THE CUBAN QUESTION.

Interesting Mail Details from Havana.

Another Account of the Butchery at Santiago.

OPINIONS OF STATESMEN.

NEWS FROM CUBA.

Spanish Sousces Over Burriel's Fifty three Massacres-Ridiculous Arguments in Proof of the Justice of the Deeds-Inin Proof of the Justice of the Decta-in-controvertible Evidence of Wilful Mur-der_"Purposes" of the Government, Which Exhibit Nothing New-Particu-lars of the Insurgents' Attack on Man-

HAWANA NOV 22 1873. "preferred question," as the Diario styles the question now agitating all minds, brought about by the illegal capture on the high seas of the American steamer Virginius and the precipitate and barbarous execution of a large number (63) of the persons found on board of her, still ex-cites the attention of the Havana press, and is the

The rumors which daily fly about with reference to a breaking up of irlendly relations between Spain and the United States are each wilder than he other, and very general anxiety is shown regarding the intentions and actions of both govern-

From a conversation held with an old Spanish naval officer, now retired, it appears that the genhe United States will engage in no warfare from ear of an uprising of the Southern and Western es; for, remarked this naval wiseacre-and he redects the opinion of a great mass of Spaniards, who, judging others by their own feelings, cannot who, judging others by their own feelings, cannot believe that old fends can be extinguished or laid aside—"everything is prepared, and only an opportunity is wanted by the South for a pronunciamento." Bendes, did he argue, the Spanish authorities had the same right to execute the Virginius' prisoners as the United States had to execute the Modoc chiefs. Such absurd parallels are even held forth by the press, showing how ignorant these people are of what transpires in the entaide world, though not because they are any poster informed of the innermost workings of their own officials.

The amount of arguing among these people goes to show that they really stand in awe of a declaration of war, but, true to their character, boast of their courage and favorable circumstances to meet

SPANISH NEWSPAPER OPINIONS. The Diario gives out that the HERALD's paragraph about the financial troubles of the government of the United States gives the key as to the kind of transactions there will be. All feel certain that there is no money in the States to fit out a navy and meet other expenses consequent in case of a war. Nevertheless they are arming their forts and are active in general—in their own way, of

ourse—in taking steps of precaution.

La Legatidad (republican), which heretofore has een very moderate in its opinion and has not dered to the taste of the strong organization th arrogates to itself the power of governing his island, states its firm conviction that the prize was a good and legitimate one, and that all the right and justice are on the aide of the Spanish revernment, and consequently does not expect there will be any great difficulties arising there rom; for should any reclamations be made, outside of right and justice, the government of Spain will know how to sustain her honor and right, and in the question of national dignity in face of the foreigner, it is every citizen's duty to hasten with the sacrifice of lives, even, in defence of his country's

she sacrifice of lives, even, in defence of his country's rights. The Legalidad also trusts that it will be a means to allay party spirit and passions, and make spaniards more united.

The rerocionos You de Ouda calls attention to the effect produced in New York and Washington by the news of the capture and shooting of the captain and other "pirates" of the Virginius, that all she American journals come filled with the most atrocions insults to Spain and Spaniards, and the most ridiculous threats that there are men who think the conquest of Cuba by the United States an easy matter, and an affair of a few days. The Yoz

y matter, and an afair of a few days. The Voz
a not opine that the question will leave the
ordiplomacy, but cautions the American govment against the belief that it would have an
y task otherwise.

A NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT'S BLUNDER.

The "well-informed" New York correspondent of
For de Cuba and Diario, in writing on this
stien, has the following paragraph, which is
berryish enough to be translated intact, and I
t send it to the HERALD:—

the Yor de Cube and Diario, in writing on, this question, has the following paragraph, which is Dogberryish enough to be translated intact, and I here send it to the Heraalo:—

As to the Virginius, we may consider her a second Alabama. The damages she has caused are less than those of that celebrated corsair, but not the less punishable, and the American government is as responsible for them to Span as England was to the United States for the depredations of the Alabama, which the Keararge sunt wilhout examining her paper, and notwithstanding she had an English flag bloised. But England, far from making reclamations for the analot to the United States. The government at Washington were informed of the piratical nature of the Virginius, and, upon the Kanass protecting her departure from Aspmwall, that government became responsible for her piracles.

The yor de Cube's correspondent apparently signores that the Alabama and Kearasrge had a square and fair light consequent upon a cnallenge, and that the latter was the victor, with honor to her commander, officers and crew, and also to the government whose flag she bore.

