# THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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## ADDITIONAL FROM CALIFORNIA.

### OUR SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE REPORT OF THE VIGILANCE COMMITTEE, &c., &c., &c.

**Our San Francisco Correspondence.**

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept 5, 1856.

*Arrest of Durkee and Rand—Efforts to Bring About a Collision between the Vigilance Committee and the Federal Authorities—The Benefits Resulting from the Action of the Vigilance Committee Reviewed—The Presidential Election—Position of the Different Parties, &c., &c.*

By last mail you had information of the parade of the Vigilance Committee, on which occasion some four thousand five hundred citizens turned out in procession; also that the Committee were partially disbanded, or rather ceased active duty and outward show. Now, unless some of our federal or State officers, urged on by a few of the enemies of the Committee, interfere with the members on account of the discharge of what they deemed their duty, it is certain that the Committee will not meet again.

It would seem that some of our federal officers and their particular friends have gone rabid on this subject. These officers do not fraternize with the citizens—they appear like separate classes—somewhat as the colonial officers of Great Britain and the people of the American colonies, from 1770 to 1780.

With the exception of the federal and State officers, and a few intriguing democratic politicians, with a very few of all other classes, the people are in favor of the Vigilance Committee. Now, if these enemies of the Vigilance Committee can bring them into collision with the federal or State authorities, we may anticipate all that is evil—even almost to a civil war.

The Committee have done a deal of good, although it must be admitted that it is a dangerous experiment. The moral disease of the community was desperate, and the remedy, though dangerous, (almost amounting to a dismemberment of the body politic,) had to be tried. It can easily be seen what good has been accomplished, from the following facts:—

Out of sixteen papers published in this town only two are opposed to the Committee, and one of the editors of the last two papers ought to be sent out of the country, for reasons both public and private. Not a single man of all that have been exiled can claim any title to good citizenship. Where formerly from six to eight men per month were found drowned, in holes in our wharves and streets over the water, there have not been four such cases recorded by the Coroner within the last three months. Last week there was not a single prisoner in the station house, being the first instance in six years. Stabbing and knocking down in our public streets has entirely ceased; they were formerly of every day occurrence. Two bad characters who, some time since, were ordered to leave the country, but who, instead, left the city and wandered over the State, came back to the city, and are to leave the State, taking advantage of an advertisement by the Vigilance Committee warning them so to do, and that they should go unmolested. A large majority of the people throughout the State are in favor of the Committee. Those who were organized on the 15th or 16th of May now number some 7,000, over 5,000 of whom are in readiness at a moment's notice. The balance have become lukewarm from various causes, tired of being compelled to leave their business, or have left the city. The Superintendent of the Mint ordered his employés either to leave the Committee or lose their places. The Executive Committee appointed from the Committee at large a delegation of three from each company, and many of the General Committee have spent nights and days—even many consecutive nights and days—either in committee or on guard, and expended over thirty thousand dollars ($30,000). Other citizens, sympathisers, subscribed $10,000 to $12,000, and the members in general have paid from $5,000 to $10,000, making in all some $50,000. I do not think they ever paid seventy-five or eighty men wages at any one time; certainly not to any as horse or foot soldiers. There were two or three large companies of dragoons, each member providing his own horse and equipments. The Committee is composed of our best men, and were mostly from the Eastern and Middle States. Merchants gave liberally of their money and their time; some paying $500 to $1,000, and devoting half their time, besides allowing their office clerks to spend as much time as they were called upon for. I never saw such an amount of self-sacrifice before.

What has been the cry of their opponents? That they interfered with the federal authorities? No, not in a single case. The guns taken belonged to the State, and the vessel upon which they were shipped was some distance up the river or bay. As a further proof of the good results of the action of the Committee, I would state that the police court has not been in daily session, as in former times, from the want of subjects. The county and the two district courts were in session whenever occasion required, though they have been often closed for want of business. The Vigilance have closed up their business, and are merely holding together for cases of emergency. Most of our citizens who have interest in this place, believe much good has been accomplished. Trade is again moving; our city scrip and stock are looking up; real estate in more demand; everything progressive. But there is yet a cloud in the horizon that may remain for a time.

