early part of the American unpleasantness a Confederate cruiser was captured, and it was rumored that the officers and ciew were to be had as pirates, no one raised louder cries against the sup-posed atrocity than the Spanish press and people, or with greater emphasis applauded the ALACRITY AND ENERGY OF MR. DAVIS

in announcing to the United States government that he held a number of colonels of its army for the safety of the privateer's men. Spain being at present in a somewhat similar predicament, has materially altered the opinion of Spaniards in general and the press in particular :--

The following article from La Legalidad, on account of its views and the manner in which they are stated, I have translated almost entire :-

By the advices, correspondences and editorials we have recently published, recerring to the affair of the Virginius, our readers will have seen the effect which that event has caused in the neigh-boring Republic, and all the advantage which is endeavored to be obtained from it by the Coban *chagres* and these who sympathize with them on the one side and on the other. We mean the enemies to the present administration and its unthe one side and on the other, we mean the enemies to the present administration and its un-popular recreasing of State, Mr. Hamilton Fish, aided in their intentions by the majority of the democratic party, which has always aspired to the annexation of Cuba, and has always aspired to the abettor of all filbustering enterprises organized in the ports of the United States for that purpose. Latterity, the news of the recent executions which

Latterly, the news of the recent executions which took place at santing of e Cuba, and the number of which, by the error propagated here, and every-where else, by the journals of Cleninggos, was swelled to 111, and the excitement of the New York press, which has availed itself of the occasion to agitate public opinion among the masses, arouse the national susceptibility, and by that means precipitate the Washington government into hasty measures, have finally succeeded in moving the country from one end to the other, in moving the country from one end to the other, in darkening reason, entanging with sophisms and subleties the question of law and obliging the Presi-dent to certain acts which, although in his own mind have no other object than to satisfy with a show of orce and power, the exigences of public opinion, carried away by pride and cupidity, may yet happen in cases like the present, in which the least appearance of threats or insult will wound the

but litt

PRIDE OF A HIGH SPIRITED NATION Dat little disposed to suffer any foreign interfer-ence in its domestic affairs. The Madrid telegrams of the 20th, which we jinence in its domestic shars. The Madrid telegrams of the 20th, which we jin-sert elsewhere in our columns, respecting the con-duct of Mr. Sickles in following his instructions irom Washington and the answers provoked by his persistence, and the answers provoked by his requirements, tend to show that there also the national spirit is excited and in no propitious con-dition to satisfy exargerated reclamations, although presented in the name of the govern-ment which to-day has the most cordial and closest relations with the Spanish Republic, and which was the first to recognize it officially, although hardly constituted. We, however, after baving estimated all the cir-cumstances of the case and attentively followed all the expressions of opinon, whether in the jour-nals of the Union or in the meetings held in New York, Philadelphia, Baltmore and other clines, and in the opinions stated by high public functionaries, still entertain the firm conviction that finally, alter the claims which the Washington govern-ment will feel obliged to present and the question has been Discussed on THE GEOUND OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,

has been Discussed on THE GROUND OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, and in view of the treaties (narticularly that of 1706, which fixes and resolves in a definite manner several questions of maritime rights, which the Northern press has raised and discussed without any knowledge of the stipulations therein stated, the act will not give place to any serious conflict with the neighboring Republic, as, even in the extreme case of no settlement being arrived at, instead of an armed struggle and the ultimatration reprim, there would always remain as the supreme appeal the recourse of carrying the controvery before a tribunal of arbitration, like that of Geneva, which put an end to a dispute much more grave than that which can arise how on account or the Yu-ginus and the execution of her passengers. We alrendy know that the hostile manifestations made in Spain against Mr. Sickles, and which un-doubtedly occurred in the days succeeding the first action he made in favor of the prisoners of the yinginius were repressed by the authorities, we further have the most unequivocal proof that they had not exercised the slightest pressure on the supreme government, as the Cabinet, accord-ing to the Madrid telegram of the 18th, had unani-mously declared its desire to arrange the question in an honorable and satisateory manner, saving DEED ON THE GROUND OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,

ing to the matrix telegram of the 1sth, hav unani-mously declared its desire to arrange the question in an honorable and satisfactory manner, saving the national integrity—a resolution which we nave reason to believe posterior in date to the popular demonstration in front of the Legation of the United States. In Washington, unfortunately, the same calm-ness of spirit which we have seen predominating

In Washington, unfortunately, the same calm-ness of spirit which we have seen predominating in the Castelar Cabinet has not been shown in those clevated regions where the passions of the mob should have no influence; but we have reason enough to believe that the clamor of the people will not prevail over the dictarcs of justice nor the interests of the nation, which would have to pur-chase with sacrifices costly enough to its com-merce and disastrous to its treasing any eventual advantage which war would afford r. To fix us in this belief the important declarations contribute very powerfully which thave been pub-lished by the New York dailies and those of ser-eral persons of great pressing, either for their of-

eral persons of great presinge, either for their of-ficial position and their influence or by their authority as eminent jurists and statesmen, and of which we propose to give a slight summary to

