For the Evening Telegraph. THE SALT QUESTION. BY MRS. LOT.

Their case deserves attention.

Once on a time, the people found, As they supposed, an evil— That salting car-tracks made the ground Much coider than the d-L A salty question, I'll be bound;

Their lot, the lot of all, I've found, Who turn to herce contention Not only was the ground made cold, But some forlorn pedestrians Complained, that is to say, they'd scold

At fortunate equestrians, Who, though they rode not on the backs Of horses, mules, or asses, Yet back of them, they rode, on tracks, In cars, for cash or passes.

They scold, because they will not walk Like them, in slushy weather; And therefore raise the salt-car talk, And shout aloud together. All sickness is ascribed to salt-

Tis highly deleterious. No person is at all in fault-Now isn't that mysterious? It cannot be, the atmosphere Is poisoned by these measures,

Or else would ice-cream makers fear

Their freezers were not treasures. Not salt will never injure us, Until it looses shvor, And then it isn't worth a c-s. For tracks, or table flavor.

IMPARTIAL RECONSTRUCTION. As Viewed by Northern Eyes from a Southern Standpoint.

"COME, LET US BEASON TOGETHER." To the Editor of Evening Telegraph: -At the close of a fratricidal war, unparalleled in magnitude and cost of life and treasure-preceded by years of protracted and inconsiderate discussion, embittered by sectional hatred, intensified by frequent and unpardonable offenses (whether real or otherwise), and resulting in the final overthrow of institutions coeval with the Government, and consequent loss of the immense treasures invested therein-it is scarcely to be expected that the late combatants, on either side, have sufficiently recovered their composure as to be able to agree upon an impartial settlement of every difference that will give full satisfaction to all concerned. Had the war been between different nationalities, the difficulty would have been a comparatively light one. The rules of war would have given to the victor the important right to dictate terms, regardless of consequences to the conquered. Ours is a peculiar case. The terrible struggle just ended was a domestic one, in which brother rose against brother; and had its origin in an attempt to perpetuate an institution long and unjustly fostered by the com-mon law. National sin has been followed by national retribution; and, as a result of the terrible convulsion, the child of Liberty has been brought forth pure and spotless. The talse step taken by our Southern brethren was the natural result of that first great error, in which our fathers, at the close of the war for freedom, permitted the limbs of the weak to be shackled by unjust law, and thus instituted the evil which, growing year by year into powerful proportions, has at last perilled the very life of the nation.

The present is no time for party. The interests at stake are too precious to be left to such uncertain agencies. The future is too full of promise, as the reward of wise action, to be left to the passion of the partisan. Let sectionalism and prejudice be forgotten, and reason once more resume her empire.

The first great object to be secured is the Union, "one and indivisible." To be perpetual this must be cemented by the popular love and common interest. Great though the cost of life and treasure has been, to secure and per-petuate this will be ample recompense. As in Union we find the great element of our national strength, so in division and sectional animosity must we be weakened day by day, and the com-

While the Rebellion existed and the nation was in peril, the common weal demanded that all our efforts should be given to the one great object, the preservation of the Government. The sword was then the only arbitrator. have interposed reason at that momentous time, as to the cause of the revolt, would have been but a second rebellion -tending to distract and weaken the national energies. Loyalty was then a duty which the citizen owed to the State; and to be truly loyar was to lose no opportunity to sid her in the lawful work of overcoming the common enemy. To do otherwise was to rebel, and deserved the severest penalty.

The war is now over. Pence is again pro-claimed. Brother no more seeks the life of brother. The bloody sword is once more sheathed, and reason again, untrammelled by present necessity, may resume her mild sway, and gather in the rich fruits of the mighty struggle. She may even inquire into the cause of the war, measure the height and depth of treason, and point out the true road to future and permanent reconstruction. In doing this, we should act with prayerful hearts, and eyes single to the public welfare. Who shall fully measure the momentous consequences that are to follow our present actions to generations unborn?

By the rules of war, the spoils of victory fall to the conquerors, also the right to dictate the terms of peace; and the conquered in the late sanguinary struggle should not complain that their victors are anxious to secure the peculiar national advantages flowing therefrom, or that they deem it necessary to provide against a like misfortune in the future. It they who appealed to the sword have suffered as a consequence, they have but themselves to blame. Had the Rebellion terminated otherwise, would our

Southern brethren proved less exacting? Slavery is no more. It has perished at the hands of those who would have perpetuated it at the cost of the national life. Though the loss may be deeply felt, it should be gracefully accepted, and compensation seught for in the future benefits to be derived from the hearthful changes since instituted in the relations of labor, the benefits of which are already lore-

