

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- WOODS' MUSEUM Broadway, corner 5th st. Performance every Saturday and Sunday.
MILTON'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE SPECTACLE OF THE BLACK CROSS.
WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street.—ROMANCE AND REALITY.
LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 75 Broadway.—LINDA'S SKELETONS—NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS, &c.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 5th av. and 22d st.—LES GEORGES.
NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, 45 Bowery.—TANNENBAUM.
BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—ON HAND—A DAY WELL SPENT.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Broadway.—SARATOGA.
GLOBE THEATRE, 77 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, &c.—JUDGE DOWLING.
BOOTH'S THEATRE, 250 st. between 5th and 6th avs.—OURELO.
FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE (Theatre Francaise)—PANTON.
MRS. F. E. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—OLIVEA TWIST.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTER HALL, 58 Broadway.—NEGO MINISTERS, FAUNES, BULLSQUERS, &c.
TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.
THEATRE COMIQUE, 614 Broadway.—COMIC VOCALISTS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.
BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 224 st. between 6th and 7th avs.—NEGRO MINISTERS, &c.
HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—HOOLEY'S AND KELLY & LEON'S MINSTERALS.
NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—SCENES IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, &c.
DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 145 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, March 20, 1871.

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BEGINNING TO LOOK SPRUCE.—The Battery.

PRESIDENT GRANT attended church at Philadelphia yesterday, and returned to Washington in the evening.

WESTON, the democratic candidate for Governor of New Hampshire, expected to walk right into the gubernatorial chair; but, like Weston, the walk, in several of his pedestrian undertakings, he fell a little short.

THE CONNECTICUT REPUBLICANS in Washington held a meeting recently, at which Senator Buckingham urged them to go home and vote. He also said that the New Hampshire election would mainly serve to stir up the republicans to greater exertions and consequent success.

IT IS SUPPOSED now that Congress will remain in session two or three weeks longer. Mr. Sherman's Ku Klux bill is likely to call forth a brilliant debate, the democrats feeling convinced that they ought no longer to still and hear Ku Kluxism laid so vehemently to their charge.

IS IT NOT QUERIED that some of the atrocious punsters of the day have not yet referred to the poor wretch sentenced to death for ship-burning as one of the Enfants Perdus? The President ought to be inclined to mercy after this.

THE COMMISSIONERS to await and adjudge the claims of Southern loyalists for losses and damages during the war have issued a set of instructions for those presenting claims. The instructions are so voluminous and abstruse, however, that they are more likely to discourage the claimants than otherwise.

SENATOR WILSON, the godfather and baptizer of the republican party, says that party may date its downfall from the time of the removal of Senator Sumner from the chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations. By the same token, when can the downfall of Senator Wilson be predicted? The "gentleman from Natick," however, generally takes care of himself.

ONE OF THE EFFECTS.—A monthly periodical, printed in German, and called the Free Thinker, has just been started in this city. It has a very free way of expressing its views on religious themes. Is one of the effects of German success in the late war to be the spread of German ideas and creeds on a moral philosophy and religion?

GOVERNOR SCOTT, of SOUTH CAROLINA, has sent a letter to the President formally requesting the presence of a regiment of United States cavalry in his State to suppress the Ku Klux. It is generally the case that these wild marauders become exceedingly quiet when there are a few United States troops about, and the call of the Governor is very convincing evidence that they have been carrying on their atrocities with a high hand.

SEVERE ON POLKOPOLIS.—Senator Stevenson, of Kentucky, says there are more crimes committed daily in Cincinnati than in the whole of the State of Kentucky. So far as bloodshed is concerned, no doubt there is. Hogs are slaughtered there by the million yearly.

Paris in Revolt—M. Thiers' Government in Serious Danger—The Socialistic Republic Looming Up.