The stately Mario reviews the American press and quotes from the Heraalo, Sun and Tribune, but pronounces these papers generally inclined in awor to the Cuban insurgents, and consequently pays more attention to the remarks of the Evening Express, World, and Washington correspondence of the Times. Everything goes to prove, it says, that the United States government of a state of war in Cubs. In speaking of the paraysm of feeling which passed through the whole United States apon receiving the news of the execution of the captain and crew, the Diario says—"The political passion or many has wished to see in this punishmens, imposed by the competent zibunals without pressure of any kind, and fulfilling all the formalities required by ordinary courts martial, a defiance hurled in the lace of the United States, and yet the did not wear the British flag. An American vessel-ol-war sunk the Alabams, and this

LONG-WINDED SELF-LAUDATION. ario states in its long-winded editorial of

in bastening the executions, it is decreased with his collecture with this collecture with the colonial schult tempted to communicate with his collecture, who stopped the telegrams, which, "if considered very mileti, was an unpardonable discourtery to the United States government. It is his caseried that his Excellency content of the content of the

got well into the town small parties were formed, whose object was to force, by their fire, the Spanish forces and volunteers towards the centre of the town, the public square, which was effected after an hour's steady firing, and at midnight they remained complete masters of the situation, save, of course, the Plaza de Armas, or public square, to which they had gradually forced all the troops and volunteers. At four o'clock in the morning, after four hours had been devoted to a thorough search for provisions, arms and ammunition, of which they obtained an immense quantity, the call for a retreat was sounded.

THE VALUE OF THE BOOTY

Carried off in this attack is calculated at over \$290,000, and it is supposed the amount of money also obtained by the insurgents was about \$40,000. The following are the names of a number of the principal establishments that were sacked:—"El Navio," belonging to Don Eusebio Camino, the house of Messra. Vasquez & Brothers, that of Messra. Hiera & Brother, the store "El Rey," belonging to Torres & Roca; "La Equidad," of Favel & Solis; the house of Don Antonio Comit and others. All these were establishments of wealthy owners. A number of second and third rate stores were also sacked. Upon

THE RETREAT

of the insurgents the forts Gerona and Zaragoza and three war vessels anchored in the port fired their cannons upon the enemy, but uselessly, as the insurgents the forts Gerona for the town itself, choosing for that purpose a road which winds by the lower part of the city. The insurgents left behind them 4 dead in the streets, and carried off about 30 wounded, according to reliable reports. The Spanish forces, volunteers and regulars, lost 9 killed and 20 wounded.

FACTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT THE CASE

A letter from Havans says the people there would refuse to allow any order from Madrid to deliver up the Virginius or make other reparation for her seizure and the execution of her crew to be carried out. Preparations for defence are mounted at all suitable points. Advertisements appear in the different papers for an unlimited number of laborers to work on the arsenals. The volunteers have orders to drill two or three times

a week.

The Foz de Cuba says, in regard to the report from Washington that Castelar has telegraphed the Captain General to execute no more of the Virginius prisoners:—"It cannot be true, since the sentences have been imposed by a tribunal of justice in accordance with our laws. The Executive of the Spanish Republic has not sufficient power to issue auch an absurd order."

It says the Captain General of the island, in order to extinguish the rebellion, has power to inpose the death penalty on any one taken in acts of treason and force against the government, and asks:—"How, then, would the Executive of the Spanish Republic date to govern in contravention of the law, and to override justice, exposing his authority to contempt, merely to please certain foreign pirates."

An extract from a private letter from Manzanillo, November 14, says:—"On the 13th a body of Spanish troops, numbering about 90, entered this city by way of the Bayamo road, thus taking away all the troops garrisoning the small towns in the interior, and exposing them openly to the inroads of the Cubana. The work of forming barricades is still going on, and those already made are being strengthened. Last night an alarm was caused by firing being heard at the camp, three mises distant, and the fort fired one gun as a signal. Every man able to bear arms was called out and met on the square. The insurgents are reported to have from 3,000 to 4,000 men near here and another attack is momentarily expected. But little time for sleep is given and the troops and citizens are nearly tired out by continued starms. The flags on the different consultates remain hoisted both day and night. To-day the Spanish force referred to as having arrived, left again, for what purpose is not known, as the orders were not disclosed, and all the volunteers, upon the troops seaving, were ordered out this afternoon to guard the town during the night. Tweive to 14 persons have been arrested without the mightest cause, except that they were Cubana, and lodged in the common jail,

AN EYE WITNESS OF THE MAS-SACRE.

