the people of this country. The part that

Mister Butler took in those proceedings is well

known and it is also remembered that, not-

withstanding the vindictive feeling of the

members and Senators against the President,

a feeling that was capable of influencing them

been puffed into magnificent proportions had the impeachment trial proved a su cess.

In order to nip Mister Butler's lofty aspira-

ions in the bud, a few of the Senators could

sacrifice the pleasure of persecuting the Presi-

dent, and he was acquitted. To Benjamin F.

Butler he is indebted for the safety of his offi-

cial head, and now that Benjamin has come

As a cheeky proceeding it does not approach

he attempt to secure a surrender of Fort

Fisher by his powder explosions, or to envelop

transporting the plate and valuables of the

New Orleans in an atmosphere of loyalty by

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Grant and Congress.

From the Neshut le Union General Graut has put his foot down and declared that he will not permit the Presidency to be a pair of stocks. His requirement for the repeal of the civil tenure law is a requirement involving the restoration of the Executive office to its former force and its former freedom. His declaration for the Forty-first Congress to meet h m, at the threshold of his administration is nothing less than a bid for a new alliance, and an announcement of a new departure. His quixotic, but perhaps sincere, intentions for economy of administration show an animus, if not a capacity, to stop the torrent of extravagance and corruption which has flowed as vital sap through the party and stimulated it to its monstrous growth.

These three things mark at present the little spring which is to widen into a mighty river of contentior. To be sure, the last, a desire for economy, is only an aspiration. But General Grant is a very practical man, and his aspirations soon find opportunity for realization. If he attempts, as he will, to realize this one, he will break, by having to break with his party. Look, for instance: an exposure of the revenue frauds and their stoppage in New York impoverishe and antagonize Morgan, Bailey, Shook, and all the rest of the ring of whisky and Federal and State officials. Even a hostile or critical attitude towards the Pacific Railroad ring impoverishes and antagonizes Pomeroy, Drake, Cole, Corbett, Williams, Conness, Thayer, Tipton, Ramsey, I. Don-nelly, Gorham, Loan, Rice of Arkansas, and half a hundred other leaders who control the party from west of the Mississippi "as far for quantity" as the Pacific Ocean.

Even a decent respect for the opinion of such mankind as Trumbull, Fessenden, Fowler, Henderson, and Grimes antagonizes all the Butlers, Binghams, Chandlers, Forneys, Sumners, Wades, Howards, Yateses, and Ramseys of the party, while a deference to these latter estrange the anti-impeachment radicals, and those, more sensible, who have come to agree with them, the Mortons, Shermans, Frelinghuysens, Couklings, and Morrills of the organization.

Collectively speaking, the sudden stamp upon the Civil-tenure law has started the whole party and disaffected two-thirds of them in advance.

Franking Frauds. From the Chicago Repub ican.

The surprising developments which have been made since attention was called to an individual case of fraud on the Post Office Dspartment, by the use of a stamp counterfeiting the signature of a certain Congressman, indicate the stupendous prostitution to which the franking privilege has been subjected. Evidences go to show that the forgeries are not confined to any one city, or even one State, but are in vogue in various commercial centres in various portions of the Union, partionlarly at the East. It is impossible, of course, to estimate with precision the losses which the postal revenues have sustained from this species of swindling, but probably \$100,000 would be under rather than over a due allowance. How long this surreptitious conveyance of mail matter has been going on is not known; but the unblushing effrontery which characterizes the crime, and the extensive scale upon which it has been committed, favor the idea that the practice is not of recent

The whole subject deserves a searching unsparing investigation at the hands of Congress; and offenders, whenever discovered, should be brought to condign punishment. One of the first duties which Senate and House owe both to themselves and the country on reassembling is to appoint a special committee, several or joint, to ferret out these frauds upon the department. There have not been wanting persons who have more than hinted that the forgeries have been connived at by corrupt post-office officials in some in-stances, and in others by members of the National Legislature. If there is any truth in such allegations, the guilty parties should not be permitted to escape; if there is none, then it is equally desirable that no unjust imputation should be allowed to taint the characters of innocent persons. Another duty of Congress, made plain and imperative by these recent developments, is to place the franking privilege under such restrictions that frauds will become impracticable. It is just such leaks in the revenues, external and internal, that swell the volume of taxes to be laid. Every dollar due to the Government, that is not collected, creates a deficit which must be made up from the pockets of the honest and law-abiding classes of the community, who are most deserving of protection.

Congressional Jobs.

From the N. Y. Herald.

