### BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 18, 1868.

#### Election Proclamation.

CHERAL ELECTION PROCLAGeneral Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to regulate the General Elections within this Commonwealth," it is
enjoined upon me to give public notice of said elections and to enumerate in said notice what officers are to be elected, I, ROBERT STECKMAN,
Sheriff of the county of Bedford, do hereby make
known and give this public notice to the electors
of the county of Bedford, that a General Election
will be held in said county, on the
SECOND TUES DAY (13th) OF OCTOBER. will be held in said county, on the SECOND TUESDAY (13th) OF OCTOBER, 1888, at the several election districts, viz: The electors of the Borough of Bedford and township of Bedford, to meet at the Court House in said borough.

aid borough.
the electors of Broad Top township and Coal
borough to meet at the school house in said

orough.

The electors of the borough of Bloody Run to eet at the House of Daniel B. Ott, in said borongh.
The electors of Colerain township to meet at the nouse of And'w Pennell in Rainsburg in said town-

hip.
The electors of Cumberland Valley township to neet at the new school house creeted on the land wned by John Whip's heirs in said township.
The electors of Harrison township to meet at he house of Jacob Feightner, in said township.
The electors of Juniata township to meet at Key-

electors of Hopewell township to meet at nool house near the house of John Dasher in

school house near the house of John Dasher in township. he electors of Londonderry township to meet he locked by the locked by the H. Hill as a beautiful in the locked by the locked by

he electors of St. Clair township to meet at the ol house near the residence of Joseph Griffith

The electors of Southampton township to meet the house of Wm. Adams in said township, The electors of Saxton Borough to meet at the

Woodberry.
The electors of Woodberry borough to meet at the house of Wm. M. Pearson in said borough At which time and places the qualified electors

elect by ballot : NE PERSON for the office of Auditor General ONE PERSON, io rough of Pennsylvania.

ONE PERSON for the office of Surveyor General the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ONE PERSON, in conjunction with the counties.

Somerset, Fulton and Franklin, for the office of

Somerset, Fulton and Franklin, for the office of ditional Law Judge. ONE PERSON, in conjunction with the counties Somerset, Fulton, Franklin and Adams, for the ice of Representative in the Congress of the

nited States.
TWO PERSONS, in conjunction with the counces of Somerset and Fulton, for the office of Memers of the House of Representatives of Pennsyl-ONE PERSON for the office of Commissioner for

ONE PERSON for the office of County Survey for said county.
ONE PERSON for county Auditor for said

ONE PERSON for Coroner of said county.
NOTICE IS HERERY GIVEN, That every per-xcepting Justices of the Peace who shall hold a file or appointment of profit or trust under t

shall be sufficient proof thereof, but he shall make proof by at least one competent witness, who shall be a qualified elector, that he has resided within the district for more than ten days immediately preceding said election and shall also swear that his bona fide residence, in pursannee of his lawful calling is within the district, and that he did not remove within the district for the purpose of vo-

Every person qualified as aforesaid, and who

he shall reside.

"If any person shall prevent or attempt to prevent any officer of an election, under this act from holding such election, or use or threaten any vio lence to any such officer, and shall interrupt or improperly interfere with him in the execution of his duty, shall block up or attempt to block up the window or avenue to any window where the same may be holden, or shall riotously disturb the

# Glection Proclamation.

peace of such election, or shall use or practice intimidation, threats, force or violence, with the
design to influence unduly or overawe any elector, or prevent him from voting, or to restrain the
freedom of choice, such persons on conviction shall
be fined in any sum not exceeding five hundred
dollars, to be imprisoned for any time not less than
one nor more than twelve months, and if it shall
be shown to the court where the trial of such offence shall be had, that the person so offending
was not a resident of the city, ward or district
where the said offence was committed, and not
entitled to vote therein, on conviction, he shall
be sentenced to pay a fine not less than one hundred or more than one thousand dollars, and be
imprisoned not less than six months nor more than
two years.

imprisoned not less than six months nor more than two years.

"If any person or persons shall make any bet or wager upon the result of an election within the Commonwealth. or shall offer to make any such bet or wager, either by verbal proclamation thereof, or by any written or printed advertisement, or invite any person or persons to make such bet or wager, upon conviction thereof he or they shall forfeit and pay three times the amount so bet or offered to be bet.

