

nationalities on this continent to bow down in meekness to the would-be conqueror, or be bought soul, body and possessions, like ice-ribbed Walrussia or volcanic and tempest-torn St. Thomas. He has often in his self-will and intermittent obstinacy, been a thorn in the side of the Cabinet and has spoiled by "red tape" and the "circumlocution office" the matured and otherwise approved plans of many a general; but being shrewd as a tactician, able, earnest, and ever plodding, he retains a surprising hold on the good opinions of a people, who, during the war had been most fickle in attachments to public men, who through extraneous circumstances were partially unsuccessful. The man who has paeans sung in his praise to-day, may be the object of vile vituperation to-morrow. Seward has not been exempt from blame, nor has he passed unscathed through an eventful period in his country's history, nor has he escaped the shafts of low scurrility, which have been hurled *ad libitum* at conspicuous men, yet with great tenacity he has comparatively kept his reputation good and his influence unimpaired north and south, with democrats as well as with republicans. This is more to be wondered at when we consider how abrupt, pointed and sharp he is in his manner of speech to all and sundry who transact business with him. In fact he may be called "crusty" were it not you saw that his manner was natural and his laconic, *brusque*, replies unintentionally such. His labours are very arduous, and have very little pleasantness in their details; but Seward is fond of power and popularity and no doubt enjoys his position. The snarls he has engaged in against our august mother—Great Britain—indicate a normal habit rather than vicious propensities, and have been as harmless as those of a lapdog or the echo of his own voice. He is a representative man and as such must *pretend* to possess innate chronic hatred to old staunch Britannia, yet at heart, he possibly may not be unfriendly to us and our institutions. We have not the gift of prophecy, but we would not be surprised to see him installed as Secretary of State in the Grant administration. A more laborious statesman could not be found in the Republic, nor do we know of one better versed in international law. It has been his "speciality" and his delight since he came into public notice, and has done him good service during the recent delicate complications between Britain, France, Spain and the United States.

GENERAL MEADE.

Very little was known of General Meade, outside of military circles, until he was called to the command of the army of the Potomac a few days previous to the battle of Gettysburgh. His partial success at that time gained him some credit, but not as much as he deserved, for if his army had been routed and demoralized to the extent the same forces were under McDowell, McClellan, Pope and Hooker, Washington could not escape capture and a new impetus given to the struggle. But the tenacity, bravery and well-planned tactics of jaded soldiers and anxious leaders repeatedly repulsed, saved the Northern army and people a disgrace, and virtually broke the back of the rebellion. The lowest depths had been reached and the ascent had commenced. Although Meade did not utterly discomfit Gen. Lee's army, yet he checked the enemy's victorious career through Maryland and Pennsylvania. His tardiness after the battle was looked upon much more leniently than was that of Gen. McClellan after the battle of Antietam. The people had been taught patience. The clamorous and spit-fire press which had forced many a general to fight unprepared, was being taught caution. All the American people knew that Lee was repulsed but not defeated and that he could still, on the