It is but just that the ratio of representation should be so altered as to secure equal justice to all. To neglect this would seem like reward ing Rebellion. Such a provision may at first sight appear disadvantageous to the Southern States; but, viewed in its relation to all time, i is but a wise provision of justice. being no more, the sectionalism which it en-gendered must cease to foster antagonism, and becomes the interest of the States to neurish and protect each other as partners in a common bond. It will thus be unnecessary to struggle for that sectional advantage which, in troubled past, made inharmonious our national assemblies. It is, at best, but a mild exaction

which should give no offense to the conquered The debt incurred to support the Rebellion and destroy the Federal Union, was contracted by the bondholders in full view of the unlawful purposes to which it was to be applied, and in full acceptance of the bazard which must follow the downfall of the Confederacy. Could less be demanded than that all such fraudulent claims

be forever repudiated? A reunion of our broken ties upon these terms would be honorable to all parties; and, as an olive branch from the victorious North to their offending brethren of the South, it would be magnanimous in the fullest degree,

The great bone of contention, the barrier to reconstruction, which keeps alive the fires of discord, and threatens to increase sectional batred, is the demand made for the immolation of the Southern leaders, as the price of readmis sion, or reconstruction. To comprehend the full measure of injustice, and draw an equitable conclusion upon this measure, will require the most dispassionate judgment, and the sacrifice of selfish considerations of no trifling moment. Let the fullest justice be done, however, though I the execution of their duties.

School of the same and the first and specific

the spirit of vengeance be sacrificed, and trea on, in a measure, seems to escape its impend-

One thing must not be forgotten. We are sitting in judgment in our own course. Judge and jury are ours. Shall we deny our brother the benefit of counsel? Shall we withhold from him an impartial trial, or refuse to give him the persets to be defined as a second benefits to be derived from doubtful charges Can we so far overcome our prejudices, bary our anger, and forget the past with, its contention and blood, as to weigh this question with the impartial scales of Justice, and return as fair a verdet as though our relations to the ease were unsettish? Let us, at least, attempt the difficult task.

Treason is a crime, says the law, and should suffer the penalty affixed to it. True; and in-famous beyond measure when samed at the life of such a Government But does the adjust-ment here proposed design such punishment? No. It proposes rather to excuse the many, and immolate the few whom the multitude esteem and honor. We would suggest whether the acceptance of such terms by the Southern peo-ple would not be in the highest degree ungenerous and dishonorable?

It would be well for us to consider the real causes of the Rebellion, and the purposes for which it was waged. Had there been no slavery there would have been no Rebellion. This will not be denied. It was to perpenante the insti-tution that first induced the dreadful experi-ment, which has resulted in its final subjuga-A life of association with the institution had taught its votaries to look upon it a patriarchel, and indispensable to their wel-fare; and yet it was evident to all, both North and South, that sooner or later the black evil must have succumbed to the onward murch o liberal ideas in the North. His all being in itviewing it as the foundation of his domestiprosperity (whether correctly or not), it was natural that he should seek to devise some escape from its pending destruction. Separation seemed to him the only panacea. We are en deavoring to view the question from the South ern standpoint—to see it as he saw it, and to divine, it possible, the real motives which impelled him to the mad scheme. It is only

thus that we can arrive at an impartial verdic Circumstances, in a great measure, favored the undertaking, and promised final success. The eleven States which were to constitute the new Government were compact in geography. The right in one or several scattered States to secode from the rest might seem unjust and unwarrantable. This appeared different with the increase of population and accorraphical consolidation; and, guided by strong, selfish suggestions of a promising future as the result of independence, the beneats to flow from laws according with sectional interest and feelings. they ventured on the fearful hazard of war, believing, doubtless, that the victory would be a bloodless one. The design was selfish; such is invariably the policy of States. Viewing the question from a similar impulse, but one thing was to be thought of on our part-to crush the attempt at every hazard. A consummation of the neasure proposed would have worked incalculable mischief to the nation. To reason was to rebel. The question was not to be discussed but in Cabinet secresy. To crush the monster evil was the only consideration, at whatever expense it might cost. To the Southerners it was a war for Southern indepen-To us it was simply rebellion - an

attempt upon the very life of the Government.

As year followed year in the bloody struggle, and the end drew nigh, and exhaustion was overtaking the weakened force of the Confede racy, passion grew more inflamed, exasperation intensified, until the Rebellion was made to bite the dust at the bidding of our victorious

Treason is a crime. So said the English law; and in the prejudiced eyes of Englishmen, ours was most odious. Had we been overcome by the British lion, the heads of our beloved patrious might have been severed, to pay the penalty of their odious crimes. To us it was glorious, for ours was the cause of independence, sanctified by the injustice which drove us to it as the only aternative. However dif-ferent may be the case of the misguided Southerner, yet, we would ask, may be not claim some consideration on credit of his sincerity in the cause, to him, of Southern independence? Should this not weigh something against the odiousness of his acts, and mitigate

the punishment proposed? We would not counsel forgetfulness of the past, with its new-made graves, its legions of dead sacrificed in delense of Union and liberty. Nor would we counsel charity to the sacrifice of great national advantages. But we would dare to be just to our offending brother, unbiassed by passion or selfish considerations, and so hasten the glory which must surely follow a permanent reconciliation. We must not fail to remember that the South has sufferedhave they paid the debt of their great folly. Their dead outnumber ours. Their widows are without comfort, and their orphaus without brend, and they are powerless to relieve and recompense the wounded, whose cries come hourly to them for aid. The plough share of war has turned their rich soil, and the torch has swept their habitations from the earth. Their riches have departed, and in many places beggary and starvation stare them in

