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#### FLOOD'S STOCK OF COIN.

millons Uncarthed by the Great Mining King -How the Bonanza Man Gained His Almost Fabulous Wealth.

That famous bonanza quartette consisting of John W. Mackey, James C. Flood, W. S. O'Brien and Senator James G. Fair have been the talk of the two continents, says the New York Tribune. Their almost fabulous wealth rivaling that of the famous Ormus and of Inde, and the romantic circumstances by which it was acquired, read like a second adition of Dumas' "Monte Cristo."

Take, for instance, the personal history of Mr. Flood. He was born in New York in 1826, of Irish parents, who were about as poor as they well could be. No collegiate education awaited young Flood, but his parents worked and scraped and stinted themselves to give him instruction in the ordinary English branches. Young Flood was attentive to his studies, and when in 1849 he took passage for California in the ship Elizabeth tllen, built by the then famous ship builder, William H. Webb, his brains constituted his sole capital. He had no rich or influential friends to lend him a helping hand. What he is to-day he owes to himself. In 1854 le associated with the late W. S. O'Brien. and the famed firm of Flood & O'Brien was

formed. Concerning the subsequent career of Mr. flood, it may be said that the first notable enterprise engaged in by Flood & O'Brien consisted of operations in the Kentuck and other mines on the Comstock lode, in which they generally contrived to secure a controlling interest. This was as early as 1862.

Their operations in Hale & Norcross a few years later were on a scale so large as to attract general attention to them as mining speculators. But the operation which finally made the name of Flood known throughout the world was compressed within the short space of a few months in the early part of 1875. The existence of those vast bodies of ore in the Consolidated Virginia and California mines which gave them the name of "bonanza," thus adding a permanent word to the English language, was suspected as early as February, 1874, and was made certain by the proprietors in December of that

The two partners saw their fortunes growing with colossal strides each hour. Comparatively poor the morning before they made the great discoveries, they awake to find themselves possessed of nearly \$200,000,-000. Flood was staggered and dazed, and Mr. O'Brien was almost prostrated. And here stands out the sterling character of a day, but with an instinctive generosity, he dealt most liberally with those who had the good fortune to be mis friends.

Many of the rickest families on the Pacific slope trace their wealth directly to Mr. Flood. He dispenced his favors like a prince, and many old Californians admit that to the fortunate circumstance of their good relations with Mr. Flood in years gone by they alone has labored to have the bank grow up in San Francisco, sound in capital and with a reputation throughout the world that shall be built on genuine merit. In appearance Mr. Flood is prepossessing.

strong, and about five feet ten inches high. compactly built and robust. It has been remarked by thoughtful men to whom Mr. Flood has been known from youth that all he s now was foreshadowed in him from the first; that whatever situation he was placed in for the moment he was always equal to. and performed his part in a grave, quiet and thoughtful manner, marked rather by force held in reserve than employed. His bearing toward others is always that of the inborn, natural gentleman, invariably courteous and gentle, and never failing to receive this was in no respect more marked when occopying the humblest position that his birth and early surroundings imposed upon him than now that he is one of the heaviest capi-

Mr. Flood is a persistent and intelligent student of financial history. He cannot be attracted by any Wall street shares, and is an incessant worker during business hours. He is devotedly attached to the home circle, and his surroundings are of the most pleasant character. He spends the winter months at his plain and unostenta-tious residence on Eddy street, in San Francisco, but the summer nights are passed at San Muteo, where Mr. Flood has one of the most attractive country seats on the l'acific coast. Mr. Flood's family consists of a wife and daughter, 'Miss Jennie, who several years ago was engaged to Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., and a son who is traveling around the world in company with a distinguished San Francisco physician.

Mr. Flood's wealth is placed by careful authorities at a trifle over \$100,000,000, but it is a fortune in solid cash, and not subject to the fluctuating circumstances of Gould and Vanderbilt's pile, of which 75 per cent. is

A writer notes the fact that Blaine's name is composed of six letters, and that he was nominated on Friday (six letters), the sixth day of the week, the sixth day of that month, which is the sixth month of the year.

## AMERICA'S GREAT MEN.

CHARACTERISTIC SAVINGS OF STATESMEN AND WARRIORS.

