

He had not been many moments in this position when he felt something cold touch his hand which rested on his knee. He started and found it was the nose of a little sparrow, who with a half distrustful look, was cautiously reconnoitring him. At the same instant, Bradshaw looked up, and saw three children the eldest with a pitcher of milk in her hand, approached him as if half afraid to disturb his reverie. He beckoned them with a smile to come near, and having quaffed the milk, smoothed back the hair of the bearer and asked what might be her name.

"Ruth Stanwood, sir!" replied the girl, curseynsly respectively.

Bradshaw's heart seemed to jump into his mouth. He fetched a long, deep breath, and turning to the youngest child, who was a boy, said,

"And your name; my merry man—what may that be?"

"My name, sir, is Tom Bradshaw Stanwood. I was named after my grandfather."

The old man became so deeply agitated as to alarm the children; but he controlled his emotions, and asked:

"Your father and mother—are they both alive?"

"Dear, yes, sir!" exclaimed the elder girl. "Mother is in the kitchen, stowing cherries, and father has gone to catch some trout for supper."

Bradshaw was soon amply repaid for his past sufferings—the penalties of a hasty temper and a want of fortitude to resist the lawless exults of life. It need only be added that Ruth and her husband were overjoyed at receiving him into their family, and that he became so well pleased with his new home, that he was never heard to sigh for his old one in merry England.

TEXAS—OREGON.

Our readers will recollect that some few months ago we noticed a rumor that the British Government was negotiating with the Mexican and Texan authorities for the purchase of Texas; that the Texan President had in fact sold himself to the British; and that he had agreed to surrender the independence of his country, which was to be restored to its allegiance to Mexico, and then to Great Britain.

This rumor was put forth in a very impudent form, as having originated with General Murphy, Charge d'Affairs of our government in Texas, who was said to have as secretaries of state, Mr. Calvert, Mr. Thompson, and the public offices at the Texan seat of government.

Our readers will also recollect that we treated this rumor, at the time as false; as having been put up for the sole purpose of favoring the views of those of our southern neighbors who are anxious to bring about the annexation of Texas to this country.

Not long after the rumor had been set aside, it was positively contradicted, from the Texan President and other sources; and falsehood and absurdity exposed; and the motive, in which we had supposed it to have originated, made very plain.

Still notwithstanding the exposure of so disgraceful a fabricant as the one referred to, and notwithstanding the general深felt and most weighty objections of the great majority of the considerate and rational people of this country, to the annexation of Texas to the Union—objections so strong and obvious, and so distinctly manifested by the press, that President Tyler was, for that reason only, as we are persuaded, induced to omit explicitly recommending the annexation to his Message—notwithstanding all this, there is, as we have not a doubt, a party in this country eager bent on effecting that annexation, and ready to resort to no means that may promise success, not excepting war, to accomplish their object.

One of the grounds on which the Annexation party are now urging their project, is this, namely, that Texas was included in the vast territory ceded by this country to Mexico; and although that claim was disallowed and perfectly estopped by the treaty of 1819, called the Florida Treaty, in various public meetings at the South, recently held, the claim is again asserted, and the treaty of 1819 is regarded as no bar whatever to the claim.

Prerogative as such a position must appear to every sober mind duly impressed with the duty of conforming to the public engagements, and to the obligations of good faith, it is, nevertheless, true that the position mentioned has been taken, and urged as a reason entirely sufficient to authorize our government at once to take possession of Texas, and to do so if necessary, by military force.

We do not suppose that our government is likely to do so, or to act in any way, overtly, on ground so utterly untenable; but the fact that it has been urged shows the real spirit of the annexation party, and now vigilantly the people would watch its movements.

In close connection with this Texas question should the measures be regarded, which will be urged this winter relative to the Oregon Territory. We have, on several occasions, during the last year, made this suggestion; and every fresh movement on this subject and that of the annexation of Texas, indicated in our opinion, an actual if not an open and avowed concert between the leading advocates of the two projects of his annexation, and the immediate occupation of the Oregon. To promote these objects, the jealousy of our people in respect to British policy, will be stimulated, and the national pride will be appealed to; and the effort will be made to render the validity of our claim to the Oregon territory, a cover for advancing toward the annexation of Texas, in attain either of which their bold and reckless advocates are not only ready to take the hazard of a war, but would, as we believe, rather involve the country in that calamity than not, as being, in their view, the most likely to secure their favorite designs. —[Albany Advertiser.]

CORRESPONDENCE. COM. ADVERTISER.

Washington, Monday, Dec. 9.
We begin to-day the third week of the month, with the prospect of a tolerably fair prospect in business. The dead are buried, and have removed the last tribute of respect from the living. The living are as full of plans and projects as if they expected an armistice on the earth to ease their occupations. What startling projects are on foot!—Schemes for acquiring continents—far propelling westward—wise meditations for those who, in short time, perhaps in a few months, will visit but six feet of the earth. What are invented by those who do not participate in their trials and miseries?

There are more intrigues, and those of a deeper and more desperate character, on foot here, at this moment, than were ever before, since this government was organized.

La Vaca, when the Oregon bill was lost, a Northern member said,—"it is of no avail to quibble; we will carry the measure next year, and take possession of the territory in the mean time." Meetings have been held in various parts of the Western states, for the promotion of the settlement of Oregon. A gentleman from Missouri tells us to-day, that the whole country seems to be possessed with this mania for Oregon. Many colonies have already gone and more are soon to follow. The whole Northwest, as with one voice, call for the extension of the jurisdiction of the United States over that territory, for the establishment of military posts therein, and, in fine, for means to extirpate the English occupants.

