

THE COURIER

"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW, AS THE NIGHT THE DAY, THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

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POLITICAL.

BRITISH NOTIONS.

If the reception in England of the accounts of the late events in Cuba be any true indication of the feelings of the British people, and the purposes of the British Government, we must look to be called up soon to encounter an avowed and concerted system of European hostility—a revived Holy Alliance of European Monarchs against American growth and influence. The press and the Parliament—Tories, Whigs and Radicals—broke out into a furious and tumultuous storm of rage against the American Government and people. The Executive was allowed by some to be well meaning, but powerless; but the form of Government was denounced as incompatible with the maintenance of the duties which nations owe to each other; and the people ambitious, grasping and unscrupulous, to whom its own Government is an object of contemptuous disregard for imbecility—a robber race, in fact, to whom the laws of nations and of humanity are no restraint, and against whom civilized Europe must combine to prevent them from overrunning all neighboring countries with revolution and rapine. Some of the most grave members of Parliament—we do not include in that list the fantastic charlatan Brougham—intimated the necessity of some grand demonstration to check the ambitious and aggressive spirit of the United States; and in several quarters broad intimations were thrown out that a proposition would be submitted to the continental nations to join in a league for the purpose of upholding the authority of Spain in Cuba, and of checking, by demonstrations of overwhelming force, the extension of the territories or the increase of the power of the United States of this continent.

The intelligence of the utter failure of the expedition, and the insignificance of the force which went out of the United States with Lopez, does not seem to have mitigated their rancor or appeased the alarm. The Government of the United States is called to account for all that has been done by Lopez and his men; and warned that the ample punishment of these men can alone satisfy the nations of Europe, and give Great Britain a sense of security for her own territorial possessions in America. The London Times threatens that if these things be not done by the laws of the United States, they will be enforced by "all civilized nations;" in other words, we must do as we are bid, or all Europe will march against us.

From the days when she knighted and rewarded Drake for his successful piracies in the South Seas, against the subjects of Spain, up to this day, when she invokes the world to join her in detestation of the American Republic, for failing in vigilance in not protecting Spain in possession of her colonies, the single ruling motive has been the advancement of England's own interests and enlargement of England's own dominions. Cuba is a rich possession, commanding the entrance to the Gulf, which is the mouth through which the commerce of Europe is destined to find its only profitable channel to the Pacific. We wonder whether these Englishmen, who are making this loud lament over the perfidy and barbarity which seeks to rob Spain of this magnificent island, and invoking Christendom to the rescue, suppose, for a single moment, that all the intrigues for the last ten or fifteen years to get control of these great avenues are not perfectly known, and the object of this proposed crusade thoroughly understood? When she asks the continental nations to ally themselves with her, to check the ambition and the greatness of the

United States, and discourse of the duty of civilized government to repress attempts at revolution in America, the answer she is likely to receive will be a practical if not an express rebuke of her selfishness. She will doubtless be made to understand that European monarchies have plenty to do at this time in watching the Revolutionary movements around themselves; in guarding against the "grasping" propensities which each attributes habitually to his neighbor, and which are the most notable characteristics of that European "civilization" which exacts pledges and makes leaguers of all the kingdoms, to prevent them from robbing and plundering each other on every occasion; and that they cannot safely abandon these interests to come abroad to establish a kingly alliance in America, of which the only profit discernible is the prevention of the United States from superseding Great Britain in the control of the commerce to Asia, through the Gulf of Mexico.

The great Governments of Europe will not easily be persuaded to follow the lead of Europe and enter into war for propagating monarchies in America, in order that projects for commercial supremacy may not be damaged by the ascendancy of American influence in Cuba.

