STATE RIGHTS DEMOCRAT.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1865

POLITICAL GUERRILLA MOVEMENT.

There are in Oregon a confederated band of political guerrillas, who are totally devoid of principle or consistency, and who seek only their own personal ends in whatever they engage in party matters. They have been banded together for years and have at one time and another preyed upon every party or faction which held or was apparently promised temporary sway. They were originally unfledged Abolitionists—Free Soilers so-called—but while Democracy was in the ascendancy in Oregon, they professed devotion to the party, were received within its ample folds, and immediately began upon a system of scheming which would bring them to the control of the party organization. Their persistent, confederated efforts, were finally crowned with success. They accomplished their purpose, dispensed among their band the more important public offices, gave to their peculiar class servlings the crumbs and pickings, and in time converted the organization into a mere machine for the promotion of their own aggrandizement. They perverted the principles of the party from the true interpretation and intent, and insisted that fealty to clique dictation was paramount to time-honored Democratic faith and party usage. Finally, the great mass of the Democracy, having become convinced of their unworthiness as leaders, resolved to displace them, and select faithful, honest, sound Democrats for their standard-bearers. On finding themselves no longer able to control the party, the members of the band commenced scheming to effect its overthrow. Guerrilla political machinations were resorted to, and many good, but misguided men, were seduced into the support of the guerrillas. They had intended to go over to the enemy in a body, and at once, but an unfortunate division made in the Democratic ranks in the States east of the mountains, gave them an opportunity to more effectually dreak down the party in this State by a feigned devotion to a popular leader. Although they had only in the Spring before taken strong ground against Mr. Douglas, and denounced his theory of Popular Sovereignty, they now became professed champions of himself and his cause, and thus concealed from their own hoodwinked followers their real design—that of full fellowship with the Republican organization, which, they foresaw, was likely to come into control of the Federal Government.

Having succeeded in giving the State to the Republicans, the guerrilla band sought open brotherhood with the victors. They forced themselves upon that party, and immediately proceeded to acquire control over it. Again they were successful, and as the wages of their treachery to and overthrow of the Democratic party, they were given the best offices within the means of the Republicans to bestow. The majority of the guerrilla band still continue to hold these high and lucrative positions.

But the influence and might of the Republican party is on the wane. It requires no more than ordinary sagacity to foretell its speedy, certain downfall. The guerrilla band rightly guess that the present State Administration will end the rule of Abolitionism in Oregon; they readily foresee the triumph which awaits the Democracy next June. Accordingly, they are beginning to trim their sails to catch the popular breeze, and to scheme and labor so that they shall again enjoy power and place under the new dispensation. The advent of Senator Nesmith to the State this year was the initial movement of their scheme. He traveled over the State ostensibly on official business connected with the Indian Department, but in reality to instruct his blowers and strikers in the peculiar duties they are to perform, and to drum up recruits to his waning, desperate cause.

Already can be discovered the effects of the political views he disseminated here and there, in certain localities, throughout the State. In the vain hope that the same causes which have produced discussion, difference or schism, in the ranks of the Democracy in some of the States across the mountains, may have the same effect in Oregon, the guerrillas will prosecute their work. They hope to convince Democrats that what they are pleased to term "radical principles," *i. e.*, the principles of Jefferson and Madison—have become obsolete, and that, under these principles, the party can never accomplish victory; that the present organization must be abandoned, and upon its base must be reared a "conservative" organization, which shall adopt the new fledged fallacies of the day, and accept as accomplished facts, the several and startling innovations sought to be ingrafted into our governmental system by President Johnson, and the "conservative" Democrats of this period. They insist that the doctrine of State Rights must be abandoned; that the various Proclamations issued by the President must be accepted as lawful and right; that the declared abolition of slavery must be maintained; and that the right of the Executive and Congress to decide the *status* of the Southern States in the Union must be admitted. Other equally monstrous, anti-Democratic, unconstitutional, and pernicious theories and doctrines are to be acknowledged as articles of the new faith, and upon this sort of platform the new "conservative" Democratic party, say the guerrillas, will achieve success.

These schemers and *policy* mongers may as well be told at the outset of their machinations here, that their artful but dishonest devices will not prevail in Oregon—at least, with the Democracy of the State. *They* are known, and their inability to again produce schism, to lead off Democrats, and to materially harm the party, is also known. There will be no "re-organization" of the party to suit their wishes, nor the wishes of any others. The Democratic organization in Oregon is sound, strong and firm. Democrats know the perfect ability of their party to accomplish success in the campaign of next year upon the true, clearly defined, boldly avowed principles of their political faith. They offer cordial welcome and brotherly greeting to all who come asking, in sincerity, fellowship with them. But they seek not, nor will they accept, additions to their ranks at the sacrifice of their principles. The old guerrilla band is simply mischievous, not powerful. Years ago they had sufficient influence to lead many astray from the Democratic fold. Their selfishness and lack of principle has long since been discovered, and they are now powerless for harm, impotent for good. Scarcely a corporal's guard in number, they have neither the power to tear down nor build up. The Democracy of Oregon are quite unconcerned about the course the band may elect to pursue. But if they seek again to acquire fellowship with the party, they must understand that they will have to come to the party; the party will not sacrifice a single principle, abate not one jot of its true faith, to gain their support or influence. We know that we but reflect the real sentiments of our faithful party brethren of the whole State, in saying that honorable defeat, in battling under our principles, will be preferred to a dishonorable triumph, obtained through the abandonment of these principles or questionable means. But, our party will not be defeated. Victory will surely be ours in the State election of next June.

