ATTEMATION COPPARING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1866,

PERSONS LEAVING THE CITY DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, CAN HAVE THE EVENING TELEGRAPH MAILED TO THEIR ADDRESS. TREMS. 75 CENTS PER MONTH.

The Declaration of Independence-The Test Applied.

As we anticipated, the Age, when brought to the test, discards the true democratic idea promulgated by JEFFERSON and the fathers of the repuulle, and puts in its place the modern sham notion of democracy, which is nothing more than a very absurd kind of aristocracy. It denies that the Declaration of Independence, when it says "all men are created equal," means all men. To support this view, it makes the singularly weak argument, that the main part of the Declaration being a recital of the griev ances of the colonies against the mother country. the general statements in it must be taken a limited also to them. It is a sufficient reply to this that the document, on itsvery face, wil admit of no such construction. Fancy the ab surdity of saying, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all the people of these Colonies are created equal !" Jefferson, who drew up the Declaration, was a logician, and he reasoned in this case from generals to particulars. He starts out with certain truths of universal application, and self-evident in their character; and from these he descends to the particular instance of the American Colonies.

We shall enter into no attempted argument to proce a truth which the Fathers well asserted to be "self-evident." They said "all men," and they meant all men. The equality of any smaller number, as of the people of the Colonies, for instance, would have been in no sense "self evident," except as it sprung from the wider truth that all men are created equal. The Declaration of Independence was an appeal to the moral sense of the world in justification of the IAmerican Revolution. The truths enunciated in it are the tundamental truths of human rights everywhere. They were so regarded at the time. "Let it never be for gotten," was the language of those great men after the struggle was over and American independence had been achieved, "that the cause for which we have contended is the cause of Human Nature." The interpretation which the Age gives to the Declaration is the weak invention of a later day, and of men who, while they have no taith in human rights, are still fond of mouthing the word "Democracy." They have not the boldness to say, as Judge Perrir, of Indiana, once did, that the Declaration is a selfevident lie; but they seek to rob it of its beauty and power, and to make it sett-evident non-

sense. The trouble with the Age politicians, as we told them the other day, is that they are not Democrats. They do not believe in democracy, What they call democracy is a sham and a cheat. They believe in libercy, but it is tor their own set merely. They believe in equal rights, but for favored classes only. Kings and despots have been good "democrats" after this sort. True democracy is something wider, grander, nobler than this. It believes in the rights of men by virtue of their manhood, and independent of all external circumstances and conditions. It strikes its root deep in the profound truth of the unity of the human familya truth which ties at the bottom of our Christianity, as well as of our republicanism.

The Age winces at being called "pro-slavery," and then consumes a column in showing that the epithet is correctly applied. It acknowledges that it defended slavery to the last, and its spirit is unmistakably pro-slavery now. accept it, however, as a favorable symptom that the term is beginning to be felt as odious. It shows that the progress of the times in regard to the great truths of human rights is beginning to reach even to that low plane upon which the

Representative Men of the Convention. In looking over the list of delegates to the Convention, we notice a number of universally respected and time-honored names. We see such as ROBERT C. WINTHROP, WILLIAM C. RIVES, JOHN A. DIX, THOMAS EWING, GEORGE ASHMUN, and a host of like gentlemen, for every one of whom we have the highest respect. They are men who have secured reputations, are men of approved ability, but are also men who are utterly incapable of grasping the situation, and acting up to the requirements of the times. Thirty years ago they were live men; they were powerful in the political world; they lived in the atmosphere of action, and by their position proved themselves capable of being leaders and directors of public sentiment. But to-day they are fossilized in their views.

