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EASTERN.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE
METROPOLITAN PRESS.

Grant and the Canal Project.

NEW YORK, 30.—The *Herald*, Washington special says: Since the return of Grant to the United States none of his friends in Washington have heard anything from him on the subject of the Nicaragua canal, but by mail received from Yokohama at the Navy Department, to-day, came a letter from Ammen, stating that during the General's visit to Japan, when he received letters from Ammen he would commence at once to talk up the subject, and inspired new interest in the project. One of the officers says: "Grant is thoroughly in it, and we catch the enthusiasm from him in the same measure that the great interest in the Pacific canal via Nicaragua. It was generally understood among the officers of the navy in Asiatic waters, that without delay another expedition would be sent to survey the route and make a final report on the one most available. Requests have been made by officers to be ordered home that they may make the necessary additions of sailing to the beginning of the great work. Additional interest is given to the subject by letters from the minister of public works of Nicaragua, who was, during Grant's administration, representative of his country in Washington. He writes that Engineer Aly Menocal, of the government of Nicaragua, found the American people the only ones likely to build a canal across the country, and as our hopes are all concentrated in that work, the President of Nicaragua and all our people are anxious to grant anything that may be required to facilitate the construction of the canal. Grant's willingness to identify himself with the Canal Company was promptly made known to the Nicaraguan government, in advance of its being published in the United States, so that the government might be prepared for any proposition coming from European capitalists. The letter of the minister of public works speaks of the great satisfaction which Grant's acceptance of the proposed trust gives to the people of Nicaragua. Hayes in Illinois.—The Presidential Party at the State Fair.

SPRINGFIELD, Ills., 30.—President Hayes and party arrived this morning at 6 o'clock, and were received at the depot by Governor Culom, and a local reception committee and escorted to the Executive mansion, where they partook of breakfast and rested till 10 o'clock. At that hour the procession, formed of a military escort, Veteran Soldiers Association, colored citizens, members of the State offices, City Council, carriages, and escorted to the State House, where 3,000 children of the public schools were assembled on the east front, and as the party ascended the steps sang the hymn "America." On arriving at the top of the steps Governor Culom called the meeting to order and introduced Hon. J. J. Conning, who delivered a welcome address, followed by Mayor Maguire on the part of the State officers, followed by Mayor Maguire on the part of the city, and Rev. Robt. Nourse on behalf of the school children. President Hayes responded briefly, feelingly alluding to the impression produced by him in this first visit to the home of Lincoln and Douglas. Gen. Sherman, in response to an informal address, in which he said the military of the Government were bound to stand to the cause of the nation, and will ever remain so, an expression which was greeted with cheers. Mrs. Hayes being called for bowed her acknowledgement. The procession then reformed and proceeded to the Fair Grounds, where the President and party took lunch and held an informal reception at the Executive Mansion to-night.

The Manila for Speculations in Stocks. The financial article in the evening's Post says: The speculations in stocks and certain classes of bonds, continue extraordinary both in volume and spirit. This year witnesses such surprising movements in stocks that the market appears incredulous. There is a general expectation while to inquire about stocks is not what are their values, but who are the buyers and what are their purposes. The favorable events which have fostered the craze are: first, resumption of special payments; second, release of the 5 and 6 per cent. bonds into 4 per cent. which converted from fixed to floating rates of \$300,000,000; and third, large crops here and deficient harvest abroad. Nearly \$10,000,000 of the importation for the month of August for importing \$25,000,000 more between now and next January is better than it was on the 1st of August for importing \$25,000,000 by the 1st of October.

No general strike expected in Louis. A Pittsburg special denies the St. Louis report about a general strike of trades unions so far as that locality is concerned. One writer says: I have to-day had length interview with the leading men in various trades unions, and they all say a strike is not dreamt of at present. More men are now at work here in mills than for a number of years, and several of the huge manufacturers which have been idle since 1873 are not only at work, but are crowded with orders. There is talk of a further increase in rates of three and three-tenths cents per pound in view of the immense quantity of business being done.

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