

## FOREIGN COMMENT.

## FRENCH AND BRITISH COMMENT ON THE RETURN OF PAUL JONES.

THE day after the battle off Trafalgar, Napoleon was plunged in gloomy thoughts, and during a visit to Berthier, then the most devoted, if not the ablest of his marshals, he asked: "Berthier, how old was Paul Jones when he died?" "I do not know," was the reply; "I think he was forty-five." "He had not finished his career," said the Emperor sadly; "if he had lived France might have had an Admiral like Nelson!" This anecdote is related in the *Paris Figaro* apropos of the day, when it quotes further:

"The sailors of Admiral Sigbee come to receive the coffin of Paul Jones, in order to take back the founder of the American navy to the country which he made free. The Stars and Stripes of the American flag shall enfold his remains—the flag born on the birthday of the Admiral, the flag which he was the first to make the compass of Europe salute. France in her turn salutes the coffin containing the ashes of Commander Paul Jones."

The same paper compares the return of the hero's body to America, with the return of Napoleon's remains from St. Helena to Paris, and adds that Paul Jones was "a hero in America, a pirate in England, a patriot in history."

The *Atcion* (Paris) speaks of the "imposing ceremony" with which the Admiral's body was publicly grandly displayed and despatched to Cherbourg. Very striking was the allocution made by citizen Paul Brousse at the Hotel de Ville, and addressed to the Americans present. He concluded by saying:

"I may be permitted to believe that if ever by any unforeseen possibility you should hear from the eastern side of the Atlantic the agonizing cry of France wounded by her enemies, that France who in her republican dignity is so resolutely pacific, the *Duc de Duras* of Paul Jones, which went from France to America, would return to Europe equipped with success for her which awaited her in the cradle in which she was born in independence."

The paper from which we copy this speech argues from the recent events in the relations of French and Americans at Paris, Cherbourg, and Brest that an *entente* is likely to be established between America and France as it has been between France and England. In the words of this journal:

"We believe we are witnessing the preliminaries to an *entente cordiale* between France and the United States. . . . All the speeches made by the distinguished Americans present, all the remarks, published and known, of the diplomats indicated a keen interest in peace and mutual understanding between the two nations, and an intention to promote such consummation."

The *Gaulois* (Paris) points out to the Socialists and faddish pacifists who desire to abolish the army, that the American Republic in its demonstrations over Paul Jones declares that still a military nation. It says:

"Americans ought to be very well satisfied with the reception we have given them. Wherever they went they were cheered. The moment they disembarked their soldiers became popular favorites."

"At the sight of the American uniforms, memories of former companionship in arms were awakened, and our officers were happy to welcome their comrades from beyond the sea."

"While our Socialists are trying to persuade us that the

republic ought to abolish the army, the great American Republic sends to us a military squadron to honor the memory of a sailor who fought for her independence."

"And while our pacifists labor to convert their own and the neighboring countries to their views, President Roosevelt reaches out to France which had a bold soldier."

The *Times* (London) joins to its acknowledgment of the high qualities of Paul Jones a prayer that the War of 1812 may be the last conflict in arms between this country and Great Britain. To quote:

"This week the navies of France and the United States have been exchanging cordial international courtesies over what our Paris correspondents have not improbably called the 'epithetosis' of Paul Jones. . . . That great seaman was a good citizen of the United States and a good servant of France, and individual redoubtable foe of this country, albeit a Scotsman by birth. Yet the relations of

this country with both France and the United States are now happily such that a without re-opening old wounds, we can join with them in honoring the memory of his great sea captain, just as Frenchmen may join with us in admiring the unique genius of Nelson. That it took a Nelson to beat them is no unworthy tribute to their naval valor and renown. Between three nations so kindred in political genius and aspirations as England, France and the United States, the memories of their former conflicts, so honorable to all, may well strengthen the friendship which now so happily unites them. Indeed, we may best express these happy relations by saying that the sentiment which will prevail at Brest will be identical with that already embodied in a toast which is not uncommon on either side of the Atlantic, the War of 1812; may it always be the new year between England and the United States."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*



PAUL JONES.

This statue, which is the work of the eminent sculptor, P. de Bary, is the only one of the great naval heroes of France.

## HOW FRANCE WILL CHECK OUR IMPERIALISM.

THE benevolent quality of our "imperialism" seems to be misunderstood in Paris almost as much as in the Philippines—perhaps even more, for we learn from the *Nouvelle Revue* (Paris) that "Yankee imperialism" is the greatest existing menace to the nations of the world. Its formula, says Joseph Ribet (the writer to whom we are indebted for this interesting view of our intentions), is: "The world for Americans"; its

basis is the Monroe Doctrine; and its impersonation is Theodore Roosevelt, who, in spite of all the considerations of pure politics, was elected to be President of the United States." Mr. Ribet utters a somewhat amazed and westward-looking view of American energy, and says:

"American imperialism is newer than English imperialism, stronger than German imperialism and more sure of itself than Japanese imperialism. . . . It is built upon an imposing foundation—the Monroe Doctrine expanded into Pan-Americanism; and from a political standpoint its scope is positively astounding in its inclusiveness. Economically it displays resources before which the productive power of the world gives way, and it makes conquest of all the avenues of commerce. The maxim of this imperialism is the world for Americans, unrolls its influence like the coils of a colossal serpent which extend in ever-widening rings. It sweeps on off necessity from the domain of economics to that of politics. It describes circles of worldlike conquest and moral influence by means of which, day by day, it tightens its hold on the world."

He thus includes in the term "imperialism" the financial and moral as well as political power of America. He attributes a great