SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Upon Current Toples-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

A BLAST FROM AN OLD TRUMPET. From the N. Y. Times.

The privileged growler-we mean, of course, Wendell Phillips-draws, in the Anti-Slavery Standard of this week, what it pleases him to regard as the moral of the late elections-namely, that "we are floating away from the keen and angry devotion to the one great question of the negro." This awful sign of the times moves Mr.

Phillips to great mental distress, and he calls on "our friends" for "more activity." He bewails that "our day is fast slipping away," and that "unless some remedy is devised, the and that "inless some remedy is devised, the negro will stand in peril, and, use his rights only at great personal hazard." Must we, then, go on building forever our political platforms exclusively from that traditional 'wood pile" in which "the negro" has been concealed, and whence for years he has been heard to halloo. Slavery is as dead as Julius Cesar, and no efforts at resurrection are ever dreamed of. Red men, yellow men, white men are now quite as much to be looked after as black-or rather we are to look hereafter to the interests of all, "without distinction of color." In that sense, it is true that Wendell's day is "passing away." But when Mr. Phillips thereupon gets into the old rut, and proceeds to vilify the ad-

ministration, the want of connection between his premises and his conclusion is ludicrous. The premises are that a certain negro who voted the Republican ticket in Texas was shot dead; that two more negroes were lately shot in Louisiana; that in South Carolina "the Ku-klux lately shot all the leading hands on the plantations in five counties, and so frightened all the rest from voting." Now, it is possible that there may be a grain of truth in all this, except that the South Carolina story is rather "fishy;" for that negroes are shot recklessly at the South by that disgrace to the American name, the "Ku-klux Klan," it needs no "reliable gentleman" to assure us. But what is Mr. Phillips' conclusion? That "the administration is verily guilty for its cruel neglect;" that "it has broken a nation's pledges to the loyal men of the South;" and lest some hard-headed man of business should point quietly to the \$63,000,000 re-duction of national debt, Mr. Phillips declares that "no mere financial success will give such idlers and fops the credit of statesmen. Treacherous, selfish betrayers of those who trusted them, guilty of blood, and as having slatterned away the noblest opportunities-this will be their record in history.

Such is the style in which the gentle Phillips "unpacks his heart in words," cursing "like a very drab, a scullion." But what an impotent conclusion he reaches, and what a plentiful lack of logic he exhibits in the process ! The administration is no more responsible for the occasional slaughters of unoffending negroes in Louisiana and South Carolina, than it is for the ruffianism in New York, or for the "repeating" style in which the Democracy of the same city vote at the polls. And, besides, such South Carolina stories as these bear absurdity on their face. Hardly twenty lines further on in his invective, Mr. Phillips himself, forgetting his own story apparently, says that "in some States the Rebels have learned a lesson. Their course will be to pay faithfully, protect the negro, and see that he enjoys his rights. Thus they hope to win his confidence and control his vote. South Carolina, always the most farseeing of the Southern States, is foremost in this manœuvre. In the end, loyalty will find " All this is true room and protection. enough; and it is only by an amusing non sequitur that Mr. Phillips can thereupon start off into the diatribe on the administration which we have just quoted. The truth is, however, that the croakers against the administration in both wings of the opposition have pretty hard work to get on, with peace at the South, peace on the Plains, peace with Spain and England, and a constant "pushing" of the financial argument at Washington.

ministration have not abandoned all inten-tion of interfering in Cuban affairs, the pos-session of St. Domingo as a base of opera-tions against Cuba would be extremely ad-vantageous. The United States steamers Miantonomah and Nantic have also been ordered to Cuban waters, and it may he been ordered to Cuban waters, and it may be pos-sible that the two things have some connec-tion with each other. In a day or two further, we shall doubtless be furnished with more definite information concerning the affair.

THE BIBLE IN SCHOOLS. From the N. Y. World.