In the first place, we should notice the opinion of the famous jurisconsult, Mr. Caleb Cushing, After stating that according to the law of July 27, 1865, the President of the United States can do no more in cases like the present than ask justice, but without resorting to war measures, Mr. Cushing has cleared up the question of the capture, show-ing that this could be considered legal, although the papers of the vessel seized had been in order; because it is well known that bettner her register nor her flag could protect her, especially if she was captured at the moment of carrying into effect a hostile act. The opinion of Mr. Woolsey, ex-President of The opinion of Mr. Woolsey, ex-President of Yale College, is yet more explicit and favorable. Respecting the fact of the capture having been made on the high seas, Mr. Woolsey is opportunely reminded that the vessels of the American Union did the same during the war with the Southern Confederacy. did the same during the war with the Southern Coniederacy. But the declaration of most importance is that of the eminent statesman and Senator Charles Sum-ner, a tried republican, an ardent abolitionist, and a person of great authority, both by his eloquence and learning, and his unsuited reputation for austere morality. Invited to attend the grand meeting at Steinway Hall, Mr. Summer, in a letter addressed to its prime movers, excused himself, considering the object of that manifestation unjust and inconvenient. (This letter in *Legalidad* quotes at length and says:-The voice of the illustrions Summer with sood be heard in Congress, and with contribute powerfully to dissipate that faise atmo-sphere raised by vite and venai penny-a-liners and soulless politicians.) contribute powerfully to dissipate that false atmo-solitess politicians.) When once the question is taken upon the ground of international law, and in view of the almost iorgotten treaty of 1705, and the practices and doctrines sanchoned by antecedents of all nations which have ever been in similar excep-tional circumstances to this province, and of which all foreign governments were daily notified, since in 1869 the superior government of the island pub-lished in the Gazette, the conditions which would have to be observed by foreign merchant vessels in their traffic with our ports, then will our neign-bors be convinced that, nutwithstanding all that has been said against it, a state of war is not ne-cessary to seize upon the high seas an armed ves-toong Mr. Evarts said it in Steinway Hail, that the expedition of the Virginius is any different from that of Narcisso Lopez, qualified as an in-vasion of feritory; nor was there any outrage upon the starry tanner in the capture of an Amer-iean vessel, which by the law of neutrality of this, had lost all right to the protection of the Washington government, as therein explicitly stred. <text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text> Remarking upon the news received here by re-

and ought not to tolerate without abdicating its respectability and sacrificing its honor and do-corum. "Should they succeed in this object and public conscience, with its incalculable power, be swayed from the path of justice and reason, be se-of crime, these wicked ones will believe their tri-umph secure. Built is not probable they will suc-ceed. Not the gold of the *laborantes* nor the dat-tering promises of the traitors are enough to twist the good judgment of the honest men of the United States, and not all the press is dominated by the traitors, for net all go in the same path of the traitors, for net all go in the most respective agreat and merited influence on the government, the opinions expressed by the most respectable pounds are entirely in favor of reason and justice, and, therefore, diametrically opposed to the used. We have the press of the traiter and, therefore, diametrically opposed to the used. difference "whose ox is gored." When in the

and, therefore, diametrically opposed to the likation of the second state of the second states of the second states of the second states of the interior of the United States of the press of the interior of the United States of the second states of the which some of the traitors and pirates who came on the Virginius have been heard unreason-able volces, artifully condemning the severity with which some of the traitors and pirates who came on the Virginius have been publiced, and as this tends to weaken among us the sentiment of our reason and our right, which is precisely what con-stitutes our strength, the Vox de Cuba protests against all such and cannot allow them to pass without correction. Public conscience must not be cursed aside among us, as in the United States, because it is the basis of that public spirit whose recognized energy it is that has saved us in situa-tions of complications and danger and will again as we us. The leeling of our right and reason in at there is no one who does not feel it." It is aremarkable fact in the writings of the journals here what a display of Peart, soul, feeling and there is manifiested when wholesale butch-eres are to take place. Its Excellency is minister de Ultramar has gra-conding received the honorary APOINTMENT OF COLONE. OF VOLUNTEERS tendered him as a compliment by the volunteers of Havana. Testerdar, on this account, he received the

of Havana. Yesterday, on this account, he received the visits and congratulations of all the coloners and chiefs of that organization. At the same time a protracted meeting of these officers with the Cap-tain General was held at the Palace. If is stated that the object of the meeting was to discuss the news from Spain, which rumor said was that the government had decided to TUEN OVER THE VIRGINUES TO THE UNITED STATES. Other very exciting rumors were also whispered

