CUBA.

Enthusiastic Demonstration in Favor of Independence.

Great Mass Meeting at Cooper Institute.

AMERICA TO THE RESCUE.

Speeches by Mr. McKeon, Mr. Woodford, Mr. Townsend, Rev. Mr. French, Mr. Fellows and Others.

Last evening the Cooper Institute was crowded to the doors, the occasion being a grand demonstration in favor of the independence of Cuba. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed. It was truly a great manifestation of popular feeling, for the entire assemblage went heart and soul with every patriotic expression that touched upon the rights of the much cherished isle. It is certainly some time since the spacious hall was so densely packed, and that, too, not by curiosity seekers, but by a sterling, earnest and determined audience. Long prior to the hour announced for the commencement of the meeting the space in front of the Cooper Institute was crowded by a very energetic assemblage, and when the doors were thrown open a continued rush speedily filled the hall. The decorations were handsome as they were appropriate. Beautifully entwined flowers wreathed in lengthened strings hung gracefully beneath the well executed portraits of Washington, President Grant, Admiral Farragut, General McClellan and Governor Hoffman. Besides these ornamentations the platform was otherwise gaily festooned; flags and banners were tastefully suspended, among them being the flag of Cuban independance, but conspicuous was the silken streamer representing the stars and stripes. Neatly executed garlands dangled from the chandeliers, and altogether the decorations were rich and well designed, sufficient at least to add a something to the general feeling which characterized the unanimity of the meeting. Stands were erected outside the building and congregated around them in dense masses were those whose tardiness or lack of crushing powers debarred them from obtaining space inside. Fireworks wriggled about in all directions, and when well executed or unusually brilliant elicited great cheering from the crowds. There was no lack of open air orators whose remarks generally elicited much cheering.

At eight o'clock the meeting was called to order by Mr. W. E. McMartin, and nominated Mr. Charles A. Dana as chairman.

Mr. J. E. Buck read a list of names, which he presented as vice presidents and secretaries, which were unanimously adopted. He also submitted the following:—

As citizens of New York, without distinction of party, we have assembled to make declaration of our opinions in relation to the Cuban revolution for freedom and independence. The Cubans possess territory, population and resources sufficient to enable them, if independent, to discharge all domestic and international obligations which devolve on every State. For generations they have been a helpless dependency on Spanish monarchs, by whom they have been despoiled of their treasure and denied every vestige of political liberty. Whenever their aspirations for freedom have been awakened by the example of our country Spain has strangled them in blood. A few months ago the Spaniards revolutionized their own government, dethroned their Queen and changed their whole political system. In all this they did not consult or consider the wishes of the Cubans, whom they would still hold as dependents, without any rights save such as Spanish caprice would concede. Against this the Cuban people have revolted in favor of a republic, equal political rights, independence in government and freedom for all the population. This patriot revolution, already maintained for many months, will, we believe, result in the establishment of an independent Cuban republic. Impelled by these considerations, recognizing our duty to favor the cause of political freedom and responding to the Cuban appeals for our sympathy, we hereby declare:—

First—That we heartily sympathize with the Cuban people in their war for independence, and in the grievances to which they point we find full justification of their revolution.

Second—We will support the President in recognizing the Cuban revolutionary government, so as to secure to it the rights of a belligerent nation and to give heart to a brave people who are struggling for republican institutions and for those principles of freedom, progress and humanity, the establishment of which will make Cuba a worthy sister republic of the United States. (Cheers.)

SPEECH OF MR. JOHN M'KEON.

Mr. John McKeon was then introduced to the meeting and proceeded to make a stirring speech. He said that when he received the invitation of the friends of Cuba in this city to attend that meeting he deemed it not only a duty to obey their call but a great pleasure. (Cheers.) The resolutions which had just been read conveyed to them the importance of the occasion which had called them together. It was that a portion of the American people might express their sympathy with a people struggling for freedom and independence. (Applause.) An occasion like the present involved a responsibility which was not only shared by them, but by the government. In a government constituted like ours the responsibility reached not only from the people up to the government, but from the government down, and it was eminently proper that they should on this occasion express their wishes and point out the course which they wished their public agents to pursue. Whatever trouble came on the country came on the people ultimately.

