THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH --- PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1871.

Continued from the Second Page.

Continued from the Second Page. United States had not relinquished possession of the Bay of Samana, but had constantly enjoyed the use and occupation thereof as a naval station, the rent due was in default for more than a year. The Commissioners made a careful and prolonged investigation into the important subject of the in-debtedness of the Dominican Republic, collecting all the information that could be communicated by the officials whose special duty it was to know the officials whose special duty it was to know every detail of the finances and the liabilities of the government, all that could be obtained from the records in the public offices, from the state-ments of claimants of every kind who could be heard of and found, and from the explanations of the President and his chief offices in second to the the President and his chief officers in regard to the whole and each item thereof. They also received from the Senate a list of claims and their respective

amounts pending before that body, which is appended. The following summary statement exhibits briefly the iesults of those inquiries as to the debt of the government and its obligations, whether funded and ascertained and admitted, or unadjusted and under discussion. A schedule of items in detail, with remarks, will be found among accompanying documents. The receipts of the last three years have been mostly used for previous war debts and for the cancelling of outstanding paper money. The latter, which originally amounted to the sum of \$2.628,300, left in circulation by Cabral, has been nearly all redeemed by customs receipts, as was also the amount of \$243,070 in Spanish war bonds.

First. The salaries due amount to \$50,000, Second. Bonds, treasury notes, &c., first Spanish

war bonds, amount issued, \$324,160; amount can-celed, \$243,070; amount eutstanding, \$81,090. Second. Treasury notes, nominal balance in cir-culation, \$147,575 18, at the price fixed by Senato-rial decree, \$400 for one dollar in sliver, gives really \$36,983 75.

Third. Notes of credit, new paper money, nominal balance out of the Controller's office, \$88 832 30;

t 30 for one silver dollar, \$2,961 07. Fourth. Obligations of the present administration. sucd by the Controller, \$9,761 36. Fifth, Obligations of the present administration.

issued by the Controller, at 6 per cent., \$115,300 Total of bonds, treasury notes, & 5., \$9,533,436 75. Sixth. Sundry debts and loans due towns and individuals, 4, 944, 302 50. Seventh. Debts and obligations of Cabral's ad-

ministration, unpaid because of doubtful origin, the gross amount of which is \$221,845 77. (This debt is now in process of consolidation, and

ay be reduced to less than one third of its nominal sum.)

Notes of national banks countersigned by general treasurer, \$4130; six sundry loans bearing interest (back interest not included), \$27,511 23; seven loans without interest, subject to rebate for advances, \$20,223 20. Eighth. Debt of 1859, amount not known, because it is not known whether any was redeemed during the Spanish administration; it cannot exceed \$50,000 or \$60,000; reckoned at \$50,000. Total debt, \$133,448 25. Ninth. Pending claims of Jesuren & Son. Claim before the Senate for loan of \$100,000 in 1857, protested since and now under consideration by the Chamber of Accounts; \$100,000 of Jesuren & Son for hire of schooner Amelea in 1857; less than \$10,000; of Rofman Lowenthall, and others \$14,000; of General Baez for spoliations, \$70,000; of W. L. Caseneau, for spoliation in 1863, \$10,000; total \$204,000. Ten of J. C. Castillanos, francs, 131,719 40; of A. Postel, francs, 5007. Total of debt and claims, 1.538,487 59 v; in francs, 136,719 40, or total in dollars about \$1,565

Recapitulation .- Item first, unpaid salaries, \$600, 0; item second, bonds and and treasury notes, 89, 533,436 75; item third, debts and loans, \$4,944,302 50 m fourth, obligations of Cabral, \$221,845 77; item fifth, national bank notes countersigned, \$4130 item sixth, interest bearing loans, \$293,511 23; item seventh, loan without interest, \$20,223 20; item cighth, debt of 1859, \$50,000; item ninth, pending claims, \$264,000; item tenth, pending claims (in francs), 136,719 40, or \$27,344. Sum total of debt and claims, \$15,658,315 25. The following statement of the receipts for 1870

is here presented, in order to give, as far as possi-ble, a complete view of the financial condition of the Dominican republic:

Results of the income of the government for 1870: First. Customs receipts-Tonnage, \$27,206 60; en-First. Customs receipts—ronnage, \$27,206 60; en-rance fees, \$146,905; lightbouses, \$67,901; anchor-age, \$146,595; pilotage, \$142,957; lighterage, \$21,-600; interpreter, \$61,420 50; signal men, \$59,416 50; quarantine, \$43,016 50; whatfage, \$679,338; recargo, municipal, \$110,336 50; recargo, for steamer, \$5,886 14; water, \$24,100; import dues, \$69,139,-364,25; export dues, \$7,141,920 50; coast fees, \$751,111; densatis, \$12,923; additional entrance fees, \$1600 deposits, \$13,243; additional entrance fees, \$10,111; Total, \$72,860,558 75.

