

Rumors from Mexico continue very conflicting.

The convention between France and Mexico, of July 31, transfers to France half the receipts from all merchandise customs, in order to secure the principal and interest of loans contracted in 1854-65, and all obligations resulting therefrom, and likewise for the payment of three per cent. interest on all sums due to France. The amount of the latter debt, which, is approximately valued at 300,000,000 francs, will be subsequently definitely fixed.

The eastern question again claims considerable attention. The continental journals state that it is no longer the insurrection in Candia alone which causes uneasiness to the Porte, but insurrections are beginning in Essecus and the islands of Cos and Cyprus. The London *Morning Post* says it is stated that the British government have advised the Porte to accord to the island of Crete an autonomy similar to that of Servia, but that the Porte refused to act upon the advice.

The 15th of September was the second anniversary of the Paris convention for the evacuation of Rome, and the London *Times* says it is understood that the evacuation will be complete by December. Meanwhile the so-called Franco-Pontifical Legion of 12,000 men was to embark on the 17th at Aubitas for Civita Vecchia, on a French steamer. The general in command objects to his French troops coming in contact with the troops of the Pope.

Aspy Bay, 27.

The equinoctial gale of the 22d, which was very severe in Newfoundland, greatly damaged the lines east and west of Loos harbor at the head of Fortune Bay. The lines have already been repaired west of that point, and Mr. Mackay expects to soon have them working through.

New York, 27.

The money market continues abundantly supplied, at unchanged rates. Rev. Dr. Hawks, Episcopal minister, died this morning.

Gen. Sweeny publishes a card declining to take any part in the proceedings of the Fenian Brotherhood.

Washington 27.

The Navy Department has received advices of the arrival of the U. S. steamer *Mahaska* at Pensacola on the 21st, from Tampico by way of the Rio Grande. Her commander reports that no Imperial vessels of war had appeared off Tampico or the Rio Grande. No apprehensions of blockade were entertained, and American interests had not suffered by the violence of either contending party.

Chicago, 28.

The New York *Times*, *Evening Post*, *Troy Whig*, *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*, *Cleveland Herald* and *Hartford Courant* were the only prominent republican papers originally favoring the Philadelphia movement, although such papers as the *Springfield Republican*, *Cincinnati Commercial*, *Chicago Evening Journal*, &c., had leanings that way. The Philadelphia movement seems now to have lost all its intended force. There is not now in the Eastern States a single prominent republican paper that supports the President's policy. The President's late tour has produced this result, and destroyed the last hope of any good from the Philadelphia movement. All signs are that the republican majorities will be overwhelming beyond precedent.

The President continues, under the pressure of a multitude of applications from all quarters, to daily make appointments and removals. Many of these have not yet been published, there being no disposition to make them public for the present.

New York, 28.

The *Herald's* Washington special says the statement that the President is about to modify his policy, to the extent of recommending the constitutional amendment to the adoption of the southern states, is given a most emphatic denial. The President considers the amendments were proposed in violation of the fifth article of the constitution, and are therefore invalid; and that it would be in contravention of his oath to encourage them in any way.

Fenian Stephens' headquarters was all bustle and activity yesterday. Important negotiations are pending which, when published, will astonish the Brotherhood.

A *nolle prosequi* has been entered in the case of Roberts, Fenian Head Center, and his case has been dismissed.

George M. Snow, for many years commercial editor of the *Tribune*, died suddenly yesterday of heart disease.

The *Post's* commercial article says dullness in the general market has stimulated speculation in stocks. The loan market is extremely easy, and rates

tend to favor borrowers. Governments are strong. Foreign exchange is firm, without much activity. Gold is firmer.

The *Commercial* says the Assistant Treasurer has received orders from Washington suspending the conversion of 7-30's into bonds of 1865.

Gen. Santa Anna has located his headquarters on Staten Island, and has opened a regular business bureau for the transaction of matters looking to the delivery of Mexico from French authority. He is occupied, so report goes, constantly with various people on that subject, and has enlisted the sympathies of the Fenian Brotherhood. Col. Roberts, Gen. Sweeny and other Fenian chiefs are zealous in their attachment to his cause, and are educating the Irish to that belief. Three large sea-going steamers have been purchased for their use, it is believed, in transportation to Mexico.

The St. Petersburg *Berzen Zeitung* says that all the preparations on the main land and the soundings in Behring's Straits, for the completion of the line of telegraph between Russia and America, are nearly finished. In course of the present year the telegraph will be constructed over a distance of 3,500 miles beyond Renel, and the lines will be finished from Granley Haven to Kenypak, and along the valley of this river from the mouth of the Anadyr to Fort Anadyr and from Eckaltz to Giershaga and, perhaps, even so far as to be joined with the Anadyr line. The cable between Granley Haven and Smjawn, a distance of about 700 miles, and that between Cape Spondery and Cape Tolsto in the Bay of the Anadyr, will, it is said, be laid before the end of this month. American and Russian energy has been very quick in taking steps to complete the tie which is to connect and hold together the two nations.