The occasion which has called you together is the present revolution in the island of Cuba, and you are called upon not only to express your sympathy with that movement, but also to point out to our public agents the policy which ought to be adopted by the government of the United States. I need not tell you that the contest in Cuba is the death-struggle between the representatives of a foreign despotism in Spain and the natives of the island of Cuba. The people of Cuba are denied freedom of the press—denied the right of petition, the right to acquire or dispose of property except under certain restrictions—denied the security of person from illegal arrests—denied the right of representation, whilst robbed by the taxation of the home government in Madrid. In a word, not a grievance enumerated in our Declaration of Independence but exists at the present time in Cuba. The oppressions have for years past given cause to uprisings of the people, but never has the opposition to the government taken such shape of power and capacity of resistance to the armed force of the government of Madrid as at the present time. From all we can learn the war which is waged against the men struggling to give independence to their native isle is carried on by the provisional government in Spain with a spirit of savage ferocity revolting to every sense of humanity. (Applause.) The supreme authority in the island is nominally in the Governor General Dulce, but he is nothing more than a puppet in the hands of the hordes of volunteers, who are the offscourings of Spain, sent to pillage and murder the unfortunate native Cubans. If no other reason existed, we should insist that a stop should be put to a policy which is calculated to dishonor the age in which we live. If the civilized world years ago interfered to prevent barbarities being practiced on the Greeks by the Turks, is it not just and proper that we, the neighbors of a civilized community, should cry out in horror against a war which is characterized by a barbarity to which the Turks never approached. The American people have declared their sympathy with classic Greece, with Poland, with Hungary, with Ireland, within a few months past with the little island of Crete—far away in the Mediterranean, with a population about the size of one of the wards of this city—in one word with every people on this Continent and in Europe struggling against despotism. And now you are asked to declare your sympathy with the Cubans. I cannot be mistaken when I answer that the heart of the American people beats in unison with the patriots of Cuba, and the voices of the American people will be raised in one grand chorus of support for the cause of Cuban liberty and independence. It is, on such occasions as the present, easy to deal in general principles of devotion to liberty, and in good round phrase speak of the great ideas involved in contests similar to that now being waged in Cuba; but my purpose looks to something more. I propose to examine what our duty as a nation is at the present moment; what are our rights under the laws of nations, and then to say to the world in the language of President Adams, in 1826, to Congress, "that the United states must still, as heretofore, take counsel from their duties rather than their fears. (Cheers.) In order to show the deep interest the United States have taken in Cuba it is only necessary to refer to our diplomatic history. It will be seen that we have assumed that the right of self-protection authorized us to pursue a policy in respect to this island which we would scarcely presume to enforce in relation to any other territory. We have uniformly held the doctrine that no power but Spain should hold the island—a doctrine which is an exception to our general policy, which has been that every nation has a right to dispose of its territories as best may suit its interests. Let us refer to some facts in our history. Mr. Adams, writing in 1823, as Secretary of State under Mr. Monroe, says:—"The transfer of Cuba to Great Britain would be an event unpropitious to the interests of this Union. The question, both of our right and our power to prevent it, if necessary, by force, already obtrudes itself upon our councils; and the administration is called upon, in the performances of its duties to the nation, at least to use all the means within its competency to guard against and forefend it." (Cheers.) In all the European wars the belligerents have resorted to this country of late years for arms and other supplies. The question now presented to us is, simply, will we sell to the oppressor and refuse to sell to the oppressed? If such should be the policy of any administration, I am satisfied it would soon be overwhelmed with the indignation of the American people. While we are hesitating as to what course we should pursue the news reaches us that England is about to give belligerent rights to the Cubans, and that Mexico has already granted them. We have no authentic information; but supposing the news to be true, what cause of offence could such recognition give to Spain or any other nation? I take, for instance, the case of the Fenian invasion of Canada, and the attempted uprising in Ireland within the past few years. Suppose the friends of Irish liberty should hold for six months the interior of Ireland against the British government, would any one complain if the revolutionists should be recognized as belligerents by us or any other power? The policy of England at the present time is to put a stop to this war in Cuba, as it is constantly exposing her to demands by the United States. For every violation of our flag on British waters in the West Indies we have a right to look to Great Britain in the first place for any damage done American commerce, and she is compelled to look to Spain for indemnity. The case of the General Armstrong, sank in the harbor of Fayal during the war of 1812, has settled the principle that a neutral must look to the sovereign within whose territories a wrong may be done to him, provided he does not take the law into his own hands. Moreover, England is fully aware that we will not permit a surveillance of the seas in the vicinity of the West India islands. Some years since, when it was intimated that England, France and Spain intended to order fleets to cruise in these waters to intercept vessels carrying contraband goods and men, our government protested against converting those waters into a *mare clausum* and the project was abandoned. Every day this Cuban war continues the prospect of trouble with foreign Powers increases. The government at Washington must act, I will admit, with great caution and circumspection, I am not disposed to add to the difficulties of their position. Yet who will venture to say to them that no paltry policy of prudence and regard to the wishes of any foreign Power will be weighed in the balance by the American people with what is due to our own interests and our own honor as a nation, while we act within the limits of the laws of the civilized world, and known as the law of nations? The people of America recognize the appeal of a people struggling to be free. It comes from the land where rest enshrined, in the old cathedral of Havana, the ashes of Columbus, who gave a new world to Castile and Leon. Americans will not permit it in silence to be dishonored by the thraldom which degrades the great race on which Columbus conferred undying glory. (Cheers.)