They are still highly respectable, and against them no man dare breathe a word of reproach: but then they are political Rip Van Winkles. They fell asleep at the time the Whig party died, and they have just woke up. Their views are the views of the Whig regime. They fail to perceive that the old times have passed away, and that a new time has dawned, and, clinging to the dogmas of the past, they are perfectly unable to cope with new issues, and had better have remained in retirement. They fought a good fight in their day, but their day is gone; their opportunity is past, and to once more reappear upon the stage is like the return of old Jon GRIMALDI. who sought to perform his active antics while seated in a cripple's chair. The remembrance of their past records will secure for them the sympathy of their audience, but influence they have none. We do not say this in disparagement of these gentlemen. We hold them in the highest esteem. But younger men are needed-men was have not ideas of two decades' tanding. For it is a mistake to suppose that public sentiments, like wine, are improved by age. They need to be well shaken up continually. No sediment must be allowed to accumulate, and in the quier retirement of their homes these gentlemen have not had their views thus shaken. while much respected, and of established repu-tation, their name, will lend no additional strength to the new political movement, but will tend rather to drag it back to those me-diaval days of Southern slavery and Northern

The New Jersey Legislature and the Constitutional Amendment.

MR. JAMES M. SCOVEL has by his late letter to Governor Wann, pledged himself to support the Constitutional amendment, and we are convinced that he will keep his word. He has seen the feeling among the people, and time having cooled his personal feeting, he is willing to do his whole duty so far as the party which elected him is concerned. The following letter will show the feeling among the people:-

NEW YORK CITY, August 14 Hon. J. M. Scove. — ty Dear Sir:—though a stranger to you personally, I cannot reast the impute which prompts me to profoundly thank you for your letter to Governor Ward. I have read that letter carefully, considering well the force and sig-nificance of its every sentence—yea, its every ward. It is evident that you profoundly realize the import-

It is evident that you profoundly realize the importance of the adoption of the amendments by three-fourths of the States, and by New Jerse; in particular, at this time. Everywhere throughout the loyal States it will be found, when voting day comes again, that the people are unalterably resolved that the proposed amendments shall become part of the inidam mail law of the republic.

Every fair-wilded man admits, and every truly loyal man feels, as you most forcibly express it that the amendments are alike "just proper, and necessary" The earlier they are adopted by the requisite three-touribs of the States, the sconer will the now disquict and unrest of the people, South and North alike, cease, and in their place will come national tranquilitity, a just representation of all the States, a reugth to our pational securities and exclusion from power of the more guilty and dangerous clusion from power of the more guilty and dangerous of the fomenters of treason and rebellion. With their adoption will come peace, and a peace, too, which "will come to stay;" welle, on the contrary, their rejection would | rove a calamit beyond esti-mate, continuing strile, and perpenuating a struggle which can on v produce as fruits, future and steadily increasing inequalities, animosities, alienations, and

Philadelphia Convention meets to-day, and he motley gathering there is presumed by President Johnson to represent the people. That Convention will doubtless practically resolve that the adoption of the amendments ought to be defeated.

I am among those of his true friends who have still faith in President Johnson—faith in his nonesty, patriotism, in his devoted Unionism, and his sincere desire to do right a nin yet confident that no man was ever worse advised gave heed to more unsafe counsess; and no President not even Tyler and Fillmore, was so greatly and fatally deceived. He will certainly find out, early in November, that Mr. Thurlow Weed and his packed jury of office-holders and office-seekers of the North, with Cosperheads and hebeis, are not a safe reflex of the verdict of the

I am just in from a flying trip of two weeks among the yeemaury of Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania, and never bave I seen such a feeling abroad in the land. Your timely letter will be read by tens of thou-

sands, and your name will become a household word at thousands of firesides, where else it had never Heaven grant that Governor Ward may early respond to your urgent appeal, and that New Jersey, as she was before among the last, may now be among the first to respond to the wants and necessities of the natio

Her verdict at this juncture would be everywhere accepted as evidence of ultimate and complete suc-cess, and would do more to harmonize differences, by producing confidence in an early and satisfactory solution of the problem of reconstruction, than usand Philade phia Conventions