TUEN OVER THE VIRGINUES TO THE UNITED STATES. Other very exciting runnors were also whispered about yesterday and to-day, to the effect that the Carlists had crossed the River Ebro; that a general uprising had taken place in Span in favor of the Frince of Asturias, young Alfonso, which, with-out being traced to any creditable source, have produced quite a panic in the money market here, and have sent gold up to an advance premium. It is also reported that the Capian General and the General of Marine have had some disagreement with the Colonial Minister, and that both of the

which the Colonial Minister, and that both of the "superior" functionaries had handed in their res-lanations. Rumor further has it that the decree of the Minister, which I give hereafter in full, reierring to the raising of embargoes of property, has excited the ire of many of the Spaniards who deem this and all similar measures "inconvenient,"

Reliable private information received from

to use their own word. Reliable private information received from Nuevicas, states that the affair at La Saera was of more importance than it has been thought prudent to publish. The total number of men hors de com-bet of the Spanish column was 400. Colonel Bas-cones, who commanded this column, is being tried by court martial. The total number of men hors de com-bet of the Spanish column was 400. Colonel Bas-cones, who commanded this column, is being tried by breastworks, and extraordinary police pre-cantons are established within the city, such as not to allow three of more individuals to stop in the streets and talk. Riding on horsepack is for-bidden after dark. The insurgent lines are again close upon the city. From semi-official sources of information I learn that the ultimatum of the United States, with re-graphed here at length the day before yesterday to the Captain General, with the object to ascertain whether, in the event of the ultimatum being ac-cuted here. From the same semi-official sources of information I am informed that the proposed busi-ness of the settlement meets with the unanimous disaproval of the entire Spanish population of Havana and their exponent, Casino Español. The Captain General asvires the American citi-zens that they are in no personal danger, and that by shall have the most ample protection in case of hostilities breaking out between the two coun-ties. A petition has been in circulation all day, which

A petition has been in circulation all day, which A petition has been in circulation all day, which has received numerous signatures, protesting against the delivery of the Virginius or the pay-ment of a dollar in money as indemnity to the families of those who were executed at Santiago de Cuba. The Spaniards appear to be determined to resist the poicy or orders of the home govern-ment, and they assert that they will only leave the island after fighting to the last and its total des-truction.

A petition has been in circulation all day, which has received numerous signatures, protesting against the delivery of the Virgnius or the par-ment of a dollar in money as indemnity to the families of those who were executed at Santiar de Cuba. The Spaniards appear to be determined to resist the policy or orders of the home govern-ment and they assert that they will only leave the island after fighting to the last and its total des-truction. THE SANTIAGO MASSACRE. An Eye Witness Graphically Describes Its Horrid Atroctites—Statement of Mr. Coffin, of the Bark Morning Star. On the zorning of the 5th of November 200 marines formed in line at the landing to receive the Captain and crew of the American steamer Virginius. At nine of lock they landed from the Spanish war steamer Tornado the Captain and 36 of his crew. Each man, excepting the Captain and Sof his erew. Each man, excepting the Captain and the same steamer for death was read to that the there and they as from the signal station out-side the families was from Excepting and the Captain and that the reason why they hurried that job was because they had news from the signal station out-side the families they marched up to the door and opened ranks. The crew were then ordered out and fastened together, four abreast. The Captain came out, under guard of four soldiers, and took his out, under guard of four soldiers, and took his place at the head of his men. They were marched up to the prison to await the hour of death. During the time the prisoners were landing a guard was placed over the residence of Mr. Schmitt, the American Consul, to prevent him from having any communication with them. At three o'clock he was granted an interview with the Captain. At half-past three he left the prison, as the Captain wanted to have the last half hour alone. Mr. Schmitt used every means in his power to save them, but only

THE MASSACRED "37." Statement of Another Eye-Witness

"Drink Our Healths in New York." The Newfoundland brig Azalea, commanded by Captain Prior, and consigned to Robert Currie & Co., arrived at this port yesterday from Santiago de Cuba. A HERALD rep rter learning that the Azalea was at Santiago during the Virginius massacre, visited the vessel last evening to obtain, if possible, some further particulars as to that great tragedy. Captain Prior was asnore when the reporter reached the vessel, but the mate, George Coysh, was aboard, and in reply to a question, replied that he had, with several others of the ship's company, wit-nessed the execution of Captain Fry and the 36 members of his crew. Upon request Mr. Coysh gave the following particulars :--

"We arrived at Santiago on the 5th of November, the day after the first four (Ryan and others) were shot. There is but one whari at Santiaco, as it is a small port and all the ves-sels unload there. Our vessel was lying alongside the pier taking out cargo, on the morning of the 7th, when the boats of the Tornado, which was lying in the harbor, began to come ashore, landing prisoners in small detachments of five or six at a time. As each boat landed her men they were all collected together on the wharf to wait until the last of them had arrived, and they were guarded by marines and men-of-war sailors from the Spanish ship. As we were working close by where they were standing we got talking to some of them, but we could only talk to them now and then. When the Spanish officers saw us

