

NEW YORK HERALD.

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QUADRUPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, May 13, 1858.

The News.

We give the proceedings of some half dozen anniversary meetings in our columns this morning. The most important report is that of the thirty-third anniversary meeting of the American Tract Society, held yesterday in the Dutch Reformed church, Lafayette place.

The last act of the radical abolitionists' extravaganzas at Mozart Hall was performed yesterday. We give a full account of the scenes and incidents elsewhere.

But little of importance occurred in Congress yesterday. In the Senate, Messrs. Rice and Shields, the new Senators from Minnesota, were sworn and took their seats. Mr. Harlan presented a petition from people of Minnesota, containing charges of corruption against Mr. Rice, in connection with land sales in the Territory. Mr. Rice pronounced the charges utterly false, and demanded an investigation.

We have received an important letter from our correspondent at Tampico, Mexico, in which, writing at intervals from the 26th to the 25th of April, he gives a graphic description of the sad scenes enacted in and around that city during its siege by General Garza. The circumstances attending the firing on and seizure by Garza of the American vessels Virginia Antoinette, Aurelia P. Howe, George E. Prescott, Nathan J. Stetson, and General Taylor, are given in detail, and the necessity of obtaining redress fervently urged on our Cabinet.

Our correspondent at Barbadoes, writing on the 10th ult., says:—"Sugar making proceeds rapidly throughout the island in the continued dry weather. But there is nothing doing in produce worth noting. The planters will not sell good sugar under \$4 per 100 lbs., and prefer shipping to the United States and England on their own account to selling here at prices offering \$3 50 a \$3 75. Molasses sells freely at 15c per gallon. The market is overstocked with estate supplies, and little doing in them. Flour, biscuit, butter, fish and salted meats are in fair supply, but the consumption during the dry weather is so great that the next arrivals with supplies will pay remuneratively. Salmon, mackerel and corn meal are scarce and high. The health of the island is good. Symptoms of riot prevail pretty extensively among the colored laboring classes, but the vigilance of the police and military is sufficient to put down any open manifestation of disorder. All is quiet at Antigua."

Captain Howe gives the circumstances attending the firing into his vessel by the British war steamer Styx. According to his narrative, the affair was an unprovoked aggression by the British man-of-war upon an American merchant vessel.

The brig Winthrop arrived at this port yesterday from Cartagena, bringing as passengers several members of the scientific corps sent out to survey the proposed line of interoceanic canal across the Isthmus of Darien.

The schooner L. P. Pharo, which arrived at Philadelphia yesterday, reports coming in collision, on the night of the 20th ult., off Barnegat, with the schooner Pedee, bound from Cienfuegos for New York. The Pedee sunk, but the crew were rescued by the Pharo and taken to Philadelphia.

The trial of Thomas N. Carr, charged with libelling Richard Busteed, Counsel to the Corporation, was commenced yesterday in the Court of General Sessions, and will be resumed this morning. A report of the proceedings will be found elsewhere.

The steamship City of Baltimore arrived from Liverpool yesterday afternoon, with the European mails to the 28th ult. and five hundred and forty-four passengers. The news has been anticipated by the Vanderbilt and Persia.

The Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, held their anniversary meeting at the Great Wigwam last evening. The following persons were duly installed as Sachems and other officers for the ensuing year:—Andrew H. Mickle, Elijah F. Purdy, Edward Cooper, Thos. Dunlap, Geo. E. Baldwin, E. L. Conner, Joseph Marsh, W. D. Kennedy, Wm. C. Donnelly, Patrick Henry, Caspar C. Childs, Secretary; Isaiah W. Brown, Treasurer; Geo. L. Messerve, Sagamore, and R. D. Letter, Wiskinkee. The remaining Sachems, Isaac V. Fowler, Emanuel B. Hart and Thomas B. Tappen, will be installed on Monday evening next.

The receipts of beef cattle at the yards in this city during the past week amounted to 3,389 head—against 5,063 for the week previous. The demand yesterday was very moderate, at a decline in prices of fully one cent per pound on the current rates of last week. The quotations are 7c. a 9c. per pound. The quality of the stock offered was unusually good. Cows and calves were in limited supply, and with a limited demand prices declined to \$20 a \$60, but few, however, bringing more than \$40. Other descriptions of stock participated in the general depression, both of demand and prices.

