WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1865.

Who are Responsible for the Spirit of Lawiess Violence which Prevails? On the 15th day of last November the Express deliberately announced to its readers, that from that day and date that paper would withdraw from the arena of political strife, and devote itself exclusively to news, literature and business. For a period of four months it had tried to keep up a random fire at the Intelligencen; dealing almost entirely in foul-mouthed slang, malicious misrepresentation and vulgar abuse. It scarcely ever attempted an argument on any of the great questions which agitated the public mind; and, when it did showed such exceedingly feeble reasoning powers as to make all its attempts at logical writing the merest laughable abortions. Its editor, evidently worried, was always out of humor. Day by day he seemed to grow more saturnine in disposition, and more thin, gaunt and cadaverous in person, until he bore the look of a man haunted by the remembrance of some crime unatoned for and unforgiven. To all arguments he had but one reply, to every array of facts but a single answer .-Whether he made an attack upon us, or repelled an assault, he used but the weapon of the blackguard-an assortment of foul words. His vocabulary was not quite as extensive as that of some of the celebrated "knucks" and "goniffs," who can boast of having graduated at more than one noted prison. Indeed, it was to all appearance quite limited. He seemed to have an idea that he could demolish the In-TELLIGENCER, and the whole Democratic party of Lancaster county, if not of the State of Pennsylvania and of the entire country, by constantly mouthing the words treason and traitor. When he could not meet an opponent in argument, he hurled an opprobrious epithet at his head, and seemed to think his demolition secure beyond peradventure. With only such qualifications for the position he presumes to occupy, we

down to its issue of last evening, it would have puzzled any man to discover, from a perusal of the columns of that paper, that there was such a thing as a political editor about the establish ment. But, either a substitute has been hired cheap for the occasion, or J. M. Willis Geist, for some time past supposed to be defunct in his capacity of political editor of the Evening Express. has been galvanized into a life, which from the exhibition he makes, we pre dict will be short-lived and spasmodic It has been so long since we saw any thing original from his pen that we had almost forgotten his peculiar style; but, on glancing back over the file of the Express, we think we are able to recognize his ear-marks in the leading edi torial of last evening's issue. It is an abusive and malicious attack upon the INTELLIGENCER, composed of garble extracts from our columns, mingled with about his usual amount of slang and personal abuse. To his attack, so far as it is merely personal, we deign no reply; to the charges against the paper we shall respond as briefly as possible? It is true there were many things in the acts of the late President which we could not and did not approve. When Constitution of the United States, and reassured to us by the Constitution of Pennsylvania, in these most emphatic

do not wonder he grew wearied of po-

litical discussion; we do not wonder

that he should have withdrawn the

From the 15th day of last November,

Express from the arena of politics.

words:

"The printing presses shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the legislature, or any branch of government; and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thought and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of men; and every citizen may freely speak, write and print on any subject; being responsible for the abuse of that libetty. In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers, or men in public capacities, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence."

For every article, every line, and every word published in the INTELLI-GENCER, since we have had control o its columns, we have always held and now hold ourselves prepared to answer before any proper judicial tribunal, only reserving to ourselves the right of give ing in evidence, by way of justification both legal and moral, the truth of what we have uttered.

Now that Abraham Lincoln is dead we have not one harsh word to say against him, but rather those of charity and kindness alone. He has gone suddenly before the Judge of all men, to render an account for the deeds done in the body; and his public life, now ended, has passed into history. From this hour henceforth we shall utter no words in censure of him personally. To the judgment of God and of impartial history we leave him.

