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[Reported for the Easton Gazette.]

REPORT OF LECTURES

DELIVERED BEFORE THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF EASTON—AT ITS SECOND COURSE.

The seventh Lecture was delivered by the Rev. C. F. HURN, of Elkton. Subject—Attila, the Hun.

A man stands upon a desolate shore where nought is seen but rifted rocks and the measureless expanse of ocean he beholds wave after wave rise and swell, and dash against those hoary rocks, and even as he gazes they break and dissolve away into spray and mist. The sobs of dying billows echo far and near in the cavernous rocks like the wail of lost spirits. So he who reviews the history of past ages beholds empire after empire rise and flourish, and decay, beholds nations grown from weakness to power dissolve way with the lapse of years, and kings and heroes drunken with ambition or swollen with success, now equalling themselves to Gods and now seeking the shelter of a neat herd's hut or lowered to the level of brute beasts. All, all the evil and the good, an Alfred, a Nimrod, a Washington, or a Napoleon.

"Lost each human trace, surrendering up
Their individual being, have gone to
To mix forever with the elements;
To be a brother to the insensible rock,
And the sluggish clod, which the rude swain
Turns with his share and treads upon."

The waves that typified their lives have broke upon the silent shore where all must land.

"They are but as a dream that is past, a song, a jest,
Impervious Cæsar dead and turned to clay,
May stop a hole to keep the wind away."

One of the mightiest who in any age ever rose, or reigned, or fell, was the subject of this lecture. The sceptre which he grasped amid the snows of the north was extended over the sunny plains and palmy groves of the south, and the leader of a barbarous tribe became the sovereign of a continent. The descendant of vanquished Tanjous, who had bowed the knee in homage to a Chinese Emperor, beheld Ambassadors of imperial Rome suppliants for peace at the foot of his throne. The name of Attila was not only a terror to the half civilized nations of Germany and France, but the heart of the mistress of the world quaked at his menaces.

In the first century of the Christian era the Scythians of the north of Asia who had often carried their arms to the capitol of China, to guard against whose irruptions the Great Chinese wall was built, were subdued by Vouti, a Chinese Emperor. The nation was scattered. About 200,000 warriors, whose martial spirit flamed as fiercely as ever sought in the north of Europe, a less formidable foe. The Alani, the most warlike horde in that region were defeated in a pitched battle and united themselves with their conquerors. Of the Alani it is said the trappings of their horses were the scalps of those they had slain in battle, and the only object of their worship was a naked cimeter fixed in the ground. By the beginning of the fifth century, when Atilla succeeded his uncle Rugilus, these barbarians had become a formidable power.—Their occupation was the tending of flocks, their recreation hunting the wild boar, the tiger and the bear; a dangerous sport, which required the exercise of patience, endurance and skill; but it was the school of war, and the amusements of the chase served as a prelude to the conquest of an empire. Attila showed himself the worthy leader of a war-like host. In stature he was short, but his shoulders were broad, his arms long and muscular, and in his deepset eyes rolling in their sockets like balls of fire, the flame of ambition burned. The blackness of his frown and the flashes of anger that jetted like liquid flames from his eyes struck terror to the stoutest heart as the tropic sun scorches and wilts the autumnal leaf; and it is said he was always pleased to witness the cowering terror inspired by his glance. Like other sagacious leaders, he practised upon the superstitious nature of his followers by various devices. A shepherd having discovered a rusty cimeter in his pasture and carried it to Attila, he pronounced it the gift of Mars, the tutelar deity of the Huns, and the testimony of his divine right to rule his ferocious and often intractable liegemen. Thus sustained by the gods, as he feigned, and incited by his love of war and conquest he seized the first pretext to invade the territory of the Roman Empire. Attila himself was not the man to trust to the aid of the gods for victory, he believed that Jupiter assisted those only who put their own shoulders to the wheel, and that a strong will was equivalent to an open way.

