

the new minister shall have had time to investigate the justice of our demands.

Even what have been denominated "the Cuban claims," in which more than a hundred of our citizens are directly interested, have furnished no exception. These claims were for the refunding of duties unjustly exacted from American vessels at different custom houses in Cuba, so long ago as the year 1844. The principles upon which they rest are so manifestly equitable and just, that after a period of nearly ten years, in 1854, they were recognized by the Spanish government. Proceedings were afterwards instituted to ascertain their amount, and this was finally fixed according to their own statement (with which we were satisfied) at the sum of one hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and thirty-five dollars and fifty-four cents. Just at the moment, after a delay of fourteen years, when we had reason to expect that this sum would be repaid with interest, we have received a proposal offering to refund one-third of that amount, (forty-two thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight dollars and forty-one cents,) but without interest, if we would accept this in full satisfaction. The offer is also accompanied by a declaration that this indemnification is not founded on any reason of strict justice, but is made as a special favor.

Our alleged cause for procrastination in the examination and adjustment of our claims, arises from an obstacle which it is the duty of the Spanish government to remove. Whilst the captain-general of Cuba is invested with general despotic authority in the government of that island, the power is withheld from him to examine and redress wrongs committed by officials under his control, or citizens of the U. States. Instead of making our complaints directly to him at Havana, we are obliged to present them through our minister at Madrid. These are then referred back to the captain-general for information; and much time is thus consumed in preliminary investigation and correspondence between Madrid and Cuba, and before the Spanish government will consent to proceed to negotiation. Many of the difficulties between the two governments would be obviated, and a long train of negotiation avoided, if the captain-general were invested with authority to settle questions of easy solution on the spot, where all the facts are fresh, and could be promptly and satisfactorily ascertained. We have hitherto in vain urged upon the Spanish government to confer this power upon the captain-general, and our minister to Spain will again be instructed to urge this subject on their notice. In this respect, we occupy a different position from the powers of Europe. Cuba is almost within sight of our shores; our commerce with it is far greater than that of any other nation, including Spain itself, and our citizens are in habits of daily and extended personal intercourse with every part of the island. It is, therefore, a great grievance that, when any difficulty occurs, no matter how unimportant, which might be readily settled at the moment, we should be obliged to resort to Madrid, especially when the very first step to be taken there is to refer it back to Cuba.

The truth is that Cuba, in its existing colonial condition, is a constant source of injury and annoyance to the American people. It is the only spot in the civilized world where the African slave trade is tolerated; and we are bound by treaty with Great Britain, to maintain a naval force on the coast of Africa, at much expense both of life and treasure, solely for the purpose of arresting slavers bound to that island. The late serious difficulties between the United States and Great Britain, respecting the right of search, now so happily terminated, could never have arisen if Cuba had not afforded a market for slaves. As long as this market shall remain open, there can be no hope for the civilization of benighted Africa. Whilst the demand for slaves continues in Cuba, wars will be waged among the petty and barbarous chiefs in Africa, for the purpose of seizing subjects to supply this trade. In such a condition of affairs, it is impossible that the light of civilization and religion can ever penetrate those dark abodes.

It has been made known to the world by my predecessors, that the United States have, on several occasions, endeavored to acquire Cuba from Spain by honorable negotiation. If this were accomplished, the last relic of the African slave trade would instantly disappear. We would not, if could, acquire Cuba in any other manner. This is due to our national character. All the territory which we have acquired since the origin of the government, has been by fair purchase from France, Spain and Mexico, or by the free and voluntary act of the independent State of Texas, in blending her destinies with our own. The course we shall ever pursue, unless circumstances should occur, which we do not now anticipate, rendering a departure from it clearly justifiable, under the imperative and overriding law of self-preservation.

The Island of Cuba, from its geographical position, commands the mouth of the Mississippi, and the immense and annually increasing trade, foreign and coastwise, from the valley of that noble river, now embraces half the sovereign States of the Union. With that island under the dominion of a distant foreign power, this trade, of vital importance to these States, is exposed to the danger of being destroyed in time of war, and it has hitherto been subjected to perpetual injury and annoyance in time of peace. Our relations with Spain, which ought to be of the most friendly character, must always be placed in jeopardy while the existing colonial government over the Island shall remain in its present condition.

