

Government. The Don Carlists and Carthagenians raise the means of their support by "requisition;" while the Madrid Government have to go through the more tedious forms of law in their collections of tribute. Then it is curious how the extreme opposites in politics coalesce. The Royalists are determined, should they succeed, to establish the old faith and to permit no dissent; while the Socialists, who would abolish all religion and property rights, join the advocates of divine right in opposition to the more moderate republican party who now rule at Madrid. Where all this is to end, no one can as yet tell. At present, regular Government has its chief representative in Castelar, lately elected to the Presidency of the Cortes—a man of splendid oratorical ability, but whether a good political leader remains to be seen. The Duke of Wellington could marshal armies, but it was said by his literary critics that he could not marshal pronouns. Though Cæsar has considerable fame as an author and orator, it may be doubted whether Castelar will succeed as a politician. Lamartine was a political failure. The probability is that some military despot may yet be required to establish order in Spain.

It is but seldom that the British people find the temple of Janus shut. They were nearly getting into a conflict with the rebellionists of Carthagea because Admiral Yelverton persisted in taking out of the harbour and from beneath the guns of the fort, two war vessels seized by the British, we can hardly tell why, but apparently in the interests of the Government of Madrid. Why the British Navy should act as a police force for the Government of Spain is a mystery; and why, when they have begun to act in that capacity, they should confine their attention to these two vessels, while the rebels have many others at sea, we cannot divine. But they have escaped the war against the Spanish rebels. They have another inglorious strife to be waged against the Ashantees of the West Coast of Africa. The grievance of the Ashantees is that their territories are like those of Russia, inland, and they want a seaboard at present occupied by the Fantees. Why the English should prevent the Ashantees from carrying out this natural aspiration, we could at first hardly see. We thought that as it was a free fight they wanted to have a hand in it; their natural love of war being a sufficient reason for their participation. Then, friendship for the Fantees, with whom they have had the closest relations, might have induced them to take a side. The Ashantees, however, seem to have taken the initiative and to have invaded the English possessions on the coast. This we know cannot be permitted. The Colonial office falling heir to the disputes originated, as well as Government carried on, by the English merchants, must of course chastise the Ashantees, and it may be, take the whole territory both seaboard and interior under English jurisdiction.