Story of a Passenger from Santiago de Cuba—The Rolling of the Drums at the Execution—The Survivors Confined in

At seven o'clock yesterday morning the steamer City of Merida, bringing letters from Havana under date of 22d inst., and Nassau, S. P., 25th, arrived of Staten Island. A HERALD reporter boarded the vessel in the bay and entered de Cuba who might be able to give any details respecting the recent massacre at that city of the Virginius "expeditionists." The search was not in vain, and soon a dignified Spaniard was found sipping his coffee, and after a little hesitation con sented to make the following statement:—
FURTHER TIDINGS FROM SANTIAGO DE CUEA.

"My name is Francisco Roig, and I am an ol resident of Santiago de Cuba, which place I left on the 16th inst. There were three executions, at which 4, 37 and 12 men were shot, making a total 112 prisoners in the city prison of Santiago de Cuba, situate in Marine street. I did not hear any of the 112 prisoners in the city prison of Santiago de Cuba, situate in Marine street. I did not hear any of the victims say anything before their execution, as the noise made by the drums of the military drowned any talking they might have indulged in. Four soidiers, I think, were told off to shoot each man at the slaugher house, and they were posted at about 15 yards from the condemned men. Two sips-of-war were in the harbor when I left, one English and one American. I know Brigadier General Burriel personally, and know him to be a very patriotic Spaniard. I heard about the conversations of some of the men who were to se shot, but did not know who they were when executed. The excitement about the executions was fast dying out when I leit Santiago."

As the reporter was leaving Mr. Roig, he said, "The names of the men not executed have been published in the Santiago papers, and I am sorry I have not a copy of one to give you."

WHAT MAJOR ULBERCH HAS TO SAY.

Another passenger of the City of Merida from Havana, was Major Ulrich, of this city, who has been traveiling in Cuba since the commencement of this month, having visited Havana, Matanzas, Cientuegos, Trinidad and Batabano. The following is the statement made by tole gentieman to the HERALD reporter:—

"While at Havana I saw our Consul General, Mr. Hall, and in speaking of the Virginius affair he seemed to feel the matter very deeply, and stigmatized the killing of the men on board the Virginius as a butchery. Span is utterly powerless to carry out its laws in Cuba. The Captain Generals for years past have been in the nabit of pigeon-holing objectionable edicts sont out from Madrid. The whole country is "run" by the Spanish clubs, of which Zulucta, the wealthy slaveholder, is, I am told, the President at Havana."

REPORTER—What do you think of the annexation idea. Maior Ulrich y

shaveholder, is, I am told, the President at Havana."
REPORTER—What do you think of the annexation idea, Major Ulrich?
If the United States wanted to make any use of Cuba we should have to clear off all the Spaniards in the place, in the same way as we should have to do if we annexed Mexico. Gaba is a glorious land, and in my whole traveis I have never seen anything more beautiful than the Valley of the Yumuri at Matanzas, where the soil has yielded sugar crops for a century and a half without becoming impoverished. The present warlare is rapidly ruining the island, and I am told on what I believe to be reliable authority that upwards of 175,000 men have already perished in the struggle. In Havana the Spaniards are consoling themselves with the belief that the United States will not go to war under any pretext. American citizens there feel, however, that unless Uncle Sam buckles on his armor and shows his teeth, our flag will be even less respected than it is at the present moment by these worthless and treacherous "Dons."

NEW YORK ON THE WAR CRISIS.

ing, but in Earnest—The Cuban Headquarters—Reply to Quesada and Del Castillo—Germans Co-Operating With Cubane. A very anxious state of feeling pervaded the

public mind resterday in consequence of the infor-mation contained in the morning papers, and con-firmed by the despatches to the afternoon dallies, setting forth the critical position of negotiations in reference to the Spanish-American complica tions. Everywhere the desire to learn the latest iota of intelligence was made manifest, and at no time since the imbrogho was inaugurated has the situation been deemed so seriously portentous. The accounts were stim-ulated, too, by the information that the government had issued further orders, directing that operations now being conducted in the various navy yards be pressed forward with all possible despatch. Among mercantile, commercial and financial circles there was no other public topic | would be to send a fo must be conceded that the atritude of the government in displaying such energy for the emergency was warmly endorsed. The

tude of the government in displaying such energy for the emergency was warmly endorsed. The only thing that people expressed their anxiety about was that the government appeared inclined, if anything, to be rather Lenient Toward Castelar.

and his Ministry. People look upon this Virginius complication as an affair in which the grossest affront was offered to the nation and the most unjustifiable violence to its citizens as well as to other persons who were under the protection of the flag. In this view of the case, therefore, they think that if concessions are to be made anywhere, they should be made by Spain by a display of promptitude in affording redress that would be more nearly compatible with the indecent haste displayed in the condemnation of the vessel and the indiction of punishment on her crew.