Some one with a good memory for such might make a residable article from the best metal alone is estimated to amount to upward remembered and most characteristic sayings of \$300,000. St. Ivan's, also in Moscow, is 40 of Americans. Here are a few which may feet 9 inches in circumference, 164 inches with time and opportunity :- Samuel Adams, known for many things,

Nation of shop-keepers.

Franklin said many things that have passed into maxims, but nothing that is better known and remembered than-"He has paid dear, very dear, for his whistle."

Washington made but few epigrammatic speeches. Here is one: "To be prepared for war is the most effectual means of preserving peace.' Did you ever hear old John Dickenson

Well, he wrote of Americans, in 1768: "By miting we stand, by dividing we fall."

Patrick Henry, as every school-boy knows,

lave us: "Give me liberty or give me death," and "if this be treason, make the Thomas Payne had many quotable epigram-matic sentences: "Rose like a rocket, fell

like a stick," "Times that try men's souls," "One step from the sublime to the ridicu

Josiah Quincy, Jr., said : "Wheresoever, pon to make our exit, we will die free men." Henry Lee gave Washington his immortal of Deputies

title of "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.

Charles Coatsworth Pickrey declared in favor of "Millions for defence, but not one cent for tribute."

"Peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must," is from Josiah Quincy, 1811.

John Adams did not say: "Live or die, survive or perish, I'm for the Constitution, but Daniel Webster did say it for him. Davy Crocket is the author of "Be sure you are right, and then go ahead."

Andrew Jackson gave us "The Union-it must be preserved."

TomCorwin's "welcome with bloody hands to hospitable graves," one of his noblest utterances, gave him more unenviable criticism than any other saying in his life. Douglas applied "squatter sovereignty,"

though it is probable that Cass invented and Calhoun named it. Stringfellow was the original "Border

War times gave us no end of epigrammatic utterances. Those of Lincoln alone would fill a volume. Chiefest of all these that noble sentiment, "With charity for all and malice towards none."

McClellan's chief expicit was to make us acquainted with the phrase "Change of

Grant gave us. "fight it out on this line," unconditional surrender," I propose to move immediately upon your works," "bottled up," and others.

Sherman gave utterance to the great truth, showing at once statesmanship and military "The Confederacy is a shell," and he had the rare felicity of practically demoustrating his own theorem by the "March to the Sea.

Sheridan's character and his style of fighting are expressed by "Sent them whirling up the Valley.'

Pope's unforturate order from "Head quarters in the Saddle," gave General Lee opportunity for the one solitary joke of his life time-" What can you expect of a gentleman who puts his headquarters where his hindquarters ought to be. Butler cut through one of the knottiest

problems of the war with the name "Contrasand.

#### POLITICS IN BELGIUM.

Strangers cannot sojourn a week in Belgium without hearing of the political differences, for they somewhat disturb the harmonies of social life; and this has been especially the case since 1880, when M. Frère Orban's Liberal Cabinet passed an education bill or from the diminution of its efficacy. which deprived the Roman Catholic clergy The protest insists on the univer-of the control they had formerly exer sal and non-Italian character of the of the control they had formerly exer-"Jim" Flood. He was not content to see his cised over the State primary schools. A new own fortune rolling up at the rate of \$100,000 | measure for the extension of the suffrage at provincial and municipal elections further has students of all nationalities, destined to accentuated the social hostility between Catholics and Liberals, and it deserves attention always at least one-half of the students are as marking a departure from the cautious of the English tongue and are destined for policy hitherto pursued by both parties as the English colonies or for the United States. tegards electoral reform. Power has The missionaries are destined to labor in never yo been held in Belgium by North America, including Canada, in India, men of extreme views. M. Frere-Orban, Japan, China Australia, New Zealand and 2 Liberal of the doctrinaire or whig type, has attribute their being rich instead of poor. It no more fondness for universal suffrage than is stated that the great Bank of Nevada the leader of the Catholic opposition, M. originated with Mr. Flood, and for years he Malou: but this year the government found no more fondness for universal suffrage than itself with a deficit of a million sterling in its budget, and proposals for new taxes on spirits and tobacco, moved by M. Graux, the Finance Minister could only be carried by a compromise with a dozen members of the Lower House who were bent on Parliamentary re-

A FATAL PLEDGE.