Stoppage of the Daily Mail.

An order from the Postoffice Department reached the Postmaster at Portland on Wednesday, commanding him to withhold the mails in future from the California Stage Company's stages. As there are no other means provided, this order entirely cuts off the Overland Daily Mail between Sacramento and Portland, and leaves over a million of people on this coast without any facilities for communication by mail. It was an outrageous order for the Postmaster General to issue, but our people are at his mercy in the matter, and without remedy. It is a virtual suppression of nearly all the newspapers in this State, and many in California, and of all the letter correspondence as well. To secure a good and regular mail service is one of the duties the General Government owes each State. It deprives Oregon of this right. To pay taxes to the General Government is one of the duties devolved upon Oregon, in common with other States. Suppose Oregon should cease to pay them until the Daily Mail is restored to her—what would the Government think of her action, and do in the matter? Let our people remember that the same Government which deprives them of mail facilities, because of the expense, daily disburses more than it would cost to carry the mail, to lazy, idle negroes, to shoddyites, toadies, and Treasury sharks, who have never contributed a dollar to the support of the Government, while Oregon has always promptly fulfilled all of her duties to it. The people ought to meet in every district, and take such measures as will make their complaints heard at Washington, if they can do no more, in this business. Our Senators and Representatives will be false to their duty if they fail to impress upon the Postmaster General the absolute necessity of the Daily Mail just suppressed in Oregon.

Retired.—The Arena of last Monday announces the retirement of C. B. Bellinger, Esq., from the editorial chair. Ill health, and a desire to resume the practice of his profession as a lawyer, are the causes which have impelled him to this step. We regret his withdrawal from the paper. He is a clever gentleman, an able writer, and his Democratic record is unimpeachable. We wish him good fortune in every way. His successor is not named in the Arena. But without stopping to learn who he may be or is, we greet him with hearty welcome to the post. The paper will be continued as a Democratic journal, and we wish success shall attend it.

From Idaho.—Late accounts from Idaho City report an alarming state of affairs there. A Vigilance Committee had assembled to take Ferd. Patterson from jail and hang him, and about three thousand law and order citizens had gathered to prevent the act. Trouble was threatened.

Small Pox.—The seven cases of small pox reported near Jacksonville turn out to be in Sam's Valley, ten miles from there. All the patients are of the same family, in the same house. We have not heard of any new cases.

The Abolition of Slavery Considered--General Views on the Doctrine of State Rights.

We cheerfully give place to the following communication, but must say to the author that no such "proposition" as he imputes to us ever appeared in this paper. We certainly have never "enunciated" the acceptance of the proposition he quotes against us, for we hold even stronger views adverse to it than he expresses. We do not believe that thirty-four of the States even, have the right to declare the slaves in the thirty-fifth State to be free. That matter belongs solely and only to the State itself:

Canyon City, August 25th, 1865.

Editor State Rights Democrat:—"The question of slavery is practically disposed of, and the agitation on the subject should cease." This proposition is enunciated in a paragraph of the first issue of the State Rights Democrat. As it seems to imply the settlement of a question that has been a source of constant agitation for more than forty years, ever and anon subjecting our country to violent commotions, engendering implacable sectional animosities between her citizens, and paralising to a deplorable extent the vital energies of the nation, it appears not improper to review the proposition.

If this long-disturbing and all-absorbing subject is "practically disposed of," I have failed to see it, and any friendly ray of light enabling me to discern its reality would be gratefully accepted. That a violent combination of usurpations on the part of the Government for the time being, and perhaps for all time, has suspended the practical operation of slavery, no one looking in the face of existing facts, can deny. But it is equally apparent that the Government has acquired its present attitude upon the subject by a persistent disregard of constitutional prohibitions, enlarging its limits and transcending its delegated powers, treating with supreme and tyrannous contempt the sovereign rights of the several States, with a specific tendency to the destruction of those essential principles that characterize and control a government of freemen.

I had thought every constitutional right belonging to any State prior to the rebellion was still indefeasible and would so remain, until either changed by the sovereign act of the State, or in the manner and form set forth in the Constitution of the United States, and as no such constitutional decree has been enacted, slavery has still a statutory and legitimate existence, though practically disposed of by the force and violence of arms.

In view of these facts, is it orthodox State sovereignty to admit the present accepted disposition of slavery as final and complete? A true answer to the interrogatory only requires a glance at the extraordinary agents employed to produce present results to convince the mind of the fatal error that the unconditional submission to the present disposition of the slavery question would subject the people.

No intelligent and candid man will contend that the various official acts of the Government to abolish slavery during the rebellion was supported by constitutional sanction; but upon the contrary, by the plain, outspoken words of the Constitution, they were expressly forbidden. The advocates of the unconstitutional assumption of power by the President only attempt a justification upon the ground of dire necessity—contending that the Government was being assaulted by an enemy of such gigantic proportions, and wielding his blows with such formidable and fearful effect that it placed in extreme peril the very life of the nation. Hence the friends of impartial freedom and the allies of usurpation urged the necessity of paralyzing the arm of rebellion by striking down slavery in utter contempt of the Constitution of the United States, and the sacred rights of the sovereign States.