Our worst fears regarding the situation in Paris have been realized, as the despatches which we publish this morning indicate. The National Guards of the French capital are in open revolt against the authorities, the soldiers of the line and the malcontents have fraternized, blood has been shed, and the situation generally is full of danger for France. On Friday last M. Thiers issued a proclamation to the insurgents, remonstrating with them at their hostile attitude to the government, urging them to return to their duty as good citizens, and warning them that unless they obey the laws he would be compelled to proceed to extreme measures. This proclamation evidently failed of effect, for at midnight of Friday the military were marched into the Montmartre quarter, and the positions of the insurgents were taken possession of. Thus far the government seems to have been successful; but early next morning, when the National Guards arrived on the ground, an extraordinary scene followed. All the guns and prisoners which had been taken the night previous were retaken, a general fraternization of the troops and insurgents began, and in a few minutes the latter were masters of the situation. A serious conflict occurred in the Place Pigalle, which resulted in the overthrow of the government adherents. Although the despatches estimate the losses as small, we are inclined to believe that the struggle was a severe one, and that many lives were lost. Bayonet charges were made by the few soldiers who remained faithful, but they were only for the purpose of escaping from the mob which surrounded them. One general was killed, another wounded and two others taken prisoners. These latter were Generals Clement-Thomas and Lecomte. They were taken before the Revolutionary Committee, a mock trial was gone through with and the unfortunate men were shot. At the last accounts the insurgents were in the ascendant. All of Paris on the right bank of the Seine had been evacuated by the government forces, which had withdrawn to the left bank of the river.

From this brief resumé of events which have transpired in Paris some idea may be formed of the gravity of the situation there. In shooting Generals Thomas and Lecomte the insurgents have exhibited a brutal ferocity worthy of their revolutionary ancestors of 1793. Well may a Paris paper appeal to the provinces to come to the rescue, and denounce the insurrection as the "revolution of pillage." Who the leaders are has not yet been made known. Whether Louis Blanc, Victor Hugo, Ledru Rollin, Rochefort and other prominent reds have placed themselves at the head of this movement to uproot society and "organize hell" in France our despatches do not report. But it is evident that the leaders of the insurgents are true successors of Robespierre and Marat, and that if they succeed in getting control of the government they will inaugurate another Reign of Terror throughout the country.

It is impossible to overestimate the importance of the events which are transpiring in Paris. The entire revolutionary movement is controlled by the red republicans and is directed against M. Thiers and the National Assembly. If the views and doctrines of the Paris radicals are what the insurgents aim to make paramount, then the object is to establish a socialistic republic and to resuscitate in France all the grotesque and demoralizing principles of the first republic—principles which have sapped the morals of the French people and given to Paris the unenviable notoriety of a city in which twenty-five per cent of the children born yearly are illegitimate. We suggested yesterday the possibility that the insurrection in Paris was part of a Bonapartist plot, and we shall feel no surprise if, when the facts are developed, it is shown that the agents of Napoleon incited the red republicans to revolt; for it is clear that a red republican government cannot exist in France for any length of time. If the present insurgents of Paris triumph now their reign of power will be brief, unless they pursue a moderate course; and if they propose to act in moderation why are they endeavoring to overturn the government of M. Thiers?

Moderation and red republicanism are antagonistic. What is sought is the triumph of socialism, with all its debasing and demoralizing social influences and its absurd and horrible political principles. The civilization of the age shrinks with horror from the mere prospect of a re-enactment of the terrible drama of 1793; and this is precisely what the Paris mob aim at making a reality. Will they succeed? Shall we have another Goddess of Reason enthroned, another atheistical war upon religion, another ghastly era of the guillotine, and of bloodshed, misery and general social demoralization in France? How long would such a wretched state of affairs last before some strong-handed despot would appear, and, proclaiming himself the Saviour of Society, restore order and obedience to law at the expense of liberty? Twice within the present century the violence of the anarchical socialists has precipitated the downfall of republicanism in that country and the world has seen the uprearing on its ruins of absolutism. Are we to witness a third similar result to the present attempt to establish a republic in France which shall insure liberty to the people

while maintaining the order, morals and religion of society unimpaired?

