

not the applause of their countrymen. If they committed a crime in going forth to succor what they undoubtedly believed to be an oppressed people about to assert their freedom, they have paid the forfeit. Let their ashes rest in peace. If we cannot approve their actions, we may at least be permitted to lament their fate.

On General Lopez we will bestow a few parting words. He has been called a fool or a madman, and what is of more consequence, accused of having wilfully deceived his followers by false representations of the disposition of the Cubans, coupled with exaggerations of the number of his adherents in the United States. He must indeed have been a fool or a madman to have done this. Embarked in the same vessel, exposed to the same dangers, and certain of the same fate if the expedition was unsuccessful, what possible motive could he have had for deception? If deception was practised, it came from another quarter. It was either a device of Spanish policy to lure him into premature action, or of heartless speculators for their own private purposes. Unquestionably Lopez was himself deceived in relying on the co-operation of the Cubans, who in turn were probably deceived as to the amount of aid they would receive from the United States. Until new facts are brought to light, we must be content to remain in doubt and darkness on the subject.

As for Narcisso Lopez, we affirm that he was neither pirate nor out-throat, madman nor fool. We are neither afraid nor ashamed to say, that as earnest well-wishers to the freedom of mankind, we have watched his motions with the deepest interest, wished him success most sincerely, and as sincerely now lament his fate. And why should we not? Shall we Americans, whose ancestors gained immortal glory by success in precisely the same cause in which he perished, be called on at this day to stigmatize his name and his memory as a leader of pirates and freebooters? Shall we, while holding the names of La Fayette, Kosciuszko, Pulaski, De Kalb, Stauben, and Montgomery, in honored and grateful remembrance, and who, in coming to our aid, committed the same violation of *Messa*. Fillmore and Webster's great principle of neutrality, triumph in the fate of Crittenden, Kerr, and the rest of their countrymen, alike volunteers in the cause of freedom? We assert that such is the requisition of our own government, echoed by the sentiments of Americans. If we do not mistake, the time is not very distant when, instead of being derided as rash fools, or slandered as outlaws and pirates, they will be classed with those illustrious martyrs to liberty, who, though they perished themselves, prepared the way for the apotheosis of the goddess.

Narcisso Lopez fought bravely, and died bravely. At first we were inclined to blame him for suffering himself to be taken alive, when, in our opinion, he should have died like a Roman. But it since appears that he was scented by bloodhounds, and captured almost in the sleep of death, occasioned by long-continued fatigue and hunger. His last words, the instant the iron-collar was about to be placed about his neck, were, "*I die for Cuba.*" If the people of the United States hope to preserve their freedom, they must refrain from trampling on the ashes of its martyrs; and if those of Cuba ever become free, or deserving of freedom, they will erect statues to Narcisso Lopez.