shore.

BY SHENANDOAH.

EDICTUM EXTERMINATUM.

"We must act with vindictive carnestness against the Sloux (Indians), even to their extermination, men, women, and children. Nothing less will reach the root of this case."—W. T. Sherman, Lieutenant-General U. S. A., to General U. S. Grant, December 28, 1866.

A sound of war is on the western wind, The sun, with fiery flame, sweeps down the Athwart his breast the crimson shadows fly Of fearless forms no fetters e'er can bind.

The eagle plunges from his mountain nest. And, screaming, soars above the distant plain Plucking his plames without a pang of pain, Though stained with blood from his own beat-

ing breast. The hunter seeks the heated herd no more, The war-bird's pinions deck his dauntless head, The antelope, with fleetest feet, has fled From woodland copse and streams' enticing

IV. The moving purpose of a mighty mind, Resistless as swift death, a race now claims, Wresting its weapons from their wonted aims, Leaving pale fear and famine far behind.

Moke-ta-va-ta, thy form appears again, Thy spirit to its hunting-grounds hath risen; Thy body, bursting from its wintry prison. Blossoms in blood red flowers on the plain.

VI. Thy voice makes eloquent the vital air, Thy splendid image fills the day's clear eye; Thy people, hearing, seeing, swiftly fly, Like war-birds flocking, thronging everywhere.

VII. In thy sad fate their own is prophesled: They strike to cleave in twain the burning band Fastened upon them by a reckless hand

Enclosing, crushing till they all had died. VIII. The edict under which thou hast been slain Hath been the nation's crime, latest and first.

By which our eldest brother was accursed. Yet we unblushing bear the brand of Cain. IX. What crimes were thine, of what dread deeds accused?

Wert thou a fee to freedom or thy kind? Spoke thou with double tongue or faithless

That thus thou wert betrayed, reviled, abused?

No! From great nature's paths thou freely came, Leading thy people to the nation's feet, And when the two in conflict e'er did meet, Thine was the honor, ours the sin and shame.

XI. Thy words were wisdom's essence, and were spoke
With guileless spirit and with single tongue.
No falsehood's venomed arrows neath them

elnug. No trust was e'er betrayed, no promise broke;

XII. The stranger sought thy tepa not in vain, Thou gavest him clothing, rest, and food and

What'er could fill his heart or mind's desire, E'en though the giving brought thy bosom pain. XIII. Nature revealed in thee her perfect art;

Thy truth and valor all might emulate; Thy potent power true homage to create, Thy magnanimity of mind and heart. XIV.

Even thy foes could win thee by their faith Between them and the vengeance of thy kin Thou oft has stood: though there's the damned

Of thy betrayal, thine the martyr's death.

Thrice camest thou with offerings of love, Pledging thy people, with the pipe of peace, That nor thy warrior nor thy increase Against the Government in war would move.

Once, when the nation's banner o'er thee waved, Thy village rested 'neath its promised care, The dastard coward struck thee unaware: Only by courage were thy people saved.

Thy brother's blood beneath thine eye did flow. The fire-arrows had stung thy faithful wife, Yet thou didst fly to save the stranger's life-"I think you spies, I do not know it, go."

YVIII. Again, the blundering hand of power destroyed Thy stock and substance, and thy tepas burned:
The tardy recompense thy spirit spurned—
Remembrance of a wrong thou wouldst avoid.

When thy young men the war-bird's plumes would wear, To vindicate thy right, avenge thy wrong. Thy voice uplifted this persuasion strong "The antelope can never fight the bear."

And when the battle-cry was well begun. And all thy influence for peace was past, From thy proud form the chieftain's robe-And thou didst sadly seek the setting sun.

Followed by her whose faithful, willing feet Companioned all thy weary wanderings: Camping, with thy small band, near the clear From which the antelope doth drink the life-

XXL

full tide.

Ah! then the latest and the foulest wrong Came upon thee, without a warning word. Thee and thine stricken, like a hunted herd. By that false power which makes the mighty strong.

And thou wert slain. Whoever dared to trace His name upon the order for thy death Will wear the sting until his latest breath.

And bind the curse of Cain upon his race.