We do not conceal from ourselves the fact that the government of M. Thiers is in serious danger. If our despatches even told the whole story of the events transpiring in Paris there would be cause for apprehension. But it is evident that ever since the present troubles began the authorities have exercised a rigorous censorship over the press and prevented the outside world ascertaining the gravity of the situation. Unless the regular troops in the provinces—who will, doubtless, be brought up to suppress the insurrection—display more fidelity to the government than their comrades in Paris it is easy to foresee that the days of M. Thiers' presidency and of the National Assembly are numbered. And that the violence and anarchy which will inevitably attend red republican rule will terminate in the destruction of all the hopes, engendered when Napoleon's dynasty was overthrown, of France enjoying the benefits of liberty arising from free institutions, is something equally as inevitable if even, for the sake of morality, religion, civilization itself, not to be deplored.

The New Loan of the United States.

Although the act of Congress authorizing the refunding of the national debt was passed so long ago as last July, and an amendment to it was passed in January, the Secretary of the Treasury held back from negotiating the new loan, as it is called, until the beginning of this month. He regarded the war in Europe and the general disturbance of the finances of the world in consequence as unfavorable to refunding the debt at that time. The war being over, he now advertises for a new loan or exchange of securities in accordance with the act of Congress. The proposition is to convert the whole of the five-twenties, which bear six per cent interest, into new bonds or consols of three classes—namely, into ten-year-bonds, bearing five per cent interest; fifteen-year bonds, bearing four and a half per cent interest, and thirty-year bonds, bearing four per cent interest. In the present advertised proposal the amount of the first class is five hundred millions, of the second, three hundred millions, and of the third, seven hundred millions—fifteen hundred millions in all. Preference will be given first, however, to subscriptions for two hundred millions of five per cents, and then for the four and a half and the four per cents in their order. Payments can be made either in coin or in the existing five-twenty bonds at par. In no case is less to be taken or the aggregate of the debt to be increased. The new bonds, or consols, and the interest on them, are to be exempt from all taxes or dues to the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by any State, municipal or local authority; and it is considered that this exemption, together with the length of time the new bonds have to run, will be equivalent to the difference of interest on and between these and the old six per cent five-twenties.

If this proposal can be carried out the government and public will gain something by the reduction of interest, though not as much as might be supposed, considering that the new bonds and the interest on them will be exempt from all taxation. Still, it would be an advantage, both in the saving of money and in having the debt consolidated and simplified. It remains to be seen how far capitalists and the public are disposed to accept the change. Up to the present time subscriptions have been sent in slowly; but this may arise in part from a want of knowledge generally as to the nature of the loan or conversion of securities. Money is worth a high rate of interest in this country, and it has yet to be seen if any large amount of the new debt will be taken at the reduced interest proposed. In Europe money brings a much lower interest, and European capitalists may be more disposed to subscribe for the loan. It is well enough to try what can be done to reduce the interest of the debt, but we cannot know for some time to come whether the experiment will be successful or not.

A New Chapter of an Old Story in Mexico.

The picture which we presented yesterday of the condition of Mexico as revealed by our latest despatches via Havana shows that in convening with almost an avowed purpose of provoking revolution the Mexican Congress is but opening a new chapter of an old story in Mexico. It was generally thought in the capital that Congress would pass a law prohibiting the election of Juarez. If so, Juarez will ignore it; if not, revolution is inevitable. In either case Juarez, with the power of the government in his hands, will have the advantage, at least in the beginning of the conflict, with his opponents. But the chronic state of tumult and revolution cannot, in the interests of such a rich and potentially productive country as Mexico, nor in the interests of humanity and civilization, be forever permitted. If the Mexicans continue to prove incapable of taking care of themselves, they must be taken care of. The best government which they have ever had was that of Maximilian; but that could not be permanently tolerated, because it was at once a usurpation of the rights of the Mexicans and a violation of the Monroe doctrine. A foreign and imperial government in Mexico was in direct antagonism to the policy of this government and the principle on which it is founded. But if the present experiment of self-government on the part of the Mexican people should fail—as all signs seem to indicate that it will—the time will soon come when the United States government must assume the protectorate of its sister republic and constrain her to develop the prodigious resources of prosperity wherewith Nature has endowed her. We should like to see more evidence that the administration at Washington is thoroughly alive to the duties which the impending crisis in Mexico must ere long devolve upon it.