And the election laws of the Commonwealth further provide that "The Inspectors, Judges and clerks shall, before entering on the duties of their offices, severally take and subscribe the oath or affirmation hereinafter directed, which shall be administered to them by any judge, alderman or justice of the peace, but if no such magistrate be present, one of the inspectors of the election shall administer the oath or affirmation to the other judge and inspector, and then the inspector so qualified shall administer the eath or affirmation to him.

"The inspectors indee and clerks required by the state of the person of the clerks required by the state of the state of the clerks required by the state of the state of the clerks required by the state of the state of the clerks required by the state of the s

qualified shall administer the eath or affirmation to him.

"The inspectors, judge and clerks required by law to hold township and general elections, shall take and subscribe the several oaths and affirmations, required by the 19th, 20th and 21st sections of the act of the 2d day of July 1839, entitled "An act relating to the elections of this commonwealth," which oaths or affirmations shall be prepared and administered in the manner prescribed in the 18th acd 22d sections of said act, and in addition to the power conferred by the 18th section of said act, the judge, or either of the inspectors, shall have power to administer the oaths prescribed by said act, to any clerk of a general, special or township election. cial or township election.
'The following shall be the form of the oath or

prescribed by said act, to any clerk of a general, special or township election.

"The following shall be the form of the oath or affirmation to be taken by each inspector, viz: 'I (A. B.) do——that I will duly attend to the ensuing election during the continuance thereof, as an inspector, and that I will not receive any ticket or vote from any person, other than such as I shall firmly believe to be, according to the provisions of the constitution and the laws of this commonwealth, entitled to vote at such election, without requiring such evidence of the right to vote as is directed by law, nor will I vexatiously delay or refuse to receive any vote from any person who I shall believe to be entitled to vote as aforesaid, but that I will in all things truly, impartially and faithfully perform my duty therein, to the best of my judgment and abilities, and that I am not directly, nor indirectly, interested in any bet, or wager on the result of this election.

"The following shall be the oath or affirmation of each judge, viz: 'I (A. B.) do——that I will as judge duly attend the ensuing election during the continuance thereof, and faithfully assist the inspectors in carrying on the same; that I will not give my consent that any vote or ticket shall be received from any person other than such as I firmly believe to be, according to the provisions of the constitution and laws of this commonwealth, entitled to vote at such election, without requiring such evidence of the right to vote as is directed by law, and that I will make a true and perfect return of the same type the continuance thereof and faithfully appears and that I will make a true and perfect return of the same to the test of my judgment and abilities, and that I am not directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager on the result of this election."

"The following shall be the form of the oath or affirmation to be taken by each clark it." I (A.

interested in any bet or wager on the result of this election.

"The following shall be the form of the oath or affirmation to be taken by each clerk, viz: 'I (A. B.) do—that I will impartially and truly write down the name of each elector who shall vote at the ensuing election, which shall be given me in charge, and also the name of the towship, ward or district, wherein such elector resides, and carefully and truly write down the number of votes that shall be given for each candidate at the election, as often as his name shall be read to me by the inspectors thereof, and in all things truly and faithfully perform my duty respecting the same to the best of my judgment and shifts, and that I are as directly of finite resily interested in any bet or wager on the result of this election.

seriers from the army of the United States from vo-ting, has recently been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, is now null and void, and that all persons formerly disqualified thereunder are now lawful voters, if otherwise qualified. The act decided unconstitutional by the Supreme Court provided as follows: "A PURTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE ELECTION LAWS

And whereas, persons, not citizens of the United States, are not, under the constitution and laws of Pennsylvania, qualified electors of this commonwealth:

ted States, are not, under the constitution and laws of Pennsylvania, qualified electors of this commonwealth:

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That in all elections hereafter to be held in this commonwealth, it shall be unlawful for the judge or inspectors of any such election to receive any ballot, or ballots, from any person, or persons, embraced in the provisions, and subject to the disability, imposed by said act of Congress, approved March third, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and it shall be unlawful for any such person to offer to vote any ballot, or ballots. Section 2. That if any such judge and inspectors of election, or any one of them shall receive, or consent to receive, any such unlawful ballot, or ballots, from any such disqualified person, he, or they, so offending, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, in any court of quarter sessions of this commonwealth, he shall, for each offence, be settenced to pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, and to undergo an imprisonment, in the jail of the proper county, for not less than sixty days.