Parties are so nearly balanced in the Chamber of Representatives that had these twelve rembers gone into opposition the Ministry must have been defeated. As it was, M. Granx's budget was only passed by a majorisy of six, and the fulfilment of the pledge gir en to the reform group became, under the circumstances, a matter of immediate necessity. The bill for the extension of the suffrage passed the Chamber of Representatives like consideration from those he meets. And by a vote of 62 to 41. It adds 60,000 elecors to the former number. The present Ministers are not in favor with the Radicals, whose programme includes a revision of the constitution, an extension of the suffrage, compulsory education and the separation of Church and State. This schism in the Liberal ranks gave the Catholics a good chance of raining a few seats and getting into power.

## WRITS FOR LIBEL.

Writs for libel have been served upon Mr. Parnell, Justin McCarthy, Jos. Kenny, and other owners of United Ireland.

THE WORLD'S GREAT BELLS.

THE KING OF BELLS AT MOSCOW THE LARGEST OF THEM ALL.

Russia is in the lead in the line of bells, some of her manufacture being the most famous of the world. It is said that in Moscow alone, before the great fire, there were no fewer than 1,706 large bells. One, called the Giant, which was cast in the sixteenth century and broken by falling from its support, and recast in 1654, was so large that it required twenty-four men to ring it. Its weight was estimated at 288,000 pounds. It was suspended from an immense beam at the foot of a bell-tower, but it again fell during the fire of June 19, 1706, and was a second time broken to fragments, which were used with additional materials in 1732 in casting the King of Bells, still to be seen in Moscow. Some falling timbers in the fire of 1737 broke a piece from its side, which has never been replaced. This bell is estimated to weigh 443,732 pounds. it is 19 feet 3 inches high and measures around the margin 60 feet 9 inches. Its value in serve as specimens of what might be done, with time and opportunity:— thick and weighs 227,830 pounds. The bells of China rank next to those of Russia, in size. In Pekin there are seven bells, each seldom has his name associated with the of which, according to Father Le Compt, phrase frst applied by him to England—weighs 120,000. The weight of the leading

great bells of the world may be seen in
following:—
King of Bells (Moscow)448,
St. Ivan's (Mosoow)
Pekin
Vienna 40,
Olmutz (Bohemia)
Rouen (France)
St. Paul's 38,
"Big Ben" (Westminster 30,
Montreal 28,
St. Peter's (Rome)

## THE PROPAGANDA LAWS.

Paris, June 20 .- The Figaro's correspondent at Rome says that President Arthur has instructed the American minister there to act in concert with the ministers of England, Austria and Spain, in an effort to obtain from Signor Mancini, Italian Minister of Foreign Jefferson's writings are so besprinkled that it is difficult to select. In despair we jump at "Few die and none resign," certainly as applicable to office-holders now as in Jefferson's time. regulate the question in a manner satisfactory to the Vatican when the subject of a whensoever, or howsoever we shall be called general reorganization of ecclesiastical property in Italy shall come before the Chamber

The Holy Father on the Documents of History -Protest of the English Episcopate-The New Rector of the American College.

Rome, June 10th .-- Two Hungarian ecclesiastics, Canon Fraknoi and the Abbé Farhany were received in special audience on Sunday, 25th May. They were charged with the task of presenting to His Holiness the two first volumes of a new history of Hungary, founded on documents in the Archives of the Vatican. The learned of this nation have been amongst the first to profit by the generous act of His Holiness in opening more widely to students the treasures of the Vatican Archives. In reply to the address delivered by Canon Fraknoi in Latin on presenting these volumes. His Holiness replied in a Latin discourse, during which he said: "Far from having anything to fear for the Church or the Sovereign Pontiffs from the research of truth, we are convinced that this research can only be profitable to them. The documents of history, also, carefully explored, are of great utility to put in relief the benefits of the Church and the Roman Pon tificate, in so far as they cor-rect and refute the most of the opinions which negligence or hatred has een able to accredit. When the darkness of the Middle Ages were not yet dissipated, and minds were delivered to fatal dissensions. your ancesters received from this Apostolic See those gifts which you call to mindhumanity and peace, civil and sacred discipline, morals, science, laws, confidence in adversity, glory in prosperity. Again, according to the diversity of times and places, the other nations have been gratified by analogous benefits on the part of the Roman Pontiffs, and these benefits, we are confident, will be placed in a clear light by means of a profound study of the matters of history, a study which is now pursued with aplor under our authority and auspices." His Holiness, in concluding, gave to those present, and to all those of whom he had spoken, the Apostolic Benediction.