XXIV. Six times the waning, weary moon hath turned Her forehead from the heart-sick earth away. Pining because of justice' long delay, Since thou, Voishta, hath a captive yearned

XXV. For some avenging hand, some voice from

To strike with serpent sting this nation strong That dares decide to whom life doth belong: She of the twelve wounds wails-Thon, Jesus, had but seven.

XXVI.

Twas ever thus: a hundred winters' snows And golden harvest moons have poured their

Of wine and corn upon a people good. And yet the life-blood of a nation flows,

To slay the eldest children of a race Nearest and dearest to Columbia's breast, Because their feet her virgin soil have pressed. And now their blood and tears stain her loved XXVIII.

With eager hearts and unreluctant feet We turn from our fond mother's breast away,

We scoreh our brows with bands of blazing Then sigh in vain for her dear life-blood sweet.

Civilization, with its burning power, Slays her fair image with its fearful glaive, Then, toiling, we become its ready slave, And vainly pine for respite one brief hour.

XXX. This was a race of kings, as strong and true As Roman citizen or Spartan brave; Theirs was the pride, and theirs the heart to Keeping great nature's lessons full in view.

XXXI Moke-ta-va-ta, thy wrongs shall be redressed, Thy viewless form fills all the vernal air. Nor earth's fair bosom, nor the spring more Can stay the footsteps of a race oppressed.

XXXII. Their name is legion, and from mountain slope And distant plain their fearless forms appear, All conquering, and all potent, without fear

They come with our proud nation now to cope.

XXXIII. And if the rivers shall ran red with blood, And if the plain be strewn with mangled forms, And cities burned amid the battle's storm, Ours is the blame, not thine, thou great and

XXXIV. Thy name shall live a watchword for all time, A herald and a beacon light to all On whom the tyrant and the despot fall, Making thy death a heritage sublime

XXXV. If of this noble race thou wert the last, And stood on the extremest ocean verge, Thy eloquence would all thy people nrge;

And in one deadly conflict they would cast XXXVI. Their gauntlet in our shameful, flaming face, And then, without a thought of praise or

XXXVII. A sound of war is on the western wind, The sun, with flery flame, sweeps down the sky. Athwart his breast the crimson shadows fly,

Would perish to avenge thy noble name,

And prove that thou wert of a kingly race.

Of fearless forms no fetters e'er can bind. XXXVIII.

Down through the golden gateway they have trod. The mighty scions of a nation come In sweeping circles from their shining home, With weapons from the battle plains of God.

NOTES. Moketavata, chief of the Cheyenne Indians, assassinated at the massacre of the Washita in Voishta, wife of Moketavata.

## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

AFRAID OF THE FACTS.

From the Missouri Democrat. It is strange that the English leaders and papers persist in shutting their eyes to the real opinion of this country in regard to the Alabama difficulty. The papers, for example, do not print Mr. Sumner's speech. Can anybody ima-gine a speech so affecting our affairs which American papers would hesitate to copy? If it assails us, so much the more we want to see it combats our most cherished opinions, so much the more do we long to see what possible reason it can give for doing so. If it looks like war, we want to face the facts at once. John Bull has had some reputation for courage in former years. But this suppression of Mr. Sum-ner's argument is a thing so cowardly that it forces one to remember Napoleon's saying, "the British have become a nation of shop-keepers."

the Government refuses to believe that the speech of Mr. Sumner represents the Senate, or that the vote of the Senate represents the Amerian people! The Foreign Secretary declares that he is informed that the vote means nothing, or it was dictated by political complications in this country! It is impossible to suppose that the man is ordinarily so ignorant of American affairs. Nothing but an overpowering dread of the United States. facing the fact as it really is could have blinded him to the meaning of that vote. To the most ignorant foreigner, it must seem miraculous that any political complication can drive both political parties to vote as one man! To a person as well informed as a British foreign minister necessarily is, it must be perfectly well known that nothing less than a perfectly overwhelming and irresistible public sentiment could have forced every Democratic Senator save one to support speech and motion of Charles Sumner! man who is blind to the meaning of such a vote must be crazy with fear, Scarcely ess significant is the unanimity of the Republi can members. As other debates show, there were Senators upon the floor who were aching for a chance to pitch into the new administra-tion and its policy. There were Senators who came from States in which not a single person cared one straw for the Alabama claims, or for American commerce either, except in the broadest and most patriotic sense-States which lost nothing by the war would gain nothing by the settlement of these claims upon any basis whatever, have no direct interest in our commerce, and can only be injured and retarded in growth by a difficulty with England. But of all these Senators, from all these States, not one ventured to raise a word of remonstrance against the speech or the action of the Senate. less than absolute unanimity of opinion among the people can account for such united action of the Republican Senators, on a question not involving party issues.