Section 3. That if any person deprived of citizonship, and disqualified as aforesaid, shall, at any election, hereafter to be held in this commonwealth, vote, or tender to the officers thereof, and offer to vote, a ballot, or ballots, any person, so offending, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, in any court of quarter sessions of this commonwealth, shall, for each offence, be punished in like manner as is provided in the preceding section of this act, in the case of officers of election receiving such unlawful ballot, or ballots.

Section 4. That if any person shall hereafter persuade, or advise, any person, or persons, de-

Section 4. That if any person shall hereafter persuade, or advise, any person, or persons, deprived of citizenship, and disqualified as aforesaid, to offer any ballot, or ballots, to the officers of any election, hereafter to be held in this commonwealth, or shall persuade, or advise, any such officer to receive any ballot, or ballots, from any person deprived of citizenship, and disqualified as aforesaid, such person, so offending, shall be guilty of a misdemennor, and upon conviction thereof, in any court of quarter sessions of this commonwealth, shall be punished in like manner asis provided in the second section of this act, in the case of officers of such election receiving such unlawful ballot, or ballots.

JAMES R. KELLEY,

Speaker of the House of Representative DAVID FLEMING, Speaker of the Senate.

Approved—The fourth day of June, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six.

A. G. CURTIN."

## Glection Proclamation.

And the Judges of the respective districts afore-said, are required to meet at Bedford, on the Fri-day next following the holding of said election, then and there to perform those things required of them have. or them by law.

Given under my hand, at my office in Bedford,
this 1st day of Sept., in the year of our Lord,
one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and
in the ninety-third of the Independence of the
United States. United States.

ROBERT STECKMAN, Sheriff.

Sheriff's Office, Bedford, Sept. 4, 1868.

TERMS OF PUBLICATION.

THE BEDFORD GAZETTE is published every Friday morning by MEYERS & MENGEL, at \$2.00 per annum, if paid strictly in advance; \$2.50 if paid within six months; \$3.00 if not paid within six months. All subscription accounts MUST be settled annually. No paper will be sent out of the State unless paid for IN ADVANCE, and all such ubscriptions will invariably be discontinued at the expiration of the time for which they are

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# STARTLING REVELATIONS The Exchange of Prisoners.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT OULD, ESQ.

[From the National Intelligencer, Aug. 29.] RICHMOND, VA., Aug. 17, 1868. To the Editors of the National Intelligencer

GENTLEMEN: -I have recently seen so many misrepresentations of the ac-tion of the late Confederate authorities in relation to prisoners that I feel it due to the truth of history, and peculiarly incumbent on me as their agent of exchange, to bring to the atforth in this paper:

The cartel of exchange bears date July 22d, 1862. Its chief purpose was to secure the delivery of all prisoners of

war. To that end, the fourth article pro vided that all prisoners of war should be discharged on parole in ten days afthe cartel until the summer of 1863 the of prisoners. During that interval de-liveries were made as fast as the Federal Government furnished transportation. Indeed, upon more than one oc-casion I urged the Federal authorities to send increased means of transporta-tion. It has never even been alleged time the cartel was openly and notoriously violated by the Federal authori-Officers and men were kept in confinement, sometimes in irons, or doomed to cells, without charge or trial. Many officers were kept in confinement even after the notices published by the Federal authorities had declared them exchanged.

In the summer of 1863 the Federal authorities insisted upon limiting exchanges to such as were held in cor as being in violation of the cartel. confinement the excess on either side but ignored all the paroles which were held by Confederate Government. These were very many, being the paroles of officers and men who had b ernment at that time held few or no paroles. They had all, or nearly all been surrendered, the Confederate authorities giving prisoners as equiva-lents for them. Thus it will be seen, that as long as the Confederate Gov-ernment had the excess of prisoners matters went on smoothly enough but as soon as the posture of affairs in that respect was changed, the cartel could no longer be observed. So, as long as the Federal Government held men, they were respected, and made the basis of an exchange; but when equivalents were obtained for them, and no more were in hand, the paroles which were held by the Confederate authorities could not be recognized. In consequence of the position thus as sumed by the Federal Government the requirement of the cartel that all prisoners should be delivered within ten days was practically nullified. The deliveries which were afterwards made

were the result of special agreements. The Confederate authorities adhered to their position until the 10th of Au gust, 1864, when, moved by the suffer ngs of the men in the prisons of each belligerent, they determined to abate their just demand. Accordingly, or the last named day, I addressed the following communication to Brig. Gen. J. E. Mulford, (then Major), Assistant Agent of Exchange:

RICHMOND, Aug. 10, 1864.

