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THE NEW FENIAN MOVEMENT. THE rumors of a new Fenian movement against the British-American Possessions which have been in circulation for some weeks have had a substantial foundation. The President has taken official cognizance of this Quixotic enterprise by issuing a proclamation admonishing all good citizens against aiding or countenancing it, warning those who actively participate in the proposed raid that they will thereby "forfeit all right to the protection of this Government," and enjoining "all officers in the service of the United States to employ all their lawful authority and power to prevent and defeat" the "aforesaid unlawful proceedings, and to arrest and bring to justice all persons who may be engaged therein." This proclamation utters no uncertain sound, and if the statesmen who governed Great Britain and Canada during our civil war are not impervious to shame, the contrast between its decisive language and the course they pursued in the hour of our national peril should bring a crimson glow to their hardened cheeks. General Grant has done nothing more than his duty, but under analogous circumstances they committed so many sins of omission and commission, that in the light of past events he is heaping coals of fire upon their heads by his magnanimous return of good for evil.

Wild and hare-brained as the existing Fenian movement may be, it is the American administration rather than an array of British power that will defeat it. If a foothold was once gained in Canada, nothing would prevent tens of thousands of indignant Irishmen in this country who are burning for an opportunity to revenge old wrongs from rallying round the Fenian standard but their dread of a fire in the rear more formidable than any opposition that could be concentrated in their front. Yet since the existing forces are deprived of a reliable base of supplies at the very outset of their movement, and since their personal liberty is threatened by an authority which they dare not defy, nothing short of a miracle can secure to the present demonstration substantial success, or exalt it materially above the mere scares which have preceded it. It may, however, be not unproductive of important ultimate results. John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry was commenced with infinitely less adequate resources, and it was punished with a severity that the Fenians have little reason to apprehend, and yet it had a mighty influence in strengthening the anti-slavery feeling of this country, and in emblazoning "EMANCIPA-TION" upon the banner of the Union armies. The mere fact that thousands of men are willing to assume the hazards of the present enterprise and to brave death, under most hepeless circumstances, will make a deeper impression upon the people of Canada, Ireland, and Great Britain than thousands of frothy stump speeches, and it will force from reluctant statesmen a serious consideration of the underlying causes of this demonstration. It is rumored that the Fenians now in the field contemplate a double movement-one against Canada, set on foot by the Eastern members of the organization; and another against the Red River district, which is to make Chicago its base of operations. The anxiety of the public will be excited to learn the fate of these diverse expeditions, but interest will centre rather in a desire to learn how soon and hew they are to be broken up and dispersed than in an expectation that they will be able to gain even partial triumphs against the combined opposition of the two most powerful governments in the world. The only rational thing these madcaps can hope for is that they may exercise a moral, political, or partisan influence. In a military point of view they are beaten at the outset of their campaign, and all efforts to keep their forces in the field for any considerable period will prove unavailing. ESPARTERO. IF the situation to-day in Spain could be taken as an indication of what is likely te happen to-morrow, it might be considered as almost a settled thing that Espartero will be called to the throne that has so long been waiting for an occupant. After repeatedly refusing the regal dignity, he has at length consented to accept provided the Cortes will bestow it upon him. The selection of Espartero can only be considered as an effort to quiet the discontent that prevails at the delay in establishing a permanent government and as a compromise between the rival aspirants to power for the purpose of giving time and opportunity for further intrigue. Espartero is a very old man, and it is not probable that he will occupy the throne many years, and his election at a time when it would seem that a young and active man in the full possession of his physical and mental powers was particularly needed at the head of affairs, cannot be considered as other than unfortunate. There is no reason to doubt Espartero's patriotism, but it is not likely that he can take any very active part in the direction of the Government; and his elevation, so far from uniting the various opposing interests, will only be made the occasion of fresh intrigues that can scarcely fail to cause trouble and discord in the event of his desth. It is the Spanish disposition, however, to put off until to-mor-