London, 24.

The market is easier. Breadstuffs are quiet, and generally without change, except that corn has advanced, and is quoted at 28 shillings for western mixed.

A new three story building at Hillsdale, Michigan, known as Commercial Block, fell with a crash before daylight yesterday morning, involving two adjoining smaller buildings in ruin, and killing T. O. Dudley and his wife and eldest son, who lived in one of the small buildings.

The rumor seems to be well defined, and accepted by the eastern papers, that the late mission of Thurlow Weed, Stephen Croswell and other politicians, to Washington, was to urge the President to recommend the southern states to adopt the constitutional amendment, and that, in this, they had the co-operation of Seward.

NEWS ITEMS.

THE Greek census of 1864 has just been published at Athens. The total population in that year was 1,400,000.

ONE of the attractions of the Paris Exposition will be a prize for the best singer in the world, of 10,000 francs.

UNDERGROUND traveling in London increases at an astonishing rate. The number of passengers carried for the first half of the present year by the Metropolitan underground railway was 10,503,395, against 4,823,437 in 1863 and 7,474,283 in 1865.

IN England there are 24,000 policemen and constables. Of these about 7,500 are in London, about 6,600 in boroughs, and the remainder in agricultural districts.

THE St. Petersburg Geographical Society has organized an expedition to trace the river Yenesei to its mouth, in the Polar sea. There will be a full corps of assistants in the expedition, which will thoroughly examine the country through which the river flows.

THE beautiful island of Barbadoes is about fourteen miles long by twelve wide, and contains one hundred thousand acres of land. It has 150,000 inhabitants, mostly whites, and is thickly settled as China. Every acre of ground is cultivated. Mr. Trollope says there is not a vacant place for a picnic. The land is monopolized by the whites, and the negro is obliged to work—otherwise he is compelled by the municipal authorities to drag a ball and chain.

THE famine in India is increasing, and starving wretches have begun to flock from the country to the cities. "Hundreds of men," says a Bengal Circular, "are daily coming down to Calcutta from the famine-stricken districts, of whom some get their food once in a day and some do not. Many pass their days eating skins of mangoes picked up in the streets; many sell their children for an anna or two, or devote themselves to pocket-picking and murder."

ANSWER TO A "CALL."

A clerical friend sends this unique answer to a "call." The following answers substantially, with names omitted, was recently returned to a "call" extended through a Home Missionary Agent to a young minister "to settle" in the interior of one of the western states.

"Dear Brother: Allow me to group a few objections against going to ——. I speak by the card.

"1. You know that state is considered the worst one in the Union, that county the worst in the state, that town the worst in the county, and that neighborhood has the worst set of men in town. One man there is 'such a son of Belial that a man cannot speak to him.' (Sam. xxv. 17.) He is considered, however, the best man in town. The Prophet Samuel had also the advantage in his day in that Nabal had a good wife, but this man's wife is worse than himself. 'The Lord also smote Nabal that he died,' but this man and his wife are still alive. You are right when you call it 'rather a rough country, but the grandest kind of mission field.'"

"2. The mud is from three to five feet deep, an alluvial deposit of that depth lying upon a substratum of clay impervious to water. This understratum of clay, however, is the only salvation of the county, preventing everything from sinking below it. All traveling done on horseback; but my horse is not long-legged enough to touch the under-stratum. The tradition is that when the Creator finished cementing the world he threw an extra hodful of mortar down in this county.

"3. Mosquitoes are of the mammoth kind, generally termed gallinippers. Many of them will weigh a pound, and they climb up on the trees and bark.

"4. Fever and ague are indigenous. Country flat, and the streams run both ways. Ague shakes even the bark off from all except gum trees. Few have ever crawled out of that sixteen miles swamp alive, and they were shaken out by the chills.

"5. The inhabitants are not as loving as cooing doves. The last commandment, 'That ye love one another,' probably has not reached them yet, as they live so far inland. Indeed it is the Kilkenny cats over again. You know the cats fought all night, when nothing could be found but a cloud of fur and the tip of Norval's tail. So Norval beat. Well, a cloud of fur has rested over this district a score of years. Bob-tails of no account.

"6. That salary of \$300 (maximum) must be a mistake, as that is a larger sum of money than was ever heard of in the county.

"There is one advantage, however, to be mentioned in this connection. Pastors in this district have generally been 'settled' for life. Their longevity, however, has not been remarkable.

"All things considered, I think I'd better decline the call, hoping that the successful candidate may make his 'will' before he 'settles.' He might get his life insured had not all the life-insurance companies abandoned that part of the country.