SIR:—You have several times proposed to me to exchange the prisoners respectively held by the two belligerman. The same offer has also been made by other officials having charge deliver any for the ten or fifteen thousof matters connected with the exchange

This proposal has heretofore been declined by the Confederate authorities, they insisting upon the terms of the cartel, which required the delivery of the excess on either side on parole. In view, however, of the very large number of prisoners now held by each parand the suffering consequent upon their continued confinement. I now consent to the above proposal, and aofficers and men. As equal numbers are delivered from time to time, they will be declared exchanged. This proposal is made with the understanding that the officers and men on both sides who have been longest in captivity will be first delivered where it is prac-

I shall be happy to hear from you as | but the misery they portrayed was

speedily as possible, whether this arrangement can be carried out.
Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT OULD, Agent of Exchauge. The delivery of this letter was accompanied by a statement of the mortality which was hurrying so many Federal prisoners at Andersonville to the grave.

On the 22d day of August, I864, not having heard anything in response, I addsessed a communication to Maj. Gen. E. A. Hitchcock, United States Commissioner of Exchange, covering a copy of the foregoing letter to Gen. Mulford, and requesting an acceptance of my propositions.

No answer was ever received to either of these letters. Gen. Mulford, on the 31st of August, 1864, informed me in writing that he had no communication on the subject from the United States authorities, and that he was not at that time authorized to make any answer.
This offer, which would have instant-

ly restored to freedom thousands of suf-fering captives—which would have re-leased every Federal soldier in confine-ment in Confederate prisons—was not even noticed. Was that because the Federal officials did not deem it worthy of a reply; or that they feared to make one? As the Federal authorities at that time had a large excess of prisoners, the effect of the proposal which I had made, if carried out, would have been to release all Union prisoners, while a large number of the Confederates would have remained in prison, awaiting the chances of the capture of their equivalents.

II.
In January, 1864, and, indeed, some time earlier, it became very manifest, that in consequence of the complica-Half column - . . 18 00 25 00 45 00 00 column - . . . 30 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 80 00 45 00 of the war. Prompted by an earnest desire to alleviate the hardships of confinement on both sides, I addressed the following communication to Gen. E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange, and on or about the day of its date, delivered the same to the Federal authority:

Confederate States of America, War Department, Richmond, Va., January, 24 1864. Major General E. A. Hitchcock, Agent

of Exchange.

Sir:—In view of the present difficulties attending the exchange and release of prisoners, I propose that all such on each side shall be attended by a proper number of their own surgeons, who, under rules to be established, shall be permitted to take charge of their health

and comfort. I also propose that these surgeons hall act as commissaries, with power to receive and distribute such contribu-tions of money, food, clothing and medicines as may be forwarded for the relief of prisoners. I further propose that these surgeons be selected by their own Governments, and that they shall have full liberty at any and all times, through the agents of exchange, to make reports not only of their own acts, but of any matters relating to the

welfare of prisoners.

Resspectfully, your obd't serv't,

Ro. Ould, Ag't of Exchange,
To this communication no reply ny kind was ever made. I need state how much suffering would have been prevented if this offer had been met in the spirit in which it was dic-tated. In addition, the world would have had truthful accounts of the treat-ment of prisoners on both sides by to send increased means of transporta-tion. It has never even been alleged that the Confederate authorities failed or neglected to make prompt deliveries of prisoners who were not held under charges, when they had the excess. On the other hand, during the same all of the suffering endured by Federal prisoners happened after January, 1864. The acceptance of the proposition made by me on behalf of the Confederate Government, would not only have furnished to the sick medicines and physicians, but to the well an abunlance of food and clothing from the

ample stores of the United States.

The good faith of the Confederate not be successfully questioned, for food and clothing (without the surgeons) were sent in 1865, and were allowed

Federal prisoners.