THE Citizen and Round Table.—Representative Roosevelt's organ—advertises editorially for a democratic leader in Congress. Why don't Mr. Roosevelt throw out a fly for himself? He is a famous angler, and this is the season for trout—of the Long Island breed, at any rate.

The Moss Troopers of the South—Congress and the Ku Klux Klans—The Evil and the Remedy.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, who has never been regarded as a fanatic, has a resolution pending before the Senate, alleging the subversion by armed, disguised and lawless men—mainly soldiers of the late rebel armies—of all civil authority over a large part of the late insurrectionary States; that life and property against these desperadoes are unsafe; that the rights of citizens are denied to many; that the local courts are powerless against organized perjury to punish crime, and that the Judiciary Committee, accordingly, be instructed to report some remedial measure of legislation. In an appeal to the Senate on Saturday last in support of this resolution Mr. Sherman, quoting from the report of Mr. Morton's Select Committee on Southern Outrages, proceeded to show that the lawless doings of the Southern Ku Klux Klans were startling and a disgrace to the civilization of the age; that these marauders, mainly soldiers of the late rebel armies, have virtually taken up arms, in violation of the very liberal terms accorded them by General Grant upon their surrender; that the main object, as embodied in the test oath of these organizations, is to prevent colored men and others from exercising their political rights, and that the members of these lawless bands are bound to murder, rob and plunder under the discipline prescribed by their former rebel leaders. Mr. Sherman declared that he did not know of any organization in history which for its atrocities could compare with this. These men committed their crimes in the night and carried terror wherever they went. Their number in North Carolina had been stated at forty thousand, and they were certainly not less than ten thousand.

In the single county of Rockingham, in that State, sixty-two of their outrages had been committed, including the hanging of a colored preacher at a late hour of the night, in front of the Court House, where, dangling from a tree, the body was found the next morning, with a paper pinned on it, bearing the inscription, "Beware, ye guilty, both black and white. K. K. K." Several days afterwards a poor half idiotic negro, who had seen some of these men, was drowned by them to prevent their detection by him. Thirty-eight similar cases had occurred in the same neighborhood. In Alamance county a band of disguised men had taken a colored man from his house, whipped and shot him, and had then compelled all the negroes in the neighborhood to swear they would never vote the radical ticket. The killing of a sheriff, it was shown, had been previously agreed upon in secret, and so on, and so on, to a catalogue of outrages in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and other States, frightful to contemplate. Besides, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue reports that it has become an exceedingly dangerous duty to attempt to collect the revenue in these States, and says that in some instances revenue officers are compelled to fly for their lives.

Can these things be true? From the testimony furnished us by our Raleigh correspondent in the pending impeachment trial of Governor Holden, names, dates and places, we cannot doubt that these things are true in regard to North Carolina. Touching these outrages we presume that the Senate investigating committee have substantially the same evidence as that furnished on the Holden trial. In regard to the recent shootings of negroes in South Carolina, Mississippi and other Southern States, the local newspapers, in their reports and commentaries, leave us in no doubt except as to the exact causes and provocations to and parties concerned in these disorders. These causes and provocations and guilty parties and the underlying political difficulties between these Ku Klux Klans on the one side and the negroes and so-called "scalawags" and "carpet-baggers" on the other can, perhaps, be correctly ascertained only through a travelling Congressional investigating committee like that proposed in the resolution lately passed by the House. According to Senator Sherman these Ku Klux Klans are secret political bands of midnight marauders, whose main purpose is—by murder and terrorism—to prevent the blacks from voting the radical ticket, and so to demoralize the republican party South as to clear the field for the democratic party. General Grant in his last annual message broadly hinted at some legislation in view of the suppression of free elections in some of the Southern States by means of violence and intimidation.