Mr. Stewart L. Woodford next addressed the meeting. He said he did not come with the fervor of poetic words to stimulate the feelings of this assemblage for it was in fever heat already—(applause and laughter)—neither to demonstrate the right or justice of the cause, but simply, in brief terms, to enlist their sympathy as men, as Christians, as freemen, upon this cause of liberty, free government and free religon. In October last the telegraph flashed to our city the tidings that an insurrection had broken out in Cuba. It did not appear to be the result of a preconceived plan so much as a spontaneity on the part of those who rose against oppression. Between six and seven months that insurrection had been waging, and now assumed not only the form of an organized rebellion, but that of a *de facto* government. What was the cause of such rebellion? It was simply the cause of justice. Whence came the right of Americans to rebel against England? Just because they had a right to do so. (Cheers.) They had a right to establish a government. From our own history we had come to know that no government had a right to be recognized that failed to support the interests of the citizens. The Spanish government had failed to give freedom to its subjects, having, among other things, denied the freedom of the press. But the Cubans had the rights of humanity in their hands. (Cheers.) The Cuban saw that while he was willing to take his heel off the neck of the slave he also saw that he would remove the heel of the Spaniard from his own. (Cheers.) It was a grand sentiment. With the justice of God upon their side they had advanced rapidly and had succeeded, for the progress of the age had gone too far that any country that struck for liberty should not succeed. (Applause.) But what had Americans to do with it? Our existence as a free people was a temptation to those struggling under burdens to strike for freedom. (Cheers.) It was a grand thing to be freemen, but there was a responsibility with it, for it called on those enjoying it to do everything for those that were struggling to be freemen. (Cheers.) It was certain that Cuba must eventually drop out of the hand of Spain. The question was whether the United States should say it believed in fair play. If we sell powder to Spain we must sell powder to Cuba—(cheers)—only we will sell the Cuban powder a little cheaper and give them longer credit. (Cheers and laughter.) In this struggle there must not only be fair play, but there must be hands off; otherwise the United States must step in; and by the God of Nations she would stand by her. (Cheers.) Mr. Woodford continued his address, referring principally to the various causes which instigated the insurrection, animadverting strongly on the Spanish rule, and asserting that the hour of deliverance was close at hand. His observations were at intervals loudly applauded.

Mr. TOWNSEND, of Staten Island, then addressed the meeting. He was conscious of fidelity to his country, and he was assured that no one present would leave such an enthusiastic assemblage without the conviction that Cuba was safe. His devotion to Cuba was founded upon three principles—humanity, honor and, lastly, our interests. (Cheers). There was no preventive from Cuba being independent. (Applause.) If freedom were refused to the Cubans at this hour let the word liberty be torn from all spelling books. (Loud cheers.) He did not propose to speak the sentiments of the meeting, but he was assured that the Cubans were resolved to have their independence.

Mr. Townsend delivered a very earnest address, which was most cordially received.

Rev. Mr. FRENCH next addressed the meeting and read the following passage from a letter he had received from General N. Quesada, Generalissimo of the Cubans:—"Providence has destined us to be free, and the chains which heretofore enslaved us are soon to be cast away forever. They have even now commenced to snap. It could not be otherwise. The example of the people of your great nation is always before us, and we will follow it. Our success, my dear friends, you, no doubt, know, will depend on the aid which we confidently expect from that noble and great nation" (America).

Ex-Lieutenant Governor STEWART L. WOODFORD then read letters of sympathy from Wendell Phillips and ex-Governor Fenton.

Mr. FELLOWS, Assistant Corporation Counsel, was the next speaker. He alluded in strong terms to the rights of the Cubans, holding that when America was struggling for independence Spain appreciated her efforts to gain her freedom, and that now, following the example taught by Spain, America should be among the foremost to recognize Cuba.

During the evening the following speakers addressed an audience of nearly 2,000 persons outside the building:—Mr. Algernon Sullivan, Rev. Mr. French, Captain McClellan, Mr. Levy, Mr. McMaster and others.

Mr. SULLIVAN, in a few remarks, brought the meeting in the Cooper Institute to a successive close.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

Reported Departure of an Expedition for Cuba.

It was rumored yesterday that an expedition, consisting of about 300 armed men, left for Cuba on Monday night from one of the docks on the Jersey shore. In order not to be in need of the good things of this world the report further adds that a carefully selected stock of provisions sufficient to last for two months was taken on board. Marshal Barlow, it is said, telegraphed to the Secretary of State, but had not received any answer whatever. Whether the vision of some spectator from the "flats" was rendered dim by ordinary circumstances has not transpired, but it is certain if any vessel left New Jersey shore its occupants were as sly as they were wise in attending to the inner man. At last accounts the floating arsenal had not been sighted at Sandy Hook.

CENSORSHIP OF THE TELEGRAPH IN HAVANA.

Sensation Rumors of the Havana Press.

ASSOCIATED PRESS OFFICE,
NEW YORK, May 4, 1869.

