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## The Point Decided. Tas recent decision of the Supreme Court covers bimply one point, viz, that the tiial of

 acivihan by a military commisslon in a state It expressly recogmizes the validity of such trials on thesion of the writ or habaeas corpus and of
What were termed "arbitrary arreste." Had What were termed "arbitrary arreste. Had
it not been for the law of 18B3, providing or
the discharge of persoons held in custody by the discharge of persons held in custody by
the military authorities in the logal States, the military authorities in the loynl States,
aiter a United States grand jury had been in session and adiourned without finding indict-
ments againat them, such persons might have bees held prisoners during the pleasure of
the miltary suthorities, as long as the Writ of habeas corpus was suspended. It
Was simply because of this provision of the Waw that Milligan was entitted to his release.
Without it, by the decision of the Court, he Without it, bs the decision of the Court, he
could still have been held a prisoner, although he could not legally have been tried by a
military commission so long as the regular operations of the C
obstructed by war. There is, therefore, in this decision, very
little to warrant the patriotic refoicings of The things that they most complain of
namely, "arbitrary arrests"-or, as one of them poetically expresses it, the "invasion of
the dwellings of citizens at midnight," and the "dragging them from their families with impliedly sanctioned bv it.
The New Stamamshp Line on the Pacifio.
Trus present year is to witness the ingauguration of an enterprise which promises to -become a matter of great importance to our
commercila interests on the Pacific-we allude to the steamship line between San
Francisco, China, and Japan. The frrst ship of the new line, the Colorado, was to have
left San Francisco on the 1st instant, for sent, of three ships-the Colorado, the Great
Republic, and the Celestial Empire-the two latter not yet quite ready, but intended to be among the largest and best wooden
ships ever built in the United States. The pany, who own this line, 8450,000 per annum
tor carrying the mails. Twelve round trips mated that the time from Hong-Kong to
London by this route will be from three to tour weekd less than by the English line It is with reference to the early comple-
tion of the Pacific Railroad that this line will probably occur sponertance. Than that pevent
poople almost entire change in the course of the trade of Eastern Asia with Europe and
America. Instead of taking the long and Hope or Cape Horn, passengers and valuable Francisco, then by rail to the Atlantic sea-
board, and thence by steamers to Europe We shall thus become the carriers and dis
tributors of one ol the most valuable portions
of the woild's commerce. As preparatory to ship lines on the Parificis of the utmost Im portance ; and we are glad that the enterprise
has thus seasonably been inaugurated. It
it is auceess is a matter of national concer TuE annual meetity of so masy of the State
Legislatures derives additional interest tron the fact that upon several of them will
devolve the duty of choosing United States Mr. Cowan is to be chosen. The prominent candidates for the offlice are Thaddens Stevens Governor Curtin, and ex-Secretary Cameron
In New York a sucoessor to Mr. Harris is to e chosen. Two;months yoi. looked as thoug mous choice for the poition. The tide o
public favor seems to have clanged, however since then, and it ly now quite difficult to say who of the numerons aspirants does stand
the best chance of success. Senator Harris himself has a good deal of $s$ rength. Rosco Conkling is also a very prominent candidate. Governor Fenton's name has been mentioned
in councetion with the office. From present appearances t
and Conkling
In New Jersey, the racancy occasioned by
the death of Senator Wrigat is to be flle Senator Frellighuyysen, who holds temporarily under an appointment from the Governor,
seems to have the inside track; and as he is by seems to have the inslde track; and as he is by
far the ablest man named In connection with the office, we hope he may get 1 Maryland also elects a Senator to succeed Mr. Creawell. Goveraor Swann's treacher to the Union party would naturally be re Warded by this position were it not for his
locality, which, by a local haw, rendera him ocality, which, by a local haw, rendera him
neligible. Some Democrat is sure of the
ne
didate for re-lectloe, and the race aeeme to
IVe between Governor Morton and Repre-
sentative Jill sentative Julian. Mr. Colfax, we bellieve. base
retueed to have hits name uased as a candidse. Mused to have his name used as a candidas e.
Mistouri elects a successor to the eloquent Mrssouri elects a successor to the eloquent
and intrepld B. Gratz Brown, who refuses a
re election. Governor Fleteher, Charles D. re election. Governor Fleteher, Charles D.
Drake, and Representatire Blow are the poominent can
of Drake
Two Sen
 whose term explises on the 8 d of March next.
Mr. Pomeroy will probbbly be chosen as his
In own successor, although he has a strong
competitor in the person of ex-Governor competitor in the person of ex-Governor
Thomas Carney. There are several competitors for Lane's vacancy, among then
Senator Ross, who holds by appointment ot
the Governor, Colonel WIlliam A. Phillips, the Governor, Colonel William A. Phillips,
Judge Thacher, and Representative Olarke.
Kansas politics are of the uncertin Kansan politics are of the uncertain order,
and no reasonable predietion can be made as to who will be the succeesful man.
In Nevada, if the elegrams are worth any. thing, Senator Nye has a "sure thing" in
regaid to his re-election. We hope he may not be disappointed.
In Illinois Senator Trum bull is a candidate
 get the seat.
In Ohio a successor is to be chosen to
Senator Sherman, but he seems to have the Senator Sherman, but he seems to hase the
race pretty much to himsell. The same re-
mark may be made in regard to Senator Howe, of Wisconsin.
There are some other States to choose
Senators during the year, but thelr LegislaSures are not in session,
Thaddens Stevens' Great Speect Thaddens Stevens, Great Speech.
Hos. THADDEUS STEVENS made a great
speech in the House of Represenatives yes syeech in the House or Representatives yes-
terady, on his bill for the reconstruction of
the late Rebel States, It was a condensed the late Rebel States, It was a condensed
and poweriul argument, demonstrating the
fall legislative branch of the Government, to legislative brack on and manner of recon-
prescribe the terms
struction. It was also a noble and eloquent struction. It was also a noble and eloquent
appeal in favor of reconstructing the late
Rebel States upon the basis of equal Rebel States upon the basis of equal and im-
partial rights for all before sslvania may well be proud of that grand old
veteran, who, with all the fire and vigor of youth, tempered by the wisdom and experi-
ence ot age, is the nation's great leader in ence ot age, is the nation's great le
the path of tueue Republican progress!
 address, whieh was nearly two hours in
length, beld his vast auditory in the most close and enthusiastic atteation to its close.
His argument was cear and logicat, his dic-
tion condensed and powernul, his delivery impasioned and moving. Mr. Douglass
justly ranks among the first orators of this country, and his effort last evening did full
iustice to his reputation. $\Delta$ fall phonographic report of his address will be found in avother
part of this paper.

 SPECIAL NOTICES. EE MISS ANHA E. DICKINSON On Wednesday Eveniug, Jan. 9.

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