The people look at this question in the concrete and think that a government really intending to make reparation should show as much commendable alscrity in doing justice as was shown in violating justice. It is remarkable likewise what a very positive analysis of the status and capabilities of Spain as a republic the public have made since this question arose. It is conceded almost everywhere that republicanism is an impracticability among the people of the Iberian Peninsula, and that the present effort to establish it there is a pure delusion that as a government it is a sham and irresponsible, and that there is no reason why we should submit to the caprice, exaction or cozzening of a government claiming indulgence through kinship with our system, when its only resemblance is in the name, without even reasonable hope of any further realization of the similarity.

tice, the people will undoubtedly make a tremendous issue of it in the next series of contests at the polls.

THE ANIGOS DE CUBA

Were, as usual, in session at their rooms yesterday, and a long private session of the Executive Committee was held.

A communication was received by the society from the representatives and officers of the German mass meeting held on the 21st of November at Germania Hall. The letter was accompanied by the resolutions adopted at that meeting and the names of the committee of 21 appointed to cooperate with the Society of Amijos in reference to the cause of Cuban liberation. The letter closed with the request that the society would notify the Committee of Cooperation, as to a time and place suitable for a joint conference. The letter was signed by william Radde as President and S. Bromberg and Henry Hertz as Vice Presidents.

The following letter in

REPLY TO QUESADA AND DEL CASTILLO

Was prepared by the committee yesterday:—

New YORK, Nov. 28, 1873.

HEARQUARTERS ASHOOS DE CUBA, & Exchange place.

To the Editor of the Healah.

New YORK, Nov. 28, 1873.

HEARQUARTERS ASHOOS DE CUBA, & Exchange place.

To the Editor of the Healah.

On the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that the beciety of Amigos de Cuba was organized under the south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of Amigos de Cuba was organized under the south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of Amigos de Cuba was organized under the south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of Amigos de Cuba was organized under the south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of Amigos de Cuba was organized under the south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of Amigos de Cuba was organized under the south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he south of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of the Cuban Hepuble compel us to declare that he beceivy of t

be confidence of members as well as of strangers, ecomplished this to such an extent as to enable them oblect again many thousands of dollars, which we ided to the assistance of our brethren who are fight priberty and the independence of our country. Havit the same time the satisfaction of working in according to the same time the satisfaction of working in according to the same time the satisfaction of working in according to the same time the satisfaction of working in according to the same time the satisfaction of working in according to the same time the satisfaction of the same time, in their position as "confidential agents hould appreciate with us the value lesse accessions to the strength of the cause of the same dollar to the same time that the same dollar to the same time when the Ama an people are maniesting so much interest in the cts and offorts of the Society of Amilos de Cuba. We are with great consideration your humble servant eneral J. J. Villegas, President: Hilario Cismer rancisco Arteaga, Sceretar.es; Vicento Mestre, Vicen 1900.

STATESMEN ON THE SPANISH QUESTION.

Views of Luke P. Poland, of Vermont-We Will Treat the Question Firmly,

but Dispassionately. A HERALD reporter conversed yesterday with the ion. Luke P. Poland, member of Congress from Vermont, about the Cuban imbrogito. Mr. Poland was at the Grand Central Hotel, being on his way o Washington. Mr. Poland gave his views with his usual deliberation.

REPORTER—What do you think of the Cuban im-

broglio, Judge ?

Mr. POLAND-My views on this subject are scarcely sufficiently matured to merit publicity. I have been so busy with my own affairs lately that I have had no time to give this matter the close study which it would seem to require.

REPORTER-What do you think of the demands

made upon Spain by our government? Mr. POLAND-Well, I am not sufficiently informed in regard to the legal status of the vessel to know what are the precise duties which should devolve upon the United States. I suppose it was under-stood that the vessel was going with arms to aid the insurgents in Cuba, and whether she was still entitled to our protection is more than I know. She was sailing under the United States flag, and, prima facie, that

GAVE HER A NATIONAL CHARACTER. But I don't know whether she was legally regis tered. I have seen in the newspapers statements that she had regular registry as an American ves-sei, but I don't know whether this was a inct.