On the 26th ult. the agent of the Associated Press at Havana filed a message for New York, of which the following is a copy:—

General Dulce personally went to Fort Cabanas, released the prisoner Cespedes and delivered a speech to the volunteers. The *Voz de Cuba* says that the Gerona, commanded by Admiral Malcampo, has gone to Vera Cruz, owing to the report of the fitting out of an expedition of filibusters. The Spanish war vessels Pizarro and Isabel are cruising off the Mexican coast. Mexico openly favors filibustering, and it is probable that Malcampo will make an example. The *Diario* announces the disappearance of the insurgents between Nuevitas and Puerto Principe.

[This message was returned to the sender by the Telegraph Company with the endorsement:—"There is not a word of truth in this and it cannot be transmitted." It will be seen that the authority for the main part of the above despatch was the Havana newspapers themselves; consequently it seems that the government allows the journals in Cuba to publish news in their leading articles (said articles having previously passed the rigid censorship) and refuse to allow the same to be forwarded per cable to New York, giving as a reason that they are untrue.]

INTERESTING NEWS FROM CUBA.

Rumors of Expeditions—Mexico Threatened—Cargo of the Mary Lowell—News from the Interior—Dissatisfaction of the Catalans.

HAVANA, April 27, 1869.

For the past two days the city has been full of rumors regarding an expedition said to have landed in the vicinity of Cape Corrientes, in the southwestern part of the island. As the hours passed and nothing was developed it began to be understood that these rumors were but canards, and the resultant excitement soon died out.

It is now generally understood that the Gerona has gone to Mexico to look after an expedition said to be fitting out there. The *Voz de Cuba* says there is no truth in the various reports in circulation, and that the Gerona has gone to join the Ferdinand el Catolico and the Pizarro, now in Mexican waters. The former were sent upon the report of an expedition being fitted out there, and it is supposed that more definite information had caused the departure of the flagship. The paper mentioned assumes quite a bellicose attitude toward President Juarez, and intimates that the iron-clad Victoria will soon be here; that she is equal to any vessel afloat, and upon the order of the Captain General will proceed to batter down the San Juan de Ulloa and do many and divers other things, to the great honor and glory of Spain and corresponding detriment of the descendants of Montezuma. The *Voz de Cuba* is forgetful of the recent and somewhat unprofitable experiment of France in relation to Mexico and the admitted fact that she is beyond punishment.

The same paper gives a list of the essential part of the cargo of the Mary Lowell. It is as follows:—940 Remington carbines, with bayonets; 1,700 percussion carbines, 170 packages cavalry carbines (eight shots), 40 Spencer carbines, three rifled steel cannons (Parrotts), 5 gun carriages, with appendages; 13 cases artillery ammunition, 130 revolvers, 100 machetes, 50 boarding sabres, 1 campaign forge, 1,000 grenades, 80 solid balls, 2,750 leather straps, 2,700 boxes cartridges, 300,000 charges Remington, Spencer and Minie rifles; 94 packages spurs; 5,000 quick matches, 80 boxes percussion caps, 150 saddles, 2,500 bayonet scabbards, 7 jars cannon powder, 31 bags grain salt and a great variety of other small articles, such as hatchets, pikes, &c., forming 6,000 packages, and "all intended for use against good Spaniards."

The trial for disloyalty of Señors Rafael Lunza, Mendivil and Cigarroa, in connection with the Villa Nueva theatre affair, terminated on Sunday last. The court was composed of six captains of the army and the Mayor de Plaza. The Fiscal, Señor Dole, opened the proceedings with a luminous report, which concluded by demanding the death penalty against Lunza, four years' imprisonment of Mendivil and the discharge of Cigarroa. Señor Sotomayer acted as counsel for Lunza, and an engineer officer undertook the defence of Mendivil. The former made a very clear and able defence, and contended that there were not the necessary proofs to warrant the death penalty. The sentence of the court has not transpired, though it is generally reported that against Lunza was confirmed. It will be recollected that Lunza was the editor of a paper called the *Convencion Republicana* during the short reign of the "free press," following Dulce's arrival.

The following are the estimates of expenditure for May ensuing:—War, $965,031; navy, $313,164; gobernacion, $197,416; finance, $845,596; law and equity, $776,490; public works, $42,746; other items, $131,145. Total, $2,571,488.

Our news from the seat of insurrection continues meagre. The steamers Morsella and Alicante returned here on Monday after landing at Nuevitas the battalion of Catalan volunteers. They were to leave immediately for San Miguel, where the battalion of colored chasseurs were awaiting them. The numerous bands of insurgents of Camaguey had abandoned the line which they occupied between Neuvitas and Puerto Principe. The whole road seemed clear, as the recent successful march of Lesca from one point to the other would indicate. Advices through Spanish sources state that a column of infantry left on the 16th to repair the road to Principe. It consisted of 3,000 troops, with six pieces of artillery, a company of sappers, 200 horses, two companies of colored mobilized volunteers, one of the fire brigade and 800 pardoned insurrects, all under command of Brigadier Ferrer. It was expected that the railroad communication would be reestablished in seven days.

