THE DALLY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1869.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITOBIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS BPOR CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED BURRY DAY FOR THE SVENING VELSORAPH.

Canada and Annexation. From the N. Y. Times.

Mr. Cudlip's resolution in favor of annexing New Brunswick to the United States has been declared "treasonable," and ignomini-Deen declared "treasonable," and ignomini-ously "refused a place on the notice book." Let Mr. Cudlip bide his time. New Brans-wick is not the whole dominion; most cer-tainly as regards the disposition to "gravitate towards the United States," New Branswick is not Nova Scotla. Rome was not built in a day, nor can the formation of our "oceanbound republic" of the future be wisely precipitated.

But if to resolve annexation be treasonable, clearly it is not treason to talk it. The London Times itself, which holds that the Confederation movement of the provinces makes them "more free than ever to dispose themselves as they please," declares now that "if the mass of the people should hereafter desire to enter the American Union, England will assuredly not lift a finger to prevent it." Is this presentiment of Canadian annexation in the future a general one in England ? It should seem so, since the Times declares that its opponents on the Confederation question also hold that "the territory must be absorbed sooner or later by the United States."

Americans sometimes are ridiculed, and oftener ridicule themselves, for a "manifest destiny" inflation-a thirst for territorial acquisition. But it is not in the United States that this subject is most talked about. To find the manifest destiny fever running highest we must go to the press of Canada and Mexico, which countries stand half hoping half dreading, and altogether certain to be annexed, and to that of Great Britain and France, which have made up their minds to annexation as something inevitable. It is the London Times itself which exhorts us to seize Mexico, and which dimly hints at the Canadians "gravitating towards the United States by a natural law," and "destined one day to obey the centripetal force." Mr. Reverdy Johnson's after-dinner speech to the British Colonial Society, suggesting that "some of the colonies which now flourished under the dominion of her Majesty might, in the process of time, find themselves under the Stars and Stripes," was received without any indignant protest. The papers that commented on the speech took the prospect of annexation, some with grim, Indian-like fortitude, others with more Indian-like reticence, and some on the optimistic theory that it would be just as well,

for all parties, to let Canada go. The British tourists in Canada are, however, the most outspoken advocates of an-nexation, and the most cheerful and confident prophets of its happy results to everybody. Take, for example, Mr. Frederick Whymper, who declares, "That it is the destiny of the United States to possess the whole Northern Continent, I fully believe." This writer, so far from doubting or deprecating such an issue, declares "We shall be released from an incumbrance, a source of expense and possible weakness; they (the provinces) freed from the trammels of periodical alarms of invasion, and feeling the strength of independence, will develop and grow; and speaking very plainly and to the point—our commercial relations with them will double and quadruple them-selves in value." It would be easy to cite similar advice from dozens of intelligent English tourists.

Now, the noticeable point in these and similar utterances occurring every day is the drift of public sentiment. There has been a wondrous change in this respect within ten sars. Formerly, the talk of speedily "ab-

Now, what are the objections to this treaty? We have heard it said that the ground is to be taken by the new administration that it is beneath the dignity of this country to ask for pecuniary recompense for the losses caused by the Alabama, and that what is to be required is an apology for the affront off-red to this country in permitting her to be fitted on: from a British port. The auswer to this suggestion strikes us with great force. In the first place, we have asked for peculiary recompense to the injured owners of the property destroyed by the Alabama, and the demand has been considered and a mode of trying the question of liability has been assented Is it not rather late to sny that we have hitherto miztaken our true diguity, and that what we have been clamoring for during the past three years was not what we want In the next place, who does not see that the demand for an apology leads directly to the issue of war, and that the demand for pecuniary reparation of the injuries-assented to as it has been-leads to no such issue? Who can imagine that England will consent to apologize for the attitude of neutrality assumed by the Queen's proclamation, issued on the responsible advice of ministers? It is not their habit to place their executive in a false position. What one set of ministers has advised the Crown to do in foreign intercourse advised the Grown to do in foreign intercourse is invariably upheld by all administrations. But a succeeding administration may be very willing to submit the question of the diligence of their predecessors to investigation, because such an inquiry involves their predecessors alone, and does not involve the honor of the Crown or of the country. We may be very sure that, if we press this matter to the

