

WASHINGTON.

Implied Privileges to Cuban Filibusters.

Spanish Outrage on a British Brig.

THE PROPOSED CUBAN CONSTITUTION.

WASHINGTON, May 5, 1862.

The Departing of the Cuban Expedition Tacitly Allowed.

One important fact regarding the probability of our government interfering to prevent the departure of war material for the Cubans has transpired to-day. It is, briefly, that our government has resolved not to prevent the departure of any vessels, whether loaded with arms or not, provided their apparent destination is not direct for Cuba. In other words, vessels cleared for Nassau, Jamaica, Mexico or any other place with which we are on friendly terms, will be allowed to leave, no matter how much war material nor how many passengers they may carry. In reply to inquiries from parties interested, including, it is said, the Spanish Minister, our government has declared that such war material must be regarded as merchandise, and the people on board such vessels as travellers or persons leaving our ports on legitimate business. This is a very important announcement, as it will enable the Cubans to send off as many men and as much war material as they choose without embarrassing interference. Information derived here to-day is to the effect that two formidable expeditions left New York for Cuba yesterday.

Constitution of the Republic of Cuba.

The Cuban constitution for a republican form of government was prepared in this city in the interests of the insurgents, and has been or will be presented for their consideration. The framers acted upon the assumption that the Cubans will achieve their independence of Spain, and, as in the case of Texas, seek annexation to the United States. The constitution provides for the creation of one or more States in the Island of Cuba.

Spanish Outrage on a British Brig.

A despatch was received here to-day by the British Minister from the English Consul at Havana giving an account of another Spanish outrage on the high seas. According to this despatch, a Spanish war vessel hailed an English brig at sea, and the latter, refusing to stop, was fired into by the Spaniard and sunk. This is the substance of the despatch, which Mr. Thornton immediately sent to his government over the cable. As the despatch is extremely meagre, not stating whether the information respecting the outrage was received originally from the Spanish man-of-war or from some survivors of the sunken brig, the authorities here scarcely know whether to credit it or not.

Another Railroad Subsidy Hatchling.

The Secretary of the Interior, in company with Ex-Secretary-General Evarts, and certain parties interested in the Atchison (Kansas) Railroad, called at the Treasury Department to-day, and had a long interview with Secretary Boutwell about the issue of bonds to this company. This matter was before Congress at the last session, and was considered so outrageous and unfounded a claim that it was defeated in the Senate. The owners of the so-called road are mostly Boston men, and they are now attempting to force the matter through the departments. The case was argued a few days ago by ex-Attorney General Evarts, who is the lawyer for the concern, before the Secretary of the Interior. It is understood that Secretary Cox is favorably disposed towards the company, and the point now to be made is to get the Secretary of the Treasury in the same mood. The amount of bonds asked for is about \$4,000,000, while the land subsidy amounts to about 3,000,000 acres. The claim set up is that this road, of which only forty miles are built, is a branch of the Pacific Railroad, and, therefore, under the act of Congress, entitled to a government subsidy. The Secretary of the Treasury heard the statements of Mr. Evarts and the parties interested, but did not make any decision.

The Election in Virginia.

Governor Wells, of Virginia, in his interview yesterday with President Grant, obtained no satisfactory information as to the time the constitution will be voted on in that State. This will not be determined until a thorough registration shall be completed, and General Canby, who has not yet become entirely acquainted with the political situation, shall recommend the most convenient period for that purpose.

Murder of an Army Officer in Texas.

A telegram received at the War Department to-day from Austin, Texas, announces that Brevet Captain B. H. Markness, First Lieutenant Thirty-eighth infantry, was shot and instantly killed while in pursuit of deserters from the Thirty-eighth infantry. The murderers were captured and confined in Fort Bliss.

Appointments by the President.

The President to-day appointed Emma A. McMackin, postmistress at Salem, Ill., and John A. Prall, Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Seventh Kentucky district.

Changes in the Treasury Department.

Colonel William P. Wood, Chief of the Detective Force of the Treasury Department, having resigned, Major C. Whitely, of Boston, has been appointed to the office.

Major T. J. Powers, of Pennsylvania, has been appointed Disbursing Clerk of the Register's office of the Treasury Department, in place of Colonel J. P. Burnside, who held the position under Register Jeffries.

Colonel Gwin, of Des Moines, Iowa, has been appointed Third Deputy Commissioner of the Internal Revenue.

S. E. Middleton, for twelve years past the Cashier of the Treasury, will resign on the 1st of June.

Circular by the Comptroller of the Currency.

After all the reports of the national banks shall have been taken and digested for a general abstract, the Comptroller of the Currency will issue a general circular of instructions with regard to the manner of making reports under the new law, which is differently understood by the banks, as is shown by the responses to the Comptroller's order of the 20th of April.

Taxation of Telegraph Messages.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that counter blank No. 2 of the Western Union Telegraph Company, as now used by said company and found on the printed headings of their blanks for telegraphic messages, is, when filled up and signed by the sender and delivered to the company, a contract, and as such requires a stamp of five cents. The counter blank alluded to is as follows:—

To guard against mistakes the sender of a message should order it repeated—that is, telegraphed back to the originating office. For repeating, one half the regular rate is charged in addition. And it is agreed between the sender of the following message and this company that said company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any unrepeated message beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery of any repeated message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of their lines or for errors in cypher or obscure messages. And this company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination. Correctness in the transmission of messages to any point on the lines of this company can be insured by contract in writing, stating the agreed amount of risk and payment of premium thereon at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz.:—One per cent for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent for any greater distance. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing. The company will not be liable for damages in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after sending the message.

Philadelphians at the White House.

Governor Geary, of Pennsylvania, and a delegation of the Philadelphia Union League, were at the Executive Mansion this morning, and had a long interview with the President. A large number of persons thronged the ante-room during the forenoon; but very few obtained an audience.

Trouble Among the Senate Employees—Caroline Brown (colored) Discharged.

There is no little excitement among the officers and employees of the Senate over the discharge of a colored woman named Caroline Brown, who has had charge of the ladies' retiring room of the Senate. Caroline is the individual who raised a sensation

some time ago about being turned out of the cars of the Washington and Alexandria Railroad Company. It appears that the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, J. R. French, was directed by Senator Cragin, chairman of the Committee on Contingent Expenses of the Senate, to reduce the force of employees during the recess. Caroline was among the unfortunates. She resolved, however, not to submit. She appealed to several Senators and Senators' wives. Among the Senators importuned is Mr. Sumner, who championed her case in the Senate when she had the difficulty with the railroad company. Since that time Caroline has been apparently very lame, especially when about the Senate. On the street, however, it has been remarked that she walks remarkably brisk. Mr. French is unrelenting and refuses to reinstate Caroline. Caroline threatens to have French removed, and so the war goes on. What will be the end of it remains to be seen.

Personal.

The Hon. George Villiers, son of Lord Clarendon, arrived here to-day. He paid his respects during the day to Mr. Thornton, the British Minister, and tomorrow he will call upon the President and the Secretary of State. He visits this country on private business.

Among the arrivals to-night is Ruslem Bey, a general in the army of the Sultan. He visits Washington on business connected with the Turkish Legation here.