They expect a war as the result, and they are anxious to encounter it. It can't hurt them—they will profit by it in every way. It will enable them to plunder the Treasury at pleasure, until the General Government is broken down, when they will be ready to say good-bye to it. Their central Government will be somewhere beyond the mountains. The organs of the Oregon party are proclaiming their designs without the least concealment. Their accusations against the Hudson Bay Company and menaces of forcible extirpation of it, are every day made public. Still the people seem to be insensible or indifferent to these things, as to the press, it is certainly asleep at its post.

Simultaneous with the projects for the occupation of Oregon and forcing a war upon England, we see great efforts making for the protection of the commercial interests of the West. It is seen that the whole commerce of the West, having its outlet in the Gulf of Mexico, will be at the mercy of Great Britain.—Hence the proposition for naval depots at Memphis, Brownsville, &c., and the grand project of defending the Commerce of the Gulf by a force exclusively belonging to the valley of the Mississippi, viz.: her boatmen and steamboats. The kindred project, for the improvement of the navigation of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, will also be pressed in connection with their other objects. Active preparations are making on every side for encroachment on Great Britain; for a twenty years' war with us, and the final extirpation of the Northwestern states from the existing union.

The Democracy of the Northwest, headed by Thomas H. Benton, has power to accomplish these objects. They command already the hunkers of New York, giving them the baulk of the Presidency, in exchange for the entire direction of the power of the government. With this force they will be strong enough to carry every thing in a few years, even if they do not at the present session. They have also, it is feared, brought to their feet the Southern Calumet interest. The repugnance of the Southern states to the Oregon project is wearing off. A war with Great Britain is, indeed, a fearful thing for them—for it strikes at their productions—cotton and rice,—and at the subordination of the slave population—but if they can get Texas in exchange for all these hazards, will they not come into the Benton scheme? I believe that this is the plan of operation at this moment. That the Southern men will come into the measure I do not undertake to say, but that the proposition has been urged upon them I have reason to believe. You will see some developments of these schemes in less than two months.

in verbal criticism. As a whole, however, this correspondence is not creditable to our Government, either in its language or purport. The Mexican diplomats say, only assure us that you have no designs on Texas, and all will be smooth—we will disavow, apologize, any thing; but our functionaries stand upon their dignity, and refuse to give any such assurance.—They know they are coveting what is not their own.

There is a subordinate controversy—a wheel within a wheel. Gen. Thompson takes strong exception to a recent ordinance of Mexico restricting the retail trade of that Country to Citizens, including foreigners who have been neutralized, or as have married Mexican wives, or who have families resident in Mexico. All such may continue to trade as heretofore; other Foreign Traders have six months to wind up their business in, after which they must quit.

Mr. Thompson protests against this as a violation of our Treaty with Mexico; but I cannot say with justice. He quotes a passage of the treaty authorising the citizens of either country to come, with vessels and cargoes to all places ports and rivers of the other to which foreigner are allowed to come, to hire houses, land goods and trade. M. de Bocanegra insists that this only means, as is expressed in the next article, that the citizens of either country are to enjoy in the other all the privileges of those of the most favored nation, as our citizens do and always have done. I must think our Diplomats are all wrong in this matter. What right have we to compel Mexico to let our citizens do her retail trading, any more than Great Britain had to compel the Chinese to swallow opium? Suppose Mexico chose to prohibit entirely the trade in Wines and Liquors, for example, could our government object on the ground that our citizens had sent much rum into that country, which would be sacrificed by this regulation? Does not every nation, or ours at least, forbid foreigners holding real estate as a general principle? And why not a fairly roundabout of this, the interdict against real trading? Alensis, Upshur and Thompson manage the whole difference like men clearly in the wrong. Their tempers and logic are alike effective.

Mr. Almonde relates some of John Jones's garrisons, in favor of Annexation, as the language of the "Official Journal of the Government." Mr. Upshur has no official journal of the same, but John Jones's letter, John has tried this week to blow the flames of hostility by an Extra, but nobody minds it.

STATUTES OF CANADA.

CAP. XXXII.

An Act to fix the period for holding the Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and District Courts in that part of the Province formerly Upper Canada.

[5th December, 1843.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to alter the periods of holding the several Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and District Courts in and for the several Districts of that part of this Province called Upper Canada, and for rendering the period uniform.—Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, enacting and assenting by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, intituled, "An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada," and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:

I assented of the support of Mr. Baldwin and his particular friends, as a benighted traveller would avail of the only horses that could carry him beyond his present danger, the risk he ran being RENAISSANCE that they might carry him farther than he desired, had far exceeded, in the moment and in the circumstances, to be disregarded.

From Mr. Buchanan's letter, I learn that there is a new political party in Canada, namely the "Moderates." I am as yet, Mr. Buchanan, "a Moderate and a Loyalist," and as far as the public have not been informed by the political principles of this new party. From some parts of Mr. Buchanan's letter, it might be inferred that the "Moderates" are those who stand by Lord Sydenham's "moderation" in opposition to Mr. Baldwin and the Lower Canadian majority. I can hardly suppose, however, that Mr. Baldwin means to me to the Upper Canadian to be held in September, 1842, and of which he probably desired his entire adoption. It is a question, it appears, whether Mr. Buchanan must have been prepared to this, however, Mr. Baldwin must have been prepared to several connexion with the Reformers of Toronto, when he made such a declaration as the following:

"I availed of the support of Mr. Baldwin and his particular friends, as a benighted traveller would avail of the only horses that could carry him beyond his present danger, the risk he ran being RENAISSANCE that they might carry him farther than he desired, had far exceeded, in the moment and in the circumstances, to be disregarded."

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