The terrified Franks and Romans beheld the gathering of the storm that was to burst over their fertile fields and splendid cities. They prepared to resist this dark and agry wave that threatened to sweep away their power. Soon through Germany and France was heard the tramp of the barbarian host like the rushing of a mighty tempest, carrying desolation and death in their track.—Upon the plains of Chalons they met the Roman General Aetius. As when some inland sea bursts its barriers and carrying away cities and hamlets meets in tumultuous embrace the waves of ocean, was the shock of battle. 200,000 men were left dead upon the field and Attila was defeated. The level rays of the morning sun had glanced upon polished helmets and bristling spears and upon many an eye whose brilliancy almost equalled its own. How changed the scene on which its lord light was cast at evening close. The night of death had settled upon many a gay and youthful heart and the fierceness of many a restless spirit was succeeded by the calm of eternal repose. The cold moon and unpitying stars looked down upon the stark and rigid faces of the slain, hands still grasping lance or cimeter in stern mockery of battle.

Attila retired to his capital to recognize his broken horde. He had demanded Honoria, the somewhat sister of the Roman Emperor in marriage, a demand to which he had been prompted by the soft and luxurious Roman lady, and the refusal of Valentinian had been made the pretext of the war. While preparing to renew this claim the barbarian lover relieved his tender anxiety by adding to the list of his innumerable wives a beautiful maid by name Ildico. The bridal was celebrated with barbaric pomp, and Attila retired to the nuptial couch oppressed with sleep and wine. In the morning the entrance of his attendants found the lonely bride weeping beside the lifeless form of the King. A blood vessel had bursted during the night, and the blood hindered, in its supine posture, in its passage through the mouth or nose, suffocated him. He was buried in three coffins of gold, silver and of iron. A band of his chosen horsemen wheeling around in measured circles and chanting a mournful funeral lament. The captives who opened the ground were cruelly murdered. Attila boasted that the grass never grew under his horses feet and was called the scourge of God. The Hungarians claim him to have been one of their ancient kings.

THE FINANCES OF MARYLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY.

We give below, the report of Hon. Wm. H. Purnell, the Comptroller of the Treasury, for the fiscal year, ending the 30th of September, just made to the Governor in pursuance of law. The report is a clear and concise document, and exhibits the finances of the State in a flourishing condition:

Receipts.—The total receipts into the treasury during the fiscal year have been $1,019,228 95. There remained in the treasury on the 30th of September, 1857, $718,477 32, which, added to the receipts of the year, make an aggregate in the treasury for the fiscal year of $1,737,706,-27.

Of the receipts in 1858, the sum of $849,031 39 was received for revenue which accrued in that year, and $173,197, 56 was received on account of former years.

A comparison of the total receipts in the fiscal year 1858, with those of the preceding year, shows an excess in favor of 1857 to the amount of $365,476 45; but the sum of $275,770 23 was received in 1857, in liquidation of the State's claim against the federal government, and of course is not to be included with the regular revenues of the treasury; therefore, deducting this sum from the receipts of 1857, the difference between the receipts of the two years is reduced to $9,706 22.

The falling off in the receipts of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal companies, is the principal cause of this difference.

The disbursements in the fiscal year amounted to $1,295,598 26. The balance in the treasury at the close of the fiscal year was $442,108 01, subject to the payment of certain charges, leaving a nett remainder of $138,641,94 to be applied to future demands.

The probable receipts into the treasury in the current fiscal year, (ending September 30th, 1859,) are placed at the sum of $1,049,500.

An estimate of the probable demands upon the treasury during the current fiscal year is set down at $895,894.

The Free School Fund and Sinking Fund.—The receipts in the fiscal year on account of the school fund have been $74,264 40. Of these receipts the sum of $24,306 04 was received in payment of the twenty cents tax on the capital of the banks; $9,-712 32 from dividends on bank stock; $530,-16 from State 6 per cent. stock; $34,069,-36 from surplus revenue; $2,000 surplus transferred of the appropriation for the education of the indigent blind; and $3,646,-52 interest on the investment made by the treasurer in obedience to the act of assembly of 1858, chapter 295.