The cotton market yesterday was heavy, owing mainly to accounts of increased receipts in the Southern ports. The sales embraced about 600 a 600 bales, with the turn of the market in favor of the buyer. The deficiency of the receipts in the Southern ports, compared with last year, has been reduced to 4,900 bales. The increase in exports to Great Britain amounts to 144,000 bales; the decrease to France, 22,000, and to other foreign ports to 70,000, showing a total decrease in exports of 49,000 bales. Flour was steady, and fresh ground State rather firmer, while quotations were without change of moment. The sales were made to a fair extent, including some lots for export. Wheat was lower and active. The sales embraced about 30,000 a 40,000 bushels at rates given in another column. Corn was less buoyant. Sales of white were made at 71c. a 73c., and yellow at 73c. a 75c. Pork was in moderate demand, with sales of mess at \$18, and prime at \$14 50. Sugars were firm, while the sales embraced about 700 a 800 bids, at rates given in another place. Cotton was firm, with sales of about 600 mts Java at 18c., and 600 do. Rio at 9 1/2c. a 11 1/2c. The stock of Rio in this market amounts to about 16,000 bags, 4,638 mts Java, and a total of bags and mts of all kinds to 41,109. Freights continued to rule firm, and were more active. To Liverpool about 150,000 bushels grain were engaged (60,000 of which was taken as a cargo by one ship), at rates ranging from 8d. a 8 1/2d. in bulk, and at 9d. in ship's bags, with flour and rosin at 2d. 6d. Wheat to Glasgow was taken in ship's bags at 9d., and three beef to London at 1s. a 1s. 6d.

The next Presidency—State of Political Parties and Factions. How stand the political parties and factions of the day in reference to 1860? Since the passage of the Kansas bill the violent hostility to the administration which had previously marked the course of the opposition elements and the anti-Lecompton democracy has almost wholly disappeared. Nor is it likely, whatever may be the issue upon the Lecompton constitution, that the exhausted Kansas agitation can ever be revived again as a great sectional or party issue. Should the people of Kansas accept the Lecompton programme, that will be the ending of the whole matter; should they reject it, and, in the regular way apply for admission under another constitution, they will be admitted as readily as Minnesota. There seems to be at Washington a common understanding to this effect; and hence the remarkable armistice which has followed the adoption of the English compromise among all parties and factions in Congress in reference to the administration.

tion to the pernicious disunion principles of W. H. Seward, which the people suspected to be identified with the election of Gen. Scott. Besides, Gen. Scott had been a Native American, and his repudiation of nativism, while it gained him nothing from the "lovely German accent or the sweet Irish brogue," alienated the natives—an undeveloped balance of power at that day, but the strength of which we can now understand.

The first year of poor Pierce's administration disclosed the delusive, hollow and evanescent character of the tremendous popular vote by which he was elected; the second year left him hard ground; before the end of the third his crazy craft was embedded in the sand and filled with water; and with the expiration of the fourth it was broken to pieces, and the spoils divided among the wreckers. So demoralized, crippled and disjoined did he leave the democracy, that in 1856, notwithstanding the solid national popularity of Mr. Buchanan, and the malignant divisions of the opposition forces, their aggregate popular majority in the Presidential vote was nearly three hundred and eighty thousand. This, too, with an opposition candidate who, in most of the slave States, was run merely to save appearances.

In the elections which have since occurred we have seen nothing to justify the impression that, North or South, the democracy have made any positive or substantial reduction of their opposition majority. True, our New York election last November went for the democratic State ticket by a handsome plurality, but then there were over one hundred thousand voters who remained at home. In a word, since 1836 the democratic party, upon the popular vote of the Union, has been a minority party, and the only majority President they have had since that day was elected by opposition votes. By good management on the part of the democracy, and by the bad management of the opposition, the former have repeatedly contrived to win with the odds against them; but such an achievement as the election of Mr. Buchanan can hardly be expected twice in succession.

