THE NORTH-CAROLINA STAR.

THOMAS J. LEMAY, Editor — NORTH CAROLINA—"Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources, the land of our sires and home of our affections." — TERMS—Two Dollars in Advance.

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AGRICULTURAL.

SUCCESSFUL FARMING.

While many writers and some journals in North-Carolina are disposed to cast unmerited, because general, censure upon our farmers, we are glad to have it in our power to say a word, at any time, that may have a tendency to mitigate the rigor of their remarks.

No man can or will deny that North Carolina has many good and successful farmers. And while no man, more than we, can regret the clumsy and unprofitable, not to say ruinous, course that some of our farmers pursue, yet we cannot justify the course of that man who will publish to the world, as has been done, that "there are very few if any farmers in North Carolina." We say we are opposed to this wholesale denunciation of our own writers and journals, and deem it as unwise and impolitic, as it is unjust and unprofitable.

Now we have not only many, but very many good, skillful, and successful farmers, in North Carolina—many of whom will compare favorably with those of any part of this wide Union. Let us give an instance in our own county—only *one of many*. Zadoc L. Thompson, Esq., raised, last season, on his farm, about twelve miles from Goldsboro,' 950 barrels of corn and 40 bales of cotton, besides small grain, potatoes, and other vegetables. The force he employed in raising this enormous crop, consisted of 6 ploughs and 14 hands, but two or three of which were fully grown. We have this statement from Mr. Thompson's own lips, and only regret that we were not more particular in getting from him fuller details upon the subject.—Now, when it is known that Mr. T. himself makes this statement, no man, where he is known, will question its truth; and yet North-Carolina writers would have the citizens of other States believe that there are very few, if any, farmers in North-Carolina. Our old State is bad enough, in all conscience, but for pity's sake, gentlemen, tell the truth on her.—She is aroused, and scrambling hard to get up the hill, and, we beseech you, don't keep pushing her back. Just you who say and think that none of her sons are good farmers, point us to the man who has beat Mr. Thompson, the last season, any where in the land, and we will yield the point.

But we have more to say for Mr. T. He is at this time employing daily six carts in hauling woods mould, trash, and litter of all sorts, and making such piles of manure as would convince any man that he is a farmer in earnest. He has done well already and is just pursuing the course that will enable him to do better. He will, in addition to his large crops double the value of his plantation in a few years. This in itself will be a fortune, and will pay well for all his extra labor spent in the manufacture of manures.

We point to Mr. Thompson, just now, as a successful farmer, simply because we conversed with him lately on the subject. We have many more of the same sort left, even in Wayne county. To avoid invidiousness, we will not here point out any of them expressly, but we hope they will furnish us, from time to time, with the means of defending the character of North Carolina farmers from the general aspersions of inconsiderate writers. We know that there is much room for improvement; and that much remains to be done before *all* will be induced to do right—a thing, indeed, that need never be expected so long as ignorance, laziness, and prejudice occupy a place upon the earth. In all countries, States, and communities, there are bad farmers; and, *perhaps*, a larger number in North Carolina than elsewhere, but we solemnly deny the charge that there are very few farmers in the State.—*Goldsboro Eco.*

A FINE FARM.

The American Farmer contains a description of the Shirley estate on James River, in Virginia, containg 900 acres of cultivated land, divided into five fields, from 175 to 100 acres each. The rotations are corn, wheat, clover, fallow wheat pasture, thus affording some 860 acres for wheat.—Rather hard cropping—yet so much better than common treatment that the fallow wheat has been estimated at 30 bushels per acre, and that on corn land 20 to 25 bushels, were obtained.—The corn, formerly but five to seven barrels now ten to twelve. One great secret of success is lime, clover and plaster. The wheat drill and reaping machines are used; and thrashing performed by mule power, at the rate of three hundred bushels per day, the process of winnowing being completed in the barn basement at the same operation. Complete system and order prevail, and there is a place for everything and every thing in its place.

FORTUNE TELLING.

The following, from the Baltimore Clipper, should operate as a salutary caution to the credulous everywhere:

We laugh at and ridicule the superstition of former times, and yet are as prone to belief in the marvellous as our ancestors. Fortune tellers in these days are as successful in their business as though the schoolmaster were not abroad in the land; for there appears to be an inherent desire in man to know what cannot be disclosed—to look into the future before the time appointed. Hence the success of spiritual rappers, diviners, astrologers, Gypsey fourtune tellers, and the like humbugs.

