

British Government for an explanation in the case of the *Mary Lowell*, is looked upon as another speck of war. The French Canadians continue to lean for the U. S. The annexation question is still agitated with spirit.

Havana.—Port au Prince advices to the 3d, state that the commander of the British steamer *Doris* had demanded satisfaction for seizing the mails. He had found two Haytian war steamers going on an important mission, and admonished the captains and Salnave, when the latter abjectly apologized. The British Commander stated that this was the last time apologies would be accepted. The custom houses are closed. Provisions are held at an exorbitant rate.

The memorial of the Boston merchants against Minister Hollister had alarmed Salnave.

The insurgents in the Jacmel district have taken three towns and 150 pieces of ordnance and had killed 5,000. They had surrounded Gonavieo.

New York, 23.—The *Herald's* special in London says the *Post* has an article on the Cuban question and gives currency to the assertion that Grant has a desire for the acquisition of Cuba in order to divert the attention of Americans from their internal distractions. It says there would be no doubt as to the issue in case of a conflict, and thinks the acquisition of Cuba would lead to the acquisition of the whole of the West Indies. France and England will doubtless determine whether these designs against Cuba will be tolerated, or whether they will aid Spain in claiming her colony. The French press has agitated the question much in the same tenor. A special meeting of the French Cabinet was held on Tuesday and Wednesday, which resulted in a special Envoy being sent yesterday to London, with dispatches referring to the present complication.

A telegram has been received which states that Secretary Fish has informed the Spanish Minister that the United States will hold the British government responsible for the seizure of the *Mary Lowell*.

At a special meeting of the Quebec City Council the other day a disturbance took place, which at one time threatened to be serious; revolvers were drawn and some blows exchanged. The Mayor attempted to restore order, but his authority was defied. The police were finally called in and dispersed the meeting.

St. Petersburg.—The ice on the Neva is breaking up and navigation will soon open.

Havana 23.—The Government at Madrid has ordered that the proceeds of the property of disloyal parties, confiscated in Cuba, shall be applied to defray the expenses of the war.

The *Gaita* publishes a manifesto signed by a large number of native cubans, influential and wealthy planters and others, residents of the jurisdiction of Villalara, offering their personal services to assist in suppressing the rebellion. The three passengers taken from the *Lizzie Major* have been placed at the disposal of the United States Consul at Remedios.

London.—A dispatch from Dublin states that Hugh Bradshaw, the well known Irish magistrate, has been shot in Tipperary.

Copenhagen.—The *Dagblatte* newspaper has an article upon the purchase of the Danish West India Islands by the United States, as arranged with Secretary Seward. It says the question of the acquisition of the Antilles by the United States ripens; it accuses America, by the recent action of Congress, of a want of respect to the Government of Denmark, and also states that if the measure is finally carried Count Raasloff will resign.

Havana.—Advices from Nassau to the 17th say that active military preparations are in progress; the ports are being strengthened and the garrisons reinforced in anticipation of possible complications arising from the recent Spanish outrages on British vessels.

A demand has been received from Dulce for the surrender of the captors of the *Comanditorio* and other alleged enemies of Spain. The demand was refused by the British governor of New Providence, and has been referred to London for settlement. The governor has instructed the lighthouse keepers to prohibit the approach of foreigners.

Madrid.—A resolution, condemning the conduct of the Patriarch of the Antilles, was brought up in the Cortes yesterday; Marshal Serrano opposed it, intimating that its adoption would be an implied censure of the government; the resolution was then withdrawn.

Sulustianana Olozaga, during the session yesterday, assured the members

that France would respect the future government of Spain, whatever form might be adopted.

London.—Dispatches from Madrid, report that a great and popular demonstration was made there yesterday in favor of a Republic. It is rumored that a dispute has arisen between the Prime Minister, Serrano, and Gen. Prim.

New York.—London dispatches to the *Herald* say it is rumored that the government will adopt a new and a bold policy on the Spanish-Cuban question: belligerent rights are to be conceded to the Cuban insurgents, assistance is to be rendered and the independence of the island assured. This, it is argued, will prevent its annexation to the United States, give a show of consistency in the *Alabama* claims and belligerent rights, question pending with the American government.

MOUNTAIN ASCENTS IN THE CAUCASUS.

At a late meeting of the Geographical Society in London, Mr Freshfield read an interesting paper on the ascent which he and his friends had made of the two highest Alps of the Caucasus—Kasbek and Elbruz. Kasbek, he said, had diverted unduly the admiration of travelers from Elbruz, which is the true monarch of the Caucasus, in consequence of its overhanging the glen through which passes the regular route from Europe into Asia. It was for this reason that to Kasbek was attributed the glory of being the scene of the tortures of Prometheus, and that in later times a legend has grown up that there is a rope hanging from the side of the Kasbek—visible only to the elect—which gives access to a holy grotto, wherein are to be found the tent of Abraham, the cradle of Christ, and other holy relics. The ascent of Kasbek was exceedingly difficult in part, the climbers having to cut their way up a long ice stair, to which it was very hard, even with the help of knee and hand, to cling.

Kasbek appears to be about two thousand feet higher than Mount Blanc. Elbruz is three thousand feet higher. The distance between the two mountains is one hundred and twenty miles, so that neither is, in ordinary weather, visible from the other. The ascent of Elbruz seems to have been, in some respects, less difficult than that of Kasbek. They ascended the latter on the 29th and 30th and 31st of July last, not reaching the summit till the 31st. The last morning they started by moonlight, at two o'clock, with lightning playing on the steppes below them. The summit was of horse-shoe shape and contained a volcanic crater. They believed that they distinguished the Black Sea from the summit.

The *London Spectator* says:

"The Alpine Club, having now done the highest peak in the Caucasus, should attack the highest peak in the Himalaya. Why not try Kunchinjunga? It is only about ten thousand feet higher than Elbruz."

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