We have bitterly reprobated and most strongly condemned "the vile manner of his taking off." We have done this from the impulse of common humanity; but not from that alone We believe sincerely and truly that, in the death of Abraham Lincoln, at this time, the country has suffered a great loss. No nation could contemplate without fear of the consequences a sudden change of rulers, through violent means, in the midst of such a crisis as is now upon us. While we could not indorse and sanction all the acts and the entire policy of Mr. Lincoln, we felt that the best interests of the nation would, in all human probability, be safer in his hands than in those of the man who is his constitutional successor. The regret and the indignation of Democrats at the brutal and cowardly assassination of the late President was, therefore, profound and sincere. If there was rejoicing anywhere in this land it was, not among Democrats, but among the extreme radicals whom Mr. Lincoln had greatly offended by a wise and decent show of moderation. These were the men who rejoiced, if any such there were anywhere-these, and the fanatical war elergy, who, ever ready with canting phrases and quotations of Holy Writ twisted out of all recognizable shape, professed to see the hand of God in the most fiendish and diabolical murder which has ever blackened the pages of history. If this was the work of God, will some of these canting and hypocritical expounders of modern Paritanical religious belief be good enough to tell us what we should expect the works of the devil to be like Nav. if this were the work of God, was not the assassin a sacred minister of deity, rather than a fiendish criminal Will the bloodthirsty reverend gentleman, to whose defense the editor of the Express comes so promptly, be good enough to enlighten us on this point? If this doctrine be true, and God directed the doing of the infernal deed, will the editor of the Express, who, we believe, professes great piety, be good enough to inform us how either the INTELLI GENCER, or any other human agency, can be held responsible in the slighest degree for the act. Is there not a thousand fold greater condemnation of the late President in the blasphemous supposition that God himself designed and

decreed his death by the assassin's

hand than can possibly be found in any

thing ever uttered by any newspaper,

either in the North or the South? We

alike absurd and criminal; but it is of piece with much of the religious teachings of our day.

teachings of our day.

Earth groans beneath religion's iron age, Our priest dare babble of a God of peace, Even whilst their hands are red with human blood;
Murdering the while, uprooting every germ of truth, exterminating, spoiling all; Making the earth a slaughter-house, They how hideous praises to a Demon God; Such men are they who teach us that the God of nature and benevolence has given. A special sanction to the trade of blood. They could laugh to hear the bitter cry of millions butchered in sweet confidence and unsuspecting peace, even when the bond of safety, mist confirmed by wordy oaths, Sworn in His dreadful name, ring through the land.

Whilst innocent babes writhed on the stubborn spear
They could still laugh to hear the mother's shriek Of maniac gladness, as the burnished steel
Feels cold in her torn vitals."

For the true minister of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; for him who s pure in his life, and without guile on his lips; for him, who, following his Divine Master, preaches peace on earth and good will to men, we have the highest reverence and the most profound respect and regard. When such a one stands up in the house of God, and rebukes us for oursins, we feel that we are rebuked indeed. But, for the canting hypocrite, who comes down from his high and holy position, to bedraggle his robes, that should be sacred, in the filth and mire of partisan politics, and condescends to honeyfugle ound with pot-house politicians to see who shall be elected to office-for such a man we feel that we can never sufficiently express our scorn and contempt. But, when, besides being willing tools in the hands of designing politicians, professing ministers of the Gospel of the God of Peace become more bloody in thought and expression than were the priests of any barbaric faith this ever saw, we cannot help wishing for a whip of scorpions with which to lash the hypocritical scoundrels naked through a scoffing world, until piloried at last they should stand as a fit object for the slow, unmoving finger of scorn, to be forever Whilst these wretches confine their blasphemies to, the walls of their own conventicles, we leave them to the judgment of such as choose

by us just as any other political speaker From the commencement of this overnment until the present hour the emocratic party has always been a arty of law and of order. It has never any form, nor under any circumstances, countenanced a violation of law or a resort to violence. It was lways willing to abide by every comomise of the Constitution, and has eprecated every departure from the undamental, well-established, written aws of the land. During the past four rears, though its members have been requently subjected to the grossest possible outrages, it has still appealed to the people to preserve a spirit of modertion and forbearance.

