

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON.

(Continued from the Gleaner of May 15.)

The Chairman then gave as a toast, "Chiefs and Clans."—It was drunk with all the honors and every mark of enthusiasm.

The toast was followed by a Highland Reel by the four young men who danced before the Queen at Taymouth Castle. They wore the full costume of the Highlander, and displayed an activity perfectly astonishing. The spectator might well exclaim in witnessing it—

"Magic motion, changeful ever,
Can I catch thee; catch thee? Never!
Whirling o'er the slippery boards!"

The dancers were enthusiastically applauded by all present.

The Chisholm rose to acknowledge the last toast. He was greeted with cheers that continued for some time. He said, no person could for a moment, doubt the cause of the enthusiasm with which the toast had been received. The toast of "Chiefs and Clans" included in it every Highlander.—(Cheers.) No wonder, then, that such a toast should be so received in such a society. He could not forget, too, that there were many among them of their Saxon fellow-countrymen, and to them he felt especially grateful for the warm sympathy with which they had entered into their national feelings.—(Cheers.) They had heard much—too much lately—of a necessary incongruity between the races of the Celt and the Saxon. Let the cordiality and good feeling evinced among them that evening, for ever give the lie to so vile and so base an assertion. (Loud cheers.) Would that the same good feelings could be diffused among all those generous Celts who were first led to believe that alienation must necessarily exist between the Celt and Saxon, and who then, with marvelous inconsistency, were told that the Saxon was well disposed toward them.—(Cheers.) He knew not what other branches of the Celtic race might believe, but he was convinced he was only speaking the sentiment of every modern Celt, when he declared that he considered all animosity and jealousy had ceased to exist between them and their Saxon fellow-countrymen, except that which might be called jealousy, but which he should rather term a generous emulation to outvie each other in feelings of loyalty to the common Sovereign of their common country.—(Loud cheers.) The proud pre-eminence of Highlanders in this quality, he attributed to that patriarchal system alluded to in the toast of "Chiefs and Clans."

—(Cheers.) Under that system, the Highlander was taught, from his earliest infancy, that the chief of his clan was his temporal superior, and one from whom he had a right to expect every sympathy and support. The bonds which united "chiefs and clans" were those of reciprocal love; in them there existed no feudal tyranny on the one hand, and no servile vassalage on the other.—(Cheers.) The Highlander imbibed the principle of loyalty from his birth; and as his limbs straightened, and as his frame hardened by exposure to the breeze on his native mountain's side, he felt that inborn spirit of Highland chivalry, which fostered the memory of the deeds that their fathers had done, and which their country might one day require at their hands.—(Loud cheers.) Thanks be to God! the finger of undying fame had not left his country's glory without some records of its heroes' deeds. Their attention had been called that evening to the expedition to Egypt, under Sir Ralph Abercrombie; they had been reminded of the deeds of the Highlanders there performed. While they dwelt upon them, he must beg to remind them of the fact, that although the British force mustered only 15,000 swords and bayonets, yet, so good an account did they render of their enemy, that, besides the more than human efforts they made on the field, for the glory of Britain and the freedom of England, they shipped for England 32,000 French prisoners.—(Loud cheers.) Although assailed by the invincible legions of Napoleon, their enemy quailed beneath the stalwart arms of the gallant 42nd.—(Cheers.) The Colonel of that Regiment—the Black Watch of Scotland—was then present with them.—(Cheers.) If he cast his eye over the campaigns of the Peninsular war, wherever they had been called they had maintained the character of their country, as if proud of the name which, as Highlanders, they bore.—(Loud cheers.) In the great struggle, after the scourge of Europe had burst from his inland prison, and displayed his standard in the plains of Waterloo, there, too, the Highlanders showed how they could dare, and do, and die!—(Loud cheers.) Sir Walter Scott, in speaking of the fall of Colonel Cameron, of the 92d Highlanders, could find no stronger reason for the gallant bearing of that distinguished officer, than the strong Highland blood that ran in his veins.

"Where Cameron in the shock of steel,
Fell like the offspring of Lochiel!"

—(Cheers.) He would for a while forget his relationship to the chairman, and once more relate how the blood of the Macdonn-ll and the spirit of Glenarry showed itself that day.—(Cheers.) These deeds, and such as these, would never die—

"No! Agincourt may be forgot,
And Cressy be an unknown spot,
And Blenheim's name be new;
Yet, still in story and in song,
For many an age remembered long,
Shall live the towers of Hougoumont,
And field of Waterloo!"

After a song in Gaelic, sung by Mr M'Alister, the chairman gave, "The British and Native Soldiers in India."

