

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27, 1869.

The Cuban Constitution—Card from the Cuban Envoy.

A few days ago an evening paper in New York published a despatch from this city to the effect that it has been discovered by an official at the State Department that the Cuban constitution, published in May last, in the United States differs from the one promulgated in Cuba in July. The former is anti-slavery in its sentiments, while the latter contains clauses recognizing slavery and upholding it throughout the island, in case the insurrection is a success. In reply to this Señor Lemus has addressed the following card to the editor of a local paper here, into which the despatch was copied:—

LEGACION DE LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA }
EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS. }

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 27, 1869.

The prominence given in your paper this morning to a despatch from this city to the New York Evening Post, demands some notice from me. The truth of the matter is that only one constitution (that adopted in May last) exists in Cuba. I have in my possession complete copies of all the official acts of the republic of Cuba since its organization up to the first of this month, and I defy any one to find therein one single sentence which contemplates anything but absolute and unequivocal freedom to the slaves of the island. The republican leaders long before the adoption of the constitution emancipated their slaves, and wherever the army of the republic marches, freedom is proclaimed to all of every color.

J. M. LEMUS.

Proposed Change in the Tenure of Office of Government Employees.

A meeting of department clerks was held this evening, the object of which was to establish a permanent organization looking to secure a greater permanency in the tenure of office and increased and different rates of compensation. A resolution was adopted selecting a committee to draft a plan, which is to be submitted by the head of bureaus to the secretaries and by them to Congress in their annual reports, recommending the issuing of commissions for five years' service and the retention of five per cent on the salary of each employé, to be paid to him at the time of his resignation or honorable discharge, and that dismissals only be made on account of incompetency or negligence in the performance of duty. It was argued that a regulation of this kind would have the effect of causing an increased energy on the part of the clerks in the discharge of their duties. Another meeting is to be held two weeks hence.

Indian Massacres in Dakota.

The Indian Bureau has information confirmatory of the news recently received of the massacre of some whites near Fort Sully, in Dakota Territory. Information has also been received of the murder of two white men by the Indians between Fort Smith and Sculleyville, in Indian Territory.

Another Transatlantic Telegraph.

J. K. Herbert, of New York, filed to-day with the Postmaster General the written consent of the President and Secretary of the American Cable Company giving their acquiescence in the restrictions contained in the law of 1869 relative to telegraph cables. It is the intention of this company to proceed at once to lay a cable between France and the United States. They propose to establish rates over their line much cheaper than those now in existence either by the Atlantic or French cable.

Increase of Immigration.

Official returns of passengers arriving in the United States during the quarter ending with June shows an extraordinary increase. The whole number is 177,532, of whom nearly 68,000 were females.

Sale of Government Property at Harper's Ferry.

In pursuance of an act of Congress the property of the United States at Harper's Ferry and vicinity is to be sold on the 30th of November. It includes the musket and rifle factories, the Shenandoah ferry, the houses and lots in the town, lands, water power, the right to dig iron ore, &c.

Indian Outrages in New Mexico—Trouble With Minnesota Tribes.

Advices received by the Indian Department from Fort Stanton, New Mexico, represent that the Mesquero Apache Indians are still on the war path. The citizens of San José, New Mexico, report that a party of five or six of this tribe attacked four boys who were herding sheep near that town, on the evening of the 10th of August. Two of the boys escaped, one was killed on the spot and one (Francisco Blea, aged thirteen years) was carried into captivity. The Indians also captured 3,000 head of sheep, about thirty miles south of San José. These were subsequently recaptured by a party of citizens. The country inhabited by these Indians is so rough and mountainous that it is difficult to find them.

Official information has also been received confirmatory of the report of the killing of four men, wood choppers, at Fort Buford. They were in the employ of a contractor from St. Paul. The men made a hard fight, and, it is thought, killed several Indians. One dead Indian was left on the ground. Recently the Uncapapas drove off the ponies—twenty in number—of the Indian scouts, at Rice River. The Indians in the vicinity of Fort Sully are very quiet.

Executive Appointment.

William Whist has been appointed Register of the Land Office at Booneville, Mo.

The Washington International Exhibition.

Mr. H. D. Cooke, chairman of the recent meeting in relation to the holding of an international exhibition in this city, has appointed the following select committee of fifteen, authorized by a resolution adopted at that meeting, viz.:—W. W. Corcoran, General W. T. Sherman, Admiral J. A. Dahlgren, M. W. Galt, S. S. Fisher, A. J. Bowen, Mayor of Washington; H. M. Sweeney, Mayor of Georgetown; A. R. Shepherd, Dr. C. T. Stansbury, Edward Clark, Moses Kelley, A. S. Solomons, J. G. Berrett, Hallett Kilbourn and J. C. Kennedy. This is recognized as a working committee, and if anything can be accomplished in the direction of an exposition these gentlemen will secure the desired result.