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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- MR. F. R. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—GARYS CROSS. THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT. OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Beckett streets.—THE LARK. NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—THE BLACK CROSS. WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth street.—THE LARK. UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Union square, near Broadway.—THE WICKED WORLD. BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Montague street.—DANCES OF THE KITCHEN.—OLD FRI'S BIRTHDAY. WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth street.—SOLON SINGLES.—AFTERNOON AND EVENING. ACADEMY OF MUSIC, 14th street and Irving place.—ITALIAN OPERA.—LA TRAVIATA. BROADWAY THEATRE, 728 and 730 Broadway.—THE NEW MAGDALEN. GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth av. and Twenty-third st.—HURRY DUPREY ABROAD. BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth av. and Twenty-third st.—OHHELLO. PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn, opposite City Hall.—MARRIED LIFE.—LITTLE THEATRE. LYRUM THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN OPERA.—LA TRAVIATA. METROPOLITAN THEATRE, 585 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT. TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT. BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner Sixth av.—NIGRO MINSTRELS, &c. RAIN HALL, Great Jones street, between Broadway and Bowery.—THE PILGRIM. STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—GRAVE SONGS OF THE SOUTH. COOPER INSTITUTE.—LARGING GAS AND MAGICAL ENTERTAINMENT. ASSOCIATION HALL, 23d street and 4th avenue.—LARGE "DIALLECT HOOK". NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, No. 615 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, Nov. 24, 1873.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the Herald.

"SHALL WE HAVE AN ELASTIC OR A CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY?"—LEADER—SIXTH PAGE. THE PROBLEM OF THE PRESENT! AN ELASTIC CIRCULATING MEDIUM! THE QUESTION FULLY CONSIDERED—SEVENTH PAGE. A KEY TO THE FINANCIAL SITUATION! THE CONVERTIBILITY OF THE FEDERAL BONDS! POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS! THE BANKS' REPORT! GOLD AND STOCKS—NINTH PAGE. ADMIRAL POLO DE BERNABE ON THE COMPLI-CATIONS BETWEEN SPAIN AND AMERICA! THE VIRGINIUS' NATIONALITY! SPANISH DENIAL OF THE REPORTED VIOLENCE TO THE AMERICAN MINISTER! PRESIDENT CASTELAR AND MINISTER LAYARD CLOSETED TOGETHER! ARBITRATION PRO-POSED AS A BASIS OF PEACE! OPINIONS OF PROMINENT AMERICANS—THIRD PAGE. ASSASSINATION IN HAVANA! COUNT SAN FERNANDO THE VICTIM! SAD RESULT OF DOMESTIC TROUBLES—SEVENTH PAGE. WHAT THE PREACHERS HAD TO SAY ON THE CUBAN QUESTION AND THE CHAOTIC CONDITION OF SPAIN! "SHALL WE HELP CASTELAR, OR CRUSH HIM?" TWEED'S WARNING FATE—EIGHTH PAGE. THE PEOPLE ON SPANISH MISRULE IN CUBA—A HAZING EAST INDIAN ENTERS AN IRISH HARBOR UNDER FULL SAIL—EIGHTEENTH PAGE. MR. DISRAELI ON THE EUROPEAN STRUGGLE! UNMASKING IRISH HOME RULE AGITA-TION! ANARCHY FEARED—SEVENTH PAGE. HOME RULE FOR IRELAND! AN IMMENSE OUT-POURING IN ITS FAVOR IN THE IRISH CAPITAL! 60,000 PERSONS IN PROCES-SION—SEVENTH PAGE. ON THE TRAIL OF KAUFMANN! THE PERILS OF DESERT TRAVEL AMID HOSTILE BARBAR-ANS! THE BATTLE OF SHEIK-ARIK! CARRYING THE KHIVAN WORKS—FOURTH PAGE. THROUGH THE CENTRAL ASIAN SAND WASTES! MAP OF THE COURSE OF THE HERALD CORRESPONDENT—FOURTH PAGE. PRESIDENT LERDO DE TEJADA PRESENTS TO THE MEXICAN CONGRESS THE PROJECT FOR AN INTEROCEANIC RAILWAY—SEV-ENTH PAGE. FOUR REVOLUTIONIST GENERALS SHOT BY THE DOMINICAN PRESIDENT! LUPERON'S ADHERENTS ORGANIZING FOR ACTIVE HOSTILITIES! PORTO RICO PREPARING FOR THE RECEPTION OF MINISTER SOLER! POLITICAL PLOTTERS ARRESTED IN VENEZUELA—SEVENTH PAGE. THE FINALE OF THE FAIR AT VIENNA! AMER-ICAN PRESENTATIONS! DECORATIONS AND HONORS—FIFTH PAGE. MR. DISRAELI PROPHECIES the advent of a terrible struggle between the spiritual and temporal powers in Europe, and expresses a fear that anarchy will result from the conflict. Curiously enough the ex-Premier appears to attribute great importance to the home rule agitation in Ireland as a motive, yet masked, force impelling towards the crisis. Sixty thousand Irishmen assembled in Dublin yesterday in advocacy of a home-rule govern-ment. The Irishmen and the ex-Chancellor of Britain differ widely in their points of calculation. SCENES OF BLOOD IN ST. DOMINGO.—From St. Domingo we have news of the execution of four revolutionist generals by order of President Bazé. Six other officers were held in prison and would be shot to death at an early day. Politico-revolutionist conspiracy the cause. Almost as bloodthirsty as in Cuba. THE JAPANESE CABINET has experienced a profound ministerial sensation, caused by the discussion of the question of the propriety and policy of a war against Corea. There was a resignation of portfolios and a retirement of statesmen, youthful and fossilized, from the service of the Mikado. The crisis was only of temporary duration, however, and the Council was reorganized on the peace principle.