The National Intelligencer of yesterday contains an account of a swindle lately practised on Mr. Robert Perry, of West River, by a woman belonging to a gang of Gypsey Fortune Tellers. It seems that she assured him that there was a large sum of money hid upon his farm, the place of which could be revealed to him if he would take a proper course to do so. Mr. Perry doubted, but the woman insisted, and, to assure his faith, repeated a number of circumstances connected with his past life, the knowledge of which she pretended to derive from her power of divination. At length she prevailed. Mr. Perry, following her instructions, put all the cash in his possession—more than $800—into a handkerchief, she accompanying the act with sundry cabalistic words and doings.—But he was told this money was not enough; and so, obeying the injunctions of his Oracle he borrowed $200 more, making the amount $1,037, of which a large proportion were bills of Baltimore banks. The precious wallet was always allowed to remain in Mr. Perry's possession, and he was permitted to count it over and over again. It was requisite however, that it should be frequently seen by the sorceress and she accordingly attended at stated times. At her last visit she ordered Mr. P. to keep the trunk containing the wallet closed for three weeks; at the end of that time he should open it, and would obtain the object of his wishes. Before the three weeks had elapsed the Gypsies had all left. In due time Mr. Perry unlocked the magic trunk, untied the cabalistic knots of the hankerchief, and found within a quantity of leaf tobacco and a few copper cents!"

The Gypsies had hired a house in Washington, which, on the complaint of Mr. Perry, was searched for the thief and missing treasure, but in vain, although about $20,000 in gold were discovered; so that Mr. Perry has probably learned more by consulting the Gypsey, than he had anticipated. It is surprising that any one of common sense could have been so gulled as to make the deposit required, in the hope that it would be profitable.

The above is not the first that we have heard of these Gypsies, though they appear to have increased from about a dozen to a hundred. They were for some time in the vicinity of Cockeysville, where they were said to have exhibited wonderful skill in fortune-telling, curing diseases and expelling rats from houses, barns, &c.; and we understand that they picked up considerable money—no doubt adding to their other vocations that of stealing whenever opportunity offered.

ADDRESS

To the Officers of the Common Schools, and to the friends of Education in North-Carolina.

In entering on the duties of General Superintendent of Common Schools for the State of North-Carolina, I feel that the occasion is a proper one for addressing a few plain remarks to the officers, agents and friends of the system.

There ought to have been from the start a head and chief director of the system to give it efficiency, and report upon its defects; and had there been such an officer we would not now be groping in the dark, ignorant alike of the past operations, of the present situation and of the future prospects of our Common Schools.

They have never yet reported progress to the public; and now, while in the absence of information we are on the point of dispairing of their success, the Legislature has made provision for the appointment of a controlling head, and vested that appointment in me.—This position, which from the first would have been a highly responsible one, has, from the circumstances under which it was created, become one of vast importance; and with my conceptions of the difficulties which surround me, of the greatness of the cause, and of the importance of the duties I owe to the public, I feel oppressed and nearly overwhelmed with concern.

I have no doubt but that much is expected of me, though there are no definite ideas as to the means by which I am to accomplish it; these means I must find in the sympathizing hearts and willing hands of the subordinate agents and the friends of the system. That I may, therefore, do the best I can for the State, I will endeavor to put in active motion a complicated machinery; and in doing so, while aiming at practical results, by practical means, I shall forgo all attempts at personal display, and shall be more concerned to push on the cause than to bring the operator into notice.

I must therefore, ask the public to await results and not to look for a mere display of zeal; and will begin with a plain talk and some simple suggestions for which I invoke the serious consideration of all concerned.

The Common Schools of the State have not fulfilled the expectations of the public; and this because, perhaps, too much was looked for in a very short time.

Still we might reasonly have expected more; and the reasons why it has not been accomplished are, 1st, the defects of the system, and the prejudices, misconceptions and ignorance against which it had to contend; 2dly, the inadequacy of the pecuniary means, and 3dly, the want of an active public interest in the cause of popular education. The first cause was natural and could not be immediately removed; but now that we are in the way of *light* we may expect judicious amendments and more efficient operations.