The opponents of the Committee (four-fifths of whom pay no taxes here,) and have no interest in California, except what support they can derive from the treasonable business—stuffing ballot boxes and otherwise tampering with the elections, and in various ways defeating the ends of justice, (self-called law and order men), will continue to cry against them—declaring that the majesty of the law must be upheld; and yet they have lived in defiance of all law for many years. Many of Uncle Sam's hangers-on aid and comfort them; and if, together, they can make but a temporary disturbance, they will be happy. It will, however, be to their own disadvantage, and, in the end, be no detriment to the Vigilance Committee. They have a political end in view, which I will show up after a while. After chagrins and mortifications of every kind, seeing that nine-tenths of our people join in favor of the Committee—the President refusing to act in the premises—Congress laughing at the idea of meddling with the Committee, they have at last got the mountain in labor. For the first time the Marshal has found that the law requires him to send up the country for a Grand Jury—thereby he has been enabled to find a bill against two members of the Committee, for piracy in the high mud of the bay; the federal officers hurried on this case, leaving other and older cases in the hands of the District Attorney; and there is no doubt that a trial jury of twelve men can be picked from the 100,000 in California, who would bring in a verdict of guilty. The usual time of grace to the convicted can be given twice. Whilst waiting the result of an application to the President, they may put the prisoners on board of a United States ship of war, (there is no prison in California), with 1,000 guards, that could retain them. It is coolly talked of in the street to give the people a chance to rescue the two men, and then to blow up the city on the refusal of the people to give them up to the United States Marshal on one hour's notice previous to the firing of the first gun. Not a single federal officer, nor law and order man, who in the most remote degree aided in this unrighteous cause, will remain on shore; they will show their wisdom in preparing for their own safety. Every candid man, who has with his family a deep interest at stake, however he may have condemned the Vigilance Committee, will say, "Let by-gones be by-gones," throw oil on the troubled waters, be considerate of all.

It has been said by the opposition that it is the desire of the Vigilance Committee to see the Union dissolved; this cry comes from the wolf himself; we never hear this from the Vigilance Committee. This is a Southern cry—a Southern plan; they do not want our ten degrees of sea coast peopled by shopkeepers and hard-working Yankees in general. The sooner they can cut us off and out of the Union the better; then make the dye contemplated slave States out of Texas; then woolly heads would rise in value. The Governor of Virginia says that slaves would have been worth $5,000 apiece if slavery had been permitted in the Golden State. No, they do not want us to become a people of working miners, mechanics, merchants, manufacturers and farmers. Our cities and towns are being blessed with excellent schools and splendid churches—they are to be found in every mining village—stores and theatres are being closed on the Sabbath, gambling houses are prohibited by law, and in many places effectually. Thus have our affairs been progressing the past two or three years. The stockholders are among us, but they are not with nor for us. Southerners, as a general thing, do not shine at the bar in California (there are splendid exceptions who do honor to themselves and their native land); they are not a commercial people, neither are they mechanics nor manufacturers. The trade in politics is becoming stale and unprofitable in California; one class of politicians frequently change their party, but not their principles; another change their principles but not their party, causing an awful amalgamation of men and matter. They compare with the same number in the Sheriff's box from which he draws a jury; there is no knowing who or what, in a very few months, will be brought in close proximity. Many say they will never hold office under Fremont as President; the millennium will be at hand when men from the Eastern and Middle States will have to fill all the federal offices. Fillmore may be conservative; we are not so well posted in regard to his platform as that of Buchanan or Fremont, or rather of their parties. The former goes for woolly head—their increase in numbers and value; the latter for free soil in the new States, and free laborers or white men everywhere;—the one is for the white votes of the few, with three-fifths of the many; the other for free immigration, and the votes of the whole. One party seeks the interests and predominance of fifteen States;—the other for the interest of sixteen States. If one party desires that immigrants and free laborers should enter and settle in a slave State, the answer is they are not wanted there—we want our large plantations, and large droves of negroes, intact—no immigration—no interloping. Californians in 1846 said, we do not want emigration—we wish to retain our leagues of land, thousands of cattle and hundreds of working Indian peons, intact. They were answered—the world is progressive, the Anglo Saxon race particularly so; your views are selfish; you may be happy, but you are indolent and ignorant; you must give way for a more active people.

The voice of Europe is against slavery; a large majority of the Union proclaim loudly and deeply against human bondage, and were it not for the rabid abolitionists of New England, Kentucky might now have been a free State. Under this state of feeling slavery cannot long endure, and ought never to spread.

Mr. Denver has gained many friends in California by refusing to sign Herbert's clean bill of character. The twenty or twenty-five men who did sign it, as a majority will not have their signatures sought after, after a while. The Young Men's Democratic Club, of this place, consists of such men, and are the violent opponents of the Vigilance Committee, and, as I before said, were endeavoring to make political capital out of their movements. They refuse to allow members of the Committee, or any one who sympathises with them, to join their club, and they will endeavor to make the same issue in the State Convention. This must recoil upon them with vengeance. Many democrats, rather than vote with and for such proscriptionists, will throw their vote and influence for Fremont or Fillmore, especially the large class from the Middle and Eastern States. For myself, I have kept aloof from politics until lately. I believed each of the three candidates would do very well as President. If it goes into the House I should be willing to have Fillmore elected. At present he appears to have no party. I could not affiliate with the democrats here. I do not believe that Fremont is wanting in sufficient talents. True, he may not have many intimate friends; he is by nature taciturn and unsocial, and knows no pleasure; but on the other hand, he will have no kitchen Cabinet, and no corrupt political intrigue will have any injurious control on him. I do not know that he is a man of gratitude, but political policy will alone never allow him to discard an old friend, as it does in the case of Franklin Pierce.