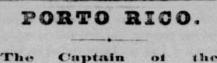
TALKING TO THE PRISONERS

they made us stand back; but whenever they turned their backs we went on talking to the poor fellows. As soon as they were all landed the marines formed a guard around them and marched them up to the prison. They were taken inside

and locked up." "Did they know at that time what was to be done with them?" asked the reporter. "Not one of them," repited the mate. "They

thought they was going to be let go home. Why, a good many of them brought their bundles o clothes and 'small traps' with them, thinking they'd be allowed to leave and get out of the coun-We heard from Spaniards who were working try. We heard from Spaniards who were working on the dock, about one o'clock, that they were to be shot at four, and a little alter four o'clock sure enough, they were brought out and shot. I don't remember whether they has haadcuffs on or not, but their arms were tied be-hind them. Several of us knocked off work and went up to the prison and saw them come out There was a large number of soldlers on foot marines and borse police or dragoons, and a tre

went up to the prison and saw them come out. There was a large number of soldlers on foot, marines and norse police or dragoons, and a tre-mendous crowd of people. The prisoners were brought out and formed in a column, and with the troops around them and the horse police riding at the sides of the column they marched toward the sharghter house, where they were shot. I should judge it was about a quarter or a third of a mile from the jail. On the way the prisoners all seemed to be in good spirits, and one of them called out to us. 'H's all over with us now, boys: out I hope you'll drift to our health when yon get back to New York'' When the column got to the slaugh-ter house the prisoners were formed in a line FACING THE WALL. which is 12 or 15 feet high, and stood only three or four feet from the masory. The soldiers then iormed three sides of a hollow square about them and kept tack the people, and inside the line of soldiers was the firing party. There were probably not mer to the stam of the brig (about 30 feet) iron her to the stem of the brig (about 30 feet) iron her to the stem of the brig (about 30 feet) iron her to the stem of the brig (about 30 feet) iron her to the stem of the brig (about 30 feet) iron her to the stem of the brig (about 30 feet) iron her prisoners. Then the prisoners were made to kneet down, with their faces still toward the wall and their backs to the soldiers. Then the troops fired one volley and all the prisoners fell, but they were not killed outright, for in a couple of mintes, about as long as it would take to load their grus again, there was a good deal of scatter-ing firing going on. I lound they were finishing the killing of those who were struggling on the ground not yet deaa. After a while the soldiers marched away and left the bodies just as tacy fell, and a lot of mule carts were driven up, such as they used to carry dirt in . Then a gang or mative prisoners, mer who work in the chain cany, were brought on,



Virginius.

The Reforms in the Island - Abolition of Slavery Freedom of the Press and of Public Meeting -The Local Elections.

PORTO BICO, Nov. 12, 1873. Taking into account the wide difference of spinion among the Spaniards of this island, the strong antagonism between liberals and conservatives, and the disagreements resulting therefrom in official, and even social, intercourse, it will, perhans, be enough to say that the news of the car ture of the steamer Virginius has been received here with various and conflicting sentiments. That of the conservatives, the rabid Spaniards, is complete concurrence in and approval of the action of the Spanish government in Cuba, while the liberals, more reflecting in nature, are ashamed of and deplore the undue baste of the Cuban authorities.

It is the purpose of this present letter to depict the situation as it really is in Porto Rico, growing out of this very difference of opinion and the sel-fish expression of the same, in almost every circumstance of life among the inhabitants. who were opposed to the introduction of liberal reforms, those who saw in them and in the abolition of slavery only a source of evil, have been convinced of their mistake. The advent of the Republic in Spain destroyed the suspicions and jealous policy that existed in this Antilla, one of the most faithful provinces of the nation, and the republican government frankly entered upon another policy, more adapted to the requirements of the country.

THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

was proclaimed by the National Assembly in the remarkable session of March 22 of this year, the most brilliant date of its contemporary history, and the new government, determined to establish reforms which would give Porto Ricans rights equal to those of other Spaniards, appointed a new Governor, Captain General Primo de Rivera, who arrived in Porto Rico on the 14th of April last, and made it his first care that the law on the abolition of slavery should be carried into effect. This great event took place on the 20th of the same month, by the publication of the law, a model of equity and of liberal spirit, and rules to guide the first steps of the freedman in the new social condition in which he was placed. This so important law did not change the economical leatures of the country, nor create any disturbance, and the country remained perfectly tranquil. Not even the first outbreak of joy produced by the possession of a benefit so esteemed disturbed the public repose. The freedmen by religious feasts cele brated in every town their thanksgivings for their freedom with eloquent protestations of love and gratitude towards Spain, whose name and their redemption from slavery will henceforward be associated in their minds. The enemies of the abolition of slavery attribute to it the financial crisis in the country, but do not take into account two of the principal causes for it-first, the scarcity of the sugar crop this year from the want of rain, and secondly, the low price for its products. It is well known that the freed negroes have not increased the number of beggars nor given them selves up to a daugerous idleness, as was predicted by the slaveholders. All work in virtue of the contracts which the rule imposes on them, for during three years they are to remain with their former masters, or at least with those with whom they are contracted and have engaged, in conformity to the rules to the rules. Following the abolition of slavery the new Gov-