The sum of $20,987 63 remained in the treasury on the 30th of September, 1858, to the credit of the said fund, which, added to the receipts of the year, makes an aggregate of $95,252 03.

The disbursements, on the same account, for the same period, were $71,384 25; and deducting the expenditures from the aggregate, there will appear to the credit of the free school fund, as of the 30th of September, 1858, $23,867 76.

The act of Assembly of 1858, chapter 295, before alluded to, authorized and directed the treasurer "to have invested the sum of $160,929 26, (the amount received from the General Government in 1857, on account of interest upon the money advanced by this State to the United States during the last war with England,) in the bonds of this State, or, in his discretion, in some safe and profitable stock or stocks, fund or funds. In pursuance of this law the treasurer purchased at a cost of 90 per cent., $60,500 of York and Cumberland railroad 6 per cent. coupon bonds, the interest upon which is payable semi-annually on the first of January and July, at 93,41 per cent.; $55,240 30 of Baltimore city 6 per cent. water stock, the interest upon which is payable semi-annually on the first of November and May; and at 94½ per cent. $57,818 66 of Baltimore city 6 per cent. stock, interest payable semi-annually on the first of January and the first of July. This investment it is believed will prove a safe and productive one. The action of the legislatures of 1825 and 1858 in thus encouraging common schools is worthy of approbation; but, if the State had given, in so noble a cause, the *whole* amount received from the Federal Government, it would have been impossible for her to have devoted it to a wiser purpose. Resolution 38, of 1825, appears to have contemplated the establishment of a *system* of common free schools, and it should be a source of regret to every patriotic citizen of Maryland that so good an object has been so long delayed. Works of internal improvement are necessary to develope the energy and industry of a State, but every permanent advancement of a free people must have its foundation laid in an educated and enlightened constituency. Should a system of common schools be established in the present sound and reliable condition of the State finances, a portion of the surplus revenue could with safety be annually invested for the use of schools, and the interest upon it distributed to the counties and the city of Baltimore on such basis as to the General Assembly might seem just and proper. Thus, in the course of years without additional taxation, a fund might be accumulated which, added to that already existing, would be the pride and glory of the State, and a lasting benefit and blessing to her people.

The receipts on account of the sinking fund in the fiscal year, which ended the 30th of September, 1858, appear to have been $225 047 54, of which amount the $205,735 05 was the interest upon the stocks held by the State for the use and increment of the said fund, and $19,312 49 was surplus revenue transferred in accordance with section 1, chapter 360, of the Acts of Assembly of 1853. The sum of $90,457 49 of these aggregate receipts was disbursed and invested for the use of the fund, leaving uninvested and to its credit $134,590 05.

The sinking fund at the close of the preceding fiscal year amounted to $3,997,276-44, and it was increased during the year just closed to the sum of $4,223,273 77.

The purchase of stock for the sinking fund has not been as extensive as in preceding years; this is owing to the scarcity of the stocks of the State in the market; and the treasurer has found it absolutely impossible to purchase to any considerable extent, notwithstanding he has authorized the most liberal offers. This fact, though a high compliment to the credit of the State, has been unfavorable to the augmentation of the sinking fund.

By the assessed value of the real and personal property in this State, with the amount of levy made thereon for the year 1858, it appears that the aggregate sum of assessments in the State amounts to $255,-447,588—an increase, compared with the preceding year, of $3,782,798.

Baltimore city, under an act passed at the last session of the Legislature, is about to complete a new assessment within her limits, which will probably show a large increase of both real and personal property, and especially of the latter. Should our present tax laws remain in force equity will shortly require a new assessment for the entire State.

From an account of the "State's Capital and Credits," as of the 30th of September, 1858, it appears that they amount, in the aggregate, to $22,884, 512 94, of which only $8,642,231 29 are productive.

The funded debt of the State, as of the 30th of Sept., 1858, appears to have been $14,862,510 26.