### Address of the Executive Committee to the General Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco.

GENTLEMEN:—On the occasion of your adjournment, the Executive Committee deem it proper to make the following remarks.

A few months since grief and despair weighed gloomily upon an oppressed people—unpunished crime was in the ascendant. For years our citizens have endured the great evils existing in their midst, and had combatted them by all the ordinary remedies prescribed for a republican people. The redress looked for in elections and jury trials was used without success. These remedies were not neglected, but, by a combination of fraud and violence, they were rendered of no effect. The ballot box was dishonored, the laws were perverted, justice was prostituted, government was corrupt. The exercise of free speech, and the guardianship of a free press, were attended with peril—life was unsafe upon the public highway.

The state of public affairs required that ordinary remedies and legitimate measures should for a brief period be laid aside. The necessity was anomalous—the exigency great. Measures which would not be justified in well ordered and well governed communities became defensible and just. It was requisite that a prompt and overwhelming assault should be made by the people upon organized and dominant crime. The occasion came—the public exigencies demanded of you, as the representatives of the great majority of the people, that you should assume, to a limited extent, the administration of justice. Similar exigencies have occasionally arisen among a free people, but none furnishing a parallel to this, or requiring so imperatively a vigorous and united action of the public. A stern and awful necessity demanded the employment of extra legal and extra judicial measures for public relief, supported and protected by an armed militia drawn from the bosom of the people. It was the last resort of a long suffering and insulted people—free in name but not in fact. The fountain of endurance, long filled to the brim, at last overflowed. None regretted the necessity more than yourselves. No people on the face of the globe were more strongly opposed, on constitutional grounds, to the re assumption of any portion of those rights and duties, which, residing in the people, are delegated by them to their servants. In the rectitude and loyalty of your republican principles, you are conscious of a devoted love for and adherence to the true spirit of government and law. In the assumption of power, you did but assert and use the rights constitutionally inherent in the people as declared by their majority. You have performed certain specific acts which were requisite to vindicate justice and the rights of an outraged people, and to strike terror into the ranks of crime. You have exposed the machinery by which your liberties have been subverted, and which has rendered the elective franchise a mockery and the administration of justice a farce. You have produced the great moral effect. You have originated and brought into active maturity the great revolution which will result in social and political reform. The great work which you have commenced has attained to that degree of progress which will require at your hands in the future only the earnest and watchful efforts of citizens in the ordinary prescribed methods of action to consummate the desired and triumphant end.

Fellow mechanics, you have given your time, your money, your labor and your earnest thoughts to the work. You have made many and great sacrifices. You have thrown yourselves into the breach in this contest, and whatever of jeopardy or loss, whatever of opprobrium or enmity could possibly ensue, you have freely hazarded for the public good. All this you have done without the possibility of private gain, without a solitary object of personal advantage, looking only for your proportion of the public benefit. You belong generally to those classes of citizens who have rarely filled, and have never coveted office. You are the industrial classes—the men of occupation and responsibility. Among you are the larger majority of those citizens of San Francisco who are anchored here by family ties—by homes and households. A majority of your opponents, consisting of the most bitter and hostile, have no trade but politics or worse, and have but little at stake in property or families. They affect not to understand the sincerity and self sacrificing principle which has led you to labor and endure so much to effect public reform. To most of you office is no object, and would be a burden. Your interests would suffer by its acceptance. You have endured much of bitter enmity and unblushing misrepresentation.

While many of our most respected citizens have differed from you on abstract principles, it is undeniable that a combination of the worst and most dangerous elements in society has been raised against you. False issues have been attempted by which to stigmatise you as partizans, as fanatics, as traitors. You have been falsely accused of harboring political enmities, religious prejudices, sectional dislikes, hostility to foreigners, and finally, of indulging political aims. The seventh article of your constitution, adopted at the commencement of your existence as a body, effectually forbade all issues of sections, nativity, politics or creed. A motto on your seal disclaims such issues, and to this hour the integrity of that constitution and the motto has been preserved inviolate even against imputation. You are of every religious creed, of every political bias, of every enlightened nation, and of every State in our beloved Union. It would be utterly impracticable to form a reliable conjecture of the predominant political or religious sentiment amongst you. We therefore earnestly counsel you, as Vigilance men, to avoid all identification of the Committee's name and interest with any political party or policy. Do your duty faithfully each man in the party of his choice. Let every man throw his vote. Let every man cherish and protect the palladium of the people's rights and liberties. Protect the ballot box; let it never again be polluted. See to it that the elections are peaceable; that the lives of freemen are not periled by ruffians at the polls. This is your work. Let the question be regarding every candidate, is he capable? Is he honest?