point of requiring an admission that the original attitude of neutrality, as between two belligerents, was wrongful and requires an apology, the unanimous feeling of the nation will be opposed to any such admission. No minister could stand up in the House of Commons and propose it without being instantly voted down. But the question whether there was negligence in the discharge of the duties of neutrality, is one that any ministry can agree to try without compromising anything but the official characters of their predecessors; and there is no practical utility in raising this question, excepting to procure reparation of the losses which the supposed negligence may have caused.

From all the private advices that we have seen, we are satisfied that the feeling is general in England that, if America does not choose to ratify this treaty, England is well out of the difficulty. It was a mode of sattlement which our Government itself proposed; it obtained the assent of two successive ministries. Private letters received here within a week declare that the feeling in England is almost universal that, it we are not disposed to meet them half-way now that they have advanced half-way at our solicitation, there is nothing more to be done. It is very much to be hoped that our Government will not enter into the hazardous enterprise of endeavoring to obtain any other apology than such as is implied in the agreement to adjudicate the question of liability for certain pecuniary losses of our citizens. Any direct apology must necessarily be preceded by an agreement of the facts which rendered the acts done or omitted a national insult. If Mr. Secretary Fish and Mr. Thornton were to sit down in the State Department together for the purpose of settling the facts which are to form the basis of an apology, what prospect is there that they could agree ?

Georgia. From the N. F. Tribune.

Whatever Congress may see fit to do with regard to Georgia-and we have forborne to urge any particular course-the vital fact must not be ignored that her present difficulties are wholly the work of the upholders of "a white man's government." The State was recon-structed—she had a Governor and Legislature of her own choice, with Representatives in Congress-the disabilities of her ex-Rebels had been practically removed-when the "white man's party" reopened the war, by ejecting all the colored members from either branch of the Legislature. This was done under the impulse given by the Democratic National Convention which met in this city last summer and nominated Seymour and Blair-it was, in fact, the most significant response to that imposing demonstration-a virtual echo of Frank Blair's famous letter. The colored members had united in according seats to all the Democrats elected, though more than one-half of them were ineligible as fighting Rebels under the Reconstruction acts of Congress; now, these very ineligible Rebels combined to expel those very colored members, who might have objected successfully to their taking seats at all. It is quite safe to say that this would not have been had the Rebels foreseen the election of Grant and Colfax. The wrong is persisted in. The colored members are still excluded from the seats to which they were overwhelmingly chosen. Their exclusion (they being all Republicans) gives the Democrats a majority in either house. Bnough of those Democrats were willing to vote with the Republicans to enable them to ratify the fifteenth amendment. But that would have kept in power those who excluded and still exclude the colored members, and who carried the State for Seymour and Blair at the point of the bowle-knife; and this some of the Republicaus refused to connive at. They voted against ratifying the fifteenth amendment-not that they were by any means opposed to it, but that they did not see fit to surrender their State to the despotic control of Toombs, Milter, and the old clique of proslavery politicians who have once already rushed her to ruin. They think that enough. These facts are not generally understood, because too many have a palpable interest in perverting them. Every false-hearted trim-mer, who calls himself a Republican-or, at least, a Grant man-is basy in misrepresenting them to prejudice the case of the steadfast Republicans of Georgia. But "Time at last sets all things even," and the truth will at length be made manifest and understood.

guards to prevent tyranny. This is the re-verse of what the oligarchs say—they holding that a Congress is the government and the Executive the functionary of Congress. Pur-suing this idea, the ambitions minority always works upon the fears of the people by repre-senting the Executive as aiming at tyranny, and thus executive power is given into the hands of the legislature. Then follow in the conflict of rehemes and counsels disorder, lisense corruntion suproby the destruction license, corruption, anarchy, the destruction of property, the loss of all public morality, till the nation becomes a bauditi and is blotted out, or till some fellow halts his guard in front of the legislative hall, strides in, and declares himself first consul, king, or emperor, and has the applause of the untion because at least he represents order and One might write a formal history of safely. republics on this outline of events, chauging the names to suit occasion, and it would be always true.

