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SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Upon Carrent Topics-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

THE GREAT NEVADA TUNNEL. From the N. Y. Tribune.

The struggles of Mr. Adolph Sutro during the last four or five years to obtain the means necessary for the cutting of the great Sutro tunnel in Nevada, have shown him to be a man of extraordinary energy and perseverance. He has personally urged his scheme in all the bourses of the world, from New York, London, and Paris, to Amsterdam, Vienna, and Frankfort; he has labored with the great money kings and money lenders of Europe; he has appealed to the American Congress with the greatest pertinacity, and has reasoned with Senators and members by day and night; he has importuned the editors of all the leading journals of the country; he has fought the Bank of California, the great financial power of the Pacific coast; he has printed books and pamphlets, maps and engravings; he has held correspondence or personal interviews with nearly all the leading scientific men and mining engineers now liv-ing; and he has sacrificed all the funds he himself possessed in his determined efforts to secure the capital required for the con-struction of the tunnel. When, after his unwearied labors with Congress at its last session, he failed to obtain an appropriation, though the House Committee on Mines and Mining recommended a subsidy of \$5,000,-000, it seemed as though he would at last be compelled to give up the struggle. He had apparently tried and exhausted every means that promised success; and, in resigning all hope of it, he would at least have the consciousness that he had only failed after displaying an amount of ingenuity and pertinacity sufficient to secure success for almost

any possible project. But Captain Sutro has neither given up his prospects nor his labors. On the contrary, he has just announced his purpose of making another attempt, which, we must say, gives better promise than any of those that have preceded it. The speech he has recently de-livered on the subject in Nevada sets forth his new programme in detail; and while doing so, he takes occasion to recount his past struggles, trials, plans, hopes, and misfortunes, in America and Europe; and this he does in a way that makes it as interesting as any romance of personal adventure.

The new plan of Captain Sutro is to induce the Nevada miners themselves to commence operations upon the tunnel on their own account. He desires, in fact, to carry on the work upon the co-operative principle-offering opportunities by which some of the men may give their labor, while others may invest such sums as they possess, from \$5 upwards, receiving therefor stock in the meantime, and subsequently such returns as may be furnished by the silver which he feels assured will soon be reached. The plan he has drawn up appears entirely feasible, and he has presented it in such a way that we are not surprised at the encouragement he has received. The privileges, rights, and grants of land he has already obtained from Congress give an excellent basis of security on which to attempt the co-operative plan; and the assurance of immense returns to all interested parties, in the event of success, furnish an element of attraction peculiarly tempting to the American, and, above all others, to the American miner.

The plan that Mr. Sutro has finally determined to try has been adopted, not only because of the failure of all others, but because of the objection the capitalists everywhere made to his efforts to induce them to invest He was asked here in in the tunnel. York, as well as in London, Paris, and Vienna, why the Nevada people themselves did not take hold of a project that offered such inducements as he presented. He an-swered this as well as he could, but still the question was repeated; and at last he realized that the doubt it implied would absolutely prevent him from obtaining the means required from Eastern or European capitalists. He also discovered that there was but one way of meeting the difficulty, and that was by actually obtaining from the people of Nevada that practical indorsement of his scheme involved in contributions of their own money and labor. In setting about the work of securing this, he has acted with his usual vigor; and if he meets with any reasonable success, and is able to show any practical result, there will thereafter be no difficulty in obtaining all the capital necessary for continuing the work through the silver mines. The Sutro tunnel, as our readers are aware, was projected as a means of piercing the silver-bearing mountain, in the State of Nevada, wherein exists what is known as the "Comstock lode," the richest silver vein of which there is any record in ancient or modern history. This lode has been worked for ten years past, and during the last six years has produced \$75,000,000; but Captain Sutro says that the whole of this enormous sum has been swallowed up by the expense of producing it. The business of working it, which has always been great, is now one of extreme difficulty, and it is merely a question of time when it will have to be abandoned, no matter how rich the ore. The miners have reached an average depth of about one thousand feet, at which nearly fifty steam engines are required to pump out the water and hoist the ore, and the expense of keeping all this machinery in motion is so heavy that it is already unprofitable to work some of the mines. In addition, it appears that the heat has so greatly increased that, at the present depth, the miners can do but one-half their proper amount of labor. Now, if fifty engines are required to work these mines a depth of one thousand feet, how many will be necessary at a depth of 1500 to 2000 feet? and if the thermometer now stands at 100 degrees Fahrenheit, how high will it stand with another year's progress into the earth ? It is admitted on all hands, we believe, that the mining of this lode must ere long cease, though there may not be the slightest sign of the exhaustion of the silver deposits. It is the opinion of all scientific men and mining engineers, based on experience and investigation, that mineral lodes, true fissure veins, such as exist in this locality, descend indefinitely. No termination of any of them has ever been found, though some in Europe have been worked for ages, and have been carried to depths far below that reached in any American lode. It is in this fact that encouragement is found for the projected tunnel, which, by entering the mountain at its base, will reach the silver at a point far below that which can be reached by mining after the present fashion. At the same time the immense expense of the steam enginery now required will be saved, and the means of ventilation will keep the temperature at a point at which the miners can work with facility and safety. Of these statements there need be no more doubt than there is of the general principle laid down by Captain Sutro, "than in order to work mines |

