

pected by the other European powers, to take the lead; but Gladstone was firm. There remained nothing for Don Carlos to do, his resources being exhausted and his heroic bands gradually dissolving, but to leave Spanish soil. For years he lived quietly at Paris, and afterwards in Switzerland and Italy. At present his followers constitute the strongest political party in Spain. The probability is that as soon as it favours upon the Spanish people that the queen regent's government has led the country into a disastrous struggle with a foreign power, there will be a general revolt and the masses will turn to the pretender and proclaim him king. Republicanism was tried by the country for two years, but these were marked with disturbances to such an extent that it is doubtful whether even the leaders of the republican party would dare to try the experiment again. The country may have to pass through the regime of absolutism before it is prepared for republican institutions.

#### THE DECLARATION OF WAR.

Under the law of nations some public notice that a state of war exists is deemed essential when hostilities between two powers are contemplated, both for the people at home and for the guidance of the neutral powers, as a conflict imposes new duties and materially changes the relations between nations. Hence the formal declaration by Congress of the existence of war between the United States and Spain.

In this instance a mode of procedure somewhat similar to that adopted by President Polk in 1846 has been adopted. He sent a message to Congress stating that "war already exists by the act of Mexico," and Congress then immediately voted for a measure providing for men and money to carry on the conflict. Spain's abrupt dismissal of Minister Woodford may properly be considered an act of war, furnishing ample foundation for the act of Congress.

By a treaty between Spain and the United States an agreement exists to the effect that if a war breaks out between the two nations, one year after the proclamation of the war shall be allowed to the merchants in the cities and towns where they shall live for collecting and transporting their goods and merchandise; and if anything be taken from them or any injury be done them within that term by either party, or the people or subjects of either, full satisfaction shall be made for the same by the government. This gives ample protection to American merchants in Spanish possessions and the Spaniards in the United States but does not exempt temporary sojourners or travelers and their property from the eventualities of warfare.

#### PROGRESS WITHOUT ADVANCEMENT.

Our butchers and meat dealers, or at least some of them, are making the complaint that they are losing money in their calling compared with what they were formerly doing. They show that no further back than last year they could buy animals on foot or carcasses several per cent cheaper than now, and that, the times not having improved in a general way, the people are unable to keep pace with the advanced rates, the result being that the business must be curtailed and many patrons get along with correspondingly less meat, or sell at a loss as compared with previous transactions. Perhaps this is true; certainly it is the case that horned stock quotations have advanced and show symptoms of firmness if not further advance. But whether or not the complaint that the

dealers are not making enough out of their business is well founded is a question involving more of an investigation than the "News" feels called upon to make. It is sufficient to say in such connection that the meat dealers, like those engaged in almost every other line of trade, make the principal parts of their incomes out of the small transactions representing the great mass of the people, and this being so a decided advance in prices without a corresponding ability on the part of the buyers to meet it, must of necessity mean a net comparative loss to both classes. The comparison suggests the question as to how much the dealers realized before and whether it was so much in excess of the needs of trade as to enable them to suffer a considerable reduction and still be enabled to keep their heads above water. It is hardly fair to them to answer the question in the affirmative without being better posted; but the meat dealer's business is generally considered to be a good one as things are going, even now.

A large herd of stock, perhaps 1,000 head, was observed in the southwestern part of the city today, presumably awaiting shipment out of the State. It matters not to what point, so long as the animals were grown on our ranges and do not reach local markets; the fact that we are not consuming our own products, added to the other and thoroughly unwelcome circumstance that by reason of such things we are at times compelled to rely upon the very places that our stock is sent to, paying therefore the necessarily advanced price, is a condition of things which we may not be able to overcome or even regulate, but is none the less regrettable on that account.

