

News of the Week.

POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

On Monday, August 21st, the President, justly indignant at a case of brokerage in pardons which came to his notice, determined to pursue a different policy in this highly important and yet so far singularly unsatisfactory business. The Attorney General was directed to issue no more warrants for pardon at present. The President will examine at his leisure those cases which the Attorney General has passed upon, but no new application will be entertained. In regard to the scene at the President's reception, on Monday, the Republicans has the following:

Some fifty persons were present, most of them seeking pardons. Mr. Keitt, of South Carolina, (not Lawrence M., having been killed by a loyal bullet at Fort Wagner,) approached the President, and informed him that he desired a pardon. "What have you done?" asked Mr. Johnson. "I opposed secession until my State decided to go out of the Union, and then I determined to go with it. I never joined the army. I did nothing to bring on the rebellion," was the reply. "You," rejoined the President, "are like all the rest; you did nothing. Now," he added, "my experience is, that the men who didn't join the rebel army, but who acquiesced in rebellion, were the most mischievous and dangerous men we had. I cannot pardon you, Sir." Mr. Keitt made several other efforts. Among other things, he reminded the President that he had come all the way from South Carolina to be in Washington some time; that hotel living here was very high, and that altogether his daily expenses were extravagantly large; and that he would like to get away as soon as he could go. The President responded that the hardships of which he complained were the direct results of the rebellion; that he did not bring on, or contribute to bring on the rebellion; that he was not responsible for and could not extricate Mr. Keitt from the difficulties he complained of, nor hasten his pardon on account of them. The President was firm. His answer was a finality. [Exit Keitt.] A Mr. Birch, member of the late rebel Legislature of Virginia, next approached the President, and applied for pardon. Similar questions were put to him by the President as were asked Mr. Keitt. From the answers, it appeared that Birch did nothing, only as a member of the Virginia Legislature, in obedience to instructions, he voted that Virginia should secede from the Union of the United States. That was all he did; that was "nothing." The President refused to pardon him. [Exit Birch.] Next came a rebel clergyman who asked the President to grant him a pardon. "What great sin have you committed, that you come here in clerical robes and crave Executive pardon?" "I was a rebel," was the answer, and I desire your Excellency to pardon me, that I may be restored to citizenship and be able to support and live under the Government of the United States." "You rebel preachers," responded the President, "have done the Government a great deal of harm. You have proclaimed devilish doctrines and misled the people. You forgot that it was your duty to yield obedience to the powers that be. You must rest awhile upon the stool of repentance. I decline to grant you pardon at present." [Exit rebel clergyman.]

"The President," then remarked, addressing the entire crowd in the room, "it was a little singular that most of the non-combatants who had come here from the South for pardon assert that they did nothing, were opposed to the rebellion at the beginning, only acquiesced, and thought the rebel government ought to have surrendered earlier and stopped bloodshed; yet not one of them took advantage of the amnesty proclamation offered by Mr. Lincoln, an act which would have shown sincerity on their part, and contributed so much toward saving the enormous expenditure of life and treasure. I will grant you no more pardons. I will not issue the order to the Attorney-General." Mr. T. Hunter has asked permission to leave the country, and Wade Hampton has applied for pardon. Harris, the owner of the Andersonville blood-hounds, was recently arrested in Georgia and is now in the Old Capitol, at Washington.