Why could not the more humane proposal of January, 1864, have been accepted?

III. When it was ascertained that exchanges could not be made either on the basis of the cartel or officer for officer and man for man, I was instructed by the Confederate authorities to offer to the United States Government their sick and wounded, without requiring any equivalents. dingly, in the summer of 1864, I did offer to deliver from ten to fifteen thousand of the sick and wounded at the mouth of the Savannah River without requiring any equivalents, assur-ing at the same time the agent of the United States, General Mulford, that if transportation could not readily be made up from sick and wounded, I would supply the difference with well men. Although this offer was made in the summer of 1864, transportation was not sent to the Savannah River until about the middle or last of No vember, and then I delivered as many prisoners as could be transported—some thirteen thousand in number, amongst whom were more than five

thousand well men. thousand well men.

More than once I urged the mortality at Andersonville as a reason for haste on the part of the United States authorities. I know, personally, that it was the purpose of the Confederate Government to send off from all its prices of the confederate and the side and wounded and orisons all the sick and wounded, and continue to do the same, from time to time, without requiring any equivalents for them. It was because the sick and wounded at points distant from Georgia could not be brought to Savannah within a reasonable that the five thousand well men were

Although the terms of my offer did deliver any for the ten or fifteen thous-and which I promised, yet some three thousand sick and wounded were delivered by them at the mouth of the Savannah River. I call upon every Federal and Confederate officer and man who saw the cargo of living death, and who is familiar with the character of the deliveries made by the Confederate authorities to bear witness that none such was ever made by the latter, even when the very sick and desperately wounded were alone requested. gree to deliver to you the prisoners held in captivity by the Confederate authorities, provided you agree to deliver an equal number of Confederate desperately sick that it would be doubtful whether they would survive a removal a few miles down James River. Accordingly, the hospitals were searched for the worst cases, and after they were delivered they were taken to Annapolis and there photographed as specimen prisoners. The photographs at Annapolis were terrible indeed;

surpassed at Savannah. The original rolls showed that some thirty-five hundred had started from Northern prisons, and that death had reduced the number during the transit to about three thousand. The mortality amongst those who were de-

mortality amongst those who were de-livered alive during the following three months was equally frightful. But why was there this delay be-tween the summer and November in sending transportation for sick and wounded, for whom no equivalents were asked? Were Union prisoners made to suffer in order to aid the photographs "in firing the popular heart of the North?"

IV.

In the summer of 1864, in consequence of certain information communicated to me by the Surgeon General of the Confederate States as to the deficiency of medicines, I offer to make purchases of medicines from the United States authorities, to be used exclusive-ly for the relief of Federal prisoners. I offered to pay gold, cotton, or tobac-co for them, and even two or three prices, if required. At the same time I gave assurances that the medicines would be used exclusively in the treatment of Federal prisoners; and moreover agreed, on behalf of the Confederate States, if it was insisted on, that such medicines might be brought into the Confederate lines by the United States surgeons, and dispensed by them. To this offer I never received any reply. Incredible as this appears, it is strictly true. V.

General John E. Mulford is personally cognizant of the truth of the most, if not all the facts which I have narrated. He was connected with the cartel from its date to the close of the war. During a portion of the time he was Assitant Agent of Exchange on the part of the United States. I always found him to be an honorable and truthful gentleman. While he discharged his duties with great fidelity to his own Government, he was kind, and I might almost say, tender to confederate prisoners. With that portion of the correspondence with which his name is connected, he is, of course, familiar. He is equally so with the delivery made at Savannah, and its attending circumstances, and with the offer I made as to the purchase of medi-cines for the Federal sick and wounded. I appeal to him for the truth of what I have written. There are other Federal cororborations to portions of my state-ments. They are found in the report of Major General B. F. Butler to the Committee on the Conductof the War. About the last of March, 1864, I had several conferences with General Butler at Fortress Monroe in relation to the difficulties attending the exchange of prisoners, and we reached what we both thought a tolerably satisfactory

The day that I left there General Grant arrived. General Butler says he communicated to him the state of the negotiations, and "most emphatic verbal directions were received from the Lieutenant General not to take any step by which another able-bodied man should be exchanged until further or-ders from him;" and that on April 30, 1864, he received a telegram from General Grant, "to receive all the sick and wounded the Confederate authorities may send you but send no more in ex-change." Unless my recollection fails me, General Butler also, in an address to his constituents, substantially de-clared that he was directed in his management of the question of exchange with the Confederate authorities, to put the matter offensively, for the purpose of preventing an exchange.