Whilst the possession of the Island would be of vast importance to the United States, its value to Spain is, comparatively, unimportant. Such was the relative situation of the parties, when the great Napoleon transferred Louisiana to the United States. Jealous, as he ever was, of the national honor and interests of France, no person throughout the world has imputed blame to him for accepting a pecuniary equivalent for this cession.

The publicity which has been given to our former negotiations upon this subject, and the large appropriation which may be required to effect the purchase, render it expedient, before making another attempt to renew the negotiation, that I should lay the whole subject before Congress. This is especially necessary, as it may become indispensable to success that I should be entrusted with the means of making an advance to the Spanish government immediately after the signing of the treaty, without awaiting the ratification of it by the Senate. I am encouraged to make this suggestion, by the example of Mr. Jefferson previous to the purchase of Louisiana from France, and by

that of Mr. Polk in view of the acquisition of territory from Mexico. I refer the whole subject to the Congress, and commend it to their careful consideration.

I repeat the recommendation made in my message of December last, in favor of an appropriation "to be paid to the Spanish government for the purpose of distribution among the claimants in the Amistad case." President Polk first made a similar recommendation in December, 1847, and it was repeated by my immediate predecessor in December, 1853. I entertain no doubt that indemnity is fairly due to these claimants under our treaty with Spain, of the 27th October, 1795; and whilst demanding justice we ought to do justice.—An appropriation, promptly made, for this purpose could not fail to exert a favorable influence on our negotiations with Spain.

Our position in relation to the independent States south of us on this continent, and especially those within the limits of North America, is of a peculiar character. The northern boundary of Mexico is coincident with our own southern boundary from ocean to ocean, and we must necessarily feel a deep interest in all that concerns the well being and the fate of so near a neighbor. We have always cherished the kindest wishes for the success of that republic, and have indulged the hope that it might at last, after all its trials, enjoy peace and prosperity under a free and stable government. We have never hitherto interfered, directly or indirectly, with its internal affairs, and it is a duty which we owe to ourselves to protect the integrity of its territory, against the hostile interference of any other power.—Our geographical position, our direct interest in all that concerns Mexico, and our well-settled policy in regard to the North American continent, render this an indispensable duty.

Mexico has been in a state of constant revolution almost ever since it achieved its independence. One military leader after another has usurped the government in rapid succession, and the various constitutions from time to time adopted have been set at naught almost as soon as they were proclaimed. The successive governments have afforded no adequate protection, either to Mexican citizens or foreign residents, against lawless violence. Heretofore, a seizure of the capital by a military chieftain has been generally followed by at least the nominal submission of the country to his rule for a brief period, but not so at the present crisis of Mexican affairs. A civil war has been raging for some time throughout the republic, between the central government at the city of Mexico, which has endeavored to subvert the constitution last framed, by military power, and those who maintain the authority of that constitution. The antagonist parties each hold possession of different States of the republic, and the fortunes of the war are constantly changing. Meanwhile, the most respectable means have been employed by both parties to extort money from foreigners, as well as natives, to carry on this ruinous contest.—The truth is that this fine country, blessed with a productive soil and a benign climate, has been reduced, by civil dissension, to a condition almost hopeless anarchy and imbecility. It would be vain for this government to attempt to enforce payment in money of the claims of American citizens, now amounting to more than ten millions of dollars, against Mexico, because she is destitute of all pecuniary means to satisfy these demands.

Our late minister was furnished with ample powers and instructions for the adjustment of all pending questions with the central government of Mexico, and he performed his duty with zeal and ability. The claims of our citizens, some of them arising out of the violation of an express provision of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and others from gross injuries to persons as well as property, have remained unredressed and even unnoticed. Remonstrances against these grievances have been addressed, without effect, to that government. Meantime, in various parts of the republic, instances have been numerous of the murder, imprisonments and plunder of our citizens, by different parties claiming and exercising a local jurisdiction; but the central government, although repeatedly urged thereto, have made no effort either to punish the authors of these outrages or to prevent their recurrence. No American citizens can now visit Mexico on lawful business, without imminent danger to his person and property. There is no adequate protection to either; and in this respect our treaty with that republic is almost a dead letter.

