

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

DIFFICULTY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE.—A serious misunderstanding has taken place between M. Poussin, the French Minister, and the Cabinet at Washington, which seems to have commenced as long ago as February last, and originated in claims of a Frenchman named Porte, for alleged damages on goods seized in Mexico during the late war, which was disallowed by the American Government, the goods having been restored to their owner. After some sharp correspondence, this subject was dropped.

The New York *Courier & Enquirer*—which appears to have been officially informed—gives the following full and interesting history of the origin and circumstances of a new subject of quarrel with the French Minister, which terminated in the withdrawal of official communication with M. Poussin.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The *Republic* of this morning contains a full and official explanation of the difficulty with the French Minister, M. Poussin. The *Republic* sees no reason to fear a rupture with France.

The following is the letter from the French Minister, upon receiving which, the President resolved to submit the entire correspondence to the French Government, and suspend all communication with M. Poussin:—

"LEGATION OF FRANCE,
Washington, May 30, 1849."

"SIR,—I received on the 28th of May the note which you did me the honor to address to me on the same day, in answer to mine, calling on the Government of the United States to disavow the conduct of Commander Carpenter, of the American steamship *Iris*, towards the French ship *Eugene*, of Havre, which had run upon the bank of Riso, near the anchorage of Anton Lizardo. The explanations given by Commander Carpenter are not of a nature, Mr. Secretary of State, such as to dispel the discontent which his proceedings caused to my Government; he considered, as he says, and still considers, that the case was one of salvage; that the rights acquired by him as the savior of the vessel saved, empowered him to keep possession of her until his extravagant pretensions were fully satisfied; but his opinions have little interest in our eyes when we have occasion to condemn his conduct. I called on the Cabinet at Washington, Mr. Secretary of State, in the name of the French Government, to address a severe reproof to that officer of the American Navy, in order that the error which he has committed in a point involving the dignity of your National Marine, might not be repeated hereafter. From your answer, Mr. Secretary of State, I am unfortunately induced to believe, that your Government subscribed to the strange doctrines professed by Commander Carpenter, of the steamship *Iris*, and I have only to protest in the name of my Government against these doctrines.

"I have the honor to be, with distinguished consideration, your most obedient servant.

"GUILLAUME TELL POUSSIN.

John J. M. Clayton."

THE EMPIRE OF HAYTI.—The only information we have in respect to the transition of Hayti from a Republic to an Empire, is derived from the official journal, *Le Moniteur Haitien*. That paper of the 1st, in its official columns, says that, for many weeks previous to the 24th of August, the necessity, for the consolidation of public order, of proclaiming the empire, had been a topic of remark and general acquiescence. On the 24th of August, a petition was presented to the Chamber of Representatives, signed numerously by all classes, civil and military, demanding that the President, Faustin Soulouque, should be proclaimed Emperor of Hayti.

The desire of the people was also, on the same day, manifested by public placards everywhere conspicuously exhibited, inscribed "*Vox populi, Vox Dei!* Faustin Soulouque, Emperor of Hayti."

The Chamber responded to the demand on the 25th, by the enactment of a law conferring on the President of Hayti, in consideration of his distinguished public services, the title and dignity of Emperor.—The Senate accorded their concurrence on the following day.

The intervening night passed in tranquillity. On the morning of the 26th the streets of Port au Prince were hung with the national colors wreathed with palms and garlands, the troops were under arms, and the whole population assembled to witness the pageant of the coronation.

This ceremony was performed in the "Imperial palace," in presence of the Chambers, of all the high Officers of State and of the Army and Navy, and amid salvos of cannon from the forts and vessels of war, and the acclamations of the people.

The President of the Senate, M. Larochel, put the crown upon the head of the chief, and attached to his breast a cross of gold sparkling with precious stones. The Empress he decorated with a chain of exquisite richness.

The Emperor concluded his speech, in acknowledgment of the investiture, with the extraordinary imperial sentiment, "*Vive la Liberté! Vive l'Egalité!*"

Soulouque was proclaimed under the title of Faustin I., Emperor of Hayti, one and indivisible.—A list of the nobility, dukes, lords, barons, &c., to be named in a few days.