It is not only cowardly, but it is in the last degree silly and suicidal, for Great Britain to shut its eyes to the real feelings of this country. So doing, it renders any amicable settlement of this difficulty impossible. The time is coming when England will wish it had been settled on any terms. The plain fact is that the people of this country fully realize that they have suffered at the hands of Great Britain, the last nation on the earth that should be unfriendly to us, injuries greater than have ever yet been endured by any power capable of defending itself. Irinries infleted at a time when we were engaged in a struggle so desperate and bitter that we could not resent any insult. Injuries prompted by the meanest of all mean motives, the desire to steal our trade and destroy our commerce, under the cowardly guise of neutrality! That is the plain and unvarnished statement of the feeling which now rankles in the hearts of Americans in every part of this nation. If Great Britain thinks it

can afford to ignore that state of feeling, it is most sadly mistaken. Sooner or later, England will find France striking to avenge Waterloo. When that day comes the sea will swarm with cruisers not built in France. We shall be neutral, as Engbuilt in France. We shall be neutral, as England was. But no administration that this country will ever see can prevent thousands upon thousands of Americans, while the present feeling exists, slipping off to sea in swift ships to pay that debt. The time will come when England will have to submit to insult from all Europe, because it does not dare to set loose Yankee privateers. The time will come when not Canada only but other British possessions will drop away, and there will be no attempt to stop them. We measure English courage by the suppression of Mr. Sumner's speech. A nation which dares not face arguments does not dare to face monitors. We need have no war. If England is affuld to look at facts as they are, we can do just what we please without the slightest danger of rousing the lion from his long slumber. Mr. Motley will go out soon, and will do his best, we trust, to convince the British people that America not only sustains Mr. Sumner, but goes still farther. Possibly a frank understanding of the real facts may lead to set-tlement. But if it does not, the day will come

craft captured by the Alabama.

MOTLEY. From the Chicago Republican,

For some time Motley is to be the only American wear in England in diplomatic circles. The great historian, transformed into the Minister of he United States near the Court of St. James, will sail from New York on the 19th instant. hief duty will be the settlement of the Alabam) claims. Reverdy Johnson was fed, toasted and feted into one treaty, unanimously, or almost unanimously, rejected by the Senate. We hope that Motley's gastronomic propensities will not lead him astray similarly. His literary reputation is a fine theme for late supper bloviation. He first published his incomparable histories under English copyright. He is regarded as more of an English than of an American celebrity. His honors are estimated as more Eng-Hish than American. Hence an elaborate attempt will be made to appropriate him as an exponent of English-American opinion. Society will doubtless open wide to him its selectest doors. Wine will flow in his honor. He will be set on a pedestal of British distinction. He will be worded, apostrophized, apotheosized, all in the interests of the Queen's construction of the

But John Lothrop Motley is not the man, if we understand him, to be entrapped by personal adulation. The historian who wrote "The Rise of the Dutch Republic" and the "United Nether-lands" possesses a mind too acute and penetrating to be imposed upon by sonp, oysters, toasts, and after-dinner speeches. Any one who has read his incomparable annals must have been convinced that Mr. Motley has no affinity for aristocratical, oligarchical, or monarchical forms of government. All his sympathies are with the masses of the people. His philosophy is in perfect accord with the most onward development of human existence. He despises unproductive consumers, and sounds constantly the praises of muscular and mental exertion. Such a man cannot be misled by ovations coming from the idols of caste.