against the sentence of the Court of Cassation on the conversion of the property of the Propaganda is published in the Ossi rvatore Romano of the 30th of May It is addressed to Mr. W. E. Gladstone, M. P., and sets forth the reason why Her Majesty's Government is asked to interfere in the question in order to protect the Propaganda from ulterior injury Propaganda and mentions the fact that the Urban College annexed to this Institution missionary labors in all nations, and that in Africa. It is also noted that anything which impoverishes Propaganda or paralyses its energies, is seriously felt by the Roman Catholic subjects of Her Majesty, and that all the administration of the Holy See over the Catholic Church in the British Empire and in the United States is conducted free of expense by the Propaganda.

THE PROTEST OF THE ENGLISH EPISCOPATE

Very Rev. William Kiernan, D.D., Rector and Professor of Documetic Theology of the Seminary of St. Clarles Borromeo, Overbrook, Perksylvania, has been appointed Rector of the American College at Rome, in succession to the late Mgr. Hostlot. The new Rector was born in Philadelphia in 1849, and his classical studies were pursued at St. Charles' Seminary. His theological course was made at the Propaganda, where, on account of his profeiency, he was awarded the title of D.D., and ordained in the priesthood in 1872. Returning to America he was appointed Rector of St. Charles' Seminary by Archbishop Wood in 1879.

CANADA AND THE PROPAGANDA THE CATHOLIC PETITION FORWARDED TO THE QUEEN.

Department of the Secretary of State, \ Canada, Ottawa, June 2, 1884. –

My LORD ARCHRESTOP :- With reference to the petition to Her Majesty the Queen, of the Roman Catholic & rehbishop and Bishops of the ecclesiastical province of Toronto, dated the 14th April last, praying for the interposition of Her Majesty on behalf of her subjects with the Italian Government in the matter of the confiscation of the property of the Propaganda of Rome, I have the honor to inform your Grace that the petition in question has been transmitted to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the purpose of being laid at the foot of the throne. I have the honor to be, my Lord Archbishop, your Grace's obedient servant,

W. Powell, Under-Secretary of State. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto.

HERCULEAN MISS HURST. THE GIRL OF SUPERNATURAL STRENGTH ON EXHIBITION AT WASHINGTON.

Washington, June 18 .- In response to an invitation from the parents of the so-called Georgia prodigy, Professors Hilgard and Taylor, of the Smithsonian Anstitute, attended last evening a seance given at the Metropolitan Hotel for the purpose of witnessing an exhibition of the powers of the young woman. It has been claimed for Miss Hurst that she is able to coin at will nervous strength sufficient to overcome the muscular resistance of the strongest man. The exhibition was in the presence of Senator Ransom, Congressman Recse of Georgia, Congressman Willetts and wife, Judge Harris of Virginia, Richard Townshend and a number of people prominent in Washington politics and socially. The result of the performance was sufficiently mystifying to make Miss Hurst very popular with people seeking after

ple, the Georgia girl showed herself possessor of most curious strength. With entire confidence in the newly elected officers, an umbrella held by a stout young man from whom he felt assured would labor earnestly among the spectators, she was able to shoot to advance the cause which they all had at the umbrella through space by a simple exercise of her will Congressman Reese, of Georgia, who is a very powerful man, tried to hold a chair in his arms while Miss Hurst rested her hands lightly upon it. The the high and important office of secretary, an chair was forced down in spite of the most violent struggles of the muscular Congressman until it was about two inches from the floor. "Now push the chair down to the Short addresses were also made by Ex-Ald floor." cried Father Hurst. Mr. Reese P. Kennedy, T. Butler, W. Rawley, J. D. floor," cried Father Hurst. Mr. Reese changed his resisting powers and bore his whole weight upon the chair without being

still under the touch of the young woman, but in vain. It was tested in various ways, gard refused to personally take part in any of the experiments, which were made under their inspection, and could give no explana-tion of the peculiar power displayed. There by the rev. gentleman, the meeting was is no claim upon the part of the Hurst family brought to a close.