It is a fact that Southern reconstruction has failed to win over to the republican party the Southern white elements concerned in the late rebellion. It is true, no doubt, that these Ku Klux Klans are largely composed of the rough riders of the rebellion, demoralized by the war into moss troopers by profession. It is also natural that these moss troopers, reckless and ignorant, and full of their old ideas of the blacks, should be incensed against them for joining the republicans, as it is natural that the blacks should mostly join the party to which they are indebted for their emancipation and their right of suffrage. Nor was, nor is uncomplaining submission to be expected from the lately dominant and dictatorial slaveholders of the South, reduced to political subordination to their late slaves. Nor is it in human nature thankfully to be resigned to that sort of reconstruction and restoration to the Union which imposes upon those ex-slaveholders the duties of citizens with the disabilities of traitors. In short, from the teachings of history, we seriously doubt whether the dominant race and class in the South, who slaked their lives and fortunes upon their Southern confederacy, can, by coercive or conciliatory measures on the part of the government, be completely reconciled during the living generation to Northern radical "carpet-baggers" and Southern negro equality. We must be satisfied with acquiescence and leave time to do the rest.

Mr. Sherman proposes a bill for the suppression of these Ku Klux outrages. The plan is, we believe, to reach these lawless marauders and their savage doings through the United States courts and the army. We daresay, too, that in the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, touching the civil and the political rights of all citizens, and the power of Congress to enforce them "by appropriate legislation," the Congressional au-

thority can be found for the measure proposed. But while a loose horse may be driven into the stable, a dish of oats before him is better than a whip behind him. A general removal, in this view, of the rebel disabilities of the fourteenth amendment would, we believe, do more to reconcile the disabled dominant Southern white class to things as they are, than a dozen measures of coercive legislation.

Mr. Wendell Phillips, the famous humanitarian, thinks that the shooting, by a drum-head court martial, of at least half a dozen Southern millionaires, is the only process whereby law and order can be restored to the South; and from several republican leaders we have the opinion that unless these Southern Ku Klux Klans are suppressed the republican party will be defeated in 1872, and wreck and ruin will be brought upon the whole country. But this Ku Klux idea does not meet the case. What with the blunders of Southern reconstruction, never ending and still beginning; what with unscrupulous carpet-bag adventurers in the Southern States, and what with the intestine feuds and factions in the Southern republican camps, we apprehend that the Southern States, from Maryland to Texas, are gone or are sure to go over to the democracy in 1872. The republicans have lost or are losing their Southern negro balance of power from other causes than the Ku Klux Klans. Senator Trumbull hit the nail upon the head in suggesting in Saturday's debate that for the good of the party in power the legislation specially needed now is legislation for the reduction of our heavy taxes. There, North and South, is where the shoe pinches. We suppose, however, that a Ku Klux bill is resolved upon, and if so, we have only to submit in this connection that a provision in this bill or another bill removing Southern rebel political disabilities will operate better in behalf of the suppression of the Ku Klux Klans than all the reserved forces of the United States Army.

Ridgway—Richardson—Armitage.

In naming these three ministers of differing denominations in this city we do not seek to contrast one with another, because each in his place is the equal of the other, but rather to direct our readers where they can find men of thought, intellect, culture and eloquence. Nor do we seek to give the impression that there are none among us so great, so cultivated or so eloquent as they. It is our purpose from time to time to bring the best men as well as their best thoughts to the front, so that our readers who have not the power of ubiquity may read, mark, learn and inwardly digest for themselves the sacred truths, which, like the shewbread in the Jewish temple, we change and present fresh and new to their minds every Sabbath.