Dates from Cienfuegos are to the 25th. Three days previous the insurgent chief Bouyon, with 400 men, came to the Turquino woods, between Carthagena and Lechuzo. A small force of troops scared them away, capturing fourteen horses and a medicine chest. The chief Junco had been arrested in his house, but Casanova and Villamil were yet at large. General Pelaez had returned from Trinidad, which place he left on the 21st.

Santi Espiritu dates are to the 23d. Enrique La del Rey, the newly appointed Governor, had arrived, and on the 21st his predecessor, Mechtavilla, relinquished the command. On the same day the former issued a conciliatory address to the inhabitants, soldiers and volunteers. The retiring Governor was entertained at a farewell banquet.

Trinidad dates to the 25th contain nothing of importance. Some forces arrived on that day from Colon. They brought a number of prisoners who had presented themselves.

Advices from Cruces, in the jurisdiction of Sagua, state that some insurgent bands had reappeared there, and that a portion of the railroad near Camarones had been cut and another portion burned.

It has transpired here that a captain of the Catalan volunteers, recently arrived, refused to go with his men to the field, and he is now under arrest and will be sent back to Spain. He had a violent altercation with the colonel, Tejada, which it is said did much to bring on the vertigo, with which the latter was attacked. The captain complained that the volunteers were assured that they were to fight, not against republican ideas, but for the integrity of Spain, and on their arrival here they found that all was despotism and against liberal institutions.

The United States flagship Contoocook, Rear Admiral Hoff, returned here yesterday from New Orleans, and it is anticipated will now remain here.

Aggravating Fines on American Vessels.

MATANZAS, April 22, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Permit me to make known through your columns the manner in which we are subjected to many petty annoyances by the Spanish government, besides those incidental troubles we always have in dealing with Spaniards. My case is this:—I came here from Charleston, S. C., in ballast, having my papers duly signed and sealed by the Spanish Consul at Charleston in the legal way, as far as it was possible for me to know. I arrived here and my papers were delivered to the interpreter, who pronounced them all right; but when I came to clear I was told that I was fined $100, because the Spanish Consul had failed to sign one of my manifests, although he had filled it out and had signed all the rest, and his name was printed on that one, which they say here is an illegal form by Spanish law, and on that ground have detained me three days and compelled me to pay the before mentioned fine. I am not alone. Almost every American vessel in port has been fined for some trivial thing that was impossible for the captain to know. Captain Staner, of the brig Fidelia, from New York, was fined $100 because the Spanish Consul's clerk had signed his papers instead of the Consul himself. Of course the captain could know nothing about it. One copy of the manifest is always sealed and stamped by the Spanish Consul, and we are fined, in short, for any mistake he may make. It has become a regular thing to fine American vessels, and I know of no way to avoid it if we come here. Vessels have been fined here for a single misspelt word and for ungrammatical construction of the language. Many are fined because there is not an oath at the bottom of their manifest swearing that the above is the whole cargo or ballast on board, when the very first thing we do in clearing from our Custom House is to subscribe to the oath on the back that the within account is a true account of all merchandise on board. Some vessels are fined for one thing one time, something else next and both manifests the same in every respect; and there is no way to get clear of it. I have been fined three times at this port within a little more than a year. Once for not having the weight of empty hogsheads carried in kilogrammes on my manifest, and once because the broker's place of business was printed on top of my manifest. That is probably a fair example of how we are treated. And what aggravates us more is that English vessels are very seldom fined, although their papers are the same as ours. At present it is much worse than ever before. If we go to inquire about it we are treated with hautiness and contempt by the Spanish officers, and we have no appeal but to the people through your paper. Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State, replied to Mr. Hull, Consul here, when he made a remonstrance, that if our people would trade at the Island of Cuba they must submit to what the Spaniards required. So we have reason to believe that our rights are virtually abandoned by our government. There were thirteen fines collected of American vessels yesterday. There is very seldom anything said about fines until the vessel is ready to go and the captain wants his papers, and we then have to pay what they demand or subject our owners to a greater loss by the detention of the vessel. Mr. Hull, the resident Consul of this place, is at Havana acting Consul General at present, so we have literally no Consul here. An old merchant named Blanchard is acting Consul *protem.* I shall have several captains sign this who are known to the Shipmasters' Association at New York, and also well known to your merchants. I think I have in no way overdrawn in what I have said, and not told the whole. I am, with respect,

E. T. HARKING, schooner Dexter Washburn.

James Stuart, brig Hony; J. W. Comery, brig M. C. Comery; G. M. Rhoades, bark G. W. Horton; A. Packard, bark Pleiades; G. W. Morton, brig Sportsman; Northern Sleeper, brig Essex; Alfred Bennett, brig Rio Grande; N. Guptill, brig Thomas Owen; R. R. Robinson, bark Acocacia, fined five times in one year; J. E. Bradley, brig Geo. S. Berry; P. A. Pierce, schooner Island Belle; J. Briggs, brig H. C. Brooks; E. P. Littlefield, brig Nellie Chisord; C. A. Wheeler, bark La Cignina.

THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

BARK CORDELIA, GALVESTON, April 24, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

I write you this to inform you that the Spanish war ships, even in British waters, have the audacity to fire at us and bring us to, and also to search our vessel, papers and crew. The bark Cordelia, of New London, under my command, was hove to and searched on the 3d inst., Styrup Key bearing east by south, per chart, three miles distant. Very respectfully, JOHN C. WELLS,

Master of the American bark Cordelia, of New London.

WASHINGTON.

Instructions to Mr. Motley on the Alabama Claims Question.

SUMNER'S SPEECH, THE ULTIMATUM.

Negotiations for a Settlement Not to be Hurried.

LAST RECEPTION OF MRS. GRANT.

A Quaker Ring Forming Among Applicants for Indian Agencies.

GENERAL GRANT'S LAST YEAR'S INCOME.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1869.

The Cuban Envoy.

In my despatch of last evening about Cuban matters, through a mistake, I represented Mr. Ruiz as the agent of the Cubans accredited to this government. Mr. Ruiz at present is the secretary of Mr. Morales Lemus, who is, in fact, the Cuban agent in this country. The despatches from Cespedes alluded to in my despatch were sent to Mr. Lemus and not to Mr. Ruiz.

The Quaker Indian Policy—A Thrifty Friend—A Quaker Ring Looming Up.

There seems to be a general impression that the appointment of Quakers as Indian agents is an entirely new thing, whereas the fact is that the plan was tried under President Lincoln with no very successful result. In the early part of his administration "Ole Abe" commissioned an Indiana Quaker to look after the "Lo" family, located west of Arkansas. This honest Quaker, whom I will designate as Friend William, is said to have proved a very expensive article. On a salary of two thousand dollars per annum he accumulated, it is alleged, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in a short time, and was able to pay off a large indebtedness that weighed him down when he accepted the office of Indian Superintendent. In fact, it is said he was completely bankrupt when he commenced his official career, but now has lots of greenbacks invested in the stock of a national bank out West, and is altogether in a highly flourishing condition. But Friend William, it seems, was not satisfied with his former success, and therefore managed, curiously enough, to have the Quaker delegation that recently waited upon President Grant present his name for the same old position, as a man eminently qualified and suitable in all respects. The delegation for a long time insisted upon "William's" appointment, but were finally compelled to give up, on being told that the Senate would not confirm him. So much for the first experiment of Quaker-Indian management. This is not cited in disparagement of the Friends, but to show that the idea is not new, and that the sect is very likely to be imposed upon by cunning men who know how to take advantage of the foibles of the Quakers. It is stated that some sharp fellows have actually humbugged the Quakers already, and have laid all their plans for a profitable Quaker ring. President Grant and Secretary Fox will have to keep a sharp lookout for these fellows.

Departure of General Lee.

General Lee, left here this morning at eleven o'clock on the boat for Alexandria, where he intends stopping for a short time to visit his relatives and friends. He was accompanied to the boat by his relatives, Mrs. Commodore Kennon and her son. Though trying to avoid publicity, he was recognized by many persons at the wharf, who stood gazing at him until the boat moved off. General Lee himself paid no attention to the curious crowd, but stood with his arms folded looking in the direction of his old home, Arlington. The General is looking well. He is as straight and soldier-like in his bearing as ever, and, though his hair and beard show signs of age, his step is firm and elastic. He has evidently abandoned politics and public affairs generally, and proposes to devote himself wholly to the interests of Washington College, over which he presides, and to the internal improvements of Virginia. On arriving at Alexandria a large number of citizens paid him their respects.

President Grant's Income.

Among the income tax returns published here to-day occurs the following:—"U. S. Grant, $566."

Mrs. Grant's Reception.

Mrs. Grant's reception to-day, probably the last of the season, was attended by a large number of ladies and gentlemen. Mrs. Grant was elegantly dressed in a corn-colored silk, with black lace trimmings. She wore coral ornaments. She was supported by Mrs. James Paul, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Judge Dent and Mrs. General Augur. The President attended the reception after the close of Cabinet meeting.

Dr. Brink and the Sale of Mexican Territory.

