

CAN we have self respect in the constituencies?" asks a recent writer in an article on "State Constitutions and the Revision of them." The writer goes on to say this is a "more difficult problem," which ought to be by the best wisdom in the commonwealth. This is in reference to the suppositions calling of a constitutional convention in Connecticut; but will apply perhaps as well to those states which have made, or are trying to make, such commendations as seem possible.

How to have a true, honest, self-respecting government; how to have the offices in the gift of the people, valued as positions of honor and responsibility; how to avoid and make reputable the scramble for office and the heedless abuse of it when obtained; these are questions for the constitution makers and for us all. But neither constitutions nor conventions, as such, can do this. Their work is with the national tree as it stands; to trim and top and train its branches, but the axe needs to be laid at the root of the tree, at the foundation of society and of government, and this must be the work of the people in their individual capacity.

To be true, earnest, conscientious ourselves is the way, naturally it appears the only way to be truly, conscientiously represented. Ours being a representative government it is probable that the masses of the people are justly indicated by the legislators and other election officers. Some good and faithful ones there have always been, far more no doubt than many of the complainers would have us believe, and those that are self-seeking and plundering are the fit exponents of the lax virtue and want of principle of those who elect them. Positions that should be, that were intended to be those of honor and trust, lose all the respect they should inspire by being filled by very ignoble persons. But if instead of crying out against these unworthy servants, we question ourselves: Are we living truly, honestly, up to the best light we can attain? Are we faithful in all things as we think they ought to be? Are we teaching the young by precept and example, the constant discharge of every duty public and private? Let us be assured when we are thus zealous ourselves, constitutions will not need very much amending and legislators will not need any iron-clad oaths.

One great cause of dissatisfaction with our public men, is their extravagant expenditure, which requires such high salaries. But here it is very plain that we set the example. They are but doing in their sphere what too many of us do at home. We reach after more and more; we think how we can manage to expand a little here or there instead of trying to find ways to be just as happy and comfortable with a little less.

We are displeased with the President having fifty thousand dollars a year, with which to keep open house to the representatives of all other governments as well as to be the head of a nation of many millions. But, probably one thousand dollars or five hundred, or less, is as much to each of our establishments, that is, for what is really necessary and suitable for us, than fifty thousand is for his.

We must learn simplicity of taste and habits; not merely just what we are compelled to exercise, but something of choice before we shall have the right to object to our employees, going to the measure of their ability in gathering and spending. And while the spending is the proof of the acquiring and the faculty to acquire wealth is considered the most valuable one to possess, there is no help for this, we must begin deeper still to effect a reform and teach ourselves, our children and those about us that there are nobler faculties, worthier occupations and uses for our minds, our labor, our time.

It will take long to sort out political trickery and subserviency to money power, but probably not near so long a time as would at first appear; for there is a great deal of virtue and honor in the land, both in public and private life and as soon as the free choice of the people begins to call for them they will be found. And as soon as we are looking for good instead of evil, we shall be surprised to find how much there is and how near to us, that we had never seen.

BOSTON, Mass., May 8.—Oakes Ames died at North Easton at 9:33 to-night.

Tree Flowers—Forms of Inflorescence.

So many of our forest trees produce and shed their flowers before the leaves appear that we are apt to miss the observation of them; and some blossom only when they get so large and so high that it is difficult to see them or to obtain specimens of them. For the same reason we can not always discover how the seeds are produced, nor just when they ripen.

For the past few days some of the maples around our gardens and many upon the hills, have been showing crimson petals while the elms have hung out their feathery tufts, looking from the almost like tender leaves. The Lombardy poplar has its brown catkins so high in the air that one would fancy them dead leaves, only they that they were not there a little while ago. Another poplar, balm of Gilead, hangs full of yellow tassels which grow longer, greener and more pendulous day by day. The aspen's silky aments have faded and the birches are not yet out.

Who can tell how many varieties of maple and elm, of birch or of poplar we have in this region?

A POET has said "Thou hast all seasons for thy own, O Death, but it seems as though this present Spring—slow as it has been in coming, has borne a more abundant death harvest than any before. Wrecks on the ocean, railroad casualties, bridge and flood massacres are recounted in a few lines of news, telling of the sudden departure of hundreds that we do not know; hundreds of unfamiliar names. But scarcely a paper reaches us that does not bring tidings of the death of some public character, some name associated with our reading; with all that we think of public affairs.