This state of affairs was brought to a crisis in May last, by the promulgation of a decree levying a contribution *pro rata* upon all the capital in the republic, between certain specified amounts, whether held by Mexicans or foreigners. Mr. Forsyth, regarding this decree in the light of a "forced loan," formally protested against its application to his countrymen, and advised them not to pay the contribution, but to suffer it to be forcibly exacted. Acting upon this advice, an American citizen refused to pay the contribution, and his property was seized by armed men to satisfy the amount.—Not content with this, the government proceeded still further, and issued a decree banishing him from the country. Our minister immediately notified them that, if this decree should be carried into execution, he would feel it to be his duty to adopt "the most decided measures that belong to the powers and obligations of the representative office." Notwithstanding this warning, the banishment was enforced, and Mr. Forsyth promptly announced to the government the suspension of the political relations of his legation with them, until the pleasure of his own government should be ascertained.

This government did not regard the contribution imposed by the decree of the 15th of May last, to be in strictness a "forced loan," and, as such, prohibited, by the tenth article of the treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Mexico, to the benefit of which American citizens are entitled by treaty; yet the imposition of the contribution upon foreigners was considered an unjust and oppressive measure. Besides, internal factions in other parts of the republic, were at the same time levying similar exactions upon the property of our citizens, and interrupting their commerce. There had been an entire failure, on the part of our minister, to secure redress for the wrongs which our citizens had endured, notwithstanding his persevering efforts. And from the temper manifested by the Mexican government, he had repeatedly assured us that no favorable change could be expected, until the United States should "give striking evidence of their will and power to protect their citizens;" and that "some chastening is the only earthly remedy for our grievances." From this statement of facts, it would have been worse than idle to direct

Mr. Forsyth to retrace his steps and resume diplomatic relations with that government; and it was therefore deemed proper to sanction his withdrawal of the legation from the city of Mexico.

Abundant, cause now undoubtedly exists, for a resort to hostilities against the government still holding possession of the capital.—Should they succeed in subverting the constitutional forces, all reasonable hope will then have expired of a peaceful settlement of our difficulties.

On the other hand, should the constitutional party prevail, and the authority be established over the republic, there is reason to hope that they will be animated by a less unfriendly spirit and may grant that redress to American citizens which justice requires, so far as they may possess the means. But for this expectation, I should at once have recommended to Congress to grant the necessary power to the President to take possession of a sufficient portion of the remote and unsettled territory of Mexico, to be held in pledge until our injuries shall be redressed, and our just demands be satisfied.—We have already exhausted every other means of obtaining justice. In such a case, the remedy of reprisals is recognized by the law of nations, not only as just in itself, but as a means of preventing actual war.

But there is another view of our relations with Mexico, arising from the unhappy condition of affairs along our southwestern frontier, which demands immediate action. In that remote region, where there are but few white inhabitants, large bands of hostile and predatory Indians roam promiscuously over the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Sonora, and our adjoining territories. The local governments of these States are perfectly helpless, and are kept in a state of constant alarm by the Indians.—They have not the power, if they possessed the will, even to restrain lawless Mexicans from passing the border and committing depredations on our remote settlers. A state of anarchy and violence prevails throughout that distant frontier. The laws are a dead letter, and life and property are wholly insecure. For this reason the settlement of Arizona is arrested, whilst it is of great importance that a chain of habitations should extend all along its southern border, sufficient for their own protection and that of the United States mail passing to and from California. Well-founded apprehensions are now entertained, that the Indians, and wandering Mexicans, equally lawless, may break up the important stage and postal communication recently established between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions. This passes very near to the Mexican boundary throughout the whole length of Arizona. I can imagine no possible remedy for these evils, and no mode of restoring law and order on that remote and unsettled frontier but for the government of the United States to assume a temporary protectorate over the northern portions of Chihuahua and Sonora, and to establish military posts within the same—and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. This protection may be withdrawn as soon as local governments shall be established in these Mexican States capable of performing their duties to the United States, restraining the lawless and preserving peace along the border.

