## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OFINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Importance of an Alliance Between the United States and Asia.

From "Brick" Pomeroy's N. Y. Democrat. Mr. Cesare Moreno is an Italian gentleman who, after having devoted half his life to the study of Asia, desires to devote the other half in enlightening us upon that subject. He has particular ideas as to the great advantages we would derive from a regular intercourse with that country; and what we have heard from his plan induces us to think that his object is a praiseworthy one, and deserves encourage-

There is no doubt that Asia, situated as it is between Russian encrosolements and English spoliation, would certainly grasp eagerly the hand of any friendly power who would interpose itself between the two invaders. This task is a noble one, and it is in that light that it ought to be looked upon by our people and by our Government.

To do it successfully, however, we want a European ally sufficiently rich and powerful to assist us in establishing in Asia that counterpoise which is known in diplomatic circles as the balance of power. If Mr. Seward was looking carefully upon the map of Europe, he would certainly find one. An alliance of that kind would give us in the eastern and southern part of Asia an influence which would necessarily be felt in our relations with China, destined, to become at some future time, one of the greatest tributaries of the United

States.
Mr. Cesare Moreno is preparing, upon his travels in Asis, a book, which will be out in a couple of weeks. If that work contains, as we think, useful and reliable information upon the subject alluded to, we shall be happy to give a summary of it to our readers, who will then be enabled to judge for themselves of its importance, as well as of the character of the mission of Mr. Moreno in this country.

The Cry of the South. From the N. Y. Tribune. The Georgia Nationalist appeals to the loyal men of the North to organize four societies to promote immigration of Northern men into the South in communities able to protect themselves. It proposes that the first society shall comprise the New England States, and apply itself specially to settling South Carolins, Georgia, and Florida. The second may include New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and operate in colouizing Virginia and North Carolina. The third may comprise Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, and should work in settling Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The fourth society should labor in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Kansas, for the settlement of Arkansas and Texas. The purpose of these organizations would be to send trusted agents into the South to ascertain the opportunities for business which are now to open there by reason of the low prices of land and the abundance of labor. Much of the land, it is said, can now be had for a dollar or two an acre, which would have sold for twenty dollars before the Rebellion, and will be worth that price again as soon as industry shall revive and the country become productive and peaceful. The failure of many of the efforts to turn emigration Southward, which were made immediately after the close of the war, was due to the delay in settling the Reconstruction question; to the facts that the settlers scattered too much, not aiming to keep near enough to-gether to protect each other; that they bought property when it was from three to ten times as high as it is now, running in debt for most cotton on a falling market, without calculating on the fall; were inexperienced in Southern industry, and were set back by two subcessive unusually bad seasons. Reconstruction, however, is now settled. Property has fallen to its lowest possible point. General Grant will soon give security and peace to all. Emigrants going in communities will avoid the risks to person and capital incurred by those going alone. It is necessary to the stability and peace of the country that Northern emigration into the South shall be undertaken on a scale as national and imposing as the Northern invasiion of the South by hostile armies during the Rebellion. There are in all these States strongly Republican counties which need only a few Northern with to organize the vote and maintain loyal ascendancy throughout entire districts which otherwise must be abandoned to Rebel and reactionary ascendancy. One county in Georgia, for instance, cast only 58 votes for Grant, though it had 1500 colored voters. There was but one white Republican in the county, and he cared not to endure the dangers of a canvass. A few Northern communities in each county, sufficient to organize churches and schools, stores and mills, and to introduce Northern newspapers, would suffice to sustain the loyal sentiment in every such county. We need 3000 Northern voters and workers in Florida, 4000 in South Carolina, 5000 each in Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisi-ana, and 10,000 each in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas. If an immigration like that which pours Westward could flow into the South for one year only, the Southern States would be delivered from the nightmare which now oppresses their polities and industry. Who will organize and undertake the work? It must be begun from motives of patriotism as well as profit; must be actually superintended by men of influence, ability, and vigor, and must be carried through with an industry and energy like that with which we carried on the great struggle for the Union itself. Are the right men and women ready to volunteer for the work? If they are, it can and will be done.