Direct Taxes.—The receipts for direct taxes in the fiscal year were $245,215 99, of which amount $98,793 55 accrued in 1858, and $146,422 44 were received on account of previous years. By a comparison of the receipts for direct taxes, with the receipts on the same account in the preceding year, an increase will be observed in the last fiscal year amounting to $11,-912 97, of which $7,250 35 accrued in 1858.

This is a gratifying result, and is attributable to the general faithfulness of the collectors, and also to the relief which the tax payers have experienced from the financial difficulties to which allusion was made in the comptroller's report to the Legislature for the year 1857.

Revenue from Clerks of Courts.—Deducting the amount of receipts for excess of fees—$1,613 33—which were not received from clerks, the total receipts from these officers are found to have been $278,530 55. In 1857 the total receipts from clerks were $256,512 09, showing a difference of $22,-018 46 in favor of 1858. But $12,604 11 were received in the latter year on account of revenue which accrued before that year, and in 1857 the sum of $682 38 only was received for revenue which accrued in previous years—consequently the revenue which accrued and was received from clerks in 1858 exceeded that which accrued and was received in 1857 by the sum of $10,-096 73.

The clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Baltimore city paid into the treasury during the fiscal year the large sum of $173,-840 59, the whole of which, except $1,-570 43, was on account of licenses. It is only just to say that this officer has discharged his responsible trust faithfully and punctually

The whole amount received for licenses in the fiscal year 1858 is $264,735 06, which shows an increase, compared with the preceding year, of $19,861 75—and this has been the result, notwithstanding several hundred persons composing a "Liquor Dealers' Association," in the city of Baltimore, have refused to take out license under the act of 1858, contending that the said act is unconstitutional, and have thus by their refusal lessened the receipts from this source to the extent of at least $25,000.

These persons have been indicted in the Criminal Court of Baltimore city, and have removed their cases—or at least a number of them—to the Circuit Court for Baltimore county, where they are now pending. It is believed that the constitutionality of the law in question will be sustained. Should the decision of the court, however, be adverse to the State, the subject will be taken to the Court of Appeals for final adjudication.

The license act of 1858 is, in many respects, a decided improvement upon all former laws on this subject; but, in justice to the commercial interests of the State, the price of many of the grades of license should be somewhat reduced, and it is the design of the comptroller, in his next annual report, to call the attention of the Legislature more particularly to this subject, and to recommend such amendments as in his judgment will tend to perfect the act of 1858.

The clerks of courts during the fiscal year of 1858 have generally settled their accounts with this Department punctually.

The clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore city is entitled to special commendation for the very efficient manner in which he conducts the affairs of his office.

It is the duty of the comptroller to report the clerk of St. Mary's county in default for the whole amount of revenue in his hands from the 1st of June to the 1st of December, 1857; and for the whole amount of revenue accrued to the 1st of June, 1858.

The late clerk of Worcester county is in default for revenue accrued in his hands to the 1st of December, 1857. Notice of suit has been given.

The clerk of the Circuit Court for Caroline county is also in default for a small balance due upon his return to the 1st of June, 1858.

The comptroller was reluctantly compelled to withdraw the claims of the State against the late clerk of the Circuit Court for Caroline county from the State's Attorney for that county, on account of his neglect to institute suit according to instructions from this department, and to solicit the Governor to appoint some other member of the bar to represent the State in these cases. Accordingly, the State's attorney for Dorchester county has been appointed, and is now prosecuting these claims with zeal and ability.

Revenue from Registers' of Wills.—These officers paid into the treasury during the fiscal year, $14,306 96; which, compared with the receipts on the same account in 1857, shows a decrease of $14,570 32.

The Legislature, at its session of January, 1858, pssed an act releasing the estate of Moses Sheppard, deceased, of Baltimore city, from the payment of the collateral tax. The property belonging to the estate was considerable, and it having been devised and bequeathed to the establishment of an insane asylum, the Legislature released the collateral tax upon it, which would have amounted to about $15,000. This exemption reduced the return of the register of wills of Baltimore city, and will account for the falling off in the receipts from this class of officers.