I do not doubt that this measure will be viewed in a friendly spirit by the governments and people of Chihuahua and Sonora, as it will prove equally essential for the protection of their citizens on that remote and lawless frontier, as for citizens of the United States.

And in this connection, permit me to recall your attention to the condition of Arizona.—The population of that territory, numbering, as is alleged, more than ten thousand souls, are practically without a government, without laws, and without any regular administration of justice. Murder and other crimes are committed with impunity. This state of things calls loudly for redress; and I therefore repeat my recommendation for the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona.

The political condition of the narrow isthmus of Central America, through which transit routes pass between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, presents a subject of deep interest to all commercial nations. It is over these transits that a large proportion of the trade and travel between the European and Asiatic continents is destined to pass. To the United States these routes are of inestimable importance, as a means of communication between their Atlantic and Pacific possessions. The latter now extend throughout seventeen degrees of latitude on the Pacific coast, embracing the important State of California and the flourishing territories of Oregon and Washington. All commercial nations, therefore, have a deep and direct interest, that these communications shall be rendered secure from interruption. If an arm of the sea, connecting the two oceans, penetrated through Nicaragua and Costa Rica, it could not be pretended that these States would have the right to arrest or retard its navigation, to the injury of other nations. The transit by land over this narrow isthmus occupies nearly the same position. It is a highway in which they themselves have little interest, when compared with the vast interests of the rest of the world.—Whilst their rights of sovereignty ought to be respected, it is the duty of other nations to require that this important passage shall not be interrupted by the civil wars and revolutionary outbreaks which have so frequently occurred in that region. The stake is too important to be left at the mercy of rival companies, claiming to hold conflicting contracts with Nicaragua. The commerce of other nations is not to stand still and await the adjustment of such petty controversies. The government of the United States expect no more than this, and they will not be satisfied with less. They would not, if they could, derive any advantage from the Nicaragua transit, not common to the rest of the world. Its neutrality and protection, for the common use of all nations, is their only object. They have no objection that Nicaragua shall demand and receive a fair compensation, from the companies and individuals who may traverse the route; but they insist that it shall never hereafter be closed by an arbitrary decree of that government. If disputes arise between it and those with whom they may have entered into contracts, these must be adjusted by some fair tribunal provided for the purpose, and the route must not be closed pending the controversy. This is our whole policy, and it cannot fail to be acceptable to other nations.

All these difficulties might be avoided, if consistently with the good faith of Nicaragua, the use of this transit could be thrown open to general competition; providing at the same time for the payment of a reasonable rate to

the Nicaraguan government, on passengers and freight.

In August, 1852, the Accessory Transit Company made its first interoceanic trip over the Nicaragua route, and continued in successful operation, with great advantage to the public, until the 18th February, 1856, when it was closed, and the grant to this company, as well as its charter, were summarily and arbitrarily revoked by the government of President Hayes. Previous to this date, however, in 1854, serious disputes concerning the settlement of their accounts had arisen between the company and the government, threatening the interruption of the route at any moment. These the United States in vain endeavored to compose. It would be useless to narrate the various proceedings which took place between the parties, up to the time when the transit was discontinued. Suffice it to say that since February, 1856, it has remained closed, greatly to the prejudice of citizens of the United States. Since that time, the competition has ceased between the rival routes of Panama and Nicaragua, and, in consequence thereof, an unjust and unreasonable amount has been exacted from our citizens for their passage to and from California.

A treaty was signed on the 10th day of November, 1857, by the Secretary of State and Minister of Nicaragua, under the stipulations of which the use and protection of the transit route would have been secured, not only to the United States, but equally to all other nations. How and on what pretext this treaty was failed to receive the ratification of the Nicaraguan government will appear by the papers herewith communicated from the State Department.—The principal objection seems to have been, to the provision authorizing the United States to employ force to keep the route open, in case Nicaragua should fail to perform her duty in this respect.