The Fortieth Congress has but two months more existence, and looking at its past history and at the vast budget of jobs before it and those in process of incubation, we fear the Treasury and the tax-payers will be made to sweat before it expires. The railroad, tariff, bondholders, bank, and numerous ether rings are preparing for a grand onslaught upon Congress and the Treasury. Since the war com-menced tens and hundreds of millions have been appropriated and squandered in the most reckless manner. Even in the fourth year of peace the expenditures of the Government have been kept up to an ordinary war figure. Congress has been so accustomed to lavishly appropriate vast sums for everything, that it seems incapable of understanding the word economy or of returning to anything like the economical expenditure of former times. In fact, it has become utterly demoralized in the matter of expenditure.

Without reckoning the interest on the public debt, the sums appropriated for the current expenses of the Government amount to four times what was expended nine years ago. Does any one believe this is necessary? Do we not all know that this is most reckless and monstrous extravagance? The rings and the lobby, which are bent upon thrusting their hands deep into the Treasury, know by experience how demoralized Congress is, and will make hay while the sun shines. We may expect, therefore, at the heel of the session. amidst the confusion of business, a rush of bills for all sorts of jobs and under every conceivable disguise. All the buncombe speeches at out economy amount to nothing, and will be used, probably, to deceive the people while members and the rings are putting through

- their plundering schemes.

There may be some few broad national pro jects for which Government aid may be lent, but it should and can be done in such a way as not to be a burden on the Treasury. The Pacific Railroad was one of them. Every citizen is interested in the great work. The whole country will be commonly benefited. But that is no reason why the numerous other railroad schemes now before Congress should be constructed by Government aid. Nor is there any reason why the Government should not take

the most s'rivgent measures to have the aid to the Pacific Railroad refunded. Another From the N. Y. Tribune. great work may be mentioned, perhaps, as justifying similar aid under proper security for repayment—that is, a telegraph line to con-nect Asia with America. The vast and rich trade of China and Asia generally could be turned to and across this continent by that means. In fact, such telegraphic communication is necessary as a complement to the Pacific Railroad and our steam navigation scross the Pacific Ocean. The advantages to this country and to every citizen in it would be incalculable. Besides these two great works there is hardly anything else to which Corgress should lend its aid in the present state of the finances and of the country. The numerous bills for railroads and other local jobs ought to be unceremoniously kicked out. Retrenchment and economy in every department of government should be demanded, and the current expenses ought to be out down fully one half before the Fortieth Congress expires. Should Congress be disposed to continue its reckless extravagance, and rush jobs through which are before it at the heel of the session, Mr. Johnson could not end his Presidential term with more glory than to put his foot down on such legislation. Knowing that General Grant is for reform, the rings will make extraordinary efforts this session, and therefore it behooves the present Executive to watch and frustrate their schemes as far as he has the power. It is to be hoped there may be a better state of things under the new administration and new Congress.

General Grant and His Relations to the Civil Service.

From the N. Y. Times.

The holidays are over and the Government machine at Washington resumes its work. Congress reassembles to-day; the clerks of the various departments will again be at their desks; and, what is more important than all, General Grant has returned to the capital. For, although he holds no official position but that of an officer in the army, and has nothing whatever to do with any branch of the civil administration, no one can fail to see that he is regarded by the country as the central figure of the whole nation—as the pivot on which the Government will turn for a long time to come.

There is in the country a widespread feeling of apprehension and alarm. Each section has. of course, its own special reasons for misgiving and fear. But above and beyond these local and special apprehensions, there is a general impression that our public affairs are, on the whole, in a bad way-and that none but very vigorous and resolute measures will put them right. We have an enormous debt, and the steps taken to lighten the burdens which it imposes are feeble and inadequate. The collection of the vast revenues of the nation is fittul, partial, and tainted with corruption. Public service has come to be almost synonymous with public fraud. The idea of seeking or filling office for the honor it confers or the reputation to be won by an able and upright performance of its duties, has almost died out of the public mind.

Office is sought now as a means of wealthfor the opportunities it affords for public plunder; and the number of men seeking it with such views, and by such means as are required, is increasing year by year with frightful rapidity. The curse which cripples Spain in her efforts at progress, and which is at once the attendant and precursor of a corrupt and decaying State, threatens our young and vigorous nation. In spite of our energy and of the boundless field for private effort open to all, we are becoming a nation of politicians. An enormous army of office-seekers -increasing in numbers and in audacity-is growing up among us, dependent on getting and keeping the offices through which the

administration of the Government is carried on. And everywhere we find a new development of the 'Ring' power—the power by which the few, acting in close combination, enlisting support by the use of money, of position, of patronage, and every form of public and private influence, virtually control the action of the various departments of the Government and compel obedience to their behasts. In every branch of effort depending on the action of the Government, and receiving from it, directly or indirectly, large sums of money, "rings" are found to be the real authority. In the Indian Department, in rail-road grants, steamship subsidies, the collection of the whisky or the tobacco tax, in the tariff regulations—in short, in every form and phase of public action, these small, compact, systematic organizations are found at the sources alike of the legislative and executive power, shaping and controlling their action, and constituting the real, effective government of the country.