Every good citizen who has the country's interest at heart, should yield a respectful assent to the decrees of his government, however much they might conflict with individual opinion, if executed in conformity with the Constitution of his country. But if openly and palpably violating the very letter and spirit of that sacred instrument, tearing asunder the safeguards that protect States against Federal encroachment, exposing their citizens to the ruthless ravages of a fanatical tyranny, rendering life, liberty, property, domestic and social enjoyments—the God-given heritage of American citizens—insecure; then, I proclaim it the right and duty of every friend of constitutional liberty to exercise at least a sufficiency of his birthright prerogative to establish his determination to resist that centralized system of government that [illegible] its ill [illegible] against that beautiful temple of State Rights, erected by the master architects of the Constitution, standing as a lighthouse upon the headland to guide the ship of state to the haven of constitutional security when the storms of internal dissensions arise, threatening to engulf her in the vortex of the angry deep. These reflections are neither intended to advocate the continuance nor the abolition of slavery; but simply an humble but earnest offering in defence of the constitutional rights of the people, as strictly applicable to all other constitutional infractions as that of slavery.

There are many acts of the present party in power, authorized by the insulting mockery of "military necessity," and executed by the potential arm of the "war power," that should be rejected with equal disfavor as the act that directs the death-blow to slavery. But as this party evinces a disposition to relax its gripe of oppressions, and in some instances correcting grave errors of the past, it is no part of sound policy, or an evidence of patriotism to make disparaging allusions thereto. But as the act liberating the slaves of the South overshadows all others in the grim catalogue of Executive usurpations, attacking and overturning as it does the fundamental principles of our Government, that derives its just powers from the consent of the governed, it demands the serious consideration of every patriot that he may intelligently contribute his influence in perpetuating those cherished and imperishable principles embodied in the Constitution of our fathers.

It seems to discredit belief that any one who entertains a sincere regard for the Constitution of his country, with a fixed determination to preserve, protect and defend its provisions as a faithful citizen, can indorse the conclusion that slavery is finally and forever settled. It is kindly but erroneously asserted by some "That it has not been legally abolished, but is practically disposed of; therefore its agitation should cease." Accepting this as the intrinsic conditions surrounding the subject, no better reason can be imagined pleading the necessity of investigation. No quiet, peace-loving citizen will wantonly agitate pointless and obsolete subjects. But he that will evade the responsibility of meeting those vital issues upon which the perpetuity of republican government and constitutional liberty depend, because the turbulent stream of public clamor is setting in against them, even if aided by the overawing outlawry of "military commissions," deserves more the name and fate of a slave than an American freeman.

But for the corrupt and cowardly truckling of the leaders that mould and control public sentiment, we should not have beheld our country writhing in agony, the Constitution torn and trampled down and left a prostrate and bleeding victim in the bloody clutches of a merciless despotism. Our last and only hope is an appeal to the people, the original source of all power in free governments, to heal the festering wounds of our afflicted country, by applying the sovereign panacea of State Rights enveloped in the old Constitution of the Republic.

If the subject of slavery or any other has been effectually settled by the constitutional operation of the law, we should cheerfully abide by and support its decisions; but if it has not been thus disposed of, we are under no obligation to respect its decree, for if it contravenes the Constitution it is no law at all, but usurpation, and if we are true to the principles that create and perpetuate free government, we will resist it by all the means placed in our hands by that instrument..

From the unanimity of opinion that pervades the public mind to accept the present disposition of slavery without protest, it seems imminently portentous and excites startling apprehensions that the American people have lost the vigor of their ancestors, and are no longer capable of self-government. It is not the remotest thought of the writer that they should exert the least effort to further extend that peculiar institution, only so far as a bold, manly maintainance of the Constitution, upon which the harmony of equal rights and public order rest, might effect its destiny. It can hardly be questioned that the power employed to upset slavery was unconstitutional and had no authority in law. The astounding Emancipation Proclamation of the late President, which was driven as the entering wedge to burst the heart of its attachments, has but few friends to-day who will attempt to clothe it with a more dignified garb than a naked arbitrary stretch of Executive power. At an early period in his administration Abraham Lincoln gave a solemn assurance to the country that he had no disposition or lawful power to disturb the institution of slavery as it existed in the States. This noble and patriotic declaration was the echo of every lover of constitutional liberty throughout the land, and had he firmly stood by his plighted faith he would not have been compelled to witness the dissevered fragments of his native country, torn asunder by the terrible convulsions of civil strife, thereby falling himself a victim to the assassin's infernal hate. Yet after the faithful foreshadowing of his official policy, when the flames of civil discord spread over this country, in an evil moment he yielded to the exacting pressure of Radicalism and proclaimed that arbitrary edict which gave nominal freedom to the slaves of the South, evoking the whole military power of the Government, as Commander-in-chief, to inforce practical effect to a decree, which afterwards he did not hesitate to acknowledge unconstitutional. But the trial of arms after a protracted and bloody struggle has given a verdict practically sustaining this monstrous edict of usurpation. Placing the subject in its most favorable aspect, the war could only be prosecuted to preserve the law and compel the insurrectory insurgents to yield obedience to the legitimate authority of the United States government. Now, that this fact is successfully established, peace concluded, and the rebellious States having returned to their allegiance, they should find, and re-enter the old Government just as it was when they left it; and such must be the inevitable condition, unless this incestuous war has engendered a "New Nation" with new laws that are to be brought forth out of the old.