From the feebleness of that republic, its frequent changes of government, and its constant internal dissensions, this had become a most important stipulation, and one essentially necessary, not only for the security of the route, but for the safety of American citizens passing and repassing to and from our Pacific possessions. Were such a stipulation embraced in a treaty between the United States and Nicaragua, the knowledge of this fact would of itself most probably prevent hostile parties from committing aggressions on the route, and render our actual interference for its protection unnecessary.

The executive government of this country, in its intercourse with foreign nations, is limited to the employment of diplomacy alone. When this fails, it can proceed no further. It cannot legitimately resort to force, without the direct authority of Congress, except in resisting and repelling hostile attacks. It would have no authority to enter the territories of Nicaragua, even to prevent the destruction of the transit, and protect the lives and property of our own citizens on their passage. It is true, that on a sudden emergency of this character, the President would direct any armed force in the vicinity to march to their relief; but in doing this he would act upon his own responsibility.

Under these circumstances, I earnestly recommend to Congress the passage of an act authorizing the President, under such restrictions as they may deem proper, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States in preventing the transit from being obstructed or closed by lawless violence, and in protecting the lives and property of American citizens travelling thereupon, requiring at the same time that these forces shall be withdrawn the moment the danger shall have passed away.—Without such a provision, our citizens will be constantly exposed to interruption in their progress, and to lawless violence.

A similar necessity exists for the passage of such an act, for the protection of the Panama and Tehuantepec routes.

In reference to the Panama route, the United States, by their existing treaty with New Granada, expressly guarantee the neutrality of the Isthmus, "with the view that the free transit from one to the other sea may not be interrupted or embarrassed in any future time while this treaty exists."

The election in New York.—The charter election in New York on Tuesday resulted in the substantial defeat of both wings of the Democracy. The chief contest was for Comptroller, and the vote stood—Hays, Rep. and American, 32,800; Purser, Tammany Dem., 18,049; Russell, Anti-Tammany Dem., 11,916—Hays over Purser and Russell, 2,835. Brueninghausen, Rep., and Lynch, Anti-Tammany Dem., probably, are elected Auxiliary Governors. The Herald sums up the general result as follows:

1. The Comptrollership. The Republicans have gained that.

2. The fight between the Sachems of Old Tammany and the Wood party. The Sachems have saved their bacon by the skin of their teeth, but the glory of Old Tammany departed in the struggle.

3. The contest in the election of school officers for the Bible in the public schools. The result is largely in favor of the Bible.

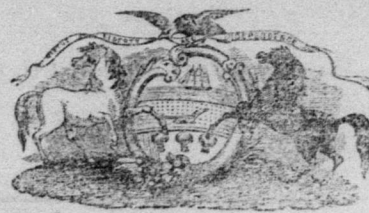
The Tribune says: There is little reason to doubt that, if, instead of putting up contractors and lobby agents, the Democratic party had selected as its candidates men of unblemished character and indisputable capacity, they would have been elected. The Republicans are now successful because they had committed their cause to worthy representatives. Their victory is not so much the victory of a party as of public virtue and public decency. It is this which gives it value far beyond that of any mere party advantage.

THRIVING GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN TEXAS.

A letter in the New York Herald, dated Fort Clark, Texas, thus refers to a thriving German settlement: Some thirty miles from San Antonio is located the flourishing German village of New Braunfels, an oasis of thrift and industry amidst a desert of genuine Texian laziness. The main street of the village is very wide, and lined on either side by neat painted cottages, with tasty grass plots and flower gardens in front. Here you find an excellent hotel, a bakery, some fine stores, and no less than ten wagon factories. These German settlements abound in educated men—Hungarians, Poles, and even Austrians, rivaling the Germans themselves in education and refinement—all, or nearly all, exiles from the fatherland, on account of their political opinions. As I have remarked in a previous letter, these Germans are doing for Texas a great work of civ-

ilization, gradually convincing the people of that State that industry and economy carry wealth and prosperity along with them, and form the sure foundation of a powerful and influential community.

BEDFORD INQUIRER.



BEDFORD, Pa.
Friday Morning, DEC. 17 1858.
"FEARLESS AND FREE."
D. OVER—Editor and Proprietor.