Sir James Lushington replied to the toast in a neat speech, in which he alluded to the services of the detachment of the army in In-

dia, which, under Sir David Baird, marched across the desert to co-operate with the force in Egypt under Sir Ralph Abercrombie. He also paid a just tribute of praise to the conduct of the 74th Highland Regiment at the battle of Assaye.

The chairman then gave, "The Visitors," coupling with the toast the name of the Reverend Mr Gleig, the Chaplain of Chelsea Hospital.

The Rev. Mr Gleig returned thanks. He thanked them, as a clergyman of the Church of England, for the compliment paid him by many who, he was aware, were not members of that Church. He had seen some service in the army, and he knew what soldiers were; though he never had the honor of belonging to a Highland regiment, yet he knew what they were, and what was the extent of their gratitude to those who endeavored to make them not only good soldiers, but good men.

"The Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland," was then drunk. "The Caledonia Society" being joined with it.

The latter part of the toast was acknowledged by Mr Gordon Duff, who stated that the Asylum which educated ninety-three boys, had just added ten to that number, and that the funds of the institution enabled them to add to their present building accommodation for 100 inmates.

A song, most sweetly sung by Miss P. Horton, "Will ye come to the Highlands," followed.

The chairman gave, "The Branch Societies in the colonies and elsewhere;" the name of the Bishop of Newfoundland was mentioned with great praise in connection with this toast.

Mr Templeton sang, in his best style, the song of "There lived a young lassie down in yon glen."

"The Emerald Isle was then toasted, and was followed by an Irish song, admirably given by Mr James. The toast of "the Poetry of our native country," was followed by a song from Major Curnes. "The Ladies" were given with all the honours. "Highlanders, shoulder to shoulder," after which Mr McLan sang "Donald Caird."

On the motion of The Chisholm, Sir John Macdonald was elected a member of the Highland Society, by acclamation. Colonel Faulkner and Mr McGregor, of the Board of Trade, were chosen members in the same manner.

"The Fine Arts and Scottish Artists" was then given, and was followed by a song, "The oak and the ivy," from Mr Ransford.

The chairman then gave, "The Gaelic School Society of Edinburgh." In introducing it he stated that when he was in Canada he met with many of his old relations and friends, for they were Highlanders, and he was much mortified to find that their children could not speak a word of Gaelic. This, he thought, was a sort of insult to their mother country. The French Canadians, on the contrary, still spoke their native French, and many of them had even learned the Gaelic, but could not speak English. He hoped, therefore, that the Society would do all in its power to extend the knowledge of the Gaelic language.

The toasts concluded with "The land we live in."

In addition to Mr McKay, the Piper of the Society, his brother, her Majesty's Piper, by permission, attended also, his pipes were of the most splendid description, the royal arms being richly embroidered in gold upon a blue banner. Macbeth, the piper of the Duke of Sutherland, was also present, and the three, in their picturesque costumes, added much to the brilliancy and effect of the entertainment, as they paraded the hall—

"In the plume of the eagle and plaid of the north!"

The company separated at one o'clock.

United States News.

From the Boston Atlas, May 20.

The injunction of secrecy on the subject of the Treaty for the annexation of Texas having been removed by the Senate, that Treaty and the documents accompanying it have now been authoritatively made public. The publication of these documents presents the Acting President of the United States in a new position of presumptuous and high handed villainy. Not satisfied with the unparalleled course of negotiating a Treaty for the annexation of a foreign State to our Union, without consulting either House of Congress—against the provisions of the Constitution, and against the known wishes of a large portion of the People—he has undertaken to use the land and naval forces of the country, in overt acts of war against a foreign nation.

It appears, that, in answer to a resolution passed by the Senate, in secret session, the President, on Thursday last, informed the Senate that, in anticipation of the ratification and execution of the Annexation Treaty, he had undertaken TO ORDER A MILITARY FORCE TO REPAIR TO THE FRONTIER OF TEXAS, AND A NAVAL FORCE TO VERA CRUZ. The object of the force placed on the borders of Texas, he states to be, to open communication with the President of that Republic and act as circumstances might require. The Naval force, stationed at Vera Cruz, was to remain off that port, and prevent any naval expedition of Mexico, if such should be attempted from proceeding against Texas.

Thus, then, has the Acting President of the United States, without the remotest shadow of sanction from Congress, undertaken, on his sole authority, to wage sudden and open WAR up-

on a nation that has adhered to her friendly relations, and has committed no offence against us. The evidence of the fact, that Tyler has taken this step of actually plunging the country into a War with Mexico, is derived from his own admissions. There can be but little doubt that he has gone further, even, than his own statement shows—and that he has, as the New York Tribune supposes, not only ordered two regiments of troops to the Texan frontier, but actually placed them under the orders of the President of Texas.