CATHOLIC EVENTS IN EUROPE. of any supernatural explanation of the young woman's powers. For nine months she has been the possessor of the nervous strength exhibited this evening. She can raise chairs in which stout men are seated by simply placing her palms on the back of the chair. This was done this evening with various well-known gentlemen who were present. Miss Hurst is a strong, healthylooking country girl. She claims to be in perfect gale of spirits when exhibiting her strength. She laughs nervously at every movement of the strong men in their mad struggles to resist the lightest pressure of her hands. Congressman Blount, of Georgia, who was present, thought it would have been a most excellent thing if Bill Morrison could have secured Miss Hurst's support early in the session for his tariff bill.

#### IRISH CATHOLIC TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

IRISH CATHOLIC SOCIETIES IN CONVENTION

-ELECTION OF OFFICERS. On June 17 the annual meeting of the Irish Catholic Temperance Convention was held in the parlor attached to St. Ann's Church. The various societies were represented by delegates as follows: St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society: Messrs. Geo. Murphy, J. J. Costigan, W. Rawley and M. C. Lawlor. St. Ann's: Messrs, P. Kennedy, 1st vice-president, J. D. Quinn, P. Flannery, P. Riley and Wm. Davis. St. Bridgets: Messrs. Dugald Macdonald, 1st vice-president; Thos. Hefferman, John J. Moran, Patrick Kehoe and Michael O'Donnell. St. Gabriel's: Messrs. T. Butler, Joseph Pheion, P. H. Herbert and John O'Neill.

The meeting was opened with prayer. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Presi-

dent, Father M. Callaghan. The annual report for the past year was read and gave the details of the workings of the Convention since its formation. The report also made special reference to the first annual religious celebration, which took place in St. Patrick's Church on March 23rd, and f the sermon preached by the esteemed pastor of St. Patrick's.

The appointment of officers for the current cear then took place and resulted as follows: President, Rev. J. B. Whittaker, of St. Ann's Church; lay president, Mr. Dugald Macdonald; secretary, Mr. James J. Costigan; treasurer, Mr. John O'Neill.

The installation of the officers elect was then proceeded with. The retiring president, Rev. Father M. Callaghan, addressed the meeting in sentiments which all endorsed and in language which all admired. He said : Before abdicating my position as President of the Irish Catholic Temperance Convention it may not be inopportune to make a few obcircumstances had I shrunk from ac-I appreciated my dignity though realizing my incompetency to uphold ( it. I felt constrained to brave all perils and nerved to all manner of heroism. I could not but recall the attitude of Marshal McMahon after scaling the dizzy heights of the Malakoff and repeated to myself the memorable words which he uttered on that occasion, " $\mathcal{F}y$  suis ct j'y restr!" ("Here I am, and here I stay.") You are convinced-and no conviction is more justifiable -of the importance of the temperance cause. It wields no small influence and its degree of usefulness cannot be exaggerated. It affects both our temporal and eternal welfare. I admire the philagethrophy and Christian's benevolence which originated the Irish Catholic Temperance Cunvention, and I congratulate you on the manner in which you have discharged your duties as members of this convention. Nothing could be more creditable. You were desirous of acomplishing all the good which be imagined. It was not necessary. such a thing looks a practical impossibility. You have displayed prudence, and prudence is a virtue whice cannot be too carefully cultivated by individuals, societies and conventions. Whenever you met you were conspicuous for your zeal and intelligence. Nothing reflected greater lustre upon your association than the spirit of harmony which marked your mutual intercourse. Doubtless it is an honor to preside over your august body. It is furthermore a great happiness. The Irish Catholic Temperance is now firmly established on the banks of the St. Lawrence and will endure. Its very existence is a glory to our nationality and creed. It is planted and

ing, and may Heaven bless all the steps which you may take.
The Rev. Father O'Donnell, representing Father Whittaker, having taken the chair, then addressed the meeting. He trusted that the zeal and good will of all connected with the convention would continue in its onward tendency, and that the results this time next year would prove that they had all been faithful in the performance of their respective duties. On motion of ex-Alderman Kennedy, seconded by Mr. John O'Neill, a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring president, Rev. Father Callaghan, in reply to which the rev. gentleman said that from his initiation he had confidence in the success of the movement. With the harmony at present shown, there could be no doubt that much good would

blossoming under the most auspicious in-

fluences. Your prospects are most encourag-

be accomplished. Mr. Dugald Macdonald, lay president elect, made a few well-chosen remarks, and among others referred to the fact that the pledge had been administered to him by the Rev. Father M. Callaghan, then present. He said he found some difficulty in accepting the position to which he had been elected, owing to the fact that he was a Scotchman, but that might he counterbalanced when he stated that his wife was an Irishwoman.

