cramped up position in a corner formed by a set of bureau drawers and the side wall of the building. The legs, arms, and in fact the entire body was covered with blood. The hands were closed, as if death had not taken place without some violent struggle. The throat was cut in a most shocking manner. The gash inflicted must have been at least six inches in length and about an inch and a half in depth. The flesh over the left collar bone and in close proximity to the neck was cut in several places with some sharp instrument. The wounds appeared to have been inflicted with a razor. Further down and immediately over the shoulderblade were severe bruises, as if made with a dull but heavy weapon. Across the entire forehead, about three or four inches above the eyes, was a fracture of the skull, produced by the sharp edge of some instrument. The large and square end of the iron, or "goose," as it is called by tailors, would have produced just such a fracture, and as it was covered with blood, the presumption is that the blow upon the skull was given with this iron.

The face of deceased was somewhat contorted, but, strange to say, there was a smile as it were upon the ghostly countenance of the murdered man. The right eye was blackened and half closed, while the left one was uninjured and wide open. At the feet of the corpse was a wash basin, in which was found a broken tumbler. A large pool of blood encircled the body, while above it, upon the wall, for several yards around, were large stains of gore interspersed here and there with small spots of blood, as if produced by the wound in the neck. It is quite evident that the death struggle took place here, for everything betokens the presence of violence. The left hand of the deceased was cut in different places with a knife, showing conclusively that he made a desperate effort to preserve his life, but unhappily without effect.

The bureau drawers in this room were found open, and the contents of the same, including clothing, &c., were all turned upside down. No deadly weapon could be discovered in the room or about the premises, except the smoothing iron or "goose" referred to above. Neither could any blood stained foot tracks be discovered leading to the front door.

A woman named Honora Leahy, who resides in the upper part of the building, declares that she heard a knock at the store door about 10½ o'clock on the night in question, and the party was admitted by the deceased, as if he was a friend of his. Also that the deceased soon afterwards went down stairs and procured a pitcher of lager bier, which it is supposed was drank by the stranger and deceased.

No clue has yet been obtained to the perpetrator of the horrid deed, although the Sixth ward police have been using every exertion to ferret out the murderer and clear up the mystery surrounding the case.

The deceased had been in the employment of Mr. Joyce for more than 10 years, and was highly esteemed for his honesty and mild disposition.

A strict inventory of the goods was taken by the clerks of the store, but strange to say, not a dollar's worth of property could be found missing.

Mr. Joyce, on finding that one of the bank books was missing, sent one of his clerks down to the Seaman's Bank, with instructions to have any person arrested who might present the book for the purpose of drawing money. The deceased also kept an account in the Chambers Street Savings Bank, but the bank book, we understand, is in possession of the officers of that institution. The deceased had about $900 saved up. It is supposed that some money has been stolen from his trunk. He was in the habit of keeping sums varying from $20 to $30 in it, but on searching the box nothing more than a few small silver coins could be discovered.

The trunk had not been rifled of all the valuables it contained. Some clean linen clothing belonging to one of Mr. Joyce's customers, and which had been sent to his care by the washerwoman, was found to have been meddled with. The bundle had been untied, and Mr. Joyce is of opinion that some shirts have been taken from the same, as none were found in the parcel yesterday morning. The murderer probably put on one or two of this gentleman's shirts, so as to hide the stains of blood which would necessarily be upon his linen when engaged in such a proceeding.

Coroner Connery was notified of the occurrence, and immediately commenced to investigate the case.