Shall We Have an Elastic or a Convertible Currency? We print this morning a long and able letter from a correspondent who signs himself "Necker." In this communication our correspondent discusses with great ability and sagacity the question of an elastic currency—that is, a currency which shall expand or contract of itself, according to the necessities of business and trade. If an elastic currency is possible at all we know of no better way to make it so than by the plan suggested in this communication—namely, by making the four hundred and eighty millions of five per cent gold-bearing bonds outstanding convertible into greenbacks at the pleasure of the holders and resuable at the request of purchasers. Where the money is to come from with which to redeem these bonds, in case they should be offered in larger amounts than the currency balance in the Treasury, is not very clearly indicated in our correspondent's letter, and we hope he will continue writing to elucidate this and many other points which a writer so able and so well informed can discuss to great advantage. Opinions so clearly put, and argued with so much force and acumen, must prove of great advantage to Congress and the country. If all the plans which have been submitted for consideration in the last few years had been so forcibly and ably set forth there would be little trouble in forming a conclusion as to the proper policy to be pursued. The more discussions of the kind that we have, and especially at this time, the better it will be for all. Our correspondent writes with the clearness of Hamilton and Robert J. Walker, our two great financiers, and his views will be eagerly canvassed. The currency question is one in which the entire country feels a very great interest. Money is the life of business, and the people are only too apt, with our correspondent, to regard currency as money. Ever since the first days of the war it has seemed a necessity that our national issues, both in greenbacks and bank notes, should be the money of the country. One class of statesmen, generally representing the dominant party in Congress, have always manifested a profound respect for the currency issues, and in any crisis have always favored expansion rather than contraction. It is to be feared that these men, on the plea that there is not money or currency enough in the country to do the business of the country, will favor an increase in volume of the national issues at the coming session of Congress. Increase in the volume of the currency is with them the panacea for every financial ill. The remedy is not only ineffective, but positively hurtful. It not only puts off the day of resumption, but makes it impossible to equalize gold and greenbacks. If this policy is continued direful calamities will spring from it in the end, for it is impossible that public confidence should not ultimately be weakened with an immense volume of currency representing only the national credit. This is a tower of strength, we know, but no treasury seal is sufficient to make irredeemable promises to pay a safe currency for a country. The republicans of a more liberal school—those who were not educated in the policy of the old line whig party nor taught to venerate the United States Bank—hold on to the greenback system, but seek by various devices to make the legal tenders assimilate in value with gold. General Butler's plan of making customs duties partly payable in currency was among the most notable of these. If it could be made to work the desired end in practice it would answer every requirement; for then we should have what is more desirable than an elastic currency or a currency convertible into interest-bearing bonds—namely, a convertible currency. The term convertible currency can have only one meaning, and that is a currency convertible into gold without the payment of heavy discounts. The trouble about this plan is that to the ordinary Congressional mind it is a mere theory—an abstraction that may be argued, but never realized. If we wait for Congress to bring about an end so desirable as the equalization of greenbacks and gold, we shall have to wait a very long time. Unlike the statesmen of an earlier era our public men no longer understand finance and taxation, and it is to be feared they will not learn wisdom in the present generation. Another plan is that of a few democratic leaders who cling to the hard money basis as a tradition. These would sweep every national bank note and every legal tender note out of existence, and depend simply upon gold and silver for currency. If this plan could be carried into effect it would not be resumption merely, but the attainment of something which never was attained before; for then, if we had any paper money at all, it would only represent on its face the gold upon which it was based. This may be disposed of without a word of comment—it is a dream. It is plain, then, that we shall at last be compelled to retain our greenback system. In retaining it we have two special duties to perform—to prevent its expansion beyond the present volume of the currency, and to equalize it as nearly as possible with gold. As we have already remarked we should then have practically a convertible currency, and with the national bank issues out of the way, and the entire seven hundred million dollars of currency in legal tenders, we might apply the principles suggested by our correspondent with advantage to the country, and secure both an elastic and a convertible