REPORTER-What do you think of the attitude of

our government, Judge ?
Mr. Poland—I have no doubt that our government will give proper protection to all our vessels. Moreover, I do not know what the Cuban law in regard to such cases is. Everybody agrees that the men were treated with very great inhumanity. To tell you the truth, I regard both parties down there as barbarians, and I doubt whether there is much to choose between them.

REPORTER—Have you hopes of a peaceful solution

of the question? Mr. POLAND-I can't believe that the Spanish goverment, which seems scarcely able to keep its head out of water, will refuse to accede to any reasonable demands of the United States. They must be aware that in a contest of main force Spain would have no chance at all. The Spanish government has too much on its hands already. In regard to the past trouble with the authorities in Cuba, I must say this—a great deal has been

done by Cuban patriots and HOLDERS OF CUBAN BONDS to involve us in difficulties with Spain. That Dr.

Houard-or Howard as they called him to make a Yankee out of him-for instance, had no more right to the protection of the United States than I have to that of Spain. For the last four or five years they have inundated the country with these Cuban bonds, and gentlemen whose pockets are full of these bonds would, of course, like to aid the

REPORTER-What will Congress do? Mr. POLAND-I really have no idea what Congress will do. I have no doubt the President in his Message will give us all the information in his possesssion. I am in favor of treating the subject firmly, resolutely, but dispassionately. There are some who will, of course, immediately "War! war!" but I am not in favor of any ich hasty action. Spain will undoubtedly acced to our demands. The Spanish government knows to our demands. The Spanish government knows that, if we had a war, all we should have to do would be to send a force down to take Cuba, and that would be the end of it. Besides, we would have an immense advantage in this—we should have the war right at our door, while they would have the war right at our door, while they would have the war right at our door, while they would have to carry it on from across the ocean. Spain has no naval force that it can spare now, and it is a doubtful question every few days whether the government tiseli will stand.

REPORTEM—And if Spain should refuse to accede to our just demands?

Mr. Poland—Then the result may be war; but I repeat that I have all confidence in Mr. Fish and the President, and believe that they

WILL ONLY MAKE SUCH JUST DEMANDS
as Spain will be morally compelled to accede to (with a frank smile). You might imagine that a very strong Power might seek war with a very weak mation on unreasonable pretexts, but it is not very likely that a very small Power would seek war with a very great Power on unreasonable pretexts (smiling still). I must coofess I am a little jealous of those gentlemen who faunt their views when they hay'e given but little attention to the facts of the case.

REPORTER—What do you think of the demands of our government as stated in the HERALD's special despatches from Madrid?

Mr. Poland—Well, I think the demand for the surrender of the Virginius is reasonable, because she violated them. The demand for the surrender of the surviving members of the crew would stand upon the same ground.

REPORTER—And as to the demand for the punishment of the butchers?

Mr. Poland—That depends on whether they acted in conformity with their own laws. If this was the case we could not ask the spanish government to bunish them. If these poor victims were put to death, however, in violation of their own laws, we surely have the right to ask for THE FUNISHMENT OF THE BUTCHERS.

REPORTER—And as to the demand for indemnity to the families of the victims?

Mr. Poland that, if we had a war, all we should have to do

Views of General Ben Butler-A Good Story About the Dog That Bites Man-

General Butler was at the Fifth Avenue hotel vesterday, and told a HERALD reporter such a good story about a certain dog-no Spanish dog, of course—that it is well worth relating. General Butler and the reporter were talking about the Cuban imbroglio when the story crossed his mind. "My views on the Cuban question," the General

other very wide, "have already been published in the HERALD; but I might tell you a story about a dog, which has some bearing on this question. There are are two neighbors in this story of mine, There are are two neighbors in this story of mine, and one of them has a cross dog that bites mankind. This dog also bites the other neighbor's calidren. 'Now, if the latter gentleman were kindly disposed, he would say, 'You must shut up this dog and pay my doctor's bill.' If he were not kindly disposed, he would shoot the dog on the

kindly disposed, he would shoot the dog on the spot.

"Now, if the owner of the dog would say: I will agree to shut up my dog and pay the bill, but you must give me time,' the answer should be, 'I'll give you time;' but if he would neither shut up the dog, nor pay the bill, it would be the duty of the injured man to shut up the dog and sue fer the bill. However, if the owner of the dog said he would agree to shut up the dog and pay the bill, but that he could not control the dog, the injured man would probably take his own gun and snoot the dog.