Since you commenced your labors, there has been a very great improvement in the administration of law and justice by the authorities. Crime has been more generally and more severely punished. The recent annulment of the fraudulent elections, and the indictment of the offenders in the young and almost heipless county of San Mateo, (so recently separated from ours,) is a triumphant and promising result of the great movement by the people. Let the example be copied. Exclusive of the hostile demonstrations against your own body, good order and a sense of security have prevailed to a greater extent than ever before in our midst. Men have not feared to speak their minds in every peaceable manner; the press has been untrammelled; riot has been prevented, or has been easily suppressed. Some advantage has been taken of your moderation, but by your discretion and forbearance the great excitement of the past three months has subsided, and its great events have been accomplished without the consequent loss of a life by collision.

The aggregation and discipline of a large military force was a measure of prudence and necessity. The peace and safety of the community required it. Without its overwhelming power a bloody issue would have been forced upon you. By its strength and perfection the exertions of your opponents to organize and bring into the field a hireling force, of the worst outcasts of society, to destroy you, have been rendered impotent and abortive, and thus the city has been spared the horrors of civil war. You took up arms for protection, and not for aggression. Had no armed opposition been arrayed against you, your work of justice would have been accomplished without bearing arms. Determined yourselves to avoid the shedding of blood, you made no attack upon your foes until they took the field against you.

Your military power and discipline are adequate to any achievement you might desire. Had you aimed at the subversion of government, at a change in the incumbents of office, at any political revolution; had you been actuated by sinister designs, by malignant hate or revenge, by fanatical zeal in any object, declared or otherwise, the power was yours. Heaven acquits you of any such motives or passions. You could have proceeded to extreme measures, even in the very avowed objects of your constitution—but you have been moderate and just even in these. You might have done much more than you have in the punishment of the guilty—but it is not in the execution of a few assassins, and the banishment of a new score of noted criminals, and the voluntary expatriation of many others, that your work is done or to be done. You have visited your power only upon those respecting whom the evidence was clear and full. You have preferred to err on the side of clemency. Other rogues remain unpunished, and some high in position. They can hope for no immunity in the adjournment of the Committee. The eye of Vigilance is upon them. The sword of justice is yet suspended over them; other modes of punishment are in reserve for them. The vigilance of the whole community in respect to crime and the abuse of office has been awakened, its moral sense and intellect are quickened. Iniquity, hitherto disguised with fascinating mask, stands exposed in hideous deformity. You have demolished the fortress of crime and corruption, and have scattered its garrison to the four winds.

The archives of the Committee contain a large amount of testimony which its session has accumulated, and which can be hereafter used in the punishment and prevention of crime and political abuses, by the employment of those ordinary remedies which hitherto have proved inoperative.

You are now content to lay aside your arms. It is your pride and delight that those arms are unstained by a single drop of citizens' blood. You have disarmed your opponents who sought to embroil you in a fratricidal conflict. You retire in the plenitude of your power. This event you sought and expected many weeks since, but the hostile attitude of your foes, and the new issues forced upon you, prevented the realization of your wishes, prolonged your active service, and were the means of perfecting your military discipline.

You will retain your organization, but without active service as a body, and without the design and desire of again assembling. Yet, as a provision against possible contingencies—

Your Executive Committee will endeavor themselves to exercise vigilance in the investigation and reformation of abuses, and in aiding and urging on the constituted authorities in the discharge of their duties—reserving the discretion and privilege of reassembling the Board of Delegates, or the general body, should serious occasion arise. Such occasion, in the judgment of the Executive Committee, might be found—

1st Upon the return of any person you have banished, or upon the necessity of enforcing any sentence already passed.

2d. Upon the necessity of protecting any member of the Committee from violence or malicious prosecution, arising out of any act performed by authority of the Committee.

3d. In event of any assault upon the life or liberty of any citizen, should it be apparent that the laws, or the officers of the laws, are insufficient for the protection of the citizen or the punishment of the offender.

4th. In case of any violation of the purity of the ballot box or the sanctity of the elective franchise.

A small police force will be retained for the present, and will be reinforced, if advisable, from the ranks of the Committee.

You will now adjourn. You will mingle once more with citizens, without the distinctive character of Vigilants. Let us, then, fraternize with those good citizens who have honestly differed from us. Let us unite vigorously and generously in those measures of public good upon which all the patriotic and honest agree. It is the duty of all good citizens to quiet popular excitement. At the same time a manly vindication of your past course is incumbent upon you when occasion arises. You were not assembled to subvert laws, but to maintain the people's rights. Justice demanded of her devoted adherents that vindication which the usurpers of her throne had denied her. You have dispersed the pestilent vapors which eclipsed her, and once more her benignant visage smiles upon the people. The great heart of the people, long despairing and inert, has been aroused to generous and healthy action.

The people have found that they are not powerless under the rule of crime. Mighty has been the demonstration of the mind and voice of an awakened public in the great moral conflict. Let this moral power, vast and terrible when fully aroused, complete the work which your hands have begun. Aid it with your hearts and hands! Aid it by your example, your voice, your votes! Aid it in the jury box—at the polls—by your daily life and conversation—by the public press—by the pen, which is mightier than the sword. Let not the good work flag. Remember that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Be vigilant in bringing criminals to justice. See to it that the courts and the officers of the law do their duty. Aid them in the execution of that duty; and in the unswerving integrity of manly and honest hearts, looking to that Providence who has guided you in doubt and danger, who has brought your labors to a successful result may you ever adhere to the true principle of vigilance, sustaining the laws when rightly administered, the government when faithful to the people, and the supremacy of the people as the source of both government and law.