Mr. P. Flannery, the retiring lay president, thanked the members of the Conventhe new and unexplainable.

In the clear light of a blazing chandelier, in the presence of about fifty watchful peoin the presence of about fifty watchful peovention could not be overrated, he hoped it would go on and prosper. He expressed his

> beart. Mr. Jas. J. Costigan being called upon made a short address, in the course of which he thanked those present for electing him to honor which he would do his utmost to up-

Mr. John O'Niell followed in a neat speech. Quinn, Thos. Heffernan, J. J. Moran and others.

A committee was appointed to draft a conable to make it touch the floor.

A committee was appointed to draft a conThis experiment was repeated with two stitution to be presented at the next quarmen, and then three tried to hold the chair terly meeting of the convention for approval. A suggestion to have an annual gathering of the members of the convention and their but no one was strong enough to resist the friends was discussed and lett over until next so-called force. Professors Taylor and Hil-meeting. After a vote of thanks, moved by meeting. After a vote of thanks, moved by Mr. George Murphy and seconded by ex-Ald. Kennedy, had been passed to the Rev. Father extreme. Hence, at a ease, or at a place of O'Donnell and a suitable reply made thereto public amusement, in the presence of centle-

# PEARL OF THE ANTILLES.

NATURAL BEAUTIES OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

Its Magnificent Topography - The Various Races which Inhabit It-Their Manners Condition-Jefferson on the Annexation of the Island—Spanish Misgovernment.

Of all those islands which have rendered the genius of Columbus and the crimes of Cortes and Pizarro immortal Cuba and Porto Rico alone remain to the descendants of Ferdinand and Isabella. Cuba is not only the largest but the most important of all the West India Islands. It commands the eitrance of the Gulf of Mexico, and is aptly designated the sentinel of the Mississippi. It also commands the trade to Mexico, the Central American Republic and North Brazil, as well as the present traffic of the isthmus. It locks the gates of the ship canal that will some day reverse the stream of trade castward from China, Japan and Eastern Asia, from the Pacific scaboard and its metropolis at San Francisco. From her geographical position alone Cuba ought to be an object of consideration to the United States. The for-tunes of the island can touch no other power so nearly.

The epithets lavished upon Cuba cresufficient to indicate the importance attached to its possession. It is called "The Queen of the Antilles," "The Key of the Gulf," and the fertility of the soil, the beauty of the climate and its commanding position justify the encomfums implied in these terms. Caba is about ninety-tive miles from the nearest point of Jamaica, from Hayti, fifty miles; about 120 miles from the coast of Tabasco and Yucatan in Mexico, and 150 miles from Florida.

The population of Cuba is estimated at the present time at nearly 1,400,000. According to recent statistics the number of the popula tion of the whole island is as follows: Whites, 705,000; free negroes, 351,000; negro slaves, 220,000, and Chinese, 58,000.

The total number of estates on the island is not far from 14,000, which may be divided as follows: Coffee plantations, 1,862; sugar plantations, 1,442; tobacco plantations, 912; grazing and fruits, 9,930. The annual products are valued at \$609,000,000. Some of the principal are estimated as follows: Sugar, \$49,500,000; fruits, \$14,2000,000; coffee, \$6,000,000; molasses, \$1,450,000; eigars, \$4.-300,000; leaf tobacco, \$600,0000. The annual imports of the island amount to \$50,000,000, the exports about \$33,000,000.

The capital city of Cuba is built on the servations. In nowise did I court the high and responsible office with which I have been chosen because the channel between Cuba and invested during the last twelve months. It the mainland of North America was found was placed in my hands by Divine Providence, and I should have done violence to vessels bound to Europe from Mexico. Havana, however, is not only the principal city. but has long been the greatest commercial emporium of the West India Islands. The shape of the town, like the harbor, is semicircular. Like many other towns within the tropies, it appears at a distance as if embosomed in a wood of palm and other trees of great novelty and beauty of form. It has been truly said that both the Old and New World meet in Cuba. Havana seems like a piece of Spain that has drifted into the Atlastic. Approaching the city from Europe or America the eye is riveted by the variety and brilliancy of the penorama. On one side are fortifications, resembling these of Malta, hown out of the dark gray rock, and along the perspets may be seen times of soldiers in white landforms, with the ancient Spanish banner, red and gold, waving along the shore to the right of the entrance. their broad, fatherly fronts, the whole city basking in the sun and resembling an immense number of showy articles of porcelain and glass on a stall of fancy wares. In the harbor float old-fashioned gondolas, not black like those of Venice, but brilliant and beauti-

any city either in Europe or America.

