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June 16, 1859.—1y.

Reports of the Departments--Abstracts.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

The Secretary of War reports that while the authorized strength of the army is 18,165, the number in July last was only 17,498; and 11,000 of that number were alone available for service in the field. Small as it is, the force has been required to man about 130 permanent garrisons, posts and camps, scattered over an area of three millions of square miles, and consequently it has been impossible to give ample security to citizens on our frontiers. In relation to the Indian depredations on our Southern and Mexican border, the Secretary hopes to make such alteration in the disposition of the troops next season as will prevent any repetition. Measures have already been taken to subdue the Camanches and Kiowas, and give protection to the routes from Missouri and Arkansas to New Mexico.

He recommends that provision be made for retiring, disabled and infirm officers. The necessity for enlisting teamsters is urged, as is in the enlistment of frontier citizens for frontier service, for six months' terms, the men to provide their own horses. He speaks favorably of the condition of the military academies, of the experiments in breech-loading guns, and of the use of canals for service in the interior. The whole cost of the army is put down at \$13,098,725 72, which he thinks may be considerably reduced.—The condition of affairs in Utah is such that it is there scarcely any necessity for troops there, and they will probably soon be withdrawn. The report concludes with a brief account of John Brown's attack on Harper's Ferry.

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The Report of the Secretary of Navy enters largely into the achievements of the Paraguay Squadron, and into the new and extended arrangements for suppressing the African Slave trade. Reference is made to the fact that a source of new steam vessels had been added to the navy since the accession of the present Administration; augmentation which has called for a corresponding enlargement of the personal force—officers, pursers and crews.

Events at San Juan and at the mouth of the Peiho are touched upon; and the explorations of Lieut. Brooke among the Pacific Islands are spoken of with approval. A contract executed with the Chirqui Improvement Company by the Department is represented to be of great value. It concedes large areas of land on either side of the Isthmus, right of transit and the occupation of the necessary harbors, and the ownership of all the coal found on the Company's Territories. For this, \$500,000 are to be paid should Congress ratify the bargain. The expenditures of the Department for the last fiscal year were \$14,656,267, the appropriation \$14,509,354. The estimated expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1860, were \$13,500,370; the appropriation \$10,464,704. For the year ending June 30, 1861, the estimates are \$11,244,854.

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

The report of Postmaster General Holt is very lengthy, but the following abstract will be found to contain a brief notice of all the most important portions of it. He dwells largely upon the financial embarrassments of the year, attributable to the failure of the usual appropriations. The amount of ascertained liabilities not met by the department, but due to this neglect, is declared to be \$4,206,000, while liabilities to the amount of \$11,458,000 have been liquidated. The gross revenues of the year were \$7,908,484. These, added to a balance on the books of the Auditor, and to unemployed appropriations, constitute a total of \$12,168,380 available resources against expenditures amounting to \$11,558,139 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859. For the fiscal year terminating on the same day, 1860, the Postmaster-General estimates the sum required to be \$16,871,547; there having been already expended under special acts \$167,080 for different branches of the Pacific Mail service. The resources for the same period are estimated at \$10,819,000, leaving, with a reserve of uncollected postage, a deficiency of \$5,536,334.—The total annual transportation of mails, on the 30th of June last, was 83,808,402 miles costing \$9,498,756. The decrease in the length of the routes from 1845 was 551 miles; the routes by rail, steamboat, and coach having been largely increased and those by minor facilities curtailed to the extent of 16,637 miles. The number

of Post offices is 34,539, an aggregate increase of 562 for the year. The Postmaster-General is pregnant with projects of reform. One of his plans contemplates the discouragement of the system of newspaper exchanges, by withdrawing the immunity from postage heretofore enjoyed by the Press; another the award of bids for transportation to parties contracting to furnish the utmost celerity, independent of the mode of carriage; another the final abandonment of the Tebanutepec isthmus as a mail route. In regard to the service between Portland and New-Orleans, further legislation is pronounced requisite. And that clause of the Act of June, 1858, which directs a preference to be given in the transportation of the European mails to an American steamer, even at the expense of three days' delay, is recommended for repeal. The document is extremely long, and heavily freighted with facts, figures and suggestion.