### Astonishing Discoveries of Silver in Sonora.

[From the San Francisco Alta, Aug. 25.]

We have received a copy of *El Voz de Sonora*, published at Ures, of the date of July 13. The following paragraphs we translate:—

The fabled riches of the Arizona are familiar to all. Those mountains of silver, which, according to the traditions of our grandfathers, were explored in the eighteenth century with so much success, have been reproduced in the *pueblo* of Banamichi, where the work of mining is now extensively carried on.

The mine known as the "Oro of Don Jacinto Padilla" contains the two precious metals which serve for the purposes of commerce. It presents a vein, which is called by miners *sin respaldo*, (without a back,) for the purpose of denoting the abundance of the metals; and by the last accounts we have we learn that there has been put into one lot, of three *cargos*, two flasks of quicksilver, without all the silver being taken up. It is calculated that there is a thousand dollars of silver in a bulk of three cargas of the first class of metal; and of the second and third class, it is said that, in the former, there is about twenty marcos (a marco is eight ounces) of silver, and in the latter from twelve to fourteen, beside the gold which is separated. It is calculated that there are forty dollars of gold in each bulto of three cargas of the first class of metal, and from twenty-five to thirty dollars in the others. The mine is very convenient, and easy to work, especially as it is situated in the immediate vicinity of the pueblo.

The mountain in which this mine is situated is celebrated in tradition, and presents many appearances which promise the greatest hopes; but, unfortunately, the spirit of enterprise in Sonora is dead, on account of the lack of security from the barbarous Indians. We believe, however, that we will stimulate it by the news which we have given. We ourselves believed it was fabulous when it was first circulated.

### Loss of Life in California.

From a pamphlet published in San Francisco, we obtain the following information:—

Taking a portion of the notices of murders that have been published since 1852, and the other evidences that we have on record previous to that time, and since, it will be seen that the number of those who have met an untimely end by murder is truly appalling. The District Attorney of San Francisco, in 1852, stated in a public speech, that for the previous four years twelve hundred murders had been committed in the city of San Francisco. Any one conversant with the history of "The Great Pacific Emporium" since that time, will readily agree that crime has not diminished with the increase of population. It was stated on or near the close of the year 1855, by the public press, that for the year just past five hundred murders had been brought to their notice. The compiler of this work feels perfectly safe in saying that not less than five thousand murders have been committed in California within the last six years. I will also here mention, that from the examination of the old files of daily papers, it appears that the accidental deaths have not been less in number than those by murder, for the same time.

With these facts before the public, can we not readily account for the great number of men that have disappeared in California, whose friends and relations cannot obtain the least intelligence from them?

### City Intelligence.

EX-GOVERNOR FLOYD, of Virginia, will address the merchants of New York, at the Merchants' Exchange, on Thursday next, October 2, at 3 P. M.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF FAYAL.—Saturday was the forty-second anniversary of the battle of Fayal, which was fought between the privateer brig General Armstrong and a British squadron, consisting of the seventy-four gun ship Plantagenet, the frigate Rota and the sloop-of-war Carnation. The Armstrong, which was commanded by Capt. Sam C. Reid, was only of 246 tons, and carried but seven guns and a crew of ninety men. The battle commenced on the night of the 26th of September, 1814, and ended on the morning of the 27th, the Americans obtaining a glorious victory, notwithstanding the loss of their vessel, which was afterwards burnt by the British. The loss admitted on the part of the English was 120 killed and 130 wounded. The impartial accounts, however, report 160 killed and 150 wounded. The loss on the part of the Americans was only two killed and seven wounded. This is the most unprecedented and memorable naval battle on record, and was the strongest argument that Secretary Marcy could have used in his celebrated circular for not abandoning privateering. In the great battle off Cape St. Vincent, in 1797, between the Spanish fleet, consisting of twenty seven ships of the line and twelve frigates, and the English squadron, of fifteen ships of the line, seven frigates and two sloops, the English acknowledged a loss of only 73 killed and 223 wounded. In the fight with the Armstrong the English lost 87 more men killed than they did in this great conflict with the Spaniards. Admiral Jervis, who commanded the British squadron at Cape St. Vincent, was created an Earl, and had a pension allowed him by the King of £3,000 per annum, while Captain Reid, who is now in his seventy-fourth year, and his officers and crew, are yet waiting to be reimbursed by their government for the loss of their vessel.

