

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS

From the N. Y. Herald.

SHALL VIRGINIA COME IN?

Many subjects will be pressed upon the attention of Congress forthwith, yet we deem none of them more important or more urgent than the restoration of Virginia to her proper place in the councils of the Republic.

We know what can be said—much of it with truth, and with plausibility—against unconditional admission. It is quite true that many Virginians firmly believe that they were right in resisting the authority and arms of the Union.

When the Parliament and people of England expelled James II and called William III over from Holland to fill the throne which Parliament had declared vacant, there were many whose judgment and consciences revolted at the national decision.

Certainly, no such was made. Present and future loyalty any established government has a right to exact of all subject to its sway; it cannot justly require them to renounce and undo the past.

Suppose England had kept the Highlands under martial law so long as an one remained who deplored the result of the battle of Culloden and sighed for the return of "Charlie over the water," what would have been the probable effect?

We have a perfect right to take all reasonable precautions and erect all needed barriers against the re-establishment of slavery, in spirit and substance, in any Southern State; we have a right to take all possible care that Unionists shall not be persecuted in Virginia merely because they are Unionists.

Admit that those who would exclude will soon be enfranchised, it is the simplest dictate of good sense and good policy that you should not, like the galley-slave at night, scourged to his dauntless.

IMPORTANT EXHIBIT OF THE CUBAN NEGOTIATIONS.

We submitted to our readers yesterday, in our Washington despatches, a carefully prepared running up of the negotiations between the United States and Spain on the Cuban question since the appointment of General Siskles as our Minister at Madrid.

Although from a mistaken departure, as we think, the initial and successive steps and incidents in these negotiations, as detailed in this statement, make the whole case perfectly clear and consistent in reference to the course pursued by Mr. Secretary Fish and our Minister, and in reference also to the embarrassments of the Spanish Government.

The preliminary proposition of General Siskles on the 3d of September last to the provisional government at Madrid, it thus appears, was simply the friendly offer of the United States in behalf of an amicable settlement between Spain and the Cuban revolutionists.

We are, then, on the Cuban question reduced to the alternative of awaiting the establishment of a strong government in Spain. When will that be? This is a question hard to answer; but as the Spanish Government pro tem. has apparently exhausted itself in its efforts to secure an outside volunteer for king or regent, a coup d'etat on the part of General Prim is hourly expected.

General Grant, in other words, has permitted a golden opportunity to slip through his fingers. A little dash would have fixed it. We can see, in all the details of this business, no cause of complaint against General Siskles. On the contrary, in obedience to his instructions, he has acted throughout with remarkable fidelity and discretion, whatever may be said upon small technicalities, which signify nothing.

But what of the Alabama claims? Would not the recognition of Céspedes have been the recognition of Admiral Semmes? Oh, ye of little faith! Oh, that ye knew the age we live in! That recognition of Semmes was the apprehension in the State Department, and, moreover, Mr. Senator Sumner professed to have his misgivings of the maintenance of slavery in the Cuban republic.

OUR PRESENT TAXATION INIMICAL TO DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

In pressing the duty upon Congress of reducing taxation, whether under the internal administration or the tariff, it must be remembered that this journal is speaking, not on a matter of theory, but upon stern facts which press upon every individual. The great middle class of consumers—the lawyers, physicians, clergymen, moderate merchants, mechanics and farmers—know how severely the present state of things presses upon their means; how difficult it is now, at the end of the year, "to make both ends meet."

system, and why it is an indispensable condition, even to resumption, that we should be relieved of some of these taxes.

If some of these heavy burdens laid upon all consumers were "protecting" a native industry, so that soon we should have a product cheaper, and were building up thus a domestic manufacture and a home market for agriculture, we as consumers might have some consolation for the load we were forced to carry.

We are running in debt to foreign nations about \$200,000,000 per annum. Every year this country is less able to pay this great indebtedness. We cannot manufacture at sufficient profit to be able to export our own products.

These instances could be multiplied by the scores, where taxation direct and indirect has eaten out the vitals of our industries. Expenses of production are rendered so heavy that we cannot compete with foreign countries, while every one is paying a useless tax.

THE INJUSTICE DONE MRS. STOWE.

A good woman, of heroic labors in behalf of many great endeavors, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe deserved far better at the hands of liberal American newspapers than she has received. Certainly whatever her verbalness, or her feebleness of argument, or her faults of style, all of which have been so freely charged against her by some articles and books, she did not deserve the contumely, ridicule, and misrepresentation which a large portion of these journals have recently thrown at her.

For Mrs. Stowe may have shown bad taste in publishing her stories about Byron at all. If so, in that degree, she may be condemned. But she sincerely believed she ought to do so. Of this, no one who appreciates her character can doubt, and the all of which she assigns for the step are at least plausible.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK.

The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day of January, 1870, between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M.

OFFICE OF WELLS, FARGO & COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Transfer Books of this Office will be closed on the 24th day of JANUARY, at 10 o'clock A. M., after which time the \$5,000,000 new stock will be delivered.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN MERCHANTS' UNION EXPRESS COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the American Merchants' Union Express Company have this day declared a dividend of THREE DOLLARS (\$3) per share on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD OF CALIFORNIA.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Central Pacific Railroad of California, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF THE HOUSTON AND TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Houston and Texas Central Railway Company, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD OF CALIFORNIA.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Central Pacific Railroad of California, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF CALIFORNIA AND OREGON RAILROAD.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the California and Oregon Railroad, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF THE BELLEVILLE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Belleville Manufacturing Company, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF THE DIAMOND COAL COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Diamond Coal Company, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the City Treasurer, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

SHAMOKIN COAL COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Shamokin Coal Company, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

EAST MAHANOA RAILROAD COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the East Mahanoa Railroad Company, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

SUSQUEHANNA CANAL COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Canal Company, do hereby declare a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, payable on the 15th day of January next.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD OF CALIFORNIA.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Central Pacific Railroad of California, will be held at the Banking House on the 12th day of January, 1870, at 11 o'clock A. M.

GOODS FOR THE LADIES.

BRIDAL, BIRTHDAY, AND HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

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