From the Tribune.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELFGRAPH.

Germany.

There is, unmistakably, a marked change in the situation in Germany. The Prussian Government has changed its warlike language; it has become less threatening and defiant, and, in its last diplomatic notes, speaks more of the preservation of peace than of the probability of war. Of course, the world interprets this as a defeat of Bismark, who, it is said, has already deemed it most expedient to offer his resignation.

The opposition to the Prussian project of aggrandizement had, of late, assumed formidable ilmensions. None of the minor Covernments seem to have defined their position as regards the conflict to the satisfaction of Prussia, and one of the latest reports says that Bavaria, Saxony, Wursemberg, Baden, and Hesse-Darm stadt would att, in case of war, be on the side of Austria. A still greater impression has been made in Borlin, by the determined attitude of the Prussian people, who, with an unparalleled unautmity, and with a boldness which has taken all Germany by surprise, declared their opposi-tion to a civil war and to the annexation of Schleswig-Holstein against the will of the in-

hab tants. The Prussian proposal for the convocation of a German Partiament is favorably received by many Liberals, without, however, diminishing their detestation of Bismark and their opposi tion to a civil war. The bid for the good-will of the Liberal party, which Bismark intended in appealing to universal suffrage-to the dismay of most of his adherents-has induced the Austrian Government to make an important con-cession to the Liberal party of Germany. It no ager claims for the Federal Diet the exclusive right to decide the question of succession in the Puchies, but it proposes that the Austrian and Prussian troops shall both be withdrawn and the people of Schleswig-Holstein choose a Government by universal suffrage. As this pro-position grants the chief demand of the Liberal party of Germany, and will probably obtain the assent of the minor German Governments and of the other European powers, it stands a good chance of success. If carried, it will be an important victory of Austrian diplomacy, and a mortifying and humiliating deleat of Prussia.

The Fleets in the Fishing Grounds. From the Times .

Two rather powerful and warlike fleets, belonging to England and the United States respectively, have assembled in the fishing grounds, near the eastern coast of Maine, within the last month or two. The ostensible and real object of both the British and the American fleet is the same-with only a different application in each case, viz., to see that the rights of the citizens of both powers are respected, and that in neither case is there any intraction thereof by the other. The pretext or the necessity for their appearance is found in an incident arising from our abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, which restricts the range of American fishermen, and in the danger which consequently springs from their being debarred a privilege which they have long enjoyed. Prior to the establishment of the Reciprocity Treaty there were always dis-putes about the rights of our fishermen in these waters; but that treaty enlarged them to the utmost limits of our desire. Now that they are again restricted, it is harder even than it was before for our fishermen to endure it; tor they have both experienced the pleasure of unrestrained freedom, and been able to measure its intrinsic prout in this particular matter. They are very apt, therefore, in this time of annoyance and loss, to go beyond what are now considered their legal and legitimate rights, and trespass upon what is now the exclusive possession of others. And the British or provincial fishermen, who now find themselves in the enjoyment of a special and valuable privitege, are very apt, in their ragerness to guard against its infringement, to be hasty and overbearing, and

go beyond even themselves.

It is the duty of the American navy to prevent our citizens passing beyond the bounds to which our Government has agreed, and it is the duty of the British fleet to guard what are claimed as exclusively British rights. And again, it is the duty of the British navy to check any uncalled for interference on the part of British fishermen, and it is the duty of the American fleet to guard the rights of our own

The duties are not difficult if the respective parties are in oued with a just and friendly spirit, and act in an honorable and courteous But the situation is perilous if there should be a spirit of haste and resentment, and a style of rigidity and imperiousness on either For, where citizens of two nations are arrayed against each other on a question of a character like this, and where armed forces are assembled within view of one another to assert and maintain the rights and privileges of each, there is nothing more likely to nappen, here or there, now or then, than some sort of misunderstanding or petty quarrel, or incidental collision, which will grow or intensity, until a state of affairs is reached all but, if not altogether, beyoud the reach of compromise.