When the late President Young instituted woolen mills in our midst, he made no secret of the fact that his object was first, to reduce the volume of imports by rendering them less necessary; second, to encourage the manufacturing and fostering of our own raw materials, and third, to give employment to the greatest possible number of home people. This is statesmanship unadorned and thereby adorned the most. It is common sense practically applied. Perhaps we have outgrown it all and got so far away from the teachings and examples of the great men who have gone before that we can't get back to such things now, no matter how hard we might strive to do so. But have we gained much or at all by reason thereof?

#### SECRETARY SHERMAN RESIGNS.

Two important changes have just taken place in President McKinley's cabinet, making three in all. A few days ago Postmaster General Gary gave way to Charles Emory Smith, and Secretary of State Sherman handed in his resignation today to take effect immediately. By reason of the war with Spain and the fact that Mr. Sherman's portfolio is virtually that of minister of foreign affairs, his withdrawal at such a time is a matter of very grave concern. Whether he goes of his own accord, because the President requires it or from whatever cause, the matter will create widespread comment not unmixed with concern.

To replace Mr. Sherman with one whose length, breadth and variety of public experience are equal or nearly so to his, would be quite impossible. He is now nearly seventy-five years old and has been in public life more than half a century. His first prominent official station was in 1855, when he was elected to the national House of Representatives. Here he remained continuously till 1861, when he took the seat in the Senate made vacant by the

appointment of Salmon P. Chase as President Lincoln's secretary of the treasury. The remainder of his career is pretty well known, and as he is not likely ever to hold office again it is due him to say that his political life as a whole has been a conspicuous success.

#### OUR CAUSE IS JUST.

War has a sound that conveys harshness, no matter how musical the voice which gives it utterance. General Sherman did not speak profanely—he was not a profane man—but he did speak with exactness and completely covered the case when he said, "War is hell." It is a complete overturning of all that signifies order, prosperity, tranquility or mercy; it means force, destruction, violence, cruelty, waste and, long continued, demoralization of the social, sympathetic and moral fabric reached by it, a fabric which exists among our race as the result of ages of intermingling and instruction through the slow-moving process of psychologic evolution. All this and much more is war. Yet there are times in the histories of all nations, no matter how civilized or how barbarous, how enlightened or how ignorant, when it cannot be honorably or safely dispensed with. At such time those who kill, who take by force and never return, who "shut the gates of mercy on mankind" in behalf of the right are not murderers, not thieves, nor malefactors; they are acting in the line of duty, which makes it necessary to strengthen their own cause by weakening that of the enemy in every possible way and on every available occasion. And the more they kill, the greater the amount of property taken and the less forbearance shown the better for both sides, because the sooner it will all be over.

Such a time has again dawned upon this fair land, at peace previously for thirty-three prosperous years. War ushered us into existence as a nation, and on three distinct occasions since and prior to the present time has it been the means of preserving the nation. Before invoking the hostile power of Great Britain in 1776 our forefathers set us an example—which has been nobly followed—of exhausting all other reasonable, honorable means of avoiding such a contest. As was said by the inspirational orator Patrick Henry—"We have done everything that could be done to avert the storm that is now coming on. We have petitioned, we have supplicated, we have remonstrated, we have prostrated ourselves at the foot of the throne and implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and parliament. Our petitions have been disregarded, our remonstrances have been slighted, our supplications have been produced additional violence and insult, and we have been spurned with contempt from the foot of the throne." After all this, assuredly an indulgence in the "fond hope of peace and reconciliation" meant simply to "lie supinely upon their backs and hug the delusive phantom of hope" until the enemy had bound them hand and foot; but they did not do this. As long-suffering, peace-loving, God-fearing people whose last resort had been reached and understood, they sprang to arms as a small but invincible host, destroyed the enemy's property where they could not take or use it, killed and harrassed them and finally destroyed their ruler's power and prestige in this land forevermore. To say that this was murder, rapine or despoliment, to say that God was not with those who did those things and helped them by encouraging achievements and filling their hearts with courage, determination and hope until a victory so vast in its com-