WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

President Grant — U. S. currency Rule—The Reduction of the clerical Force—Department of the Interior and the Indians—Patents—Land Surveys.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 9, '70

We of late are so unaccustomed to see President Grant in Washington, that a notice of his returning home creates no inconsiderable interest among the news seekers. As was expected, the President arrived here yesterday morning accompanied by General Porter, his private Secretary, and called upon Secretaries Robeson Fish, Robeson, and Cox, and General Schriver, acting Secretary of War, and Judge Richardson, now acting Attorney General in the absence of Mr. Akerman. At noon, a Cabinet meeting was convened and lasted nearly three hours. The war between Prussia and France occupied nearly the whole of the session, and it is rumored that Secretary Fish has been instructed to offer a friendly meditation of the United States for a settlement of the present difficulties.

It is expected that the President will leave on the late train for Long Branch, where he will remain, until the first of October, when he will return again to Washington, to remain here until the next Long Branch season begins.

A rule was adopted in the Treasury nearly four years ago of deducting from mutilated U. S. Currency a percentage equal to the parts missing. Under this rule it has been arbitrary with the Treasurer of deducting proportionally from any note that perchance might have a corner, however small, torn off. It has never been the custom, however, to enforce such exactions until lately, when the cashier of the First National Bank of Baltimore, transmitted to the U. S. Treasury for redemption a $20 U. S. note, having a small corner torn off, and received in return only $19, with an explanation of the Treasurer that this course is now pursued to protect the Treasury from fraud and keep the circulating notes in good order. Notwithstanding the impression of many that the enforcement of the above rule has been in force, and, in consequence, many store keepers have made such deductions from the face value of such notes, it is now become a matter fact, that only in a few instances has the Department ever made such exactions. Their custom has been under the suggestion of Secretary McCulloch to redeem for the entire face of the note when more than one-half of the original note was presented and refused to redeem any portion less than one-half, and in cases where exactly a half note was presented, to redeem for one-half of the original notes.

There seems to be an indiscribable disposition among people generally, when they get ready to start on a journey to take the nearest and quickest route to their destination without taking one thought about comfort and pleasure. Washington, the fashionable resort, as well as the political centre of the nation, is favored, as yet, with but one railroad leading out of it, either north or south, and the throngs of visitors coming here yearly have no alternative, if they travel by rail, but to travel on these roads. There are now running out of the District cities twice a week, the Merchants' line of steamers for New York, running down the Potomac, around the Cheanpeake Bay into the ocean, and the Upper and Lower Bay of New York harbor. Many of the pleasure excursionists north, are this season availing themselves of this opportunity of taking a sea breeze snuff in going and returning from the mountains and lakes.

Another route, to be known, I believe, as the Washington and Boston steamship line, will be in operation in the first of next month, which proposes to make a round trip between Washington and Boston in 8 days. Such is the enterprise of Washington in these days.

The Census Bureau is getting along finely. The force, although yet incomplete, are keeping up wonderfully well, the work received from the different marshal districts throughout the country. The Bureau expects soon to be able to chronicle to the country the population of our largest cities. With a few single exceptions as yet, there has been but partial returns from them. Washington, for instance, is concluded and reports a population of 111,000 inhabitants against 60,000 in 1860. The impetus given by the war doubtless has something to do with this extraordinary increase in the last ten years, but strange to note that since the war has closed and the departure of the thousands of transient business men from the city, the resident population is steadily on the increase, and property in and around the city has depreciated but little from the paper inflation of war times. This is partly owing, it is thought, to emigration from the north into Maryland and Virginia around Washington.

Delaware stands ahead in the most nearly completed reports of any State in the Union. The whole State, with the exception of Milford and Mispelion which reported 9,305 last census, has been taken and aggregates 114,934, against 102,911 in 1860, an increase of nearly 12 per cent.

Maryland, the most backward in her reports, out of twenty-four subdivisions into which the State is divided, but five have, as yet, reported. This is, perhaps, owing to an indisposition among many of her people who are semi secessionists to aid the enumerators in the performance of their duties.