The removal of the last cause of difficulty will remedy the *second*; and it is to this purpose that I wish to direct much of my effort, and I sincerely hope that I will not labor in vain.

The public has not heretofore manifested that active interest in this cause which its importance demands; and many well-wishers have been content with mere good wishes, while a little exertion in the shape of advice, visits at the school houses, attentions to scholars, and examination of teachers, would have been much more effectual.

Much—a great deal, depends upon the example of the leading classes of the community; and if they make it appear that the Common Schools are things in which they have no direct personal interest, and that they desire their success only for the sake of their poorer neighbors, their course will not certainly be productive of good to the schools.

The Common School should be regarded, in every neighborhood, as one of the most sacred institutions of the country—it should be looked on as one of the inestimable advantages of *home*, indentified with the interests of society, and bound up with the hopes of the old and the affections of the young.

If the old will, cherish the young will reverence it; and when parents and children invest their affections and their hopes upon it, it will never be occupied by teachers who will not feel their responsibility, and diligently exert themselves as persons on whom are centered many watchful and jealous eyes.

The Common School house should shew, in itself, that it is one of the cherished monuments of home; it should be carefully constructed ornamented and preserved, and become a central point of resort, a place for the public meetings and the social parties of the neighborhood. When occupied by schools, these houses should not be, as they often are isolated from the curiosity and the interest of the public; on the contrary, the teacher and the pupil should feel that they are constantly before the public gaze, and the centre of attraction for all classes of the neighborhood.

All the officers and agents of the system ought to labor to enlist the sympathies of the people in its behalf—to try to impress on others their own convictions in regard to the importance of universal education—to manifest their interest in the schools by attending examinations, by sending their own children and getting their neighbors to send—by employing such teachers as they would wish to stand in *loco parentis*, in the place of parent and instructor for their own offspring—by preparing comfortable school houses, and exercising an active vilignance over the interests of the system

The idea that these schools are intended only for poor children should every where be discouraged; and it should be understood and proclaimed that this is a great bounty, a fountain opened for all the children of the State, without distinction of classes, promising equal benefits to all, and worthy of the fostering care of all.

It is the duty of every one accepting a place of trust in this beneficent system to discharge faithfully its duties and to take an interest in them; and I have no hesitation in saying that if they would but occasionally visit the schools that this single and simple circumstance would add much to their usefulness, stimulating scholars in their studies, inducing children who have never attended school to go, and causing teachers to be more careful and zealous.

It is the duty of leading persons, male and female—a duty they owe to society and to themselves—to manifest by their acts and words an interest in the success of the Common Schools; and their example and advice will encourage pupils and their teachers, exciting emulation in both, and throwing the powerful influence of fashion in favor of the cause of general education.

It is the duty of teachers to endeavor to disseminate a feeling in favor of the cause; and in so doing they will find their personal interest promoted thereby.

They should maintain the dignity and respectability of their responsible calling; and while shewing their own respect for it they will induce others to respect it. They should have public examinations; and they and the committeemen should so manage that these public exhibitions become occasions of neighborhood importance, and be attended by audiences of ladies and gentlemen. This will be a great point gained; and committeemen, parents and guardians should see to it that there are such public exercises, and that there should be at them such rehearsals and performances as are calculated to interest the public, to create a lively emulation among the pupils, and to test the management and intelligence of the teachers. Young persons, of both sexes, without means, should be instructed in the importance of making the business of teaching a *profession*.

There are many ingenuous young men in North Carolina who hire themselves as laborers for 5, 6, and 7 dollars per month; and their only hope of advancement in life is to accumulate, by slow degress in this way, a sufficient sum to purchase a small farm.—Some get discouraged and move to the West—some, from associations and other causes, fall into bad habits and become mere hirelings for life, without fixed homes or interest in society, and others labor hard and never reach the independent position which they sat out to gain. Many of these—many of the unfortunate children of necessity who are taken up and bound out to the highest bidder, might easily qualify themselves for teachers in the Common Schools; and while teaching others could still be learning themselves, earning 20 and 25 dollars per month, establishing characters of respectability and influence, and enabling themselves at last to purchase farms which they could manage, and still teach Common Schools. There are also many virtuous girls doomed, as they suppose, to hard and unbecoming manual labor to gain a very humble living; and great numbers of these actually work in the fields for 3 and 4 dollars per month.