It must be recollected that his settled opinions, laid away safely upon the shelf of delibe-rate judgment, have been made upon data furnished by the societary formation and schemes of polity both in Europe and in America. His contact with monarchical institutions is not new. He goes to England with a full comprehension of the policy which has dominated that country for centuries. He is too old a bird to be caught with chaff. A man about fifty-five years of age, who has shown his comprehensiveness a depth of thought, is not to be misled easily. We are not aware that he has any dining-out propensities. His pursuits exclude that supposi-Yet he has, as all human beings have, his prominent failings. What these are his mission will be sure to develop. Before Mr. Motley shall have been one month in England, we shall learn what are his weaknesses of character. Experimentalism will find them out, beyond a perad-

Our only fear for Mr. Motley is his honesty and straightforwardness. He has never trod the crooked paths of diplomacy. Evasion has never been one of his intellectual weapons. Trickery is no part of his nature. He has never been brought face to face with the impediments, devices, and complications of international negotionation. He is not by experience fitted to see through the infinite variety of subterfuges adopted by foreign cabinets to accom-plish their ends. Like any innocent and unsophisticated exponent of our national interests. ne is liable to be imposed on by apparent sincerity. Yet, even here, as what is said to him officially must be in terms of words, a man accustomed to deal with the meanings of words and to comprehend their deepest import, little is to be feared. Sentences, we feel assured, will not warp the judgment of Mr. Motley. He is an American-every inch of him. In fact, he is the very best of all the foreign appointments. Would that all were as good and unexception-

ARE WE NEUTRALS? From the N. Y. World.

There is a tendency in certain quarters to quare the Cuban by the English problem, and, to matter what our convictions of right may be, to do, or to refuse to do, things in respect to the Cuban insurrection according to the influence which our acts will naturally have upon our side of the pending dispute with Great Britain growing out of the Queen's proclamation of neutrality or the fitting out within her territory of Anglo-Rebel cruisers to devour our commerce. Such conduct is undignified and unworthy of

Whether President Grant has come to a conclusion in respect to the form of the issues, if any, he will frame against England, since the ejection of the Johnson-Stanley treaty, the ablic is uninformed. We do know, however, that quite recently, in conversation on the sub eet, the President remarked that, rather than djust the dispute on the basis of mere pecuniary damages to injured ship-owners or cargo-owners, he would prefer that Congress should undertake their indemnification. This would seem to imply that, in his opinion, there was a wrong and hijury to our national honor for which Great Britain must satisfactorily atone. Whether he finds evidence of such intentional wound of our national dignity in the original declaration of neutrality (where Sumner finds it), or in failure to preserve that neutrality, as made apparent by the implied permission to the Confederates to maintain their naval bureau in Liverpool, under the charge of Captain Bullock, and fit out therefrom, with the guilty connivance of English ship-builders and officials, naval expeditions

where the World finds it), we are in the dark. Far be it from us to expect any subsequent dministration to vindicate all the official perormances of Mr. Seward as Secretary of State. For three or four years he vexed the ears of foreign powers with useless discussion as to the name to be given to the thing which was shaking a continent with the tread of its hostile armies—the gigantic struggle in the heart of the United States, on the one hand, to uphold, and on the other hand, to destroy the Federal Union —as though war were any the less war because a civil war. Instead of accepting the profer of neutrality by England, and then holding her resolutely to all the obligations that neutrality imposed. Mr. Seward occupied himself in teasing Earl Russell to revoke the declaration, and, at the same time, humbly apologizing to that power for the act of Captain Wilkes in taking from the steamer Trent contraband of war in the persons of the two insurgent ambassadors, Mason and Slidell-who, in their diplomatic character, were conveying political and indirect military aid to the Rebellion—and accompanying this apology with an unnecessary admission that the act of Captain Wilkes was wrong in principle. But, apart from the vagaries of Mr. Seward, the United States have again and again announced the doctrine that a neutral is bound to prevent a proximate act of war against a bel ligerent from originating on its territory, and, if so originated, it is a just ground of complaint by such belligerent and demand for in-

demnity. Now, in respect to Cuba, it is clear that we of the United States can desire nothing so much as to see her people pursuing the path of prosperity and happiness under institutions similar to our own. If, then, the administration and the country are convinced that our obligations to a community struggling to throw off the do minion of Spain and secure for itself liberty protected by law demand that, as a nation, we give moral and material aid, then let us manfully say so, and openly intervene in favor of the insurgents and against the parent government. Above all, let us avoid sneaking into a war with Spain