"And now, as to who this dog who bites man-

sind is—I think it describes the Spaniards in Cuba | Exactly."

General Butler laughed very much while he told rai Butler laughed very much while he told

and Dignified Review of the Whole Question-Reprisals Rather than War. Ex-Governor Seymour gave his views to the reporter in his parlor in the St. Nicholas Hotel. The kindly old gentleman looks as fresh and strong as ever, and speaks with the same frankness and sincerity. The reception he extended to the reporter

was extremely courteous.

Governor Skymous (pacing the room, and speaking very deliberately)—The capture of the Virginius was a clear violation of our national rights, and there is no doubt that the American people are greatly shocked at the massacre of the crew. It is not easy to say to what lengths the people will go in righting this wrong. Most men are in favor of war so long as they believe that there will be no war—and in saying this I think I express the opinion of the people in my district—but so soon as the danger of war becomes imminent men look more thoughtfully to the results. There is no doubt that there is a general feeling that the attitude of the government should have prevented such an occurrence. The Cuban authorities would never have committed such an outrage if they had felt that it would lead to any action of our government.

WHICH MIGHT OVERTHROW THEM. ne, reason, however, our foreign policy ha failed to impress other nations with the belief that we are prompt to resent any insults to our flag. It is believed that if the Virginius had been a vessel sailing under the English flag, under like circumstances, the treatment of her crew would have ing that this matter should be brought to such an issue that hereafter American rights, American citizens and American property shall be fully protected by the flag of the country.

REPORTER—Do you think the people wish for

Governor SEYMOUR—I do not think that our peo

REPORTER—Do you think the people wish for war?

Governor Seymour—I do not think that our people wish for war. For many reasons they would deplore it. However, this question has undoubtedly assumed a very grave aspect, and it is not clearly seen how the matter could be adjusted. (Of course I know nothing of the character of the diplomatic correspondence between the two Cabinets). The position of our own government, as well as that of Spain, is tolt of embarrassments. On the one hand, the United States have suffered insults and wrongs which they cannot overlook, and it is very clear, on the other hand, that the spanish Ministry may not eable to make the concessions which it may deem just. The man who is at the nead of the Spainsh Ministry. Castelar is one of the foremost men of our time. He is struggling to establish

A FREE AND LIBERAL GOVERNMENT
upon the soil of Spain. He is a warm iriend and admirer of our institutions. It is a hard thing for us to press upon him for concessions which may overthrow his power, defeat the great aim and purpose of his life, nay, which may imperil that infe in the event of one of those wild revolutionary changes which Spain is unhappily liable to suffer. This lact undoubtedly qualifies, in a great degree, the feeling of the American people, and makes them desirous of some peaceful and honorable solution of the whole difficulty, I confess I do not see how this is to be brought about, but I know nothing about the state of the negotiations between the two governments, and I can only express my hope that American honor will be fully vindicated without the svils of a civil war and without the said spectacle of a prominent power like republic of Spain, that is strugging for existence against so many difficulties and so many hostile influences. Under ordinary circumstances we might get out of our dilemma by submitting the question to some form of arbitration, but the selzure of the Virginius and the missasare of her crew were acts so clearly wrong that it seems difficult To ADMIT A SHADO

forces

EXCEPT TO A VERY LIMITED DEGREE.

It is not for me to give an opinion as to the cours of the government and to sit in judgment on at administration to which I am politically opposed but I hope and trust that they are animated by a desire to vindicate the national honor, and, on the other hand, to weigh duly the grave resuits which must follow upon a state of warfare with a foreign nation and the possible complications that may grow out of it.

grow out of it.
This terminated the interview.

THE LONDON PRESS AND CUBA.

gressed in the Brutal Massacres Now in Progress the United States Will Have a [From the London Times, Nov. 14.]
For more than a generation the ambitious spirits

