

From the Washington Republic, Sept. 20.

The French Minister and the United States.

In consequence of the rumors and statements that have gone abroad, in reference to an alleged difficulty between Mr. Poussin and the government of the United States, it becomes necessary to present a narration of facts that might otherwise have been withheld.

On the 13th day of May, however, Mr. Poussin, in a diplomatic note, represented to the State Department that "Mr. Carpenter, the commander of the American war steamer Iris, after hastening to the assistance of the French ship Eugenie, of Havre, which had struck on the bank of Riso, near the anchorage of Anton Lizardo, advanced claims, wholly inadmissible, on account of remuneration for his services, and to secure their acquittal, detained the Eugenie for two or three days.

On the 7th day of February last Mr. Poussin, in a note to Mr. Buchanan, then Secretary of State, alleged that he was charged by the French Government with the prosecution of a claim against the government of the United States, brought by a Frenchman named A. Port, established in Mexico, for indemnification for damages sustained by him from the acts of certain agents of the army of the United States.

No answer was sent by Mr. Buchanan to this communication. When it was brought to the attention of the present Secretary of State, Mr. Clayton promptly devoted himself to the investigation, with the view of gratifying Mr. Poussin by a speedy decision.

Dissatisfied with this decision, Mr. Poussin, on the 13th of March, addressed a note to the Secretary of State, in which he reviewed the supposed grounds of the decision, and misrepresented with some severity on the testimony of a distinguished officer of the American army in Mexico, who had been a witness before the court at Puebla.

The offensive note was dated at Washington, while Mr. Poussin was absent in New York, upwards of two hundred miles distant from this city. Bearing on its face an insult to the American government, deliberately given in the very capital of the United States, which, if not satisfactorily explained or retracted, would have required that all correspondence with him as a minister should terminate without delay, it was made important to himself and government that he should lose no time in replying to Washington.

It was in reply to this communication, that on the 21st of April Mr. Clayton addressed Mr. Poussin the following note:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, April 21, 1849.

Sir: On the afternoon of the 15th inst., a communication from you, dated Washington, April 14, 1849, (without showing the day on which it was written), was received at this office, relative to the claim of Mr. Port on the government of the United States, and having just had occasion to address you a private note, I learn, through the messenger who was despatched to deliver it, that you have been, for the last two weeks, absent from Washington, and that the period of your return hither from New York was quite uncertain.

Under these circumstances, was after a period of your note which was laid before me this morning, I lose not a moment in requesting you to repair to this city without unnecessary delay.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, JOHN M. CLAYTON, Secretary of State.

was accordingly withdrawn, and on the following day returned, expurgated of the most offensive matter. Anxious to maintain friendly relations with the minister, the President here permitted the matter to drop, and the correspondence with regard to the claim of Mr. Port terminated. It was hoped that there would be no further cause of complaint.

On the 13th day of May, however, Mr. Poussin, in a diplomatic note, represented to the State Department that "Mr. Carpenter, the commander of the American war steamer Iris, after hastening to the assistance of the French ship Eugenie, of Havre, which had struck on the bank of Riso, near the anchorage of Anton Lizardo, advanced claims, wholly inadmissible, on account of remuneration for his services, and to secure their acquittal, detained the Eugenie for two or three days.

On the 24th May the Secretary of the Navy, in reply, transmitted to this department all the evidence in his possession, which consisted only of two letters from Commander Carpenter himself, dated, the one New Orleans, the 16th November, 1848; the other New York, the 19th May, 1849. In the absence of any evidence of conflicting facts, the President thought that the character of that officer made it incumbent on him to submit to the French minister the explanation given by Commander Carpenter, and to express, at the same time, the hope that they would remove any misapprehension relative to his conduct on the occasion in question.

This note was respectful to the minister. The explanation which accompanied it showed that the commander, seeing the French barque Eugenie and her crew in imminent peril, high up on the rocks of Anton Lizardo, and being appealed to for succor, hastened to her assistance with seamen from the Iris; and that the captain of the French barque gave up the charge of his vessel on the reef, in order that the American officer might take the command, to save her. At a moment when no other aid could be procured, and when a norther, so formidable to seamen on that coast, was expected, the American commander labored all night with his sailors, got the French barque off the rock, and anchored her in safety alongside the Iris. The commander asked for compensation, in the nature of salvage, for his men who had saved the barque and her crew from destruction. He was entitled to compensation. So it was decided by Mr. Clifford, our Minister to Mexico, (late Attorney General of the United States), when the matter was referred to him.