The Indiana Jail Murders.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The recent outrage at New Albany, Indiana, where a party of men forced their way into the county jail and hanged four prisoners who were awaiting trial for an express robbery, is one of the most mortifying but at the same time one of the most instructive occurrences which we have had to chronicle for a long time. It is not so much that our Government seems to have failed in making reasonable provision for the safety of prisoners who were known to be threatened by the mob, and to whom we guaranteed a fair trial when we demanded their extradition from Canada; but our fault lies much deeper than that. The Renos and Anderson would never have been lynched if the people had trusted in the uprightness of the courts. For years past justice is said to have been almost unknown in certain counties of Indiana. The forms of law have been a mockery; trial has been a farce; judges have been corrupt; juries have been forsworn; crime has organized and taken the administration of justice into its own hands; members of gangs of thieves and highwaymen have held up their heads with the most respectable people; there has been no security for life or property, no punish-ment for the most glaring outrages. A horde of banditti, such as have given a sad notoriety

have spread over portions of Indiana, and wrested the machinery of the courts to their fell purposes. They have not been content with using the poniard of the assassin, but its rules, and ask the Secretary plainly, "Where has Mr. Cushing gone, how many trunks did he take, and what are his wages, and all about it." And then, if Mr. Seward have seized upon the sword of Justice herself. Much as we may deplore the crime by which the citizens have avenged these outrages, we can hardly wonder at it. They felt that the law gave them no redress; brute violence was their only resource.

The root of the evil is a corrupt judiciary. The remedy is at the ballot-box. So long as we stain the ermine by throwing it over the foul shoulders of an unjust judge, so long must we expect to see the bench despised and murder usurping the functions of the law. The massacre at the Indiana jail is full of lessons for New York. How long will it be, if we keep on our present course, before vigilians approximate will head to be a support of the second of the law. lance committees will break open our own prisons and execute summary vengeance upon criminals whom they dare not trust to venal officers of the law?

Constitutionality of the Legal-tender Act.

From the N. Y. Herald.

There is some auxiety in the public mind to know what the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States may be on the constitutionality of the Legal-tender act in the cases now pending before the court on that question. It is, undoubtedly, an important question, involving not only the powers of the Government, but the obligations and transactions of trade and the value of property, both past and present. Still, we think there is no need for apprehension or disturbance of business; for whatever the technical interpretation of the Constitution or law may be, there is an imperative and a higher law that must govern in the matter, and that is the law of necessity the law of public welfare. It was this law that led to the issue of the legal-tender currency to preserve the Government and the life of the republic in a great crisis, and it will now save the country from the shock of annulling the act of Congress and declaring the greenbacks worthless. Of course we do not know what the decision of the Supreme Court may be; but if even adverse to the constitutionality of the act it would be comparatively inoperative, for the great and general interests of the country would prove superior to the dictum of the court. But we suppose the court will be governed by higher considera-tions than those of doubtful constitutional or legal technicalities, and that under the abnormal and extraordinary circumstances surrounding the issue and operation of the legaltenders it will look to the public welfare. On several occasions in the history of the

country, under the pressure of great financial difficulties, specie payments have been suspended, and it is well known that the laws were powerless to compel the banks to pay coin. The same has occurred in almost all other countries. The law of necessity is stronger than all other laws. It will prove so in this case. Mr. Evarts, in his able argument before the court, maintains that while the several States are prohibited by the Constitution from emitting bills of credit, this is not forbidden to the Federal Government, and that by implication it has the power to emit bills credit and to declare the value thereof. "Let the end be legitimate," he says, "let it be within the scope of the Constitution, and all the means which are appropriate, which are plainly adapted to the end, which are not prohibited, but consistent with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, are constitutional. Under that the Bank of the United States was sustained in time of peace. Under that the embargo was sustained in time of war." Then he lays down as a proposition that "to determine what shall be the money of a country, and how it shall serve its purposes as a measure of value and a medium of exchange, including its efficacy as a legal tender in satisfaction of debts, belongs to government. So, of it, and losing all with its decline; planted | too, to determine whether anything besides money shall be a legal tender in satisfaction of debts among its subjects or citizens ba-longs to government." Then Mr. Evarts argues that the law can no longer be questioned under the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution; for that has ratified every act of Congress relative to the public debt, and the legal-tenders are a part of the debt. That amendment declares, in effect, that the laws passed during the stress of war in aid and support of the public credit shall not be and tioned.

The Supreme Court was reserve its decision if it finds a constitutional difficulty, or it may render the not directly bearing upon the broad issue, to save the country from financial trouble; but it will be better if the question can be settled at once and forever that the Legaltender act is valid and cannot be disturbed. Public opinion is strongly in favor of such a settlement of the question. Even the on-tospecie-payment theorists are alarmed at the consequences should the Legal-tender act be declared unconstitutional. But, as we said, we think there is no reason for apprehension, and that under any circumstances the law of necessity will uphold the value of our greenback currency.

A Curious Congress on Caleb Cushing. From the N. Y. Times.