SOUTHERN SENTIMENT AND PRESENT. The Mississippi Convention, on the 21st of August, passed the following constitutional amendment, by a vote of eighty-six to eleven: The institution of slavery having been destroyed in the State of Mississippi, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, otherwise than for the punishment of crime, wherewith the party shall have been duly convicted, shall hereafter exist in this State; and the Legislature, at its next session, and thereafter as the public welfare may require, shall provide by law for the protection and security of the persons and property of the freedmen of the State, and guard them and the State against any evil that may arise from their sudden emancipation. They also passed the ordinance declaring the ordinance of secession null and void, and repealing all the ordinances of the convention of 1861, except the revenue ordinance, which the Legislature will act upon. At an informal meeting of the delegates in their individual capacities, a memorial was presented expressing in eloquent terms, petitioning President Johnson to extend pardon to Jefferson Davis and Governor Clark, which was acquiesced in by all present. A motion was made for the appointment of a committee to draw up a memorial to be presented to the President of the United States, praying him to exercise clemency toward Jefferson Davis and Governor Clark. The motion was adopted. The Chairman appointed the committee. An ordinance was passed designating the first Monday in October for the election of Congressmen, Governor, members of the Legislature, and other State officers. All ordinances passed in Mississippi since the act of secession, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, have been ratified by the State Convention. President Johnson has telegraphed Governor Sharkey, congratulating the Convention on the work it has done. He promises them to remove the troops, and restore the writ of habeas corpus as soon as the State makes sufficient progress in returning to its allegiance. Judge Fisher was nominated for Governor; after which the Convention adjourned sine die. The demand for farm hands, laborers, and house servants upon the Freedmen's Bureau from the North, and threatens to go much beyond the supply. Orders have been sent to Richmond to forward several hundred hands, and the indigent planters who have haggled over the pitiful allowance of five dollars per month will, ere long, find themselves minus hands at any price. The practical working of the free-labor system will solve the social and labor status of the South much quicker than Southern people generally suppose. The Commissioner for the Eastern District of Arkansas reports for the month of July, no increase in the number of rations issued to the destitute since his last report. He says in order to guard the freedmen from oppression and abuse, he has sent two companies of infantry to Madison, on the St. Francis River, and two companies to Laconia, these two localities being the centre of a community opposed to freedmen. The Andersonville burial party have returned. Everything has been done that affection for the memory of the myriad victims of the monstrous cruelty there perpetrated, could suggest. By means of a stake at the head of each grave, which bore a number corresponding with a similar numbered name upon the Andersonville hospital records, most fortunately captured by General Wilson last spring, Captain Moore rejoices to say that he was enabled to identify, mark, and honor the graves of thirteen thousand of the dead. To all but five hundred of those buried in that vast cemetery, a neat tablet, about two feet high, painted white, and lettered in black with the name, name, company, and regiment of each, was placed at the head of the grave. Captain Moore found the prison pen in a perfect state of preservation, just as the rebels left it, buildings, stockade, and ground huts, and the veritable dead-line as palpable as ever. That the controversy about the existence of this line may be settled, Captain Moore brought a piece of it away with him. One of the first things General Wilson did after the capture of Macon, was to send a force to Andersonville, take possession of and preserve everything about the place. Nothing has been destroyed, and as our exhausted, emaciated, and enfeebled soldiers left it, so it stands to-day, a monument to an inhumanity unparalleled in the annals of war. Andersonville itself consists of but one solitary house aside from the buildings erected by the rebels for their use. The people who live in that locality assert that it is notorious for its unhealthiness; that it is known to be the most unhealthy part of Georgia. Malarious fevers constantly prevail, and one of Captain Moore's party, a young man named Edward Watts, fell a victim to typhoid fever just before the party left. Two soldiers of the force, detailed by General Wilson, also died, and one was murdered by a guerilla. At a station named Montezuma, just outside the stockade, stands pine timber enough to build hundreds of miles of log huts, had our prisoners been allowed to use it. Near the inclosure is also the veritable dog kennel where were kept the leash of bloodhounds which the rebel Colonel Gibbs testified, in the Werze trial, were regularly mustered into the service, received regular rations, and were used for recapturing escaped fugitives. The people in that vicinity are a lazy, sallow-faced, haggard, ignorant class. Their ignorance was especially astonishing. One man was found who has not heard of President Lincoln's death, and another who refused greenbacks because his government would not allow him to take those things. He absolutely did not know that the Southern Confederacy had gone up. At present Andersonville is guarded by a small force from Macon. A superintendent of the grounds and buildings was appointed by Captain Moore, and everything pertaining to the place will be carefully preserved. A list of the dead was brought back, and as soon as it can be prepared it will probably be published. It will be a vast and solemn "Roll of Honor."

FINANCIAL. The Government has such a large surplus of gold that it is still selling upon the street, and keeping the premium from rising above 43@44. It is calculated that the Customs will bring in from 132,000,000 to 150,000,000 dollars annually. The gold interest is just about sixty-four millions. The New York Evening Exchange which has been the centre of much of the dishonest speculation lately developed in that city, has been denounced by the leading financiers in the most emphatic manner. All bank clerks, etc., are required to sign a written agreement that they will have nothing to do with it or its frequenters, directly or indirectly, under penalty of the loss of their place and the forfeiture of such bonds as they shall give, for faithful adherence to the agreement, in spirit as well as letter. The New York Stock Exchange, (almost unanimously,) and the Open Board of Brokers, (by a vote of 97 to 17,) have also resolved to hold no further intercourse with the Evening Exchange; and to suspend and expel any member of their Board who shall violate this rule by attendance there, personally or by proxy. The regular Gold Exchange has also taken similar wholesome measures.

