

ETHICS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Among all the varieties of human government the republican form is undoubtedly the best, and is perhaps that ultimate and glorious destiny to which all systems are tending.

Washington, July 24, 1893. THE PRESIDENTIAL TRAVELING PARTY. Washington, Aug. 26.—The Presidential excursion party left at 7:30 A. M., under charge of General McCallum.

Baltimore, Aug. 28.—On arriving at Baltimore the excursionists were met by a committee of forty citizens with the Mayor and chairman, and escorted in open carriages to the station. Large crowds were gathered both at the railroad station and on the line of the excursionists who were greeted by cheers.

Philadelphia, Aug. 28.—At a meeting of the stock board to-day C. P. Hayward moved to adjourn out of respect for the President and the motion was agreed to.

Philadelphia, Aug. 28.—The President's train arrived at 2:13 this afternoon. He was received by a committee of merchants and military officers. Col. James Page addressed the President, tendering the warmest hospitality of the citizens of Philadelphia, irrespective of party.

Washington, Sept. 2.—The President's train left here at 10:30 A. M. Philadelphia, Aug. 28.—At a meeting of the stock board to-day C. P. Hayward moved to adjourn out of respect for the President and the motion was agreed to.

Philadelphia, Aug. 27.—The City Council and Board of Trade both having refused to take any part in the reception of the President, a meeting was held at the Merchants' Exchange building to-day for the purpose of organizing a crowd to meet him on the 30th of July, for, as it is alleged, the purpose of opposing the present constitution of the State.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Rev. John Pierpont died last night at his residence in Medford, Mass., aged 81 years.

Chicago, August 27.—The full official correspondence concerning the New Orleans riot, fills nearly a page of the New York papers. The following are Sheridan's dispatches:

New Orleans, Aug. 1.—To U. S. Grant: General—You are doubtless aware of the situation in this city. A political body styling itself the Convention of the Citizens of the city of New Orleans, have met on the 27th of July, for, as it is alleged, the purpose of opposing the present constitution of the State.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

To the Members of the Oregon Legislature. Gentlemen: Congress has recently submitted to the several States a proposition to amend the National Constitution, and your honorable body will, at this session, be called upon to cast the vote of Oregon for or against that amendment.

In discussing this question, I will first, according to my ability, examine the proposition as a whole, stating such objections as will apply to the entire amendment, and after having done so, I will take the sections separately and in order, giving the particular objections that lie against each of them.

In deliberating upon this question, it will be well for us to look in mind, that generally sound policy requires every nation to be extremely cautious in changing its fundamental law, as history and reason concur in showing that frequent variations engender in the minds of the people that uncertainty which is the parent of intestine commotion and anarchy.

These facts are true enough, no doubt, and to some may seem out of place here, but truth is eternal, and never grows old. Besides, we fear there is too many among us who regard the happy institutions of their country as secured forever against disaster, and who think too lightly of the trust committed to them as Americans and freemen.

On the 23rd of August, 1862, I was in the city of New Orleans, and I saw with my own eyes the destruction of property, the murder of innocent men, and the burning of churches and schools. I saw the people in a state of lawlessness, and I saw the military power of the United States in the hands of a few men.

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Civil and rights always go hand in hand. Civil government is instituted for the sole purpose of protecting the rights of men in society, and it is from this fact alone that I can claim to their allegiance; it must therefore cease to exact the performance of duties as it ceases to protect rights.

The second objection—viz: that the rights of those states have been forfeited by treason and are now in the hands of Congress—is fully answered I think by the following considerations:

States are quasi corporations and therefore, according to Blackstone, "they cannot commit treason or felony or other crime, in their corporate capacity, though their members may in their distinct individual capacities."

The doctrine then that Congress has the right to exact from the Southern States an "unconditional" president is the admission of their representatives has no foundation in law. However to support this theory the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Luther vs. Borden has been sometimes relied upon.

To show the absurdities into which the leading radicals are continually falling, I will here make an extract from a speech delivered by Hon. J. D. Henderson in the House upon the Constitutional Amendment. His explanation of the status of the States is very lucid, indeed.

It is a very little thought will, I am convinced, show that this, or indeed, any other proposed change in the Constitution would be at this time not only unnecessary, but extremely unwelcome and impolitic.

From the above text the editor of the Oregonian, in his issue of the 1st inst., delivers a very proper homily on "State Rights," reproving the friends of Mr. Nesmith with considerable severity, for endeavoring to procure the re-election of that gentleman to the Senate.

The most important objection to the proposed amendment is the fact that it ratifies the right to be made a "condition precedent" to the admission of any new States into the Southern States—a measure, in my opinion, equally wrong in principle and unsafe in policy.

The proposition of President Johnson has not, as yet, called upon me to present any ground on this subject, but disagree almost themselves almost as widely as they differ from the President. However, the position must generally hold, and most tenable is that of Senator Williams, which if we remember correctly may be stated briefly as follows: That the States are in the Union as to their dates and out as to their rights, that their privileges as States have been forfeited by the crime of rebellion, and are now in the hands of Congress, and that the law-making power has therefore the right to exact any conditions it please before admitting those States to the "Commonwealth of the Union."

As the first position, viz: "that the States are in the Union as to their dates but not as to their rights," is the only one that has a doctrine pointedly contradicted the well-known principle of law that the allegiance of the subject is in exact proportion to the protection afforded him by the government, and that dis-

AND STILL THEY COME!—We are permitted to take the following extract from a letter written to a friend in Oregon by Surgeon-General Barnes, a man high in station and the confidence of his countrymen. He is now accompanying President Johnson in his tour through the Western States:

"I have yet to meet the first officer who has served in Oregon, who does not identify himself with the interests of the State, and here in Washington there is quite an Oregon clique, which during the war would rally such names as Sheridan, Russell, Anger, Ingalls, Tyler, Hardie, Wildrick, and a host of others, bound together by pleasant recollections of the most favorable consideration.

"The President's Tour.—It will be seen from the dispatches, that the President's tour is what it should be—a grand and glorious success. New York city, which as the Mayor beautifully remarked, 'never speaks in whispers,' has thundered a joyous greeting to the champion of the people and the defender of the Constitution.

"The Willamette University opens again on Monday, Sept. 10.

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Redemption Notice. OFFICE STATE TREASURER. SALEM, SEPT. 16, 1890.

For the Atlantic States. THE undersigned will leave for Washington City, Va., and the Western States, about the last of October.

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