Hence the necessity of our naval commanders in that quarter being impressed with the pro-toundest feeling of the delicacy of their duties and position. There is no danger of American navai officers exhibiting, in any presence, any lack of high-toned traits of character, or the most honorable pride, professional and national. We are unqualifiedly proud of our glorious navy in this respect, and in all other respects. There only a little danger that its spirit may be unduly aroused, on some occasion, by some un-toward incident, and that, in quick resentment for some unauthorized wrong it may incontinently lead us into irremediable misfortune. As the commander of the North Atlantic Squadron, however, we are glad to hear that Admiral Far ragut has placed in command of the vestels in that locality officers as emirently gitted with discretion as they are celebrated for pluck. And we are happy to learn that between the off of the British and American fleets assembled in the fishing grounds, there have been frequent exchanges of courtesies, and always a spirit of amily, that promises the best results to

The Reconstruction Game of Congress-A Revolution in the Government. From the Herald.

The reconstruction scheme of the joint committee of Congress is at length before the country. It is a very ingenious contrivance, At the first glance, though rigid in some of its stipulations, it appears not only reasonable, but magnanimous in others, and is altogether a much milder system of treatment for Southern restoration than any one could have dreamed of, even a month ago, as likely to emanate from the radical "Central Directory" of Wash-

It is somewhat remarkable that the committee do not reject the work of reconstruction done by the President, as involving a series of measures of usurpation unlawful and void. is really surprising that they admit the validity of all his acts and the statesmanship of all his instructions in reference to the reorganization of the excluded States. But so it is, From his initial Virginia and North Carolina proclamations of May last down to this day, all the proceedings of the Executive looking to the reclamation of the States delivered from the Rebellion are approved and accepted by Congress. The processes by which he secured the ratification of the great Constitut.onal amendment abolishing and interdicting

slavery are considered as satisfactorily settling that question. His exceptions of leading Rebels in his amnesty proclamation, and his instructions to his provisional governors in regard to the debts of the Rebellion, are interwoven in this Congressional plan. His views, too, of the exclusive authority of the States over the suf-trage question are accepted; and, above all, the status of the late insurgent States, as defined in his annual message, is recognized as correct, to with that the Rebellion impaired their functions as States, but did not destroy them. Of course this decision of the joint committee involves the rejection of the Stevens and Sumner theory, that the States wrested from the insurgent government of Jeff. Davis by force of arms are in the condition of unorganized territories conquered from a foreign power.

From the teachings of common sense, the successful working of President Johnson's policy, and the pressure of public opinion, this radical Congress has been constrained to reject the Jacobin absurdities of Sievens, and to re-cognize the wisdom and validity of the views and measures of reconstruction adopted by the Administration. So far, then, we have a capitulation of the radicals to the Executive. five months of exhausting researches and labor this joint committee of Congress find that they can do nothing better than follow in the wake of Andrew Johnson, as the only hope of attaining their ultimate designs. Here, however, we

reach the point of departure.

The President holds that loyal members elected from the excluded States, as already recon-tructed, ought to be admitted into Congress; but Congress pleads the necessity of further s curries for the future, for the national debt, and the rights of the Southern blacks. The addition of twenty-two Southern Senators and eighty Representatives to Congress from States warm from the late Rebellion may give those men the power, with the aid of Northern Copheads, to ruin the country. This is the plea for an indefinite term of Southern probation, and hence it is proposed, in the shape of a Constitutional amendment, that "until the 4th of July, 1870, all persons who voluntarily adhered o the late in urrection, giving it aid and comfort, shall be excluded from the right to vote to members of Congress and Presidential electors," and that negroes shall be counted for repre sentation in the ratio of the number admitted to