currency. Sooner or later we shall be compelled to abolish our national banking system. As our correspondent wisely points out, it is already a monopoly; but it is not only a monopoly in the sense in which he suggests it, but a pampered and favored monopoly. Every national bank receives interest on the bonds which secure its circulation, and is thus paid for being favored by the franchise, which is a monopoly. And the evil does not stop here. Financially, the soundness of the banks is, to say the least of it, questionable. The banks not only are not required to redeem their own notes, but upon the slightest alarm they are unable to honor the checks of their depositors. They are paid a premium to enjoy the profits of a monopoly, and yet they not only fail to be useful in times of trouble, as in the recent panic, but add to the alarm and distrust of the entire business community. The system has proved itself unjust, cumbersome, unsatisfactory and dangerous. It even adds to the financial difficulties of the country by making the "locking up" of green-

backs possible. Two classes of currency, one a legal tender and the other an irredeemable promise to pay of a bank, but both dependent upon the faith and credit of the government for their circulating value, are anomalies which in themselves should be a convincing proof that the baleful system ought to be swept away. In this connection we have a word to say to Mr. Blaine. Congress meets a week from to-day, and it may be regarded as certain that he will be the Speaker of the next House of Representatives. In naming the Committee on Banking and Currency this time he must consult the real interests of the country. Heretofore it has been under the direct influence of the national banking system. Its chairman was a banker and some of its leading members were bank officers. From such a committee it was impossible to obtain a fair report on any financial proposition; it was particularly impossible to obtain any recommendations inconsistent with the interests of the national bank monopoly, however necessary to the interests of the country. With such a committee controlling the currency question, and more anxious to legislate in favor of the banks than of the people, reform is impossible. If the banks did not believe they had Congress in their power they would not have dared to show the recklessness they have exhibited. If the Treasury Department did not believe the banks controlled Congress it would have done its duty in enforcing the law, and the majority of the banks would have been compelled to go into liquidation for failing to make currency payments in the late panic. This failure on the part of the banks did more to extend the effects of the panic than any other single cause. The attention of Congress must be directed to this subject, and Mr. Blaine owes it to the country that the committee shall be so constituted that its deliberations may not be entirely in the interests of the banks. While these institutions remain constituted as they now are there is no business safety for the country. The banking business must be left to the people just as the fishing business or any other business is left to them. Congress has no right to create a special class of monopolists, and it is especially unjust that the credit of the government should be hypothecated for the franchise with which these monopolists are clothed. If the United States are responsible for the currency of the country they should have the benefit of the whole, and not merely of a part of it; while, with the national bank circulation in the way, it is by no means certain that we can have either a convertible or an elastic currency. The United States Navy—Its Relations to Our Commercial Prosperity, Honor and Future Political Grandeur. All nations which have been rich have been maritime. They have made their wealth in commerce. Phoenicia, Carthage, Syracuse, Venice, Portugal, Spain, Holland, and to-day England, are examples of this almost forgotten truth. The moment that the maritime strength of any one of these nations has declined and has gone into final decay the nation itself has all but passed from the political family of the earth. When the rebellion burst suddenly upon us like a tornado, sweeping our commerce from the seas, we were unprepared to protect our carrying trade, and England, with that keen appetite which has always distinguished her statesmen, hailed the day of our commercial despair and saw in it the triumph of a long-cherished hope. Her Ministers have always fought for the commercial supremacy of the seas. In their diplomacy with us they have been cool, cunning and audacious, binding us at every point by treaty stipulations which can only expire by their own limitation. The result has been that all legislation must take place within the area of a circle, the circumference of which is British supremacy on the seas. England aspires to be the shop of the world, and she is. But she must also carry her own wares to market, and this she does too. Before the rebellion we shared this important trade with England, and we grew rich and prosperous. Wise maritime laws regulated our commerce then, and the Western influence had not made us an inland Power—a nation of grain-growers, ironmongers and cotton spinners. When the fatal day came and our ships had to fly to a foreign flag for