We hardly suppose any response to the British testimony of indignation at the enormity of seeking territorial or national aggrandizement, by other than peaceful means, will be given seriously by the empires and States that partitioned Poland—that mediated Germany, or conquered Algiers or plundered India, or bombarded Canton. Such a concord might furnish another instructive chapter in the "Dialogues of the Dead," wherein we might have Pizarro and Sir Francis Drake, the Emperor Alexander and the Marshals of Napoleon—Louis XIV. and Frederick of Prussia, enlarging on the blessings of peace, and the inviolability of States, as illustrated by their own beneficent examples. Nor do we believe the English altogether earnest in proposing this continental league of kings to meddle with American affairs. It is good brave talk, and will serve to amuse the English people like the old song "Britain rules the Waves," and the constant chanting in the street and on the stage of the firm resolve that "Britons never, never will be slaves." It is a safe valve for a little patriotic effervescence; and without doubt every peer and orator, after demanding that England should take the lead of all Christendom in putting down these ambitious and grasping Americans, looked and felt a hero.

It would be altogether a different matter if he were called upon to go out and fight, or to put his hand in his pocket to pay the expense. Besides, just now a little flurry about transatlantic matters, matters, no matter what, may help British diplomacy out of a snarl. Lord Palmerston has of late contrived, somehow or other, to get England into disfavor with most of the Governments of Europe; and it would help through the unpopularity of some of these difficulties, at least, to direct public attention from them, if there could be got up for him a good strong popular commotion on any subject, more particularly on one which, like this anti-American league, would be sure to come to nothing.

No! there will be no continental alliance against Americanism, even if the provocations were more real than those which British animosity, ignorance and selfishness misrepresents. England will have to do all this work for herself if she intends to persevere.

That she would gladly encourage Spain by every means, by irritating her pride, encouraging her arrogance, and aiding her in every form of diplomacy, and by every contribution within her power, to hold on to Cuba, especially against the United States, is as certain as that she invariably pursues her own objects steadily, and turns to her own account all the dissensions and quarrels among other nations. We must be prepared for her untiring opposition, in every form of open hostility and secret intrigue, to any disposition of the island which will leave a predominating influence with the United States. Yet we may rest assured that no efforts can ultimately prevail, if our own Government and people will be satisfied to wait awhile, and but a short while, with patience, and let nature and political necessity determine the destiny of Cuba.

Why is a dead duck and a dead doctor alike?

Because they both stop quacking.

GENEROUS RIVALRY.—The Washington Union has the following "brief mention" of a most amiable spirit prevailing in the Senate. It was in relation to the vacant presidency of the Senate:

"We observe that the name of the Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson has been mentioned in several newspapers in connexion with this office; and we learn that he was in fact very warmly urged by various gentlemen, both from the South and the North, and of both the great political parties, to allow himself to be proposed as a candidate. But he conceived that there would be more or less of impropriety in his permitting himself to be chosen to the second office in the republic at a period when a citizen of the State of New York already occupies the first; which consideration, together with the fact of his unwillingness, in any case, to conflict with his friend, Col. King, for political station, induced him at once to decline the proffered honor. It will be remarked that Col. King's unanimous election did, in point of fact, occur at the instance of Mr. Dickinson. It is with high gratification we mention that when Col. King learned that Governor Dickinson's friends were, some of them, urging his claims to the vacant place, he did not hesitate to declare his willingness to unite in his support, and actually proposed to do so; to which the Roman-like senator from New York would by no means consent. May such generous rivalry ever mark the conduct of democratic senators towards each other!"

THE LAST MESSAGE OF GEN. TAYLOR.—The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Courier writes:

"Gen. Taylor wrote a message to Congress, which was finished and copied by some hand, in the early part of last week, upon several important topics. Had it been communicated, it would have caused a profound sensation. It urged his views as to the adjustment of the territorial question, and the immediate admission of California. It implored Congress to provide the necessary supplies for the government. It declared his determination to support the present state of things in New Mexico, against the pretensions of Texas. The message, as I have learned, lies in the State Department. That the new administration will carry out such a policy in every particular, is not to be supposed. Mr. Fillmore cannot take so bold a tone. He will be obliged to conciliate and even temporize. He will rely on the passage of the Senate adjustment bill if it pass it ever should, to settle the New Mexican dispute."