the right of suffrage. Here we get at the milk in the cocoanut. In the course of the late Refellion, excepting a few resoute Union men here and there, the whole white population of the revolting States was im-plicated in it. Such, then, is to be their exclusion from our Federal elections till 1879. Then, again, their black population is to be counted according to the suffrage granted them by the States concerned. This strikes off one-half the a embers of Congress to which the excluded States would otherwise be entitled. The amendment embracing these terms is to be ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures of all the States and the Southern States are to shape their local aws to meet it, and then they may come into Congress, if their members elect are duly quali-

fied in other respect-. Now, let us assume that this scheme will pass by two-thirds of the present Congress, and that, whether ratified or not, it serves the purpose of securing to the party in power the next Presi-dent and the Congress elected with him, what then? Why, then, in all probability, on some pretense or other, the excluded States will still be kept out, until reduced to the condition of Ireland under England, or Poland under Russia. The distranchisement of a whole people, to begin with, inevitably leads to their indefinite exclusion from political power. This Congressional scheme of reconstruction, therefore, looks to a revolution in the Government, beginning with the exercise of despotic powers over the South, but where is it to end? "Treason is a crime, and tractors ought to be punished;" but we cannot outlaw the people of eleven States of the Union without endargering the liberties of the other twenty-five. Let us watch and see how this question is treated in Congress, for there are in it the elementsof a revolution.

The Reconstruction Abortion. From the World.

The plan of reconstruction reported by the "Central Directory" belies every pretense, whether promissory or apologetic, put forward during the winter by the advocates of delay. The appointment of such a committee implied that reconstruction, in some form, was the appropriate business of this Congress. If the Southern States are not to resume their Federal privileges until after the year 1870, they will have no voice either in this Congress or in the next, or in the next after that next. The Congress which succeeds the present will be elected in the autumn of 1866, and its successor in 1868; so that the proposed disfranchisement of the Southern people till after the 4th of July, 1870, would exclude them from representation for three successive Congresses, or the full period of six years after the close of the war. If this scheme is to prevail, all action might as wel! have been deterred till this long period has expired. It there is to be no immediate result, a mure Congress would have the advantage of acting on fuller knowledge and a riper appreciation of still undeveloped facts.

The Reconstruction Committee, during the five months they have had this subject in charge, have employed themselves, or, at least, have professed to employ themselves, in making in-quiries and collecting information respecting the actual condition and present public senti-ment of the South. The witnesses they have xamined have been either Southern residents, ike General Lee, Alexander H. Stephens, and Governor Sharkey, or military officers whose service in that section, since the war, has given them opportunities of observation. But good end is served by all this ostentatious bustle of examining countless witnesses, if reconstruc-tion is to be so long deferred? The ascertainment of the present state of Southern public sentiment implied an intention to devise a scheme or reconstruction adapted to this present sentiment. On any rational mode of judging, this could lead only to one of these two results: either that reconstruction is, at present, inex-pedient, and that nothing ought to be done; or else, the proposal of some plan which all these protracted inquiries into the state of Southern public sentiment afforded a reasonable presump ion that the South would accept. Either nothing should be attempted, or else something which has, at least, some taint chance of success. If the inquiries of the committee have brought them to the conclusion that, in the present temper of the South, no mode of reconstruction at once acceptable to it and safe for the country, was possible, the committee should have concluded their labors by a report to that effect. To propose a plan whose certain and decisive rejection by the South no sane man can doubt, is to trifle with the subject. If, in the opinion of the committee, reconstruction is impossible, they should have frankly said so.