Such also, we understand, is the opinion of Mr. Johnson, our present Attorney General. But although he had asked and expected to receive salvage, yet (to use his own words) "thirty hours having elapsed without receiving an answer, he had already resolved to let the captain resume the charge of her, when he received a note from the consignee saying that he could not yet in port; and, at the same moment, the captain of the Eugenie coming on board, he returned the vessel to him." It was under these circumstances that Mr. Poussin wrote the note of the 30th of May last, which follows:

LEGATION OF FRANCE, Washington, May 30, 1849.

Sir: I received on the 28th of May, the note which you did me the honor to address to me on the same day, in answer to mine calling upon the government of the United States to disavow the conduct of Commander Carpenter, of the American steamer Iris, towards the French ship Eugenie, of Havre, which had run upon the bank of Riso, near the anchorage of Anton Lizardo.

The explanations given by Commander Carpenter are not of a nature, Mr. Secretary of State, such as to dispel the discontent which his proceedings have caused to my government.

He considered, as he says, and he still considers, that the case was one of salvage; that the rights acquired by him as the savior of the vessel saved, empowered him to keep possession of her until his extravagant pretensions were fully satisfied; but his opinions have little interest in our eyes, when we have occasion to condemn his conduct.

I called on the cabinet, at Washington, Mr. Secretary of State, in the name of the French government, to address a severe reproof to that officer of the American navy, in order that the error which he has committed, on a point involving the dignity of your national marine, might not be repeated hereafter.

From your answer, Mr. Secretary of State, I am unfortunately induced to believe that your government subscribes to the strange doctrines professed by Commander Carpenter, of the war steamer Iris; and I have only to protest, in the name of my government, against these doctrines, and that he was permitted to withhold the offensive expressions. The letter

GUILLAUME TELL POUSSIN, Hon. J. M. CLAYTON, Secretary of State.

There had been, in fact, no doctrine advanced in regard to the case of Commander Carpenter, nor was there any indication of an opinion on the subject of salvage. Mr. Poussin, as if to make out a case for denunciation, assumed that "strange doctrines" had been adopted by the Executive, which compromised the "dignity of our national marine."

In his note of May 30th, the French minister speaks of his previous communication [dated 12th of May] in relation to this subject, as one merely calling upon the government of the United States to disavow the conduct of Commander Carpenter. In point of fact, his note of the 12th of May not only demanded such a disavowal, but insisted that "severe blame, at least, should be laid on those who thus considered themselves empowered to substitute arbitrary measures for justice."

The government might have accompanied a disavowal of Commander Carpenter's conduct with a severe censure, but a disavowal of the principle of salvage, or his right to it, would not of necessity have implied a severe censure. Mr. Poussin's note of the 12th of May was not understood, nor could it be interpreted, as demanding merely a disavowal of the law under which Commander Carpenter claimed salvage for his crew. To a demand upon the President to disavow a law of the land, and the usages of nations under the law of nations, it would have been a sufficient answer to have replied, that it is not the province of the Executive to make or repeal laws; it is his duty to execute them as they actually exist.

Mr. Poussin's was construed to charge Commander Carpenter with abuse of authority in illegally detaining the French vessel.

It will be observed that the defence of Commander Carpenter was placed in the hands of the French minister with the expectation of their being forwarded to the French government, and with the hope, expressed by the President, that an inspection of the papers would remove the misunderstanding which existed in regard to his conduct. Mr. Poussin did not give the cabinet of France an opportunity of deciding the case in its new aspect, but immediately denounced the commander, without considering his defence, which he regarded as matter of little interest in his eyes, when he had occasion to condemn the conduct of an officer of the United States.

An imperious refusal to permit an American officer to be heard in his defence by the government which accused, was not made more palatable to the Executive by the contemptuous sneer which accompanied it. The United States government had asked, as an act of common justice to a meritorious and faithful officer, that he be heard in a matter affecting his private and official character; and it was natural to suppose that his conduct in saving a French ship, and abandoning his claim to salvage, would exempt him from censure, though it might fail to receive the approbation of the French government.

It was felt to be due to Commander Carpenter that he should not be condemned without evidence or a hearing; and a refusal of so common a right was deeply felt, as unjust, insolent, and rude. Mr. Mason, the late Secretary of Navy, in a letter to Commander Carpenter, dated November 28, 1848, had officially approved his course in this very matter; there was no evidence adduced against him; and yet Mr. Poussin decides that he had committed an act which derogated from "the dignity of the national marine," and proceeds to implicate the American government in the discreditable conduct of its officer. He protests against the action of the American Executive in the name of the French government, thus presenting himself before the President and his cabinet as having been commissioned to lecture them upon what concerns the dignity and honor of our national marine.