The election of 1856, on the other hand, sufficiently admonishes the republican party that a sectional platform will not unite the opposition forces, and that with two or three candidates in the field they can be very nicely defeated. The opposition, then, in 1860, to be sure of success, must assume the attitude of a great homogeneous national party, North and South, and rally upon a single candidate throughout the Union, as in 1840, and the result will probably be the same. In this view it is easy to understand that neither Mr. Seward, nor Mr. Douglas, nor Mr. Banks, nor even Colonel Fremont, will answer the purpose, but that some new man, with no sectional or factious grudges against him, must be brought out upon the course. Who that man is to be may appear at the appointed time. Let it suffice for the present that all great political revolutions culminate in bringing new men to the surface, and in burying old men, old systems, platforms, principles, measures, cliques and parties.

The old whig party was destroyed upon the rock of slavery, the ephemeral Know Nothing party perished among the quicksands of the nigger agitation, and among the shoals and breakers of slavery the democratic party has been reduced to a mere hulk, depending for its safety upon chance and accident. And as all these parties have thus been destroyed or left in a sinking condition from too much tampering with the slavery question, the party that henceforth would be successful must stand upon other issues, of a more practical, conservative and national character than the narrow platform of the suppression or extension of slavery. Hence, we repeat that none of the old political candidates or party hacks identified as the slavery agitators of either section will answer the purposes of the opposition in 1860. Their candidate must be a man whose hands are as clean of this business as were the hands of Mr. Buchanan in 1856 of the odor of the Kansas-Nebraska bill.

FINANCIAL FRAUDS AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS. We published yesterday an account of an alleged fraud of a stupendous character, and the arrest of the principal party concerned in it, a person of some prominence in the financial world. This is but the beginning of the disclosures of this kind which are sure to follow the late revelation. The crisis being past, the reactionary period has come; and reaction always brings to light frauds of large magnitude in the management of railroads, banks, insurance companies and other corporations. It was so to the extent of some hundreds of millions after the crisis of 1837, and we have no doubt that every month for years to come will develop some new fraud, of so startling a character that criminal prosecutions will be likely to follow in many cases. The extraordinary expansion and wild speculation which characterized our method of transacting business for some time were fruitful sources of fraud. The faster men made money the more eager they became to accumulate; and from the loose manner in which many corporations were conducted, the temptations and the facilities for fraud were equally great. The criminal prosecution of Mr. Dwight, now pending, will strike terror into the hearts of many a smart operator throughout the country. The Ohio Life and Trust Company, whose failure brought ruin to so many thousand households, will, we presume, be the next subject for criminal proceedings. It is time that the commercial atmosphere should be purged, and there is no better instrument for effecting that purpose than a criminal prosecution now and then vigorously and successfully carried out—such as those in England, which sent Sir John Dean Paul and his confederates into penal servitude, and the directors of the Royal British Bank to vegetate in the county prisons.

It is not only in commercial transactions that these gigantic swindles exist. The frauds and forgeries in the city treasury—the Finance and Street Departments—which are being every day developed by the committees of the Common Council, are assuming a fearful shape. Three millions would not cover the frauds already discovered; and as the system has been going on for years, this unfortunate city must be a victim to the amount of some twenty millions altogether. These rogeries have been perpetrated by the collusion of the different executive officers of the departments and bureaus, whose operations have been greatly facilitated by the incompetency of their clerks; for it is a fact, and a shameful one, that there is not a good accountant in any of the public offices. The plunder of the city treasury appears to have reached a climax; and from the nature of the information now in possession of

the investigating committee, we should not be surprised to hear before long that some twenty or thirty persons—heads of bureaus and others—were sent before the Grand Jury for indictment. The sooner the better.

MEXICO—Her Evils and their Remedy. The recent advices from Mexico leave things there in a very nearly the same state as exhibited in the full reports which we received by the last steamer. It is still a doubtful question whether Juarez or Zuloaga will succumb, or whether both of them will fall, to be succeeded by Santa Anna, or Osollo, or some new man.