All such should know that the State of North Carolina has made bountiful provision for them; that it has opened a work house suited to their delicate natures and in which they can make five times as much as they can earn by their hands in any other calling. These make the best teachers for young scholars and new beginners; and they can teach awhile, and go to higher schools, and thus by means of the free schools make themselves accomplished ladies.

In the few neighborhoods where this matter is understood it has created an entirely new and more active and healthy interest in our Common School system; and if it were understood everywhere the cause of popular education would assume a more promising aspect.

I earnestly appeal, therefore, to all the officers of the system—to all good teachers, and to all good citizens to give more attention than they have done to the operations of our system—to see that it is carried on with spirit and that it is made to accomplish all that it is capable of doing. In it is the germ of immense results—and if faithfully executed, it will certainly be increased in means of usefulness, and in time become one of the noblest institutions on the face of the earth. It needs but the sympathy and the active co-operation of; all and surely, in view of the glorious results to be obtained every friend of North Carolina and every friend of humanity will contribute the little that is asked.

Let all who wish well to the cause, shew that they are in earnest; and I will answer for it, the Common Schools of North Carolina will become the pride, the glory and the greatness of the State.

In conclusion, I will add that I shall in time, if my life is spared, visit all the counties of the State; I will give notice to the County Chairmen of my intended routes, and hope to meet at the county towns as many of the officers of the system, teachers, and friends of the cause, as can attend.

In the mean time I may be permitted to hope that the agents of the system will report to me as punctually and fully as the nature of things will permit; and that the friends of the cause will everywhere strengthen my hands, and cheerfully co-operate in the building up of this, the great Hope of North Carolina.

My address will be Greensboro', or Raleigh.

C. D. WILEY,
General Superintendent of Common Schools.

December, 1852.

P. S. A new pamphlet of the Common School Laws, with explanations, forms, and general recommendations, prepared by me, and examined and approved by the Literary Board, has just gone to press, and will be printed as speedily as possible. A large edition is required, and it will therefore require some time to get it out; and as soon as it is ready the Chairmen of the Boards, of County Superintendents in each county will be furnished with copies for each member of the different Boards, for each committeeman, each member of the examining committees and for the Clerks of the Courts.

☞ Editors of the papers of North Carolina, friendly to the cause of education, are respectfully solicited to publish the above.

From the Philadelphia North American.

THE QUESTION IN A NUTSHELL.

No intelligent person familiar with the late reprehensible proceedings and strange debates in the United States Senate touching the Clayton and Bulwer treaty and its distinguished negotiator, the newly elected Senator from Delaware, can have failed to perceive, and to lament, that, if the schoolmaster be really abroad, as we are so often told he is, he has given so little of the light of his countenance to that honorable body. There is—or there *was* (for, thank heaven, it appears now to be over,)—something uncommonly childish in the whole debate, in which a purpose of malevolence was pushed to the point of self-accusation, and *that* accompanied by efforts at excuse and personal exculpation exceedingly resembling some of the richest scenes of a school room; but it must be admitted that the most childish feature of all was the ignorance of so many Senators—the leaders of the tumult, the makers of the loudest noise, the bitterest complaints, and the most ingenious apologies—of the entire subject about which they were quarrelling. It is not possible to conceive that so many honorable personages, occupying the positions, of statesmen and gentlemen, were actuated in such a matter by base motives. We must charitably suppose that some—and, doubtless the greater number—actually believed that there was some mighty treason or other in the treaty, and some terrible wickedness in the negociator who had taken so much pains to betray his country in a document which was so long supposed to rebound to her honor. They attempted while claiming to be gulls to plead their ignorance as their justification; and, now that they have been proved not to be gulls, we accept their excuse—quite satisfied from a review of their speeches, that no deliberative body in this country ever before addressed itself to the discussion of an important question in regard to which the majority of members proved to be dessitute of all ideas and all information. In the effort to get out of a scrape which they did not understand, (and do not, the most of them, understand yet,) they befogged themselves, and, to a certain extent befogged the country: and it may be deemed an act of kindness by such of our readers as have waded through the debate, and got confused by it, if we point out the chief source of error and show how it is so many of these Senatorial savans, while talking of Central America and British Honduras, are at a loss to know whether they are at the geography of the sun or the moon.