to the rules. Following the abolition of slavery the new Gov-ernor issued decrees authorizing FREKDOM OF THE PRESS and sanctioning the right to peaceable meetings and that of association for all the legitimate pur-poses, and thus the sphere of action of these in-nabitants was broadened until the Constituent Cortes promulgated for Porto Bieo the first title of the Spanish constitution, which guarantees liberty to all. In the exercise of their rights the people of Porto Bico have been sensible and prodent. Order has been preserved and reigns everywhere and peace and tranquility are enjoyed all over the is-iand. The municipal law has been estab-lished which gives autonomy to the ayuntamientos or municipalities, and dis-centralizing the administration confides to their discretion and care the administration and effection of many affairs which before were sub-ject to the Governor of the is-and. In August last the municipal elections took place, passing off quiety and peacefully; while persons only were elected, and these now popular corporations have, as yet, done nothing which could cause regret for the new iaws. The elections for Provincial Depu-ties (for the Provincial House) have just been held with great order and, so have the elections for the Constituent Deputies. Acting always in opposition to these reforms, which have oeen introduced with

emulate the hard and enpricious orders the old Governor, but the paternal counsels of the authority which feaches the gover need to know overything else, moderation and respect to order and ustice, the re orm press has traitened to ust the old by the conservative press has the the counter of the counsel of the order and ustice, the re orm press has traitened to the the counter of the counsel of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the the counter of the counter of the counter of the to the not essent within and the counter of the to the not essent within the counter of the counter the to the not essent of the counter of the the the counter the to the not essent of the the counter of the counter the to the not essent of the the counter of the counter the to the not essent of the the counter of the counter of the to the not essent of the the counter of the counter of the to the not essent of the counter of the counter of the the to the not essent of the counter of the counter of the counter of the to the not essent of the counter of the co

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Crew on Board the Colorado-Rew cruits from Norfolk-Opinions Concerning the Safety of the Kanzas-The Supply.

The crew of the Colorado-600 sailors, landsmen. firemen and coal heavers, and 60 marines-went on board shortly after one o'clock yesterday alter-noon. There was no confusion attendant upon the occupation of the ship, watch and station rolls being made out before going on board. "Many hands make light work" is an old and true sa; in . hence it happened that the men were not long in getting the decks clear and everything in ship

shape. She will probably sail to-morrow. Recruiting at all the rendezvous is progressing rapidly, and a fine body of blue lackets, with a generous admixture of the lubberly element known as landsmen, are already swinging their hammocks between decks on the venerable Vermont, the "gardo" at this station. The Minnesota, frigate, will absorb 550 men, as her complement, about the 18th. A draft of 54 "able" and "ordinary" seamen arrived here yesterday forenoon from Norfolk, Va. Captain Haxtun, the equipment officer at this station, is kept busy night and day in preparing the vessels now undergoing outfit for service. In the riggers' department, which is under the supervision of Boatswain Pomeroy, rigging is being prepared, with all the despatch that the limited building will admit of, for the Florida, Minnes ota and other vessels.

CONCERNING THE SLOOP-OF-WAR KANSAS.

The opinion of officers of the navy who know the sailing qualifications and seaworthiness of the sloop-of-war Kansas with whom the writer conversed yesterday is that there is no ground for fears as to her safety. Said a distinguished offi-

Admiral Rowan, who regards the Kansas as an excellent sea-going vessel, thinks it somewhat strange that she has not been heard from, though excellent sen-going vessel, thinks it somewhat strange that she has not been heard from, though 20 days out from New York, but does not entertain any lears as to be salely. When she left the Navy Yard she was thoroughly equipped from stem to storn, well officered, and had a full erew. Captain Reed, her commander, is regarded as an experienced and able officer, in every way deserving the high confidence reposed in him by the Navy Depart-ment. "It is very probable," remarked another officer to the reporter, "that the Kansas, having met with an accident to her machinery, has been compelled to make her way under canvas to tho Bahamas. In such an event she may have been taken on the dry dock there for repairs, and as a scenner leaves the dahamas but once in three weeks we would not be likely to hear of her from that point for several days to come." This view was enforsed by other may alutorities and will go far to allay the fears of those who have relatives and friends on board the Kansas. BTORESHIP SUPLY.

and friends on board the Kansas. STORESHIP SUPPLY. Orders have been received to fit out the store-ship Supply, which was last engaged in conveying articles of American manufacture to the Vienna-Exposition. She requires a thorough overhauling, and was yesterday alternoon towed over to New York to one of the sectional dry docks, where sho will be hauled up for recauking and have the barwill be hauled up for recaulting and have the bar-nacles knocked off. The Supply will then be re-fitted at the Navy Yard and take on stores for Key West. She is old but sound.