We are led to these reflections by the ap pearance in the New York Sun of a proposition that the American people shall now take one more step than they have hitherto taken in this career. The Sun is the organ, and in great part, we believe, the property of a Senator who takes an active part in the support of the Tenure of Office law, and therefore, in shadowing forth the programme of the men who mean to rule this country by Grant or without Grant, it may be supposed to have authority and to speak by the card. We ought at least to be glad that the men who propose those steps that must inevitably lead to ruin will let us know what they are at. Thus says the Sun:-"The fact that Congress has been administering this Government these past three or four years, in substantial independence of the Executive, marks our course towards new methods of politi-cal development. This tendency to the limitation of executive authority is especially werthy of philosophic observation." Yes, it has been worthy of philosophical observation a long while, and there is some good philosophy on the subjest in the debates of the body that formed our Federal Constitution. Therefore we scarcely assent that it points to any new methods in government. With this sort of stuff for preface, we have laid before us the future programme of the a archiets in the Senate, which is that if Grant will not relievely be present stiffinds if he will not relinquish his present attitude, if he will not give way to the pressure of the plunderers in their eagerness for office, if he will not send to the right about "the inferior and unknown men" now in his Cabinet, and put in their places 'distinguished representatives of influential political and national interests" -the "recognized leaders of opinion and action"-and will not give up to the politicians the whole run of Government patronage and plunder, then they will regard him as having forced the "first step towards the constitutional change which shall finally extinguish his office, and will so order their measures that he shall be. if not the last President, at least the last with even a semblance of power, and the men of the future, with the Presidency blotted out, shall look only to the hals of legislation for the theatre of their anticipated renown." Here is a plan. Here is finally the open annoancement of the intention to destroy the Government, if possible, in the interest of the politicians if they cannot otherwise be satisfied in cians if they cannot otherwise be satisfied in their semands. The politicians are more than the people! This is their declaration. Grant is elected by the people; the direct representa-tives of the people are with him, and this Senate, a body of men holding places bought from venal Legislatures, fulminates its decree for his doom. The impudence is subline and ridiculous too.

In this programme is sketched the natural culmination of the radical policy. Whither could it lead but to this ? the test of the power of parties before the people has been on the one grand point, the choice of an Executive. Radicalism could but hate this; for its purposes were not the purposes of the people, and it could never secure the Executive of its choice. Hence, sure that it can never secure the office, it desires to abolish it. Under our system the Executive is directly responsible to the people, and the radicals, knowing well how little their acts will bear scrutiny, have even desired to shut up the Supreme Court rather than submit their laws to revision. From the day when we saw by their reconstruction nigger legislation that they did not respect humanity itself or the laws of God, when these were inimical to their schemes, we could not suppose that they would respect in the same contingency our forms of government. From the first discovery of their power in Congress these men have proposed such a change in our government as would give them power, though the deluge came after; and in the enactment of the Tenure-of-Office law they made use of the mistakes of a foolish Executive, using him as a cover in laying the foundation of their plan. But how far can this go ? What is the point at which the President is no longer bound to stand still ? At what exact point does the tentative towards anarohy untie the hands of the officer whose primary duty is to uphold order ? It has been accepted as a theory of our law that the Constitution supposes its own protection, and James Buchauan is held as having been altogether in the wrong in that regard for certain parts that would have sacrificed the whole. The same is true of the Executive. Regard to its own existence and integrity is presumed as the first of its duties, and it is in hands that will render up its powers as good as they were found, from an instinct of natural honesty. Although the politicians have forced Grant into some tight places and bothered him with intrigue and bullying, it may not be untimely to remind them that when the element of force is introduced they will put him to a power with whose use he is more familiar.