The imperial party, with a superb escort and retinue, then repaired to the church, to attend the celebration of the "*Te Deum*."—[N. York Journal of Commerce.

Italian Exiles.

By the arrival at this port of the Italian brig *Arsace*, Capt. Schiaffino, on Friday night, we received papers from Genoa and other parts of Piedmont. Last Saturday we paid a visit to the vessel, and were spectators of a most painful scene. We found on board a score of Italian young men, all exiles and fugitives from unhappy Italy, and every one in the most destitute situation. These gallant youths be-

long to the most respectable families of Lombardy, and during two years of revolution and war, they fought in all the battles for the independence of their fatherland. Betrayed in Lombardy, they passed into Piedmont, where they were sold like lambs to Austrian ferocity, by the present despot of Sardinia.

Driven away from the plains of Lomellina, they went to Genoa, and desirous to maintain Italian nationality under Gen. Avezzana, they stood bravely on the barricades against an imposing army. Rome being the only sanctuary for Italian freedom, they followed the hero of Genoa, and for three whole months they kept off of the walls of the eternal city the Republican army of Republican France! Disbanded by Oudinot, and unable to join Garibaldi's legions, after the most dangerous and fatiguing marches in the Appennines, always followed like beasts by Austrian assassins, they returned to Genoa, and while that friendly population offered them shelter and every assistance, the government commanded them to leave Piedmontese territory, and threatened to give them up to Radetzky if they remained any longer in that kingdom. Captain Schiaffino kindly offered to take them to the New World, and now they are here without clothing and without any means to provide for the most urgent wants of life. The Italians resident here are trying to assist their brethren as much as lies in their power, but we must recollect that they are not numerous, and the greatest part of them belong to the noble but unfortunate family of political exiles.—N. Y. Tribune.

The Fair at Syracuse.

The New-York State Fair at Syracuse, is said to be a most magnificent exhibition of skill in mechanics and agriculture. The articles exhibited surpass those of any previous fair. The cattle and horses on exhibition are said to have never been surpassed. The following account of the proceedings of the first day, was communicated by telegraph to the New-York papers:

"The great agricultural fair commenced this morning, and already 50,000 of the yeomen of the State are gathered on the grounds. The hotels are full, and it is impossible to get a place to sit. Among the visitors we notice Hon. Millard Fillmore, Gen. Wool, Hon. Mr. Greig, G. A. Granger, and others. Military and fire companies are arriving from all parts of the State, and every train adds more to the crowd.

The arrival of stock and farming implements, &c., is very large, and bids fair to exceed any other "State Fair."

The buildings on the ground are tastefully decorated, and are also spacious. "Flora's Hall" is the centre of attraction. The ladies of Syracuse have displayed great taste in its decoration.

The Hon. Thomas Corwin of Ohio will arrive here to-day. It is stated that Gen. Scott and Martin Van Buren will not visit the fair. Four more trains of stock have just arrived.

Mechanics' Hall.—There is a fine display in this hall from all parts of the State, but it is impossible to give an account of the numerous articles.

Dairy Hall.—In this department butter and cheese are exhibited from every county in the State, except three.

Manufacturers' Hall.—This part of the fair is extensively visited. It contains all kinds of manufacturing implements. In this department fire engines Nos. 5 and 3, of Utica, are placed for inspection.

The Hon. Henry Clay visited the fair this afternoon, and passed through it twice. He was received by great crowds. To the ladies he made some eloquent remarks. He was accompanied by Vice President Fillmore, Gen. Wool and others.

The number of strangers is estimated at 100,000.

The military at Camp Onondaga are to be reviewed by Gen. Wool and staff to-morrow.

The firemen's review will come off to-morrow at 3 P. M.

Remarkable Providence.