It is too true, unfortunately for the country, that the tangible reflections of the past, and present events for the last four years give strong coloring to the sad presumption. When we see new principles and practices engrafted into our organic law, new offices created, new powers given to the people's servants unknown to the Constitution, and superimposed upon an unsuspecting or despairing people, surely we are undergoing that assimilating metamorphosis preparatory to entering the "New Nation," which not only essays to change the organic law of the Government, but assails that of the Creator to enforce obedience to the laws of the "New Nation," by compelling all of His creatures to a perfect political and social equality. As another evidence of the gestation of the "New Nation," every citizen of the old Government, who has faithfully defended her constitutional integrity is constrained to take the oath of allegiance before he can be protected in one of his simplest and dearest rights.

In speaking of his Emancipation Proclamation, the late lamented President said: "Understand, I raised no objection to it on legal or constitutional ground, for as the Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy in time of war, I suppose I have a right to take any measure which may best subdue the enemy." Here is a clear and unequivocal confession of the Executive to abandon his constitutional obligations to take any measure to subdue the foe in time of war. If the Executive can take any measure in time of war, which subverts the Constitution, he can and is likely to do the same thing in time of peace, for the Constitution alike prescribes his powers and duties in time of war as well as peace. In times when great and imminent peril is suddenly sprung upon the country, unprovided against by appropriate legislation, the assumption of unlawful power would be justified in averting a great public danger which could be reached in no other way. But we can scarcely imagine an emergency so fearfully threatening in its consequences, created by mortal power, which reconciles the deliberate violation of the Constitution of the United States by the Chief Magistrate, when such violation extends and enforces its decrees into an indefinite future, revolutionizing and uprooting the political rights and social relations of millions of people, upon which their happiness, prosperity and liberty depends. A single violation of the Constitution by the Executive to meet and avert some great public danger, would, if there arrested, prove comparatively harmless; but it is too sure to be repeated, and become the engine of oppression, to be tolerated by a people resolved to be free. This is the history which arbitrary power reveals in every age of the world, under every form of government, and the most striking, melancholy exemplification is seen in our own at this time. We see that illegal and unconstitutional measures were first assumed to "crush the rebellion and subdue the enemy"—actuated perhaps by the purest motives of patriotism, but like a blind, smiting pestilence, they fell upon the friends as well as the foes of constitutional liberty, extending through one whole Administration, striking down the liberty of the citizen everywhere, subjecting them to that species of high-handed outrage, humiliating insult, cruel and inhuman torture, which blood-lapping despots always inflict upon their victims, to inspire fear and exact slavish submission. Nor, is a period put to these shameless atrocities when the "rebellion is crushed," and one tyrant's career is brought to a close; but they descend to his successor, who scowls with contempt upon the very angels of mercy, issues the death warrant to execute his victims by a Military Commission, when the civil law and the Constitution he has sworn by high Heaven to support, vainly intercedes; "it is the shedding of innocent blood;" but under the beetling brow of bristling bayonets the voice of humanity and civil law is awed into silence, and the horrid work of death is done.

Forced to contemplate the shocking [illegible] wide-spread [illegible] of unauthorised power, how watchful and vigilant we should be towards our public servants who make and administer the law; at once repudiating each and every act which infringes the chartered rights of our liberties. Then, if the question of slavery, or any other, has not been settled according to the Constitution, have we not the manhood to proclaim it? Unhappily, many of the losses and grievous injuries that we have sustained by the aggressions of the party that now misrules, can never be restored or repaired. We can only hold up to the world's gaze the authors of our national woes to receive the just sentence of condemnation from every lover of constitutional liberty throughout the civilized world.

The time is now at hand that demands every patriot to embrace and apply the undying principles which were achieved through terrible struggle against arbitrary power by our ancestors, and bequeathed to us as a perpetual inheritance. But in the exercise of our patriotic zeal to overcome the enemy, let us not too seize the instruments of arbitrary power; but let us wield only those which can be obtained from the armory of the Constitution, and never cease to strike until we can have "The Constitution and the Union of our Fathers" inscribed upon our banners.

X. H.

Not Very "Loyal."—The Abolition party of California have nominated Judge Sanderson for one of the Justices of the Supreme Court. The Flag charges him with having, in 1861, used the following language in a speech in the Democratic State Convention:

In order to show this Convention that I am acting honest in this matter—it having been charged that I am seeking Republican votes and Douglas votes in the next election—and to convince you that I am in earnest and talking what I really and firmly believe, I say that *my sympathies have always been with the South*; that my brother, a citizen of Florida, was Chairman of the Committee that reported the Secession Ordinance of that State. I have been in all my sympathies, in this vexed question between North and South, *with* the South. *I am still with them!* I say to them if they had waited, and the Administration had attempted to carry out the principles of the Chicago platform, then they *ought* to have seceded and *I would have been with them.*

Don't Hitch.—The Marysville Appeal, the organ of one branch of the Abolition party in California, lately said: "The question of negro suffrage belongs exclusively to the States." The same paper pronounces the doctrine of State Rights a "dangerous heresy." What is it but this very doctrine which the Appeal asserts in regard to Negro Suffrage? They will discover, the more they undertake to practicably apply even their own theories, that without State Rights there can be no actual Statehood, no domestic government.