protection the decline and fall of our commercial prosperity were almost hopeless. Ship-building became scarce, our steamship lines passed into foreign hands, and the Atlantic States saw themselves shorn of that power which had made their seaboard the busiest coast line in the world. Zealous men made frequent efforts to recover this lost ground, but all attempts were in vain. Our skilled artisans became dispersed, seamen rare, and to-day we cannot obtain sailors to man our ships of war. Naturally enough, when our commerce was flattened in this manner the argument prevailed that we no longer needed a navy; and hence our deplorable condition to-day. The navy fell because our commerce fell—that is the story. Now, when an American, travelling in foreign countries, visits a seaport, say Havre, he finds a sixth class Power represented by a more formidable war vessel than the United States, and the commerce of the country by a time-worn hulk. What a palmy day was that when the American flag could be seen at the peaks of hundreds of vessels along the shores of the Mediterranean! Now the rising generation of Southern Europe will have to turn to their *Almanach de Goltz* to find out the colors of our national ensign! Can it be, in view of these facts, that Spain cares a whit for the naval prowess of the United States? Do we, indeed, inspire the respect of any Power which exists by virtue of the fact that all nations which are maritime are strong? We think not. Spain has defied and insulted us, and her officials in Cuba have treated American citizens and American ships with more contempt than they would dare display toward Greece or Denmark. Thus it follows that, while the navy's most intimate and natural relation is to our commercial marine, rising with it, falling with it, its subsidiary relation is to our national honor, which it is powerless to protect. Our argument, then, is, foster ship-building, widen our commerce, compel our trade to be carried in American bottoms, built in American yards, and then we will have a navy of which we need not be ashamed. The hour has come when this great question must be

resolved. Congress must meet it boldly and with intelligence, as it must make an immediate provision for strengthening our wretched iron-clad service. We read in the columns of a sneering contemporary that wooden walls are stronger than iron sides. This may be an amusing way of treating a serious question, but we do not think that the occasion is timely for the exposition of such laborored wit. Our present dignity and our future political grandeur depend upon the possession of powerful iron-clad squadrons, which must not be towed like canal boats to the scene of war; and it would be well to remember that if the amiable diplomacy of Mr. Fish succeeds in a rapid settlement of the pending dispute with Spain, the West India Archipelago and the South and Central American States, to say nothing of Mexico, will always compel us to keep on a naval footing ready for war. The loud voice of "Manifest Destiny," which says that the whole North American Continent must be ours, admonishes us with a warning note that we cannot work out this future with a mosquito navy. Latest from Madrid—The Proposition for Arbitration. Our latest despatches from Madrid inform us that the reports that violence had been offered by the populace to our Minister are unfounded; that on Saturday President Castelar had a long conversation with Mr. Layard, the British Minister, the result of which was regarded as favorable to the continuance of good relations. Next, it appears that in the Spanish capital the idea of submitting the case of the Virginus to arbitration is much talked of, and that, should this alternative for a settlement be agreed to, the Emperor of Germany is indicated as the probable arbitrator. Arbitration in most of the disputes arising between nations is now, we believe, universally desired as a judicial mode of settlement, which, while avoiding the horrors of war, may be made more satisfactory than war in the restoration of good will and fellowship between the high contracting parties. Such have been the results of the Joint High Commission, the Treaty of Washington and the Geneva Conference in the settlement of our Alabama claims and various other recent troublesome matters of controversy between the United States and England. One of these troublesome matters was our northwestern boundary dispute, which was submitted to the arbitration of the Emperor of Germany, and which, from the convincing evidence submitted in behalf of the line claimed by the United States, he decided in our favor. If, therefore, the case of the Virginus could be considered as within the pale of arbitration the examples of this mode of settlement resulting from the Treaty of Washington would bind our government, we may say, to arbitration. Nor in the adoption of this plan of adjustment could a more satisfactory umpire be named to the United States than the honest and impartial Emperor of Germany. But there are offences to nations, as there are insults to individuals, which do not admit of arbitration, and the proper redress for them cannot be reached in a suit for damages. Such was the Trent affair, in which, for the forcible taking away of two passengers from the protection of the British flag on the high seas, England could find no