It gives the comptroller pleasure to state that the registers of wills have for the most part, during the year just closed, made their returns and payments to this Department with promptness and regularity.

The register of wills for Caroline county is in default for revenue which accrued in his hands from the 1st of June to the 1st of November, 1857, and for a balance upon his return to the 1st of June, 1858

The passage of a law requiring the registers of wills to make quarterly reports to this office, certified to and attested by the judges of the Orphans' Court, would, it is believed, be an excellent provision. One of the objects in establishing the comptroller's office was to make it a check upon the accounting officers of the State. This object is fully accomplished, so far as the clerks of courts are concerned, in the regulations for the issuing of licenses. There is no such check upon the registers of wills, for the duplicate receipts have proved utterly worthless, and the method proposed seems best adapted to answer the purpose desired.

Excess of Fees.—The receipts in the fiscal year on this account under the provisions of the first section of the tenth article of the constitution, and chapter 444 of the acts of the Assembly of 1853, amounted to $1,643 33, being less than one half the sum reported in 1857.

Northern Central Railway Company.—This company has faithfully met its obligations to the State in accordance with the requirements of chapter 260 of the Acts of Assembly of 1854. Its regular quarterly payments for the fiscal year amounted to $90,000.

Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company.—The State received from this company during the fiscal year, on account of her portion of the receipts from passengers on the Washington branch of the road, $34,-396 02. In 1857 the State received on the same account, $76,038 16.

The company petitioned the Legislature at its last session to be released from the capitation tax on that part of the road which lies between *Baltimore city* and the *Relay*, but the Legislature refused to grant their petition. In making the first payment in 1858 the State's part of the receipts upon the portion of the road before mentioned was withheld. The comptroller protested against this novel construction of a law under which a different course had been pursued from its passage, and notified the company that a suit would be instituted should the determination, as announced by the resolution of the board of directors, be adhered to. Information has, at length, reached this office of a reconsideration by the board of directors of their former resolution, and payment, it is stated, will hereafter be made as heretofore.

The dividends received from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in the year have been $49,500.

Susquehanna and Tide-Water Canal Companies.—The whole amount due from these companies on the 30th of September, 1858, was $92,059 94, of which $59,895 53 was on account of 1858, and $32,164 41 was on account of 1857. The receipts from them during the same time were $17,325. A payment of about an equal sum has been made since the close of the fiscal year, and does not therefore appear in the report.—The comptroller has urged the demands of the State on these companies, and has been assured through their president, that every possible exertion will be made to meet their obligations. The further action of this department will depend upon the future conduct of these companies.

Tobacco Inspections.—The gross receipts from the State Tobacco inspections in Baltimore for the fiscal year appear to have been $70,798 02, and the expenses for the same time were for wages to laborers and incidental expenses, $43,362 15, and for salaries of inspectors, clerks and for nails, $21,558 43, making the total expenses $64,820 58, leaving the sum of $5,877 44 to be applied to the payment of the interest of the tobacco debt, &c.

In the year preceding the gross receipts were $87,685 03, and the expenses were for wages to laborers and incidental expenses $36,032 54, and for salaries of Inspectors, clerks, and for nails, $21,225 83, making a total of $57,258 37, and leaving the sum of $30,426 66 applicable to the payment of the tobacco debt, &c.

Grain Inspections.—The law for the inspection of grain in the city of Baltimore went into operation on the first of May, 1858, and there was inspected according to the returns of the inspector general, from the 3d of May to the 1st of September, 135,-285 bushels of wheat, and 212,190 bushels of corn and other grain. The gross receipts into that treasury from the grain inspections for the same period were $2,414 22, and the disbursements, including the salaries of the inspectors, the cost of assistants, and weights and measures, amounted to $1,-358 56, leaving a net balance of $1,045 66 to the credit of the grain fund.

The grain inspection law is very imperfect, and almost insuperable difficulties have been encountered in carrying it into effect. The experience of another year will serve to expose its defects more clearly, and they will be presented to the consideration of the next General Assembly of the State.