The error lies, in fact, in confounding these countries together—in supposing, (as it is the more naturally done from the name *Honduras* being common to both) that they are connected, and one a part of the other; whereas they are, in reality, as separate and distinct as Canada is from California, as British America is from the United States of North America. Whatever bookmakers and mapmakers may say, the name of Central America belongs solely and exclusively to the tract of country once occupied by the republic of Central America, consisting of the five States of Guatemala, Honduras, Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica,—being the ancient provinces formerly constituting the so-called, Hispano-American Kingdom (properly a Captain Generalship) of Gautemala. When the Spanish yoke was thrown off and the Republic founded the name of the country was totally changed, the new title of Central America being coined for the purpose. That title was never heard of before. The republic of Central America was short-lived, like that of Columbia. The union was dissevered; the separate States set up for themselves; and, from that time, the name became virtually extinct in the States of Central America themselves. It was used, however, in other parts of the world, and it is still used, as a convenient designation for the country; but it is not used as being applied to any other country than simply, that of the five States. This is a thing that might be inferred as of course; but had the inference been always just, we should not have been troubled with the infantile confusion of terms and ideas in the United States Senate, showing the indefinite sense in which ignorant persons still apply the title.

Now Honduras, we have seen, is the name of one of the five States; and Honduras is in Central America, beyond question. British Honduras, we have also mentioned, is one of the common designations of the British settlement—colony—or whatever it may now be considered—better known by the more particular and ancient title of the settlement at the Belize. We are not to suppose, because the designation British Honduras is so often applied to it, that it is in, or forms any part of the proper State or territory of Honduras, or that it bounds upon, or is any way, geographically or otherwise, connected with Honduras. So far from this being the case, it is a considerable distance from the nearest frontier of Honduras; and it is in no wise within the limits of any portion of the former republic of Central America. It is a fragment, in fact, of the *Mexican* State of Yucatan; and hence another designation, not unfrequently applied to it, of British Yucatan, which is as well known to persons who are acquainted with geographical science as that of British Honduras. The last mentioned title is derived chiefly from the fact of the Belize settlement coasting upon the great Gulf or Bay of Honduras, which washes the shores of Yucatan, as well as those of Honduras; but in part, also, from the circumstances that, in former times, when the name first began to be used Great Britian made various pretensions to, and exercised occasional right of dominion along, the Mosquito Coast, which is part of the coast of Honduras proper; and it was a natural incident that writers should occasionally speak of these several districts, collectively, as British Honduras. When England merged her claims such as they were to the Mosquito Coast in the Mosquito Protectorate, surrendering them, in effect to the new Kingdom which she endeavored to call or "protect," into existence the term British Honduras became as naturally narrowed down and confined to the Belize settlement,—though that had no other connection with Honduras itself than what it derived from still lying, as of old, on Honduras Bay.

Here, then, is the rock upon which Senatorial ignorance struck and has gone to pieces. Mr. Cass—to be charitable to him, as well as the lesser lights who have been so signally extinguished on this question—had no other idea (and does not yet seem to have acquired any other idea) of British Honduras than as a portion of the State of Honduras consequently of Central America; and as the Clayton treaty *does* require Great Britian to retire from all Central America, and as the Clayton letter of which he made such a surprising discovery two years and a half after it had been before the country and among the printed documents of Congress, declare, that the treaty had nothing to do with the aforesaid British Honduras (as nobody before him ever supposed it had,) it is easy to conceive how he and all of his inclining fell into the trap in which they expected to catch those who happened to have some real knowledge of the subject. If those gentlemen will only consent to drop the title of British *Honduras*, and adopt that of British *Yucatan*, which is, politically, as correct, and, geographically, much more legitimate, they will be in possession of a light and a clew which will enable them to extricate themselves from the fogs and labyrinth in which they have become so ridiculously involved.

Once out they will no longer find it difficult to perceive that although the Clayton treaty does not drive England from the Belize settlement, it, nevertheless, does oust her from Central America, and from *all* Central America; and it does this the more effectually that it is done with her own consent, solemnly and deliberately stipulated in that treaty. If the treaty be abrogated, she will go back there, and then these patriotic personages will have, according to their threats and promises, to drive her out *vi et armis*. It is a question which we may leave to schoolboys to decide, whether it will be better policy to have her out, with the treaty, or to get her out, without it. There is some difference between annulling the treaty and requiring her to execute it. War is a great and glorious pastime; but why should we throw away that ten millions of secret service money, when we can get along so much more comfortably without spending it?