Second. Direct and Indirect Taxes .- Registry and mortgages, \$214.706 50; licenses, \$1,272,186 75; stamped paper, \$18,574 50; postage stamps, \$1083 69; postal income, \$92,942 75. Total, \$3,546,655. Third. Public Property.-Sales and rents, \$15,000. Fourth. Sundries, \$846,262 25. Total, \$77,264,-The Commissioners believe that the statement of the public debt given above includes all the indebt-edness and obligations for which the Dominican Republic is in any degree liable, as well as that which it considers valid and binding as that which it re-gards as unfounded or overstated by the claimants. Throughout the inquiry it was urged on the Domi-nican authorities that every claim known to exist, of whatever character, should be exhibited to the Commission, whose object was not only to determine the precise amount that was justly due and binding, but to get at the bottom and find the utmost limit of these obligations, setting forth everything for which the government could, under any circumstances, be made liable. The above account contains much that the Dominican government believes to be partly or wholly groundless, and some which upon inspection will appear questionable. There was brought to the notice of the Commission a claim of Messrs, Jessuren & Son, of Curacoa, for upward of \$500,000 for money advanced to the Dominican government, with interest, this being the same loan of \$100,000 in 1857, mentioned in the preceding list of the pending claims by the same parties. On being asked if he had any statement or explanation to make re-garding it, Mr. Jessuren, who submitted the claim, declined to make any. This claim has been al-, ady for a considerable time before the Dominican government, which refuses to consider more of it than the amount named in the foregoing list, and of that it is believed but a small portion will be allowed. The debt was incurred for arms and provisions in time of war, when the property furnished was es-timated at \$100,000, on which compound interest at 18 per cent. was to be allowed. It is claimed by the Dominican government that, soon after the original contract was made, the government turned over to these claimants a ship and cargo valued at \$70,660, and that subsequently other payments were made, which, taken together, reduce the amount to a sum much below that named in the foregoing list. The claim is now pending before the Dominican Senate, and undetermined. Among the pending claims is one of President Bacz for detruction of property. It is alleged by the claimant that the Spanish struction government recognized this claim as valid, and ordered an examination to fix the amount, but the Commission cannot understand how this claim could be valid against the Dominican government. Another claim for damages amounting to \$10,000, made by W. L. Cazeneau, seems to be of a similar nature. A question has been raised in our own country whether the government and people of the Dominican Republic, having once been under the rule of the Haytiens, might not be liable for a portion of the indemnity exacted by France from Havti for the interest of Frenchmen who had been driven out of the island and their property confiscated by the Haytiens during the revolution of 1791. The Commission made inquiries on this subject of the Dominican government, and also in Hayti and they could not learn that the Haytien govern ment had ever made this claim upon the Domini-can Republic, and they think that if made it would be wholly without foundation. By the so-called treaty of 1825, which was not a treaty at all, but in form and fact a royal ordinance, issued by the King of France and forced upon the Haytiens by arms, the payment of one hundred and fifty millions of francs was imposed to idemnify such former planters as may claim indemnity, which imposition, in the express language of the ordi-nance, was upon the present inhabitants of the French portion of San Domingo, and upon these conditions independence was granted to the inhabi-tants of the French portion of the Island of San It was a burden imposed upon the people of the French, or Haytien part of the island, for depreda-tions committed by them upon French subjects in that part of the island; depredations with which the Dominican people had no more to do than had the people of the United States. The fact that the people of the Dominican or Spanish part of the island were subsequently, for a few years, ruled by the same government as that of the Haytiens did not render them inhabitants of the French partion of the island of San Demingo, nor liable for burdens imposed on those inhabitants for their own acts. The Commissioners were informed by the Domi-The Commissioners were informed by the Domi-nican authorities that the present administration of the government has not had diplomatic repre-sentatives or made treaties or engagements with any government except the United States. An enumeration of the treaties made during the pre-vious history of the republic with Franco, Great Britein and other Powers, will be found in Ex. Doc 47, Forty-first Congress, second session. They are mostly treaties of navigation and commerce, and contain no unusual provision requiring notice here. here. The only dividing line between the Dominican republic and an adjoining nation is the boundary between it and the republic of Hayti, a line care-fully surveyed and marked by monuments nearly one bundred years ago, described and established by the treaty of 1777, repeatedly reaffirmed in sub-