of the American Union have cast longing glances upon the Island of Cuba, the fairest and now almost the sole remaining gem in the once rich diadem of Spanish empire in the Western Continent. While the slave power still survived in the Southern States and was omnipotent in the affairs of the Union the annexation of politicians of respectable position, as a legitimate enterprise. Spain was at peace with the United States, and the government of Queen Isabella, ill-regulated as it.was, both in its domestic and its colonial policy, was careful to abstain from offending American susceptibilities. Yet "the Order of the Lone Star" was supported by many men whose names are conspicuous in the history of the United States. The filibustering enterprises of Lopez in 1850 and 1851 were disavowed by the gov-ernment of President Fillmore, though many Americans took part in them and several were captured and put to death by the Cuban authorities. In 1851 the agitation grew so keen and so ties. In 1851 the agitation grew and proposed dangerous that France and England proposed of the United States a to the government of the United States a tripartite treaty securing the indepen-dence of the island, but the party then to the government of the United States a tripartite treaty securing the independence of the island, but the party then in power in Washington, judging that the fruit was ripe, refused to enter into any such arrangement. The fruit was not ripe, however; the grand scheme of Walker, the filibustering general, whose designs were happly brought to a close by the determination of a British officer, broke down, and when the slave power played its last card under Mr. Buchanan's Presidency the "question of Cuba" was still unsettled. In 1858 Mr. Buchanan, without even pretending to consult either the Spanish government or the population of the island, sent a message to Congress proposing to annex Cuba, offering payment, indeed, but demanding the forcible expropriation of the Spaniards. This high-handed proceeding excited equal indignation at Havana and at Madrid, and, the public opinion of the Union being now much divided by the great domestic issues arising, the President's proposal to use force for the annexation of the colony fell through. After the civil war the relations of the United States towards Cuba underweut, of course, a complete change. Previously annexation had been advocated by the Iriends of slavery, seeking the new fields that are ever needed for the development of that peculiar form of industry. Since the war the extinction of the slave system which still exists in Cuba has been the pretext, if not the real object, of the movement which has made so much stir in the United States. Soon after the outbreak of the present Cuban insurrection a revolutionary committee was established in New York, which flas not only undertaken to supply the insurgents with arms and munitions of war, but has endeavored to stir up public opinion in the United States in favor of annexation, or at least intervention.

The capture of the Virginius and the wholesate execution of her crew will more rapidly ripen the projects of the Cuban Junta at New York than any unitary tribunds. It is not yet ascertained whether any American citi

avail as little to procure mercy as Senor Castelarh order to procure release. The horrible massacre perpetrated by those volunteers, in spits of the efforts—honest and energetic as we believe them to have been—of the Span to hope that the law of nations will have been scrupulously observed by ther tibunal at Santiago. If the boundaries of international law should be found to have been transgressed in the brutal massacres now in progress, the United States will have a legitimate right to interiere. Whether the government of President Grant will think it wise to insist upon that right may be open to question. But in any case we think the American people have given us no reason to doubt that they will act when circumstances compel them to act, temperately and justly.

Have the Sympathy of Europe in Its Determination that the Long Line of Outrages Perpetrated By the Spanish Volunteers in Cuba Shall Come End."

[From the Daily News, Nov. 14.] The affair of the Virginius has brought the rela-tions of Spain and the United states to a very serious point. Cuba has long been a source of uneasiness between them; it now threatens to be the occasion of an open rupture. The Spanish volun-teers in the island have chosen to put themselves in the worst possible position in such a condict.
Their own sanguinary conduct, if the haif that
is reported of them is true, has already destroyed is reported of them is true, has already destroyed all grounds of public sympathy with the government which protects them. So long as the slave-holders of the South coveted Cuba, not merely as the key of the Gulf, or a luxurious resort for invalids, but as a nursery for slavery, the whole civilized world sympathized with Spain in holding on to its splendid possession. But for some six years past Cuba herself has been in insurrection against the Spanish slavenoiders, and spain, in holding the island by main force, is fighting not merely to perpetuate her own rule, but slavery along with it. The execution of the prisoners captured on board a blockade runnersome of them American citizens—and the exultation of the Havana press over this summary vengeance have given likelihood and color to the stories of wholesale executions which have long made the civilized world uncomortable. The Americans have a right to be indignant, especially now that the government at Madrid has shown its mability to maintain its control over its dependency. The Cabinet of General Grant will have the sympathy of Europe in its determination that the long line of outrages perpetrated by the Spanish volunteers in Cuba shall come to an end. So popular a step as forcible interference in Cuba may well tempt General Grant's Cabinet, now that the Cuban authorities have given a plausible occasion for it.

"In Such Tempests of National Anger as a Deed of Blood Like This May Well Cause Nice Points of International Law Get Swept Away." [From the London Telegraph, Nov. 14.]

It is not surprising to hear from New York and Pennsylvania that the feelings of the Americans are intensely roused. People there who do not want to have Cuba, and detest the practice of fil-busterism, must be deeply irritated to see such a massacre of their countrymen committed in contempt of the Stars and Stripes.