The Rev. H. B. Ridgway, D. D., is the pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, but, under the Methodist itinerant system, his pastorate will end there in a few weeks more. Dr. Ridgway is a young man, in the prime of life, of delicate frame, but an earnest worker, and a man of deep thought and clear and forcible expression. He is a graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., and no doubt under the instruction of the late Dr. McClintock, his preceptor in that institution, and whose successor in the pastorate he now is, he acquired from that godly man some of the fire and earnestness, and piety and zeal which he possesses, and for which Dr. McClintock was so remarkable. Dr. Ridgway has filled some of the best appointments among the Methodists in this city. His style in the pulpit is plain and practical rather than imaginative and rhetorical. His discourses aim at the hearts rather than the heads of his audiences. He is not a very strong believer in impulsive action, and he seeks, whether it be in inviting the irreligious to become pious, or the pious to become liberal, to have each one act intelligently and conscientiously. This may not be so effective with some audiences as excitement and impulse; but who can doubt that it is the true course to pursue.

Rev. Merrill Richardson, pastor of the New England Congregational church, is a man of robust frame, deep thought and extensive reading. He is, in the pulpit, more of a lecturer than a sermonizer. He is always clear and concise in his statements, without vagueness and verbosity. His sermons are easily remembered, because his words are uttered with distinctness and deliberation. There is a certain "skeleton" lying underneath all his discourses which every man can take away in his heart and mind, and which, by thought and meditation, each may clothe with flesh and form. He would not have one of his audiences believe any truth upon his own mere say so, but presents the strongest reasons, grouped together, which his extensive study enables him to do, why what he declares should be received and accepted by every intelligent mind. In his discourse yesterday morning he applies the test of time—the best and surest test which can be applied to any institution of faith or morals—to Christianity, and demonstrates therefrom the stability and permanence of the same. Truth is like its Author, eternal, and can never die; and though some of the forms of religion may change and its doctrines fall into disuse or yield for a time to opposition, the truths which underlie them will at some time burst forth with a power and a beauty which cannot be resisted or repelled. This has been the experience of Christianity, and the pages of history were called as collateral evidence thereof by Mr. Richardson yesterday.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Armitage, pastor of the Fifth avenue Baptist church, was formerly a Methodist, and possesses all the fluency and ease in the pulpit which early and long practice brings to most men. He is a man of exceedingly nervous temperament, and, like all such natures, only needs "warming up" to become powerfully eloquent. He is a good theologian, a sound reasoner, and clear and forcible in the presentation of the truth. His congregations are usually large and appreciative, albeit they are fashionable also. To his logic and eloquence in the recent discussions on the city grant of lots for a Home for aged Baptists is very largely due the unmistakable vote by which the gift was accepted. Dr. Armitage is a man of robust frame, and to all human appearance has many years of usefulness yet before him. The sermons of Drs. Armitage and Ridgway do not appear in our columns to-day; but

they have appeared frequently; and our readers will readily appreciate the styles and characteristics of the three able divines whose names head this article and which we have tried to indicate.

The St. Domingo Commissioners in Jamaica—The Annexation Epidemic.

By special telegram from the HERALD's correspondent at Kingston we have interesting particulars regarding the visit of the St. Domingo Commissioners to Jamaica. Their reception appears to have been of the most enthusiastic character, not only by the officials, but by the community at large. Excursions to the interior were organized and carried out, picnic parties were arranged to the principal places of interest, dinners and receptions were the order of the day, and everything was done to render their stay agreeable, all of which must have been most pleasant and delightful to those who were visiting a foreign tropical clime for the first time. The people of Jamaica always had the reputation of being most hospitable, their attention to strangers of respectability has been proverbial, and in former times wealthy citizens and planters considered themselves honored by the visits of those who could appreciate a good bottle of wine, a well-spread board and a welcome given without reservation whatever. From what we hear of the Commissioners' visit it is evident that the reputation of former years holds good at the present time, and we are glad that our officials have had the opportunity to view the difference between a civilized tropical colony of Great Britain and a semi-barbarous Spanish-American republic.