Senate of the United States.

Tuesday, January 18, 1853.

CUBA—THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

The Senate resumed the consideration of Mr. Cass's joint resolution, reaffirming the Monroe doctrine, and applying it to Cuba.

Mr. Cass said that two Presidents—Mr. Monroe in 1824, and Mr. Polk in 1845—had announced the doctrine contained in the resolution, and had given good reasons why it should be adopted. He would not now repeat those reasons; they were familiar to all. This declaration, as made heretofore, was but an Executive protest against the recolonization by any European power of any part of the American continent. The right of this Government to adopt any such a policy was one resulting from a principle of nations which always adapted itself to the circumstances of the time—is the right by discovery unknown before, came into existence with the discovery of America. To give any European nation the right to convert independent States of America into dependent colonies, would be to involve this nation surrounded by such colonies in any war which might take place in Europe. In such a war these colonies would of course become partisans, and the commerce and communication of the United States, from one part of the continent to the other, would become embarrassed, deranged, and destroyed. Under these circumstances the inherent right of self protection authorized this declaration

He refered to the correspondence and conversation between Mr. Rush and Mr. Canning on this subject, in which the latter said that Great Britain could not view with indifference any of the American States taken possession of by European powers. Great Britain was right in thus viewing the matter, though at the time engaged in a convention which was to place this whole matter in the hands of European nations. When Mr. Monroe, Mr. Polk, and Mr. Canning avowed themselves believers in this doctrine, he and others could well afford to abide the sneers and scoffs everlastingly thrown upon them. If the course recommended by Mr. Canning thirty years ago was just then, the reasons for it had become stronger now. It was asked why repeat the declaration now? There was no doubt but the annunciation of the doctrine by Mr. Monroe had produced an effect relating to the Spanish American States; yet we could not deny that its effect is now dying away, and that the politicians of Europe are fast coming to the belief that the U. S. do not intend seriously to insist on it. It becomes this nation, under the circumstances, to declare that we do not intend it, and that if Cuba be seized upon, in defiance of that declaration, we intend to resist it by force. The declarations of Mr. Monroe and Mr. Polk had lain idle in the Government archives, wanted the distinct confirmation and authority of legislative sanction.

It was evident to the world that experiments were making on our forbearance, and being yielded to in some cases, events would be forced upon the United States which it were better to anticipate. He referred to some remarks by Mr Guizot some years since, in which doctrine was laid down utterly inconsistent with our honor and safety. Public sentiment on this subject, was in advance of Congress. Some years ago the Senate refused to consider resolutions on this subject.

He referred to various circumstances rendering this declaration more necessary and justifiable than when first made by Mr. Monroe. He alluded to the recent attempt to acquire Sonora by the French agents, which act, if it had been successful, would have been avowed by the French government, and Sonora claimed as a province of France. He quoted from various French publications showing that the policy of France and all Europe is to check the progress of the United States. He had not doubt but that that policy would go on.

He thought any declaration of the desire of the United States to purchase Cuba as out of place in those resolutions. It was willing to purchase Cuba, but preferred that the people of Cuba would by some arrangement with Spain or by revolution, become independent, and then propose a union with the United States.

He commented at length upon the importance of Cuba as a military position, and one which in the possession of England would be most destructive to this Union. Spain was not in a condition to do us harm, and he preferred she should retain it.

He quoted from debates in the British Commons, and declarations by Lord George Bentick, concerning the men by Great Britain on Cuba, and the policy of England was to distrain Cuba, and cut commerce of America in two.

He referred in most complimentary terms to the letter recently written by Mr. Everett to the British Minister, in reply to the proposition to establish the tripartite treaty.

He dwelt considerably on this proposed convention and the reasons inducing its offer.

He defended his resolution against the taunt that it was a John Doe and a Richard Roe notice to the world. Such a notice had been given by our forefathers on the 4th of July, 1776.

He gave a history of the progress of the country since the days of the revolution, and its gigantic and rapid strides to power, wealth and prosperity, and to its advancement to political position. The right of search, long the subject diplomatic controversy, had been settled; the practical assertion of that right again by Great Britain would be the signal for war.