to attend on their ministrations; but,

when they obtrude themselves upon

ublic assemblages, outside of the walls

f their churches, their utterances be-

ame proper subjects of newspaper

criticism, and they will be dealt with

How has it been with our opponents? Within the past four years they have not scrupled to violate the Constitution of the United States, to trample under oot State constitutions and State rights, and to render utterly insecure the most creciand inviolable rights of the individual citizen. Multitudes of men

have been arrested and thrown into

miserable dungeons without any offense ever having been alleged against them, and contrary to all forms of law known we thought him wrong we said so, to civilized nations. Nor is this all: boldly and fearlessly. That was our the Press of the party in power have ounselled mob violence, and countenanced every possible species of personal outrage. Such papers as the Express, and such preachers as from Sabath to Sabbath teach the gospel of hate and pray for lust's kingdom to come, have aroused the baser passions of the masses, until deeds of shame and horror have come to be matters of every day occurrence n our land. We could scarcely be shocked in these days by the recital of any murder, however horrid, unless. as in the case of the late President, the position of the victim should be such as to make it a national calamity. Almost every newspaper we pick up bears evilence of the wide-spread prevalence of omplete disregard for life and for law, which is the legitimate result of the brutal teachings of such papers as the Express, and such preachers as are its ministerial friends. Let no murdered man shake his gory locks at the Democratic party. The teachers of violence and bloody deeds are to be found in the editorial chairs of the party now in power, and in the pulpits dese-

erated by the war clergy. We may take occasion, at some early lay, to make extracts from the columns of the Express, to prove that it has, time and again, countenanced and advised a complete disregard of law, and a resort to brutal violence, such as was sure in the end to lead to the sad condition of affairs which exist in this country today. Life has got to be considered very cheap among us, in consequence of the suffers an injury violent teachings of Republican editors and preachers—as witness the brutal assault on Edward Ingersoll, Esq., in Philadelphia yesterday, and quite a list of cold-blooded murders which have been perpetrated by mobs within a week past. They are the men who are responsible for the spirit of lawlessness and violence which prevails, and shows itself from day to day in the rudest assaults and the most unprovoked and cold-blooded murders. The Assassin Slain.

Booth has paid the penalty of his horrid crime by a violent and bloody death. No right-thinking man, even in the South, will say that his fate was too harsh. But all sensible men will regret that he was not taken alive, and granted an open trial, in order that the whole secret history of his desperate crime might have been fully laid bare. If the assassination of Mr. Lincoln was his own mad deed, it is but just that others should be relieved from blameor suspicion; if he had accomplices they richly deserve and should receive punishment. The ends of justice would have been better subserved in every

way if he had been captured alive, and granted an open trial before the proper judicial tribunal of the District of Columbia. General McClellan in Europe.

General McClellan receives distinguished consideration at all points of nterest in his present European tour. His eminent character as a patriot and soldier has won no less praise abroad than he deservedly enjoys at home. He s now in the venerably city of Rome, and we learn by the latest foreign news that the Russian Ambassador there has tendered him a brilliant banquet. Few Americans now in Europe can represent the honor and dignity of the nation more befittingly than the illustrious hero of Antietam.

## Change of Fast Day.

The 25th of May, appointed by Presilent Johnson as a day of special humiliation and prayer in consequence of the assassination of the late President, being Ascension day, President Johnson has ordered Thursday, June 1st, to be observed in its stead.

→ic is said that over one hundred persons have been arrested in Washington and the vicinity, as accomplices of Booth upon disdo not believe any such doctrine. It is closures made by Harrold.