under the mountains, must be constructed. The projected tunnel which reach the Comstock lode after traversing a distance of about 20,000 feet, and will cut this lode at a perpendicular depth of about 2000 feet. In order to expedite the work four shafts will be sunk on the tunnel route, from the bottom of which, at the proper depth of the tunnel level, drifts will be extended in each direction. Five hundred millions of dollars (says Captain Sutro) is a low estimate of the amount of silver contained in this mountain; and, without the tunnel, it must forever remain in the bowels of the earth, for the expenses of its extraction, under the present system, would be greater than its value. It is not in our power, of course, to verify or justify this estimate. We must say, however, that if the miners of Nevada, who are cogni-

zant of the scientific and engineering facts on which these deductions are based, should show enough faith and interest in them to take hold of the work of constructing the great tunnel, we should be very well pleased. Let them invest according to their ability; let them display half the energy in carrying out the scheme that Mr. Sutro has shown for four years in urging it, and we venture to say that, if there be any prospect of success, capi talists will not be slow in coming to their as-

CODDLING COMMERCE,

From the N. Y. World.

sistance.

In the current number of Putnam's Magazine appears an ingenious and skilful plea in favor of the application which is to be made at the approaching session of Congress for the payment of subsidies to ocean mail steamers. The paper is written by Mr. A. A. Low, and he has succeeded in saying everything that can be said on his side of the question, and in saying it as well as it can be said. His argument halts, for reasons which we shall presently state; but this is not the fault of the advocate of the claim, but of the claim itself. More than this, it must be urged against Mr. Low's argument that it proves at once too much and too little: too much, because it first shows that the decay of American commerce is due to four or five causes which would not have been, nor would not now be, at all affected by the payment of subsidies; too little, because it assumes that with these causes still in operation, and with no attempt made to remove them, commerce may be restored to its former healthy condition by the payment of subsidies. If Mr. Low were bleeding to death from four wounds which had severed the arteries in his legs and arms, he would probably be apt to reject the advice of a surgeon who should propose to allow the blood to continue to gush from the wounds, while the patient should be kept from sinking by the administration of liberal doses of brandy. Nor would he feel any more confidence in the treatment proposed even should the surgeon assure him that he had found the liberal use of brandy to be highly beneficial in the case of another patient of his, Mr. Bull, who, it was true, was not suffering from loss of blood, but who was a little sluggish and needed stimulation. The surgeon, however, would be scarcely less logical than is Mr. Low, who, after very faile pointing out five of the wounds from which his patient is bleeding to death, suddenly claps his hands over these sad gashes, tells us what good effects were produced upon a subject, who had not been wounded at all, by the stimulus of subsidies, and demands that, while nothing shall be done to stop the bleeding, the same stimulus shall be administered to his wounded patient. Let us, however, take Mr. Low's own statement of his case.