other remedy against the United States than immediate and ample reparation or war. Such is the case of the Virginus, with the accompanying catalogue of our outstanding accounts against Spain, and that "imperium in imperio," her provincial government of Cuba. In the settlement of these grievances we may even deal with these Cuban provincials as with a tribe of savages, held by the law of nations as subject to the flag of the civilized State which may first be raised over such tribe in evidence of the pre-emption right of occupation; for do not these Cuban provincials defy and deny the authority of Spain over the affairs of the island, and have they not fallen from civilized usages and restraints to the atrocities of savages? In any event this Virginus outrage will not admit of arbitration, and no intervention is wanted from third parties in our settlement with Spain and her Cuban provincials. Nor can there be any settlement of these never ending but still recurring Cuban complications short of the retirement of Spain from the island. The Vienna Exhibition—The Lessons and Hopes of the Exposition. We print this morning the closing chapter in the history of the Vienna Exhibition. The substance of this report has been anticipated by telegraph, but we cannot permit this stupendous effort of Austrian enterprise and industry to pass into history without giving some thoughts that occur to us. The progress made by the Austrian people during the last forty years is so marked that we cannot but congratulate the Emperor and the liberal and wise men by whom he is surrounded upon the important changes he has made in his Empire. Perhaps the most instructive feature of the Exhibition is international. Austria has shown every desire for sympathy and commerce with other nations. Apart from the mere display of wealth and industry in the Industrial Palace we have had convocations of scientific men, the results of whose deliberations will be a valuable contribution to scientific literature. As we are about to have an Exhibition of our own we shall do well to learn the lessons of her failure. We see in the first place that, while the Industrial Palace, as an architectural contrivance, was unsurpassed in its way, for purposes of observation it was a failure. What our builders in Philadelphia must do is to make an exhibition building that will not exhaust the interest of the visitor before he passes through one-fifth of its corridors. It must not be a long day's journey from the modern industry of the United States to the older industry of Turkey. There must be none of those police restrictions which took all comfort from the visitor and made a day in the Prater as perplexing almost as an initiation into a secret society. Nor must our fellow citizens of Philadelphia fall into the error of building a new city at the expense of their visitors. We do not expect in Philadelphia an exhibition as large or as varied as in Austria. Before we can expect any foreign exhibitors to be really serious and anxious about coming to Philadelphia we must mend our protective laws so that the tariff will not be virtually a dyke to prevent German or French taste and English ingenuity from coming and making themselves manifest. So far from hoping to make any money in a pecu-

niary way from the Exhibition at Philadelphia we should feel at the outset that if every dollar is lost that is given to the Fairmont Palace, and if there are large deficiencies to be paid by the national government, we shall have true success if we make upon the world as fair an impression as Austria has made, if we can show that our industry is as far advanced as that of the people who only a few years ago were despised by us for their superstition and ignorance and apparent decay. Admiral Polo on the Outrage. The Spanish Minister at Washington, in an interview with a HERALD correspondent yesterday, gave what may be substantially taken as the orthodox Spanish view of the Virginus outrage. Of course, Admiral Polo has felt the American pulse, and finds that the indignation here is limited to a very small number—particularly, no doubt, the entire American press. He is careful to think that the regularly documented Virginus was not entitled to American protection. Her capture on the high seas was, he considers, all right, because, as he remarks, "the American Consul at Kingston did wrong in clearing her." This is exceedingly cool, but it is Spanish. We had better, indeed, remove the Consul at once and appoint the butcher Burriel in his place if we wish to learn how to administer our own laws, of which we have hitherto supposed ourselves the judge. Then, as to the butchery at Santiago, it was all right also. They have a municipal law, and if they sent a man-of-war to New York and captured the Cuban Junta on Sandy Hook, they would calmly butcher them as soon as the man-of-war entered a Cuban port. Then we are to think of the "sister Republic" if we still find it in our hearts to say a word against the bloody minded ruffians who slaughter our citizens at will. We confess that all this is very poor pleading in a bad cause, but then the Spanish Minister must be respected for doing the best he can for it. It is, however, something quite relieving when the brave Spanish sailor throws off the diplomat and tells us, there is Cuba; "take it if you can." He is hardly