The riches and magnificence of Havana have frequently excited the capidity of invaders, and it has been, therefore, repeatedly subject to attacks by hostile armaments. It was taken by a French pirate in 1563; afterat the peace of 1763.

as also of the whole island, was rated so high, as already hinted, not only on account of the more from great political and commercial considerations, as it was the key of the Spanish possessions in South America and the harbor in which all the galloons and merchant vessels were accustomed to assemble before they departed on their voyage to Europe.

The desire of the possession of Cuba by the United States is said to have existed ever since the days of Jefferson, who, in his letters to President Monroe in 1823, says: "I candidly confess that I have ever looked on Cuba as the most interesting addition which could control which, with Florida Point, this island came independent a prosperous commerce might be maintained between her and the mother country, resulting from ancient associations, common language and tastes, which would be far more productive than the best contrived system of colonial taxation.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INHABITANTS. As in every country cursed with slavery,

the principal inhabitants of Cuba are enervated by the indolence and love of ease. An effeminate luxury distinguishes the residents of the towns in their houses, pleasures and by immobility. Under any circumstances occupations. All are addicted to games of Cuba will be free. The spirit of liberty is chance, such as cards and lotteries. With the love of bullfights and cockfights they seem to be infatuated. The respect and devotion with which the fair sex are treated is remarkable, and is a Spanish characteristic which history, romance and poetry have combined to celebrate. A woman is regarded as a sacred object by a Cuban, as by a Spaniard, and a true hidalgo would shrink from committing the slightest outrage on her person. Spanish courtesy or gallantry to a lady, indeed, is often, as would be thought at least in America, carried to an men, ladies are seldem allowed to pay their share of the charge, although the party may Bolton.

be strangers to each other. One, or more, of the gentlemen present delicately signifies to the waiter, by a private sign, in order that he may receive no thanks, his intention to satisfy the demand, so that the waiter, on a request by his fair purchaser for his account, politely replies that the repast, or entertainment, or purchased article, of whatever kind, "costs nothing." In personal appear-ance the dons and hidalgos of Cuba are naturally assimilated to their ancestors of old Spain, while the character of the general population is extremely varied, both as to the physical features and costume -circumstances which add greatly to the picturesque effect of the whole seene, Spanish, French. American, Italian, Dutch, African, Creole, Indian, Chinese, presenting every shade of color and variety of countenance that can be imagined. The different styles of physiognomy among the natives of old Spain are also very evident in the population of large towns. One has refined features, and oval countenance; this distinguishes those of Castilian descent. Another has a round countenance, flat, broad features; this marks the Catalonian. The Castilian is generally found among government officials: the Catalonian among merchants and trades-people. The fruitfulness of the soil of Cuba is at-

tested in the richness of its vegetable produc-

tions. Cuba is considered even more fertile than any of the other islands, with the only exception, probably, of Trinidad. The sacred writers often borrow images of abundance, beauty and majesty from the rich productions and magnificent scenery of the lofty chain which formed the northern boundary of the Holy Land. In the language of Oriental metaphor " Lebanon bathes his foot in oil, he is dothed with silk, his arms are laden with fruit, and his head of snow is wreathed with diadem of forests." To Cuba these lescriptions will almost equally apply. It was to this lovely island Columbus referred in his first communication to his royal patrons. Ferdinand and Isabella. "The oveliness of the new land," says he, "is like that of Campina de Cordoba. The trees are all covered with ever verdant foliage and perpetually laden with fruit and flowers. The plants on the ground are tall and full of blossoms. The breezes are like those of April in Castile. It seems to me as if I could never quit a spot so delightful as if a thousand tongues would fail to describe it as if the pell bound hand would refuse to write, Among the fruits of Cuba, the pincapple may be ranked first. Oranges, shaddocks and the forbidden fruit grow wild. Groves of lemons and sweet limes are scattered over the island. Among the esculent roots the sweet and bitter yuca are the most remarkable. A kind of meal called capara is obtained from this root. A singular property of this bitter yuen is that, in a raw state, it is highly poisonous, but when boiled may be caten with safety. Indian corn is indigenous in Cuba, and rice is grown in large quantities. The value of the plantain is very great. The best agriculturists state that 600 plants will suffice for the support of ten individuals during a year, and that thirty-two acres of plantains will maintain 160 persons during the same length of time. The plant hiquilete, from which indigo is prepared, grows wild in Cuba. Coffee, sugar and tobacco form the staple articles of trade, though there can be little doubt that manufacturers of indigo and cotton would be highly productive.