Since the day when Colonel Campbell made his masterly Mexican move, including the strategic advance on New Orleans and the St. Charles Hotel, there has been nothing in diplomacy like this excitement over Caleb Cushing. Where has he gone; what to do; and who pays the bills? Congress is in a fever over it; so are the correspondents; so is the press; so is the public. Everybody in general, and Mr. Hunter, of Indians, in particular, is wrung with curiosity. With the Prince of Denmark, Mr. Hunter cries, "Let me not burst in ignorance, but tell me why," etc., etc. Unmoved either by the torturing pangs of a curious Congress or by the spectacle of Mr. Hunter as "Hamlet," "meanwhile," says our Washington correspondent, "Mr. Seward is said to enjoy the muddle very much, and delights in telling people, as he will tell Con-

gress, where Mr. Cushing has not gone to." He has gone to London, to put his finger in the Alabama pie; or no, to Madrid, to drive a trade for Cuba; or no, again, but he is really gone to Bogota to dig a Dutch Gap through the Isthmus, and let the Pacific into the Atlantic. And, after all, what if he had gone neither to England nor to New Grenada, nor yet to Spain, but to Madagascar, to exchange that plated diplomatic coffee-pot for a solid

one, under pain of declaring war!

Congress, in this grievous uncertainty, endgels its dull brains for a solution, and popping upon Spain (why poor Spain ?) suspends its rules that Mr. Hunter may ask the Secretary of State if he has sent "any commissioner" thither, and if so, why, and ou what wages, and whether he "finds himself," and how he (Mr. Seward) is going to raise the money to foot the bills. Now, suppose the Secretary says no-not any; not any Com-missioner to Spain. In what better plight is

the House? Why, on Mr. Hunter's plan, that body will have to print a blank form of query, and then put in successive names instead of Spain (as England, New Grenada, Madagascar, Capnibal Isles), till it hits right-an amusing should reply, as he did the other day to Mr. Wood's resolution about the Alabama discussion, that a direct answer would be "premature and incompatible with public interests,' Congress could console itself with the reflection that, like Sempronius, it had more than 'commanded success''-it had 'deserved it."

Our New Ruler. From the N. Y. World.

It is stated in the New York Tribane that there is now in Washington "a negro with genuine kinky wool," who claims a seat in Congress from a Louisiana district, and is not "unlikely to get it." Such being the probability, let us consider the powers of this gentleman on being sworn in.

He is to apportion representation and direct taxes "among the several States which may be included within this Union"-not to speak of those now out of this Union, as Virginia, Texas, and Mississippi; to deter-mine, in any given case, whether a member elect from New York, Ohio, or Indiana is eligible to a seat beside him; to raise revenue; to override vetces; to lay taxas; to borrow money on the credit of the United States; to regulate commerce; to establish a uniform rule of naturalization for the countrymen of Emmet and of Schiller; to coin money; to promote the progress of science and useful arts; to define the law of nations; to declare war; to raise armies; support a navy; make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, not omitting to regulate Sherman, Sheridan, Farragut, West Point, and Annapolis; to exclusively govern Washington City and the District of Columbia-hail Columbia; and, in fine, "to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof."

With these powers we do not hear that this gentleman, "with genuine kinky wool," ever fought nobly, though he is to make war and rule armies; nor, though he is "to promote the progress of science and useful arts," do we hear of any mental coruscations on his part; indeed, it is even stated by the New York Tribune to the contrary that "he does not beong to the best educated class of French negroes in New Orleans," this gemman don't; nor, though he is to lay taxes, raise revenue, borrow money, and coin coin, does it seem but that he has on occasion sipped of the soup and munched of the bread and the beef provided by the Freedmen's Bureau. But then, on the word of the Tribune, he

has "a complexion that might fairly enough or (darkly enough) indicate at least three-fourths Airlean blood." This is enough.

## THE NATIONAL DEBT.

Remarks of Senator Cattell on the Finances. The following took place in the United States conte on Monday last:— Mr. Cattell—I ask the consent of the Senate to

der a resolution at this time. I send it to the lesk to be read.

The resolution was read, as follows:-Resolved. That the Senate receive with pro-found regret the proposition of the President in ils annual message to repudiate a portion of he national obligations, and regard this and all forms of repudiation as a national crime. National bonor requires the payment of the public debt in the utmost good faith to all creditors at home and abroad, not only according to the letter but the spirit of the laws under which it

was created.
Mr. Cattell-Mr. President, it seems to me that the extraordinary propositions contained in the President's annual message, byoring the repudiation of the public debt, should not go to the country without a prompt and decided ex-pression by the Senate of their unqualified disapprobation. And it is with this view I offer the resolution just read. Lest the full scope and meaning of this passag.

n the message may have escaped the attention of some Senators, I beg to read it again in your