Excusing Mob Violence. Society is formed for the purpose of protecting the lives, the liberty, and the property of individuals. The laws enacted are the guarantees of social order and social life. Any injury done to the person or the property of an individual nember of a political community is very properly regarded as an offence against the State. The Common wealth of Pennsylvania, for instance, is the party which appears as the complainant in every criminal prosecution instituted in our courts. Any injury done to the person or to the property of the individual citizen is, in the legal language of an indictment, described as an offence against the peace and the dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.' The same form of expression is used in

> extent of the punishment, and enforce the penalties attaching to it. Society lays duties upon every citizen. which no one who has a proper view of what is demanded of him by the terms of the social compact can disregard. It is the duty of every citizen not only to obey the laws of the State in which he resides, but to do all in his power to prevent their violation by others.

indictments in all the States of the

Union. It is the State which is injured

in the person of the citizen, the State

which seizes the offender and arraigns

him for trial before the proper judicial

tribunals thereof, and the State which,

by its laws, prescribes the manner and

These may sound like very trite ruesms, and one would suppose them to be perfectly well understood by all men. But, he who will read the record of outrages upon the persons of individuals, which we are sorry to see chronicled from day to day in the newspapers of the country, without a word f condemnation from many, and with a pointed or openly expressed approval from others, will, if he be a thoughtful man, conclude with us that we are in danger of losing sight of the very first and most fundamental principles upon which society is founded. The very saddest feature of our times

is the disposition to violence, and the daring disregard of law which prevails in our cities and elsewhere. Mobs murder men, beat them, destroy their property, and commit outrages at will. Are they promptly punished for such acts, as the majesty of violated law and the best interests of society demand that they should be? Not they. The fact that the individual murdered or injured is reported to be disloyal, in the parlance of the passionate language of the day, is generally accepted as an excuse for any outrage that may be perpetrated. Some few of the newspapers and the public speakers of the party in power have the manliness and the good sense to discourage such acts, but a large majority of them are either entirely silent or anprove them. Within a week past the city of Philadelphia and other localities have been the scene of outrages of the grossest character; yet we have looked in vain for a single word of condemnation of mob violence from the Republican newspapers of that city. That they approve of the crimes committed is proven by the manner in which the announcement of the disgraceful occurrences has been made. It is the old story. Some one has started the cry of disloyalty, and a mob has set upon and eaten unoffending citizens. If the alegation were true, is there not a law for the punishment of treason? Are not the courts of justice always open in this State? Is there the slightest excuse for

assaults such as were made upon the Ingersolls? The men who approve of such acts anot have reflected upon the inevitable tendency of such deeds of violence. Is it possible that we are to see established as a principle of public action the doctrine that men who may have become obnoxious to the crowd are no longer to be safe under the shelter of the law? Are our laws to be regarded as insufficient to protect our citizens from nonular violence? Has it come to this, that a man must walk the streets of our cities and towns in danger of losing his life, because it is whispered that he has been guilty of a crime? Are mobs to been guilty of a crime? Are mobs to been guilty of a crime? Are mobs to be substituted for juries? Is "lynch large" to telepath and is responsible for the law" to take the place of judicial trials among us? Is society to resolve itself back into its original elements, and social chaos to come again? Is one party among us to set up a standard of political belief from which no man shall be allowed to differ, except on penalty of outrage and brutal or murderous assault? Have we indeed come to such a con-

dition under the boasted freedom of republican institutions? The country has no greater enemies in its midst than the men and the newspapers which countenance such outrages. Every such occurrence which happens, without being followed by summary punishment of the offenders. weakens the respect of the community for law, gives encouragement to such as are disposed to violate it, and renders the life and the property of every citizen, without respect to party, less secure than it should be. By every deed of mob violence the public welfare compared to which the individual wrong and outrage is but a little thing .-No good citizen who understands his duty to the community in which he resides, and who is alive to his own best interests, can remain silent while mobs run riot in our cities and towns. These things strike at the very foundation of our social and politicel structure. They obligation we have to secure each of these States in the possession and enjoyment of a republican form of government. A State may be in the government with a peculiar institution, and by the operation of rebellion lose that feature. But it was a State when ought not only to be universally repro bated and condemned, but, if we are to be preserved from the most terrible consequences of anarchy, they must be promptly checked and forever crushed

We see it stated that before the war a person worked but half a day in the week for the Government, and the remaining five and a half days fer himself; but now, owing to the heavy taxation, which the country will have to bear for several years to come, and of which the laboring classes will have to bear their share, a man will have to work two days for the Government, leaving but four for his own benefit.