A temporary enthusiasm in favor of the constitutional government has been created in Vera Cruz by the arrival there of President Juarez and his Cabinet from New Orleans, and of troops for the defence of the city and castle from Oajaca. But it is doubtful whether the advent of the President and his Cabinet at the true scene of conflict between the two governments, which is the revenue-giving port of Vera Cruz, has not in reality weakened the cause of the constitutionalists. The supreme government has brought with it nothing but poverty and the prestige of the defeats of Celaya, Guadaluajara and Colima, while it deprives La Llave and Zamorra of the first place in the defence of the State, which they had previously held. Both of these have demonstrated themselves to be men of energy and decision of purpose, while those who have come to displace them in the public eye, if not in fact, have shown a want of these very qualities.

But whatever may be the turn of the present struggle—whether it be Juarez, or Zuloaga, or Santa Anna, or Osollo, or anybody else that achieves power—the ultimate result must be the same. Mexico, as a federated republic, is broken to pieces, and can never be reconstituted as a nation except through aid from this country. Her public men are divided into cliques, none of which can be said to possess a unity of purpose; her army is corrupt to the core; her administration of justice is rotten; her revenue system is a vicious one, and its collection is made more for the benefit of the Custom House officers than for the State, and she is both a bankrupt and a defaulter. Whatever man or systems succeeds the present must follow the descending path of the past, unless support both moral and material is obtained from the United States.

Many of her public men affect to have hope in foreign immigration, but this is futile. The time was when the world looked with confidence to the new republics of Spanish America, and both capital and colonists flowed to them; but thirty years of misgovernment and turmoil have stopped this, and their present and prospective state of anarchy are not likely to recreate it. Mexico cannot be colonized by an industrious population until her government is colonized by honest statesmen.

For this she must look to our government. No European intervention would be permitted for a single moment in Mexico. Washington alone can be the source whence the inspiration of the new order of things in Mexico must come; and we have already suggested, some days since, and we now repeat the course which should be pursued to bring it about. As soon as Mexico has an administration that we can treat with, let her appoint commissioners to come to Washington to arrange the conditions on which we can lend her our assistance to carry out such reforms as the liberal party may deem necessary to the national regeneration and to the establishment of her institutions upon a sound republican and industrial basis. If she does this she may soon enter upon a new career of national prosperity and progress. If she neglects it, the process of disintegration now going on there will continue, until she becomes a prey to private filibuster enterprises, that will be invited by desperate adventurers among her own leaders, and which no power in our government or any other can prevent from crossing our borders. How widespread this spirit of military adventure is among our people is witnessed in the fact that tenders of over 50,000 men are now in possession of the President, to fill the two new regiments of volunteers for the Utah war. And it is not the Southern fire-eaters and Western frontiersmen alone that seek this service. Puritan New England stands close alongside the hoosier West and the corn-cracking South in the wish to send out a regiment from every city and a company from every town and village to participate in the rough and ready service of a soldier's life. In this there is a lesson for Europe as well as for Mexico.

WHO ORGANIZED THE PANIC?—We now see by the proceedings which are pending against some of the Wall street financiers and speculators, who were the real authors of the recent panic. The defalcations committed during the years 1856 and 1857 by bankers, brokers, and others placed in positions of commercial trust, are in process of development, and explain satisfactorily the causes of the sudden interruption of commercial confidence which led to the tremendous commercial revolution through which we have just passed. It was by these men, and by no others, that the panic was originated. They hoped to find in it security, but it has brought to them only detection and shame.

GOVERNMENT LAND CONTRACTS.—THE FORT WILLET and FORT SNELLING PURCHASES.—The Fort Willet purchase is, it seems, likely to create quite as much of a faze as that of the Fort Snelling reservation. In this instance, however, the government is the buyer, and not the seller. The complaint against it is that it has given more for the Fort Willet site than it is really worth. This may be the case, and yet the bargain may still be an advantageous one. Were the land bought for the purpose of raising turnips and potatoes, the price given for it might possibly be deemed excessive. But when the government enters the market as a buyer of real estate, it stands in a different position from that of any other purchaser. Once it is known that it requires a particular spot for a particular purpose, the value of the site is proportionately enhanced. Owners of real estate are perfectly justified in obtaining for their property the highest value which the government competition attaches to it. Either the government can do without it, or it must have it; and if its necessities compel it to buy, there is no reason why it should be placed in a more favorable position than any private purchaser having the same strong interest in the property. The case of the Fort Snelling reservation is a very different one, and must not be judged of by the same rules. In this instance the government was the vendor, and the conditions under which the land should have been sold were fixed by law. The purchasers, so far from obtaining the reservation at a depreciated value, paid for it about a thirtieth more than the amount of the