Dr Finnell, assisted by Drs. Weltjo and Ferguson, proceeded to make a post mortem examination of the body. The labor was concluded in due season, with the following result, as communicated to our reporter:—

The body was found to be rigid, the left arm flexed on the chest; the right leg was bent upwards. Six cuts were found on the back of the left hand. The wound in the throat was six inches long, cutting across the left carotid artery and jugular vein. Fifteen incised wounds were found upon the scalp, varying in length from one-half to three inches, all of which extended to the bone. The left side of the skull was fractured, extending through the temple, left cheek and eye. There were fifteen cuts on the left shoulder, also two deep cuts on the face, and one long wound, three inches in length, over the left orbit. The wound in the throat was produced by the thrust of a knife, and not by merely passing the blade across the neck. The injuries on the neck and shoulder were produced by a knife. A cheese knife would inflict just such wounds. The fractures of the skull and the cuts upon the scalp were, in the opinion of the doctors, produced by the pressing iron found near the body of deceased.

The doctors will give their testimony in the case to-morrow.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

About 2 o'clock P. M., Coroner Connery proceeded to take the testimony of several persons in regard to the horrible occurrence. The inquest took place in Mr. Joyce's salesroom, in the presence of about a dozen persons. The following evidence was adduced yesterday:—

TESTIMONY.

Samuel Joyce being duly sworn, says:—I reside at No. 118 East Seventeenth street; Bartholomew Burke, deceased, was employed by me as porter in my establishment at No. 378 Broadway; he was employed by me for ten years; he was a temperate man, except on certain occasions when he went on sprees; he slept on a cot in the back room, and always slept with the door locked; I saw him in the store last evening about 8¾ o'clock; he was then perfectly sober; this morning, about 9 o'clock, while at my residence, I heard that deceased was dead; I then came down to the store and found the body lying on the right side in the inner room, covered with blood; I saw that the throat was cut, and that there were several gashes, as if from a knife or sharp instrument, on the shoulder; the marks on the head seemed to have been made with a pressing iron, which was found covered with blood close beside deceased; there was the sheath of a sword lying on the cot where deceased slept, while the sword was lying on a case of goods some twenty feet away; there were spots of blood on the bed, on the cot, and also on the cutting board; the floor was also spotted with blood; deceased's nightcap was found covered with blood upon the cutting board; the body lay in the dressing room, on the right hand corner; it lay on the right side, presenting a horrible spectacle; I don't know that deceased had an enemy in the world; deceased had money in the bank; his trunk was found unlocked; I don't know who took his money or trinkets away; his trunk was open when I arrived; I sent an order to the Chambers Street Savings Bank, and also to the Seaman's Bank of Savings, telling the officers not to give said money to any one, and informing them of the sad occurrence.

William Watson, being duly sworn, deposed that he lived at 83 Bleecker street—I am employed by Mr. Joyce as his foreman; I knew deceased to have been in the employment of Mr. Joyce for seven years; he was a sober man, and was employed as porter; as I left the store last evening, about 7½ o'clock, I saw deceased; he was then closing up the store to go of an errand; he was to have delivered a pair of pantaloons at Mr. Bradshaw's; deceased slept in the store every night, as a watchman; he locked the door himself; I was the first to enter the store this morning; when I came to the door I knocked, but received no answer; I then went for a locksmith to have the door opened; when he came we unlocked the door; the inside door was unlocked and open; it is usually locked; when I entered the room the first thing I discovered was blood upon the floor and on the cutting board; I then looked at the cot where deceased slept and saw the sheath of a sword lying upon it; it was partially covered with a quilt; there was blood on the bedding; I then passed the edge of the cot, through the left hand door leading to the dressing room, and beheld a frightful spectacle; deceased was lying on his right side in the right hand corner of the room; there was a frightful gash in the neck, while the floor all around the body was covered with blood; I left the store in charge of Dr. Hudson and Mr. Rach, and getting a policeman gave him charge of the premises; I heard the apple woman on the corner of White street and Broadway say that she saw some one sitting at the window along with deceased, at 11 o'clock last night; I don't know who opened deceased's trunk and carried off his watch and trinkets; the keys that opened the store door were missing, and have not been found since; there were three keys on the ring; two of them are gone; I heard Mr. Cabellas' girl say that she heard some one knocking for deceased at the store door, about ten o'clock last night she said that this man wore a drab coat; I know nothing more about the occurrence.