On the receipt of this extraordinary letter the President determined to submit Mr. Poussin's correspondence to the French government, without assuming to prescribe the course which that government should adopt under such peculiar circumstances towards a friendly power; and Mr. Poussin was duly advised of this determination.

In coming to this decision, the President was actuated by a profound regard for the existing friendly relations with a sister republic, and a sincere desire that those relations should continue undisturbed. Accordingly, the whole correspondence was communicated to his excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France, on the 7th of July, by Mr. Rush.

At length, finding it apparent that the French government wholly refused to redress the wrong inflicted by the French minister, the President felt himself constrained to terminate Mr. Poussin's official intercourse with this government, and thus preclude an opportunity which might be again abused.

FROM EUROPE. SEVEN DAYS LATER.

Arrival of the Cambria.

By Express and Telegraph from Halifax to the Pennsylvania.

St. John, N. B., Sept. 20. The Cambria arrived at Halifax at half past 6 o'clock last evening, having had heavy weather, and was to leave for New York at 8 o'clock on the same evening.

The weather for harvesting was fine in all Great Britain. The Liverpool Journal of the 9th says: "The harvest has been nearly safely housed, and is pronounced abundant, as the potato is redundant and is so far exempted from rot."

THE CHOLERA.

The cholera was greatly increasing in England. The deaths for the week ending 8th inst., in London, were 7790, of which 1663 were of cholera. In Liverpool, the deaths by cholera were said to be greater, in proportion, than in any part of England.

In Dublin it was on the increase. Several distinguished persons have died of cholera in Paris and in other parts of France.

Vienna and Berlin are at the present time suffering more than Paris. At Berlin the deaths are more than 46 per day.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The Last Hope Gone.—Comorn and Peterwarden still hold out—the former is commanded by Klapka, the latter by Kul. The Russian General Berg had a long interview with the latter on the 23d ult., the result of which was that an Hungarian Major was sent to Gen. Haynau to arrange terms for the capitulation. The impregnable position of Comorn induces Klapka to demand good conditions.

Magyar Chiefs Executed by the Austrians.—A letter from Vienna of the 31st ult., states that several of the Magyar chiefs had been executed. Among them are the ex-Minister of Austria, Pobjan and Gen. Dawianich, who had been hanged; and Gen. Aufferman, who had been shot. Gen. Iowiah, who gave the fortress of Esseg to the Magyars, had been taken to Vienna in chains.

Heartless Cruelty.—The mother and children of Kossuth, and the wives of several Magyar Generals, had arrived as prisoners at Presburg.

New Military Governor.—There was some talk of Gen. Guylac being appointed civil and military Governor of Hungary.

Movements of Russian Troops.—The great part of the Russian army had received orders to march towards Galicia, but the corps d'armee of Gen. Rudiger was to remain at Mickleo and Grosswardein. Buda and Pesth are to have a garrison of 3000 men.

Entry of Hungarians into Turkey.—The Hungarian corps of Perczel entered Orsova, but the Turkish authorities would not receive them until they had laid down their arms.

Fate of the Hungarian Diet.—Gorgey's surrender was known at Comorn on the 18th, and summons were sent to the garrison, either to follow his example or to send in their terms of capitulation.

Klapka, and those members of the late Hungarian Diet who had declared that the house of Hapsburg had forfeited all claim to the throne of Hungary, and whom the Russians handed over to the Austrian authorities, had been conveyed to Pesth. [There must be some error in this for Klapka commands at Comorn.—Pen.]

The Reward.—Letters from Vienna state that the Emperor of Austria has pardoned Gorgey, and the latter has departed for Syria, where he intends for the present to reside.

Venice was taken possession of by the Imperialists, on the 27th. A provisional arrangement had been concluded.

PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.

On the German question there is to be a directory, consisting of Members for the Confederation, provided by the Cabinets of Vienna and Munich, and it is to hold its sittings at Frankfurt.

The Directory will be a permanent Executive Commission, for the common interest of the whole of Germany. The States who adhered to the restricted confederation, under the direction of Prussia, will have between them three votes, and Austria, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg, and the other small States, will have together four votes.

Such at least is the proposition of Austria.