TREASURY REPORT.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his Report, does not doubt that the receipts of the Treasury for the present and next fiscal years will be fully equal to the estimates if the appropriations made at the present session do not exceed the amount contained in the estimates. It is believed that they can be met with the ordinary and extraordinary receipts already provided by law. The estimate balance that will be in the Treasury on the 30th of June next is only \$3,530,000, and leaves no margin for other appropriations. If, therefore the appropriations should exceed the estimates, or Congress should determine to provide within this period for the payment of any portion of the public debt it will be necessary to make provisions for such contingencies. If additional demands are created on the Treasury by legislation in the present Congress provision must be made to meet them by such an increase of tariff duties as may be required for that purpose. In such an event he respectfully refers Congress to his last report, containing the views of the Department on that subject. According to the Secretary's exhibit in 1858-9 we imported foreign products to the amount of \$337,768,130, on which we collect an average duty of fifteen per cent, and we exported \$357,789,462 of products.

Remarkable Events for the last Ten Years.

The year which has just expired terminated the fifties of the nineteenth century. The decade was a period filled with events which will form a conspicuous chapter of the world's history. The California gold mines, at the commencement of the decade, unburied their treasures to the world, followed soon afterwards by the discovery of the Australian mines, by which double development twenty-two hundred millions of dollars have been added to the stock of the precious metals in existence. The British Corn laws have been repealed and the deserving poor of Great Britain have thus been enabled to obtain cheap bread.

The magnetic telegraph has been introduced in general use, by which messages of friendship or business can be interchanged over a space of a thousand miles in a second of time. Horse railroads have been introduced into American cities, and the comfort and convenience of neighborhoods thereby promoted. The commerce of the principal nations of the world has greatly increased within the last ten years that of the United States having more than doubled, whilst that of Great Britain has increased nearly as much, and that of France has increased sixty per cent, as compared with the previous decade.

Europe, within the last ten years, has been the theatre of two wars. Zachary Taylor, President of the United States of America, Louis Philippe, the dethroned King of France, and Nicholas the Emperor of Russia, have paid the great debt of nature. Arago, Metternich, Hallam, Humboldt, Miller, Havelock, Leigh Hunt, Wellington, DeTocqueville, and Stevenson, of European celebrity, and Audubon, Kane, Lawrence, Marcy, Clay, Calhoun, Webster, Choate, Prescott and Irving, in our own country, have passed "the undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveller returns." The continent of Africa has been extensively explored since 1850. China and Japan have been opened to foreigners, and the interior of South America has been visited by expeditions from our own country, and much has been added to our scanty knowledge of that continent. Within the last decade, the U. States have added twenty-two thousand miles to their railway system, and one and a half millions of tons of shipping to their commercial marine.—Other nations have also made great additions in similar respects, and there is now scarcely a civilized country upon the globe where the snorting of the iron horse is not heard.

Upon the whole, the decade, which terminated on the last day of the last week of the last month of the last year, was a period of great commercial activity and social progress, and we can hardly expect the sixties will make as great an advance upon their immediate predecessors, as the fifties have upon the forties of the present century.—*Boston Transcript.*

If four dogs, with sixteen legs can catch twenty-nine rabbits, with eighty-seven legs, in forty-four minutes, how many legs must the same rabbits have to get away from eight dogs with thirty-two legs, in seventeen minutes and a half?

An Irishman Scourged and Tarred and Feathered.

[From the N. Y. Tribune, Jan. 2, 1860.]