sequent treaties, all of which refer to it as the sequent treaties, all of which feter to it as the undisputed boundary. It is doubly embedded in the history of the island. It marks the separation of different languages, different national traditions and characteristics, different modes of holding and surveying the soll, different people. In 1821, the people of what is now the Dominican republic threw off the Spanish yoke and proclaimed a re-unblic. At this time the hondary was undispublic. At this time the boundary was undis-puted, and the republic included all the Spanish part of the island, or, in other words, all east of the line of 127 the line of 1777.

In 1822 the Haytien President Boyer acquired possession of the whole island, and it remained under one government until the revolution of 1844 the expulsion of the Haytien rulers an resulted i the re-establishment of the independence of the Dominican Republic throughout the Dominican or Spanish speaking portion of the island, except a few interior valleys on the Dominican side of the line, in some of which there has been an almost constant struggle. Since that time the Haytier and Dominican forces alternately occupying the disputed territory. Of this disputed territory the Haytiens have held practically constant control of the towns of San Rafael, San Miguel and Los

Caobas. The Benica [valley east of these, with Benica as The Benica Ivalley east of these, with Benica as its principal town, and the Nezba district to the south, have been alternately overrun by both gov-ernments. The attention of the Commission had been drawn to a map issued by private parties in our own country, claiming to be based upon a Hay-tien report made on this subject in President Gef-frand's time. The boundary given in this extends from a noint instead of Mante Utilation the north from a point just east of Monte Cristi, on the north shore of the Island, in a nearly north and south line to a point on the south shore nearly opposite the island of Alta Vela.

Whether the Commission be right or wrong in judging that any infringement on Dominican forri-tory has been based on usurpation, and is therefore null, the claim to any such line as that above indi-cated must seem preposterous to any one co var-sant with Dominican or Haytien affairs. The town Monte Cristi, which by that map should be un der Haytien control, was at a recent visit of a member of the commission found to be inhabited by a Spanish-speaking people, with Dominican au-thorities, and no one seemed to be at all aware that it bad been claimed since 1844 by any other government than Dominica.

As to the Banica valley and the Neyba district thus claimed, the people are Dominicans, and by all that could be learned have never considered themselves otherwise. The Commissioners made inquiries regarding the foundations for Haytien claims outside of 1775, both of intelligent persons living in Hayti and of the Haytien ex-President Geffrard, now an exile in Jamaica, and from neither source could they obtain any direct or presumptive evidence for the Haytlen title, nor could they learn of anything which could be construed into an acknowledgment of it by any Dominican government. The Commissioners were informed by the Dominican authorities that the Haytim government had more than once offered to purchase be territory in dispute, but this the inhabitants of Hayti above-mentioned d ny. The only claim to this district which the Haytien

government could urge would be based upon an oc-cupation by the Haytiens of a portion of the Dominican Republic, whose government had not yet been able to oust them by force. The extent of Deminican territory within the old boundary of 1777 is found, by a new and careful computation, made under the direction of the Commissioners, to te 22,212 square miles. The portion of this already referred to as having been mainly in Haytien oc-cupancy has an extent of about one thousand square miles, grants and concessions. The Commission, as directed by the resolutions of Congress, made diligent inquiry to ascertain what proportions of the territory is covered by foreign claimants or by grants and concessions, and generally what concessions and franchises have been granted, with the names of the respective grantees. The following list, condensed from an official statement furnished by the Dominican Secretary of State, which will be found in the accompanying documents, and con-firmed by the testimony, gives an answer to this inquiry. A grant to J. W. Fabens, or a company organized for the purpose, dated July 3, 1868, of a portion of the public lands, on condition of making