certain that we could not take it; but then there is a tough fight in store for us. When we have got it, he asks, what will we do with it? He has learned from some intelligent Americans, possibly marines, that "the Cubans are incapable of self-government," but there is little use in discussing that question just now. It will be settled in its own good time, even if we are compelled to take Cuba for ourselves. The Private Bargainings of Echu Diplomacy. Our great Buchu diplomat, whom we introduced to the public yesterday in his proper colors, sometimes plays a very sinister game. This occurs when he has succeeded in communicating his plan to the diplomat of a foreign country with which America has a dispute. It is not every diplomat who would stoop so low as to take part in such degrading exercises as Secretary Buchu would propose. It is not every diplomat who would consent to make the honor of his nation a scarecrow, "a thing of shreds and patches," without body or soul. But the diplomat who would set a leading part in one of Secretary Buchu's farces must do this. The Buchu diplomat, like the Scotch beggar of Burns' cantata, has no scruples for his part. His motto is, "Let them cant about decorum who have characters to lose;" and his argument with the other diplomat amounts to this:—"If you only knew how comfortably I can get along without dignity you would see the force of Kalstaff's philosophy, that honor is nothing 'to him that died o' Wednesday.' Let us get up a little stir upon a proper understanding that nothing but ink shall be shed, and you and I shall be the best of friends and keep our places; this last, I take it, being the great object all diplomats should have in view." If this argument is successful the foreign diplomat speedily becomes, to all appearance, a very haughty and passionate fellow indeed. Secretary Buchu fires off despatches which make the welkin ring; he flaunts our flag in the face of the Buchuized foreign diplomat. The short sighted people are thrown completely off their guard. The whole thing, they imagine, must be in earnest, for they behold the Buchuized foreigner hurling back defiance at a fearful rate. Unused to anything like "backbone" in Secretary Buchu, they are convinced that the national honor is safe in his keeping for once. He takes every occasion to tell everybody that as a guardian of national dignity he is without a peer. His brow becomes terrible, but as the public cannot see his "dilly tiber" it cannot fathom the disreputable fantasy of Buchu. Public indignation, which has been excited by a fiendish outrage, is at a high pitch. Our flag has been insulted, our citizens murdered and our ships captured. Men meet each other in the street and the first thing on their lips is the expression of firm intentions to demand of our rulers that reparation be obtained. The wrong suffered is one that cannot be endured unrequited. The calm, dispassionate men, who are generally behind the populace in the expression of strong opinion, become emphatic in their cry for prompt reparation. The country blazes with the sense of an unrighted wrong. Secretary Buchu is now in his glory. His flaming despatches are evoking fiery rejoinders from the Buchuized foreigner, and in the cool of the evening Buchu and the foreign diplomat meet like rival lawyers or mutual-masticating country editors, with sniggers and sneers over a bottle or two of iced champagne. Then they talk over their plan. It is now time to bring the goodly Buchuism into full play. "You see, my dear Don," says Buchu, "we must begin to tone down. I'll abate my demands to-morrow, and you must become reasonable the day after. Then, for home consumption, I shall make the eagle scream over your temperateness, and be still more pacificatory the day following. You must then accede lotly to about one-quarter of my original demands, and I shall howl over the victory. We shall fix the day for the apology at a year from now, and you can scuttle the steamer or have her burned. You had better let the prisoners escape, and, if I am compelled to ask the degradation of the murderer, you may reprimand him and move him somewhere else, with a promotion. Will you have a little more ice with yours?" But the plans of Buchu must share the vicis-

situdes of those best laid among mice and men. There are times when a nation will not be turned aside from its just purpose by a thing of tricks and hollow bombast. Spain and the United States have been raving at each other through their respective diplomats, and Secretary Buchu has begun to turn and run. He is somewhat dismayed to find that the indignation roused by the Virginus outrage will not down at his Buchu bidding. He must do something to gain time, and he querulously whimpers, "The country has given itself up to passion." He finds that while his *credo* pleased the nation, his *dimitendo* is scouted as the sign of a trimmer and a craven. He may sneer and snigger in his sleeve, but if he loves his place he will change his tune. To Secretary Buchu national honor is nothing. He will endeavor to save as much of his plan as he dares, and we may not be surprised if we learn that he agrees to take the word of impotent Spain for the fulfillment of all his demands, except the abolition of slavery. If he succeeds in palming off this upon the country he will triumph so far that, as Spain