Very truly yours, etc. A. N. Coll.
Hon James M. Scovel, Camden, N. J. -Under these circumstances, we deem it at least a debatable question, whether a special session of the New Jersey Legislature had not better be called. We disclaim any wish to interfere with or dictate to Governor WARD. He is fully able, and sufficiently patriotic to judge what is best. His position is better fitted for feeling the pulse of the State than is ours. But we can see no barm which would result did he decide to call it together. It will not necessarily imply that the State is not going to be secured next fall. It will merely declare that, as the Union party in New Jersey has triumphed after a bitter contest, it is the right to make use of its victory. The Constitutional amendment arose during its term of office, and it is its privilege to decide upon it. So far, through the error of Mr. Scover, it has not secured those rewards to which it is entitled. Treachery and a change of a few votes may lose it the ensuing election. Such an event is possible, but not probable. Would it not be easier to gain our spoils now, when they are within our grasp, rather than risk another battle before we appropriate them?

The Fate of the Constitution of North

Carolina. YESTERDAY we asked the delegates from North Carolina to the Convention, whether the State had not rejected the amended Constitution. We append a letter received from Mr. MANLY, one of the delegates, in which he tacitly acknowledges that the Constitution was defeated, but goes into an explanation of the cause. He says: To the Editor of The Evening Telegraph:-

THE TELEGRAPH is mistaken in supposing that the rejection of the new Constitution of the State of North Carolina by the people will have any effect upon ordinances or laws passed by the Convention or Legislature of that State for abo'ishing slavery or the slave code, or for the extension of freedmen's

Everything which has been done in these matters by North Carolina exists and will continue to exist, irrespective of the vote on the new Constitution. The point submitted and decided by that vote was whether a new draft, embodying amendments already made in respect to slavery, and other proposed amendments not affecting the condition of the blacks, should be adopted.

If the Constitution has been rejected, that rejection has no other operation than to decline adopting the note draft with the other amendments proposed, and leaves all loyal and rational amendments heretofore made and everything done in relation to the black race untouched. M. E. MANLY. One of the North Caro'ma delegation in the National

Union Convention. -We do not pretend to know as much about North Carolina affairs as a resident of that State. but if the reason given be correct, then the State is acting most absurdly. It all this discussion is over a new draft, which embodies no new ideas, we feel a sincere pity for the time wasted. We have not seen a copy of the new law, but we feel confident that it must embody some additional provisions, else why the opposition made by the Rebels and the support given it by loyalists? And if it is nothing but a verbal change, why has its defeat been so carefully concealed? We think there is something behind all this secrecy, but are gratified anyhow to have some definite information on the subject. From the letter, we may safely inter that the Constitution, be its principles what they may, has been defeated in the State. From Mr. Manny's letter we deduce the conclusion that the new Constitution is an official legalizing of the acts performed immediately after the subjugation of the Rebellion; and the people by its rejection have declared, as far as they are concerned, that the laws abolishing slavery and the black code have not their approbation.

The New Orleans Riot-Testimony of a United States Officer.

A DISTINGUISHED Federal officer, high in command in New Orleans, mentions in a private letter to a gentleman in this city, that the investigations now being made with reference to

, the late riot in that city confirm previous accounts from Union sources of the guilt of the Rebel police. None of the policemen were killed, and only a few were wounded. On the other hand, the number of Union men murdered reaches to forty, while about two hundred were wounded. He says that the only safety for Union men there now is in the presence of the

Massachusetts and South Carolina. Our Wigwam politicians are telicitating themselves extensively over the fact that the Massachusetts delegation and the South Carolina delegation walked into the Convention at its open" ing arm in arm. Even Mr. DOOLITTLE, with his usual profundity, thinks, or says he does, that if that sight could only have been witnessed by the people of Massachuseits, it would instantly have worked a complete revolution in their political sentiments.