THE RUMORED CAUCUS.—"X," of the Baltimore Sun, concerning the rumor so extensively circulated of a Union caucus, says:

"One of your well-informed Washington correspondents certainly did not hear a word of the 'Union caucus,' that was held on Friday, according to the despatches sent to the Baltimore Patriot and New York Herald, and what is worse, I have not heard of it since, nor been able to discover the Senator who has been there. The thing was manufactured out of the whole cloth, or rather out of the wool, which myself had furnished in my published letter of Friday morning. I there alluded to an amendment that was about to be proposed to the compromise bill, by providing for a division of the State, by a line forming the natural boundary of California, south of 35 degrees, and the establishment of a territorial government south of that line, on the same principle as that of Utah and New Mexico. And I also stated, long ago, that the parallel of 34 degrees, would probably be adopted as the northern boundary of Texas.

"The amendment will be proposed by Mr. Douglass, and consists in an amendment to his amendment, already offered and printed, by which California may form two or three States, all of which shall come into the Union on the same footing as the original States. Mr. Cass will make a speech on the amendment, which will be his crowning work of the season, and in which he may possibly take the ground that but for the late period of the session, and other pressing circumstances, California would, on account of the extreme irregularities attending her admission, be re-nounced, as the case stands, she will be admitted after making suitable provisions for preventing a single State from appropriating to herself the whole coast of the Pacific. My opinion is, that Daniel Webster will also make a great speech on the sub-

ject, and that Henry Clay will have something to say that will remove many objections which the Southern ultras have to the bill."

PRaise WORTH HAVING.—The Mobile Tribune, a journal independent of party, and which is as judicious as it is consistent and firm in its defence of the cause of the South, passes the following discriminating judgment on the speech of our Senator, Mr. Barnwell:

"We should like to give our readers the speech delivered recently by Mr. Barnwell in the United States Senate. This gentleman is just from a private station, where he has been performing quiet duties, and where no speeches are delivered—except by the 'bores.' He has not, therefore, got the Bancombe 'hang' of the Senate, but thinks, unlike a noted Frenchman, that words are intended to be the vehicle of honest thoughts. His words are not big, such as usually come from men who will say more in a minute than they will stand in a lifetime. In short, the speech is just such a one as we should expect from a gentleman who had more respect for his own good opinion than for that of any other person in the nation. Such a piece of oratory is a phenomenon in Congress, and it is refreshing to read it. A man travelling through Sahara, parched and way-worn, could not have come with more delight on a cool spring embosomed within a grove of date trees, than one falls upon this speech, in the journey through the great waste of congressional humbug. We have already given a brief and meagre abstract of it. It confines itself to a few important points—such as a vindication of the Missouri Compromise, and the necessities that the South is under to be firm and watchful—but these it illustrates in a pellucid current of the soundest argument. There are no threats or restiveness displayed by the speaker, but a great deal of earnestness and such manifestations of firmness as are calculated to make one believe that in action he would be wherever the South needs a man the most."

THE COMPROMISE.—A letter, from a distinguished private source, at Washington, mentioning the illness of President Taylor, and speculating on the probability of his death, says, "if he should die, the Compromise Bill will certainly pass," meaning, we presume, that Mr. Fillmore, on his succession to the Presidency, would cast his influence in their favor. So says the Courier.—Telegraph.

SUDDEN DEATH.—It is with pain we announce the sudden death of one of our most esteemed citizens—Hon. Alexander M. Melver, who died in this place on Wednesday evening. Mr. Melver had been in delicate health for some time, but previous to his death, nothing had occurred to particularly excite the fear of his friends.

Mr. Melver was Solicitor for the Eastern Circuit, to which office he was elected for the third term by the last Legislature.