subsidies to ocean mail steamers in 1837; but the export commerce of the kingdom remained unaffected until 1843, the first year after the commencement the free trade system; when, from millions of pounds (at about which figure they had long remained stationary), the exports rose in ten years to 371 millions, in ten years more to 1601 millions, and in the next five years to 180 millions. There was no free trade in shipping until 1850, and, not-withstanding that the subsidies had then continued for thirteen years, the amount of British tonnage employed in the foreign trade was only about 51 millions; in 1850 the navigation laws were repealed, and the tonnage in the foreign trade is now above 221 millions. The payment of subsidies had little to do with all this (it is not the subsidized lines which carry on this great traffic): its growth is due, and wholly due, to the wisdom of that policy which has made England the workshop of the world, and which makes her the free market for the sale of the productions of every other country. Mr. Low, at the conclusion of his paper. indulges in a vision of what will happen "when our legislators cease to be mere politicians and learn to be statesmen." join in his hope; but it will never be realized by the prosecution of the policy which he points out, and which, at the best, will only give an unwholesome and exotic existence to that which, under a wiser policy, would need no nursing. Give us free trade as fast as possible-in ships, in ships' materials, and merchandise; and give us once more a sound currency upon a specie basis, and American commerce will regain all its former supremacy. But if we put off with palliatives and makeare shifts, like the one for which Mr. Low pleads so well, the day when "the mortification of the present hour will give place to a pride like that of our fathers" will be as dis-

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LOTTERY DEALERS.

From the N. Y. Times.

tant as ever.

There are always plenty of shiftless, improvident, visionary mortals in the world to go into any scheme which promises them a future without hard work, and for a small out-When a man has thrown away all his lay. real opportunities in life, and finds himself sinking with the millstone of his own follies tied about his own neck, he hunts up lotteries, dreams of lucky combinations, and throws away his few remaining dollars in the most hopeless attempt to win a fortune that a rational being can commit himself to.

Lotteries are illegal in this State. So are a good many other things which thrive among us. It is illegal to carry arms, but multitudes of people do it. It is wrong to sell whisky on Sundays behind cigar stores, but there are places where it is done. We believe that there are from five to seven hundred lottery offices in New York city and Brooklyn. The Micawbers of the community make it well worth the while of the managers to carry on a business which is not the loss immoral because the National Government gives it a sort of official countenance.

The headquarters of the lottery system are in Kentucky. The offices here represent the main organizations in that State. They are carried on under disguises which would not impose upon a smart boy in a primary school. Let us see how the trick is managed. Tom Scapegrace walks into a room and sees a placard stuck up informing him that a "gig" worth from \$62 to \$300, a "saddle" from \$12 to \$36, a "horse" from \$100 to \$640, a "day" from \$5 to \$5. For the "gig" there are sixty numbers put into a box, of which nine only out. In order to win the said drawn 'gig"-or, say, \$250-a man must name three numbers out of the nine-the chances against his doing that being, of course, enormously great. He chooses three numbers-2, 5, and for example-and stakes one dollar that these numbers will come out in the draw. If that calculation should prove accurete, he wins two or three hundred dollars. Of course the practical operation of the system is thisthe whole Scapegrace family keep putting down their dollars on the lottery dealer's counter, and seldom taking any up. They go there again and again, just as they are drawn to the whisky bar, or as the fly will keep trying to walk over a spider's web. It is so much pleasanter to "find" a fortune than to work for it, that a lottery office is never likely to spread its nets in vain for fools It will be observed that the man who invests in a lottery does not buy a lottery ticket-that would be against the law. The name of the article is changed, just as whisky is sometimes sold on Sundays under the innocent name of cider. The customer buys a "policy of numbers." He has had a dream, or his wife has dreamt that her sister's husband had a dream, in which the successful numbers were revealed by the accommodating Fates. The believer in chance, as against hard work and Providence, rushes off to the lottery office and stakes his money on the combination of numbers which the hand of destiny has obligingly written out for him. He thinks the lottery itself cannot be such a very mischievous institution or the Government would certainly not sanction it. And the lottery dealer shows him the receipt for a hundred dollars special tax. This gives the whole concern an air of respectability. The lottery office, in a certain sense, has a Government mark upon it. Is not that a guarantee of fair play? Many an ignorant man and woman think so, and are encouraged to go on squandering the dollars of which they have robbed their families. The Government is in this anomalous position-it recognizes and taxes that which the laws of the State declare to be an immorality and an offense. It even helps the head managers of the lotteries. We will explain in what way. Formerly they were very much at the mercy of the small dealers, scattered over the country. But the astute chief managers went to Congress and said, "You can never get on with these lottery dealers-it would be a farce to tax them. Try us. We'll very soon take all the trouble off your hands, and turn over to you a very handsome revenue. Make a regulation that no lottery dealer shall carry on business unless he pays a special tax of \$100, and five per cent. on his gross receipts. We, the managers, will give a bond for the five per cent., and without the bond let no lottery office be opened." At this particular time the Government was much in need of money, and was casting about in every direc-tion for something to tax. The managers' bait took. The order was made-the lottery dealer could no longer set up business on hi own account, but was entirely under the thumb of the chief projector, who had the plunder left at his own disposal.