Certain it is, that neither they nor any body can honestly hold such an opinion. It is not only known, but notorious, that the revolted States have been ripe for reconstruction ever since Congress met. There has been no necessity for doing aught to coax them in; the great trouble and task of Congress has been to shut them out. This was the sole business of the Republican caucus held before the organization. The Reconstruction Committee, agreed on in that caucus, was notoriously a contrivance for exclusion. The Southern members were on the ground, eager for admission. The Committee could not, therefore, without flying in the teeth of well-known facts, have reported that reconstruction is not yet possible. They were con-strained to report, if they reported at all, some-thing which might be held up to the public as a

plan of reconstruction. But what logical, nay, what possible, connection has the plan reported with the previous labors of the committee? How can it be made to appear that it is founded on, adapted to, or that it in any way results from, the testimony which the committee has so laboriously taken? Why could not this plan have just as well formed previous to the testimony as since? One leading feature of the plan is the proposed change in the basis of representation, reducing

that of the South by deducting the whole negro population unless the adult male negroes are allowed to vote. There was surely no need of a five months investigation into the condition of the South to decide on a proposition like the. Whether such an amendment to the Constitution is politic or impolitic, depends on nothing which has been elicited by the committee's tedious inquiry. Its argumentative describe, so far as at has any, resta on the dispraportion, as the Const sution now stands, between the number of Southern representatives and the number of Southern voters. But this disproportion is a mere matter of arith n ctic, having no connection with the com-mittee's five months labor. It was just as a certainable without examining a single with ners as after the examination of five hundred. The disproportion is no more an objection to the immediate restoration of the South than it was to the original formation of the Union. The South has always had representatives for its negro population; and is entitled to no more, till after the census of 1870, than it would have had if slavery had continued. But whether many or few, it is a point which has no relation to the endless examination of witnesses kept up by the commit-tee. And yet this is the main (permanent) feature of their reported plan of reconstruction.

Another of the four sections of the proposed constitutional amendment forbids the of the Rebel debt. Now, whether this part of

the plan guards against a real or an unreal danger, it is equally certain that it required no protracted investigation to reach the recommendation, which rests on entirely oth grounds than any ascertained by the inquiry. Another section of the proposed amendment declares that all citizens of the United States shall enjoy equal protection of the laws. If the Civil Rights bill is constitutional, this is an excrescence; but be this as it may, it is a recommendation which could have been as intelligently made five months ago, as at any time since. Its detense will not be rested on any fac's ascertained by the committee, but on its alleged intrinsic justice. So far as regards this part of their plan, there is nothing in the conclusion of the committee to excuse the tedious ength of their investigation.

The only remaining part of the proposed Constitutional amendment is that which distranchises till the year 1870, all who in any way mided the Rebellion. This, so far from being a legitimate result of the testimony taken by the committee, is a conspicuous proof of the dishonesty of their report. What kind of testimony, would lead to the conclusion that the Southern people cannot sately be allowed to vite for Congressmen and President previous to 1870, and may be safely trusted to do so thereofter? If the temper of the Southern people gives reason to apprehend a new rebellion, they would be more likely to attempt it subsequent than previous to 1870; since they need at least our years to recover from the desolating effects of the one just closed, and to recruit their exhausted means. Whatever may be their present temper, they are, for the coming four years, manually prostrate, and therefore powerless to rebel. Why put letters on a man disabled by wounds and the loss of blood, to be removed as soon as he recovers his strength? Or would the committee have us think that the measures they propose are so calculated to soothe, that jour years trial of them will win the South back to cordial loyalty The committee needed no testimony to teach them that one and all of their mea-sures will be distasteful and irritating to the They will perhaps inform the country since when human nature is so changed that provocation and insult have become atturements to love. It the committee learnt anything from their investigation, they must have learnt that the South thinks it has a clear right to immediate restoration, and teels that the hostile attitude of Congress is unjust. Unless injustice tends to conciliate, whatever alienation now exists would be constantly deepened during the four years of disfranchise ment. If, therefore, the unreconciled temper of the South is the ground of disfranchisement, the reasons for it will be stronger four years hence than they are now. It is evident, then, that this part of the committee's plan, like every other part of it, is not founded on, and has no relation to, the mountain of tes. Imony they have spent the winter and spring in accumulating. They have consumed all this time in pretending to lay a foundation on which nothing, just nothing, precisely neither more nor less than nothing, is built.