The Charleston Mercury of the 19th ult., has the following paragraph under its Columbia (S. C.) correspondence:

"A workman on the New State House named Powers, has been uttering seditious sentiments here without concealment, and on more than one occasion, expressing his entire approval of Brown's invasion. He was apprehended by the Mayor, and subjected to examination in the presence of the commissioner of this circuit. The proof of his incendiary language and feelings was abundant and conclusive, although not of any attempt to tamper with slaves. He was, therefore, yesterday ordered to be escorted from prison to the outskirts of the city by the marshals.—As threats of rescue had been made by other stone masons, he was carried through the town at 11 o'clock A. M., and through the State House yard, where these men were at work, a crowd, of course, in attendance. No attempt at rescue was made, and at the Charlotte junction of the city, the Vigilance Committee took him in hand, stripped him to the waist, inflicted thirty-nine lashes and a coat of tar and feathers. Hence he was forwarded by railroad to Charleston."

The same journal has this paragraph under the head of its leading articles:

"THE TARRED STONE-CUTTER.—The tarred stone-cutter, alluded to in the Mercury's Columbia correspondence, duly arrived in this city, consigned to the Chief of Police. He walked to the guard house voluntarily in his unique dress.—He relates his adventure in the simplest manner, concluding with the assertion that he did not care a d—n for the tarring and feathering, but the nine and thirty administered to him was a little tight."

On Tuesday last there called at the office of the Tribune a very good-looking young man, representing himself to be James Powers. He had arrived here in a steamer from Charleston on Monday, the day before. He showed his soars and blood marks. He told his history in a very simple, straightforward way to this effect, after denying the editor's statement that he did not care for the tarring and feathering.

He was born in Ireland. He came to this country and settled in Philadelphia. He learned the trade of a stone-cutter. He was working with Mr. Waters, West Chestnut street Philadelphia, a year since; but dull times, growing out of the financial revulsion, caused him to leave there and seek employment elsewhere. He went down to the Ohio and Mississippi, but could not at any of the towns find work. He, however, saw blacks employed. He went to New Orleans, Mobile, Augusta, and other places, but was still unsuccessful. Arriving at Columbia, S. C., he found work on the State Capitol now building there.

Among the workmen were Irish, English, Germans and Americans; but only one South Carolinian as he recollects.—At his boardinghouse, accustomed as he had been to speak his mind, he among his brother mechanics spoke on more than one occasion in favor of the employment of white mechanics, and thought the black should be confined to the fields and swamps. He does not recollect ever having stated that he thought slavery should be abolished. He had cast his vote in Philadelphia for Mr. Florence, the Democratic member of Congress, and was therefore a Democrat. He was a sober man; had not drunk any spirits for four months, but was one night lately "on a frolic with a brother workman." The workmen testified against him as an Abolitionist, and on hearing that the Vigilance Committee was after him, he attempted to escape but was arrested at a railroad station ten miles from Columbia, and brought back to the place; was thrown into prison for some days, and then taken before the Mayor.

Four men on the trial, testified, against him. One swore that he had stated that J. C. Fremont made a speech at Mobile, saying that in case he (Fremont) were elected President, he would liberate the slaves! Powers states that he heard that that was said of Fremont. This curious specimen of his knowledge of the Republican candidate and policy, did not save him. It did not appear on trial that he had ever said a word to the negroes. A witness (Cheesborough by name) swore that when under the influence of liquor as aforesaid Powers had said he was an Abolitionist before he left Philadelphia and his opinions were strengthened since he came to the South. Mr. Powers appears to have been laboring under the delusion that liberty of speech is moderately allowed in South Carolina; of this the Mayor, the Hon. A. J. Greene, also a member of the Legislature disabused him by recommitting him to prison, where he remained for six days, up to Saturday fortnight. He was then taken by "two marshals" from his cell, and delivered into the hands of two negroes. One of the marshals said "as you are so fond of negroes, I'll give you a negro escort!" He was then led through the main street by the two negroes, a great crowd following. He passed the State House yard, where the workmen were. The Carolinian about him said to the workmen, "Send word to the Northerners to come here and we can whip them." He passed the Hall of Legislature; many members were on the step—among them the

Speaker—who looked on, some of them laughing. He was led three miles to the railroad junction. There were thousands present; he thinks about half the population of the town must have been there.—Troops of horse, and men armed in various ways, were there. Some cried "Spike him!" "Shoot him!" "Hang him!" &c. He was stripped to the ankles, and a negro, under threats of being lashed himself, gave him thirty-nine lashes. The blood flowed, and the marks of this yet remain. The contents of a tar-bucket were then applied to his head and his body down to the waist. He suffered awful pangs, which were the subject of derision. The train during all this was stopped, and the engineer celebrated the event by sounding the whistle freely.—Powers, was, after an interval of nearly three hours, put on the train, in a car full of negroes, and taken toward Charleston.