rationally and profitably, wherever the topo-graphy of the country allows it, great district or main tunnels, which serve as highways business must be very small; and, as we know the latter supposition cannot be maintained. we are driven to adopt the former. The Government in a certain measure compromises itself for \$135,000 a year. The State has tried to suppress an offense from which the administration condescends to receive a profit Is this worthy of us? Congress ought either to make the tax on lotteries so enormous as to be virtually a prohibition, or abstain from taxing them altogether. The credulous and the weak-minded ought to have no excuse left for supposing that gambling schemes are vouched for by the Government. EUGENIE AT MASS.

From the N. Y. World.

One of the most interesting incidents of the visit of the Empress Eugenie to Constantinople was the scene which occurred when her Majesty went to high mass at the Armeno-Catholic Church of St. Marie. The correspondents say that, of all the striking sights that have been witnessed since her Majesty's arrival, this was the most gorgeous and singular. The church is not large, but for this occasion it had been very richly decorated. On the right of the altar a throne had been erected for the Empress under a canopy of crimson velvet; on the other side were two smaller thrones for the Patriarch and the delegate of the Holy See in Constantinople. In the nave was a magnificent piece of tapestry, presented by the Empress to this church, which cost 250,000f. There were present a large number of bishops and archbishops from all parts of the Turkish empire, who had come to Constantinople to consider matters concerning the Armeno-Catholic Church in Turkey before proceeding to Rome for the Cecumenical Council; two Greek Catholic bishops, a Bulgarian Catholic archimandrite, and two Mekhitarist archbishops—one from Vienna, the other from Venice. Her Majesty, on entering the vestibule, passed between a double line of twenty-two bishops, in gorgeous mitres and vestments, and she was then met by eight Armenian notables, who presented her with "gold and silver cups filled with rare and sweet perfumes." The language used in the mass was ancient Armenian-the Armeno-Catholic, Syrian, Chaldean, Maronite, and Melchite branches of the Roman Church having always retained the privilege of using their own language in their sacramental services. The mass was a choral one, intoned throughout; "but the only instrumental music employed was an accompaniment' of two reed flutes, the tones of which were of a strange and plaintive nature." · A correspondent thus describes the more solemn por-

