THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH．－PHILADELPHIA，：WEDNESDAY，OCTOBER 24， 1866.

Cunniut Jollegraph



## WEDNESDAY，OCTOBER 24， 1866.

The Secretary of the Interior on Govern－
mental Powers．
How．Onvile E．Brownim，ot Ilinois， How．Orvilie H．Browsisa，of Illinois，
Secretary of the Interirr，has written a letter
of great length to his old consituents on the Secretary of the Interi）r，has written a letter
of great length to his old constituents on the
subject of the relative powers of the various
departments of the Governent．This litter
dert departments of the Government．This letter
is published in the National In telligencer，
with the statement that it is indorsed by the
President．It is another ins tance of special
 in Its style．
Mr．Browning opens his letter with the
assurance that＂the safety of a free gov－ assurance that＂the safety of a free goo－
ernment is in ikeeping the poveer near the
people．＂This is rather an extraordinary ad－
mission，considering that the letter is penned milssion，considering that the letter is penne
in faror of increased EExecutive power．We
Wuld beartlly endorse Mr Browning．The ing power near the people，and as Congress is
one degree nearer than the President，we think it is better for our liberty that the
＂power be centred in one hundred and fint men rather than diffused among one．＂＂mem－
$\boldsymbol{A}$ little further on he states that the＂men Sers of Congress are responsible to no power
but the will of the dominant party．＂By
this we suppose he means that they are re－ sponsible to no party except the people．An
to whom should they be，and who would hold
them to a stricter responsiblbility？Is the Executive reached rempone easilly，hedgged is as $h$ h is by the thousand technicalities and armed
with the thousand powers of his position？Is the Judiciary，who hold office or tife and are
protected by yalt the gaarantes of the Con－
atitution？Surely there is no departument to whom power could be more sately entrusted，
and for any abuse of which the memberi One more point，and we will leave the
letter．The Secretary says＂that negro suff frage is the real and only substantial cause of controvgroy betiveen the Legislative and
Executive branches of the Government，＂and asks，＂＂in the most solomn terms，whether，upon other civil wart＂．When Mr．Browning
makee this statement，he utters what ho rage has nothing whatever to do with the
ssue．The Constitutional amendment does not contemplate any such provision．It is a
matter for the States to settle．
Congress and all the great body of the Republican party grant that，and it is one of the saddest signs of our thmes that a
Cabinet minister should condescend to pander
to the prejudices of the ignorant，and seek must know to be untrue．In regard to the before，and we are not to be driven from our
principles by muttered anathemas or the
invocation of any such bugasoo．The people or the Nortu are ruled by wisdom，and
having carefully investigated he Constitu－
tional amendment，they have decided in its
favor，and will atand by favor，and will atand by it to the last．
Ir seems to ut Decide．
is a matter whose the Maryland imbroglio
inemt does not call for mere dispute as to the construer sitide．or consti－
tutionality of a certain statute，and in such a case an appeal lies directly to the Courts．
The Governor claims the right，under the the city of Baltimore for alleged offficial mis－ o remove them，except upon conviction before a court of competent jurisdiction．
They deny the Governor＇s right to try them．
They deny that the try them，or that it would be constitutional if
it protessed to give him that protessed to give him that right．Able
lawyers give opposite opinions upon the eub－
Ject．Reverdy Johnson tisan－of course coincides with the Governor．
The Attorney－General of the State aides，it it said，with the Commissioners．
Now，ha such a case as this，all talk of re－ sorung tore is as absurd as it is repre－
hensible．One ot the chiee objects for whice
the courts of law axe coustituted is to decid just such questions ase these．The Commis
sioners beling already in possession of their offlees，have a right to hold oon to them their unt
they are legally deposed thereftom． Governor attempts to remove them，and ap
points other persons in their places，these ne sonpointees most appeal，not to force，not
the military，not to the mob，but to the court No force can be legally or properly used until the courts have deecided the question at issue．
The law provides a remedy for ousing an in－
cumbent from an office which he is not enti tled to hold．The Governor cannot forcibly induct his appointees，should he make any，
for that would be to decide the Which the courts are bound to decide．Unestios mined to bring on a collision，we do not how one is possible．
A very similar case occurred in New York
when the Legislature took the control of the
polliee of that When the Legislature took the control of the
poloo of that elty from the hands of the city
autborittes，and conferred It upon Commis－ autboritles，and conferred it upon Commis－
gloners appolinted by the Goveruor and Sen－




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