CUBA.

The American Press Decried.

The Spanish Gazette and the Rebellion in 1869.

Outrageous Onslaught on Minister Sickles.

How the Herald Leads Press Opinions - The Colonial Minister a Colonel of Volunteers-The Battle of La Sacra-Spanish Less, 400 -The Volunteers Want Fight

HAVANA, Nov. 29, 1873.

It is a difficult task to ascertain what is the prevalling Spanish opinion in this city on the probable issue of the Virginius question. There are, in fact, two powerful reasons tending to widen the scope of thus speculating. One is that they feel the enormity of their criminal proceeding and the undue haste with which it was carried out; and each individual argues, starting from such views as best in his estimation would excuse the butchery, thus giving rise to a variety of opinions, according to the passions, talents or ability of the thinker. Another is that there is no real, prevailing opinion entertained by the mass of the people, who are, in the immense majority, too illiterate to form any.

In the United States, when any question of general interest is being discussed, it is easy to ascertain what the people of a given locality think about it by merely going into any place where a promiscuous gathering takes place and openly inquiring of every one his opinion. This happens just because that people is able to form a clear judgment; but here passion and ignorance are masters of the mind.

From various sources I have gathered the following "collection" of opinions, which I give, fearing that it will not edily the readers of the HERALD for its wisdom :--

These Spanlards who hate Americans most bitterly give out that the West and South are but too cager to seize an opportunity for a general uprising, and that, fearing this, the United States overnment will have to evade all foreign troubles. Those who manifest this illogical opinion are wayed by their hatred, and fear leads them to deceive themselves as to the true state of affairs, choosing such arguments and protexts as suit them best, but entirely prompted by their animosity to the United States. And this should not be lost sight of by those American statesmen who will have to decide this question. Let them not forget that the Spanish people in Cuba are not the Spaniards in Spain, whose struggles for a Iberal government have won so much sympathy in the American Union.

Another prevailing opinion is that by paying to the families or relatives of such American citizens as have been executed a certain amount of damages the excitement will cool down and matters ontinue as heretofore.

Many of the "unconditionals" here assert that the United States have not the necessary means to go to war with Spain, stating that the navy of that government is but little less than worthless, and that Spain would only have to issue 100 let ters of marque, and Spanish privateers would swarm the seas, destroying the commerce of the United States. in which undertaking England would be but too ready to assist; and this would settle the affair on the oceans, and the volunteer force on the island would suffice for any invasion. Finally, the minority-men of some talent, who jully recognize the strength and power of the United States-acknowledge that a war with that country would be THE LOSS OF CITEA AND PORTO BICO.

to Spain; but, upheld by their pride, they say that they are willing to accept even war and lose these islands, struggling to the last for the honor of Spain.

War is however feared hy all and the best proof of this is that they are abstaining from all public monstration, although excitement has run high, and active preparations for an emergency are going on in the forts surrounding this city.

The Diarlo de la Marina of the 27th inst. gives, under the title of "Facts and Rights," a long article (first of a series which it announces), dedicated to the question and issues of the Virginius, from which I make the following extracts:-

Ve undertake this task in order to convince the world at large, which is so given to misjudge the events transpiring in this island, of the rights which assist us-rights even acknowledged by many Americans who have on former occasions openly avowed their desire of seeing this island separated from Spain, as the first step to its ab-sorption by the United States.

separated from Spain, as the first step to its ab-sorption by the United States. Refore proceeding we must state here that the Spaniards have not cast into oblivion their past brilliant history; that in Spain we have protested against passionate and inconvenient exactions, and that the loyal people of this island will not ind themselves alone should the day arrive-which we do not wish—of trusting to the force of arms for the defence of reason. We do not desire at any ime tunultuous de-monstrations, and but a lew days since we called attention to the striking contrast between the calm and collected behavior of the Spaniards in the sland and the uproarious declamations of the American press. We advise the continuation of realing which prompted the people of Madrid to protext against arrogant demands. We have given, too recently to require repeti-tion, the opinion- of the American press and those ontext against arrogant demands. Spain to prove the legitimacy of her proceed-ing, needs only to show that the steamer Virgin-uended to land on Cuban soil, to join the rebels arise had on board a filbustering expedition, in-tended to land on Cuban soil, to join the rebels arise and deplore a punishment so necessary and just, and that they would scowth satisaction the dist, and that they would scowth satisaction the filbustering comments of Yara. Cale Cushing's opinion determines the three "points" which the American grower ment is not and a state the spanish government. This the principle these of ysec realises the three spanistic solution the the second the state. The construction of the American process and they not openly avowed sympathy with the Cuban patriots and deplore a punishment so necessary and just, and that they would scowth satisfaction are first. The question of fag: second, the situa-

all:--First, the question of flag; second, the situa-on of the steamer at the time of her capture; to the first, it is not sufficient that a flag

As to the first, it is not sufficient that a flag covers the vessel; proofs must be adduced by ap-propriate documents that it had the right to the flag. As highwaymen generally carry passports in perfect accordance with the requisites of the po-lice, so may flibuster or pirate ships have docu-ments in perfect order, which is not sufficient to give them an acknowledged nationality, since Marine Courts frequently disregard them and de-clare them lawful prizes.

