

ripe falls to the ground naturally, and has only to be gathered into sacks or baskets, and is usually sold to the local merchants. When well selected and separated from all extraneous matter, as stones, shucks, etc., and well prepared, it compares favorably with that of other western coffees. Tons of it are carried to Europe and sold there, or returned to the United States as "Old Government Java" or "Mocha coffee."

As to the strength of the northern army, interested parties have greatly deceived us, saying that Hippolyte had but a handful of undisciplined men, and no navy whatever with which to resist the government forces; still, during the same time, Legitime, or his general, Piquant, was unable to capture a single manned or fortified town of the north, or bombard a coast town to its hurt, after Hippolyte took command of the army of the north. However, Hippolyte's forces have been sufficient to carry everything between Cape Haytien and Port-au-Prince, and the fall of that city is known to be a question of but a few days' time. The silence of fugitives is ominous.

Little has been known of Hippolyte's gunboats. He has had three, one of which was lost at sea. The two remaining are the *Jacmel*, once known in New England waters as the *Novelty*, and the other, the *Carondelet*, also once a northern steamer. The ridiculous statement that the latter boat was shattered by the firing of a salute, and that she had sprung a leak in consequence and "had 18 feet of water in the hold," may be appreciated at its value when it is known that she draws but 10 feet of water. Upon the authority of the correspondent above referred to, these two gunboats are strong, well built, well armored and well manned, even if a commodore, noted for his bravery, resigns his command and comes home, just on the eve of a prospective engagement, and says to the contrary. On the 21st inst. these gunboats were at Cape Haytien, all ready to go to Port-au-Prince at a moment's notice, of which all were in expectation, and to enter the outer harbor, there to be ready to open

FIRE OF SHOT AND SHELL

upon the city at the preconcerted signal from the army encamped in the rear of the town, and within sight of the harbor. While it is the opinion of a correspondent that this will be done, and that the city will soon be bombarded from front and rear, and, furthermore, the fleeing merchants and officers of the city warrant such a conclusion, it is hoped that the afflicted city will escape such a needless catastrophe. Beside all this, much is to be feared from the soldiers who, long imbued to bloodshed and the licentiousness of camp life peculiar to Haytien armies, would commit terrible crimes, if let loose upon the city, with its helpless women and children. All these catastrophes would be avoided by the flight of Legitime, which is hopelessly entertained by many, or his peaceful surrender of a

city which he can never successfully defend if once attacked by the now investing armies of Gen. Hippolyte. Doubtless the next steamer will bring news of the surrender.

A letter just received in this city from Hayti corroborates the above, and gives additional news of importance. It comes from a semi-official source, and is positively reliable. It states that the force of Legitime in Port-au-Prince, which was about 5000, has been greatly reduced, both by desertion and sickness, and June 24 it did not exceed 2000 efficient men. New desertions had occurred since the last report, and it is believed that if Gen. Hippolyte would march into Port-au-Prince, without waiting coming recruits, the city would fall without bombardment. But without the presence of the northern army to protect them, the disaffected people dared not rise, as there exists a perfect reign of terror in the capital. There is much sickness in the town, and though it is there denied, it is firmly believed that it is the yellow fever. Hospital accommodations are insufficient to meet the requirements of the army-sick, and if it is true that the yellow fever has broken out at this juncture the suffering in the pent-up capital must be beyond description. At the last report Hippolyte had 1000 more troops at Gonaives to ship by sea to Port-au-Prince, which would complete the quota of about 12,000—not 2000, as reported—around the capital. The writer says that it is sincerely hoped that the place will surrender without a bombardment, as the later calamity "would complete their cup of woe," and that there would not be enough of the city left worth naming. The report that Hippolyte's gunboats were disabled is without foundation. By the Fourth of July all of Hippolyte's men would be at Port-au-Prince, and the writer believed on that day his forces would enter the town, and the protracted and useless war be ended.

EDISON'S TESTIMONY.

The following account of the examination of Edison, in the famous Kemmler case, in reference to executions by electricity, is given by the *New York Mail and Express*:

Unusual interest was attached to the Electrical Commission's hearing today in the Kemmler case, owing to the fact that Thomas A. Edison, the "Wizard," was placed on the stand and testified on behalf of the State.

Mr. Edison's testimony was very much opposed to the theory that Kemmler will suffer pain if put to death in the manner prescribed by law. His examination was followed with the closest attention by the electrical experts present.

Mr. W. Bourke Cockran thinks that the great inventor's testimony was the most satisfactory to his client yet received.

Deputy Attorney-General Post directed the examination, and began

on the great inventor in the following fashion:

"What is your calling or profession?"

"Inventor."

"Have you devoted a great deal of attention to the subject of electricity?"

"Yes."

"How long have you been engaged in this work of an inventor or electrician?"

"Twenty-six years."

"You are familiar, I suppose, with the various dynamos and their construction?"

"Yes."

"Will you explain, generally, the difference between an alternating and continuous current, as developed by the various dynamos?"

"A continuous current is one that flows like water through a pipe. An intermittent or alternating current is the same as if the same body of water was allowed to flow through the pipe in one direction for a given time and then its direction reversed for a given time."

"What kind of a current is produced by the Westinghouse dynamo?"

"An alternating current."

"You spoke of the alternations of the intermittent current. Are they rapid or slow in the operation of the dynamo?"

"I believe the Westinghouse dynamo has alternations of 150 per second."

"Is that for the whole revolution of the armature or of each special division of the wheel?"

"The whole of the current is reversed 150 times every second, the same way as water flowing through a three-inch pipe if reversed 150 times a second."

"How many kinds of dynamos are there in practical use in the United States in the matter of electric lighting?"

"There are two types, the alternating and continuous."

"How many makes or patents are there?"

"About twenty, I should say."

EDISON ON HUMAN RESISTANCE.

"Have you observed or been cognizant of experiments being made to determine the resistance of the human body in regard to electrical currents?"

"Yes, I have been present while measurements have been made by my assistants."

"What is your opinion as to the reliability of the Wheatstone Bridge as a means of measuring resistances?"

"It is an absolute means of measurement, probably more accurate than any other."

"Will you state generally, without going into details, the results of your observations as to the subject of the resistance of the human body?"

"Two days ago we measured 250 persons to ascertain their resistance. The average of the 250 persons was 1000 ohms. My impression is that one reached as high as 1800 ohms; another as low as 660."

"Will you describe the method of the application of your tests?"

"We took two battery jars about