One's Native Land.

President Johnson, although not given much to poesy or blank verse, has nevertheless some taste for the muses. In reply the other day to a delegation from North Caroling his remaining five and a half days for him-

delegation from North Carolina, his native state, he said: tegration on the one hand, on the other I am equally opposed to consolidation— (applause)—or the centralization of power in the hands of a few. Sir, all this has been extorted from me by the remarks you have offered; and, as I have already remarked, I might have adopted your speech as my own. I have detained you longer than I expected; but Gov. Morton is responsible for that. I scarcely know how to express my feelings in view of the kindness you have mani-"The name of North Carolina,

bless her, is dear to me. In her bosom rest the remains of my honored father lying in the east of the city of Raleigh North Carolina is my mother, though not my Alma Mater. Some may have said that North Carolina is a good Stat to emigrate from, but I do not share in that belief. I feel as the poet said:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, Who never to himself hath said, This is my own, my native land?"

Who Booth's Reputed Mistress Was.

[From the Richmond Whig.] Ella Turner—the reputed mistress o Wilkes Booth, the assassin of the resident—once lived in Petersburg, President—once and subsequently in Richmond sin the war, and then made her way North Her right name is Starr, and she is a native of Baltimore. Her sister, at whose house in Washington she at whose house in Washington she at whose house in washing on the tempted suicide, married a printer, and moved to Petersburg, where the conjugal relation was dissolved, and the two gal relation was dissolved, and the two sisters, travelling about for a while from Petersburg to Richmond, finally returned to Washington.

peat that the vigor of my youth has been spent in advocating those great principles as the foundation of our government and, therefore, I have been by many denounced as a demagogue. I was striv-The Jersey City Times says Edwin Booth will petition the Maryland Legislature to change his name to Abraham M. Lincoln.

was to please the people; for I believed that when I pleased them I was pretty We regard the "Declaration of Sentinearly right; and, being in the right, did not care who assailed me. But ment" adopted at the meeting held in the Court House on last Saturday, as was going to say that I have always advocated the principle that government was made for man, not man for nothing other than an expression of the peculiar views of Thaddeus Stevens. That he should be wild, visionary, government—even as the Good Book says that the Sabbath was made for vengeful and fanatical to an extreme is man, not man for the Sabbath. So far as in me lies, those principles shall be carried out; and, in conclusion, I tenan, not man for the Sabbath. to be expected. Whether from the natural decay of age, or from some other cause, it is sure that he is no longer reder, you my profound and sincere thanks for your respect and support in the performance of the arduous duties now devolving upon me. garded by his party at large as a wise or safe counsellor. During the last session of Congress he made himself the

The Theory of State Suicide.

laughing stock of the whole country.

Though Chairman of the Committee of

Ways and Means, he proposed no single

important measure that could be ap-

proved even by his own side of the

House. His prestige is entirely gone,

everywhere else than in this county.

Here he still has some little power ; just

got up for the purpose of giving ex-

pression to his wild and fanatical

ideas. The speeches of Saturday were

but echoes of his voice, and the reso-

State suicide, as set forth in the "Dec-

laration of Sentiment" adopted by the

meeting, is not less an absurdity than

was the gold bill which made Mr. Ste

vens an object of ridicule to the whole

countenance it for a moment. What-

allow himself to be separated to an in-

jurious extent from the safer and more

conciliatory policy of his predecessor,

pressed by the meeting held in the

Court House on last Saturday. We

give below a large portion of the speech

delivered by President Johnson to Gov-

Indiana. We omit the portions in

which he repeats his declarations

that treason must be punished as

crime. What we wish to call attention

to is the plain and explicit repudiation

of the radical theory of "State suicide."