a geological survey. This is a contract authorizing Fabens by himself, or any company organized for the purpose, to self, or any company organized for the purpose, to make a general geological examination and survey of all the provinces and districts at the expense of said company, reports to be made every three months as the survey progresses to the Dominican government, to enable it to offer for sale the mineral and agricultural lands of the localities ex-amined; also an annual report of said company, to receive one-fifth of the public lands so sur-veyed, excepting coal lands, to be set apart as the quarterly reports are rendered. This survey is quarterly reports are rendered. This survey is now in progress. The parties owning the fran-chise, and paying the expense, are chiefly New Vark excitculated York capitalists. The testimony of the geologist in charge of the survey, Professor Gabb, giving details on this sub-ject, and his annual reports, are herewith sub-mitted, together with a copy of the original con-tract or grant. A grant to R. M. Funkhauser, of New Jersey, October 7, 1868, for a line of mail steamers between New York and New Orleans and the Dominican Republic, with a provision that five per cent. of the import and export dues on all merper cent. of the import and export dues on all mer-chandise carried by said line be allowed to the owners of steamers. This line is now run by Spor-ford Brothers, of New York. A grant to Ed. H. Hartmont to take guato from the island of Alto Vela in consideration of the loan of May, 1868. A grant to Fred. H. Fisher, of New York, September 9, 1869, for building a railroad from Santiago to Yuna river or Samana peninsula. To Felix Montecatini, August 3, 1867, renewed and extended April 5, 1870; to Shumacker & Angenard, for rallroad from Ozama river to San Cristobal; to Julian Grangerard, June 3, 1870, for building a railroad from Azua to Los Caobas; to Levi Guilamo, November 4, 1870, for constructing telegraph lines necessary in the Republic; to Car-los Bacz, May 8, 1870, for rent of salt works at Bani; to Telesforo Volto, for rent of east works at Bani; to Telesforo Volto, for salt works at Beata Island; to W. L. Cazneau, May 28,1866, to intro-duce emigrants and establish colonies (void); to Davis Hatch, September 27, 1866 for working rock salt mines of Neyba and building railroad thereoto from Share, at Barahona (void): toP. A. Delgredo from Share, at Barahona (void): to P. A. Delgredo, to take guano from Alto Velta (void): to E. H. Hartmont, February 1, 1869, for building railroad from Monte Cristi to Santiago and Yuna river, donating lands bordering the road, to be made by special grant (void): to Edward Paime and Edward P. Hallister, July 4, 1869, extended September 2, 1869, to establish a national bank (void); to E. H. Hartmont to work Samana coal mines, in case a loan of four hundred and twenty thousand nounds should be effected (void): to Inmines, in case a loan of four hundred and twenty thousand pounds should be effected (vold); to In-dustrial and Progressive Company, November 5, 1866, to work copper mine at El Cabre, San Cristo-bal; to W. L. Cazneau, January, 1867, copper mine at Monte Mateo, San Cristobal; to the same, July 12, 1869, copper mine at Mano Matuey, and at Loma de la Boca de Diamarte, San Cristobal (the lost three, concolidated under low of August 10 last three consolidated under law of August 10, 1870); to Cambiaso & Co., October 24, 1867, copper mine at Boca de Cuajo, Upper Haina, San Cristo-bal; to San Domingo Company (Geological Survey Company), February 25, 1870, the mining circuit. Buenaventura, Upper Haina, San Cristobal, by virtue of geological survey, to be modified to con-form to geological contract; to Felix Montecatini, March 19, 1867, mining district in Cuajo San Cristo bal (void), renewed to Shumacher & Augnard, July 28, 1870; to San Domingo Company, September 16 1870, mining district of Camu. The Dominican government has made no grant or concession of land to any foreign government or nation except the United States. To the grants to foreigners by the government above enumerated must be added some by municipalities. Of these the only ones which seem to the Commission to require notice here are those to cer-tain parties, citizens of the United States, of lands and lots in the village of Santa Barbara, or the Bay of Samana, granted by the authorities of that town from its property as follows: To J. P. O'Sulli-van, December 1, 1868, of 930 feet fronting on the harbor and extending back several hundred fest, varying in depth in different parts, at \$62 per annum rent for twenty-one years; also, 84 feet and 90 feet to the same, at 84 rent for each, December 11, These leases are made perpetual, provided there be no law to prevent the same. To J. W. Fabens, December 11, 1869, of 1683 feet, fronting on the hur-December 11, 1869, of 1685 feet, fronting on the her-bor, in percetuity, at \$112 per annum. These grants cover a large part of the unoccupied avail-able front of the harbor. There was also a lease by the municipal government of the city of San Do-mingo, of a wharf of limited extant and import-ance, to W. L. Cazneau. The Commissioners were not number of various runnows which had beau dr not unaware of various rumors which had been cir-culated on diverse occasions, that concessions or grants of land were made to officials of the govern-ment of the United States when the treaty of annex-tion was negotiated in 1960. ation was negotiated in 1869. No pains were spared to ascertain the exact truth on the subject. In addition to an examina-tion of all grants from the government of the Re-public, the Commission further carried their re-searches to all municipal grants by the town of Sa-mara, where rumor had located the supposed grants. The officers of the municipality and the records were carefully examined. Inquire was prants. Were carefully examined. Inquiry was also made of the authorities of the city of San Do-mingo. After this investigation the Commission can declare without hesitation hat there was no particle of evidence or color of evidence for these barges. In order to be assured that the treaty furnished In order to be assured that the freaty furnished to us was a true copy of the original in the archives of the Dominican government, they thought it im-portant to examine the original carefully and to determine whether either treaty of annoxation of the Samana lease contained encession or grant or accret clause favoring any United States official. This hey did in the presence of the President and his cabinet, in the formal manner which will be