So many of these have occurred since this year came in that we almost dread to take up a paper. Crowned now by the sudden passage to the other life of Chief Justice Chase, we hope this death roll is complete for the present.

Mr. Chase has gone at a good time. With no stain upon his fame, with no enmity hunting him down, with even the accusations and aspersion of a few years ago lived down, he has been happy in his exit and will be happy in his country's memories of him.

TUESDAY night we had a sharp frost, the first for nearly two weeks. Roads are improving but frequent rains prevent repairs, so that in many places the washing out by the floods still remain. Farming and gardening have to go on by snatches in the clear days and road making will have to do the same.

DISSENSION in Louisiana seems to grow with the advancing season. Whether they are all wicked there or not, there seems to be "no peace." It would appear to be the best plan to give up all present officers and aspirants to office and hold a new election. Is there a "coming man" that can quiet this people and hold them tranquil enough to elect new officers honestly?

The latest expedition fitted out to try to reach the open polar sea has been heard from in rather a sad way. Nineteen of the crew of the *Polaris*, which left New York little more than two years ago, were found on the ice-fields and rescued. They had been separated from their companions and the ship in August last—ten white men, two Esquimaux (man and woman) and five children—and had with them quite a supply of provisions. They lived on the ice, so they report, all winter, building snow houses, killing seals and birds. The account seems very strange; the living on ice through such a winter in such a climate does seem impossible, but the people are alive and tell the story. They were found by the steamer *Tyger*, Captain Bartlett, on the 30th of April, in latitude 53° N. and longitude 55° W., having floated to the southwest through 20° of latitude. They were brought to Newfound-land—whence the account is brought to Washington—and given in the papers. There are some discrepancies in the accounts, one giving August and another October as the time of their leaving the ship.

They report the death of the commander, Captain Hall, in November, 1871. He leaves a wife and two children living in Cincinnati, Ohio. The ship when they last saw it was "steaming away" and they expected that it would approach and they would be able to reach it. It is hoped that it may yet return, though

but a small number of men remain on it.

They seem to have penetrated farther north than any vessel has ever gone before. We cut the following from the long account:

Dr. Hayes, the well-known Arctic explorer, who was interviewed yesterday, expresses the opinion that the *Polaris* was unfit for the service and that there was no discipline on board her, but that Captain Hall has proven that Smith's Sound is navigable and is the true pass to the Polar Sea, which he seems to have reached, though driven back by drifting ice-fields or gales of wind. Dr. Hayes can not understand why the ship, when so near Northumberland Island, should have been drawn upon the ice and discharged her cargo upon it. He thinks there was dissension on board and that it looks as though the party cut off from the ship had been determined to leave her.

But Captain Hall has done a glorious thing. He has gone farther north with the ship than any human being ever did before, although others have gone as far in sledges, and the *Polaris* was 219 miles further north than Kane's ship. Hayes says it almost looks as if Hall was killed by one of his men in a mutiny, for he never knew any one dying in that region from apoplexy, and Hall did not look like an apoplectic man. Hayes believes the rest of the crew are yet alive, and that the *Polaris* will return here by September next.

Professor Baird, of the Smithsonian Institute, thinks the expedition fair from a failure, and has no doubt realized many of the objects in view in sending it out.

THE Misses Carpenter, on Allegheny street, established a botanical garden a few years ago. The conservatory is well filled with choice flowers, and it attracts much attention. They sell flowers and bulbs.

The above is in a description of Jersey Shore in the *Lycoming Gazette and Bulletin*.

The Modocs.

The chances for an interminable Indian war are first rate. After the murder of Gen. Canby by Capt. Jack our forces attacked the Modocs in their lava bed strong-hold. They shelled them so vigorously that they finally fled in haste, leaving a number of dead Indians in their hiding places. Our loss was light. Since that time our troops have been busy hunting up the fleeing foe. One account says they have been found in another strong-hold more difficult to approach than the first and other accounts represent them as having escaped entirely. It looks like a bad job at best. In a fair stand-up fight they could of course be exterminated, but in their hiding places among the rocks and caves the task will not be an easy one for Uncle Sam to conquer a permanent peace.