An esteemed Protestant friend who feels lively interest in the prosperity of our public schools, and is giving considerable personal attention to the working of the school system, writes to express his dissent from that part of our Thursday's article which represented the reading of the Bible as the chief ground of Catholic dissatisfaction. He states that some of the public schools have Catholic princi-pals, and he is informed that in these the Protestant version of the Bible is not read. We wish he would ascertain how many such schools there are, and what proportion of the children attending them are of Catholic pa-rentage. It would be an interesting item of information of considerable value in the present discussion. Our correspondent thinks the Catholics dislike those schools with Catholic principals as well as those in which the Protestant version of the Bible is read, and that their real objection to the public schools is that the Catholic religion is not taught in them, as it is in their private schools. This is doubtless true of some Catholics, but certainly not of a majority. We do not mean that a majority of Catholics would not prefer to have their religion taught in the schools, but that a majority of them would not make this a reason for withholding their children. We have never met with a Catholic, nor

seen a Catholic publication, that advocated the teaching of the Catholic religion in the public schools; but the people of that faith unanimously object to the reading of the Protestant version of the Bible. If some Catholics keep their children from the public schools because religion is not taught in them, that is a grievance which cannot be redressed. But the complaint founded on Bible-reading could easily be removed; and, in our judgment, it certainly ought to be rein our judgment, it certainly ought to be re-moved if it would enlarge the usefulness of the schools by extending their advantages to greater numbers of the city population. There would doubtless remain some Catholics, as there are some Pro-testants, who would refuse to send their children to schools in which religion is not taught; but their numbers would be so small that they could have no chance of controlling the distribution of the public money. Our argument was addressed to those Protestants who complain of the late appropriation of money to sectarian schools; our object being to show them how to prevent such a prece-dent from being followed. By making the only change in the management of the public schools which the Catholics have ever asked, or expect to see accomplished, we should deprive them of their chief weapon, if, as some Protestants charge, they are aiming at the destruction of the public school system. When Bible reading is discontinued, they will be compelled to show their real colors and prosecute their hostility by open attacks, if the destruction of the public schools is their real object.

A SUBJECT FOR BENEVOLENCE. From the N. Y. Tribune.

From the lavish but proper honors which the Government of England have given to Mr. Peabody's memory, we have no wish to abstract a syllable of grateful acknowledgment. Nevertheless, the contrast between what the Government has been willing to accord to a deceased philanthropist, and what it has refused to a people most in need of philanthropy, must be remarkable to generous observers. The difference between the merited expression of official sensibility over a public man whose noble life has placed him beyond the need of fame, and the denial of the prayers of a long-suffering people, is certainly measurable. To whom should we recommend the practice of Mr. Peabody's benevolence where benevolence most is wanted-of philanthropy translated into that world's wonder, good, magnanimous government for Ireland? When a people have virtue euough keenly to feel their wrong and degradation, it is too much to ask that they shall be unanimously prudent, well-timed, and moderate in all they say. For a whole nation to speak in a whis per would be a more difficult undertaking than even the proposition of the Fenian Amnesty Committee that they shall abstain from tobacco. Yet the tobacco would perhaps, if necessary, be abstained from, and there may indeed be times when Irishmen have spoken with bated breath, although we doubt if in the economy of nations such a saving of words and tobacco is necessary. However, it pleases the tyrannous snobbery which has had so much to do with the making of English opinion and of Irish misery to object to the pro-Fenian demonstrations because they are noisy, because they mingle with the breath of petition a word or two of bitter reminder. Unfortunately for British pride, human nature is what it is; and the nation which Mr. Gladstone describes as one of noble capacity must be granted the same inherent rights to flesh and blood as their less victimized brethren across the Channel. No wonder that the popular orators of the Irish are out of temper with Mr. Gladstone's refusal; that Mr. Moore has "no faith in a government of jailors;" that Mr. Butt threatens and warns; and the priesthood which, as a class, have been conspicuous peacemakers, have only to lament that Mr. Gladstone has not dared to conciliate a people which no English Government was every yet afraid to wrong. Let us hope, if we can, for kinder courage when England comes to treat the land question.

be gratified by some arrangement emanating from General Grant, and we are quite as sure that a visit from her, as the representative of Napoleon, would bind still closer the friendly relations now existing between the two countries.

DISGRACEFUL AND COWARDLY. From the N. Y. Herald.

The conduct of certain young male medical students of Philadelphia the other day at the Pennsylvania Hospital, in expressing their hostility to the presence of the female students admitted to the lectures, was most disgraceful. Those young fellows have been sadly reglected in the first requirements of a medical education-the requirements of good breeding. They behaved more like professional ruffians than professional gentlemen on the occasion in question. They exhibited in their deportment the baser instincts of a contemptible jealousy, shallow ignorance, and unmanly cowardice, instead of the politeness and refinement of true manhood in their calling. But it cannot be that to them attaches the whole responsibility for their scandalous behavior. The professors and teachers of these disorderly youngsters have been remiss in their duties, or these insults to the young women enlisted in the profession would never have occurred. They should have been checked on the spot. We have too much of this barbaric rowdyism of the last century tolerated in our colleges generally of the present day. It should be done away with, and young men in their first les-sons as students should be taught that the youthful sports of savages are not adapted to civilized society.