DISTURBANCE AT THE MORMON MEETING.—At a meeting held by the Mormons, at Brooks' Assembly Rooms, last night, while Judge Appleby was in the act of defending the leading doctrines of his sect, especially polygamy, a young man, apparently English, rose, and in his excitement, flatly contradicted the elder, by calling out, "You are a liar!" A tumult immediately ensued. The whole audience rose *en masse*, and certainly would have inflicted summary punishment upon the intruder had he not been forcibly withdrawn by a friend who was with him. The young man, whose name we could not ascertain, stated that he had been at Utah, and found such a den of wickedness and vice as can scarcely be imagined, and, believing the statement of Judge Appleby calculated to lead the unwary astray, made this counter statement, although not in a calm manner. After the offender had been removed, the meeting proceeded, and the speaker took occasion to remark on the persecution suffered by the brethren throughout the world.

### Fires in New York.

FIRE IN EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET.

About 2 o'clock on Sunday morning an unoccupied shed in Twenty-second street, near the corner of avenue A, was discovered on fire. The flames extended to a wheelwright and blacksmith shop adjoining, which is owned by Mr. Houghrey, and damaged about $200. A pile of lumber also caught fire, and before the flames were extinguished it was damaged probably to the amount of $100. The lumber is owned by J. T. & E. Broderick. No insurance.

FIRE IN WORTH STREET.

About 11 o'clock on Saturday night a fire was discovered in the attic of house No. 16 Worth street. It was extinguished with a few pails of water before any damage was done.

## INTERESTING FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

### The Effect of Walker's Movements on the South and Central American States.

### Threatened Confederation Against the United States.

### INTERESTING SPEECHES AND MANIFESTOES.

### THE REVOLUTION IN PERU.

### Affairs in Nicaragua, Chile, Peru, New Granada and Costa Rica.

We have received by the Illinois letters and papers from the several South and Central American States of considerable political interest.

## ADDITIONAL FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

### The Revolution in Peru.

OUA CALLAO CORRESPONDENCE.

CALLAO, Aug. 26, 1856.

*Attack on General Castilla—Prompt Action of an Officer—The Fighting—Echinique at Valparaiso—The Affair not Ended—Policy of the United States Minister—Sailing of the Independence.*

Yesterday appeared to be a very busy one among the *soldados*, and rumors of war were rife, but as usual after great cry there was very little wool spoilt.

It would appear that General Castillo having bribed over the battalion quartered in Santa Catalina, placed himself at their head and marched away for the Palacio, with the intention of surprising the President, Castilla; but a captain of artillery, named Smith, who had been forced to accompany them, took an opportunity of turning the four guns under his immediate command against General Castillo, thereby causing confusion and giving time to alarm the President, who called on his soldiers to follow him, and they obeyed, notwithstanding they were said to have been bribed by Castillo.

There was a good deal of shooting round corners going on, and some twenty *cholos* lost their hair, and the President had a horse killed under him, but all ended in General Castilla leaving the city. It was not much of a muss, after all, though it was called a revolution.

It is said all is not over, and we are going to see what we shall see. Echinique is in Valparaiso with three vessels and plenty of the munitions of war, and all seem to agree that he is to come at the first chance and take possession of the government.

There has been some dissatisfaction expressed about our Minister, J. Randolph Clay, who, although a very good sort of man, does not appear to have much of Young America about him, and cares not much for American interests; but the frogs in Æsop, found that a King Log was better than a King Stork, and so might we.

Our frigate Independence was here a short time since, and it was gratifying to us, Yankees, to notice the fine, manly appearance of both officers and men. The ladies here ask if all American officers are chosen for their height and good looks. The Independence has gone to Panama to relieve the St. Mary's.

## ADDITIONAL FROM NEW GRANADA.

### The Expected Revolution in the Isthmus—Flight of the President of the Assembly—Serious Riot at Panama—Fifteen Persons Killed.

Our files from Panama, dated on the 19th instant, contain the following items, in addition to those already published.

Our special correspondent at Panama writes:—

At the recent gubernatorial election, Calvo, the conservative candidate, was elected by about 5,000 majority; but the liberal, or native, party assert the election to have been brought about by fraudulent voting and contend that Diaz, their candidate, was elected. In the Province of Panama the liberals are greatly in the majority.

On the 15th inst. a political outbreak was so greatly feared that a signal was made for assistance. Sixteen boats, filled with armed men, were sent off from the Independence and the St. Marys; but no action took place. Many persons fled to the vessels of war for safety, among whom was the native representative from the city and province of Panama.

No fears are entertained in regard to the security of foreign residents, nor is any trouble apprehended which can affect the perfect safety of the Transit. The disturbance is confined to local factions entirely.

It is said that two influential New Granadian planters are passengers on the Illinois, *en route* for France, for the purpose of negotiating a loan to pay off the liabilities incurred by their government during the massacre of the 15th of April.