as expressed in the resolutions of the

Here is what Andrew Johnson

meeting held in this city on last Satur-

says on that subject:
"And while I say that the penalties

of the law, in a stern and inflexible

manner, should be executed upon con-

tors-the leaders, who have deceived

thousands upon thousands of laboring men who have been drawn into the re-

bellion; and while I say as to the leaders, punishment, I also say leniency, conciliation and amnesty to the thous-

ands whom they have misled and de-ceived. And, in reference to this, as I remarked, I might have adopted your

speech as my own. As my honorable friend knows, I long since took the ground that this government

that it had a great work to perform

and that in starting it, it was started into perpetuity. Look back for one

single moment to the articles of con-

federation, and then come down to 1787, when the Constitution was formed.

What do you find? "That we, the people of the United States, in order to

form a more perfect government," &c. Provision is made for the admission of

new States to be added to the old one

embraced in the Union. Now turn to the Constitution. We find that amend-

ments may be made by a recommenda-tion of two-thirds of the members of Congress, if ratified by three-fourths of

admission of new States; no provision

is made for the secession of old ones

The instrument was made to be good in

perpetuity, and you can take hold of it, not to break up the government, but to

go on perfecting it more and more as i runs down the stream of time. We

the government composed

integral parts. An individual is an integer, and a number of individuals

form a state, and a state itself is an in-

teger; and the various States form the Union, which is itself an integer, they

all making up the government of the United States. Now we come to the point of my argument so far as concerns

that is paralyzed on one side. But we

understand our system of government, though it be complex, we see how beau-

being its vitalizing power, imparting life to the whole of the States that

I see no cause to chance it now;

and I am glad to hear its reiteration on

the present occasion. Some are satisfied with the idea that States are to be

lost in territorial and other divisions-

are to lose their character as States. But their life breath has only been sus-

pended, and it is a high constitutional obligation we have to secure each of

that feature. But it was a State when

it went into rebellion, and when it comes out without the institution it is still a State. (Great applause.) I hold

these States where the rebel armies

have been beaten back or expelled—I

care not how small the number of Union

Now, permit me to remark that, while I have opposed dissolution and disintegration on the one hand, on the other

view of the kindness you have manifested on this occasion. Perhaps I ought

not to add what I am about to say; but

human nature is human nature. Indiana first named me for the Vice-Presi-

ana first named me for the Vice-Presidency, though it was unsolicited by me. Indeed, there is not a man can say that I ever approached him on the subject. My eyes were turned to my own State. If I could restore her the measure of my ambition was complete. I thank the State of Indiana for the confidence and regard she manifested toward rea

regard she manifested toward me, which has resulted in what is now be-

fore you, placing me in the position I now occupy. In conclusion, I will repeat that the vigor of my youth has been

it as a solemn obligation in any

may go

more than one individual.

Provision is made for the

sent upon a great ng the nations of the

cious, intelligent and influential trai-

day.

was

the States.

Views of General Robert E. Lee on the Questions of the Day. A correspondent of the New York Herald thus reports a protracted conversation which he had with Gen. Lee at Richmond, on the 23d ult.: GENERAL LEE, VIRGINIA AND THE RE-BELLION.

The General's attention was directed enough to enable him to have meetings o his written and spoken determina-tion to draw his sword in deferse only of his native State, and the inquiry was raised as to what he considered the de-fense of Virginia, and what degree of deliberation he had given to that expression. He stated that, as a firm and utions adopted but a written statement of his peculiar views. The doctrine of onest believer in the doctrine of State rights, he had considered his allegiance due primarily to the State in which he was born and had always resided. And, although he was not an advocate of secession at the outset, when Virginia ceded he honestly believed it his duty financial and business world. It can to abide her fortune. He opposed secession to the last, foreseeing the ruin it was sure to entail. But when the State never be adopted or acted upon. The new President has too much sense to withdrew from the Union he had no recourse, in his views of honor and patriotism, but to abide her fortunes. He ever he may do, and we fear he will went with her, intending to remain merely a private citizen. When he remerely a private citizen. When he resigned his commission in the United States army he had no intention of takhe will never be guilty of indorsing the states army he had no intention of taking up arms in any other service, and least of all in a service antagonistic to the United States. His State, however, called for him, and, entertaining the ridiculous policy of Mr. Stevens, as exfixed principles he did of State sove-reignty, he had no alternative but to accept the service to which he was called. When he made use of the decernor Mor ton and the delegation from larations that have been so extensively quoted of late, he had accepted only a commission from Virginia quently, when Virginia attached herself to the Southern Confederacy, the same political impressions impelled him to follow her, and when he accepted service under the rebel government he did so on the principle that he was defending his native State. And yet, by