The Presidency of the directory will be vested alternately in Austria & Prussia.

This will not alter the relations as to the common legislation, and the Executive authority, vested in the confederation.—The Austrian Government have engaged to persuade the Archduke John to resign his dignity of Vicar of the Empire.

FRANCE.

The Paris Moniteur publishes a decree reinstating 11 Lieut. Generals and 14 Major Generals, which, after the revolution of February, were placed in the retired list of the army by the Provisional Government.

The French government continues to refuse passports to German refugees, who, on their way to America, are forced to traverse France.

General Oudinot was expected at Paris on the 20th. Lucien Murat's appointment to Madrid is considered as a conciliation of the two parties in the Cabinet.

The annual sittings, with the Councils General commenced on the 31st ult.

In every department of France, with the exception of the Seine, where the meeting is postponed till October, almost all the candidates chosen as the presidents of the Councils belong to the Conservative party.

THE DOLLAR.

Clearfield, Pa., Sept. 28, 1849.

TICKETS! TICKETS!! Tickets for all the candidates for county offices, and for the Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner, are now printed and ready for distribution.

The Difficulty with France.

We have inserted a long article from the Washington Republic, giving what may be understood as an official relation of the present difficulty between our government and the Minister of the French Republic. Many statements are affixed, respecting the affair, but the one we publish from the Republic, may be deemed the most authentic.

Some of the New York papers, however, have thrown out various insinuations to the effect that much yet remains to be told; and one of them, (the Express, a white paper) intimates that a woman is at the bottom of the affair. But this is, perhaps, mere newspaper speculation.

We will here take occasion to quiet the fears of any of our readers whose nervous systems are likely to be endangered by an apprehension of war. There is yet no cause of war—nor even a fair prospect of such a catastrophe. High dignities of different nations may scold each other, and furnish a whole nation of editors with subject matter for controversy, but the people of the United States and of France are not going to war with each other without good and sufficient cause. Should this affair unfortunately result in an irruption between the two nations, it will clearly manifest the intrigues of the tyrants of Europe against the progress of liberal sentiments, and the treachery of Louis Napoleon, the President of France, and his base sycophancy to the Autocrat of Russia.

The Lady's Book.—Godey's Lady's Book, for October, is now before us. It is only necessary to say that this number fully sustains the high reputation of that periodical in its palmiest days. In contrasting the worth of American Magazines, it should be remembered that this one is the oldest in our country, and that its history has been a continued series of improvement in American Literature.

The Steam Engine.

At last our ears are saluted with the whistle of the steam engine. Messrs. Seiler & Weaver, have their foundry now in full blast, having substituted steam instead of horse power, and are in a fair way to do a good business. This is the first of the kind that has visited our town, but if no accidents happen, it will soon have company.

Good Singing.

The justly celebrated band of Vocalists, the Eddy family, of Massachusetts, visited our borough last week and gave a concert on Friday evening, which was attended by a large and respectable audience, who, if we are to judge by the frequent bursts of applause, appeared very much pleased with the singing. They fully sustained the high reputation they have acquired as vocalists.

Hon. Wm. F. Packer.—This gentleman has been nominated as the democratic candidate for Senator in the district composed of Centre, Clinton, Lycoming and Sullivan counties. The whigs were to meet yesterday for the purpose of deciding upon a candidate against him, and it was generally thought they would unite upon some democrat who was willing to run against the regular nominee. This is the manner in which Mr. Packer was defeated in 1835; but we look for a different result now, and were we publishing a partisan paper, we would cry aloud and spare not, to the end that he might vanquish his enemies. The district has been represented for the last six years by whigs, although composed of four democratic counties.

MORE ABOUT THE FRENCH AFFAIR.

The Pennsylvaniaist of the 26th, received yesterday, contains a synopsis of a long correspondence between the American Secretary of State, and the French Minister and government; but as it discloses no new features in this, perhaps aptly styled farce, we do not deem it of sufficient importance to lay before our readers.

Iron.—The Clarion Democrat of the 18th, learns from a gentleman from Pittsburgh that Pig metal sold in that city last week for \$25 per ton, cash, with a fair prospect of its rising to \$30 per ton before next spring. This is a fair business, as this iron is manufactured and delivered on the Clarion river for about \$17 per ton. Last spring the same quality of iron sold in Pittsburgh for \$25.

The streams in this county are low, or just at present than ever they were known to be. Some are entirely dry.

Another Spite of War.