There were not many in England who-could approve of the Deerhound's recent expedition; but if every person on board that troublesome little craft had been fusiliaded there would have been an outery of just wrath against the Spaniards. We, can hardly wonder, then, that the United States government has armed and despatched powerful vessels of war, and that a facet large enough to blow Morro Castle from its foundations will soon be near the place where these sanguinary deeds have been committed. There is already matter enough, as things stand, for energetic action; but if the furious Cubans massacre any more of their prisoners, General Grant will find it a difficult task to moderate the feelings of the Americans, annexationists and non-annexationists alike. Indeed, in such tempests of national anger as a deed of blood like this may well cause nice points of international law get swept away. It is not likely that the American iron-clads will be content with inquiring how far off the Virginius was from the coast of Jamaica, or to what degree her privateering objects were proved. They are much more likely to demand the judges of the court martial as their prisoners, to be put on trial at New York for murder, and to hold a rich sugar port or two till the government is changed and a heavy sum of money paid to the families off the slaughtered Americans. But if they do as much as this, why should they do so little? That will be the perilous problem discussed by a hundred passionate journals and speakers, who will point out that Cuba is only nominally Spanish if it derides the message of clemency sent from the Madrid government and fights its enemies with a murderer's weapons. If the Washington government be ever so measured in its dealings with the Cubans it is clear that the rebellion on one side and the annexation party on the other have now a chance of which they will not be slow to avail themselves. expedition; but if every person on board that

"To the Powerful Enemy Who Was Apparently Only Waiting for Intervention They Have Furnished Not a Pretext, but a Justification."

[From the Daily News, Nov. 15.1 It is, indeed, difficult to say with exactness whether the terrible manner in which the officers and crew of the Virginius have been dealt a complicates or simplifies the relations between United States and Cuba. A majority of the citizens of the former try will probably think that how at last the whole business is made clear and simple. They will regard it, whatever their natural horror at whole business is made clear and simple. They will regard it, whatever their natural horror at the cruely of the deed, as one of those providential calamities which men are fond of considering as specially sent to stir up lagging human energy. If a cruel and capricious man is always torturing his children, mattreating his servants, and rendering himself hateful to all around, while the one powerful neighbor who could easily chastise him holds book becauge of a scruple as to his right of interference, a good many spectators will think there is a certain advantage gained when, in a freak of half insane passion, the tyrant assails one of the strong man's own household. We are not surprised to hear that the war feeling is waxing stronger and more general. A considerable proportion of the American public will experience a certain sense of rehein the conviction that now at last the government of General Grant must act. We should do justice to that government. It has refrained for years, and under all the pressure of a strong popular excitement, from anything like an undue interference in the colonial affairs of Spain. No cause could be more widely favored among the American people than that of Cuba. Many Americans, doubtless, wanted Cuba for themselves. Many others felt a sincere desire to see the island freed from Spainsh rule. Some were driven into detestation of Spainsh rule of the presentatives of Spanish authority were vainly trying to put down the rebellion. * * * To the powerful enemy who was apparently only waiting for a pretext for intervention they have for intervention they have for cruelty; but the Cuban lury is as blundering as it is cruel.

"The Vast Majority of Butchers Come from Old Spain, or Are Allied to the Old Spanish Party."

From the London Daily Telegraph, Nov. 16.]
The massacre at Santiago of Captain Fry and the crew, with many passengers, of the blockade runner Virginius, is only one of a series of ierocious carnivals in which Los Voluntarios have indulged, not merely against Los Insurrectos but against all who in the remotest degree could be suspected of sympathizing with Cuban independence. The executions at Santiago are neither more nor less executions at Santiago are neither more nor less in the remotest degree could be suspect of sympathizing with Cuban independence. I executions at Santiago are neither more nor I horrible than the slaughter of the boy students Havana, who were shot by the score for an offer so venial that it might have been amply met an imposition of fity lines; yet these dee have been equalled, if not surpassed, in many other places throughout the colony. Were the merely a question of stamping out a negro review of the places throughout the colony. Were the merely a question of stamping out a negro review of the secondary of ish party. How should it be otherwise in the hand of military compairacies, of palace or legislative intrigues, always culminating in judicial blood-shed, what else could be expected? The Peninsular party in Cuba are only doing that which was done in Spain in the bad old times of Naryaez and Gonzales Bravo. One party or another must get the upper hand in a perpetual game of sedition, and the cry of the victors has always been Varvicts? To look at the military execu-

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