It is quite important for your readers to know, that by a late decision of the acting Commissioner of the Internal Revenue, all written or printed evidence of amount of money due, less than one hundred dollars are equally exempt from stamp duty as promissory notes, under the act of July 1, 1870.

What the long-looked for and eagerly sought after report of Hon. Joseph S. Wilson, of the General Land Office for 1869, is bound and ready for circulation. Although Congress, with its retrenchment proclivities, have illy provided for its general circulation, I am in hopes, Mr. editor, to be able to secure one of them, at least, for your careful perusal. CHIEL.

(For the Argus.)

THE CONTRAST.

MR. EDITOR.—The Democratic party has always been the champion of human slavery in this country. Their statesmen in both branches of Congress have ever since the organization of the party, with but few exceptions, maintained the constitutionality of the institution, and ever claimed for it the sanction of morality and religion. Their press has almost unanimously defended the principle and practice of the institution.

Every book that has been published in support of slavery has been written by a Democrat, or some one reflecting the principles of the party on that disturbing and disastrous element in our political history.

There is not an intelligent man in the country but knows that slavery has been, for many years, the very corner stone of the Democratic party, and to-day there are thousands and hundreds of thousands in that party who would rebuild, if possible, that institution, the destruction of which was the salvation of the Union.

On the other hand, the Republican party has been the great and effective champion of human freedom, and equality before the law for all men. Their statesmen in Congress and their public press have always been found on the side of humanity, of justice, of liberty. When the great conflict came, and it was as clear as the sun in the heavens that the institution of slavery must be forever demolished or the Union itself destroyed, the voice of the Republican party was heard from one end of the land to the other, demanding the immediate and complete annihilation of human bondage, and the immortal Proclamation of Emancipation by the first President of the Republican party, was given to the world, before which it will forever stand as the grandest monument of Abraham Lincoln and the party that elected him.

The Democratic party, under Calhoun, embodied in their system of politics the doctrine of States Rights, a doctrine, as interpreted by them a meaning far more than the simple rights of States under the Constitution and as integral parts of the Union. With them it meant State sovereignty, secession and rebellion, and was most fearfully demonstrated when they took up arms against the government.

This one cardinal principle of the Democratic party, a principle which places the sovereignty of a State above that of the Federal Government was the natural and legitimate parent of the rebellion.

Against this most arrogant and unconstitutional doctrine the Republican party has always contended. They have always held that the sovereignty of a State was subordinate to, and limited by the authority of the general government.

They have always believed that the perpetuity of the Union and the integrity of the government depended upon a just recognition of the superior power of the general government by each of the States as component parts of the same. And now, while the right of secession has for many years and still continues to be a favorite doctrine of a large portion of the Democratic party, it is emphatically denied and denounced by the entire Republican party.

There are thousands of Democrats in the south who still cling to these ideas, and one of their leading statesmen has, since the close of the war, written a book to show that the right of secession still exists, although it may be impracticable at the present time. And there are thousands of Democrats in the north who sympathize with these views, and would rejoice if they could be recognized.

In regard to our public land system the Republican party has always been in favor of a liberal and generous policy. For years they contended for the passage of an act of Congress giving a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres to those who would settle and live for five years thereon. This was a measure that would provide homes for tens of thousands of honest and industrious families who might not have the means to purchase the land even at the Government price.

It is a measure that would result in settling and making productive millions of acres of our uncultivated domain, and thereby adding immensely to the wealth of the nation; and although such would be and has been the necessary result of such a law, still it was opposed by the Democratic party in Congress, and could not become a law until the Republican party gained the ascendency in both the Legislative and Executive branches of the Government.