"It is fortunate that 'the church has no man in view'—I mean for the man! "Your Bro., ———"

THERE are in the United States about 900 railroad corporations that operate steam-power roads; the joint length of the steam-power roads in the United States is about 32,000 miles, and their joint cost is about \$1,280,000,000—equal to an average of \$40,000 for each mile.

TENDING THAT WAY.—The late J. Q. A. Griffin had a keen wit, and sometimes used it with great effect, even upon his best friends. Walking one day, during the rebellion, down State street, with his friend Gov. Boutwell, a newsboy approached them with his papers under his arm, shouting, "Ere's the last edition—all about the great Union victory!" "I must have that!" said Boutwell, and he bought the paper. He scanned the columns curiously and eagerly, but there was no news of victory to be found. "Drat the boy," said Boutwell, "I have been sold!" Then turning to his companion, he asked, "What do you think, Griffin will become of that boy, who, in his tender years, has learned to practice such deceit?" "His end," replied Griffin, is very evident. He will probably become a country trader; then member of the Legislature; then Governor; and at last sink down to be a member of Congress. He is evidently tending that way." Boutwell made no sign, but for the rest of the way, seemed pondering over scenes in his past history.—[*Boston Commercial*].

Varieties.

—The best adhesive label you can put on luggage is to stick to it yourself.

—The most unpleasant vocation in the world. Pro-vocation.

—An unwashed newsboy being asked what made him so dirty, replied—"I was made, as they tell me, of the dust of the ground, and I reckon it is just working out."

—A Scotch clergyman did not satisfy by his preaching a certain portion of his flock. "Why, sir," said they, "we think you dinna tell us enough about renouncing our own righteousness." "Renouncing your ain righteousness!" cried the astonished doctor, "I never saw any ye had to renounce!"

—In Detroit, Michigan, recently, a Fenian placard was issued, which wound up with the usual "God save the Green." Some wag, with an eye to truth, affixed the word "horns" after the "green," thus making it read "God save the Greenhorns."

—A small tradesman was lately invited to a parish dinner, and a dish of ice-cream was placed before him. It was a new dish to him. He tasted it, then beckoned to the waiter, and said, audibly, "That is very good pudding, but do you know it's froze?"

—Tommy, my son, what in the world are you going to do with that club?

Send it to the editor, of course.

But what are you going to send it to the editor for?

Well, 'cause he says if anybody will send him a club he will send him a copy of his paper.

—"Where did ye git that hat, Jerry?"

"Borrowed it."

"Borrowed it?"

"Y-a-s. Borrowed it of a feller in the Park. Pete Myers borrowed his coat—Pat Gaffney his boots. I borrowed his hat. Do ye think I'd steal? No, I'd scorn the action."

—A few days since a gentleman called upon some lady friends, and was shown into the parlor by a servant girl. She asked him what name she should announce, and he, wishing to take them by surprise, replied "Amicus" (a friend.) The girl seemed at first a little puzzled, but quickly regained her composure, and in the blindest manner possible observed, "What kind of a cuss did you say, sir?"

—To what city in Europe is a man going when he marries?

Answer by Happy Pair.—He is going to Louvain.

Young Lady.—Oh! it's Nice.

Old Maid.—It's Hamburg.

Solid Dutchman.—Bologna.

Impudent Fellow.—To Brest.

Bridget.—To Dublin, shure.

Practical Parent.—He's going to Havre.

Snarling old Bach.—He's going to Rouen.

—Two countrymen went into a hatter's to buy one of them a hat. They were delighted with the sample, inside the crown of which was inserted a looking-glass.

"What is the glass for?" said one of the men.

The other, impatient at such a display of rural ignorance, exclaimed:

"What for? why for the man who buys the hat to see how it fits him."

—Why don't you present yourself as a candidate for Congress? asked a lady of her husband, who was confined with the rheumatism. Why should I, my dear? inquired he; I've no qualifications for the station. But I think you have, returned the wife; your language and actions are truly parliamentary. When bills are presented, you either order them to be laid on the table, or you make a motion to rise; though often out of order, you are still supported by the chair; and you often poke your nose into measures that are calculated to destroy the constitution.

—A contributor tells a story of a certain deacon who was one of the best of men, but by nature very irascible. A cow was so exceedingly disorderly, as the deacon was attempting to milk her one morning, that the old Adam got the better of him, and he vented his excited feelings in a volley of execrations very undeaconish in their character. At this moment the good deacon's pastor appeared unexpectedly on the scene, and announced his presence by saying: Why, deacon! can it be? Are you swearing? Well, parson, replied the deacon, I didn't think of any one being near by; but the truth is, I never shall enjoy religion as long as I keep this cow!