found set out at length in their journal of date February 18, 1871. It was ascertained that no such clause was contained in the treaty of lease. They received, also, the solemn assurance of the Presi-dent and his cabinet, as will be found in their jour-nal of the same date, that no such grant or conces-tion was made in any way in sion was made in any way in connection with the perotiation or preparation of the treaty. The terms and conditions on which the Domini-can government and people desired to be annexed

can government and people desired to be annexed are expressed in the treaty negotiated in 1809, which provided for the annexation or that Republic to the United States as a territory. In discussing this subject the President and his Cabinet manifested a liberal and accommodating spirit. He said: "We are willing to stand by that treaty, but we do not insist on any particular provision in it. It was drawn up by your own government. By it we give you everything we have except the public lands. If we were asked what change in the treaty we desired were asked what change in the treaty we desired we would answer thus: When that treaty was negotiated we expected that this government would speedily be turned over to the United States, and so we provided that the annual rent of Samana Bay, which we supposed would only be paid for a short fime, should be deducted from the million and a half to be paid to the Dominican Republic. "But a long and harassing delay has compelled

"But a long and harassing delay has compelled us to carry on the government without pay and ibrough many difficuities for nearly two years longer; and now, would it not be right and fair to allow that rent to be paid for this period of delay without deducting it? We do not insist upon this as a condition precedent, but refer it to the sense of justice and the magnanimity of the American people." At the suggestion of the commission, the Dominican government was willing to modify the treaty so as to devote one-fifth of the public lands to the establishment and maintenance of common to the establishment and maintenance of common schools in the territory, provided the United States appropriate three hundred thousand acres of land to establish a college or colleges for instruction in agriculture, mining, engineering and kindred sub-

The Commissioners carnestly believe that if annexation is decided upon nothing could contribute more than the establishment of the institutions contemplated in this article in the treaty to insure the success of the experiment by a rapid developthe success of the experiment by a rapid develop-ment of the resources of the country, and by mak-ing the coming generation in that country fully capable of discharging the duties of American citizenship. Of Dominican independence-their attention having been called to certain declara-tions regarding the independence of the Dominican Republic, and the attachment of the people theorem the people thereto-those points were especially dwelt upon by the Commissioners. As already stated, the question was frequently asked, "In case the inde-pendence of the Dominican Republic were possi-ble, would you prefer it to annexation?"