statutory estimate. Whilst, therefore, in the Fort Willet case there is no just ground for complaint, in that of the Fort Snelling reservation there is a fair claim for a remission of price on the part of government. The purchasers in the latter contract are, it will be admitted, fairly entitled to have the excess over the legal price of the land refunded to them.

THURLOW WEED AT THE CONGRESSIONAL.—Thurlow Weed's conscience seems to be pricking him. He gave us the other day a half confession in relation to the \$5,000 check which he is understood to have received out of the \$87,000 expended by Lawrence, Stone and Company; he now volunteers some further light on the subject. Hear him:—

We shall not voluntarily disclose the financial operations of either party; indeed, such operations, even when entirely legitimate, are in their nature confidential. Neither merchants or bankers open their ledgers or their check books to the public. Individuals are not called upon to disclose the amount of their indebtedness or the names of their creditors. Newspaper proprietors also have confidential financial arrangements, entirely proper in themselves, but which they do not feel called upon to publish. This, however, is no answer to the inquiry of Congress as to what was done with the \$87,000 paid by Messrs Lawrence, Stone & Co. Our reply to this is that we have had no communication, directly or indirectly, with those gentlemen or with their agent, nor have we received one dollar from either of them. If the amount received from a political friend with whom we labored in the campaign of 1856, came from that source, it was without our knowledge.

Here we differ from Mr. Thurlow Weed. We do not think that "financial operations of political parties are in their nature confidential." Quite the contrary. Such operations, like all other movements of public political parties, ought to be public, and open to every eye. Concealment and confidential arrangements in such affairs are contrary to the very essence of our institutions. Our political parties exist in order to transact the public business; the idea that the managers of these parties shall have secrets from the public they are serving is monstrous. And if party managers have no right to keep secrets from their employers—the public—on any subject, they have least of all that right in connection with their pecuniary transactions. It is an offence in the eye of the law to use money for the purchase of votes or political offices; the party which does so, and afterwards pretends that it was a confidential affair with which the public have no right to interfere, is as likely to meet with sympathy as a forger who pretended that he committed forgery confidentially, or a confidential thief.

It seems even that Mr. Thurlow Weed might be compelled by legal pressure to tell what he knows about the use of money by the political parties whose secrets he passes. The law obliges every man to reveal crime.

Mr. Weed very properly says that this is no answer to the charge brought against him with respect to the \$5,000. And he goes on to say that if the money he received came from Lawrence, Stone and Company it was without his knowledge. Just so. People who bribe and people who take bribes don't do business on the principles which obtain in Washington market. A delicate reserve and confidential circumspection usually envelops the transaction. Mr. A. the briber, doesn't vulgarly hand a check to Mr. B. the bribed, but passes it through the hands of C, who passes it to B. in payment for an uncommonly good secret. Thus B. is able to say in the language of Mr. Weed, that "if the amount received from a political friend, &c., came from Mr. A, it was without his knowledge."

We can fancy Matteson, after Greeley had handed him the \$1,000 check which the Des Moines Improvement Company entrusted to the latter to be given to Matteson on certain contingencies, declaring that "if the \$1,000 received from a political friend, &c., came from the Des Moines Improvement Company, it was without his (Matteson's) knowledge."

Thurlow Weed must find some better excuse, or judgment will go against him on the facts.