Washington, Sept. 22, 1849.

There has been a sharp correspondence between Mr. Clayton and the British Minister, Mr. Crampton. It is believed some high ground has been taken by this government in opposition to the exclusive pretensions of Great Britain.

The Journal upon this remarks:—The "exclusive pretensions" here referred to, are probably those advanced by Great Britain in behalf of His Majesty's Majesty of Musquito, to the exclusive navigation of the St. John's river, the outlet of Lake Nicaragua, from the Machuca Rapid, thirty miles below the Lake, down to the sea; and also to the sovereignty of Grey Town, at the mouth of the St. John's. These pretensions are advanced in opposition to the claims of a Company, organized in the United States, under a grant from the government of the State of Nicaragua, for the establishment of a communication between the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, by the route of the River St. John's and the Lake Nicaragua.

Interesting Letter from Europe.

Foreign Correspondence of the Pennsylvaniaist.

PARIS, Aug. 7, 1849.

I was the first here to denounce Gorgey as having sold himself to Paskiewitch; now no one doubts it. The noble Kossuth says, that the loss of Hungary was owing to Gorgey's treachery! It appears by the latest news that the Hungarians have nearly all surrendered, and the fortress of Comorn is the only place of consequence that has not entirely given up.

The Republicans in America must not suppose from this that the struggle in Europe is over—let the friends of liberty everywhere call meetings and raise contributions, for the crowned heads have resolved on changing the government of Switzerland and then of France, or perhaps both at once, and that too, with the aid of the French government. The money that has been raised for Hungary and Italy can now be appropriated to the same cause by giving it to Switzerland, and the near approach of winter will prevent the heroic Swiss boys from being annihilated before the beginning of next summer. In the mean time the citizens of the United States, by beginning at once, can render most powerful assistance. As soon as Congress meets, a full mission should be created for Switzerland, and if General Taylor is true to European liberty, he will immediately dispatch the boldest and clearest headed whig he can put his hand on.

The leading Republicans, (or conspirators as the monarchists call them,) of Italy, Germany and France, are now at Geneva.

The government here has been trying to foment an outbreak, in order that they may have some pretext for changing the form of government into a perpetual Presidency to begin with. There is some danger of their succeeding in getting up an emuete. The city is very quiet. The Legationists, the Orleansists, and the Republicans have their club meetings every night—regiments of troops you can see constantly passing through the streets, very quietly, without music. The Red Republicans are not prepared, but the legitimists (Henry 6th), and the Orleansists are now ready for an outbreak; and no one can tell what a week may bring forth. The Republicans are stronger than either of the other divisions. Henry 6th party next.

Gen. Armstrong, our late consul at Liverpool, has been here for several days. He was offered a high position in the Hungarian service by Count Zelicke, the Hungarian Minister; but Gorgey's treachery may prevent Old Hickory's sword being drawn for Hungarian liberty. Even Gorgey's treachery would not have hurt Hungary, if Gen. Bem, could have had a part on the Adriatic as Count Zelicke had concluded an arrangement for a large amount of arms and munitions of war, including several thousand of Samuel Colt's celebrated revolvers. Without such port all arms and munitions of war had to be taken to Constantinople, and then ten days over land to Belgrade, and then ten days over Turkey, and then into Hungary.

Series Fight in Arkansas.—[By Telegraph.]

St. Louis, Sept. 23.

Intelligence has been received from Arkansas, stating that quite a serious riot had taken place near Yellowville, between the Sheriff and his posse, and a gang of desperadoes who infest that part of the country. From what we can learn, it appears that the Sheriff attempted to arrest some of the gang who are charged with murder and other crimes, when they made a stout resistance. During the fight which ensued, eight persons were killed, and several others wounded. From the last account it would seem that a large party of the gang had fortified themselves, and expressed a determination to resist the civil authorities to the last.

Children rescued by a dog—an incident.

A few days since while at play on the dock of the Central Railroad, at Detroit, Michigan, four small girls, the eldest not more than ten years old, simultaneously fell into the river, and their condition would have been highly critical had not been for the wonderful sagacity of a large dog belonging to Johnson's hotel. The moment they fell the faithful old dog plunged in after them and brought two of them to the dock; where they were taken out by the bystanders; the other two were taken out by another gentleman, but of the biped order.

Kossuth in America.

It is said that Kossuth has gone to England. Let him come home for America, not England is the place for him! There are hundreds of thousands of warm hearts ready to receive him in the United States, much public opinion in his favor.