The annexation fever is evidently spreading in the West Indies; it prevails in St. Domingo, it exists in Martinique and it has broken out in Jamaica; and, from present appearances, it is likely to become epidemic. It is early in the season for fevers, even in that unhealthy climate, but then the cause has never existed before this year; and we should not be surprised if it prevailed among all of the islands before the season is over, from the southern portion of Trinidad to the Western end of Cuba, and become of so violent a character as to throw yellow fever entirely in the shade. The expressions in favor of coming under the protection of the United States were so very strong in Jamaica as to cause surprise on the part of the Commissioners, and they commenced asking questions, and the replies were certainly of anything but a complimentary character to Exeter Hall and those British philanthropists who for years past have been laboring so earnestly to benefit the condition of the colored inhabitants of the English colonial settlements in the West Indies. They certainly will feel sore when they learn of the estimation in which they are held by those they desired to improve, and when they know that all they have done, or striven to do, is charged entirely to interested motives.

Seriously speaking, the project for the annexation of the republic of Dominica has resulted in more than we bargained for. The subject has been considered by others than the Dominicans, and the benefits accruing by reason of becoming part and parcel of the great American republic have been fully considered, and the result is evidently in favor of annexation. What is now only a gentle breeze may become in a short time a hurricane that will sweep everything before it—an irresistible torrent that will not be subdued until the influence of the Stars and Stripes and the control of the United States are felt over all the islands of the Caribbean Sea. It is manifest destiny that at some future day they will become States of our republic, and the time may be sooner than we expected. If St. Domingo is annexed Hayti will soon follow, and then the others will fall into the line rapidly, and a result will be arrived at in a few years that centuries might not have accomplished if annexation had not been inaugurated by the present enterprise. England may object for a time to part with her West Indian estates; France may grumble at parting with hers, and so may Denmark and Holland; but they will get over this feeling with a little persuasion of the right kind. Spain will sell after a while, and then the project will be complete. We shall become possessors of territory that should belong to us, and a new era of prosperity will dawn upon those who have experienced much of adversity by reason of their coming under the care and protection of the great North American republic, the government of their choice.

Formal and Informal Christianity.

It is often very curious, on looking over the sermon reports published in the HERALD, to notice how diametrically opposite has been the handling by a couple of preachers of the same or closely allied topics. Let us compare, for instance, the sermon by the Rev. Mr. Northrop yesterday on the Presbyterian Church and Brother Beecher's discourse on "Form versus Life." Mr. Northrop did not take the trouble to show the importance of formal Christianity; he evidently thought that so much ought to be conceded without any waste of breath or time, and he plunged at once into a description and defence of the Kirk. He was very moderate in his language, but he none the less showed clearly that he deemed the Presbyterian form of church government the only one agreeable to the Bible, and very decidedly the best road to heaven. And not only that, but he also casually remarked that Thomas Jefferson, in mapping out the framework of American government, had taken the Presbyterian system of church polity as his model, from which the inference was plain that in politics and polity alike he considered the Bench of Elders and the General Assembly, or something like them, the divinely appointed means of success. He concluded, however, by expressly stating that the inner Christian life was far more important than its outward form, and that salvation was the sure reward of conscientious godliness wherever it might bud and flower.

Beecher, on the other hand, taking the same subject, said boldly that Christ had left us no definite teaching whatever as to the form of church organization. All forms, therefore, though equally necessary, were equally unauthorized, and it really mattered nothing which path to heaven a man chose to take. All that was needful was to believe in the Lord Jesus and to copy His life. If a man complied with those conditions he might