From Canyon City.—The Mountaineer has late reports from Canyon City and the adjacent mining camp of Middle Fork. The miners were generally doing well. Persons are rushing in there from Boise and Owyhee. Some claims pay very richly. Goods come in freely from Umatilla, as well as from Dalles City.

TELEGRAPHIC.

OVERLAND DISPATCHES.

DATES TO AUGUST 30.

Political.

Trenton, N. J., Aug. 30.—The Democratic State Convention to-day nominated Gen. Runyon for Governor. The committee on resolutions reported a series charging the consequences of the war on the election of a sectional President, and the fanaticism of a sectional party; favoring the return of the Government to its original purpose and object, declaring and insisting on the rights of the States; opposing negro suffrage emphatically, and agreeing with President Johnson that this subject must be left with the States; favoring the use of a gold and silver currency, opposing military arrests, favoring the freedom of elections and the restoration of habeas corpus.

Shipwreck.

New York, Aug. 30.—Late English papers announce the loss, by sinking, of the ship Sam Dunning, from Rangoon for Liverpool, by which 25 lives were lost. The survivors were obliged to eat leather belts and pitch to keep them from starvation.

Ex-Governor Smith—Albert Pike.

New York, Aug. 30.—The Tribune's special says: The notorious Extra Billy Smith is living quietly on his farm at Warrenton, Virginia.

Albert Pike, of Arkansas, has applied to the President for pardon, with an elaborate and spirited statement. The petition comes from Ottawa, Canada, and is signed by two hundred names of the Masonic fraternity. He denies having anything to do with inciting Indians to take up arms against the United States.

Affairs in Mexico.

New York, Aug. 30.—The World's Vera Cruz letter says: The news from [illegible] interior does not show a disposition on the [illegible] Juarez and the other opponents of the Imperialist Government to give up the contest. No sooner is the struggle ended at one point by the interposition of French and Austrian bayonets, than it commences at another. It seems to be an endless cause. This chronic state of sedition is attributed by some to the leniency shown by Maximilian toward the leaders of guerrilla bands who have applied to him to pardon them; having obtained it they have shown themselves ungrateful and returned to their former avocations of highway robbery. There is hardly a State at present which is not overrun by roving bands of guerrillas. All the stage routes through Mexico are infested with robbers so that traveling is very unsafe.

A Mexican authority says: Nearly four thousand rebels, under the command of Gen. Magruder, had arrived at Monterey. Since then several of them have left that city for Mexico, where they have met their former associates, Sterling Price, Gov. Moore, and Allen Pierce, Melville and Soule. At first they offered to enlist in the Imperial army, but their offer was declined. The Government has deemed it preferable to organize them into a military and agricultural association, which will occupy the route between Mexico and Vera Cruz.

They have proposed to establish a temporary American railway which will be ready next year. They will make no service of the route until the English railroad be finally established.

Cortinas has issued another proclamation calling on the people to rally to his standard and expel the invaders.

The Atlantic Telegraph Cable.

Halifax, Aug. 30.—The America from Liverpool the 19th, and Queenstown the 20th, has arrived. Moorings had been laid down for the Great Eastern at Sheerness. The inference was drawn that she would not go out again this season. The Times says the expedition is full of encouragement for the future. The only discouragement apparent is the inability of the electrician to discover the serious faults in the cable before it was paid out over the ship's side. The delay of another year will not be thrown away if it will enable them to devise better tests of the excellency of the cable before it is submerged—though whether they do so or not we must believe in the possibility of an Atlantic telegraph being established.

The report of the Great Eastern had a favorable effect on shares, which rallied from 23¼ to 24½. There was much difference of opinion as to the prospects of recovering the cable. The general feeling is that it might be done.

The Fenians—Cholera.

Fenian demonstrations on a small scale had taken place near Scorron. Ample police and military preparations had been made by the authorities and order was not disturbed.

Apprehensions of the approach of the cholera were increasing in England. The epidemic had reached Marseilles. At an important meeting of medical officers and others in London, resolutions were adopted advising the utmost care and all possible precautions.

General News.

Two ships of the Russian iron-clad squadron were wrecked on their way to Stockton.

The Czar had gone people.

[illegible] Aug. 20, via Queenstown.—A Convention between Austria and Prussia has been concluded concerning the Duchies, Prussia getting Sonolbraya, paying Austria a promissory indemnity. The Provisional Government in the Duchies still continues. Prussia will acquire Schleswig, and Austria Holstein.

DATES TO AUGUST 31,

Virginia Politics.

New York, Aug. 31.—The Herald's Richmond correspondent says that the citizens of that city had called a Union meeting for which they had for some time past been making preparations. All the speakers were men who months ago were prominent supporters of Jeff. Davis. The resolutions express indignation at the imputation on the part of Northern people and journals, that recanting secessionists are not sincere in taking the oath of allegiance and pronounce such imputations utterly groundless and false, and profess the warmest attachment to the National Government; acquiesce in the result of the war, including the abolition of slavery.

Guerrillas in Mississippi.

New York, Aug. 31.—The Herald's Vicksburg correspondent reports the capture of a steamer by a party of guerrillas who released the officers and crew. They did not leave until they had secured everything profitable abroad. Other outrages as well as murders by them are recorded. In order to put a stop to lawlessness in that State Gov. Sharkey has by proclamation called for the formation of one company of volunteers in each county. Cotton stealing by vagrant negroes is very frequent at Vicksburg.

From the Rio Grande.

