

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

(From the London Times.)

A few nights since, Lord Palmerston addressed the House on the differences that have arisen with America. In answer to Mr. Cobden's arguments, he gave to the world a statement of the rise and present state of the dispute, and appealed to his hearers for a justification which will hardly be withheld. With respect to the affairs of Central America, he stated what is well known to be the fact, that the spirit of the treaty concluded was to prevent further acquisitions of territory by either of the contracting powers. As England has long possessed a colony of more or less importance on this coast, her ministers understood the treaty to refer to further settlements, and not to those already made. The United States took a different view, and demanded the immediate evacuation of the territory we had fancied secured to us. Here was a difficulty somewhat hard to be overcome; "but," says Lord Palmerston, "we have offered to refer the matter to arbitration." Whatever may be the general opinion, as to the merits of this mode of decision, it at least shows good faith in the party that proposes it, and the declaration of Lord Palmerston was received with applause, by an assembly which, while jealous for its own country's dignity, is not unmindful of what is due to the spirit of peace. With equal frankness, did the British premier point out the incidents of the second dispute. We are threatened with a suspension of international relations. The two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race will only correspond officially by means of a consul, or, at most, a secretary. Possibly no great harm may arise from a short cessation of diplomatic activity; but the cause of this mutual interdict, and not the thing itself, is of grave importance. Such an interruption is generally looked upon as approaching nearly to a state of hostility. In fact, in such a case everything has been done which usually precedes the first irrevocable blow—the great letting out of the waters of strife. The House then listened with attention to the words of the first minister. He stated that in the directions for the enlistment in Canada strict orders were given, that nothing should be done to infringe the municipal regulations of the States or violate the laws of the union. He added, moreover, that when it was found, this enlistment might cause offence to the American Government and people, orders were given for its cessation, and this before any remonstrance was received. When official representations were made complaining of an alleged infringement of American law, the British government expressed its regret at once and without reserve. Lord Palmerston thus explicitly stated, that his government first did all that it could to avoid giving offence, and when charged with discourtesy promptly apologised. This declaration was received with cheers by the British house of commons. The temper of the government and the national representatives was fully evinced at this sitting. The feeling of the public we believe we have expressed, and it fully coincides with that of the ministry and the commons. A sincere desire for peace, a wish to make any honourable concession, a regret that any alleged act of ours should have caused a difficulty between the two countries, animates all classes and will determine their future conduct.

Turn now to America. From the Five Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico we believe no thinking American fails to perceive that, if his country be brought into hostilities with our own, the Central American affair and the recruiting office are not motives, but pretences. To the few, principally immigrants, who detest England and look forward to a struggle with satisfaction, we shall not speak. But of the mass of Americans we would ask, whether their government can disturb the peace of the world in these disputes without incurring the just reprobation of every free nation? Can it be denied, that these matters might be settled at once if it were the wish of one or two men at Washington to settle them? Can it be denied that even in the President's cabinet some moderate politicians are over-

borne by the recklessness of colleagues who wish to gain popularity at the expense of the nation's peace? We believe that the ministers of President Pierce are divided in their convictions and their motives of action. The following is said to be the state of parties. The Attorney-general, Mr. Caleb Cushing, has been the leading spirit in these differences. He is said not to object to war, or at least to such an approach to it, as may give him popularity and a reputation for high spirit throughout the States. As a law officer of the Government, his language should have been cautious and his conduct moderate; how far both have fallen short of such an ideal we may judge from the letters bearing his signature that have appeared in print. Mr. Cushing has much influence with the President, and they are probably bound together by an identity of political objects. It is stated that Mr. Marcy, the Secretary of State, is opposed to the warlike demonstrations of his colleague and his chief. If the settlement of these disputes depended on him and the British Minister, matters would not long remain unarranged. The prolonged stay of Mr. Crampton in Washington is said to be due to his moderation. Now, the present state of affairs seems to be, that Mr. Marcy has so far yielded as to join in the despatch of a positive demand for Mr. Crampton's recall. The President and Attorney-General wished the demand to be categorical, and so to necessitate a rupture, but Mr. Marcy is said to have prevailed so far, as to frame it in a manner which will allow of further correspondence. We have thus a proof of the temper which rules the men on whom the destinies of the two nations for the time depend.