"It may be assumed that the holders of our "It may be assumed that the holders of our securities have already received upon their bonds a larger amount them their original investment, measured by a gold standard. Upon this statement of facts it would seem but just and equitable that the six per cent, interest now paid by the Government should be applied to the reduction of the principal in semi-annual instalments, which in sixteen years and eight months would have described to the entire national debt. Six per cent, in gold would at present rates be easial to nine per cent, in currency, and continued equal to hime per cent. in currency, and equiva-lent to the payment of the debt one and a half times in a traction less than seventeen years. This, in connection with all the other advantage. crived from their investment, would afford to the public creditors a fair and liberal compensa tion for the use of their capital, and with this they should be satisfied. The lessons of the past admonish the lender that it is not well to be ver auxious in exacting from the borrower rigid compliance with the letter of the bond,"

Mr. President, here is a simple, plain proposi-tion emanating from the President of the United States in his message to Congress, and advocated as just and equitable, to pay to the public creditor simply the interest provided for by law and stipulated in the bond for a given number of years, and at the expiration of that period to repudiate the entire principal of the debt. It isses belief that a proposition so monstrous as this, so disgraceful, in my opinion, to the nation, so damaging to its credit at home and abroad, should emanate from the Chief Executive of this Government, whose duty it is to guard the honor and faith of the nation rather than to tarnish the one and to break the other. No nan in the United States, so far as my know ledge extends, has been found hitherto bold enough to advocate open, und sguised, and un-qualized repudiation. So in lefensible a propo-sition as this has been reserved for Andrew Johnson, as a fitting climax to the wickedness and folly or his administration,

Mr. President, the people of the United States will repudiate the repudiator. In count of fact they have already done so. At the recent elec-tions the people of the United States investe. with all the executive and legislative power of his nation the party which had the manimess to declare against all forms of repudiation as a crime, and to assert that the obligations of the National Government should be paid in good faith to the uttermost farthing. And, Mr. President, the people of the United States will stand by their verdict. The deat is a burdensome one, unquestionably; but it will be paid; it will be paid manfully and honestly; bay more, sir, it will be paid cheerfully, remembering that it is the final instalment of the price paid for the preservation of the glorious institutions under which we live as a process inheritance for our children and our children, so hidren. chlidren and our children's children.

Mr. Fre-ident, my object in offering this reso-tion was that we should have from this body a prompt denial of the doc rice contained in this message to go out with it to the world. A legistative enactment such as the joint resolution proposed by the Senator from Vermont, which was on our tables at the last session, will necessarily bring up some debate, or require some time, at any rate, in its passage. The House of Representatives. I think, pursued the same course which I have now proposed; they introduced and passed a resolution of their own body, and I felt that it was exceedingly desirable that the Senate should at once promptly declare its

views in relation to this proposition. Moreover, sir, this proposition of the President differs from all others. There is no ques-tion in this proposition as to whether the geb shall be paid in greenbacks or in coin. The suggestion is that it shall not be paid at all; and it occurs to me that so open and undisguised a no security for life or property, no punishment for the most glaring outrages. A horde of banditti, such as have given a sad notoriety to Oneida county in our own State, appear to

of opinion. As to this, I think there can scarcely be found a solitary individual in the Senate of the United States who will not disagree to the message of the President, at any rate as I understand it; and therefore I should profer that the Segate would agree to pass this resolution now rather than refer it. My motion for reference was at the suggestion of a friend. leave the question entirely for the judgment of the Senate.

Mr. Hendricks—Will the Schator allow me to ask him one question? Did the people decide, in voting upon this resolution, in favor of paying the debt in gold or in the lawful money of the United States?

Mr. Cattell—I think they decided that the resolution of the Calcago platform was very much preferable to that issued in New York. think that was the great decision made on that occasion. But, Mr. President, as I remarked in rising, when it shall become necessary to discuss this question in all its length and bread b, I shall be prepared to take my ground upon it with as much frankness as the Senator from Indiana will. My object was what I have stated, I should be glad to have a vote to-day on this resolution, but I submit to the better judgment of friends around me, who think it is better to refer the resolution to the Committee. The resolution was referred.

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Essate of JAMES HAMILTON decessed.
The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit sottle,
and adjust the inity-eighth account of THOMAS
OADWALADER. Executor and Trustee of the last
whi and testament of JAMES HAMILTON, deceased, arising from that portion of the estate belonging to Schedule B, annexed to the indenture of peti
tion in said estate, dated January 28, 1819, recorded in
the office for recording deeds. etc. in Philadelphia, tion in said estate, dated January 25, 1819. recorded in the office for recording device etc. in Filliadelphia, in Deed Book G. W C., No. 1, page 487, etc., and to report distribution of the balance in the hands of the accountant, will meet the parties interested for the purposes of his appointment, on MONDAY, Decenber 21, A. D. 1808, at 4 o'clock F. M., at his office, No. 406 WALNU? Street, in the city of Philadelphia, 12 10 thatuôt\* WILLLAM D. BAKEtt, Auditor.

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