New York, Aug. 31.—The Tribune's Brownsville letter of the 12th says that the line of the Rio Grande is growing dark with troops. Gen. Steele is said to be getting things in order, but owing to the bad weather and want of vegetables, the moralaty among the troops is serious.

DATES TO SEPTEMBER 4.

General News.

New York, Sept. 1.—The Post's special says: Orders have been issued to muster out thirty more regiments of infantry.

Washington, Sept. 1.—The income receipts yesterday were over two million four hundred thousand dollars, which is an excess of four hundred thousand dollars over any previous day. The entire receipts of June and July are nearly fifty-eight millions, and there are reasons to believe that it will be increased to ninety millions by the 1st of October.

The Secretary of the Treasury represents the Department in easy condition—receipts from revenue have been fully equal to the calculation heretofore made. Those for August amount to over $34,000,000.

Philadelphia, Sept. 1.—The Herald's special dispatch says Wirtz placed in the hands of his counsel yesterday documentary evidence to prove that in establishing the dead line at Andersonville he acted under orders of General Winder, and Seddon, the rebel Secretary of War. The records of the Andersonville prison are missing, and it is believed to be for the purpose of preventing their being used against Wirtz. The clerk in the Quartermaster's Department, in whose hands they were last seen, has been placed under arrest.

Jeff. Davis' Trial—His Health.

New York, Sept. 1.—The Times' special dispatch says that both the President and Secretary of War are decidedly in favor of a trial before a civil court, at the earliest practicable moment, of Jeff. Davis. The chief difficulty has been to find the proper tribunal. The President looks with favor on Knoxville, Tennessee, where Davis committed an act of treason by inciting insurrection in a speech to his army. In case he is tried by a civil court, Chief Justice Chase of Norfolk, Va., will be selected. This is what Davis' friends desire. It may be further said, that whenever trial takes place, that Benj. Butler, in conjunction with the Attorney General, will take a prominent part as public prosecutors. The whole matter has been under consideration at a recent Cabinet meeting, where time and place was so far decided as to render the trial an event near at hand.

Fortress Monroe, Sept. 3.—Jeff. Davis has been attacked with erysipelas for the second time since his imprisonment. The first attack was very slight. This one was more severe, although it is not looked upon as serious. The health of C. C. Clay is improving.

Affairs in the South.

New York, Sept. 2.—The Herald's Atlanta correspondent, giving an account of the journey from Chattanooga to Atlanta, says there were some Confederates along the line, but no cotton. At every station, people with fruit to sell, besieged the trains. Some of these persons were wealthy before the war, but are now reduced to a state of poverty.

The Herald's New York correspondent says: Gov. Wells, of Louisiana, was appointed agent to proceed up the Red river and seize on behalf and benefit of the State, all cotton purchased by Henry W. Allen, formerly rebel Governor.

Capt. Semmes, of Alabama pirate notoriety, and his son, are still in New Orleans.

The Charleston Courier says that it is stated that a decision has been arrived at that only those will be entitled to vote at the approaching election for members to the Convention who were virtually loyal voters in 1860. If the report be correct, it will disfranchise all who may have attained age or who may have become qualified since that time, and conflict with the intent of Governor Perry's proclamation, based on the adjustment made by President Johnson, that the laws in relation to suffrage, in force prior to secession, should alone be valid.

A movement is on foot to invite President Johnson to extend his contemplated visit to Richmond as far as Charleston and Macon.

The Freedmen.

New York, Sept. 2.—Reports to the Freedmen's Bureau, from North Carolina, state that the number of whites and blacks supported by Government in that State, is greatly reduced now, amounting to only 10,000. The Freedmen are making fair crops on Government farms.

Offenders charged with cruelty to negroes have been arrested and are awaiting trial.

In some cases the blacks are treated with fairness, but more frequently they are abused and oppressed to an awful degree. The right to punish them is still tenaciously held by employers, and a few assert they will have the blacks as slaves or exterminate the whole race. The conduct of the blacks in most instances is equally unfortunate. They roam idly about, refusing to work.

Manifestoes From Southern Bishops.

New York, Sept. 4.—Three Methodist Bishops of the South, and the Episcopal Bishop of Alabama, have issued manifestoes to their flocks. They advise a return of allegiance to the National Government. The Methodist Bishops say the Northern Church has hitherto repelled their overtures, and any proposition for a re-union of the two must now come from the North. The Episcopal Bishop instructs his clergy that until the return of civil law it will not be necessary to resume prayers for the President of the United States.

At a convention of Episcopalians in Georgia, it was resolved to resume connection with the Church North whenever their Bishop should consider it consistent with the good faith pledged to their brethren in the other Southern States.

Commutations, Passports, Habeas Corpus

New York, Sept. 4.—The President has generally commuted death sentences to imprisonment for a term of years. Three condemned Mississippi soldiers have been sent to Fort Delaware for five years.

No prominent rebels have yet applied for passports to leave the country, under the late proclamation. Gen. Lee has no thought of applying, though he has been offered a magnificent mansion in London.

It is said that President Johnson will soon restore the writ of habeas corpus to all loyal States.

Overland Emigration.

Five hundred wagons, with an ambulance train, started overland lately from Leavenworth, Kansas, expecting to reach the Pacific coast in November.

From Texas and Mexico.

New Orleans, Sept. 3.—Matamoras papers report much recklessness among the colored troops.