We hope to receive, in time for our next paper, a more extended obituary, from a friend well qualified to perform the melancholy duty.—*Charleston Gazette.*

NOT ALL DEPRIVED.—On yesterday we were told of a notorious New York burglar, who came among the earliest to this country, performing an act of honesty that would do credit to any one. When he arrived here nobody knew him, and he went to work as hard as other people. When he got his pile, and was leaving for the States, one of his new friends got him to take a large sum of money to his family. After the reformed burglar had started some time, the one who sent the funds with him found out whom it was he had trusted. He was quite in despair about his confidence, when a letter from his family announced the safe arrival of the dust, and of the pains taken by the bearer to deliver it safely. There is hope of that man yet.

The last words of Mirabeau were "to sleep." He twice or thrice wrote to request that they would give him opium; he fell back again apparently lifeless, when some artillery being discharged in the neighborhood, the dying Mirabeau raised himself up on one arm, opened his eyes, smiled, and said with a clear and almost exulting voice, "The funeral rights of Achilles have already commenced; I have an age of courage, but not an instant of life," and expired.

[Correspondence of the Balt. Sun.]
WASHINGTON, July 15.

Some little progress has at length been made with the Adjustment bill in the Senate. The bill with amendments is reported to the Senate. Mr. Clay could not accept the test questions immediately, tendered by Mr. Clemens and Mr. Walker, because the two Maryland Senators were absent from the city. If they return we shall have a test question to-morrow or next day.

We have also, to-day, had an *ultimatum*, and not an extravagant one, in my opinion, from Mr. Butler, on the part of his constituents, to wit: to curtail the limits of California by fixing the line of 35 30 as her Southern boundary, as a compromise line, and carrying with it the incidents of the Missouri Compromise. This is going far, very far, towards the adjustment, for the ultra State of South Carolina. It reduced the question at issue to an interrible shadow; for no one will ever carry slaves into South California, and, if they did, it would be to lose them, as soon as the Territory is prepared to form a State Constitution and is admitted into the Union. The argument against the offer is that it cannot be serious, because it involves nothing of importance to the South. I think the Free Soilers would be wise to comply with it, for it would ensure another free State on the Pacific.

Every word now said of the new administration in the Senate, is important. Mr. Butler took occasion to advise the new administration not to speculate too much on the disaffection of the South, for it was not confined to South Carolina, and much deeper than was supposed.

Mr. Benton tendered his support to the new powers, on the most vital question which they are called upon to meet—the dispute between Texas and New Mexico. He assured the friends of Mr. Fillmore that he would stand by him in maintaining the laws of the country—in carrying out the policy of the simple and beautiful message of President Taylor. He assured that President Fillmore would do his duty, and "I," said he, will stand by him."

However, no one seems to believe now that Texas will press measures to the point of actual collision. It is folly to suppose that she can expend a million of dollars in raising, equipping, and subsisting an army, to take and keep possession of Santa Fe.

ION.
WHAT WILL BE THE RESULT.—All is now vague but eager speculation as to the effects of President Taylor's death, and Mr. Fillmore's accession, upon the vexed question of the day. What part will Mr. Fillmore enact, armed as he is with the power and patronage of the government, and backed by a Northern majority? Will he act the conservative national American, the President of all sections, and not of his own exclusively; throw himself boldly on the patriotic wave, recommend and stand by a fair and proper adjustment of the slavery question, and thereby crush the free soil interest, save the Union, and deserve and win the grateful applause of rejoicing millions? We trust that in this new crisis, he will see the policy and the propriety of such a course—but, we confess, our fears outweigh our hopes. Or, will he, to put down his rival in New York, mount the Free-soil chariot, out-Sewardize Seward, and dash furiously over the ruins of the Constitution, the South and the Union? The fate of the Union is in his hands. A northern man as he is, he will be watched with keen vigilance, and no forbearance, by the South, who were disposed to extend charity to Gen. Taylor; and should Mr. Fillmore pursue the policy of the present Cabinet—should he, unlike Jackson, instead of doing all in his power to settle amicably the alarming boundary question between Texas and New Mexico, attempt to defend the claims of new Mexico by military force against Texas—should he, in a word, array himself against the constitutional rights of the South, that moment the Union will be gone, and President Fillmore will be crushed amidst its ruins. We trust that he will have the good sense, the patriotism, the courage to act like an American statesman, and lend his influence to an adjustment of the question, with a due regard to the rights of all sections.