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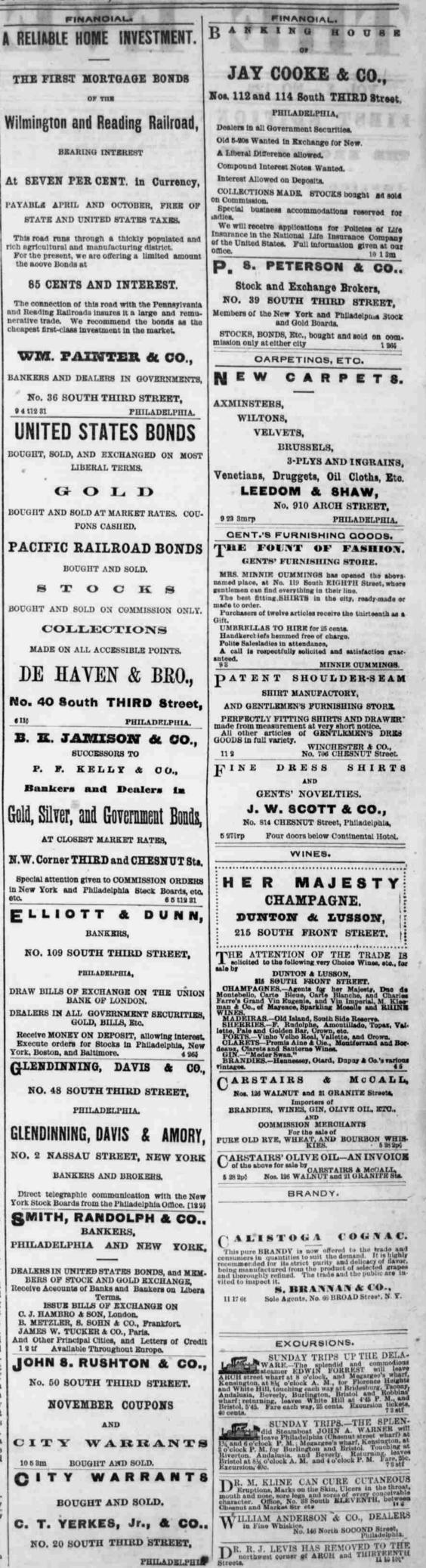
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tion of the mass:-"While the priest was engaged in the consecration "While the priest was engaged in the consecration of the elements, a massive blue curtain, covered with silver stars, was drawn between him and the rest of the Church, effectually shutting him from the view of all eyes but those of his confreres who were assisting him; the idea of this being entire disconnection with the outer world at such a holy and solemn moment. When this curtain was again withdrawn, and while the elements were further being prepared (for in the Catholic Church one cere-mony is for the clergy and another for the people), again a curtain was let fall, nominally not cutting off the officiating clergy this time, for the separating folds were of the most delicate white gauze, inter-woven with gold, merely meant as being symbolical woven with gold, merely meant as being symbolical of purity. And certainly the white haze through which one observed the priests gave a peculiarly solemn and mythical appearance to that part of the

After the mass the Empress left her throne, approached the Patriarch, and, kneeling, kissed his ring; "then, completely prostrating herself, asked the blessing of his eminence, which was given."

THE ANNEXATION OF ST. DOMINGO. From the N. Y. Herald.

The letter which we published on Thursday from our Washington correspondent indicates that the St. Domingo question, both in the



His paper is entitled the "Sovereignty of the Seas;" and, after laving it down that Great Britain's supremacy on the ocean was not so effectually gained by her navy as "by the more peaceful and inexpensive method steadily pursued by that country during the last thirty years," he draws a picture of the results of "the friendly competition for the carrying trade of the nations," from 1815 to 1835, in which struggle "the United States acquired a prestige that was unexcelled." But a change, "commencing in 1837 and 1808, but not patent to the common eye till ten or fifteen years later on," occurred, and "England's maritime supremacy is so manifest now as to reflect our national humiliation." And then Mr. Low points out the following causes of this revolution-the wounds from which American commerce has languished and suffered almost unto death:-

1. A substitution of steamships for sailing vessels;

A substitution of steamships for sailing vessels; this commenced about 1837-8.
The use of iron instead of wood in the construc-tion of ships and steamers.
The reaction from high rates of freight, because of the vast increase of tonnage which the trade of California brought into being, the expulsion of sail-ing vessels from short ocean routes, and the conse-quent overcrowding of distant ports.
The war of the Rebellion, which raised up an insidious foe, and for five years rendered the build-ing and sailing of American ships a worse than pro-fitiess pursuit, and which finally imposed a burden

ess pursuit, and which finally imposed a burder of taxes on all the material that enters into the construction of vessels, and so enhanced the price of labor and of seamen's wages as to make competition with our great rival most unequal.