Foreign Insurance Companies.—The receipts from licenses to agents of insurance companies not incorporated by the State, during the fiscal year, was $8,300, being an increase as compared with 1857, of $5,-900. This increase is owing to the passage of the law recommended to the Legislature in the comptroller's report for 1857.

The entire receipts, from every source of revenue, should be as near as possible, without diminution, paid into the treasury of the State, and the requisite expenditures be made by Legislative appropriations. By the adoption of this method the tables of receipts and expenditures from this department would explain themselves. The course indicated is alone consistent with the provisions of the constitution relating to the Treasury Department. In conclusion, the comptroller may be allowed to express the opinion that the financial condition of the State is sound and healthy, and the citizens of Maryland may look with pride upon their commonwealth as she stands among her federal sisters.

Respectfully submitted,
WM. HENRY PURNELL,
Comptroller.

THE PURCHASE OF CUBA.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs, on the 14th, at the instance of Mr. Slidell, agreed to report a bill, placing thirty millions of dollars in the hands of the President to enable him to negotiate, according to his own views the purchase of Cuba.

The acquisition of Cuba is the darling object of the President's ambition; he has openly declared his intention to purchase it; and has intimated in his Message, that in a certain contingency, he will disregard the restrants of the Constitution and invade a foreign territory without the consent of Congress. Meanwhile, negotiations to that end will fail; Mr. Buchanan must know that they will; and we incline to the views of the Richmond *Whig*, that the whole of this Cuban policy of the President is a mere blind, designed to delude the people.

We append the remarks on this subject of the Richmond *Whig* as worthy of the serious consideration of the public; they will convince every intelligent citizen of the folly of the course pursued by the President, or of his sinister partisan designs, as well as of the hopelessness of the expectation that Spain will sell, or in any way part with Cuba, except by force of conquest. The *Whig* says:

The longer we reflect upon the proposal of the President to place a large sum of money at his disposal, for the purpose of purchasing the Island of Cuba, the more thoroughly are we convinced that it was made for the purpose of diverting attention from the feebleness and inefficiency of his Administration at home. Nobody knows so well as he—for he was Secretary of State at the time—that an offer was made for Cuba, during the Administration of Mr. Polk, and that it was rejected with the utmost promptness by Spain. Nobody knows better than he that the whole people of Spain—the prodest nation on earth—are, to a man, resolutely opposed to the transfer of Cuba to any other power, least of all to the United States. No one is so well aware of the fact that the bare suspicion of such a design, on the part of any Minister of the Crown, would cost him his place, and very probably his life. No one is better apprised of the danger which the incumbent of the monarchy would incur of losing her crown and perhaps, her life, were it suspected that she even harbored the design of making such a transfer.

Every class of the Spanish people, as Mr. Buchanan very well knows, is opposed to parting with Cuba, on any terms and for any pretext. Pride, patriotism, interest, every feeling and every passion that can be supposed to agitate the bosoms of proud and sensitive natures, unite to render the transfer, with the consent of Spain, a moral impossibility. Apart from their pride, the interest of the whole body of the nobility is deeply concerned to forbid it. It is their main resourse for providing for the cadets of their families. Nor is it a less resource for the clergy, by far the most powerful body in Spain, as they proved, to the astonishment of the whole world, during the invasion of the country by Napoleon, and the usurpation of the throne by his brother. It is in vain to talk to the Cubans about the religious liberty allowed to all sects in this country. They despise it, if they understand it. Their doctrine is, he that is not for us is against us.

But the greatest of all obstacles would be found in the invincible repugnance of the Spanish people themselves. They would not suffer any Ministry that ever existed to consummate such a bargain. A revolution would be the instantaneous consequence of such a consummation, and such a revolution as Spain has never yet seen, fruitful as her history has been of popular commotion. It would most certainly overturn the throne. There is no extremity which the nation would not embrace, cheerfully, as the alternative of surrendering Cuba to any power on earth. How then can Mr. Buchanan, who is well aware of this, expect to purchase that island? He cannot expect it, and he does not. If it is ever ours, we must either obtain it by force of arms, or it must be incorporated by the inhabitants, after a successful revolution.