all for such a conspicuous service as Batter is now rendering him. When poor old King Lear, in the play, has no friend left to take his part against his thankless daughters but the injured Kent, we get a more vivid impres-sion of his forsaken desolation than the poet could have given us in any other mauner. But Lear was spared the degradation of accepting the services of Kent knowing who he was. Shakespeare would have sunk that would have stripped its hero of all dignity, if he had not made the ban-ished Kent disguise himself so that the deso-No late old King thought he was indebted to a stranger, not to a courtier whom he had disgraced in a freak of passion and driven from his presence. But General Grant's pride is not thus saved in accepting the championship of Butler. Everybody knows who Grant is, who Butler is, and what malignant stabs they have been so long publicly dealing at each other's reputation. The new relation which has so suddenly sprung up between them does not in the least humiliate Batler; it is Wes rather his triumph. It enables him to spread the tail-feathers of magnanimity; to patronize a man who has affected to despise him; to figure before the country as the Congres-sional organ of the President. But nothing CAI should be more mortifying to General Grant. It shows how poor he is in vigorous friends, when he is reduced to accept, as his leading advocate and manager, a man whom he has publicly scorned and disparaged, and whom 8 11 he caused to be sent home from the army in disgrace. C

This President Grant, who leans so surprisingly upon Butler, is the same General Grant who made an annual report in which he ridiculed General Butler as having been bottled up with his army on the James, who accused him of going to Fort Fisher without orders, and who made that flasco the occasion of stranding him as a soldier, and ending his military career. It is the same General Grant who has never since, till within the last five months, spoken to Butler at all, nor of him but in terms of contempt and dislike. And this Butler, who figures as Grant's foremost connsellor and champion among the Republican members of Congress, is the same Butler who kept paid spies about General Grant's headquarters in the Army of the Botomac; who made a record of all the ugly and discreditable facts he could gather; who, after he was sent home to Lowell, made a harangue to a large public meeting arraigning Grant for butcherly sacrifice of life, accusing him of thwarting all arrangements for the exchange of prisoners, and making him the heartless author of the cruel sufferings and loathsome deaths of our poor soldiers in the Rebel mili-tary prisons. It is the same Butler who wrote, and less than a year ago caused to be printed, a scathing pamphlet exposing General Grant's incompetence as the commander of the army which operated against Richmond, aud held that pamphlet in reserve as a rod in pickle for Grant, to be used on the first opportune occasion. If General Grant were naturally of a place

ble, forgiving temper, his present de-pendence on Butler would not seem quite so humiliating; but everybody knows that the new President is singularly stiff and stubborn in his resentments. His hatred of dew President Johnson was so obstinate that he violated the customary decorum of inauguration day, although the retiring President, himself a man of a dogged temper, made such voluntary overtures that General Grant could gracefully have yielded on that ceremonious occasion without the slightest sacrifice of reasonable pride. His surprising reconciliation with Butler goes very far beyond a public con-DE88101 decorum on a remonious occa sion. To have rede in the same carriage with President Johnson would have implied no restoration of cordiality, nor even of private civility. But he is more than reconciled to Butler. A magnanimous man may nobly forgive an injury; but it is not magnanimity, it is meanness, that descends to accept a load of obligations and services from one who has persistently belittled and disparaged you, and whom you have persistently disparaged, as Butler has Grant, and Grant has Butler. In proportion as Grant's hatreds are notoriously inveterate and his prejudices unyielding, just in that proportion is it evident that he has accepted the championship of Butler from the lack of other strong supporters. His poverty, not his will, consents. It General Butler's standing in the Repub lican party were different from what it is, it would not be quite so degrading a humiliation to the President to have formed with him these close relations of dependence. It might be claimed that General Grant had sacrificed his personal antipathies to Butler's recognized position of leadership. But it is notorions that Butler holds no such position. A strong effort was made by the Republicans of other parts of the country, at the last election, to defeat him in his own district. Three-fourths of the Republican papers of the country publicly deprecated his election. Another Republican candidate was put into the field against him. Money and hostile speakers were sent into the district to defeat him; his reëlection being generally regarded as a calamity and a scandal to the Republican party. Besides Butler's minor audacities and escapades, and his known enmity to General Grant, he had boldly stolen Mr. Pendleton's thunder. He had advocated not only the payment of the bonds in greenbacks, but the overthrow of the national banks. He was thus in hostility both to the Republican platform and the Republican candidate. In accepting such a champion the new President most assuredly has not deferred to the wishes of the Repub-I can party. Butler has probably esponsed Grant's quarrel to revenge himself upon his Republican enemies. By the same means he can expose the weakness of Grant and breed disturbance in the party. The Republicans who opposed his return to Congress on the ground that he was the enemy of General Grant must feel rather queer in seeing these two quasi Republicans pulling in the same harness, in opposition to a majority of the party, in a joint effort to show that the law which President Johnson was impeached for violating is an infringement on the constitutional rights of the Executive. It is a good index of General Grant's present standing in the Republican party that Butler is the Republican member of Congress on whom he ohiefly leans.