The facts which I have stated are all

so well known to the officers connected with the Confederate bureau of Exchange.
At one time I thought an excellent op-

some of them to the attention of country. I was named by poor Wirz as a witness in his behalf. The summons was issued by Chipman, the Judge Advocate of the Military Court. I obeyed the summons, and was in at-tendance upon the Court for some ten days. The investigation had taken a wide range as to the conduct of the Confederate and Federal Governments in the matter of the treatment of prisoners, and I thought the time had come when I could put before the world these humane offers of the Confederate authorities, and the manner in which they had been treated. I so expressed myself more than once—perhaps too publicly. But it was a vain thought. Early in the morning of the day on which I expected to give my testimony, I received a note from Chipman, the Judge Advocate, requiring me to surrender my subpæna. I refused, as it was my protection in Washington. Without it the doors of the Old Capitol might have opened and closed upon me. I engaged, however, to appear before the court and I did so the same morning. I still refused to surrender my subpœna, and thereupon the Judge Advocate endorsed on it these words: "The within subpena is hereby revovoked; the person named is discharged from further attendance." I have got the curious document before me now, signed with the name of N. P. Chipman, 'Colonel,' &c. I intend to keep it, if I can, as the evidence of the first case in any Court, of any sort, when a witness who was summoned for the defence was dismissed by the pros-ecution. I hastened to depart, confident that Richmond was a safer place for me than the metropolis.

Some time ago a committee was appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the treatment of Union prisoners in Southern prisons. After the appointment of the commit-tee—Hon. Mr. Shanks, of Indiana, being its chairman—I wrote to the Hon. Charles A. Elridge and the Hon. Mr. Mungen (the latter a member of the committee) some of the facts herein detailed. Both of these gentlemen made an effort to extend the authority of the committee, so that it might inquire in-to the treatment of prisoners North as well as South, and especially that it might inquire into the truth of the matter which I had alleged. All these attempts were frustrated by the Radical majority, although several of the party voted to extend the inquiry. As several thousand dollars of the money that the investigation shall be thor-ough and impartial? The House of Representatives have declined the inquiry; let the people take it up.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

A resident of Brooklyn, New York, has been fined two hundred and fifty dollars and sentenced to three months in the penitentiary for raising a false alarm of fire.

A fleet of 515 vessels is now on its way from the Black Sea with grain for Western Europe, most of which will be discharged in England. The quanis estimated at no less than 5,000,-000 bushels.

Fifty-three abandoned women were arrested by the police of St. Louis in a single house last Sunday night.

THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS COR-Letter from General Rosecrans to Gen. Lee.

Reply of General Lee and other Distin-guished Southerners.

The following correspondence fully explains the purpose of Gen. Rosecrans' late visit to the Virginia White Sulphur Springs, in relation to which there has been so much idle newspaper gossip. The correspondence exhibits in a very clear light, the continues in a very clear light the sentiments and disposition of the intelligence of the South, and ought to act as an anti-dote to the poisonous slanders of the Radical press, which continually mis-represents and falsities them.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. V.,
August 26, 1868.
GENERAL: Full of solicitude for the future of our country, I come with my heart in my hand to learn the condition, wishes, and intentions of the people of the Southern States—especially to ascertain the sentiments of that heavy of brave, energetic and self-sea. body of brave, energetic, and self-sac-rificing men who, after sustaining the confederacy for four years, laid down their arms and swore allegiance to the government of the United States, whose trusted and beloved leader you have been resulted as the confederacy of the confederacy

I see that interpreting "State rights" to conflict with national unity has produced a violent reaction against them, which is drifting us toward consolidation; and also that so great a country as ours even now is—certainly is to be— must have State governments to attend to local details, or go farther and fare

It is plain to us at the West and the North that the continuance of semi-an-archy, such as has existed for the last three years in ten States of our Union, largely increases the danger of concentration, swells our national expendi-tures, diminishes our productions and our revenue, inspires doubt of our po-litical and financial stability, depreci-ates the value of our national bonds and currency, and places the credit of

the richest below that of the poorest nation in Christendom. We know that our currency must be depreciated so long as our bonds are below par, and that therefore the vast business and commerce of our country must suffer the terrible evil of a fluctuating standard of value, until we can remedy the evil condition of things at the South. We also see other mischief quite possible if not probable to arise— such as from a failure of crops, a local insurrection, and many other unforseen contingencies—which may still more depreciate our credit and currency, provoke discontent and disorder among our people, and bring demagogical agitation, revolution, repudiation, and a thousand unnamed evils and villanies upon us. We know that the interests of the people of the South are for law and order, and that they must share our fate for good and ill.