A letter from Cortinas says Juarez had routed a train escort of 800 Imperialists; also that the Imperialists sent from Matamoras were defeated.

Gen. Sheridan was at Galveston. Gov. Hamilton had issued a proclamation providing for a convention—only loyal delegate to be permitted. Ex-Gov. Murray and Wigfall had gone to Mexico.

Indians had come within thirty miles of Houston on a murdering and pillaging expedition. New cotton was coming in freely. The army worm had seriously injured crops.

Confederate refugees at Monterey were decreed domicile at San Luis Potosi or further interior. Gen. Shelby is in the interior; Gen. Hindman has gone to Saltillo to practice law; Ex-Gov. Allen of Louisiana is at San Luis Potosi.

Letters from Nassau report an Indian insurrection against Juarez, and preparations for a French-Mexican expedition into Lower California.

Later advices report the French marching on Chihuahua, and Juarez falling back to El Paso.

General News.

New York, Sept. 4.—Contracts for postal service through the South are being made.

Judge Chase has returned from an extensive tour South. He says cruelty towards and the killing of freedmen by the whites is [illegible] killing of a few hundred negroes in States where they are protected by troops, what will be their alarm when the troops are gone? We will then have a complete militia organization, and this will make a standing army which will bid bold defiance to the world.

DATES TO SEPTEMBER 5.

From the South.

The Savannah Herald learns that measures have been taken to secure a full representation in the approaching convention. The feeling is said to be generally in favor of a clear Union restoration.

Gen. Wilson was attacked by four highwaymen near Macon. He put three to flight and captured the other.

The Central railroad is repaired for forty-five miles out of Savannah, and large quantities of cotton are coming in. Trade is reviving. There was little stir about political topics.

Advices from Texas say there will be no trouble about reconstruction there. Equally favorable reports come from other States.

Henry A. Wise publishes a long appeal from the decision of Gov. Terry, which confiscates his property and gives it to freedmen.

General News.

Washington, Sept. 5.—It is not belived, as stated in English papers, that the President has invited John Bright to this country, or offered him a ship for the trip.

The President has pardoned applicants from Richmond who came under the $20,000 clause. About thirty others were pardoned two months ago.

The receipts of Internal Revenue to-day reached $4,200,009—being $1,768,000 above any prior day.

There was a very large crowd of pardon seekers at the President's to-day, more than ever before.

Advices from Chattanooga report a great reform at that military post, under the rule of Col. Gaw, of the 16th Colored Infantry. The arrest and confinement of several officers for drunkenness, and prohibiting liquor to soldiers, had a good effect. This is one of the chief fortresses, and there are $7,000,000 worth of Government stores there.

Reports have reached New York that a meeting of rebel bond holders was to be held in London, to adopt measures respecting the debt.

The steamer Montana left New York, Sept. 5th, for Rio Janeiro, with a number of Southerners as passengers, who purpose to form a permanent settlement there. Col. Wood of Natchez was among them. Mr. Washburn, U. S. Minister to Paraguay, was also a passenger.

The British steamship Queen arrived at New York, Sept. 5th, from Liverpool, with 1,526 steerage passengers—the largest number ever brought across by one vessel.

Harrisburg, Sept. 5.—The boiler of the Express train coming east to-day bursted, and three persons were killed.

Vermont Election.

Montpelier, Sept. 5.—The vote of the State election to-day was very light, not above three-fourths of that of last year. Dillingham, (Abolition) for Governor, has 3,500 majority in forty-eight towns, which embrace one-fifth of the State. All except five of the same towns gave majorities for the Abolition representative ticket.

DATES TO SEPTEMBER 6.

Jeff. Davis.

New York, Sept. 6.—The Herald's states that Jeff. Davis, who has hitherto been denied the privilege, is now permitted to write to his wife, and to read some of the daily papers. All his letters are supervised by Gen. Miles.

General News.

New York, Sept. 6.—Bishop Lay of North Carolina, who was confined at Richmond, has been set free.

Ex-Gov. Smith of Virginia is quietly passing his time on his confiscated farm near Washington.

The Times says that in their letters to friends in the South, A. H. Stephens and J. H. Reagan express the most liberal views upon reconstruction, the negro question and the future of the South.

A mob in Nashville hung a late rebel soldier named Baker, for killing W. S. Hall, Clerk of the Court, in a difficulty.

Sporting.—The famous racers Norfolk and Lodi are to contend for purses at the State Fair, Sacramento, this month. The first day, two mile heats for $2,000; the last day, three mile heats for a like sum. We take Norfolk both times.

Pacific Coast Dispatches.

San Francisco, Sept. 4.—The minority, who bolted from the Independent Union Convention on Saturday, have in conjunction with some of the Felton party nominated a fusion ticket. The parties constituting the minority or bolters from the Independent [illegible], are nearly all Specific Contract men, [illegible] this ticket is understood to be pledged against repeal. The object thought to be attained is to divide the Independent Union Party and leave the field to Felton.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company are selling tickets by the Colorado, which sails on the 18th inst., at $210 for First Cabin, outside rooms, $175 50, do., inside, $75 for Second Cabin, and $45 for steerage. The rates by the America on the 13th will be of course proportionally low.

The weather yesterday and to-day was exceedingly warm.

Abolition Fusion---Democrats Rallying.

San Francisco, Sept. 5.—The Fusion or compromise ticket has been accepted by the regular Union Committee. Union candidates have withdrawn in favor of the new nominees, and pledged themselves to support the ticket.