Mr. Low adds to these "causes of the decline of our national commerce." "the disturbed condition of our currency;" and. having thus shown that the evil which he proposes to remedy has been due to these five causes, he comes forward with his remedy -which is "the renewal, on a more generous scale, of subsidies to ocean mail steamers and, like the surgeon, he enforces his prescription by telling us how British commerce has been benefited by "subsidizing lines of mail steamers to all important parts of the world." Let us look at the argument, thrown into the form of a syllogism:-

Major-American commerce has been ruined and kept depressed by the operation of five causes, which would have ruined it although subsidies had been paid to ocean mail steamers.

Minor-British commerce has been benefited by the payment of subsidies to ocean mail steamers.

Conclusion-Therefore, although nothing shall be done to remove the causes that have ruined American commerce, and which will continue to depress it until they are removed. it will be brought into its former state of unparalleled prosperity if Congress will pay subidies to ocean mail steamers.

This is the reductio ad absurdum; but it is what Mr. Low's argument comes to. The true remedy for the evils which he so powerfully points out, and which we all deplore, is to be found in what is the true cause of the increase of Great Britain's commerce-not the payment of subsidies to all steamers, but the liberation of commerce from all restrictions and the establishment of free trade. British commerce has increased in exact proportion as the Government of that kingdom threw off the fetters of trade, and it should be remembered that, although subsidies were paid long before free trade' was established, the commerce did not increase until free trade had been established. We have so frequently and lately spoken of the statis-

The Government thus not only taxes crime but encourages it-makes it plausible, and entices the unwary to involve themselves in it. This is not only an impropriety, but what would be worse in the eyes of strict financiers -it is an impropriety which pays indiffer- | trust

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hands of the United States Government and in the administration of Baez, at the head of affairs in the Dominican republic, is in a fair way towards a speedy and practical solution. The project of annexation has long been entertained by the two contending parties in that republic, and the small faction of Cabral revolutionists who oppose it would doubtless favor it, as they favored it when in power a few years ago, if they were now in power. The people generally are reported to be well disposed to the step. President Baez was assured during last summer that the inhabitants of Porto Plata, Santiago, Levega, and Cotuy are agreed on this point. Baez, of course, could not with propriety initiate this annexation any more than he could consent to the leasing of the Bay of Sanama or to the plan of a protectorate to be exercised by the United States Government, unless that Government, as well as his own people, were unquestionably willing and ready to accomplish it. Without entering into the details of the preliminary negotiations which have from time to time been informally conducted between the two inde pendent Governments since 1865, when the annexation was on the eve of completion, we may express the opinion that it is now highly probable the project of annexing to the United States both the yellow republic of Dominica and the black republic of Hayti, which now divide the entire island between them, will come up early at the next session of the United States Congress, and that measures looking towards its realization will be promptly adopted and acted upon. The abolition of slavery in the United States and the establishment of civil and political equality have removed certain objections which used to stand in the way of annexation, and there will be no difficulty on this score in governing Dominica and Hayti as territories until they shall have ripened into States. It will not be long before American capital, which has already turned its eye towards the incalculable, undeveloped resources of this beautiful and fertile island, and American enterprise which has taken time by the forelock and established Dominican banking, railway and steamship companies-in fact, actually laying the egg out of which annexation seems about to be hatched-and, in due time, emigration from the United States, from Europe, and, perhaps from China, will redeem the island of St. Domingo from revolutionary chaos and open multiplied markets to its increased productions. Moreover, not the least important consideration involved in the annexation of St. Domingo is the fact that Cuba is within but a few hours' sail of the waters in which a really formidable American fleet is now being gathered. Whatever may be the upshot of the Cuban insurrectionary movement, this fact is eminently noteworthy and significant How long will it be before all the West India islands shall form the encircling belt of the Gulf of Mexico as an inland lake of the United States? This is merely a question of time.

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