If there is any one thing of which our magnificent western country may be justly proud, and which has contributed more to the developement of her wonderful resources than anything else, it is her system of railroads; and while the Republican party has been exceedingly liberal in granting lands to aid in the construction of many of these great highways, they have doubled the price of the public land along these lines, so that the Government realizes as much from one-half as it would have done from the whole, and by the construction of these roads the land at $2.50 per acre is far cheaper to the purchaser than it would have been at $1.25 without them.

Then in these two particulars, the Homestead law and liberal grants of land to the States for the construction of railroads, the Republican party has performed services to all parts of the country that must be incalculable in the results that will flow from them.

In regard to our financial standing the contrast between our credit when the Democratic party was in power and what it has been since the Republican party gained the ascendency is most remarkable. During the administration of Mr. Buchanan his Secretary of the Treasury, Howell Cobb, found it impossible to borrow the small sum of $5,000,000 at 12 per cent interest; let it be remembered too that this was in a time of peace, and after they had had the control of the government and management of the finances for many years. Since the Republicans came into power, and right in the midst of a gigantic civil war, they had no difficulty in negotiating loans of more than a thousand millions of dollars, at a rate of interest a little more than half that offered by Mr. Cobb; and to-day, with a debt of more than two thousand millions inflicted upon the country by the Democratic policy, American securities, at home and abroad, are considered among the safest and most desirable in the world.

Another striking contrast is presented to the world in the attitude of these two parties in regard to the payment of the national debt, for while the Democracy does not, as a party, publicly announce repudiation of the debt as one of their principles, still the fact cannot be denied that many individuals of that party are to-day in favor of doing so, and in some parts of the country the measure is already assuming an organized shape. And it is no wonder that it should be so. Do they not have the example of the illustrious (?) ex-President of the defunct confederacy in connection with the Mississippi repudiation in days gone by?

"Not only does the Republican party scout the idea of repudiation, but every member of the same is fully committed to the payment of our national debt, principal and interest, to the uttermost farthing.

These are a few of the prominent features that mark the contrast between the two parties, and it now remains for the people to decide which they will support. It is for them to say whether they prefer the doctrine of State sovereignty, fraught as it is with secession and disunion, or the supreme sovereignty of the general government, guaranteeing strength, security and union. Whether they prefer slavery, wrong and injustice, or freedom, justice and right.

Whether they prefer to see our great public domain converted into homes for the honest and industrious, or reserved for the benefit of the speculator?

Do they prefer the public debt to be paid in good faith, and the national credit transmitted unsullied to posterity, or the alternative, repudiation, with all the disgrace and dishonor attendant thereon, to hereafter hang like a dark cloud over the fair fame of our land?

These questions must be answered at the polls, and we feel confident that the voice of the people will be as it has been for the last ten years, an emphatic endorsement of the principles and policy of the Republican party. Q.

—The special correspondent of the *Tribune*, at Rueims, writing on the 6th, says: The King's headquarters were established here yesterday, and are to remain till the 8th, to give all the troops time to concentrate, including what can be spared from Metz, the seven North German corps, besides two Bavarian and the Wurtemburg corps on the road unhindered, according to the official report six full cavalry divisions also. The main force is expected to reach Paris on the 13th or 14th. When the regiments now coming forward arrive, and the reserves also join their regiments, the German army will certainly reach and probably exceed 400,000.

The Oyster season is approaching, and an abundant supply is promised.

New Advertisements.

General Election PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, in and by an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "An Act relating to the election of the Commonwealth," passed the 2d day of July, A. D. 1839, it is made the duty of the Sheriff of every county within this Commonwealth to give public notice of the General Elections, and in such notice to enumerate:

1. The officers to be elected.

2. Designate the place at which the election is to be held.

I, JOHN GRAEBING, High Sheriff of the county of Beaver, do hereby make known, and give this public notice to the electors of the county of Beaver, that

On the 2d Tuesday of October next,

(being the 11th day of the month), a General Election will be held at the several election districts established by law in said county, at which time they will vote by ballot for the several officers hereinafter named; viz:

ONE PERSON for Member of Congress from the Twenty-Fourth District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

THREE PERSONS for the office of Members of the Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ONE PERSON for the office of Prothonotary of the county of Beaver.