or any other foreign power. All accounts we get from Washington represent President Grant as sympathizing strongly with the Cuban insurgents. In that he is in accord with the mass of our people, who think the insurrection in that island looks to larger individual liberty and the advancement there of the rights of men. But President Grant is not quite free to indulge his personal sympathies so far as to let them control his official conduct. He inaugurated his administration by a declaration that bad laws would be enforced, if for no other reason than to secure their repeal. Perhaps thi

when England will wish she had made a million | was but a shining bubble blown to amuse the apologies and paid a million dollars for every | people, like his promise to reform the Government and purify the administration by expelling mere "politicians" from places of executive At any rate, he gave the pledge; and is a law on the statute-which, among other things, that, if any person shall have et on foot or prepare the means for any military enterprise, to be carried on from thence against pain, such person shall be fined and imprisoned Also, if any citizen of the United States accepts and exercises in New York a commission to serve against Spain, or procures anybody to enlist to serve against Spain, he shall be fined and im-This is municipal law, which President prisoned. Frant is bound to enforce, if he be a neutral in re spect to Cuba. Has he put in operation any means to execute this law? Has he issued any proclamation announcing his neutrality, and warning his fellow-citizens of the impe pains and penalties of this law? Has he in structed Mr. Pierrepont, or Mr. Grinnell, or Mr. Barlow to be vigilant in this respect, to the end that we maintain our honor intact and be a Government of law and not of passion?

If the nation is not to be neutral, but is to be an enemy of Spain and ally of the insurrection against her sovereignty, then be it so ! But had not President Grant better convene Congress and send to them a message asking that authority be given to him to suspend, as to Spain, our cutrality laws, and, if need be, declare was

against that power?
Does President Grant intend to maintain an ionest or a dishonest neutrality, or no neutrality at all?

CONGRESSMEN ON THEIR TRAVELS.

From the N. Y. Times.

Time was when the close of a session of Congress brought relief to its committees. Or if perchance a committee found the continuance an investigation necessary, members remained at Washington to conduct it. That oldfashioned mode of transacting business no onger suits the House committees. They propose to turn the recess to pleasurable account, and to prove their zeal in the public service by travelling hither and thither with all the pomp and circumstance of Congressional authority, at the public expense. There seems, indeed, to have been a rather undignified game of grab among the chairmen concerned to secure the wherewithal for their enjoyment. The contingent fund is not unlimited, and the maxim "first come first served" has been applied to such purpose that little is left for inevitable expenditures. The chociest plum has fallen into the lap of Mr. Schenck. As the head of the Ways and Mean committee, he has secured \$10,000 to defray the cost of a tour down and across the continent An inspection of custom houses at work is the professed object of the trip, which will begin at New York and end at San Francisco. With free railroad passes, and dining and wining al the way, ten thousand should bring back the investigators handsomely. Three thousand form measure of General Banks' enjoyment which is to be sought in Cuba or Heaven know where; and a like sum has been made available by Mr. Bingham for a jaunt to Alabama in rela tion to Judge Busteed. New Orleans being more expensive than Montgomery, it is not surprising that General Paine and his associates, who are desirous of working up the Louisiana election cases, could not consent to start with less than a snug five thousand, which should provide a sufficiency of juleps for the hottest weather. Gene ral Garfield and his Census Committee, and Mr Lynch and his Shipping Committee, are provided for with three and two thousand respectively. Even the Committee on Retrenchment canno forego its chance of recreation, for which a modest two thousand are all that is available. Fortune dispenses favors invidiously. A grate

ful and patriotic nation may not begrudge sum mer enjoyments to its law-makers, but at least i may ask that they shall be impartially dispensed As the matter stands, the holiday journeyings with Uncle Sam as the treasurer, are confined to a handful of the members, and they all of one party. If Mr. Banks, for example, is entitled to an ocean trip and its delightful et cetera, the cost thereof being drawn from the House contingencies, why should not Mr. Fernando Wood draw upon the same source for his European excursion? And so all round the House, It the limit of the country's provision for its legis lators, and if trips by land and sea are to be added as a means of enlarging the minds and inigorating the bodies of those who weary Washington and home, we insist that all the members shall profit by the arrangement. There quite enough of monopoly without extending