It is not very consoling to think that possibly this murder of Gen. Canby was prompted by ill treatment of our own. The history of the former massacre of Modocs is published by the California papers. It seems that in 1852 North California was disturbed by Indian troubles and a company, under the command of Capt. Benjamin Wright, was organized and proceeded from Yreka to the Indian country around Tule Lake and the lava beds and fought three unsuccessful battles, the force being insufficient for the subjugation of the Modocs. They returned to Yreka and organized a large force, then marched again to the Modoc country. Approaching they found the Modocs' supply of blankets, ammunition and food entirely exhausted, and consequently the Modocs were anxious for a cessation of hostilities. Capt. Wright received the Modocs' overtures with great cordiality, a peace conference was agreed upon and a place appointed in the immediate vicinity of the massacre of Gen. Canby. At the conference about twenty-five Indians and thirty white men were assembled; while discussing terms Wright gave his men the signal and in a moment they killed eighteen Modocs. Seven Modocs escaped and were pursued. These were the fathers of the present Modocs. Capt. Jack was then but nine years old, John Schonchin nineteen, Boston Charley and Hooker Jim two years. It is probable that revenge grew with age, culminating in the Canby-Thomas massacre.

Some years afterwards Wright was appointed Indian agent at Rogue River and was apprehensive of Modoc vengeance. One night an Indian chief, Enos, murdered and terribly mutilated Wright, and was afterwards captured and hanged. He died exulting that he had wreaked vengeance on the leader of the massacre of his tribe.

Chief Justice Chase.

Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, died this morning at ten o'clock at the residence of his daughter in New York city. For several years past, in fact since his elevation to the Supreme Bench, the health of the Chief Justice has been slowly and steadily passing away. His magnificent physique has been reduced to a mere wreck of its former self, and certainly of late he has not been able to perform the full share of judicial labor incident to his position. His capacity for work has been impaired although the keenness of his intellect may have remained undiminished. His disease was of the brain and nervous system, and at times required assistance from all mental labor. Last year

he was under treatment at the Magnetic Springs in Michigan, and his health was considerably improved. This summer he was to have gone to some of the healing springs in the Rocky Mountains, in Colorado Territory, in hopes of securing relief. The suddenness of his death, we presume, was by no means unexpected to his family and more intimate friends, although for several years past there have been constantly put forth far more encouraging statements in regard to his improving health than the facts warranted.

Salmon Portland Chase was born in Cornish, New Hampshire, January 13, 1808. His father died when he was but nine years old and he was aided in obtaining an education by his uncle, Philander Chase, the Episcopal Bishop of Ohio. He studied for college at Worthington, Ohio; entered Cincinnati College, of which his uncle was President, in an advanced standing and subsequently transferred himself to Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, where he graduated in 1826.

He next opened a private school at Washington, D. C., where he had the sons of Henry Clay, William Wirt, Samuel Southard and others for pupils. While teaching he was diligently studying law under the celebrated Wm. Wirt. He was admitted to the bar at Washington in 1830 and practiced at Cincinnati, and between 1832 and 1835 published an edition of the statutes of Ohio with annotations and a preliminary history of the State, in three large volumes. In the year 1840, Mr. Chase then residing in Cincinnati, took a more active part in politics, separating from the Democratic party with which he had been connected, on account of its pro-slavery attitude and supported General Harrison for President. After Harrison's death he took part in the organization of the Liberty party in Ohio.

In 1849, he was elected to the United States Senate by a coalition of Democrats and Free Soilers against the Whig candidate. He was soon recognized as one of the ablest statesmen in the Senate and attracted much attention, in 1854, by his earnest and able opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska bill. In 1855 he was elected Governor of Ohio, and was re-elected in 1857 and held the office until 1860.

He was a warm supporter of the election of Mr. Lincoln in 1860 and in March, 1861, was made Secretary of the Treasury by the President. He took charge of the finances at a time when the public credit was low and a great war immediately impending. He succeeded in maintaining the national credit, and provided all the money needed for the war, even when the expenses of the government exceeded two millions of dollars per day. This was accomplished by the issue of legal tender notes, popularly known as "greenbacks," 7.30 treasury notes, and the 5.20 bonds. It was by his great achievement in this responsible and laborious position that the value of Mr. Chase's services to the nation will be chiefly and rightly gauged.