ONE PERSON for the office of Commissioner of this county of Beaver.

ONE PERSON for the office of Jury Commissioner of the county of Beaver.

ONE PERSON for the office of Auditor of the county of Beaver.

ONE PERSON for the office of Poor House Director of the county of Beaver.

THREE PERSONS for the office of Trustees of the Academy of the county of Beaver.

The said elections will be held throughout the county as follows, viz:

The electors of Borough township will meet at the brick school-house, in the village of Vanport.

The electors of Bridgewater borough will meet in the Town Hall in Bridgewater.

The electors of Phillipsburg district will meet at the public brick school house in said borough.

The electors of Moon township will meet at the house formerly occupied by Amariah Hendrickson —now by John D. Elliott.

The electors of Hopewell township will meet at the school house in the village of Scottsville, in said township.

The electors of Independence township will meet at the house of Alexander Thompson, dec'd, in said township.

The electors of Raccoon township will meet at the house of David Ewing, in said township.

The electors of Frankfort district will meet at the house of George Dungan, in Frankfort.

The electors of Jackson's district will meet at the house of John Potter, in the village of Hanoverton.

The electors of Georgetown will meet at the house of Elijah Shumaker, in Hookstown.

The electors of Ohio township will meet at the house now occupied by Jamison Elliott, in said township.

The electors of Brighton township (not embracing the district) will meet at the school house, near Richey Eakin's, in said township.

The electors of the borough of Fallston will meet at the Academy in Fallston.

The electors of Patterson township will meet at the school house in the village of Brighton.

The electors of Chippewa township will meet at the house of Hannah Inman, in said township.

The electors of South Beaver township will meet at the house of John Rowe, in said township.

The electors of Darlington township will meet at the Academy in Darlington.

The electors of Big Beaver township will meet at the house of widow Miller, in said township.

The electors of New Sewickley township will meet at the house of Mark H. Clark, in said township.

The electors of North Sewickley township will meet at the house of Nathan Hazen, on land formerly of Benj. Chew.

The electors of Pulaski township will meet at Daugherty's school house, No. 4, in said township.

The electors of Marion township will meet at the house of George Harzell, jr., in said township.

The electors of the middle ward of the borough of New Brighton, will meet at the Carpenter shop of Thomas Miller, in said borough.

The electors of the middle ward of the borough of New Brighton will meet at the school house, in said ward.

The electors of the lower or south ward of the borough of New Brighton, will meet at the Car factory, in said ward.

The electors of Rochester township will meet at the Bolesville school house, in said township.

The electors of the borough of Rochester will meet at the school house in Rochester.

The electors of Freedom Borough and district will meet at the school house in said borough.

The electors of New Sewickley township will meet at the house of John Feazle, in said township.

The electors of Industry district will meet at the school house in Industry.

The electors of Harmony township will meet at the Bird in Economy.

The electors of Economy township will meet at the house of George C. Minnis, in said township.

The electors of the borough of Beaver will meet at the Sheriff's office, in said borough.

The electors of St. Clair borough will meet at the School house, in said borough.

The electors of the borough of Baden will meet at the public school house in said borough.

The electors of New Galilee borough will meet at the school house in New Galilee.

The electors of Beaver Falls borough will meet at the school house in Beaver Falls.

The electors of the borough of Georgetown will meet at the public school-house in said borough.

I make known and give notice, as in and by the 13th section of the aforesaid Act I am directed, "that every person except Justice of the Peace who shall hold any office or appointment of profit or trust under the Government of the United States, or of the State, or any city or incorporated district, whether a commissioned officer or otherwise, a subordinate officer or agent, who is or shall be employed under the Legislative, Judiciary or Executive department of this State or United States, or of any city or incorporated District, and also every member of Congress and of the State Legislature, and of the Select and Common Council of any city, commissioner of any incorporated district, is by law incapable of holding or exercising at the same time the office or appointment of judge, inspector or clerk of any election of this Commonwealth, and that no such judge or inspector or other officer at any such election, shall be eligible to any office then to be voted for."