It appears that two regiments of 1150 men have been ordered to rendezvous at Fort Jessup—and that a fleet of observation, consisting of the frigate Potomac, the Steamer Union, and other vessels, to the amount of nine sail, have been ordered to remain off Vera Cruz, with instructions to oppose, any Mexican fleet sailing for the coast of Texas.

We certainly think it is the duty of Congress—a duty which we see not how they can avoid—to proceed immediately to the IMPEACHMENT of the Acting President, so far as JOHN TYLER himself is concerned, he is altogether too mean and contemptible a personage, to be worthy of any serious attention; but the safety of our country—the preservation of our freedom—the maintenance of our political institutions, appear to demand the prompt and decisive action of Congress on this subject. The Constitution confers upon Congress the exclusive power "to declare war." If the President is to be allowed to usurp that power, and to exercise it against a peaceable and an unoffending nation the fundamental principles of our government are violated, and nothing but its disfigured and dishonored form will remain. Contempt for the individual who is placed at the head of our Government, cannot relieve the nation from its responsibility for his acts. It will not be a sufficient answer to Mexico, for these overt acts of aggressive war, that the person who is instituted there is universally despised throughout our land. Other governments are concerned in this violation of the universal Law of Nations—and it will not be enough to tell them that nobody but JOHN TYLER has done this thing.—We think it is due to the honor of the country, that Congress should disavow these acts of usurpation—and that they should proceed forth with to the IMPEACHMENT of him who alone is responsible for them.

We agree with the New York American, that unless "the Constitution is as blank parchment, and the provision respecting impeachment a dead letter, here is an occasion palpable, urgent, nay, most imperative—for its application to a President who has proved himself false to every obligation of personal honour, of public duty, and of constitutional limitations.—Surely, surely, there will be found in the house of Representatives, some man who will step forth in this emergency and vindicate the sanctity of the written charter of our liberties, and rebuke most signally the mingled knavery and folly, the wickedness as well as audacity, of this accidental President."

Will the People of this country sit still, under this great and grievous violation of the Constitution? Will they be satisfied if Congress does not proceed to take this matter up, and protect the Government from the effects of this infamous treason, by the condign punishment of the traitor? The Press, in every direction, is calling upon Congress to protect the violated honour of the country, and to punish this guilty ruler.—The Philadelphia North American, in an article on this subject, says—"If impeachment will reach the presumptuous demagogue who has dared, without awaiting legislative deliberation, without consulting popular will, to place the country in a warlike attitude towards a neighbouring Republic, with which we are or should be at peace—if impeachment will reach the author of this outrage, we trust the process may be instantly begun. What is this government coming to, if its accidental head may, upon his own responsibility, order troops and vessels to be placed at the disposal of a foreign power, and for the purpose of sustaining a war with a third power, without the semblance of a rightful cause?"

The New York Tribune, in speaking of this daring act of treason, says—"The country is electrified. Stocks fell yesterday, and there was that general feeling of apprehension and insecurity which in the forerunner of war.—This is no illusion;—we are at this moment in imminent danger of war—a war undertaken in defiance of the opinion of the civilized world, and for objects which will subject us to general abhorrence—into which a step may precipitate us. For suppose Com. Conner shall take up his position off the harbour of Vera Cruz, and a Mexican fleet or single vessel of war, see fit to weigh anchor and stand out, what is the consequence? Our Commander hails, and demands the destination of the Mexican. Of course, if the latter believes himself strong enough, he will answer that it is none of our business, or something like it; and then our Commander has no choice but to fire into him, which is war, or cover himself, his flag, his nation, with universal ridicule and disgrace. But suppose the Mexican force weak, and its commander answers that his destination is Cuba or Carthage, New Orleans, or any where else—can Com. Conner be satisfied with this? Must he not insist that the Mexican send his papers on board—that he furnish convincing evidence that he is not bound to Texas, and meditates no act of hostility against that region? Is not here the clearest national insult and humiliation? Is not here the most exasperating blockade of the chief port of Mexico? Make the case of Mexico our own, and suppose it were England which thus beleaguered New York, is there an officer in the American navy who would submit to such an overhauling, so long as he had a gun on its carriage? Is there one man in our navy who would not far sooner go to the bottom than face his countrymen after

submitting to such a degradation of the national ensign? He might strike his flag, indeed, to overwhelming force; but this is submitting to the fortunes of war—and war it clearly is, the moment our fleet has formed the blockade of a Mexican port."