After he had travelled, he supposes, fifty miles a master-mechanic of Charleston, pitying his sufferings and exhaustion, gave him a cup of coffee and a biscuit; whereupon the mob around the station threatened that person, swearing aloud to death to himself. Some came into the cars and seized him by the hair, saying, "Let's look at you." Some desired to give him a fresh coat of tar and feathers, but not being able to find any of those staples, they applied cotton to the tar already on him. The mob were likewise of opinion that there were a whole lot of Abolitionists in the cars who ought to be hanged. He arrived at Charleston and was put in prison.

He had been kindly counselled to make no complaints, or he would get 130 lashes more. A physician who attended him, told him he escaped easily; for there were seven men, accused of being Northern pickpockets, arrested at the Agricultural State Fair, and committed to jail. One of them had received 500 lashes; another a less number; that the man who received the 500 was near dying. Powers had not read of any trial of these men so accused and punished. Oil and water were given him to clean himself. Silence was enjoined on him, lest the mob should get hold of him. He paid his own passage money from Columbia to Charleston, the negro taking out \$5 from his pocket book. He heard that it was published that the negroes of Columbia, had made a subscription to pay his passage. On Saturday last 7 in the morning, he was put on a steamer for New York.

When the Christmas festivities were at their height on Monday, this "poor Exile of Erin," with the blood lash marks on his body—inflicted under the axis of the Constitution and laws, for some mandrin words or childish talk in Columbia, South Carolina—arrived at this great metropolis. He is reduced in the flesh, but is sturdy in spirit. He asks work, not alms.

FREE SPOKEN.—Par-on Brownlow, of the West Tennessee Whig, who is in the habit of speaking his mind freely, is perhaps a free spoken as are Americans and Democrats in Congress. He says:

"We of course, will not advise Southern Opposition members what to do, believing them competent to preserve their own self respect, and to discharge a sworn duty to their country and their constituents. But were we a member of the Southern Opposition in Congress, before we would occupy the paltry and contemptible attitude of creeping after a party that had spurned us by its deliberate acts, we would see the Capitol of the Nation, and all the territory north and south of it, sunk to eternal perdition. Nay, we would see all the political organizations in America as far in Hell as a pigeon could fly in a thousand years, or a forge hammer would fall in twice that length of time! Sooner than thus degrade ourselves under a pretence of battling for the homes and rights of our children, we would see them all starve to death, and then set ourselves upon their coffins with a Southern gentleman and play plush pin for a drink of lager beer!"

To Remove Lamp Oil from Marble.

It is difficult to remove lamp oil from white marble after it has become dry.—Strong soap-suds and alcohol will remove some of it from the surface; but if the oil has been colored the stain is liable to remain. Another method is sometimes effectual, viz. take some soapstone dust and place it on the top of the oil stain, then lay a sheet of blotting paper over it, and on the top of this a warm flat iron—not too hot. Allow the iron to remain until it is cool; heat it again and do the same two or three times, when the heat will penetrate to the marble and warm the oil, which will then be absorbed by the dust. When polished marble table tops have been wet with water or any other liquid, they should be rubbed afterwards with some fine whiting and a smooth piece of cork to restore the polish; and, lastly, they should be wiped with a piece of silk or soft buff leather.

Indian Poetry.

A Hoosier wrote the following "poem" upon the Mammoth Cave:
The Mammoth Cave, oh what a spot,
In summer cold, in winter hot!
Mammoth Cave, oh mighty wonder;
General Tackson, blood and thunder!

How to use Rough Fodder.