The Democracy held a large mass meeting in Platt's Hall last night.

From British Columbia.

New Westminster, Sept. 6.—The new Episcopal Church here was destroyed by fire last night. The chime of bells was saved. Loss about $6000.

The Collins Overland Telegraph Company's bark Clara Bell arrived here to-day, from Sitka August 20th. The line is in working order for 370 miles, and will shortly be completed to Quinell's mouth, 400 miles north of here. The line is open for business to Soda creek.

San Francisco Election Returns---Large Democratic Gain!

San Francisco, Sept. 6.—The election in this city to-day is progressing very quietly. There is little excitement, and the vote is light. It is impossible yet to tell how the election has gone, but there is a strong probability that a portion of the Democratic ticket is elected. Members of the Union parties have shown great apathy, while Democrats have worked vigorously.

Later.

San Francisco, Sept. 6—10 P. M.—The returns to this hour are very meagre. The total vote will probably foot up a little over 13,000. It is thought the Democrats have elected Shaw to the Senate, and got five of the Assemblymen. Tubbs being on both the Regular and Independent ticket, is elected. Cohn, on the Regular ticket, is elected.

Markets.

Flour—Sales of 3000 hf and qr sks local mills extra, at $5 50@5 75 ℔ bbl. Wheat—Market steady, with fair demand. Sales of 600 sks No. 2 at $1 60, 300 do at 62½; 4060 sks No. 1, in lots, $1 70; 860 sks choice, $1 75—a very full price. Oats—Sales of 470 sks at $1 32½@1 40 ℔ 100 lbs. Hay—80 bales good at $13 ℔ ton. Wool—Sales of 15,000 lbs fall clip at 16@16½c, and 17,000 lbs spring clip, free of burrs, 17@20c.

Legal Tender Notes—Sales of $30,000 at 72½c.

Mining Stocks—Inactive and lower.

California Election.

San Francisco, Sept. 7.—The returns not all in, but enough is known to indicate the election of Tubbs, Independent Union Senator, and six Assemblymen on the same ticket, and of Shaw, Democratic Senator, and six Democratic Assemblymen. Cohen, regular Union, is not elected. Santa Cruz, Monterey, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Alemeda all gone regular Union.

Chas. Mason's Letter.—Mr. Chas. Mason, who signs himself Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, has published a long letter addressed to the Democracy of the Union, in which he counsels them as to what he thinks they ought to do. Among other equally absurd things, he advises the party to accept President Johnson as chief leader, and to generally approve and sustain his policy. Mr. Chas. Mason is welcome to his own peculiar views, and has the same right that any other individual has to promulgate then, and to ask others to adopt them; but he has no sort of authority whatever to promulge his own peculiar ideas as Chairman of the National Democratic Committee. The selection of such a man for that place was another of the evils which attended the last National Convention at Chicago, and we hope the party may never again commit so many or important [illegible] of a [illegible] majority, who preferred to make the campaign on *policy* instead of principle. Mr. Mason's counsels will have no weight with the Democracy of Oregon. They are Democrats, not *policy* politicians, nor Johnson men.

Johnson and Brownlow.—It would appear from the following that while President Johnson says that it remains with the Southern States themselves to decide whether or not negroes shall be permitted to vote therein, he assumes to himself the the authority to interfere with the elective franchise as between the white citizens in those States, as the appended letter from him to Governor Parson Brownlow demonstrates. And further, he seems determined that the law passed by his own party during the last session of Congress shall not stay him from sending soldiers to interfere with the election. We copy his letter:

Washington, July 16, 1865—3:30 P. M.

To Governor W. G. Brownlow: I have no doubt that you will see that the laws passed by the Legislature are faithfully executed, and that disloyal voters, in the approaching election, be kept from the polls, and that the election for members of Congress be conducted fairly. Whenever it becomes necessary for the execution of the laws and protection of the ballot-box, you will call upon General Thomas for sufficient military force to sustain the civil authority of the State. I have just read your address, which I most heartily indorse.

Andrew Johnson,
President of the United States.

With reference to Emerson Etheridge, a Louisville paper states that he was arrested in Gibbson county, Tenn., several days ago, by Lieut.-Col. Debozey, and taken to Columbus, Ky., where Lieut.-Col. Debozey is in command. Mr. Etheridge had been delivering speeches to the people of an exceedingly exasperating character, denouncing the President personally and abusing the Government generally.—[New York Tribune.

If "denouncing the President personally and abusing the Government generally" be a punishable offense now, it must have been years ago, when the Administration men of this day denounced President Buchanan and abused the Government. What excuse have they to plead for their manifold wrongs in this respect. It must follow, however, that the same thing will continue to be an offense when the Democrats come into power again. Do our Abolition friends think it will be? An early answer respectfully solicited.

Dispatches state that President Johnson has expressed a determination that the laws passed by the Tennessee Legislature shall be obeyed, and that all illegal voters in the approaching election shall be kept from the polls.—[New York Tribune.

Since when has the authority been vested in the President to interfere in the domestic affairs of a State. If it can be done with Tennessee, so can it with Oregon. Cannot our opposition friends discover the necessity of asserting the doctrine of State Rights in this matter? It is but one of many parallel instances.

Smut Machine.—A new smut machine and separator have been fitted in Jacob Conser's flouring mill at Jefferson. They are of Oregon invention and construction.