From this description of affairs, which we believe to be correct, it is impossible not to draw a conclusion in favour of our own Government. We are the less reserved in doing so, because the worst that can be said against their own politicians always comes from the lips of Americans. It is no invention of the British press, that senators and secretaries of state are ready to bring their nation to the brink of war, in order to prolong their own power or embarrass their successors. Even the phrase "political capital," which so well expresses what is gained by such courses, is not of English origin. The debate in the senate, which was in progress when the last steamer left, will probably be full of the usual invectives against England. The antipathies of the old and the enthusiasm of the younger speakers will both find vent in defiance to this country. The American public, we learn, is pretty well aware of what each speaker will say, and we are happy to believe, that some of the most acrimonious will have but little weight. Yet it cannot be doubted that the accusations will be many, and the apologies few. We cannot, however, but think that such an exhibition will lessen the character of the American Senate by its strong contrast to the moderation and good sense of our own representatives. Even in the opinion of Americans, those men must sink, who talk of war only through a belief that their words will be without effect, and who, perhaps, are only suffered so to declaim by the indifference of their countrymen; for that such paltry disputes should involve two such nations in a struggle which would be fought out on every sea, we cannot believe. Although it does not lessen the demerit of those who tamper with international good will, yet we, in common with almost all Englishmen, think that the bonds of a common language and civilisation are too strong to be broken by a dissension to which nine-tenths on both sides of the Atlantic are totally indifferent. Not through any fear of war, for England was never so strong or so well prepared as now, but from sincere love of peace and its inestimable benefits, we trust that American statesmen will be actuated by the same spirit which our own rulers have shown.

SMART.—A countryman entered a daguerrotype saloon a few days since, and wished a daguerrotype of his uncle. "I can do it, sir, but where is he?" "Oh, he's dead!" was the simple reply, "but I've got a description of him in an old passport."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—The rumour prevailed, that a new Governor—a gentleman of colonial birth—was about to be appointed, and great curiosity, with no small degree of excitement, was manifested to ascertain who and what the new-comer was to be.—Acadian Recorder.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A young man named Gough met with his death a few days since, at Musquodoboit, in the following manner. He was out in the woods moose-hunting. Having stooped down to examine some tracks in the snow, he was in the act of straightening himself up when he was observed from a distance by another man, who was in the woods with the same object, and mistaken for a moose. The consequence was that he was instantly fired at, received the charge in his body, and died a few hours afterwards.—Acadian Recorder.

Capt. George Lewis, of P. E. Island, who came passenger in the America, reports having passed on the 19th inst., when three days out, a steamer which having no bowsprit and a straight stem, was supposed to be one of the Collins line. She was standing to the Eastward and appeared to be going slow. The distance between the two steamers when they passed each other was about thirteen miles. There is some difference of opinion as to whether the stranger did or did not show her colors in the rigging. There was of course no apprehensions as to the safety of the Pacific in England, which fully explains why the latter did not alter her course, and ascertain the name of the steamer sighted on the 19th. We are happy to think, that there can be no reasonable doubt, that the ship thus seen was the missing one making the best of her way back to a port in either Ireland or England. The next steamer at New York will solve the problem.

The schr. Romp, Swain, master, from P. E. Island for Boston, with oats and barley, put into Yarmouth Sound, 19th inst., with five feet water in her hold and in a disabled condition, having lost bowsprit and head sails in a gale off Mount Desert the previous day. The leak was about the bows, occasioned by carrying away the bowsprit; and as both anchors and chains had been thrown over to lighten the vessel forward, when she came round Cat Island under foresail, wind N. W. an attempt was made to run her ashore as far up the Sound, as the wind would permit her to go. Owing to drift ice, she only got within a hailing distance of the shore, and the vessel lies afloat in the ice above Sandy Point. The crew got on shore over the ice, and they have a line from the vessel to the shore. The probability is that both vessel and cargo will be lost, unless the steamer Eastern State can reach—an attempt is being made to cut the steamer through the ice. This is but one of a series of disasters that have befallen Romp, on her present voyage. She left P. E. Island, some eight or ten weeks ago, and has since been into both Halifax and Cape Negro for repairs.—Yarmouth Tribune, Feb. 20.