DRY GOODS. FINE BROCHE LONG SHAWLS FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. EYRE & LANDELL, FOURTH AND ARCH STREETS, HAVE MADE EXPENSIVE SHAWLS A LEADING ARTICLE THIS SEASON. INDIA CAMEL'S HAIR SCARFS. INDIA STYLE SHAWLS. VIENNA, LONG AND SQUARE. PARIS QUALITY BROCHE. 116 stuth 2m SCARLET, LONG AND SQUARE. BLACK, LONG AND SQUARE STYLISH STRIPE SHAWLS. BREAKFAST SHAWLS. CARRIAGE STRIPE SHAWLS. SHOULDER SHAWLS. [10 16 smw 'N. B.-Best Stock of Good Staple DRY GOODS. 1869. "AT THORNLEY'S."



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ST. DOMINGO TO BE ANNEXED. From the N. Y. World.

The explanation of the mysterious activity which has prevailed at the navy-yard for the last few days has been quickly disclosed. The administration at Washington-anxious, probably, to be able to meet Congress at its approaching session with some eclat and honor, and having failed to effect anything brilliant at home or across the Atlantic-has quietly prepared, and is now about to deliver, a somewhat startling and possibly an effective coup d'etat. The United States steamer Albany, Captain Balch commanding, having on board 1000 tons of ammunition, field-pieces, and heavy guns for fortifications, besides a large number of boxes containing rifles and fixed ammunition, sailed from this port on Wednesday, with orders to stop at Tortugas and take on board 500 United States troops, and then proceed to St. Domingo and take possession of that island in the name of the United States. The commander of the Albany was anxious to keep the sailing of the vessel and the object of her mission a secret. and succeeded in doing so until after her departure. But the facts as we state them may be relied upon. It should also be stated that some weeks since Liutenant Colonel Babcock, of General Grant's staff, in company with Senator Cole, of California, visited St. Domingo on a mission, the purport of which was not at that time understood; and that on the Albany are three United States Commissioners, specially sent from Washington to accompany the expedition and represent the civil power of the Government. The ship was ready for departure before the arrival of the commissioners here, and immediately upon their reaching her she went to sea.

It is also stated that this expedition has been despatched by virtue of the provisions of a secret treaty lately concluded between St. Domingo and the United States, by which certain forts upon the coast of the island and a considerable portion of her territory were ceded to this country. It is probable that Senator Cole and Lieutenant-Colonel Babcock brought this treaty with them upon their re-turn from their recent visit to the island. It will be remembered that at the last session of Congress strong efforts were made to induce the Government to take steps looking towards the extension of a protectorate over St. Domingo, in order to put an end to the anarchy and bloodshed which have so long prevailed there. The effort at the time failed, owing to opposition made in the Senate; but it now appears that the administration has taken the job into its own hands, without waiting to obtain the consent of Mr. Charles Sumner, who, had he been consulted, would probably have found it necessary to take a six months course of Vattel and Puffendorf before deciding upon the propriety of the step.

There is, perhaps, something more than at the first blash appears on the surface of this startling news. St. Domingo is only forty miles from the coast of Cuba, and, if the ad-

INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES-A HINT TO GENERAL GRANT.

From the N. Y. Herald.

We have it reported from Constantinople that the Empress Eugenie, in a passing con-versation with the United States Minister there. Mr. Morris, said, "I have a great desire to visit the United States, and should rejoice to find a pretext for going there." A pretext! We can give the Empress something better than a pretext, in making it an obligation on her part to come. Let General Grant, for instance, in his own name and in the name of Mrs. Grant and all the ladies of the Union, and all the people thereof, autho-rize Mr. Washburne, our Minister at Paris, to invite the Empress to Washington, and so as to come while Congress is in session, and doubtless she will avail herself of the opportunity for the trip. A similar invitation to Queen Victoria might result in bringing both these exalted and excellent women over, and in the same ship, provided that, meantime, some satisfactory understanding is reached touching those Alabama claims. Crowned heads and princes, with our modern facilities

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