If Mr. Buchanan were to apply to Congress for an appropriation to purchase Sebastopol from Russia, or Venice from Austria, or Constantinople from Turkey, or India from Great Britain, or Algeria from France, the whole nation would infer, at once, that he was deranged. Yet, he knows perfectly well, that it would be fully as easy to purchase either of these possessions, from the several powers indicated, as to purchase Cuba from Spain. He knows, too, that if there had ever been any possibility of making the purchase, it will be defeated by the very means he has adopted to bring it about. He makes open proclamation of Spain's poverty, and thereby wounds her sensibility to such a degree, that he cannot fail to harden her in her foregone determination not to gratify his longing for the last remnant of her Empire in America.—Here is another strong proof that the object of the President is to divert attention from his failures at home.

With an utter disregard of truth, Mr. Buchanan tells Congress, that "the Island of Cuba is comparatively unimportant to Spain." It is known to the whole world that Cuba furnishes the revenue by which Spain supports her army, her navy and her civil administration. Cuba is everything to Spain! To such an extent is this true, that it is very common in the Southern States of this Union to say, "Cuba is Spain." The Spanish Government, as at present constituted, could not exist without Cuba. It would have no revenue to defray its expenses, for Spain is the poorest country in Europe, and the least capable of bearing taxation. The taxes are lighter than those of any other country, and the possession of Cuba is the cause of it.—The Spanish people will not submit to the taxation necessary to carry on the Government. Cuba is, therefore everything to Spain; and this, too, Mr. Buchanan knows perfectly well.

In order to strengthen the position he assumes with regard to Cuba, the President complains vehemently of Spain, because when the authorities of Cuba inflict injuries upon American citizens, the Captain-General has no power to redress them; and the injured party is obliged to resort to the Home Government for redress.—Now, our citizens have frequently had claims against foreign nations, for injuries done by their colonial agents, and have applied for and obtained redress from the Home Government. Such has been the fact with regard to England, France, Sweden, Portugal, and other countries. In none of these cases was it considered a grievance that the Home Government had jurisdiction over the matter, and the Colonial Government none. Now, our own collectors on the Pacific have sometimes committed grievous outrages upon the subjects of foreign Powers, by arbitrary interpretations of the revenue laws. A long series of gross outrages upon French ships was committed by a collector of San Francisco by arbitrarily seizing and selling the cargoes, in defiance of all law. The injury sustained by these proceedings amounted to more than one million of dollars.—So palpable was the wrong that Congress passed a law vesting in the Secretary of the Treasury, unlimited power to settle the claims; and, under that law, several hundred thousand dollars have been paid. Did all the wrongs ever suffered at the hands of all the governments that ever ruled Cuba amount to the half of these? Yet, who ever thought of vesting in the collector, the very person by whom the wrong was perpetrated, the power to redress it? San Francisco is farther from Washington than Havana is from Madrid. Yet, did any man dream of settling these disputed claims in any other way than by application to the proper authorities at Washington? It is a notorious fact, too, that while we are making complaints against Spain we are withholding from her subjects the money justly due in the Amistad case.

We close this article as we began it by observing that the President cannot be in earnest in what he says about Cuba. The absurdities of the Message are too gross to admit of such a supposition. It is all sham—all intended to draw off attention from affairs nearer home, or otherwise to work the nation up to the war point, which would make them overlook failures nearer home."

THE GUANO TRADE.—The New York Tribune says: The American Guano Company has received its third cargo of guano, which has been disposed of at Boston. A fourth cargo, due in about forty days, has been disposed of at Philadelphia. The first two cargoes are being sold here. The aggregate quantity received is about 3,500 tons. A prominent ship builder, under a royalty contract with the company, has already seven ships on the way to the islands of the company to load, and more will soon follow.

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