Now, we must coufess, it produced a very pretty stage-effect to see these centlemea walk into the Convention in this loving and amiable style, and it showed considerable skill on the part of the managers to open the performances in so moving a manner. But we cannot belp reminding our political wire-pullers of the Wigwam that it is no new thing to find a certain class of Massachusetts politicians walking arm in arm with those of South Carolina. It used to be done at every Democratic Convention, even when South Carolina was imprisoning Massachusetts seamen and mobbing her commissioners sent to test the constitutionality of South Carolina's laws. Heaven knows we should be giad to see Massachusetts and South Carolina in perfect accord, but it will require something more to accomplish it than a Wigwam promenade between a lot of Massachusetts doughtaces and South Carolina ex-Repels. Massachusetts is not represented in the Wigwam. Some men are there who live within her boundaries, but the brain. the heart, the centiment, the moral power of Massachusetts are not represented there. Mesars, Our and Couch may perambulate up and down the Wigwam till doomsday, and it will mean nothing except a political by-play, unless the fundamental ideus which inform the structure of society in their respective States can be brought into living sympathy and accord.

The great problem before our country for solution is well typitied by these two States. and we wish that our Wigwam triends could be brought to see that it can never be solved by perambulatory performances, or spread-cagle speeches, or convivial conferences. The problem in our country is to do away with the antagonism between aristocracy and democracy, and to realize the true democratic idea in the whole structure of our society. Now look at Massachusetts and South Carolina. Massachusetts is a true Commonwealth. Its people stand on a perfect equality before the law. It is a State modelled after and fully realizing the true American idea of a State.

South Carolina, on the other hand, is an oligarchy. The minority rules instead of the majority. The masses of the people are disfranchised. They are subject to taxation without representation. They are torced to obey laws which they have no veice in making. There is no equality before the law. Her society is composed of privileged classes and oppressed classes. Her whole structure and framework of government is vitally antagonistic to the true American idea of a State.

Still more, South Carolina having just been suppressed in a violent and long continued attempt to overthrow the Government of the United States, in which attempt she voluntarily seceded from the Union and abandoned her relations to her sister States, now demands to be readmitted, not upon terms of equality, but upon those of superiority. She asks that each of her voters may have two and one-harf times as much power in all national affairs as a voter in Massachusetts. She asks for five representatives in Congress, when her voters only entitle her to two. In short, she demands that her oligarchical form of government shall give her voters two and a half times the power in the nation that they are fairly entitled to wield.

Now does Mr. DOOLITTLE suppose that antagonisms like these, going to the very foundations of things, can be reconciled by the pretty promenades of Messrs. Onn and Couch on the floor of his Wigwam? Is that the extent of his political sagacity? Is that the lesson he has learned from our past history?

The instinctive intelligence of the American people tells them that this antagonism between democracy and aristocracy in our country must cease. They have sacrificed three hundred thousand lives to make it cease. They are not now, through political chicanery, to be defrauded of the just victory they have won. The democratic republican idea triumphed on the battlefield, and it must triumph in the balls of legislation. Our Wigwam politicians, in the name of peace and union and good-will, are in truth doing all they can to perpetuate antagonism and discord. They would lay up for our children, and perhaps for ourselves, a repetition of the terrible struggle through which we have just passed. So intent are they on political power that they would keep alive in the body politic an element of strife and discord, which is as sure to work out disaster and convulsion as any physical cause is to produce its natural

RECENT, BUT NOT NEW .- We have had laid on our desk a little pamphlet by Mr. HENRY FLANpars, entitled "Observations on Reconstruction," which is a thirty-two paged attack on Congress and its policy. It must not be inferred, however, that Mr. FLANDERS throws any new light on the subject. The great body of the work is composed of pointless poetry and lengthy extracts from Count de GOLNEAU. A copy of the Civil Rights bill is also added.

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BIS 191 rp Hecretary of the Treasury. SPECIAL NOTICES.

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