I believe—every one I know who reflects believes—that if the people of the Southern States and the strength of the

Southern States could be at peace, and their energy and good will heartily applied to repair the wastes of war, re-organize their business, set the freedmen peacefully, prosperously, and contentedly at work, invite capital, enterprise, and labor from elsewhere to come freely amongst them, they would rebuild their rained fortunes, multiply manifold the shade of their rained fortunes. fold the value of their lands, ublic confidence in our political stability, bring our government bonds to premium, our currency to a gold stan-dard, and assure for themselves and the whole nation a most happy and prosperous future.

Seeing this, and how all just interests concur in the work, I ask the officers and soldiers who fought for the Union-every thinking man of the great West and North asks-why it

We are told by those who have controlled the Government for the last four years that the people of the South will not do it; that, if ever done at all, it must be done by the poor, simple uneducated, landless freedmen and the few whites who, against the public opinion, and sentiment of the intelligent white people, are willing to at-tempt to lead and make their living off the ignorant, inexperienced colored people, mostly men who must be needy adventurers, or without any of those attributes on which reliance for good guidance or government can be placed. We are told that this kind of government must be continued at the South until six or eight millions of intelligent, energetic white people give into it or move out of the country.

Now I think, the Union army thinks, and the people of the North and West I dare say believe, there must be, or there ought to be, a shorter, surer to get good government for all at the

We know that they who organized and sustained the Southern confederacy for four years, against gigantic efforts, ught to be able to give peace, law, order, and protection to the whole peo-ple of the South. They have the interest and the pow-

er to employ, protect, educate, and elevate the poor freedmen, and to restore themselves and our country to all the blessings of which I have just spoken. The question we want answered is: "Are they willing to do it?" I came down to find out what the people of the South thinks of this, and

to ask you what the officers and sol-diers who served in the confederate tained it think of these things.
I came to ask more; I want to ask you, in whose purity and patriotism I here express unqualified confidence,

and so many good men as you can conveniently consult, to say what you think of it, and also what you are wil-I want a written expression of views that can be followed by a concurrence of action. I want to know if you and the gentlemen who will join you in that written expression are willing to pledge the people of the South to a chivalrous and magnanimous devotion to restoring peace and prosperity to our common country. I want to carry that pledge, high above the level of party politics, to the late officers and soldiers of the Union army and the people of the North and West, and to ask them to consider it, and to take the necessary action, confident that it will meet with a response so warm so generous and confiding, that we shall see in its sunshine the rainbow of peace in our political sky, now black with clouds and impending storm.

I know you are a representative man, in reverence and regard for the Union, the Constitution, and the welfare of the country, and that what you would say would be endorsed by nine-tenths of the whole people of the South; but I should like to have the signatures of all the representative Southern men expressions of their concurrence from the principal officers and representative men throughout the South when

they can be procured. This concurrence of opinions and wills, all tending to peace, order, and stability, will assure our Union soldiers and business men, who want substan-

and take such steps to meet yours as will insure a lasting peace with all

its countless blessings.

Very truly, your friend,

W. J. ROSECRANS.

GENERAL R. E. LEE, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. VA., August 26, 1868. GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of this date, and in accordance with your suggestion, I have consulted with a number of genhave consulted with a number of gentlemen from the South, in whose judgment I have confided, and who are well acquainted with the public sentiments of their respective States. They have kindly consented to unite with me in replying to your communication, and their names will be found with my own appended to this answer.—With this explanation, we proceed to give you a candid statement of what we believe to be the sentiment of the Southern people in regard to the sub-Southern people in regard to the subject to which you refer. Whatever opinion may have

valled in the past in regard to African slavery, or the right of a State to se-cede from the Union, we believe we express the almost unanimous judgexpress the almost unanimous judg-ment of the Southern people when we declare that they consider that those questions were decided by the war, and that it is their intention, in good faith, to abide dy that decision. At the close of the war the Southern peo-ple laid down their arms and sought to resume their former relations with the United States Government.