Mr. Charles Bonner, who came passenger by the Illinois, informs us that considerable political bad feeling existed on the Isthmus generally, since the month of last June, when the votes were taken for Governor, and the blacks were made aware that Calvo, who was known to be the "white" candidate, had a large majority. The blacks then determined to fight to prevent his inauguration as such, and also to prevent the legislative declaration by force of arms. In such an anxious state of the public mind application was made by the authorities for aid to the officers in command of the United States ships Independence and St. Marys, and 425 marines were despatched in fourteen boats, and lay against the city of Panama. This threatening aspect of affairs caused many members of the Legislature to secrete themselves; but, however, a quorum was found, and in the end Calvo was proclaimed as announced.

Fifty of the first families of the city of Panama, with all their jewels and treasure, sought shelter with the United States naval officers.

Before the Illinois left the excitement had subsided a little, but Mr. Bonner states that when he was on board the ship at Aspinwall, on the 19th instant, he was informed that a telegraphic despatch had reached Colonel Totten from Panama, to the effect that a *bloody riot had taken place there, and that some fourteen or fifteen persons had been killed and a large number of others badly beaten. It was also stated that a member of the Legislature had been shot in his chair.*

The Panama *Herald* of September 8, has the following:—Instructions have been received by the Governor here from Bogota to have the testimony of a number of foreigners taken, respecting the 15th April massacre. The testimony, we understand, is all to be taken in English, and to be forwarded to Bogota for translation, so as to avoid any misconstruction or mal-interpretation. The Project is at present busily engaged in carrying out these instructions.

We learn from private sources that Capt. C. K. Garrison is busy in New York making arrangements for the opening of a new steamship line via Nicaragua. The steamer Orizaba has already been despatched for the Pacific, to take her place between San Francisco and San Juan del Sur, and others are soon to follow.

The same paper, of the 18th inst., says:—The weather during the fortnight has been fine although we have had several heavy showers. The health of Panama generally is good. Business has been dull, owing to the election excitement.

The Aspinwall *Courier*, of the 19th inst., observes, when speaking of the local political divisions on the Isthmus:—We have no doubt that the presence of the American men of war in the harbor of Panama has contributed to prevent the outbreak of the same class as those who committed the abovementioned atrocity; and we presume a jealousy of the foreign power, or aid which they would be compelled to seek, has restrained the remainder of those who desire the triumph of their partisan efforts. Thanks to Uncle Sam, the foreigners at Panama are well protected, as was amply demonstrated by the manœuvring of a flotilla in the harbor, on the arrival of the passengers from the United States, and when the native families and treasure were being sent aboard both the men-of-war for safety, in expectation of the fight with which the two factions have been threatening each other for nearly a month past.

Among the arrivals by the Illinois were Captain Hoodf, who comes out to join the Independence, and Mr. George Ritchie, Purser, for the sloop-of-war St. Marys. We learn that three midshipmen from the Independence return home on the Illinois, to undergo their examination.

The Panama *Herald* of the 18th inst. says:—The corps of surveyers who were sent out to Chiriqui about five months ago by the Chiriqui Improvement Company, return home on the Illinois for the purpose of making their report. We learn that they have been highly pleased with the country.

It is reported that instructions have been sent out by Gen. Berran, the new Granadian Minister at Washington, to the Governor of Panama, to the effect that no steps are to be taken to enforce the collection of the taxes recently levied on foreign mails and tonnage.

A canoe containing several persons, who were making their escape from the expected revolution on Monday last, unfortunately capsized, a short distance from the city, by which two children were drowned. They were natives of Panama.

The British and French Consuls visited the United States flag ship Independence, and received the usual salute.

The repairs to the steamer Columbus are progressing rapidly, and it is expected that she will be ready for sea about the middle of the coming month.

It is reported that two British vessels of war have been ordered to Panama.

The *Gaceta del Estado* contains the protests of the United States Consuls at Panama and Aspinwall against the tonnage tax, with the replies of the Governor thereto. It also contains a letter from the Governor to Commodore Mervin, on the same subject, in which his Excellency states that, under existing circumstances, he does not deem it prudent to enforce the collection of the tax at present, and that he will refer the matter to the general government for a final decision.

[From the Panama Herald, Sept. 18.]

The past fortnight has been one of greater excitement in Panama than we have had for several years. The State Legislature met on the 1st inst. not so much for the purpose of regulating the affairs of the State as for settling personal quarrels among the members, and, from the commencement of the session up to the present time, scarcely any real business has been done.

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This led to the belief that we would be favored with a general fight on the 15th, and consequently a great deal of excitement and consternation prevailed among our citizens. Every one who did not leave the city was armed, stores were closed, houses barricaded, and in fact there was a general stampede. The United States vessels of war in the harbor were ready, at a moment's notice, to punish any attempt that might be made to attack their countrymen residing here, and—the whole affair ended in smoke.

The President of the Assembly, Mariano Arosemena, who is the ringleader of the opposition party, fearing the results, fled the city, seeking refuge on board the St. Marys, and his followers were kept in out-of-the-way places until the day was over, so that a quorum could not be made up, and no business could be done.