Honora Leahy, being duly sworn, says—I live with Mr. Cabellas, up stairs, on the third floor of house No. 378 Broadway; I have lived in the house about twelve months; I knew deceased; he was a temperate man; once or twice I saw the signs of liquor upon him; I saw him last evening; I believe it was about 10 o'clock; he was then standing outside the store door; I was going to Taylor's, to have some ice cream, and asked him to come along; he said he would take some when I came back; when I returned the store room was locked; at 9½ o'clock, as I was going to the grocery store, I saw a man giving three raps at the door of the store; he was a low sized man, with a straw hat and drab coat; the man I saw last evening was, I think, the same person who was with deceased on 4th of July last; I think I heard him call John.

William Mars, being duly sworn, deposed that he lived in White street, opposite Mr. Joyce's store; at 10½ o'clock, on the night in question he saw deceased sitting at the window; there was nobody with him; the room was dark; he was then fanning himself.

Louis Siebenhiemer sworn, deposed that he was the barkeeper in Klonder's Saloon, underneath Mr. Joyce's store; I knew deceased for about seven months; last night about eleven o'clock, a man came into the bar room, he was about five feet five inches in height, rather stout, red face, red whiskers, which did not come up to his ears; he wore a light colored coat, and straw or Kossuth hat; he asked me if I trusted; I told him I did not, but gave him a drink, and he came back and paid me; he then said, won't you treat me now? I told him I never treated behind the bar, only when I was out of the house; he then said, give me some ham; I told him to take some, which he did, and he then took the knife with him; if I saw the man I would be able to identify him. (The witness here gave a description of the knife stolen by this stranger, and made a drawing of the same upon the inquest papers.)

Ellen Pollman being duly sworn, deposed that she lived in the house No. 124 Anthony street; I knew deceased; I saw him last night at eleven o'clock; I was sitting at my apple stand opposite the store window of Mr. Joyce's store, in White street; I saw two men sitting at Mr. Joyce's window; deceased was one of the men; he sat on the left hand side; he had a glass of beer in his hand; I could not recognise the person who was sitting along with deceased; deceased some days previously told me that he had some angry words with one of the boarder's in his home, but that he had settled the difficulty since.

The case was here adjourned until 10½ o'clock this morning.

Know Nothing Congressional Conventions.

By an order from the State Know Nothing Council, the subordinate Councils in this city were instructed to appoint five delegates each, to attend a convention in their respective districts, for the purpose of selecting a candidate for Congress to be voted for next November. This early action was taken in order to get the start of the republicans, who, it was feared, would be in the field before them, and perhaps select men who would draw off a good many Know Nothing votes. This at least is the reason given for their early action.

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CONVENTION.

This Convention, composed of delegates from the First, Second, Third, Fifth and Eighth wards, assembled at the corner of Greenwich and Duane streets. George Barney, of the Fifth ward, was called to the chair, and C. D. Wyncoop appointed as Secretary. After the submission and acceptance of credentials, the Convention unanimously concluded to keep the reporters out, as it did not wish its action to be known just yet. After a long discussion, it was decided to adjourn the nomination until the first week in September. The following named gentlemen were mentioned in connection with the nomination: A. J. H. Duganne, of the Eighth ward; Chas. S. Tappan, of the Fifth ward; Willis Blackstone, of the Eighth ward. Guy R. Pelton has some friends, but his vote for Banks and his affiliation with the republicans are against him. Daniel Ullman is also taled of.

FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

The delegates of the Fourth Congressional district, comprising the Fourth, Sixth, Tenth and Fourteenth wards, met last evening on the corner of Broadway and Liespenard street. There was a full attendance of delegates present. William Perrin, of the Sixth ward, was chosen Chairman. An understanding was arrived at to keep the proceedings secret, but we learn that no nomination was made, and that they adjourned over to the first week of September. Candidates were put in nomination, but it would be useless to mention names, as they embrace all the Know Nothing politicians in the district.

FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

Delegates from the Seventh ward of this city were to have met with delegates from the wards that composed the former city of Williamsburg, last night, at 490 Grand street; but owing to some misunderstanding, no formal meeting took place.

SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

The meeting of the delegates of the Sixth Congressional district, comprising the Eleventh, Fifteenth and Seventeenth wards, was held last evening, at Military Hall, 187 Bowery. All the delegates, excepting one from the Eleventh ward, were present. There was some controversy as to the election of a chairman, but it finally terminated in the choice of Cyrus T. Brockway, of the Seventeenth ward. The names of the various candidates which the delegates from the different wards desired to put in nomination were canvassed, and it was found that there were some half dozen aspiring to the dignity of representing this district at the national capital. It being understood that in the remaining districts no nominations would probably be made on this evening, an adjournment without any definite action took place, to the first week in September.

SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

In the Seventh Congressional district, comprising the Ninth, Sixteenth and Twentieth wards, the Convention, after a protracted session, extending to near midnight, succeeding in making a nomination. The Convention consisted of fifteen delegates, being five from each of the wards in the district. The principal candidates were Hon. George Briggs, Councilman S. Hopper, and a person by the name of John Bullock. On the sixth ballot Mr. Bullock had eight votes, being a majority of one, and was declared the nominee of the Convention. Considerable dissatisfaction was manifested by the crowd in the street on the announcement of the result, several Know Nothings declaring that they would blow their candidate "higher than a kite." Our reporter was unable to ascertain who Mr. John Bullock was, or what was his business, except that he was a young man, and lived in the Twentieth ward. A party of striplings gave three cheers for "Young America"—the middle aged men damned the Convention—the old men shook their heads, and with these various manifestations the crowd dispersed.

EIGHTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

The Know Nothings of the Eighth Congressional district, comprising the Twelfth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second wards, met in Convention at the corner of Broadway and Twenty-second street, last evening, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Congress. There was a full delegation present, and an animated discussion took place, which resulted in a decision not to make any nomination at present, but to wait awhile and watch the signs of the times.

KNOW NOTHING STATE COUNCIL.

Gov. Isaac J. Oliver was elected delegate to the American State Council from the Seventeenth ward last evening.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

NEW YORK, July 18, 1856.

DEAR SIR—Will you be so kind as to announce in your to-morrow's issue the alternate for the Fourth Assembly district (Fifth ward) to the Syracuse Convention as Arnot Spence, and oblige yours, &c.,

ARNOT SPENCE.

Police Intelligence.

DISMISSAL OF CHARGE OF FORGERY AGAINST JOHN B. LEVERICH.—The charge made by Alfred Carson against John B. Leverich was investigated before Justice Flandreau yesterday, and the case dismissed.

CORRECTION.—Mr. Patrick Mathews, who was engaged in a pistol fight with Stephen Wilson a few evenings ago, requests us to say that when convicted of the Tammany Hall riot he was not sent up to the Penitentiary.

Coroners' Inquests.

ACCIDENTAL DROWNING.—An inquest was held by Coroner Hills upon the body of a boy, nine years old, named Michael Callahan, who was drowned while playing on the pier at the foot of Clinton street. The deceased fell overboard, and was drowned before assistance could be rendered him. Verdict, "Accidental death." Deceased was a native of New York.

THE HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—Coroner Connery concluded the inquest upon the body of Anna Barry, the woman who was knocked down and killed by one of the Hudson River Railroad cars on Wednesday evening last. The jury rendered a verdict exculpating the driver from all blame in the matter, but censuring the company for not having better brakes on the car in question.

City Intelligence.

CONTINUATION OF HEATED TERM—THE HOTTEST DAY OF THE SEASON, ETC.