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sorbing" Canada was indulged mainly by enthusiasts; now we find a general, indistinct, but powerful impression prevailing everywhere that annexation at some day is inevitable. Formerly, very few people believed in the wisdom of annexation; now, Englishmen themselves are arguing its advantages.

The lesson is obvious. Ten years hence that which is now a possibility may have become an actuality—a happy and pacific con-summation to which Great Britain, British America, and the United States may have all with equal alacrity lent their hands. For that very reason the talk of "conquering Canada" in war, of buying it for a hundred millions in peace, of giving it over as a prey to Fenians, and the like, is all gratuitous. Canada must come to us, if at all, by the free consent of her people and ours. It is a fruit that is not to be gathered till it falls ripe to the soil.

The Alabama Convention. From the N. Y. World.

No one of our readers has inferred, we trust, because we have advocated the ratification of the Johnson treaty, that it is a matter of any concern to us more than to all other citizens of the republic whether it is ratified or rejected. An administration is now in power in this country with which we have no colitical connection or sympathy; but we do not wish, for that reason, to see the Government commit what seems to us a great mis-take, or to see the country placed in a false position. It is not to be denied that, in making the convention which has been sent home for ratification, Mr. Reverdy Johnson pursued, step by step, the specific instructions of his own Government. By instruction, he asked the British Government to assent to a mode of settlement to which it has assented. By instruction he procured the agreement of that Government to every stionlation which the treaty contains. Now it is, we venture to say, a new idea in our diplomacy that charge of administration breaks the continuity, if we may so express it, of its diplomatic action. The world at large does not take such special notice of our political changes as to expect to see one administration repudiate the stipulations entered into by another, when we ourselves, through our regularly constituted organs, have induced another country to enter into those stipulalations. Something of this kind once occurred in the relations of England and France. The Ministry of M. Gaizot, under Louis Philippe, entered into a convention with England conceding the mutual right of search by vessels suspected of being engaged in the slave-trade. The treaty encountered great resistance in France, and the Chamber of Deputies finally passed a vote which condemned it. The exsoutive government was thus placed in a great dilemma, from which it was found very difficult to prescue the country with honor and re-Spectability. Certainly, it is true that a treaty requires

the ratification of the Senate of the United States, and that until that ratification is given everything is provisional, or, to use the diplomatic phrase, the proposed treaty is a mere "protocol." But when the Executive has sent an agent abroad with specific instructions to propose a certain thing, and assent to it has been obtained, there ought to be a very clear case of inexpediency made out before the Senate can rightfully refare to ratify that to which a foreign government has been urged to agree and to which they have

Whither Are We Tending !- The Dauger Before Us.

From the N. Y. Herald.