The disastrous effect of such a state of things is felt everywhere—not only in its immediate losses to the public treasury, but in lowering the tone of public morals and in degrading and demoralizing the public service. It tends to make office-holding the least respectable of all positions, whereas it ought to be the most

Whether with or without reason, the country looks to General Grant to remedy this state of things. His integrity of purpose, his single-minded regard for the public honor and welfare, and his complete and unique disinterestedness inspire a general confidence in his desire to correct the evil, while the unexampled hold he has on the public confidence. and the readiness of all classes and all parties to applaud and uphold him in every effort he may make for the accomplishment of that end, give him advantages for undertaking it which no other President for many years has enjoyed.

The whole country expects to see General Grant enter, at his accession, upon a bold, resolute, and determined crusade against the corruptions and abuses of the Government; and the bolder and more resolute he makes it, the more completely will he be sustained.

But he ought not to be hampered or fettered at the outset in the measures he may deem essential to the work. The Tenure-of-Office bill-just as it is in some of its principles-ought not to stand in his way. It unquestionably deprives him of the power he needs for the reforms which the country requires. Every department of the public service is filled by men incompetent for their duties or dishonest in their performance. But he cannot get rid of one of them without the previous assent and concurrence of the Senate. There is no reason whatever why this state of things should sontinue, nor is there any good reason why the Senate should desire to retain this power in its hands. Under the Constitution, the Senate has a large and important share in the Executive power of appointment. Now that we have a President in political accord with the Senate, that body ought to be content with the power it enjoys under the fundamental law of the land.

The Tenure-of-Office bill ought to be repealed. General Grant should be left entirely free to undertake and execute such reforms in the civil service as its necessities require. If Congress sees the wisdom of making good behavior the sole tenure of office, let it adopt Jenokes' Civil Service bill. But until some general provisions of this sort are adopted, General Grant should have the full power over appointments and removals which the Constitution gives him.

"Let Us Have Peace."

A goodly number of the leading "Conservatives" of Virginia have been holding a conference at Rickmond, and have concluded that they will make no further opposition to impartial suffrage, if coupled with universal annesty. When we state that John B. Baldwin of Augusta, the Hon. A. H. H. Stuart (Mr. Fillmore's Secretary of the Interior) Thomas S. Flournoy (who was the "American" candidate for Governor against Henry A. Wise), Wyndham Robertson, Esq., George W. Bolling, General John Echols, James F. Johnson, and Frank G. Ruffin are among those who participated in this conference and concur in its conclusions, we say enough to convince intelligent men that the better, and we think the more numerous, portion of the late Rebels are represented therein. A committee of nine, chosen in good part from those named above, was appointed to visit Washington, and solicit action in accordance with these views.

We profoundly trust that a hearty welcome will be extended to this deputation by the Republicans in Congress. It may be that the plan which they submit will require modifications; and we urge that those who may see fit to demur to it shall also be accorded a patient hearing. We only insist now, as we have so often insisted already, that the bearers of an olive branch are always to be received with courtesy and heard with an earnest desire to find their proposals admissible. So much is but the simplest dictate of that faith which blesses peace-makers and affirms the essential brotherhood of the human race. So much, we cannot doubt, will be freely accorded.

But our wishes and hopes take a wider range. We ardently desire to see the whole American people once more united in aspiration and affection. We have had a tremen dous, bloody, desolating civil war. It has covered the whole land with victims and mourners. We would most gladly have averted that war at any sacrifice but that of human liberty. But slavery said, "Divide with me the Federal Territories, or I will divide the country against you." The Republic nobly answered, "I will not divide with you the Territories, and you shall not divide the country." On the issue thus made up slavery made war, which the Republic accepted, and lought it out to the end, as it was in duty bound to do.

Slavery and Rebellion are dead. The integrity and paramount authority of the Union are established beyond cavil. The very last throe of the Rebel spirit was the effort to consign the blacks to perpetual vassalage as a legally inferior, powerless race. This we have resisted and defeated. The present action of the Virginia Convention is a natural consequence of General Grant's election.