It is ascertained from authoritative sources that so much of the despatches recently brought here from Minister Rosecrans by Consul Brink as related to the sale of a portion of the Mexican territory to the United States is without the color of countenance or authority from the Mexican government. Dr. Brink, it appears, is not and has not been friendly to the Juarez government. On the contrary, he has been engaged in giving what aid and comfort he could to the enemies of that government. Our government is informed that the sale of any portion of Mexican territory would be very distasteful to the people of that country. Nothing would serve so well to bring the Juarez government into contempt, and to make it unpopular with the people, as an attempt to raise money by selling a portion of the territory. On this ground it would be exceedingly impolitic for Juarez to make any overtures of the kind referred to by Dr. Brink. The State Department and the President, being aware of these facts, gave Dr. Brink no encouragement whatever. He had nothing to show that the Juarez government had authorized him to make any proposals to our government for the purchase of Sonora, or any other part of Mexico. The proposition came from certain factions in Mexico unfriendly to Juarez, with a view, it is believed, of creating trouble with his administration, and Dr. Brink was made their agent. President Grant is known to be friendly to Juarez and is anxious to see his administration succeed. He is not disposed, therefore, to do anything that would embarrass him either at home or abroad. Dr. Brink's mission, so far as the sale of Mexican territory is concerned, was a signal failure.

Minister Motley to Have Written Instructions.

Mr. Motley is expected to return here in about a week. In the meantime his instructions are being prepared at the State Department, and will be ready for him on his return. It is ascertained from the proper source that the story sent out semi-officially by the Associated Press that Mr. Motley was to be sent away without any instructions is incorrect. Our new Minister to England will of course have large discretion allowed him, but he will have specific written instructions by which his official conduct in Great Britain will be guided. It is not the custom of the government to send a minister to a foreign court without instructions, even under ordinary circumstances. In view of our peculiar relations with Great Britain it is of course more important than usual that our Minister there should be specially instructed by his government. The precise nature of Mr. Motley's instructions will not be made known, but the government officials make no secret of the fact that they are based on the views set forth in Mr. Sumner's speech. That seems to be settled upon as the American ultimatum. As to the time of opening negotiations, the manner of doing it, &c., Mr. Motley is to use his own judgment. There is to be no particular hurry about it. The government here seems to have an idea that there is nothing to be lost on our side by delay. The British government, it is thought, will grow mellow towards us on the subject of the Alabama claims as it grows old. It is confidently expected by the administration that between this and Christmas there will be a great reaction in the public sentiment of Great Britain, and that the views of the British Ministry will undergo considerable change relative to the Alabama claims. Mr. Motley is expected to press our claims upon the British government; but he will seek the most favorable occasions upon which to act.

The Operations of the Eight Hour Law.

The subject of the eight hour law in connection with the circular of the Secretary of the Navy to the commandants of navy yards and naval stations, was brought up in Cabinet meeting recently by the President. It appears that Senator Wilson not only sent the President a copy of his letter on the question addressed to Secretary of War Rawlins, but had called upon him personally about the matter. The President, it is stated, expressed a desire to have the law construed favorably to the workingmen, if possible. When he mentioned the matter at the Cabinet meeting both the Secretary of the Navy and the Attorney General called his attention to the fact that Congress, in passing the Eight Hour law, had failed to repeal a previous act providing that the pay of government employés in navy yards and workshops should not exceed that paid by private establishments of the same character. The President did not seem to have been aware of the existence of the old law, and when it was pointed out to him he coincided with the action of Secretary Borie. It is not thought that any action looking to a rescinding of the order now in force relative to the Eight Hour law will be taken until the meeting of Congress.

The Woman Suffrage Question.

The strong minded women of Washington are not to be deterred from making efforts to have their right to vote recognized. Twice already, small groups of them went to registration officers and asked to have their names put down as voters, and twice were they refused. To-day another party, consisting of Miss Lydia S. Hall, Miss Eliza H. Stanton and Mrs. C. M. Christian, went to the Fourth ward registration office and put in a written application. The chairman of the Board of Registration, Colonel Cooke, received the document, and told the ladies he would send each of them a written answer, whereupon they left, accompanied by Professor Wilcox and Messrs. J. H. Crane and R. L. Dugdale. The ladies in thus persistently endeavoring to get registered have no idea that they will accomplish speedy success, but hope by this means to encourage other females all over the country to go and do likewise, and thus show the public that there are thousands of women who want to be granted the right to vote.

Statement of Indian Agent Wright.

John W. Wright has replied to the statements recently published relative to alleged frauds practised by him as agent upon the Cherokee and other Indians in the matter of bounty payments. He says, among other things, drafts were issued by the government in the name of the soldiers, and he could not use a dollar without their endorsement; that those who have been allowed bounty did not complain, and that all the present rumors about frauds are the work of agents or members of the "Indian ring." H. D. Reese, chairman of the Cherokee delegation who aided in making out the claims of the Indian soldiers, endorses the truth of Wright's statement.

The May Dancing Festival.