The general answer was, "We would prefer in-dependence; but independence is impossible." But this latter declaration is the result of a true in-sight into the condition of the country by those who know it best. That it is the only conclusion to which a thoughtful lover of that country can come, is made manifest by the following recapitulation of facts:

Historically the Dominican Republic has never maintained any real independence. With the ex-ception of the very brief period after its first separation from Spain, it has never seen a day when its most bitter foe, the Haytien Republic, has not been in defiant possession of a valuable portion of its territory. Worse than this, it has rarely seen the time when a number of semi-political, semi-military leaders were not ready, on the slightest provoca-tion, to league with this bitter enemy, and to bring murder and pillage upon their country. Nor is that portion of the Dominican Republic not under Haytien control more than technically independent. It has been upon the forbearance of Spain, whose strong islands lie near its northern and eastern wastes; it has been dependent on the good will of England, whose main possession in the West Indics lies but a short distance to the westward; it has been dependent not upon the lack of will, but the lack of means of any nest of plotters in any of the neighboring islands for immunity against constant piracies and invasions; it is dependent on the jeal-ousies, the caprices and the petty hates of chief-tains who have never hesitated to go through its territory with fire and sword at the promptings of any whim or grudge; nor without intervention from some source can matters ever be better. All that the Commissioners could learn showed

that the succession of struggies has utterly disheart-ened the people, has made more and more hopeless any attempt to rescue any portion of its rightful territory from Hayti, and have rendered impos-sible any organization of the people itself, strong enough to protect society from armed leaders of factions.

There is but one chance for that Republic ever to recover its independence-to become, after a proper period of probation, one of a union of

hardly less beneficial to the Haytien than to the Dominican people. This benefit would arise first from the example which would doubtless be afforded of a well-regulated, orderly and prosperous State, the great need of that part of the world, and which it has as yet of that part of the world, and which it has as yet never seen; a second and more direct benefit would arise from the equitable establishment of a boun-dary line between the French speaking and the Spanish speaking nations upon that island and its guarantee by a strong power. This would end the exhausting border warfare which has been one of the greatest curses of Hayti, es well as San Domingo, and would enable both to devote their energies thenceforward to the educa-tion of their recoile and the development of their

tion of their people and the development of their resources. Respectfully submitted. B. F. WADE.

ANDREW D. WHITE. S. G. Howg. To the President of the United Slates.

The following is the President's message accom-panying the report of the San Domingo Commis-

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I have the honor to submit herewith to the two Houses of Congress the report of the Commissioners appointed in pursuance of the joint resolution ap-proved Jánuary 12, 1871. It will be observed that this report more than sustains all that I have hereofore said in regard to the productiveness and healthfulness of the Republic of San Domingo, of the unanimity of the people for annexation to the United States, and of their peaceable character. It due to the public, as it certainly is to myself, that I should here give all the circumstances which first led to the negotiation of a treaty for the annexation of the Republic of San Domingo to the United States.

When I accepted the arduous and responsible position which I now hold, I did not dream of instituting any steps for the acquisition of insular posses. sions. I believed, however, that our institutions were broad enough to extend over the entire continent as rapidly as other peoples might desire to bring themselves under our protection. I believed, further, that we should not permit independent governments within the limits of North America to ones from a condition of independence to one of ownership or protection under a European power.

Soon after my inauguration as President, I was waited upon by an agent of President Baez with a proposition to aunex the Republic of San Domingo to the United States. This gentleman represented the capacity of the island, the desire of the people, and their character and habits about as they have been described by the Commissioners, whose report accompanies this message. He stated further that being weak in numbers and poor in purse, they were not capable of developing their great resources; that the people had no incentive to industry on ac-count of the lack of protection for their accumulations, and that if not accepted by the United States with the institutions which they loved above those ofany other nation, they would be compelled to

To these statements I made no reply, and gave no indication of what I thought of the proposition. In the course of time I was waited upon by a second gentleman from San Domingo, who made the same representations, and who was received in like man-ner. In view of the facts which had been laid bener. In view of the facts which had been laid be-fore me, and with an earnest desire to maintain the "Monroe doctrine," I believed I would be derellet in my duty if I did not take measures to ascertain the exact wish of the government and inhabitants of the Republic of San Domingo in regard to annexation, and communicate the information to the people of the United States. Under the at-tending circumstances I feit that if I turned a deaf ear to this appeal I might in the future be instry ear to this appeal I might in the future be justly charged with a flagrant neglect of the public inter-ests and an utter disregard of the welfare of a downtrodden race praying for the blessings of a free and strong government, and for protection in the enjoy-ment of the fruits of their own industry. Those opponents of annexation who have heretoiore pro-fessed to be pre-eminently the friends of the rights of man I believe would be my most violent assail-

of man I believe would be my most violent assail-ants if I neglected so clear a duty. Accordingly, after having appointed a commis-sloner to visit the island, who declined on account of sickness, I selected a second gentleman, in whose capacity, judgment and integrity I had un-bounded confidence. He visited San Domingo, not to secure or hasten annexation, but, more indiced to secure or hasten annexation, but, unprejudiced and unblased, to learn all the facts about the gov-ernment, the people and the resources of that Republic. He went certainly as well prepared to make an unfavorable report as a favorable one, if the facts warranted it. His report fully corroborated the views of the previous commissioners, and upon its receipt 1 felt that a sense of duty and a due regard for our great national interests required



