

Kept as instruments of the master spirits. And when they failed to answer the purpose, or became restive, they were sacrificed, or provided for. The shades were made to play upon the curtain. They entered. They bowed to the audience. They did what they were bidden. They said what was set down for them. When those who pulled the wires saw 't, they passed away. No man knew why they entered. No man knew why they departed. No man could tell whence they came. No man asked whither they were gone.

From this uniform composition of the cabinet, it is obvious that the project of the master spirits was that of essential influence within the cabinet. For, in such a country as ours, so extended, and its interests so implicated, it is impossible but those who would conduct its affairs wisely, and with a single eye to the public good, should strive to call around themselves, the highest and most independent talents in the nation ; at least of their own political friends. When this is not the case, it must be apparent, that the leading influences want not associates, but instruments. The same principle applies to the distribution of office, out of the cabinet, as to filling places within it. Some mistakes may be expected to happen, in selections among candidates for appointments at a distance. But, if at any time a cabinet shall be systematically guided, in such selection, by a regard not to merit, or qualifications, but to electioneering services ; if the obvious design be to reward partizans, and encourage defection to its party standard, then the people may rest assured, that the project such cabinet has in view, is, not to serve the public interest, but to secure their personal influence ; and that they want, not competency for the employment, but subserviency in it. How this matter is, I shall not assert ; not because I have not very distinct opinions upon the subject ; but because the sphere of appointment is too extensive to be comprehended, in the grasp of a single individual ; and I mean to make no assertion, concerning motive or conduct, of which there does not exist, in my mind, evidence as well complete, as conclusive. I refer to this subject, therefore, only as a collateral and corroborative proof of the purpose of the cabinet. Every man can decide for himself, in his own circle, or neighbourhood, concerning the apparent principle, upon which the cabinet have proceeded, in making appointments ; remembering, always, that the section of country, against whose prosperity the policy of the cabinet is, most systematically, levelled, will be that, in which subserviency to all its purposes will be, most studiously, inculcated among its adherents. It will be in that quarter, that the flames of party animosity will be enkindled, with the most sedulous assiduity, as the means of making men forgetful of their true interests, and obedient to their employers, in spite of their natural prejudices and inclinations.

It is natural to inquire, what are the projects connected