He resigned the Treasury office, June 20, 1864, and on the 6th of December following was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States in place of Roger B. Taney, deceased. In 1866 he presided over the High Court of Impeachment for the trial of President Johnson and was understood to favor his acquittal.

In 1868, Chief Justice Chase was a candidate before the Democratic National Convention in New York, for the Presidential nomination. In anticipation of his success he prepared a letter seeking to place the Democratic party on the platform of impartial suffrage, but he was four years in advance of that organization and the movement to nominate him failed. Of late years he is understood to have sympathized with the opposition to the Republican party, and last fall was a supporter of Mr. Greeley.

The services of Chief Justice Chase in resisting the demands of the slave power in fostering and strengthening the organization of the Republican party, and the extraordinary abilities he evinced as Finance Minister during the civil war, are the achievements that will form the enduring basis of his fame.

Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel.

We learn from the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad under the city of Baltimore will be completed in about two months. The same journal gives us some interesting details of the work. Twenty-three months ago this great undertaking was begun and has been steadily pressed ever since. It is more than a mile in length, and in its construction enormous difficulties had to be overcome. The route is as follows: "Taking the Northern Central Railway as a base line, double tracks diverge from it, the first at Boundary avenue and the other a few hundred yards further north. They each enter a tunnel and are lost sight of until they emerge into daylight at John street, where they unite and take the main tunnel, following Boundary avenue to Wilson street and then turning into that street, or rather under it, thirty-five feet from the surface, they keep a straight course with the line of the street until the open cut is reached near Fulton avenue. Through trains southward bound will take what might be called the northern fork of the tunnel and the passengers will see but little of the city of Baltimore. Trains which leave the Calvert station and also those that come from the Philadelphia & Wilmington Railroad by the Union road will take the other fork. Of course northern bound trains will take the fork branching to the north at John street and the

trains for Baltimore and Philadelphia will take the southern fork. The connection with the Philadelphia & Wilmington road will be made by the Union Railroad and tunnel, which commences at Belvidere bridge and continues on through the eastern section of the city to lower Canton and tide-water."

NEWS.

A SAN FRANCISCO dispatch states that Gen. Canby's body arrived yesterday from Oregon and the funeral will take place on Wednesday, when the body will be taken to Indianapolis.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The Secretary of the Navy said to-day that from all he could learn the *Polaris* would probably be able to reach some extreme northern port, but if after allowing a reasonable time, she should not do so a vessel would be dispatched in that direction with the object of relief or of obtaining information, if possible, concerning her. The Department will do all in its power for the safe transit to the United States and the comfort of the survivors. The expedition having been fitted out under the direction of the Department, and being still under its charge, the desire to have some of the principal persons visit Washington is for the purpose of officially inquiring into all the facts connected with the expedition since it left the United States.

THE remains of Judge Orr, late U. S. Minister to Russia, will be sent to this country via Hamburg, in charge of his son, on the opening of navigation, probably in ten days.

THE President this morning appointed Jackson G. Schultz, of New York, Commissioner to represent the Government of the United States at the International Exposition of Agriculture, Industry and Fine Arts at Vienna, vice General Van Buren, suspended.

STOCKHOLM, May 12.—The coronation of Oscar II and Sophie Wilhelmine as King and Queen of Sweden and Norway took place to-day. The weather was unfavorable, but immense crowds witnessed the royal procession and cheered with enthusiasm as the new King walked to church in a pouring rain.

BERLIN, May 6.—The German Parliament has ordered the coinage of two mark pieces, notwithstanding the strenuous opposition of Minister Dellbruck.

MADRID, May 12.—The Ministers deliberated over the project for Electoral reforms in Cuba. The system agreed upon will probably be the same as that of Spain.

Deputies to the late assembly from Porto Rico will soon issue manifest explaining their conduct and declaring in favor of a federal republic.

SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO, April 30.—The leaders of the Spanish party in Porto Rico have ordered their followers to abstain from voting at the coming election for members of the Cortes. The Spaniards will make no nominations. A junta has been appointed to appraise the value of the liberated slaves. The volunteers have mounted guard at the palace during the past ten days.