He defended himself from various charges of demagogueism; and commented upon some articles recently published in the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser. He regretted the existence in so many minds in this country of unpatriotic sentiments and opinions. He hoped the Emperor of China would lay no claim to California, for if he did he had no doubt there would be found many in this country who would defend the claim as against our own. He stated at length the position he desired this nation to occupy with respect to its foreign relations, and hoped to see that desire accomplished.

Mr. Butler said that he desired simply to make an explanation which perhaps was called for by the remarks just made. He sympathised with the Senator in many of his patriotic declarations, and he did not know but what he assented to many of his doctrines.—But he intended to go into no examination of the whole subject, nor to follow the Senator in the whole encyclopedia of our foreign relations. Mr. Monroe's cabinet was composed of men of practical views; they were not mere dialectic politicians, and that declaration, as he understood it, from the explanation given of it by Mr. Calhoun, who was a member of that cabinet, was intended to meet a practical issue then presented—to meet what was considered a practical question touching our institutions and rights. The allies of Europe, after forming what was called the Holy Alliance, feeling themselves powerful, were, in the arrogance of their power, disposed to restore the Spanish dominion in the American republics. They felt that our institutions, in their rapid growth, were injurious to them, and they thought fit to restore to their dominion legitimacy and despotism to those States. Canderengh, who represented England, while to Mr Canning, advising him of this determination, and that statesman thinking such would not be altogether advantageous to Great Britain, and tending to involve her in difficulties, and Canning proposed that if the United States would make a strong declaration on the point that it would not permit such an act, Great Britain would decline the proposition. This declaration was then made by Mr. Monroe.

There was a practical point to be met, and they met it boldly. Our forefathers were men of strong purposes, and not of long advertisements and he generally found that those men of long advertisements were men of little performance. When there arose any practical issue with England involving a question of war, he did not believe, as was said by the Senator from New Hampshire a few days ago, that this country would back out. When the time arrived that we were to try title to Cuba, and England was one of the parties, our people will not be found behind in such a trial. If Brother Jonathan for the next thirty years shall go on in progress as he has during the last, John Bull will not be found to be much of an obstacle in his way in his progress westward. He did not understand the Monroe doctrine as the Senator did. He understood it as applying solely to the attempt about to be made by the Holy Alliance to restore the Spanish dominion over the Central American States.

Mr. Cass said it was intended to go further. He understood it to extend to any effort to recognize any part of this continent.

Mr. Butler read part of Mr. Calhoun's speech delivered in the Senate some years ago on this subject, in which it was held that the Holy Alliance intended to restore Spanish dominion over those States; and that this general declaration by Mr. Monroe was intended to meet that specific case; that there it stopped, and that it extended no further. He (Mr. Butler) thought that if Great Britain or any other European power should take possession of these islands for the purpose of interfering with our institutions, or to make war upon them, or to be used against the United States in case of war, he would, when that case arose, be prepared to give an opinion as to what should be done. Mr. Monroe took the wise and practical course of meeting the issue and no other. He thought it very unwise to advertise the world in advance of what the United States would or would not do in cases which might never arise. He had no fear of the feelings of the people, should any actual issue arise. Should Great Britian take these islands, or Honduras, for the purpose of affecting our institutions, or to injure us in case of war, he could not say but perhaps the gentleman's doctrine that we should resist it was but right and proper.

Ole Bull advertised a Concert for Wednesday night, at Petersburg, and that every seat was taken within the first hour, at a premium of two and three dollars.

LETTER FROM GENERAL PIERCE.

The *Presbyterian*, of New York, contains the following touching letter, written by General Pierce to a personal friend soon after retirement from the United States Senate some years since, in reply to a letter of condolence on the death of a beautiful and manly boy, his cherished son. A later, and still more melancholy bereavement, (says the New York *Express*) gives it an additional interest, that all will appreciate. General Pierce writes as a Christian should write, yet as one who, under the sorrowful circumstances of the case, must also feel it like a man:

Concord, New Hampshire, Nov. 30.

My Dear Friend: You have been often in my thoughts since I received your affectionate letter of 10th instant. It was one of the earliest of the kind from my personal friends soothing and grateful to me at the time. And it has been pleasant since to think of you as among those who have truly sympathized with us in this dark hour of overpowering affliction.