is unable to give us any redress in Cuba, the country will be left with an empty apology in its ears, amid the renewed rejoicings of the savage Spanish wretches who dragged the mutilated corpse of Ryan and Varona around the streets of Santiago de Cuba. We shall see how Secretary Buchu acts, and if his quackery can cheat the nation out of its due the people will put this latest humiliation, along with the others they have suffered, in the museum, where will be gibbeted for all time the shameful doings we have seen perpetrated in the age of Buchu. Spain's Objections to Our Demands. Some notion of the character of the Spanish answer to the demands of our government, and of the grounds on which they base their refusal to comply with them, may be gathered from the points given in our Washington telegrams yesterday. Five points were presented, three of which denied that the Virginus was entitled to our protection; the fourth denied that Ryan was a citizen of the United States, and the fifth alleged that the Virginus at the time she was taken was engaged in an unlawful expedition, contrary to the neutrality laws of the United States, under which laws all on board might have been convicted without reference to the question whether or not war existed in Cuba. We pay in this country some millions of dollars annually to keep up a government and the machinery of administration, courts and judges and functionaries of all sorts; and we may see by the above how absurd and useless it is to do all that when the Spaniards stand willing and ready to save us all our expenditure and all our trouble in the premises, and take the whole business off our hands by simply administering our government for us. Here is a ship that, it seems, has violated our neutrality laws. The Spaniards save us the bother of having this point judicially determined by determining it for us off hand in the office of their Minister of Foreign Affairs, or, perhaps, even in Cabinet council. Not only so, but they save us the expense we might be at in catching the ship; and, having caught her and killed all the dangerous fellows on board, and thus made a descent on their coast impossible, they have, of course, saved us enormous prospective damages; for if the Virginus has violated our neutrality laws we might, in case she had landed an expedition, have had to pay for her depredations. But that is not all the trouble the Spaniards have saved us. There is much more of the same sort of favor from them included in the three points that deny the right of the Virginus to our protection. They say she is not an American ship, as she is owned by Cubans and registered falsely in the name of an American; that, even if owned by this American now, her register is false, as since it was made she has been owned by other persons, and that she has frequently sailed under other flags than ours. There is a tremendous complication, therefore; but it is a complication that nations ordinarily have to settle for themselves in regard to their ships; and, in fact, it is common between nations for these things to be regarded as domestic concerns, for inasmuch as every nation fixes for itself the conditions upon which it gives a ship the right to carry its colors, it is ordinarily thought to be the only competent judge whether the conditions have been complied with. But our friend, the Castilian, in his ardent to do us a service, has not been trammeled by any such small comities, and has settled with airy ease what he knew might seriously annoy us. In fact it seems open to consideration whether we might not, as well, nationally speaking, shut up shop; for, as the Spaniard gets the habit of doing such things for us, what will be the use of our keeping up a government? If one part of the legitimate duty of our government is done by the Spanish government, and we seem to like it, another part will doubtless be done by some other government, and this will render it finally altogether superfluous and absurd for us to have any government of our own. It will be a great economy, and economy is and ought to be in great favor. It will be hard on the poor old American eagle to be thus turned out in the cold, but who would be ill-turned to Spain for the sake of an eagle? A Good Word for a Christian Hero. In the appeal of Captain Fry, of the Virginus, to the council of war at Santiago de Cuba for the lives of his crew, we have the appeal of a brave man, worthy the heroism of "the brave days of old Rome"—of a hero whose courage, chivalry, tenderness and fidelity towards his followers is hardly surpassed by any of the glorious examples of history. And what an unhappy life was his, and what a melancholy death! How saddening are these words of his appeal for his unfortunate crew:—"The council well know that I am not pleading for my life. I have neither home nor country. A victim of war and persecution, I have been shut out from the road to prosperity until I am unable to provide bread for my wife and seven children, who know what it is to suffer from the vicissitudes of my life. My life is one of suffering, and it is not for myself that I implore. The poor Boss, a poor gentleman, with a heart as tender and compassionate as that of a woman, who thought more of others than of himself—pardon him. The poor fellow is my servant, hired to wait upon me in port, and is not inscribed