RECEIVED INSULTS FROM THE GOVERNOR.

At half-past three regiments of foot soldiers, numbering about 1,500, marched through the town, followed by a troop of the mounted guard, and formed in line at the place of execution. This is a piece of waste ground (slaughter house) on the outskirts of the town, bounded on one side by a stone wall, eight feet high. In front of this wall the men were to meet their death.

At four o'clock the prisoners were taken from the prison, having their arms fastened behind their backs and irons upon their waists. They formed in line, four deep. Accompanying each four was a Catholic priest. They were then surrounded by 200 marines, and marched at a slow step to the place of death, followed by hundreds of people.

While on the march I had an opportunity of speaking with most of the men. They were in much better spirits than a person would expect. They all stepped out with a bold, manly step, fully believing that before many days America would avenge their wrongs.

When they arrived at the place of execution the doomed men were placed in a line about tour feet a part, with their faces to the wall. The marines formed a line, two deep, about 10 feet from the men they were to murder. The prisoners were then ordered to kneel. The signal being given to

Mr. Coysh and some men of his crew, who also witnessed the executions, are most vehement in their denunciations of the frightini barbarity of the Spaniards, and in their way think, too, that they want a good "warming."

THE "AMIGOS DE CUBA."

News from "The Front"-Gomez and his Generosity to Spaniards Captured at La Sacra-The Captives in Captivity Again.

The headquarters of the Amigos de Cuba were, as usual, quite busy yesterday, though there was little done of a nature which it would be prudent to make public. The secretary of the organization submitted to the Executive Council a letter received from Havana which stated that "the steamer Saratoga arrived in this port (Havana) on November 22, having left Nuevitas, the port of Pnerto Principe, on the 18th. The Saratoga brought on board as prisoners from the latter place, in the custody of the Spanish authorities, place, in the custody of the Spanish authorities, It A. Narango and 12 Spanish soldiers, to be dis-posed of by the Captain General. These 13 per-fons were made prisoners by the patriot forces incent battle of La Sacra, from the coo-during of the Spanish General Bascones. They had been released by Gomez on their parole of poor, and are now held under arrest by the parole by again entering the ranks of the arrest parole by again entering the ranks of the arrest parole by again entering the ranks of the gravitation parole by again entering the ranks of the arrest parole by again entering the ranks of the arrest parole by again entering the ranks of the arrest parole by again entering the ranks of the gravitation parole by again entering the ranks of the gravitation parole by again entering the ranks of the gravitation of the Spanish can be the subtorites arrest of domez and of the kindness shows and the gravitation of the gravitation of the gravitation parole by again entering the ranks of the gravitation of the spanish can be the subtorites arrest of domez and of the kindness shows and the prisoners state that, at the close of the en-ther they might either follow the fortunes of his parole by by oning it, or return to the prisoners state the sole of the Spanish can be the ther arrest of the spanish can be arrest of 50 rifemen the ther prisoners were conducted to Puerto Principe, and there words, upon being brought before the com-tent day would noter free where while do the stated of the spanish can be arrest the swhere than in prisoners, the the scort is the ther word of prisoners, the sole arrest is swhere while do the stated of the system of the government elsewhere than in prisoners, the were chen threatened by Fajardo the for second they will be sent to span. A prisoners to Havana, to be dealt with by the prisoners to Havana, to be dealt with by the prisoners to the they will be sent to span. A prisoners, the deal are there the there would note the state of the prisoners. They were then threatened by faj Dr. A. Narango and 12 Spanish soldiers, to be dis posed of by the Captain General. These 13 per-

ILLNESS OF GEORGE S. HILLIARD.

BOSTON, Dec. 4, 1873.