CLOSE OF THE VOLUME.—The ninth volume of this paper, under our control, will be concluded on the 24th of December, inst., and a new one commenced on the 31st. The most of subscribers' subscriptions commence on the 31st, and to entitle them to receive the paper at \$1.50, they must pay up old scores, and in advance, or \$2.00 will be charged, after that day. This is as important to our patrons as it is to us, and we hope they will attend to it.

THE TARIFF OF 1857.

In the last Gazette, is a slang article attempting to fasten the passage of the Tariff of 1857 on the opposition party, and also charging the present hard times to the operations of that law.

We have so often proved the falsity of these assertions that we scarcely deem them worthy of any further refutation. We have shown that all the members of the House that voted against the Tariff of 1857, were Americans and Republicans, except bare one! We have shown that a large majority of those who did vote for it were Locofocos! We have shown that the President was a Locofoco. We have shown that the Senate was Locofoco by two thirds! We have shown that the House was divided, neither party having a majority, and neither party being able to elect their speaker by a majority of votes! We have shown from this that the opposition were not in power and could not pass any law! Mr. Wilson is only an individual member of the party, and his views are not the views of the party, any more than Asa Packer, the only Locofoco who voted against it, expressed the views of his party!—There are always one or more black sheep in a flock. Our party are almost unanimous for protection, as we are the protection party, and Senator Wilson, or anybody else, if they belong to our party on account of certain other great and important principles, cannot commit against protection! Differences of opinion sometimes exist even among great political leaders, a notable example of which will be seen on reading the last message of Mr. Buchanan, and the last Report of his Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Cobb. Mr. Buchanan recommends specific duties, Cobb recommends the *ad valorem* system, one as different from the other as day is from night. Mr. Cobb is a Southerner, a member of Buchanan's Cabinet, and a leader of the Southern party, and Buchanan tolerates the differing opinion in his Secretary while he attempts to force out of the party Mr. Douglas, for differing on another question to a not greater extent! But such is Buchanan, Lecompton, pro-slavery, free-trade Locofocism! Enough, however, on this point.

The Tariff of 1857 was not the cause of the present hard times. We must go farther back to the Tariff of 1846. The act of 1857 was passed in the spring, and the crash came in September of the same year. It had not been long enough in operation for its provisions to be felt until the crisis occurred! Certainly the contemptible hang-log villain who penned the article in the Gazette will not object to the authority by which we prove this fact. Mr. Buchanan, in his last Message, says as follows in regard to it: No government, and especially a government of such limited powers as that of the United States, could have prevented the late revolution. The whole commercial world seemed for years to have been rushing to this catastrophe. The same ruinous consequence would have followed in the United States, whether the duties upon foreign imports had remained as they were under the tariff of 1846, or had been raised to a much higher standard. The Tariff of 1857 had no agency in the result. The general cause existing throughout the world, could not have been controlled by the legislature of any particular country. The history of the country proves, Mr. Buchanan's assertion to the contrary notwithstanding that under every protective Tariff, times were good and our people prospered, and whenever such Tariff was repealed, we had a "revulsion." The present crash would have taken place in 1847 or 1848, had not the famine in Europe occurred, which afforded a market for all our surplus products, and the gold in California discovered, which paid the balance of trade against us; but even that source has failed to supply the deficiency—the balance of trade being so largely against us, and the crash has come, as come it must. If we want better times we must return to the principles of the Tariff of 1842, which was repealed by the Locofocos.

AN IMPORTANT FEATURE.—The great demand which exists for its graduates, and the high salaries which they command are the best possible guarantees of the practical and business value of those whom the Iron City College recommends.—*Dial's Merchants' Magazine.*

PREACHER ARRESTED IN TENNESSEE.

SEE.
We learn from the Mr. Morris (Ogle Co. Ill.) Independent Watchman, that Rev. Samuel Garber, of that county, a preacher among the Tunkers or German Baptists, was arrested a short time since, under the following circumstances:

"He went on a visit to his friends and acquaintances in East Tennessee, and, while there, was solicited to preach, which he readily agreed to, and, in the course of his sermon, incidentally alluded to Freedom, in its broad sense. For taking such liberties in a slave State, he was arrested and obliged to give bonds in the sum of \$500 for his appearance in court."