If it is true that figures don't lie, yesterday was the hottest day we have experienced in New York since July 13, 1849. The mercury at the HERALD office, during the warmest portion of the day, marked as follows:

10 A. M.	94 degs.	2 P. M.	99 degs.
12 M.	96 "	3 "	98 "
1 P. M.	97 "	5 "	98 "

This was in the coolest place in the editorial rooms, for whenever the sun entered the windows the mercury ran up to 100 deg.; and in the street the mean heat must have been from 106 to 110. These are high figures; but though thermometric, like other numbers, do lie most egregiously, we are convinced that they show about the truth. On a warm day every one looks at some favorite thermometer, but the figures are found to vary from two to four degrees. This is due to substances adjacent to the thermometer, some of which are more liable to absorb and reflect heat than others. Thus a black or glazed surface will be warmer than a porous or light colored one. Therefore, do not rely upon every thermometer for a true indication of the temperature. But that it was intolerably and outrageously warm, no one will deny who experienced the fervid heat of the day. Country people can have no idea of the heat that oppresses those who are

Pent 'mid cloisters dim

in a great city. The fiery rays are reflected back from the hot stone pavements and from the glass windows, and the little wind that is wafted up from the Bay hasn't a chance to perform its grateful office, on account of the houses. The heat was exceedingly severe on the poor laborers who were exposed to its effects, as will be seen by the inquests given below. The horses also suffered, and many of them were prostrated by the heat, and fell dead in the street. This heated term commenced on Friday, the 11th inst., and it has been gradually getting warmer, reaching the climax, it is to be hoped, yesterday.

Coroner Connery held an inquest yesterday, at the New York Hospital, upon the body of a man named William Ford, who died from the effects of the heat. Verdict, "Death from *coup de soleil.*" Deceased was thirty-five years of age, and was a native of Ireland.

THE INUNDATION IN FRANCE.—The committee of French residents organized for the relief of the sufferers from the inundation in France, held a meeting at Delmonico's, corner of Beaver and William streets, this morning, and decided to remit the sum already collected, about $9,000, to the General Committee of Paris, to be distributed under their direction. The committee was then disbanded, and will hereafter act with the General Committee, composed of the Chamber of Commerce, French residents and American citizens.

The Treasurer of the Joint Committee for the relief of the sufferers by the late inundations in France, acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

Amount before reported	$2,885 00
Wm. B. Astor	250 00
G. H. & C. W. Foster	250 00
Brown Brothers & Co	100 00
S. Von Hoffman & Co	100 00
Thomas Hunt	100 00
Wm. W. De Forrest & Co	50 00
Wilmerding, Hoguet & Humbert	50 00
Fanshaw, Milliken & Townsend	25 00
Freeman & Bright	25 00
J. H. Brown & Co	50 00
Henry W. F. Mali	50 00
George S. Stephenson	25 00
Cash	5 00
Daniel Low	25 00
Samuel Packwood	20 00
William Brand & Co	25 00
Mitchell & Pott	25 00
J. Boorman, Johnston & Co	25 00
John Gilson & Co	25 00
Jacob L. Ray	25 00
Lord & Taylor	15 00
Ellery & Gibbons	25 00
Babcock Brothers & Co	50 00
Bird & Gillilan	100 00
Meller & Rierd	25 00
Richard Bell & F. H. Grain	50 00
Zipey Brothers	25 00
A. A. Low & Brothers	200 00
W. B. Crosby	50 00
Robert Dalton	20 00
Joseph Walker	25 00
Cash	5 00
Cash	5 00
Egan & Hazard	25 00
W. Mackay	25 00
John D. Jones, acknowledged before $30, 2d sub.	70 00
J. C. Ernenputsch	10 00
With an Englishman's compliments	10 00
Little, Alden & Co	25 00
Charles Congreive & Son	10 00
Fellows & Co	10 00
Cooper & Fellows	10 00
C. Dord & Co	10 00
J. O. Baker & Co	10 00
Cash	5 00
James Demarest	50 00
Morton & Grinnell	50 00
Total	$5,050

LEWIS CURTIS, Treasurer, 173 Broadway.

THE AFFAIR AT THE METROPOLITAN HOTEL.—We are requested to publish the following account of the assault of