THE TRACT SOCIETY.—This body, and the worthy people who are affiliated with or friendly to it, have been much disturbed during the last three days by the content pending between the pro-slavery and the anti-slavery parties in the society. For some years there has been a feud between the two factions; the one contending that the society, if it did not openly denounce slavery as sinful and immoral, would at least not mutilate tracts by British authors containing reflections on the subject of slavery; the other holding that it was the first duty of the society and the first condition of its usefulness that it should have nothing whatever to do with slavery in any shape; that it should publish no tracts which were either wholly or in part deemed objectionable by the slavery men of the South, and that whatever was said in the tracts respecting the relative duties of masters and servants should be so said as to leave the reader in the dark as to whether it applied to voluntary or involuntary servitude. On these issues the war has been waged for several years, each season increasing the asperity of the contest, until the two factions, as will be seen by the report of yesterday's proceedings, became quite as bitter and almost as abusive as political office seekers on the eve of an election.

There can be but little difficulty in deciding where the truth lies between the two disputants. It would be a very satisfactory thing indeed if the institutions of all sections of the country permitted the same tracts and books of all kinds to circulate throughout. But of the fact that those institutions do differ, and that the differences are so decided and marked that the tracts which are good in one place are not suitable in another, there can be no reasonable question. And to try by argument and oratory to satisfy both sections that they ought to use the same class of tracts is as hopeful a task as it would be to try to convince the people of Maine and the people of Florida that they ought to wear the same kind of clothing.

The only sensible thing that can be done with the Tract Society is to split it, as the Methodist Book Concern and the other book publishing religious bodies were split some years ago. The settlement of the question yesterday is only a temporary arrangement. It can't last. Let there be, therefore, a Tract Society North and a Tract Society South, and let each issue the tracts required for consumption in its particular locality. The members of the two concerns need be none the less friends for being separated; and this perpetual bone of discord between them would thus be removed.

The time must come when the Bible Society and all the other religious concerns which celebrate their anniversaries here in May, will be divided by the slavery question. It is all pervading and paramount. The preachers North and South have taken hold of it, and Brownlow on the one side and Beecher on the other preach about nothing else. What can be expected but that religious establishments so divided must be severed in twain? And ought it not to be the best wish of every Christian man to see the separation effected quietly and

rapidly before inflammation has proceeded too far for the safe use of the knife!

THE ADMISSION OF MINNESOTA.—THE OPPOSITION VOTE OF THE HOUSE.—Thirty-eight members of the House of Representatives voted the other day against the final passage of the bill for the admission of Minnesota, and the list includes Joshua B. Giddings, Sherman of Ohio, Blair of Missouri, and other black republicans; Smith and Garrett of Virginia, and other fire-eating democrats, and all the Southern Know Nothings. This is a curious mixture, and forcibly illustrates the utter impossibility of satisfying the sectional factions of Congress with anything in the shape of a new State applying for admission into the Union; for no case more perfectly free from all legitimate objections than that of Minnesota has ever been presented to any Congress.

THE LATEST NEWS.

Our Special Washington Despatch. DISPATCHES FROM THE UTAH ARMY.—SENATOR RICE OF MINNESOTA, IN TROUBLE ALICIA.—APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED.—THE PACIFIC RAILROAD PROJECT TO BE REVIVED.—AFFAIRS IN MEXICO, ETC.

WASHINGTON, May 12, 1858. Despatches have been received at the War Department from General Johnston, of the army of Utah. The despatches are dated the 10th of March, at which time the troops were in good health. General Johnston was informed that the Mormons threatened his communications.

One of the despatches announces that no official mail had reached Camp Scott since last September, and, judging from this circumstance, General Johnston feared that Brigham Young had either cut him off from direct correspondence with Washington, or that the couriers and messengers employed had deserted him.

On the 11th of March, the credentials of Mr. Harlan, of Iowa, to-day, an exciting scene occurred. Mr. Harlan, of Iowa, read documents and affidavits accusing Senator Rice of embezzlement while in Iowa, and spoke for some time on a matter. A spirited debate followed, but the Senator was finally sworn. Mr. Phillips, of Pennsylvania, presents tomorrow the credentials of the Minnesota members of the House. Objections will be made by republicans, and will probably cause a lengthy debate.

The following California appointments were confirmed:—Solomon, Marshall, and Torre, Attorney of the Northern district; Collectors Downer at San Pedro; Sutherland at Sacramento, and Lester at San Joaquin; Kane, Appraiser at San Francisco; Roman, Appraiser General. Also Horner as Assistant Surgeon, and Garvin as Chief Engineer of the Navy. The New York appointments were not acted on.