to pleasurable pilgrimage As to the plea that these wanderings are unlertaken in the public service, with a view to the acquisition of knowledge or the perform ance of work, we attach no credence to it. It the Ways and Means Committee wants to learn comething touching the operation of the tariff, or the machinery of the customs department, it hould call to its aid experts and practical, experienced men, who really have some ideas on the subject. The Special Commissioner of Revenue, we venture to say, already knows more in regard to it than will the members of the committee after their return from San Francisco: and if, on some specific point, more light is needed, he, or some one like him, is the best man to supply it. The perambulating process is more likely to confuse than to enlighten; it may yield big blue books, but of accurate, trustworthy, and exhaustive information it will lmost necessarily be barren. And as with the Ways and Means Committee, so with the Census and Shipping Committees. Their investigations, conducted on the wing, will be farces, or some thing worse.

The whole business is derogatory to the digaity of Congress, and a burlesbue upon practical methods of inquiry and work.

VIRGINIA-RECONSTRUCTION.

From the N. Y. Tribune. General Canby, acting under instructions from Washington, will very soon issue his proclamation appointing a day of election and prescribing the mode in which the pending constitution shall be voted on by the legal electors of the State, the registries being meantime carefully revised and corrected. The day will probably be the last Thursday in June or the first of July; f the 4th of July did not fall this year on Sun lay, we could wish that the new birth of the Old Dominion to freedom and loyalty might date from that day. Meantime the "conservative" State ticket having been formally withdrawn, I is manifest that most of its late supporters will vote the independent Republican or Walker ticket, so far as they shall vote at all. And though the election is still nearly two months off, the issues unsettled and the parties about to come into collision are now matched for the first time, the cardinal principles which triumph in the struggle are already clearly indicated, as follows:-

1. The Free Constitution, framed a year or more since, will in the main be accepted by a large majority, if not without serious opposi-(This secures blacks equal rights with 2. The test-oath and all disabilities not pre-

scribed by the XIVth Amendment to the Fede ral Constitution will be voted down-also by large majorities. 3. State officers, Representatives in Congress

and a new State Legislature will be chosen, of whom a decided majority will profess to be, as most of them will truly be, friendly to General Grant's administration. 4. Two U. S. Senators of like faith will be chosen by this Legislature the week after its

assembling 5. The predominant desire of the masses to have peace, industry, security and prosperity will make itself very generally respected, in spite of the bitterness still rankling in thousands

6. A vast immigration from the North whereof the vanguard is already traversing Virginia's valleys and scaling her ridges, will rapidly appreciate the value of her lands, break up her plantations into farms, permeate her omnipresent forests with new roads and new clearings, while a very considerable proportion of her still growing timber is destined to enter into the construction of new dwellings and other structures within the next few years. In short Virginia, having had enough of civil war and

devastation, is about to subordinate political strile to industrial progress and material prosperity, and thus advance to a future of power and wealth undreamed of in her past.

-We have said nothing as to the relative strength of the Wells and Walker tickets reto the relative spectively, nor have we even indicated a preference between them. On this point we may speak hereafter. But General Wells' late letter, wherein he courteously yet clearly repudiates enduring proscription and disfranchi recognizing and acquiescing in the benignant in-timation on this head of the last Chicago platorin, has divested the contest between them of much of its original importance. For the ent, we rest in the joyful conviction that 186 see Virginia fully reconstructed and restablished on the substantial and beneficent oundations of universal amnesty and impartial

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GENERAL GRANT'S FOREIGN FOREIGN POLICY. From the N. Y. Herald.