FOREIGN. SUMMARY.—A terrible sequel had followed the murder of three children in London, as reported by last steamer. The murderer, after committing the deed in London, proceeded to Ramsgate, and there killed his wife and daughter, from whom he had been parted for several years.—Lord Lyons is to succeed Sir Henry Bulwer as British Ambassador at Constantinople. It is rumored that a scheme for annexing Belgium to France after King Leopold's death—the Duke of Brabant receiving the Mexican instead of the Belgian crown—had for giving the Danubian Principalities to Austria, territories in Northern Germany to Prussia, and Genoa to Italy.—The cholera had reached Marseille, and great excitement existed among the cities in Southern France and Spain in regard to the spread of this disease.—It is reported that the differences between Austria and Prussia had been adjusted, and that a complete understanding had been arrived at on the principal points in dispute. Satisfactory concessions were made to Prussia, relative to the military question.—The Roman Government had ordered the Pontifical Army to be increased by a further levy of 3,000 men, and it is stated that 1,000 men in foreign countries had already entered into negotiations to serve. THE POPE.—The Papal Cabinet have been informed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys that the French Government intend recalling their Minister from Rome and accrediting one of their plenipotentiaries to the Court of Rome and Florence. The news naturally created painful sensation at the Vatican. The Pope has refused a request from the Italian Government, which was supported by the influence of that of France, for the liberation of prisoners condemned for political offenses in the former Papal States, now part of the Kingdom of Italy. MEXICO.—The N. O. Times City of Mexico correspondent, of the 21st ult., writes that the Estafete, the French organ, says that but two courses are left open: that France should assume the protectorate of Mexico, (as it admits the empire is an entire failure,) and declare it one of its provinces, or their country must be absorbed by the United States. Mexican independence, it says, is impossible. Frequent imperial dispatches are reported as usual. The recall of the Papal Nuncio by the Pope caused a great sensation among the clergymen, who are also openly opposed to the Emperor. Gen. Almolugar has been sent to Washington as a Minister, who hopes for a "recognition."

ITEMS. The capacity of the Croton aqueduct is stated at 60,000,000 gallons daily, the demand is fifty millions, and increasing.—It is at last determined that Hon. G. H. Yeaman, anti-slavery, is defeated in the Second District of Kentucky. The majority against him is from ten to twelve hundred.—There was a cool spell all along the Atlantic watershed of the country, August 23-25, mercury among the fifties and pleasure-seekers shivering. At the White Mountains, August 23, the mercury was 28°.—Twenty thousand dollars have been collected for a Shakespearean monument in Central Park, New York.—A census of Illinois just completed, gives the State a population of about 2,200,000; Chicago has 177,000, an increase of 70 per cent. in five years.—Geo. H. Yeaman, ex-Congressman of Kentucky, has been appointed Minister to Denmark.—For six months ending with June, the foreign immigration into the United States, comprised nearly 75,000 persons, of whom 43,000 were males. THE mining returns of the United Kingdom have just been issued, and from them it appears that the production of coal in Great Britain amounts to no less than 30,000,000 tons. This is the product of 3,268 collieries. Of iron last year a total of 10,064,890 tons were obtained.

Merchant Sailors. CHARLES STOKES & CO'S FIRST-CLASS "ONE PRICE" READY-MADE CLOTHING STORE. No. 824 CHESTNUT STREET. (Under the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia.) DIAGRAM FOR SELF-MEASUREMENT. For Coat—Length of back from top of neck to waist, and round the fullest part of the chest and waist. State whether erect or stooping. For Vest—Same as coat. For Pants—Inside seam, and outside from hip bone, around the waist and hip. A good fit guaranteed. Officers' Uniforms, ready-made, always on hand, or made to order in the best manner, and on the most reasonable terms. Having finished many hundred uniforms the past year, for Staff, Field and Line Officers, as well as for the Navy, we are prepared to execute orders in this line with correctness and dispatch. The largest and most desirable stock of Ready-made Clothing in Philadelphia always on hand. (The price marked in plain figures on all of the goods.) A department for Boys' Clothing is also maintained at this establishment, and superintended by experienced hands. Parents and others will find here a most desirable assortment of Boys' Clothing at low prices. Sole Agent for the "Famous Bullett-Proof Vest."

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