row what had better be done to-day, and in choosing Espartero as their King they get rid of a present difficulty, and are willing to let the troubles of the future take care of themselves. There are examples in Mistory of feeble old men who, on being elevated to power as temporary expedients, have displayed unwonted vigor that astonished those who calculated on something different: and it may be that this veteran is not so far on the road to the grave as is expected, and that if he once grasps the sceptre he will show himself to be such a ruler as is little anticipated. THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA. YESTERDAY the House of Representatives amused itself by a lively but rather profitless debate upon the attitude of our Government towards Cuba. Those members who imagine that they can make political capital by loudvoiced expressions of sympathy for Cuba on the floor of Congress discussed the subject from nearly every point of view, and the remarks varied between abuse of the President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Navy, the officers of the navy, and our diplomatic representatives in Cuba. It was tolerably evident that the honorable gentlemen were talking more for buncombe than anything else, and considering the amount of important work that still remains to be performed before the fast-approaching end of the session, the fact that they might have employed their time to better advantage scarcely needs argument. Out of Congress, however, there is a general feeling that the influence of our Government has not made itself felt in Cuba as it ought, and the chief point of interest in the debate yesterday was the query as to who was to blame in the matter. On one side it was charged that the Secretary of State is a fossil who is not up to the spirit of the age, and that the foreign policy of the administration is weak-kneed and irresolute. On the other hand, the refusal of Congress to grant the appropriations asked for by the Navy Department was given as an excuse for our not having a larger force of vessels in Cuban waters. One member asserted that the administration was so busy in looking after St. Domingo that it had neither time nor disposition to pay attention to Cuba, and another contended that Consul Phillips, whose alleged grievances called for the special attention of the Government, is a scalawag whose own bad behavior was the cause of any trouble he might have had with the Cuban authorities. Without attempting to decide who is to blame in the matter, or to sift the grains of truth from the utterances of Congressmen who are only talking for talk sake, we can at least come to the conclusion that the attitude of our Government towards Cuba has not been what it should. In refusing to take sides with the insurgents, the administration has been supported by the good sense of the country, certain blatant members of Congress to the contrary notwithstanding; but of late our neutrality has apparently leaned too much to the other side, and there has not been that ager desire to protect American interests that should be displayed. When outrages on American citizens have been reported, the explanations and excuses of the Spanish authorities have been accepted with entirely too much readiness, and with too little inquiry into the real facts. We have a right to deal strictly with the Spaniards, and to demand that they shall afford a proper protection to such American citizens as may be in Cuba, and there ought to be a sufficient force in the Cuban waters to secure a prompt consideration and a proper settlement of any demands we may have occasion to make. If the present naval force is not sufficient, it should be increased, and the naval officers and our diplomatic representatives should receive instructions to be vigilant and active in securing our rights and in making the Spaniards feel that, while we are neutrals, we have no sympathy with them, and that we are not disposed to countenance any outrages upon our own citizens or to extenuate the slightest infringement of their rights. If the United States Government takes the bold and decided stand that it should, the probabilities are that the Cuban revolution will be concluded in one way or the other before long, and we will be relieved from further trouble in the matter. CAMERON'S COMPLAINT. THE Morning Post appears to be heartily enlisted in the service of Senator Cameron, and at stated periods does its level best to whitewash his rather dubious record. If the Senator from Pennsylvania can persuade the Post or any other journal to undertake this task, no person can object. The public can only arrive at a true estimate of his claims to their confidence by hearing both sides, and his most unrelenting enemies will not begrudge him such a hearing. But when Senator Cameron prompts his journalistic champion to yoke the late Mr. Stanton to him, in the hope that in this way he can be pulled through the ordeal of public scrutiny, he calculates without his host. Whatever may be the views of this journal upon Senator Cameron's character, it has not assailed the memory of Mr. Stanton, as is alleged by the organ of the former, and no amount of assertions to that effect will tend to lighten the task of those who are besmearing Cameron with lime-water. The attempt to hold THE EVENING TELEGRAPH responsible for Judge Black's opinion of Mr. Stanton is as reprehensible, and will prove as futile, as the effort to demonstrate that Senator Cameron is a paragon of political virtue, by linking his name to that of the great War Minister. STEINWAY & SONS

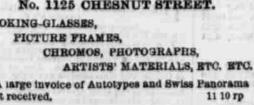


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