CARLIST MATTERS.—BAYONNE, May 9.—It is said traffic is soon to be resumed on the Northern Railway in Spain, there being a tacit agreement between the Government and the Carlists to respect the neutrality of railways and permit the running of trains so long as they do not bear troops or material of war.

MADRID, May 9.—The Carlists claim the victory for their chief, Dorregaray, in Navarre, and assert they took three commissioned officers, including a Colonel, prisoners, and captured a piece of artillery. But these pretensions are discredited by an official dispatch.

MADRID, May 13.—A Carlist conspiracy for the overthrow of the republic has been discovered in this city. Three of the conspirators have been arrested. Sagosta has disappeared from Madrid.

BERLIN, May 13.—The bursees of the principal cities of Germany are extremely depressed in consequence of the panic in Vienna. The Government with a view to their relief will introduce a measure into the Diet, applying Prussia's share of war contribution to purchase bills and public securities to advance for the accommodations of merchants and to the redemption of debt for railway works.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Treasurer Spinner to-day received the check of Geo. C. Gorham, Secretary of the Senate, for the amount of Congressional back pay due Mr. Sumner and which the latter requested be covered into the Treasury. Up to this date, twenty-seven members and Senators have returned their back pay. The total amount thus far turned into the Treasury is \$112,229.

Pen and Scissors.

THE lumbermen have scarcely ever had a better stage of weather for running their lumber than this spring. Everything was done moderately, easily, and with but few smashups and almost every raft has been sent down. If lumber bears a good price, the circulating medium will be more plentiful in all this region in a few weeks and hard times that we have known so long, we shall know no more, it is hoped.—*Warren Ledger*.

THE LUMBER BUSINESS.—While our lumbermen who depended on the river for transportation have had extremely good luck in getting their lumber safely to market this season, they have been obliged to sell mostly on long time, taking paper running from three to nine

months. This in the present stringency of the money market will tend to keep our lumbermen, who have been hard up for the past winter, in the same predicament for some time to come.—*Emporium Independent*.

NOTWITHSTANDING the predictions that local option would kill our town there were never as many new buildings being erected and old ones repaired at any one time as now. In fact, our borough never had that lively and go-ahead appearance it has at the present time.—*Emporium Independent*.

BRIDGE BURNED.—On Tuesday a railroad bridge below Cameron caught fire from a passing freight train and was totally destroyed. It will be several days before the bridge will be in such a condition as to allow trains to pass over it. The passenger trains transfer passengers.—*Cameron Press*.

THE Court of Inquiry at Halifax has decided that the *Atlantic* was insufficiently coaled, the computation of her speed careless and Capt. Williams' conduct in leaving the deck after midnight reprehensible. They, therefore, conclude that the course of Capt. Williams in the management of his ship during the twelve of fourteen hours preceding the disaster was so gravely at variance with what ought to have been the conduct of a man placed in his responsible position as to call for severe censure, and that it justified them in saying that his certificate as extra master and master ought to be canceled; but, in consideration of the praiseworthy and energetic efforts made by him to save life after the ship struck, the Court imposed the mitigated penalty of suspension of his certificate for two years. The certificate of Fourth Officer Brown was also suspended for three months. Seventy-one bodies were recovered on Thursday and Friday.—*Independent*.

WM. H. SEWARD, in his "Voyage Round the World" speaks of the delight he experienced on the other side of the world in getting some cheese from Chautauqua county.

The Port Jervis *Gazette* says: Notwithstanding the assertion among the knowing ones reported annually for the last twenty years that the lumber supply along the Delaware and its tributaries was exhausted, there is a greater quantity awaiting shipment this year than ever before. Altogether it is calculated that there is now about 100,000,000 feet of lumber, manufactured and round, awaiting transportation.

CONGRESS, during its last session, made some important changes in our monetary unit, looking to the ultimate adoption of an international system of coinage. Our silver coins are to be of nine-tenths fineness, thus approximating the standard of the higher French pieces. Our dollar is to be of the same weight as the French five-franc piece. The object of this change is to make our silver coins more popular in Oriental countries, with whom it is a matter of special importance to extend our commercial relations. In the above changes a preparation is made for the final adoption of the metric system of weights and measures. The law will give a great impetus to the production of silver in our States and Territories.—*Independent Republican*.

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