They are still our brethren, however, destined to continue in the national household with us to the end. Henceforth we are to abide with each other, trade with each other, and, it may be, fight together against the common foe. Did they number but a few hundreds, we might safely consider the propriety of severe ment; but they number some eight millions of Can we afford to continue the animosity

of so large a part of our common population The prosperity of the country is suffering for seace between the sections, while we are concending about a question which at best can yield us no good result. What if they are forced to submit unwillingly, have we accomplished the the end desired? Permanent reconstruction must include a full and hearty reconcilia-tion—the institution of good-will and a better understanding of the people, whose uncalled-for antagonisms have worked so much of evil in the past. Let us rejoice that the great cause of all our heart-burnings and jealousies is no more, and hasten to forget and forgive the erring, and with one accord struggle for the prize awaiting

Let us have peace, that the tide of emigration Southward may set in, as it surely will. Let us have a full reconciliation, that science may appropriate the riches of Southern soil to the common prosperity. Let us have a lasting reunion, that the waste lands of this promising paradise may be turned into lucrative farms, ood and raiment be cheapened, and the whole land be blessed with the consequent return of fereign gold,

Not one sixty fourth of the Southern territory as, thus far, been brought under cultivation. The largest yield of cotton, which was in 1860, was five million bales. The capacity of Texas alone, if fairly cultivated, would yield double this amount. With slavery abolished, and the acquisition of population, improved machinery, and scientific effort, who can fully estimate the mighty results? In the production of coston under such improved stimulus, we would be with out competitors in the great markets of the

The great war from which we have just emerged was the natural result of long-existing antagonisms. Let us so complete the work of djustment that every cause for such evil in the uture be banished. Let it be a hearty reunion, in which ail can freely join, and the blessings which must follow such a result will amply repay us for any sacrifice of feeling which we make to secure it.

Thank God for the unspeakable results of the war! Slavery is no more. We have a money system equal to the demands of our own age, and answering all the people's wants. We have illustrated to the world the mighty power of self-government to sustain itself under the most fearful emergency; and henceforth we will be one people—a Union in fact, one and indivisible.

A REPUBLICAN.

A Newspaper Idea.—A society entitled "The Newspaper Press Defense Association" is in course of formation in England, its object being to assist proprietors and editors of newspapers in repulsing unjust attacks incurred by them in MISCELLANEOUS.

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TO CONTRACTORS AND MINERS.-THE Commissioners on the Troy and Greenfield ad and Hoosac Tunnel, acting for the State of March next, for Excavating said Tunnel at three different sections of that work.

This Tunnel, when completed, will be about 45; miles in length, extending from the town of Florida, through the Hoosac Mountain, to the town of North

Adams.

The Eastern End has been penetrated from the grade of the Ralirond 5500 feet, 2400 feet of which consist of an opening of about 10 cubic yards to each lineal foot, the same to be enlarged to a section containing 1800 feet being heading—now measuring upon an average 4 cubic yards per running foot—to be enlarged to the full section; making some 35,000 cubic yards to be removed. be removed.

A further section of the work will also be let to the successful bidder for the above-named enlargement, if satisfactory terms shall be offered.

The Western End is worked from a shaft 318 feet deep. The easterly heading from this shaft—of about six cubic yards to each lineal foot—extends 1100 feet, and is to be enlarged to a section coutaiting 17 yards per foot, requiring the removal of 12,000 cubic yards. Bids for that amount, and for an extension in either direction of the heading and enlargement at this point, will be received. t, will be received.

1. (will be received.

1. (Futral End of an elliptical form, 27 to 15 feet,

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Buildings, machinery, and means of ventilation, all of the most substantial character, have been provided, and will be furnished to contractors.

Ample sureties will be required from parties who may be contracted with, and the Commissioners reserve the right to reject all offers that may be made. Plans and specifications may be seen on application to ALVAH CROCKER, at the Engineer's Office, North Adams, Massachusetts; and other information may be obtained from JAMES M. SHUPE, Room No. 18, No. 18 Exchange street, Boston, to whom proposals may be directed.

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Gray, connecting with GOLLIEN AGE, Capt. Landge.

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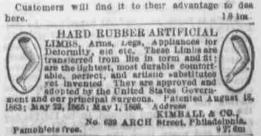
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