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States, the freedom and substantial independence of each being guaranteed by the strength of all It is beyond the province of the Commission under the resolution of Congress to recommend that such a course be adopted or abstained from. They simply state their belief, founded upon all the observa-tions they could make, and of all the facts they could learn, that this is the only way in which Do-minican independence can be secured, and that if it be judged best not to adopt that course soon, the present shadow af independence will be taken away. The Dominican territory is one of the fair-est and richest on earth. Unless some such means as above mentioned are resorted to it is to lie ex-hausted aed helpless until some strong nation shall

The commercial relations of the Dominican part of the island present one indication not to be of the island present one indication not to be passed without mention. The most important com-merce of the island by far is the tobacco trade, and is carried on mainly by Germans, and is with the principal seaport of the new German Empire. To such an extent has this tendency developed itself that this trade is rapidly becoming a Ger-man monopoly. The Commissioners found the numher of German subjects in important business ope-rations and agencies on the north side of the island to excel those of any other foreign power, and their influence is extending steadily up into the great central districts. The influence which San Domingo, under a stable

overnment, would exercise upon the institution of

slavery has not escaped attention. Geographically, it lies between the two last strongholds of slavery in North America, Cubaon the west and Porto Rico on the east. In the present impotency of its governmentit exercises little influence, but the inhabitants are carnestly op-posed to slavery, and, under more favorable cir-cumstances, their moral influence would be felt in the neighboring islands. It would be all on the side of freedom, nor would that influence be mere-ly moral; commercial influences would work in the ame direction. San Domingo is capable of supsame direction. San Domingo is capable of sup-porting millions of people. Land is cheap; in fer-tility it certainly equals and possibly surpasses the neighboring islands, and it is even better suited to the production of sugar and coffee. It could supply the entire market of the United States with these great West India staples. During the year above metioned asymptetic protection of all ycar above mentioned seventeen per cent. of all the imports of the United States were productions of slave labor.

This trade is the main support which the slave system now has. With liberty, order, free labor, and the emigration which would be attracted by these, with a vast advantage in the trade, arising from the fact that any duties laid by the United States on West India productions for revenue, would be a discrimination against slave products and would inure to the protection of Dominican free labor, it is not too much to expect that Santo Domingo might be developed into a powerful State which, by the inevitable laws of trade, would make slave labor in the neighboring islands unprofitable, and, by this spread of its ideas, render the whole slave and caste system odious

The Commissioners, of course, felt a deep inter-est in the experiment of self government which the blacks are trying in Hayti. They certainly wished it all success.

They could not understand how any new 300 close relations between San Dom ngo and the Uni-ted States could affect that experiment otherwise than favorably. They felt that it would be unjust to our government to suppose that it contemplated any action injurious to it. They had too much faith in the virtue of our institutions to doubt that the form established of similar institutions in a neighboring land must act favorably upon republicanism and progress in Hayti. The only force to be exerted would be a moral one, the force of example. They knew of a moral one, the force of ex-had against San Domingo, nor of any rights or in-terests which could be endangered by the extension of our institutions over the western end of the island. Nevertheless, they desired to give to the government and to intelligent citizens an opportu-nity of stating their views.

Moreover they desired, in the most friendly spirit Moreover they desired, in the most triendry op the to make the same observations and study of Havil and its inhabitants as they had made of the Do-minican Republic. They intimated to the Presi-dent and his Council their dispositions and desires. They stated even that they should be giad to be put they stated even that they should be giad to be put in the way of ascertaining what were the claims of Hayti upon San Domingo, and what were the views and wishes of the Haytian people with respect to any changes which might be brought about in the reighboring republic. But they received no en-couragement to pursue their inquiries. They asked verbally, and through our Minister in writ-ing, for permission to explore the interior of the island, but this was met in a split equivalent to a refusal.