Through their State conventions they abolished slavery and annulled their ordinances of secession, and they returned to their peaceful pursuits with a sincere purpose to fulfil their duties under the Constitution of the United States which they had sworn to support. If their action in these particulars had been met in a spirit of frankness and cordiality, we believe that ere this old irritations would have passed away and the wounds inflicted by the war would in a great measure have been healed. As far as we are advised, the people of the South entertain no unfriendly feel-ing toward the Government of the United States, but they complain that their rights under the Constitution are withheld from them in the administration thereof.

The idea that the Southern people are hostile to the negroes, and would oppress them if it were in their power to do so, is entirely unfounded. • hey have grown up in our midst, and we have been accustomed from our child-hood to look upon them with kindness. The change in the relations of the two races has wrought no change in our feeling toward them. They still con-stitute the important part of our laboring population. Without their labor the lands of the South would be comparatively unproductive. Without the employment which Southern agriculture affords they would be destitute of the means of subsistence, and become paupers, dependent upon public

Self-interest, even if their were no higher motives, would therefore prompt the whites of the South to extend to the negroes care and protection. The important fact that the two races are, under existing circumstances, neare, under existing circumstances, necessary to each other, is gradually becoming apparant to both; and we believe, but for influences exerted to stir up the passions of the negroes, the relations of the two races would soon adust themselves on a basis of kindness

and advantage.
It is true that the people of the South, together with the people of the North and West, are, for obvious reasons, op-posed to any system of laws which would place the political power of the country in the hands of the negro race. But the opposition springs from no feeling of eumity, but from a deepseated conviction that at present the negroes have neither the intelligence nor the qualifications which are necessary to make them safe depositaries of oly become the victims of demagogues. who for selfish purposes, would lead them to the serious injury of the

The great want of the South is peace. The people earnestly desire tranquility and the restoration of the Union.— They deprecate disorder and ment as the most serious obstacle to their prosperity.

They ask a restoration of their rights

under the Constitution. They desire relief from oppressive misrule. Above all they would appeal to their country-men for the re-establishment in the Southern States of that which has justly been regarded as the birthright of every American, the right of self-gov-ernment. Establish these on a firm bais, and we can safely promise on behalf of the southern people that they will faithfully obey the Constitution and laws of the United States, treat the negro with kindness and bumanity, and fulfill every duty incumbent on peaceful citizens loyal to the Constitu-

on of their country.

We believe the above contains a succinct reply to the general topics em-braced in your letter, and we venture to say, on behalf of the Southern peo-ple and of officers and soildiers of the late confederate army, that they will concur in all the sentimnts which we

Appreciating the patriotic motives which have prompted your letter, and reciprocating your expresions of kind regard, we have the honor to be

Very respectfully and truly, R E Lee, Va.

G T Beauregard, La.

Alexander H Stephens, Ga.

Alexander H H Stuart, Va. M Conrad, La. Linton Stephens, Ga. A T Caperton, W. Va. John Echols, Va. F S Stockdale, Texas. F W Pickens, S. C. Wm J Robinson, Va. Joseph R Anderson, Va. Wm F Turner, W. Va. C H Subee, S. C. E Fontaine, Va. John Letcher, Va. B C Adams, Miss. Wm J Green, N. C. Lewis E Harvie, Va. P B Daniels, Jr., Va W T Sutherlin Va. A B James, La. Toutant Beauregard, Texas. MOH Norton, La. T P Brance, Ga. H T Russell, Ga. Samuel J Douglass, Fla. Jeremiah Morton, Va. G W Bolling, Va. Theodore Flournoy, Va.

James Lyons, Va. W. S. ROSECRANS. Minister to Mexico, White Sulphur Spings, W. Va.

A general convention of the representatives of the several Workingmen's Unions throughout the country, is called to meet in New York, on the third Monday in September.

A Lenox (Mass.) farmer expects to tial and solid peace, and cause them to have a thousand bushels of apples this rise above the level of party politics, s a:on.