pretracted investigation, then, since nothing has come of it, since no part of the proposed plan is founded on it, or has any relation to it, was a dishonest sham—a mere expe-dient for procrastination. The sole thing it has accomplished is to afford a standing excuse, while it lasted, for the non-admission of the Southern members to their seats. Having, in this manner, worn away the greater part of the session, and exhausted the public patience, they at last make a report, the materials for which were as fully in their possession before they had sworn a single witness, as after they had concluded their investigation. The report being in no respect founded on the testimony, stamps all their previous proceedings with irrelevancy, and establishes against them the charge of di honest delay. The report is just as disconest, and no more dishonest than the investigation both having the same dissimulated purpose o postponing and preventing the restoration of

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE GREAT NATIONAL FAIR.

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National Soldiers' and Sailors'

Orphan Home Will commence to hold A PUBLIC FAIR, in the CITY OF WASHINGTON, on the 15 h of MAY NEXT, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the Support and Maintenance of the Orphans of National Soldiers and Smilots, not otherwise provided for in their respective States and Territories.

The ladies invite all who can to contribute towards representing their State by a table at the Fair The charity is a noble and deserving one, and it is hoped that each State and Territory will be liberally

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The Institution will be opened for the reception of Children on the 1st of June next, and applications for acmission may be forwarded immediately to
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All bidders may be present at the time and place for
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25, 1868.
And if the lowest bidder does not come forward

25, 1860.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE UNION STATE CENTRAL COM-138 m MITTER will meet at the rooms of the Nati Union Club, he 1105 (HESNU strees, Phi side phi WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of May, instant at to cook P M. attendance of every member is earnestly so leited FR. JUED a.N. Chairman.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT. Notice is hereby given that on the 18th day of May, 1868, the Interest up in all carifficates of deposit on account of temporary can incher than hoe i sued for a learning house on the same of the interest in the learning house on the same of the interest in the learning house on the same of the interest in the learning house on the same of the learning and unpaid will be reduced to the uniform rate of Five FER CENT, per at hum from the date, and all persons then holding such certificates in which a higher rate of interest is specified, are requested to present the same to the different by whom issued, that other certificates may be substituted therefor.

H. MCCULLOCH Secretary of the Treasury. TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the Treasurers of the United States, the Assainst Treasurer at New York, Philareiphia, and bos on and the United States Depositaries at Baitimore and Cincinnati, have been theoret to discontinue from this date the receipte deposits on account of TEMPURAPY LOAN, except those in ended for Clearing house purposes. H. Mc TULLOCH Secretary of the Treasury.

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PHILADRIPHIA April 28 1808.

Notice is hereby given to the Stockho dara of this Company, that the option of receiving their Dividend in Stock of ash under the resolution of the Board of 1th December, 1805, will cease on and after the 31st of 5 av, 1866, and that such Stockholders as ac not demand their Dividend to be paid to them in Stock on or before that day, will be thereaf er entitled to receive it in Cash only.

[4 30 im]

S. BRADFORD, Treasurer.

NEW LONDON COPPER MINING
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in Philadelphia on the 27th Apri, 1866 the ollowing
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MAMMOTH OIL AND COAL COM-PANY.—The Annual Meeting of the Stock-ho ders of this Company will be held at their office No. 524 WALNUT Street, or MONDAY, May 7, 1866, a 14 o'clock M., for the election of Directors for the ensuing year. E. G. PRA-EG.

ELECTION NOTICE,—THE ANNUAL mee ing of the Stockholders of he Central Passenger Railway Company, o the city of Philade phia, will be held at the office of the company No. 249 south FirTH Street Philadelphia on MONDAY, May 7th, 1866, between the hours of 9 and 11 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of electing a President and six Directors, to serve for the ensuing year. L. J. CRANS, Secretary April 23 1868.

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