And, in the fourth section of the Act of Assembly entitled "An Act relating to executions and for other purposes," approved April 16, 1840, it is enacted that the aforesaid 13th section "shall not be so construed as to prevent any militia officer or borough officer from serving as judge, inspector or clerk at any general or special election in this Commonwealth.

"If any person shall prevent or attempt to prevent any officers of an election under this Act from holding such election, or use or threaten any violence to any such officer, or shall intermpt or improperly interfere with him in the execution of his duty, or shall block up the window, or avenue to any window where the same may be holding, or shall riotously disturb the peace at such election, or shall use or practice any intimidating threats, force or violence, with design to influence unduly, or overawe any elector, or to prevent him from voting, or to restrain the freedom of choice, such person on conviction shall be fined in any sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, and imprisonment for any time not less than one month nor more than twelve months, and if it shall be shown by the court where the trial of such offence shall be had, that the person so offending was not a resident of the city, ward, district, or the township where the said offence was committed and not entitled to vote therein, then on conviction he shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than one hundred nor more than one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not less than six months nor more than two years.

"If any person or persons shall make any bet or wager upon the result of any election within this Commonwealth, or shall offer to make any such bet or wager, either by verbal proclamation thereof to, or by any printed or written advertisement, challenge or invite any person or persons to make such bet or wager, upon such election, and he or they shall forfeit and pay three times the amount so offered to be bet.

"If any person shall vote at more than one election district, or otherwise fraudulently vote more than once on the same day, or shall fraudulently fold and deliver to the inspector two tickets together, with the intent illegally to vote, or advise and procure another so to do, he or they shall on conviction be fined in any sum not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned not less than three nor more than twelve months.

"If any person not qualified to vote in this Commonwealth, agreeably to law, (except the sons of qualified citizens,) shall appear at any place of election for the purpose of having ticketed or influencing citizens qualified to vote, he shall, on conviction, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for every such offence, and be imprisoned for any term not exceeding twelve months.

"In case the person who shall have received the second highest number of votes for inspector shall not attend on the day of election, then the person who shall have received the second highest number of votes for judge at the said spring election shall act as inspector in his place; and in case the person who shall have received the highest number of votes for inspector shall not attend, the person elected judge shall appoint an inspector in his place; and in case the person elected judge shall not attend, then the inspector who received the highest number of votes shall appoint a judge in his place; or if any vacancy shall continue in the board for the space of one hour after the time fixed by law for the opening of the election, the qualified voters of the township, ward or district for which such officer shall have been elected, present at the place of election, shall select one out of their number to fill such vacancy.

REGISTRY LAW.

I also give official notice to the electors of Beaver county that by an act entitled "An Act further supplemental to the act relative to the elections of this Commonwealth," approved April 29th, A. D. 1869, it is provided as follows:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same.* That it shall be the duty of each of the assessors within this Commonwealth, on the first Monday in June and each year, to take up the transcript he has received from the county commissioners under the eighth section of the act of the fifteenth of April, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, and proceed to the unfinished portion of the same, by striking therefrom the name of every person who is known by him to have died or removed since the last previous assessment from the district for which he is assessor, or whose death or removal from the same shall be made known to him, and to add to the list the name of any qualified voter who shall be known by him to have moved into the district since the last previous assessment, or whose removal into the district he has reason to believe will make known to him, and also the names of all who shall make claim to him to be qualified voters therein. As soon as this revision is completed he shall visit every dwelling house in the district and make careful inquiry if any person whose name is on his list has died or removed from the district, and if so to take the same therefrom, or whether any qualified voter resides therein whose name is not on his list, and if so to add the same thereto, specifying in a column to be added to the list for that purpose the name of any qualified voter who shall be known by him to have moved into the district,