Our Tunker friends will be administered by the foregoing, that when they go into any of the Slave States, they will keep their mouths shut on the subject of Freedom. It is true, they are authorized by the blessed Gospel which they preach, to "proclaim liberty to the captive, and the opening of the prison doors to them that are bound," but they will understand from the way Mr. Garber was served, that this Gospel must not be preached everywhere, however much they may feel it their duty to proclaim it. They may have heretofore supposed that this was a land of freedom, and that the blessed Gospel of Jesus Christ could be proclaimed everywhere within its broad limits, "none daring to molest or make afraid," but Mr. G., at least, has been undeceived.

This quiet and unobtrusive denunciation of Christianity is pretty strong in some parts of Bedford County, and although in political sentiment they are almost unanimously opposed to the Locofoco slaveocracy, they seldom, or never vote! We think, however, when such facts as contained in the above paragraph come home to them, as well as to other Christians, they will see the importance of hereafter casting their suffrages against a party that fines and imprisons faithful ministers of the meek and lowly Saviour, for uttering the doctrines of the Messiah and true liberty. Tunkers, and all other Christians, remember these things in the future, and let nothing prevent you from voting against such a party.

Troubles Ahead!

The American steamer Washington was lately boarded in the Gulf by officers of the British steamers Leopard and Valorous, on suspicion that they had arms and ammunition on board for the filibusters who lately crept from the U. States, for Nicaragua. Trouble is evidently a-brewing. The Philadelphia Bulletin of 15th inst., says:

If there is any faith to be put in signs, the waters of the Gulf of Mexico are likely to become troubled waters, and a great war is brewing there. It is stated that the Spanish Minister at Washington has formally announced to Secretary Cass that Spain has declared war against Mexico. This, of itself, is enough to complicate matters seriously, as any attempt now, on the part of Spain, to seize Mexico, or any portion of it, must lead to difficulty with this country. Simultaneously with this we hear of the departure of a French fleet to the Gulf, ostensibly for Central America, but more probably for Mexico, and this gives color to the idea that the governments of France and Spain, between which there is a strong sympathy since the Emperor's marriage, are going to co-operate, so as to place a Spanish or French prince upon a Mexican throne.

Coupling this affair with our disturbed relations with Mexico and Central America, the departure of Walker's expedition to Nicaragua, and the conduct of British vessels of war towards American vessels in the Gulf, there is strong reason for apprehending a very general rupture, and perhaps a serious one, in which the U. States and the European powers will be engaged, while Mexico and the Central American States will fall victims to the strongest. When the President's Message, with its unnecessary approval of his designs on Cuba and Mexico, reaches Europe, the three powers will naturally feel indignant, and their present pleas, whatever they may be, will receive modifications that will give them a character more hostile than ever against the U. States. The emergency is a difficult one, and it is to be lamented that our government is not in better hands than it is. We do not wonder at hearing that there is much uneasiness and anxiety in the departments and diplomatic circles at Washington.

THE KANSAS QUESTION.

Lecompton Locofocism has been telling the people that the Kansas question was settled, and that everything is peaceful and quiet there now, and that it was only the Americans and Republicans who were keeping it open for the purpose of political capital. By reference to the last Message of Mr. Buchanan, it will be seen that he devotes three mortal columns to perverting and misrepresenting the Kansas question. If the question was settled, who is it now that is opening the old sores and keeping up the agitation? For what purpose is the agitation kept up by the old man? Let his apologists and friends answer! It won't do for flippant papers like the Gazette, and small politicians generally, to charge the keeping up of the agitation on the opposition hereafter.

Col. J. W. Forney.

The Locofoco Lecompton papers throughout the country, have been and will continue to be unsparing in their abuse of Col. Forney, the most powerful writer, and one of the most talented men in that party, because he would not bow down and worship the golden calf of Mr. Buchanan. In a late number of the "Press," he replies to these jockals in the following significant paragraph:

"Occasionally we see, in an Administration paper, sentences like these: 'The anti-Lecompton Democrats will be forgiven if they return