The special committee on the Pacific Railroad met this morning. A motion was made to postpone action until next session, inasmuch as the Senate had decided to postpone the matter. This was voted down, and a proposition adopted to mature a bill. They meet again on Saturday, when the majority of the committee will be ready to report.

The confused reports as to land companies' schemes and expeditions to Northern Mexico seem to have their foundation in an extensive system of grants made by General Comolfort for the purpose and in consideration of having public land surveyed, parties receiving in fact lands in payment for making surveys.

A despatch has been received at the Mexican Legation expressing the probability of Osollo being President of Mexico. It is stated on reliable authority that Zamorra, Governor of Vera Cruz, had formally applied to our government for a grant of land in the State of Mexico. Osollany is appointed dragoman at Constantinople, not consul, as reported. Mr. Brown is likely to remain there for the present.

THE GENERAL NEWSPAPER DISPATCH. WASHINGTON, May 12, 1858. The Turkish Vice Admiral has respectfully declined the tender of the President of a passage home in the steamer Washash, wishing to prolong his stay beyond the time of her departure.

The Committees on Naval Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives held a joint meeting this morning, the general sentiment of which was favorable to an increase of the compensation of naval officers of all grades. The chairman of each committee was requested to submit a bill for that purpose, and then if it should be approved, to press its passage, if not, at this, at the next session of Congress.

It is stated on good authority that nothing has been elicited by the investigating committee to show that the Secretary of War was in any way concerned, in complicity or collusion, in the purchase of Willet's Point for fortification purposes.

It appears from the official report sent to the Senate today in reply to Mr. Broderick's resolution, that \$200,000 are agreed to be given on the perfection of the title for Liane Point, on the north side of the entrance of the bay of San Francisco, for a fortification.

The number of warrants issued during the month of April, under the bounty act of March, 1855, is 1,506. To satisfy the total number of warrants issued it will require 28,000,000 of acres.

THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS. FIRST SESSION. Senate. WASHINGTON, May 12, 1858. A COMPLET FERTILIZATION BILL AT SAN FRANCISCO. A communication was received from the Secretary of War relative to the proposed purchase of the site of a fortification for the protection of the harbor of San Francisco.

Mr. FROSTENBERG, (opp.), objected to the price demanded (\$200,000), and thought the necessity not so urgent that Congress should submit to such an enormous imposition.

Mr. GWIN, (adm.) of Cal., said the site was indispensable to the protection of the harbor, and hence Congress should not hesitate about the price.

Mr. BROWN, (opp.) of Cal., declared that the whole ranch was not worth \$7,000. Referred to the Military Committee.

REPORT OF THE SPIRITUS SOCIETY. A variety of important business was transacted, after which the Spiritus Society bill was taken up. Mr. WILSON, (opp.) of Mass., said that Massachusetts owns one-half the ferry vessels of the country, and the business has, for over two hundred and thirty years, been a source of interest to her people. In the beginning of the eighteenth century Massachusetts exported the value of four million dollars from her fisheries. The possession of the fisheries was an element in the Revolution, and their encouragement has ever been the settled policy of the government. Mr. Wilson quoted as authorities Messrs Ames, Avery, Washington and Jefferson, in proof of this assertion, and also that they were regarded as a nursery for seamen.

Messrs. BOUTWELL, (opp.) of Wis., and FOSTER, (opp.) of Conn., opposed the repeal of the bounty.

Mr. CLAY, (adm.) of Ala., replied, as an additional section to the bill, repealing all the duties on salt. A lengthy debate ensued upon this, when Mr. TERRY, (opp.) of N. Y., moved to include sugar. Mr. SULLIVAN, (adm.) of Ia., gave notice that if the amendment was adopted he should move to include tea, turmeric and ginger, and the abolition of the Custom House. Mr. SEWARD, (opp.) of N. Y., was opposed to allowing the Tariff act of the last Congress. He would go for the abolition of the duty on sugar, as if the Senator from Tennessee would go to his office he would favor the abolition of the duty on iron. The subject was then laid over until to-morrow.