Every farm produces a large supply of coarse material, the straw of the grains, the stalks and butts of corn, and the hay from swamps and marshes. These all contain more or less nourishment when well cured, and are available for food. It is a common practice in many parts of the country, to fodder them out from the stack-yard upon the frozen ground, where half-starved cattle are constrained to eat them or perish. This is the poorest use they can be put to. Better use the whole for bedding and manure, than make them the means of tormenting brutes with the pangs of hunger.

All this coarse material should be kept under cover, and run through a hay cutter before it is fed out. It should then be mixed with Indian meal, or some concentrated food. The most of it will then be eaten, and while the coarser portions give bulk to the food, the finer parts and the meal will furnish nourishment—two essential qualities in the fodder of the ruminating animals. It will be better still, if the commingled mass can be steamed or boiled. This process softens the coarse, hard stalks and straw, and enables the animals to digest them more perfectly.—The use of steamed food is increasing among those who have sufficient capital to carry on the business of farming. It enables one to work up all the rough fodder, and to pass it through the stomach of thriving cattle. It gathers up the fragments so that nothing is lost.

If the steaming apparatus or a large boiling kettle be not ready, and the meal is not to be had, it is a good plan to mix sliced roots with the coarse fodder cut up short. Turnips, beets, carrots, parsneps, and mangel wurtzels, are rapidly reduced to fine chips with a root cutter, and are highly relished by cattle. They ought to be used in connection with hay or straw. Animals will thrive much better upon this mixture, than upon either used separately.

In any one of these ways, rough fodder may be turned to good account, and all stabled animals be kept full fed from the close of the grazing season until Spring. This careful preservation of fodder will greatly increase the manure heap, and add to the riches of the farm. Staff the animals and they may stuff the soil.—*American Agriculturist.*

Wholesale Poisoning.

It is known (says a writer in the Newark Advertiser) that modern liquor is a villainously poisonous concoction—that such a thing as pure wine, brandy or whiskey, does not exist, or is certainly never sold to the frequenters of grog-shops. There is at Cincinnati an officer appointed by the authorities, called a Chemical Inspector, whose business it is to go round among the liquor stores and grog-shops and test the purity of the stuff they are selling. The law compels them to submit to this inspection. The test of chemicals, when applied to the liquors, detects whatever adulteration may exist. Dr. Hiram Cox, the Cincinnati inspector, has published many deeply interesting facts of experience in testing liquor sold in that city. In 700 inspections of stores and lots of liquors of every variety, he found that 90 per cent. were impregnated with the most pernicious and poisonous ingredients. Nineteen young men, all sons of respectable citizens were killed outright, by only three months drinking of these poisoned liquors. Many older men, who were only moderate drinkers died within the same period of delirium tremens, brought on in one quarter the time usual even with confirmed drunkards by drinking the same poison.

Of 400 insane patients, he found that two-thirds had lost their reason from the same cause. Many of these were boys under age. One boy of 17 was made insane by the poison from being drunk only once. Seeing two men drinking in a grog shop, and that the whiskey was so strong that it actually caused tears to flow from the eyes of one of them, the doctor obtained some of it and applied his tests.—He found it to contain only 17 per cent. of alcohol, when it should have had 40, and that the difference was supplied by sulphuric acid, red pepper, cantharides and strychnine. A pint of this liquor contained enough poison to kill the strongest man. The man who manufactured it had grown wealthy by producing it.

Even brandy, marked "Saignette," brought from New York at a high price, by an apothecary who was anxious to have a perfectly pure article for making up prescriptions for the sick, was shown to contain so much deadly acid as to turn black in fifteen minutes after a spatula had been introduced into it, while the spatula was attacked by the acid and extensively corroded. The wines subjected to test turned out no better, only ten per cent. of all the liquor sold in Cincinnati being proved to be free from the worst kind of poison. The doctor found all manner of opposition to his proceedings from the liquor men, but persisted in his inspections, and having accumulated a vast mass of facts, it was printed and extensively circulated in the city. As may be supposed, these revelations astonished the community. The tipplers left off drinking by hundreds, the sale of liquor was brought to a stand, large distilleries, and other establishments were closed, and the whole trade fell off at least \$100,000 per month. The doctor's publications effected a total revolution, made thousands to be abstemious, saving the lives of some and the health of all.