The Marini May Festival Dance came off at the National theatre last evening and proved a great success. This May festival is quite an event every year in Washington, being participated in by the children of the highest families, and patronized by the *crème de la crème* of the capital. Among those who attended last night were Mrs. Grant, her sprightly little daughter Nellie; Mrs. Paul; of Philadelphia; General and Mrs. Dent, Generals Porter and Babcock, Chevalier Cerrutti, the Italian Minister; Ad Interim Thomas, ex-Secretary McCulloch and General Michler. The crowning of the May Queen formed the most interesting part of the entertainment. This took place about nine o'clock, opening with a grand illusion scene, behind which were ranged over one hundred and fifty beautiful little girls, arrayed in the prettiest costumes. Miss Katie Burrows was chosen as the May Queen, Miss Annie Eastman as crown bearer and Miss Lillie Kendall as coronator. In placing the crown upon the youthful queen Miss Kendall said:—

With this gay throng of blooming youth,
(The kin of innocence and truth,)
While eyes and smiles illume the scene,
We come in joy and crown our queen.
And now, dear sovereign, may you wear
This wreath of flowers, rich, beauteous, rare;
It has no thorns to wound thy head,
But perfume o'er thy realms will spread.

To this Queen Burrows replied:—

Thanks, friends, for this your mark of love;
I trust that I shall never prove
Unworthy of the coronet
Which you upon my head have set.
Now let us with one tenderness
And watchful care, and let our law
Be that which hearts together draw.

After this ceremony several fashionable dances were executed, and the entertainment was kept up till a late hour.

The Dyer Court Martial.

The Dyer Court of Inquiry is still in secret session, making up their finding, which it is expected will be reached and sent to the Secretary of War. Major General George H. Thomas, president of the court, will leave here for California on Thursday, accompanied by Colonel Willard and other members of his staff.

Internal Revenue Supervisor for Illinois.

Ira A. Bloomfield has been appointed Supervisor of Internal Revenue for the district of Illinois, vice John Olney.

Changes in the Patent Office.

The new Commissioner of Patents has made several changes of examiners, and retains James S. Grinnell as chief clerk. There being twenty-one different rooms, each with its sub-chief, the Commissioner is maturing a plan to secure more uniformity of working and to dispense with some of the present useless forms in order, to facilitate the procuring of patents.

Secretary of Idaho Territory.

The President has appointed E. J. Curtis Secretary of Idaho Territory, vice J. R. Howlett, superseded.

Changes in the Internal Revenue Bureau.

All the prominent officials of the Internal Revenue Bureau who were immediately connected with the Commissioner's Office during the administration of Mr. Rollins, with the exception of Deputy Commissioner Parnell, have been removed. Several appointments of assessors and collectors will probably be made in the course of a few days.

Personal.

Governor Wells, of Virginia, was among the callers at the Executive Mansion to-day, before the meeting of the Cabinet, and had a brief interview with the President on political subjects appertaining to that State. He returned to Richmond to-night.

Colonel J. A. Martin, Assistant Adjutant General, formerly at army headquarters, and more recently aid to Secretary Rawlins, left Washington to-day for the West, where he is assigned to duty.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

Reports from Our Pacific Squadron—Investigation of the Insult to the American Flag and Imprisonment of Our Consul at Buenaventura, Colombia—Naval Orders.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4, 1869.

Naval official advices from Admiral Turner, commanding the South Pacific squadron, dated Valparaiso, April 2, reports the visit of the Tuscarora to Buenaventura to investigate the insult to our consular flag and imprisonment of our Consul, Mr. James M. Eder. The Tuscarora arrived off Buenaventura, Colombia, in the early part of March and took immediate measures to ascertain the truth and condition of the case. Mr. Eder had been released from imprisonment and was again in occupation of his office, anticipating no further molestation. The difficulty in which he was involved was this:—Having, in December last, some private business to attend to in Palmyra, about seventy-six miles from Buenaventura, as he was proceeding there an attempt was made to assassinate him in the streets by a party who had previously stolen some articles from the Consul; and during the fracas Mr. Eder struck the man a blow causing him to fall and strike his head against the stones, from the effects of which he soon died. Mr. Eder was arrested while surrounded by a violent populace and imprisoned, but was shortly afterwards released and the case was dismissed. On New Year's day, while he was receiving his friends, the consular flag was torn down, dragged through the streets, stamped upon and ultimately torn to pieces. The mob sustained the outrage and defied the authorities. The Superior Court reversed the decision of the circuit judge in Palmyra, and Mr. Eder had to undergo a jury trial. On account of ill health he was not imprisoned, and the case was again dismissed. Previous to the arrival of the Tuscarora he had communicated all the facts to Mr. Sullivan, United States Minister at Bogota, and the whole matter was in course of adjustment. Assurances had been given by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs that compensation should be made for the insult to the flag. Under these circumstances the commander of the Tuscarora decided to make no demand for redress, but to leave the matter in the hands of the United States Minister, to be settled in the customary manner. The prominent men and officials of Palmyra and of the surrounding country greatly deplored the outrage on the flag, and expressed much sympathy for the Consul. The Tuscarora left Buenaventura on the 4th of March and reached Callao on the 11th.

Lieutenant Commander Chester Hatfield has been ordered to the Naval Academy on the 1st of October next. Assistant Paymaster George W. Long has been ordered to the Sangus. First Assistant Engineer Henry L. Snyder has been detached from the Swatara and placed on waiting orders.

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