GOVERNMENT.

The government of Cuba is engrafted on that of old Spain. Being thus an integral part of the monarchy it is governed like the provinces of that parent State, and divided into three introdencies Western, Central and Eastern. The government of Cuba, though similar to that of the parent State, is much more oppressive. It is a kind of miliin the passing currents of air. Below there, tary despotism, or rather an oligarchy, in which the love of dominion is carried to a to the harbor toward the comparts, speciels of fanaticism and degraded into the town, particolored, like Damascus. The meanness. As nothing is too large for its species of fanaticism and degraded into lay in your power. You have succeeded, houses are blue, pink, searlet, yellow, with ambition, so nothing is too small for its cu-You did not achieve all the good which might be imagined. It was not necessary. Nay, and shading the streets and squares with digestion omnivorous. There are no limits to its rapacity. The legislative, the judicial and the executive power are almost entirely in the hands of the governor. Indeed, the power with which he is invested is almost equal in extent to that granted to governors of besieged towns. ful. Altogether Havena has a peculiar Even the higher classes may be said to have character and a romantic life unlike that of no civil rights—neither those of personal liberty, personal security, nor personal property-immunities declared by an eminent jurist as inalienable. The taxation is said to exceed in variety and extent that any taxation imposed by any government in any country of its size upon earth, viz., upwards ward by English and French buccaneers, and subsequently by the British, under the Duke of Albemarle, in the reign of George III. It was, however, restored to Spain by England appropriated to the wants of the country itt the peace of 1763.

But the value and importance of the city, salso of the whole island, was rated so high, all inflential and lucrative offices and positions. The judges and most of the officials are from treasures it was found to contain, but still | Spain, and, being without salaries, like so many vultures they prey upon the unprotected within their jurisdiction. There are no means dishonest, tyrannical or cruel which the Spanish authorities have left untried in their apparent endeavors to ruin the colony. Bribery and corruption seem to be recognized as necessary methods of their government. Some of the officials plead the excuse of necessity and that insufficient remuneration for their services obliges them to have every possible means of adding to their incomes. Others, whose position and the amount of ever be made to our system of States. The whose salaries ought to place them far above such dishonest practices, satisfy would give us over the Gulf of Mexico and their consciences by alleging the custom of the countries and isthmus bording it would the island. Every man has his price, from fill up the measure of our political well be- the Captain-General downward, to the lowest At the same time, it is natural to sup- grade of officials. As in all the former colonies pose, there is a desire on the part of Cubans of old Spain, the laws are not so objectionable themselves for annexation. The late Senator as the manner in which they are executed or Charles Sumner strongly opposed annexing evaded. The press of the country is under her by purchase, but he recommended that such consorship that the very incidents of the United States Government should use everyday life are often excluded at the will every means to free her "from her present and caprice of one individual, who is appointed and caprice of one individual, who is appointed state and impending destiny." If Cuba be- to scrutinize the most trifling article before it can be presented to the public. At the present time, notwithstanding the preparations recently made for the repression of the "sporadic revolt on the island," which can only beregarded as a paroxysmofthe Government, the pithy phrase of Sully is equally applicable asin the time of its first ulterance: ' is one of those states which have strong arms, but a weak and debilitated heart." Amidst the splendor of its court and the pomposity

> their blood still marks the spot where they But freedom's battle once begun, Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son, Though baffled oft is always won.

> of its language her government feels itself

really weak, and seeks to conceal its weakness

abroad among her people. The fire is still smouldering within her citadel. A few who have dared to "do or die" have fallen, and

MR. O'BRIEN, M.P., FINED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT.

DUBLIN, June 18 .- The Court of Queen's Bench has fined Wm. O'Brien, editor of United Ireland, £500 for contempt in connec. tion with a libel suit brought against him by