At all events, we have one consolation. The painful suspense, which has so long harassed the South, cannot longer continue. The issue must now be met at an early day, and the question must be decided, for weal or for woe—God grant that those

high in authority may have the wisdom to do justice, save the Union and protect our glorious confederacy from the horrors of civil war, and intestine discord.—Richmond En.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.
NEW ORLEANS, July 9.

Much excitement prevails along the banks of the Rio Grande, and families are abandoning the settlements, apprehensive of an attack from the savages who are infesting that section of country. A letter from Rio Grande City says that the Indians had disposed their force so as to form three divisions, one of which was to descend the river Nueces, to Corpus Christi; one was to advance on Brownsville, and the third was to take the Mexican side of the Rio Grande. So we may expect to hear of bloody work.—Telegraph.

[From the Charleston Mercury.]
THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

The telegraph yesterday furnished us with the following list, as Mr. Fillmore's Cabinet.

Robt. C. Winthrop, of Mass., Secretary of State.

Thos. M. F. McKennan, of Penn., Secretary of the Treasury.

Sam. F. Vinton, of Ohio, Secretary of the Interior.

Wm. A. Graham, of North Carolina, Secretary of War.

Thos. Butler King, of California, Secretary of the Navy.

John T. Morehead, of Kentucky, Postmaster General.

Judge Hopkins, of Alabama, Attorney General.

This last gentleman we are unable to designate more particularly, as it is our misfortune never to have heard of him except vaguely. In regard to Mr. King, there may be exception taken to our designation of his whereabouts, and it might be urged with some plausibility that he "should be described as 'unsettled,' or 'at large,'" but as he was a candidate for United States Senator from that distinguished State, we have thought it but justice to give California the honor of the appointment.

This Cabinet seems to us neither Clay-ish nor Webster-ish, but simply Fillmore-ish. It is a happy assortment of well-behaved, respectable men of no great force, but who, by general consent, would be held capable of managing affairs in which there was no difficulty. From the not very elevated, but still quite dignified head, it tapers off in just and pleasing perspective, each succeeding member a little smaller, but very like his predecessor. There is one exception Mr. T. Butler King, who is a bit of an eccentric; rather given to hobbies, and very famous as a traveller.

As to the meaning of this Cabinet politically, we can draw no very safe conclusions. The members of it, from the President down, are of the class who think clearly after the question is settled, and who define their position when it is no longer necessary to defend it. They are men who can do good service, if they have an able leader, but they originate nothing, or if anything, it is an abortion. Providence sometimes takes care of them, and forces or shuffles them upon measures that are for the best. Their own greatest anxiety, and the proper field of their talents, is the taking care of themselves.—This they call conservatism, and ostensibly names.

Hence we do not know the opinions or rule of action of one of these men, in reference to the greatest and most difficult questions they are to deal with. We only know that they will now be compelled to decide on something, and we may be reasonably sure that in their natural reluctance to do so, they will prevaricate and shuffle not a little, and perhaps make confusion worse confounded.

EXPEDITION TO FLORIDA.—The Mobile Tribune mentions the sailing of a pleasure vessel from that port on a voyage to the Keys and Coasts of Southern Florida. Prof. Tuomey, of the University of Alabama is one of the party. They intend to make a scientific reconnaissance of this coast, of which so little is known, to ascertain its geology, botany, etc. We shall watch the progress of this unpretending little expedition of naturalists with interest. We learn that a party of gentlemen of this city intend a similar exploration, but with more practical views. They intend to take their families with them, and if they find a spot on the Southern Coast which pleases them, they will establish a colony and enter into the culture of tropical fruits on an extensive scale.—*N. O. Crescent.*