New York Sun, May 18.

RESULTS OF THE RIOTS.—After a fierce contest it is customary to view the field of battle, and after a great and disastrous riot the people are left to deplore the consequences by reflecting how much misery might have been avoided by a little discretion and a little firmness. But it has always happened that sad consequences have resulted from trifling errors. The "good people" of Philadelphia having recovered from their alarm, now venture out to see the extent of the mischief that has resulted from the late riots. The immediate and deplorable consequences of this outbreak are, the unhappy condition of the bereaved families of the murdered and the sufferings of the wanderers in the country, afraid to return to the city—without means to advance—hungry—destitute, without shelter, sleeping on the bare earth, and without clothing. One Irish woman gave birth to a child in the woods! We are glad to learn that relief parties have gone out in search of them. Children wandering in search of parents, wives in search of husbands, old and infirm in search of shelter, are parts only of existing misery. The ruined district presents a most deplorable scene from the half burnt and blackened houses yet standing. Strips of the American flag are displayed in supplication for protection of truce. The amount of damage is exceedingly heavy. Mrs. Brady had a house riddled and furniture destroyed. Alderman Clark's house and furniture damaged to the amount of \$1,000. He has lost papers and books valued at \$2,000 or \$3,000. Grocery store of Patrick Murray, and the destruction of property estimated at \$4,000. John Laverty's house and furniture destroyed, valued at \$2,900, all he had in the world. Bernard Sheny lost one frame and three brick houses valued at \$3,000; he saved one bed only. Patrick McKee and Owen McCullough in house and furniture \$1,000. Thomas Shenden in house and furniture \$2,500. Six three story buildings on Washington street all destroyed with their furniture, supposed to be worth \$15,000. Patrick Magee, who owned a house destroyed valued at \$1500, was sick in bed, and was rescued from the flames with great difficulty. Harmony Court seven frame houses all destroyed with their contents, loss \$300. Hibernia Hose Company, loss \$1,000; and the market destroyed was valued at \$5000. The two frame houses, corner of Master and Cadwallader streets, belonging to John Carrol, and also two other frames adjoining; \$1500. The tenants lost all they had say about \$250. In one of these houses, \$700 in silver, and but little of it having been recovered, may be added to the other loss. The loss in the burning of the Catholic Church of St Michael, the parsonage house and furniture and ornaments, and the Sisters of Charity's Seminary, is estimated at not less than \$76,000. Of the five frame buildings on the right of the Church, which were consumed, a three and two story frame belonged to Benjamin Hutchison, Esq., who estimated his loss at \$2500, and the other two belonged to Mr Francis McCreedy, and were valued at \$1800. The loss to Joseph Carr, whose house at the corner of Phoenix and second streets, opposite the Seminary, was sacked, is about \$1500. The loss to Mr McAleer, whose two large bricks, at the corner of Second and Master sts. were burned, is about \$3000. The tenant of one of them, named Rice, lost about \$600. A frame house back of this, owned by John Daley, which was burned, was valued at about \$400. In estimating this destruction of property, we have not taken into account a vast amount of material in the houses occupied by workmen, nor of houses, the very sites of which have been obliterated, and we feel warranted in believing that the destruction of property amounts to much over what we have to add the loss at St. Augustine's, and we will find that damage has been done to the county of Philadelphia in a sum rising a quarter of a million of dollars, and this, besides the loss of life, and the deep moral strain which has been inflicted upon the community.

SOUTH AMERICA.

CHILI, PERU AND BOLIVIA.—Later advices have been received at Baltimore. Chili is prosperous and well governed. Through the exertions of our Minister, Mr Pendleton, U. S. claims have been acknowledged, and are in progress of liquidation. Bolivia is disturbed owing to her war with Peru. Her mines are badly wrought, and her currency deeply depreciated. Peru is in a distracted condition; business at a stand, and affairs generally were very unprosperous. The quantity of rain in Peru decreases yearly. In one district there had been none whatever for eight years, the farmers depending on irrigation.

FROM BUENOS AYRES AND MONTEVIDEO.—The U S Gazette, Philadelphia, has dates from Buenos Ayres to 23d March, and from Montevideo to the 21st. The papers give inflated accounts of skirmishes between the two armies, and contain little else of interest. The siege and blockade still continued, but with little prospect of the city capitulating, and it was thought at Montevideo that Riviere, would succeed in entering and relieving the town. The French Admiral had demanded of the French residents, who were armed to the number of three thousand in defence of the town, that they should strike their flag and disband, but they peremptorily refused to do so.