PRACTICAL PRAYER.—In the vicinity of B—lived a poor but industrious man, depending for support upon his daily labor. His wife fell sick, and not being able to hire a nurse, he was obliged to confine himself to the sick bed and family. His means of support being cut off, he soon found himself in need.—Having a wealthy neighbor near, he determined to go and ask for two bushels of wheat, with a promise to pay, as soon as his wife became so much better that he could leave her and return to his work. Accordingly he took his bag, went to his neighbor's and arrived while the family were at morning prayer.

As he sat on the door-stone, he heard the man pray very earnestly that God would clothe the naked, feed the hungry, relieve the needy, and comfort all that mourn. The prayer concluded, he stepped in and made known his business, promising to pay with the avails of his first labors. The farmer was very sorry, he could not accommodate him, but he had promised to lend a large sum of money, and he presumed neighbour A—would let him have it.

With a tearful eye and a sad heart, the poor man turned away. As soon as he left the house the farmer's little son stepped up and said;

"Father, did you not pray, that God would clothe the naked, feed the hungry, relieve the distressed, and comfort the mourners?" "Yes, why?"

"Because, father, if I had your wheat, I would answer that prayer."

It is needless to add, that the Christian father called back his suffering neighbor, and gave him as much as he needed. STOP THAT BOY!—Stop that boy! A cigar in his mouth, a swagger in his walk, impudence in his face, a care-for-nothingness in his manner. Judging from his demeanor, he is older than his father, wiser than his teacher, more honored than the Mayor of the town, higher than the President.—Stop him; he is going too fast. He don't see himself as others see him. He don't know his speed. Stop him, ere tobacco shatter his nerves, ere pride ruin his character; ere the loafer master the man; ere good ambition and manly strength give way to low pursuits and brutish aims. Stop all such boys, they are legion—the shame of their families, the disgrace of their towns, the sad and solemn reproaches of themselves.

STORY OF A HIGHWAYMAN.—Not many years ago, an Irishman, whose finances did not keep pace with the demands made on his pockets, and whose scorn of honest labor was eminently unfavorable to their being legitimately filled, borrowed an old pistol one day, when poverty had driven him to extremity, and took the highway convenient where he was likely to find a heavy purse. A jolly old farmer came jogging along, and Tim put him down instantly as a party who possessed those requisites he stood in need of so much himself. Presenting his pistol, he commanded him to "stand and deliver."

The poor fellow forked over 50 dollars, but finding Tim somewhat of a greenhorn, begged a five to take him home, a distance of half a mile. The request was complied with, accompanied with the most patronizing air.

Old Acres and Roods was a knowing one. Eying the pistol, he asked Tim, if he would sell it.

"Is it to sell the pistol? Sow! and it's the same that I'll be after doing. What will ye be after giving for it?"

"I'll give you a five dollar bill for it."

"Done! and done is enough between two gentlemen. Down with the dust and here's the tool for ye."

The bargain was made by immediate transfer. The moment the farmer got the weapon he ordered Tim to shell out, and threatened to blow his brains out, if he refused.

Tim looked at him with a comical leer, and buttoning his breeches' pockets, sang out—

"Blow away, old boy, and devil take the bit of powder's in it."

We believe the old fellow told the last part of the story but once, and that was by the purest accident.

NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF LOAFERS.—Different nations have different kinds of loafers. The Italian spends his time in sleep; the Turkish loafer in dreaming; the Spanish in praying; the French in laughing; the English in swearing; the Russian in gambling; the Hungarian in smoking; the German in drinking; and the American in talking politics.

"You say, Mr. Springles, that Mr. Jacobs was your tutor. Does the court understand from that, you received your education from him?"

"No sir, by tustor, I mean that he learnt me to play on the French horn. He taught me to toot—hence I call him my tutor."

"Ah! the court understood you differently. Orier, call the next witness."

Teacher: John, suppose I was to shoot at a tree with five birds on it, and kill three, now how many would be left? John: Three, sir. Teacher: No, two would be left, you ignoramus. John: No; there wouldn't though—the three you shot would be left, and the other two would be fied away.

"Well, farmer, you told us your wood was a good place for hunting; now we've tramped through it for three hours and found no game." "Just so. Well, I calculate, as a general thing, the less game there is, the more hunting you have!"

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