About the middle of July, and while the cholera was raging in New-York, and after the President had issued his call upon the people, to observe a day of fasting, with reference to the cholera, the editor of one of the blasphemous newspapers of that city wrote an article, full of profanity, ridiculing the idea of fasting for such a purpose. The following sentences are a specimen of the style of the article:

"How much better it would be, if every human being would mind his own temporal

concerns, keep his stomach well supplied with beef and potatoes, preserve a clear conscience, live honestly, deal justly, and love his wife and children, instead of troubling himself concerning the fiat of Heaven, and seeking to change the very order of nature."

"Vain mortal man puts on too large a pair of breeches altogether, when he presumes to address the Ruler of the Universe."

"Let him humble himself, if he pleases, in sackcloth and ashes, but never think of going without his dinner, so long as he has a shilling in his pocket. Our Heavenly Father never wishes any son of Adam to go without his bread and butter, or pork and beans."

Having penned such an article, the editor put it in process of publication, and before it came under the eye of his readers, he was himself a corpse—a victim of the cholera.

RELIGION IN CALIFORNIA.—In every large town of California there are one or more places of public worship. In San Francisco there are eight; one each for Baptists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Swedenborgians, Mormons, Roman Catholics, and Hawaiians. The Methodists also have received a church by an arrival from the "States," which they are erecting, though they have no regular minister.

The Baptists have the credit of organizing the first Protestant Church and building the first place of worship in the Territory. It is as plain a looking church as could be well constructed; is covered with sail cloth instead of shingles, and furnished inside with cotton sheeting instead of laths and plaster. But it is a comfortable place for dry weather, and is very ably supplied by Rev. Mr. Wheeler, formerly of New-York. It occupies a very fine lot, in a central position, and plain as it is, cost \$5,000!

The Episcopal clergyman stands among the highest "Churchmen." His motto is probably the favourite one of many others, "Excelsior," as he has called his organization, "The Reformed Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity." So they go on in California.

THE PEACE CONGRESS.

I send papers containing the fullest account of the Peace Congress at Paris, but must abstain from analysis or comment. It is a fact—it is the fact—that a Peace Congress has been held in Paris; and that fact may, like a tall column, stand alone and proclaim itself. The tone of the French press, on the whole, has been unexceptionable, the conduct of the government has been worthy, and that of the Foreign Minister more than courteous. The intercourse of the American delegates with the English was most fraternal, and was strikingly exhibited at Versailles on Monday, when the English, presided over by Mr. Cobden, entertained the American delegates. It was a matter of a degree of regret that a party of delegates from Boston were not quite in harmony with the majority of the Congress.—The gentlemen from Boston (Eng.) could not accept the idea of the inviolability of human life which is held by perhaps the majority of peace advocates here; and they appeared to hold that the civil governor was warranted in maintaining a standing army as an instrument of civil government.—*Independent*.

PORTUGAL.—A bill has been introduced into the Chamber of Peers, at Lisbon, for abolishing Slavery in all the Portuguese colonies. This would not include Brazil. The Committee on Colonial Affairs have reported favorably on it. "The United States will come last!" The plan is—

"1. That the children of slaves born after the date of the law shall be free from the moment of their birth.

"2. That all slaves who enter any territory or ship of Portugal, from whatever motive, shall be considered free.

"3. All slaves belonging to the government are to be free immediately.

"4. The exportation of slaves, or the transportation from one colony to another, is prohibited.

"5. The presumption of law is to be always in favour of liberty, and no man can be held as a slave unless he is registered, and proved to be such."

The slaves are chiefly in colonies on the coast of Africa and in the Cape Verds—in all about 60,000.

ARRIVAL OF TWO HUNDRED HOLLANDERS.—A few days since, says the *Sun*, we mentioned that a large company of Hollanders un-

der the direction of their pastor, the Rev. Dr. Kline, a noted divine, were on their way to this country. Last week they arrived in the ship *Lelia*, and are as healthy, enterprising and industrious a body of emigrants as we have ever seen. They number two hundred persons, and are all in comfortable circumstances, bringing with them in the aggregate between four and five hundred thousand guilders in gold. About one hundred and sixty of them have already started on their way to Allegany, Ottawa Co., Michigan, where they intend to settle. The remaining forty will remain at Wawarsing, Ulster Co. until Spring, when they will rejoin their brethren.

RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT WAYLAND.—The *Providence Journal* states that Dr. Wayland has announced his resignation of the Presidency of Brown University, to take effect as soon as his successor can be selected. A committee was immediately appointed to confer with him, and to endeavor to persuade him to retain the office which he has filled for more than twenty years, with so much honor and credit to the University.

A FRUITFUL CHURCH.—The Presbyterian Church in Princeton, since its formation, has sent forth 85 ministers of the Gospel from its membership, not including those who have held a temporary connection with the church while members of the Seminary.—*Chronicle*.

THE CALIFORNIA EMIGRATION FEVER has received a fresh impulse from the late news by the *Empire City*. Daily we hear of persons giving up good situations for the purpose of attempting to make a sudden fortune in that distant region. Ninety-seven took passage in the ship *Harriet Rockwell*, which sailed at about noon yesterday for San Francisco. They are the representatives of upwards of 50 different towns in New England. Among this number many are ex Custom-House Officers. Some half dozen other vessels are about ready to sail, and will no doubt leave in the course of a week. The passengers by those vessels will reach San Francisco about the last of March or the first of April, 1850.—[Boston Traveller.

THE CALIFORNIA GOLD REGION.—In the last number of *Silliman's American Journal of Science and the Arts*, the editors mention that they have lately inspected specimens of platinum found among the gold sands of California. They also announce, upon reliable authority, the Rev. Mr. Lyman, that the diamond is also found at some of the placers. He had seen one about the size of a small pea, of a straw yellow color, and having the usual convex faces.

The Astor Place Riot Trials are now advancing with some speed, and disclose what we well knew before, but what is now re-established in a Court of Law, and in presence of the criminal parties. An organized band of loafers, rowdies and criminals was procured by somebody, who threw stones at the police and the military, and who poked them well, as well as broke all the windows in the Theatre, before the military fired back cold lead. There can be no doubt, from the testimony given to-day, that but for the interference of the military, the Astor Place House would have become a smoking ruin, extending the fire probably to all the surrounding buildings.—N. Y. Express.

GREAT CAVERN.—At the Scientific Convention recently held at Boston, a paper, written by Prof. Hersford, was read, in which an account is given of a cave, situated about 12 miles from the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, and supposed to be larger than it. Mr. J. S. Stephenson, of Bowling Green, has penetrated it a distance of five miles, and it then seemed still expanding.

BOSTON, Sept. 17.—The cholera continues to rage at Bangor, and on Friday last 10 deaths occurred. Since the disease first made its appearance there have been 112 deaths.

The Lexington, Ky., Observer of the 12th inst. states that the cholera has again appeared in that city, and that several persons had died of the disease.

The number of deaths from cholera, at Toronto, from its commencement till the 3rd inst., was 421; the number of cases, 700. At Hamilton, up to the 1st instant, there had been 197 cases and 80 deaths.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 19.—By the steamship *Globe* we have late advices from Brazos Santiago. She reports a tremendous gale there on the 13th and 14th of September, during which several vessels dragged their anchors and were driven out to sea. One of them afterwards sunk, and several others were much injured.

We have advices from Havana to the 8th inst., four days later, at which time all was quiet at Cuba. It was reported that the Regiment which had revolted would be decimated as a punishment. The Governor General of Cuba had prohibited the delivery of New Orleans newspapers from the Post-office.

MONTREAL, Sept. 19.—We have just received intelligence of a bloody rencontre between the Tory and Reform parties in Bytown. The Reformers called a public meeting on Monday last, for the purpose of adopting a congratulatory address to his Excellency, the Governor General. The Tories went to the meeting in full force, and finally succeeded in completely breaking it up, and forcing the President to vacate the chair. Both parties were armed, and in the course of the fight seven or eight persons were severely wounded, two of them