It will be said that the enfranchisement of the blacks is secured, no thanks to the conservatives, and that they propose to make terms when they have no course left open save submission. But that is a false conclusion, founded on a superficial view of the case. It is probably true that we can carry suffrage for the blacks of Virginia over the heads of the conservatives. But what is won by a party victory may subsequently be lost by a party defeat; whereas impartial suffrage, once estab lished by agreement between parties hitherto at variance, is placed under the moral guarantee of their mutual good faith. Suppose the enfranchisement of the blacks of Virginia carried through the disfranchisement of a portion of the leading conservatives; every year will see a portion of those conservatives pass off the stage, while their sons rise up to take their places-sons fully imbued with their passions, embittered by years of proscription, yet not themselves subject to that proscription: who can fail to see that our defeat and prostration is merely a question of time, and not of long time either?

Virginia has to day a population of about one million of whites to half a million blacks. In 1900 she will probably have three millions of whites to less than one million blacks. He who would expose the latter to the reproach of having kept the ablest and most intelligent tenth of the whites disfranchised, or even merely ineligible to office, so long as they could, may be a zealous friend of the blacks, but he surely is not a considerate, discreet one. Of those who took part in the Rebellion, a very large share "went with their State," be cause they deemed it chivalrous and fraternal to do so, without at all concurring in the

necessity or the wisdom of secession. They went into the war as they would have esponsed brother's quarrel, without considering the ustice of his cause so long as his life was in danger. Nearly all these, with thousands of original and repentant secessionists, now echo General Grant's aspiration, "Let us have peace." They have had strife and destruction to their hearts' content. They want to stop fruitless wrangling with their neighbors and cavilling at the acts of their Government, and return to building, planting, clearing lands, and starting mills and factories. They see as clearly as we do that antagonism between the white and black races in their States is ruin to both, and they mean to have an end of it forthwith. It will be a blunder as well as a crime on our part if their new access of

anity is not generously responded to. We hope to see a Constitutional amendment tramed and adopted which will couple universal amnesty with impartial suffrage, and make them a part of our fundamental law. Of course, the Republicans of West Virginia, Missouri, and Tennessee will not like to be voted down in their respective States, or in portions thereof, by the now disfranchised kebels; but no more will the now dominant Rebels of Maryland, Kentucky, and Delaware relish the enfranchisement of their black neighbors. No comprehensive settlement of a great contreversy ever did or ever can help exciting some local grievances, real or imaginary, as in this case. Statesmen will disregard selfish and short-sighted clamor in the contemplation of general, enduring re-

"Agree with thine adversary quickly, while thou art in the way with him," is a most wise injunction. Where no vital principle, no dictate of honor or duty, is involved, he who concedes most to secure an adjustment will do better than though he higgled and stickled for the utmost that could possibly be exacted. Friends in authority at Washington! if it be safely possible, "let us have peace!"

Seeking His Reward.

brom "Brick" Pomeroy's N. Y. Democrat. Benjamin F. Butler, M. C. from Massachusetts, the Washington despatches have told us, acted the part of toady at President Johnson's New Year reception to a considerable and significant extent. The conduct of Benjamin F Butler, M. C , upon that occasion, was the subject of some comment; and it is the conclusion among those who have "put their heads together" that the redoubtable hero of Fort Fisher and the woman order is seeking the assistance of the President to punish some of those holding Government positions in Massachusetts, and who did not assist Benjamin

F. Butler to secure his M C. degree. Generally, this will be thought a very impudent movement on the part of Batler, but it is really far from it. The proceedings and result of the impeach-

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FINANCIAL.

UNION PACIFIC to a severe persecution of Mr. Johnson, he was only saved from conviction because of the intense hatred felt for Butler, who would have

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First Mortgage Bonds for his reward, it cannot be thought at all im-AT PAR.

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ROAD HAS BEEN WELL CONSTRUCTED. AND THE GENERAL ROUTE FOR THE LINE EX-CEEDINGLY WELL SELECTED. The energy and perseverance with which the work has been urged forward and the rapicity with which it has been executed are without parallel in history, and in gran' deur and magnitude of undertaking it has never been equalied." The report concludes by saying that "the country has reason to congratulate itse'f that this areat work of national impor ance is so rapidly approaching completion under such favorable suspices." The Company now have in use 1s7 lucomotives and nearly 2000 cars of all de criptions. A large additional equipment is ordered to be read) In the Spring. The grading is nearly completed, and ties distributed for 120 miles in advance of the western end of the track. Fully 120 miles of iron for new track are now delivered west of one Missouri kiver, and 90 miles more are en route. The total expenditures for construction purposes in advance of the completed portion of the ro d is not less than

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