They contented themselves, therefore, with taking They contented themselves, therefore, with taking such testimony and gathering such information upon matters bearing upon the question of annexa-tion as they could without giving effence. In re-viewing the whole field of their investigations, it ching to the interacts of both divisions of the island, they are firmly persuaded that the annexa-tion of San Domingo to the United States would be

the Republic of San Domingo.

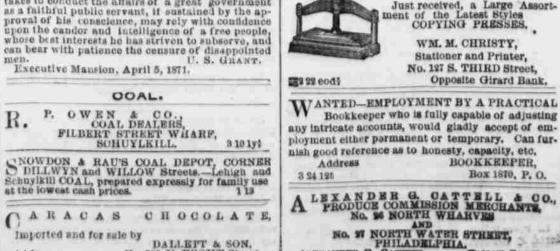
Republic of San Domingo. As soon as it became publicly known that such a treaty had been negotiated the attention of the country was occupied with allegations calculated to prejudice the marits of the case, and with asper-sions upon those whose duty had connected them with it. Amidst the public excitement thus cre-ated the treaty failed to receive the requisite two-thrds vote of the Senate and was releated thirds vote of the Senate and was rejected, thirds vote of the Senate and was rejected, but whether the action of that body was based wholly upon the merits of the treaty, or might not have been in some degree in-fluenced by such unfounded allegations, could not be known by the people because the debates of the Senate in secret session are not published. Under these circumstances I deemed it deta to be office which I hold and due to the office which I had a the set of the senate of the set due to the office which I held, and due to the char acter of the agents who had been charged with the investigation, that such proceedings should be had as would enable the people to know the truth. A commission was therefore constituted under the authority of Congress, consisting of gentleman se lected with special reference to their high charac ter and capacity for the laborious work entrusted to them, who were instructed to visit the spot and report upon the facts. Other aminent citizens were requested to accompany the Commission in order that the people might have the benefit of their views. Students of science and corre-pondents of the press without regard to political opioions, were invited to join the expedition; their numbers were

limited only by the capacity of the vessel. The mere rejection by the Senate of a treaty ne-gotiated by the President only indicates a differ-ence of opinion between two co-ordinate departments of the government, without touching the character or wounding the pride of either. But when such rejection takes place simultaneously with charges openly made of corruption on the part of the President, or of those employed by him, the case is different. Indeed, in such case the honor of the nation demands investigation. This has been accomplished by the report of the Commis-sioners herewith transmitted, and which fully vindicates the purity of motives and action of those who represented the United States in the negotiation And now my task is finished, and with it ends all

personal solicitude upon the subject. My duty be-ing done, yours begins, and I gladly hand over the whole matter to the judgment of the American people and of their representatives in Congress as sembled. The facts will now be spread before the country and a decision rendered by that tribunal whose convictions so seldom err, and against whose will I have no policy to enforce. My opinion re-mains unchanged. Indeed it is confirmed by the report that the interests of our country a d of San Domingo alike invite the annexation of that Re-

In view of the difference of opinion upon this sub-In view of the difference of opinion upon this sub-ject, I suggest that no action be taken at the pre-sent session beyond the printing and general dis-semination of the report. Before the next session of Congress the people will have considered the subject and formed an intelligent opinion concern-ing it, to which opinion, deliberately made up, it will be the duty of every department of the gov-ernment to give heed, and no one will more cheer-fully conform to it than myself. It is not only the fully conform to it than myself. It is not only the heory of our Constitution that the will of the people, constitutionally expressed, is the supreme faw but I have ever believed that all men are wiser than any one man; and if the people, upon a full pre-sentation of the facts, shall decide that the annexa-tion of the Republic is not desirable, every department of the government ought to acquiesce in that decision. In again submitting to Congress a sub-ject upon which public sentiment has been divided. and which has been made the occasion of acrimo-monious debates in Congress, as well as of unjust aspersions elsewhere, I may I trust be indulged in a

ngle remark. No man can hope to perform duties so delicate and responsible as pertain to the Presidential effice without sometimes incurring the hostility of these who deem their opinions and wishes treated with insufficient considerations, and he she under with insufficient consideration; and he who undertakes to conduct the affairs of a great government as a faithful public servant, if sustained by the approval of his conscience, may rely with confidence upon the candor and intelligence of a free people, whose best interests he has striven to subserve, and can bear with patience the censure of disappointed



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