A grand banquet was given in Bogota, the capital of New Granada, on the 26th of July last—the anniversary of the proclamation of independence of that republic—in honor of Senor Gomez de la Torre, Minister Plenipotentiary of Ecuador to the Granadian government, who was about to take his departure for home. Among the various sentiments drank on the occasion were the following, which, says *El Panameno*, serve to elucidate perfectly two questions that now occupy our attention, viz:—the confederation of the Spanish American people, and the Colombian confederation.

Mr. JUSTO AROSEMENA, one of the New Granadian ministry, delivered a speech, of which the following is a translation:—

GENTLEMEN—More than twenty years ago the eagle of the North (of the United States) directed its flight towards the regions of the Equator. Not content with having passed over a large portion of the Mexican territory, it casts its audacious glance much farther. Cuba and Nicaragua are apparently its preys of the moment, so as to facilitate the usurpation of the intermediate countries, and to consummate at a no very remote day its vast plans of conquest. In the meantime, gentlemen, Colombia sleeps. The vigorous heroine to whom the other peoples, its brothers, turn their unquiet eyes, appears careless, and as if she did not see or did not fear the talons of the eagle that threatens to pounce upon the neck of the condor. Colombia sleeps. But no; be tranquil. It is not the sleep of indifference; it is the sleep of self-confidence Colombia sleeps. But she is about to awaken. See: she moves. A secret instinct has warned her that the supreme moment is drawing nigh. She has all the consciousness of her duty and of her strength. Colombia begins to awake, and those who, availing themselves of her lethargy, have dared to enter her gates by the west, will be stricken with terror at seeing her once more on her feet. There is no doubt that we have committed great imprudences. Forgetting the character and the propensity of our neighbors, we have delivered to them, so to speak, the centre of universal commerce, which the genius of Isabel and of Columbus has gained for our race. Prodigal in concessions to the inter-oceanic Railroad Company, generous to a fault with inappeasable speculators, we did not comprehend that to grant territory was to grant dominion, and that to bestow soil for permanent and costly works was almost to give away the territory. But there is still time if Colombia hasteens. Our race and our nationality may yet be saved. Its generous sentiments, its noble heroism, its rich imagination and indomitable perseverance may yet be preserved to mankind. Everything that our want of foresight has lost to us may yet be saved. The opulent peninsula, bound by two oceans, may yet form our valued patrimony. Our great race may yet inherit it, and prosper there through long ages. Let us, however, not forget that to accomplish that destiny we need to create and to consolidate our race in the political sense. It is right that the consociation of people united by moral bonds of religion, language, customs, vices and virtues, should in those respects regard themselves as one nationality. But I shall still understand that if those people do not establish a common government political nationality does not exist, and that without that the nationality of the race, and the very race itself, are entirely precarious. The North Americans have so comprehended this matter from the beginning. That which they call their manifest destiny, and which is only an unbounded ambition, is founted not so much in the high idea that they have of themselves, as in the happy combination of their political institutions. Since their independence they have perceived, as if by instinct, that a republican State seeks narrow limits, but that the indefinite agglomeration of little States may assure for the whole the proper republican tone, without impeding the extension of nationality wherever the continuity of territory admits it. For ourselves, the sons of Spain, her successors in the immense patrimony which she wrung from the barbarian, we may and we ought to imitate the conduct of our adversaries, the lords of the North and the successors of the cold Britton. That which calculation did for the Northern confederacy, time, experience and danger ought to do for the Southern confederacy. It appears as if Providence had created the two portions of this continent to be divided between two great peoples—two great races and two great civilizations—separated by a narrow isthmus, and destined to live in peace, interchanging their ideas, their virtues, their products, and their advancements. But that is not the only mission of the two great confederacies that have to contain all the future and all the glory of two races. They have another, even more portentous, mission, which the law of population and the imperturbable march of human civilization indicate with great clearness. They will present to their brethren of the Old World—the theatre of despotismt, of exclusiveness and of oppression—a vast field of industry and property, of liberty and progress. Such is the destiny presented to the two great nationalities that will divide with each other this continent. Let the North continue developing her civilization without encroaching on ours. Let it continue, if it please, monopolizing the name of America, which to-day belongs to the hemisphere. We, the children of the South, will not dispute a usurped denomination which a usurper also imposed. We will prefer to develope to the illustrious Genoese the post of honor and of glory which had been snatched from him. We will call ourselves *Colombianos*; and from Panama to Cape Horn we will be a single family, with a single name, a common government and a common object. Therefore, gentlemen, I repeat, we ought to hasten to lay the foundations and to rivet the bonds of the great Colombian confederacy. Members of the various States which to-day divide the immense peninsula, do me the honor of listening to me: and to them all I raise my cry of alarm, so that on separating with the grasp of friendship, we may promise to reunite ourselves promptly, changed into citizens of one same nation—great and free—wise and magnanimous—rich and powerful.

Senor MANUEL MURILLO TORO said:—To the liberty and prosperity of Ecuador—for philosophy permeates all the institutions of that fraternal people—to the Colombian conf