Mr. George S. Hilliard, at his home yesterday, had a slight stroke of paralysis of the right side, which has slightly affected his speech, but left his mind wholly unimpaired. His physicians say that all the symptoms are favorable to his recovery.

to these reforms, which have been introduced with

with great order and, so have the elections for the Constituent Deputies. Acting always in opposition to these reforms, which have been introduced with so much tranquility and without any disturbance, which were received by the islanders with grati-tade and joy, and which have strengthened their adhesion to the mother country, binding them to her with ties of love and gratitude, is the conservative party, composed mostly of Spaniards who are opposed to all liberal ideas, because such deprive them of the influence and control that they formerly held on the island. Their attitude is repulsive to the authorities, ag-gressive and almost rebellous. They well their ambition and exclusiveness by boasting of a SENTMENT OF "HISPANEM" which is of that blind and haughty character so much criticised by Montesquieu. Their great lever of action is the "mational integrity," and the cry of "Muera Españal" their shield and delence. This fraticidal cry they attribute to the islanders whenever it suits them, but they never fix upon the person who pronounces it nor give any clew to his discovery. In vain do the reformers make pro-testations and in their newspapers show any love to the land of their fathers and their own; nothing suffices for their dowed themselves to be convinced, they would lose the only base of their opposition. They have carried on and still wage the face and absurd new so spani, they depict the have even carried their opposition to the depice of withdrawing personal intercourse; they write have even carried their opposition to the depice of withdrawing personal intercourse; they write have even carried their opposition to the depice of withdrawing personal intercourse; they write have even carried their opposition to the depice of withdrawing personal intercourse; they write have even carried their opposition to the depice the island as in the gratest anarchy and about to separate from the spanish mationality; they call heimselves "spaniards without conditions," and yet only accept irom spain that which fla

yet only accept from Spain that which flatters their aspirations. This conservative party is aided by the official element, which, being nearly all Spaniarias, be-longs, with but few exceptions, to the same politi-cal party. Thus the employes (officials), civil and military, especially the latter, profess the same doctrimes from common cause with the conserva-tives, and are an obstacle to all the liberal acts of the government; they keep away from the Gov-ernor, and in the casino Español, the copy of that in Guoa, they criticise his dispositions and acts, although they may emanate from the Constituent Cortes themselves. Moreover, this party counts upon THE VOLUNTEERS.

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The Manhattan Pronounced Unfit for War in Her Present Condition-The Captain and Some of Her C.ew Still Suffering.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4, 1873.

A Wilmington paper says :- The monitor Manhattan was surveyed on Tuesday by a Board, consisting of Captains Beaumont and Harris, Consixting of Captains Beaumont and Harris, Con-structor Hart and Chief Engineer Stamm, and she was pronounced utterly unfit for use as a man-of-war in her present condition. Chief Engineer Smith, of the Manhattan, is reported to be very ill from having been obliged to work in water last Thursday, and other men of the monitor are said to be suffering from the flooding of their quarters.

Affairs at the Boston Navy Yard. BOSTON, Dec. 4, 1873.

Activity continues to prevail at the Navy Yard. The Brooklyn will be ready for sea in twelve days.

Lieutenant Durand has been ordered to the steamer Speedwell at Portsmouth. Captain G. H Preble has been detached from the command of

Proble has been detached from the command of the Naval Rendezvous, and has been placed on waiting orders, and Captain H. B. Caldwell takes his place. There are at present on board the Ohio about 300 seamen, and a large number are being snipped daily. It is expected that from 75 to 100 men will be sent to New York this week to man the Colo-rado. The paymaster's books show that during the past two weeks over 200 landsmen were re-ceived on board the Ohio. Over 100 men employed in the Department of Yards and Docks were dis-charged yesterday.

Arrival of the Mahopac and Her Convoy at Key West-Nine Days at Sea.

KEY WEST, Dec. 4, 1873.

The Ossipce arrived here at noon to-day, convoy ing the Mahopac. She had a very rough trip and parted with the monitor off Hatteras, rejoining

her, however, next alternoon. A pilot boat was spoken at Savannah, but it would take too long to coal there, and the monitor and her convoy con-sequently made this point direct. The trip was made in nine days from New York.

Arrival of the Pinta at Key West-Loss of Two of the Mahopae's Boats Off Hatteras. KEY WEST, Dec. 4, 1873.

The Pinta arrived this evening. The Mahopao lost two boats, while separated from the Ossipee, of Hatteras,

The Albert W. Smith Coaled at Elizabeth and Off for the Key West Squadron.

ELIZABETH, N. J., Dec. 4, 1873. The Albert W. Smith, just loaded here with 800 tons of coal, to supply the squadron at Key West, went to sea to day.

A PROBABLE DEFALCATION.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 4, 1873.

There is considerable excitement here over the discovery that \$40,000 in county warrants have been abstracted from the sale of the County Trus-tee alter having been paid but not cancelled. The Trustee (Mr. A. Woodward) has been absent some two weeks and many rumors are afloat. The Grand Jury is investigating the matter, and in the meanwhile warns the public against trading for the warrants, the numbers of which will be pub-lished to-morrow.

A LIGHT SENTENCE.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 4, 1873.

MintPhis, Dec. 4, 1873. John White, who was sentenced to be hanged for shooting several members of the Sheriff's posse on President's Island in 1872, and granied a new trial, was sentenced this morning to 20 years' inormo-