All the free governments that ever flourished became tyrannies, and fell in exactly the same way. History is monotonous with the story of the ruin of nations by the same events in the same order. Always the motive power is a minority of plotting politicans. They study first to secure to themselves the plander and spoil of the national wealth. They can only succeed in this by getting power, and they cannot get power so long as those constitu-tional forms are intact by which power belongs to the majority. Down goes the Constitution, therefore, crippled at first by a restric-tion at one point, an addition at another, and overlaid by changes of every sort. But the most important change is that the Executive is always reduced to a nullity. In a free government, especially a federal government, the Executive is the only direct expression there is of the majority of the whole people. He re-presents the popular unity, while all other representation is of parts. He is the keystone of an arch. He is the will of the nation-its initiative. And if a nation is to be really vital among nations-to be respected, and strong

President Grant and Representative Butler.

From the N. Y. World.

It is the oddest, and, if one will well consider it, not the least significant circumstance of the present embroilment at Washington, that President Grant is borne upon the shoulders of General Butler, like an inexpert swimmer in a roaring torrent upon the back of his late enemy. Butler is Grant's foremost champion in his chief controversy. Grant's heart is (or was) set upon the repeal of the Tenure-of-Office act; and Butler is the ally who has enabled him to protract the fight during these three turbulent weeks. It was Butler who, in Grant's interest, introduced and carried promptly through the House a repealing bill early in the last session. It was Butler who reintroduced and pushed through the same bill a second time, soon after the assembling of the new Congress. When the Senate passed a substitute and sent it down to the House for concurrence, it was Butler who marshalled the President's friends, managed his case, and, by a combination of Democrats with the Republican minority, defeated the Senate's amendment, and strengthened the wavering President to stand up again for re-peal after succombing to the Senators. It is needless to inquire into Butler's motives, but certain it is that General Grant could not have been subjected to a greater humiliation

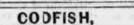
-A French college has lately been established at Constantinople. It now has 500 students.

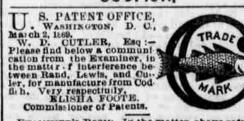
Michelet intends devoting himself exclusively to historical studies, it is said, during the rest of his life.

-The dentists of Japan loosen the teeth by blows from a mallet, and then pull them out with their flugers.

-Emigrant wagons have been going through Illinois carrying stoves in full blast during

the past cold weather. -Austria and Italy have agreed to allow the joint stock companies of each country to carry on operations in the other.





Commissioner of Patents. Examinum's Room--In the matter above referred to, priority of lovenition IS AWARDED TO CUT-LER, and the applications *if* Rand and Lewis are re-jected. B. S. HENDRICK, Examiner. This establishes the patent under which the BOS-TON AND PHILADELPHIA SALT FISH COM-PANY, R.C. 521 COLUMBIA Avenue, manufacture their DESICCATED CODFISH. For sale by all good grocers. WARNER, RHODRS & CO., WATER and CHESNUT Streets. General Agents. None genuine noises bearing our trade-mark as above. Parties offering any other will be summarily prosecuted. 329 65

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As noon, from FIRST WHARF SPOVE MARKET Street. THROUGH RATES and THROUGH ZEURIPTE to all points in North and South Carolina, Via Sha-board Air Line Kalirosd, connecting at Periamentia and to Lynchborg, Va., Tennessee, and the West, via yirginia and Tennessee Air Line and Ricamond and Danville Ralirosd, Freight HANDLED BUT ONCE, and taken at LOW EH RATES THAN ANY OTHER LINE. The regularity, and chesputes of this routs commend it to the public as the most desirable me-dium for carrying every description of freight. No charge for commission, drayage, or any expense of transfer.

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NOTICE, -FOR NEW YORK, VIA DELAWARE AND BARITANCANAL. AXPRESS STEAMBOAT COMPANY. The CHEAPAST and QUICKES 1 water communi-cation between Finiadelpaia and New York. Steamers leave daily from first wharf below Market stream ers leave daily from first wharf below Market stream the and foot of Wall street, New York.

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