on within the territory and jurisdiction of the United States. In obedience to the obligation imposed upon the Executive by the Constitution, to see that the laws are faithfully executed, all citizens were warned, by proclamation, against taking part in or niding such unlawful proceedings, and the proper civil, military, and naval officers were directed to take all necessary measures for the enforcement of the laws. The expedition failed, but it has not been without its painful consequences.-Some of our citizens who, it was alloged, wore engaged in the expedition, were captured, and have been brought to trial, as for a capital offence, in the province of Canada. Judgment and sentence of death have been pronounced against some, while others have been acquitted. Fully believing in the maxim of government, that severity of civil punishment for misguided persons who have engaged in revolution-ary attempts which have disastrously failed, is unsound and unwise, such representations have been made to the British Government, in behalf of the convicted persons, as, being sustained by an enlightened and humano judgment, will, it is hoped, induce in their cases an exercise of elemency, and a judicious amnesty to all who were engaged in the movement. Counsel has been employed by the Government to defend citizens of the United States on trial for capital offences in Canada and a discontinuance of the prosecu tions which were instituted in the Courts of the United States against those who took part in the expedition, has been directed I have regarded the expedition as not only political in its nature, but as also in a great measure foreign from the United States in its causes, character, and objects. The attempt was understood to be made in sympathy

with an insurgent party in Irelaud, and, by striking at a British province on this continent, was designed to aid in obtaining redress for political grievances which, it was assumed, the people of Ireland had suffered at the hands of the British Government during a period of several centuries. The por-sons engaged in it were chiefly natives of that country, some of whom had, while others had not, become citizens of the United States under our general laws of naturalization. Complaints of misgovernment in Ireland continually engage the attention of the British nation, and so great an agitation is now prevailing in Ireland that the British Government have deemed it necessary to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in that country. These circum stances must necessarily modify the opinion which we might otherwise have ontertained with regard to an exhibi-tion expressly prohibited by our neu-trality laws. So long as those laws remain upon our statute-books, they should be faithfully exceuted, and if they operate harshly, unjustly or op-pressively, Congress alone can apply the remedy, by their modification or repeal.

Political or commercial interests of the United States are not unlikely to be affected in some degree by events which are transpiring in the castern regions of Europe, and the time seems to have come when our Government ought to have a proper diplomatic representation in Greece.

This Government has claimed for all persons not convicted, or accused, or suspected of crime, an absolute political right of self-expatriation, and a choice of new national allegiance.— Most of the European States have dissented from this principle, and have claimed a right to hold such of their