The opportunity now offered to General Grant for the extension of the boundaries of the nation and its moral and material power throughout the world is without a precedent in American history, and without a comparison in the records of the human race. If as a soldier the results of his strategy and tactics and his co-operative combinations of numerous armies, amounting to over a million of men, and distributed over an area of eight hundred thousand square miles eclipse the grandest combinations of the first Napoleon, he has now the opportunity as a statesman to reduce by comparison the late im perial programme of Napoleon the Third in both emispheres to a mere bagatelle. General Grant, n a word, has the opportunity of making this Government, by general consent, the arbiter of the American continent, and he has the advantages for securing, through China and Japau, the ommercial balance of power in Asia. He may thus make Washington morally the dominating political capital of the civilized world, and Nev York and San Francisco the commercial and financial centres of the world's exchanges.

Cuba, Mexico, and the Alabama claims cover the three great foreign questions upon the settlement of which the commanding position indicated may be secured for the United States. The annexation of Cuba is only a question of time but the time may be lengthened or shortened. according to the interest of the administration in the settlement of this question. It seems to us that without any difficulty, considering the domestic embarrassments of Eugland, France, and Spain, the subject of the annexation of both Cuba and the island of St. Domingo might be so far pushed forward meantime as to be submitted for the ratification of Congress at its next session in December. Such, too, upon this matter, is the present favorable aspect of things in the Gulf, and at Washington and in Europe, that we are strongly inclined to the conclusion that the annexation suggested will be among the recommendations of General Grant's next message to the two houses. These acquisitions will give us the lock and the key of the Gulf of Mexico, and by the law of gravitation as they ripen all the contiguous islands will fall in. The possession of the Gulf involves the control

over every isthmus ship canal interoceanic transit route from Tehuantepec to Panama. To make this control effective and useful, however, the absorption of Mexico and Central America becomes a political and commercial necessity. Having, since Napoleon's protectorate, given the people and politicians of Mexico a fair trial in self-government, in which they have signally failed, we may now, without fear of European opposition, follow the example of Napoleon, and, in the interests of humanity, civilization, law, and order, take Mexico under our care, and by treaty with the local authorities provide also for the fusion into the great republic of the Central American States. The great impediment which in 1847 deterred General Scott from the acceptance of Mexico as a free gift in the name of the United States, was in the broad political lines of distinction and caste which at that time divided the whites from our black and Africantinctured people. Now those barriers are all removed, and under the new dispensation of "liberty, equality, and fraternity" the hybrids of Mexico cease to be an embarrassment on either side. Subject, then, to the will and pleasure of our Government, Mexico and the Central An rican States await the development of General Grant's foreign policy On the Alabama claims the upshot of Senator

Sumner's exhaustive and conclusive exposition of the case for the United States has been put into a nutshell by Wendell Phillips in this demand-a full pecuniary recompense for the damages suffered by our commerce from Auglo-Rebel cruisers, and a distinct disavowal of Lord Russell's neutrality and belligerent rights of 1861 as a precedent for the future guidance of England. Now, as with the acceptance of this ultimatum the most convenient settlement to both countries will be the cession of British North America, so with the rejection of this ultimatum by England the occupation of the New Dominion will be the most convenient alternative for the United States. For this alternative, upon a call for volunteers, two hundred and fifty thousand trained soldiers could be mustered along our Northern border within sixty days. Senator Chandler's late speech on this subject was rather a stump harangue from a Western demagogue than the argument of a responsible American statesmau; but still his leading idea is fixed in the public mind of the great Northwest. Those people, as to a natural outlet for their heavy surplus products, are looking now to the opening of the St. Lawrence to the sea with something of the same feeling which led them against the late Rebellion to the reopening of the Mississippi.

General Grant, as a Western man, we doubt not, is a believer in this whole programme of expansion, North and South. He is, too, a man of war; but as President of the United States it is manifest that his paramount desire is peace, at home and abroad. Our only apprehension concerning his foreign policy that his desire to avoid war may so entangle him in diplomatic cobwebs and red tape as to render him powerless to do anything in giving a satisfactory shape and direction to the Cuban or the Mexican question, or the Alabama claims. Upon all these questions, moreover, the powerful interest of the bond-holders will be apt to prove a drag upon the ad-ministration. We rely, however, upon the procressive ideas, sagacity, and moral courage General Grant, sustained by the general drift of public opinion, in our expectations of a foreign policy which offers not only the continent for our occupation, but its boundless resources from which to meet our public debt.

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