Indian Anecdotes.

A young Indian failed in his attentions to a young squaw. She made complaint to an old chief, who appointed a hearing, or trial. The lady laid the case before the judge, and explained the nature of the promise made to her. It consisted of sundry visits to her wigwam, "many little undefinable attentions," and presents, a bunch of feathers, and several yards of red flannel. This was the charge. The faithless swain denied the "undefinable attentions," *in toto*. He had visited her father's wigwam, for the purpose of passing away time, when it was not convenient to hunt; and had given the feathers and flannel from friendly motives, and nothing further. During the latter part of the defence the squaw fainted. The plea was considered invalid, and the offender sentenced to give the lady "a yellow feather, a brooch that was then dangling from his nose, and a dozen koon skins." The sentence was no sooner concluded, than the squaw sprang upon her feet, and clapping her hands, exclaimed with joy, "Now we ready to be courted again!"

THE SEQUEL.—Our readers have all heard the story of soaping the clergyman's tin-horn at camp meeting—so that when he went to call the congregation together he blew the "soft soap" over his brother clergyman, and how he exclaimed:

"Brethren, I have served the Lord thirty years, and in that time never uttered a profane word, but I'll be d—d if I can't whip the man that soaped the horn!"

Our readers, we say, have all heard this but perhaps never the sequel as given us yesterday by a gentleman present.

Some two years after, a tall swarthy, villainous looking desperado strolled on the grounds and leaned against a tree, listening to the eloquent exhortation to repent, which was being made by the preacher. After a while he became interested and finally affected, and then took a position on the anxious seat, and with his face between his hands commenced groaning in "the very bitterness" of his sorrow. The Clergyman walked down and endeavored to console him.—No consolation—he was too great a sinner he said. Oh, no, there was pardon for the vilest. No, he was too wicked—there was no mercy for him.

"Why, what crime have you committed?" said the benevolent preacher—"have you stolen?"

"Oh, worse than that!"

"What! have you by violence robbed female innocence of its virtue?"

"Worse—oh worse than that!"

"Murder is it?" gasped the horrified preacher.

"Worse than that!" groaned the smitten sinner.

The excited preacher commenced "peeling off his outer garment."

"Here Brother Cole!" shouted he—hold my coat—I've found the fellow that soaped my horn!"

While the last century was flourishing, there dwelt in what is now a famous city not a mile from Boston, an opulent widow lady, who once afforded a queer illustration of that compound of incompatibles, called "human nature."

It was a Christmas Eve of one of those old-fashioned winters which were so bitter cold. The old lady put on an extra shawl; and as she hugged the shivering frame, she said to her faithful negro servant:

"It is terrible cold to-night. I am afraid my poor neighbor, Widow Green, must be suffering. Take the wheelbarrow, Scip. Fill it full of wood. Pile on a good load; and tell the poor woman to keep herself warm and comfortable. But before you go, Scip, put some wood on the fire and make a nice mug of flip."

The last orders were duly obeyed; and the old lady was thoroughly warm both inside and out. And now the trusty Scip was about to depart on his errand of mercy when his considerate mistress interposed again.

"Stop, Scip. You need not go now, the weather has moderated."

Our Children.

Our Children are to fill our places in society—in church and state, the manner in which they will fill them depends upon the manner in which we educate them.—If we train them up in the Sabbath-school for God and his church, they will amply repay us for all our care; but if they are trained up for the world—in the streets—in the gambling and tipping saloons—in Sabbath-breaking profanity, licentiousness, and intemperance—in idleness—in sin, they will dishonor our names, and repay us by-and-by with a vengeance!

About 2000 persons crowded to see the face of young Coppie, who was buried in an obscure place in Ohio, and perhaps not one went away without a deeper determination to do his or her part to stop the progress of Slavery.

The number of laborers in Paris, according to a census just taken by government, is about 360,000 including women as well as men. The business of tailoring and ready-made clothing furnishes employment to 100,000 people, far more than any other.