Under bereavement like this, how trifling—oh, how very trifling—do most of the cares, and purposes, and plans of this world appear! We can hardly realize how it is that our hearts have been so engrossed in little matters of the day.—We open our eyes, as it were from a dream, upon the realities that are around and before us. We see "passing away" written upon all things of this world. We feel that we are mere sojourners, probationers here, and seem to estimate with an approximation to truth, the great interests of time. I do earnestly desire to keep awake to the matter—not to fall into the spell, where as it were from necessity, we look through a false medium, which places eternity so far off, and gives to the things of time such vast magnitude and disproportionate importance.

I remember well the conversation on our ride to the G., to which, I suppose, you refer. The convictions of my judgment have long been strong and decided, but the little influence they have had upon my life is a sad illustration of the great truth, "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness."

Our dear boy was ill three weeks, and the last four days of his life was a period of much suffering. In the midst of our deep sorrow, I find inexpressible relief in the thought that "it is well with the child." He said much, to use his own expression, of "the blessed Jesus," especially on the Sabbath. And now his indefinite impressions and childish fancies are exchanged for full knowledge and never-ending fruition. He is, as we firmly believe,

"Where no blight falls
On the beautiful rose of youth."

He was a bright, affectionate, manly boy—the pride and joy of his father's heart—the light and life of our home. We now feel, and must long continue to feel, his loss. We are conscious of his absence at every turn. We weep, but the cup of sorrow is not unmingled with rich consolation.

I have many things to say to you when we meet. Till then, your stricken friend.

FRANK PIERCE.

THE RUSSIAN BASTINADO.

A famous chief of bandits, named Random Crottentous, in 1847 began committing extensive depredations in the Government of Wilna, in Russia, near the Prussian frontiers; and although he was frequently pursued by Prussian and Russian detachments, all attempts to seize him failed until a short time ago, when he was recognized, in spite of a disguise, by some peasants; and being arrested and bound was given up by them to the authorities. He has just been tried by court-martial at Kowno, and condemned to 9,000 blows from a stick. This is what the Russians call "bastonading to death," as there is no instance on record of any one having survived the administration of such punishment. The 9,000 blows are to be administered by a battalion of infantry in a plain between Tanrogen and the frontier, one of the principal scenes of the brigand's exploits. During the last month four bandits or incendiaries were condemned in that neighborhood to from 4,000 to 6,000 blows, but they all died before 2,000 were administered. The next, however, were administered on the corpses, as the Russian law requires the complete execution of a sentence, whether the criminal be dead or alive.—*Galignani.*

HONDURAS.

The following proclamation, which was issued as long ago as March, 1847, will be read with interest at the present time.

PROCLAMATION.

"The President of the United States, to all who shall see these presents greeting:

"Know ye, that, reposing special trust and confidence in the habilities and integrity of Christopher Hemstead, of New York, I have nominated, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him consul of the United States of America for the port of Belize, in Honduras, and such other ports as shall be nearer thereto than to the residence of any other consul of the United States, *within the same allegiance*; and do authorize and empower him to have and to hold the said office, and to exercise and enjoy all the rights, pre-eminences, privileges, and authorities to the same of right appertaining, during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being—he demanding and receiving no fees or perquisites of office whatever which shall not be expressly established by some law of the said United States. And I do hereby enjoin all captains, masters, and commanders of ships and other vessels, armed or unarmed, sailing under the flag of the United States, as well as all other of their citizens, to acknowledge and consider him, the said Christopher Hemstead, accordingly. And I do thereby *pray and request Her Britannic Majesty, her governors and officers*, to permit the said Christopher Hemstead, fully and peacefully to enjoy and exercise the said office, without giving or suffering to be given unto him any molestation or trouble; but, on the contrary, to afford him all proper countenance and assistance—I offering to be the same for all those who shall in like manner be recommended to me by *her said Majesty*."

Washington, March 3d, 1847.

By the President: JAMES K. POLK.
JAMES BUCHANAN, Secretary of State.

GOOD DESCENT.

The Charleston Courier thinks it is a question whether being called a "Son of a Gun" should not be taken as a compliment than as a term of abuse, as it is well known that no gun is good for anything, unless it *descends in a straight line from a good stock.*