

bers proclaimed in the last burst of vanquished patriotism.

Thus the title of Napoleon III is not one of the dynastic superannuated pretensions, but seems to be the result of good sense and truth. It is the homage rendered to a Government which was legitimate, and to which we owe the brightest page of our history. My reign does not date from 1815, it is dated from this very moment, when you announced the satisfaction of the nation.

Receive, then, my thanks, gentlemen of the Chamber of deputations for the *acclat* you have given to the manifestation of the general will, by rendering it more evident by your supervision, and imposing by your declaration. I thank you, also, gentlemen of the Senate, for having been the first to address congratulations to me, as you were the first to give expression to the popular wish. Aid me, all of you, to settle firmly, in the land upset by too many revolutions, a stable government, which shall have for its basis, religion, protection and love, for the suffrage classes. Receive here my oath that no sacrifice shall be wanting on my part, to elevate the prosperity of my country, and whilst I maintain peace, I will yield in nothing which may touch the honor or the dignity of France. The Empire will be proclaimed in all the departments on Saturday, the 25th.

By a decree recently issued by Bacz, President of the Republic of St. Domingo, it seems that Santo Domingo, Puerto, Plato, and Azua, are the only ports now open in that country to a foreign vessel.

The National *Intelligencer* of Washington, the official organ of the American Government, now publishes, for the first time, certain correspondence which took place between the American and Spanish Governments, relative to the purchase of the Island of Cuba, by the former, from the latter power. The correspondence occurred when Mr. Buchanan was American Secretary of State, and during the time that Mr. Saunders was American Minister in Spain. It seems that Mr. Saunders stated to the Spanish Government, that the Government of the United States, was determined to enforce the Monroe doctrine, and not allow any European interference on American soil, and that the possession of Cuba, by any European Power, especially by England, would not be tolerated. In reply, Mr. Saunders was informed by the Spanish Government, that Spain would prefer to see the island sunk in the ocean, rather than part with it to any other country.

PRESIDENT FILLMORE'S MESSAGE.

We give such extracts from the President's message as are likely more particularly to interest our readers:—

"CUBA.—Early in the present year official notes were received from the Ministers of France and England, inviting the Government of the United States to become a party with Great Britain and France, to a tripartite Convention, in virtue of

which the three powers should severally and collectively disclaim, now and for the future, all intention to obtain possession of the island of Cuba, and should bind themselves to discountenance all attempts to that effect, on the part of any power or individual whatever. This invitation has been respectfully declined, for reasons which it would occupy too much space in this communication to state in detail, but which led me to think that the proposed measure would be of no doubtful constitutionality, impolitic and unavailing. I have, however, in common with several of my predecessors, directed the Ministers of France and England to be assured that the United States entertain no designs against Cuba; but that, on the contrary, I should regard its incorporation into the Union at the present time as fraught with serious peril. Were this island comparatively destitute of inhabitants, or occupied by a kindred race, I should regard it, if voluntarily ceded by Spain, as a most desirable acquisition. But, under existing circumstances, I should look upon its incorporation into our Union as a very hazardous measure. It would bring into the Confederacy a population of a different national stock, speaking a different language, and not likely to harmonize with the other members."

Coming to the question of the Nicaragua Canal he states nothing new, and hopes that future negotiations will lead to more satisfactory results respecting the port of San Juan de Nicaragua and the controversy between the republics of Costa Rica and Nicaragua in regard to their boundaries.

"Our settlements on the shores of the Pacific have already given a great extension, and in some respects a new direction, to our commerce in that ocean. A direct and rapidly increasing intercourse has sprung up with Eastern Asia. The general prosperity of our estates on the Pacific requires that an attempt should be made to open the opposite regions of Asia to mutually beneficial intercourse. It is obvious that this attempt could be made by no power to so great an advantage as by the United States, whose constitutional system excludes every idea of distant colonial dependencies. I have accordingly been led to order an appropriate naval force to Japan, under the command of a discreet and intelligent naval officer of the highest rank known to our service."

"JAPAN.—He has been directed particularly to remonstrate in the strongest language against the cruel treatment to which our shipwrecked mariners have often been subjected, and to insist that they shall be treated with humanity. He is instructed, however, at the same time, to give that Government the amplest assurances that the objects of the United States are such and such only as I have indicated, and that the expedition is friendly and peaceful."

"DISCRIMINATING PROTECTIVE DUTIES.—Without repeating the arguments contained in my former message, in favor of discriminating protective duties, I deem it my duty to call your attention to one or two other considerations affecting this subject. The first is, the effect of large importations of foreign goods upon our currency. Most of the gold of California, as fast as it is coined, finds its way directly to Europe in payment