the act of accepting such service he bound in honor to serve in any part of the Confederacy where he might be called, without reference to State lines; and the reconciliation with his former avowal, if any were necessary, was found in the fact that Virginia, standing or falling with the other Southern States, in defending them all he was defending the one to which he conthe control of the co was free to say it was a severe blow to the South, but not a crushing blow. It was of military, not political significance. I asked, was not that a surrender of the doctrine of State rights. By no means, the General replied. When the South shall be wholly subdued there will then undeniably be a surrender of that doc-

trine. But the surrender of a single army is simply a military necessity.— The army of Northern Virginia was surrendered because further resistance on its part would only entall a useless sacrifice of life. But that army was merely a part of the force of the South. When the South shall be forced to sur-render all its forces, and returns to the Union, it indisputably, by that act, sur-renders its favorite doctrine of secession. That principle will then be settled by military power.

STATE RIGHTS. On this question of State sovereignty the General contends that there exists a egitimate casus belli. In the convenon that formed the organic law of the land, the question of defining the relative powers of the States, and their relation to the general government, was raised, but after much discussion was dropped and left unsettled. mained so unsettled until the present time. This war is destined to set it at rest. It is unfortunate that it was not settled at the outset; but as it was not settled then, and had to be settled at some time, the war raised on this issue cannot be considered treason. If the South is forced to submission in this contest, it of course can only be looked upon as the triumph of federal power over State rights, and the forced annihilation of the latter.

the perpetuity of the government. We have seen that the government is composed of parts, each essential to the whole, and the whole essen-THE SOUTH ANXIOUS FOR PEACE TWO YEARS AGO.
With reference to the war in the abstract, the General declared it as hi honest belief that peace was practicable two years ago, and has been practicable from that time to the present day whenact as an individual. There may be ever the general government should see on till they become parts of States; the fitto seek it, giving any reasonable chance for the country to escape the consequen-ces which the exasperated North seem-ed determined to impose. The South has, during all this time, been ready rebellion may go on increasing in numbers till State machinery is overturned, and the country becomes like a man find in the Constitution a great panacea and anxious for peace. They have been provided. It provides that the United States—that is, the greater integer—shall guarantee to each State (the integers composing the whole) in this tegers composing form of government. looking for some word or expression of compromise or conciliation North upon which they might base a return to the Union. They were not prepared, nor are they yet, to come and beg for terms; but were ready to accept any fair and hourshlet array. tegers composing the whole) in this Union a republican form of government. Yes, if the rebellion has been rampant, and set aside the machinery of a State for a time, any fair and honorable terms, their own political views being considered. The question of slavery did not lay in the way at all. The best men of the South there stands the great law to remove the paralysis and revitalize it, and put it on its feet again. When we come to have long been anxious to do away with this institution, and were quite willing to-day to see it abolished. They consider slavery forever dead. But with them, in relation to this subject, the question has ever been, "What will though it be complex, we see now beau-tifully one part acts in harmony with the other. Then we see ourgovernment is to be a perpetuity, there being no pro-vision for pulling it down, the Union you do with the freed people?" That is the serious question to-day, and one that cannot be winked at. It must be being its vitalizing post. It is that move around it like planets round the sun, reciving thence light, and heat, and motion. Upon this idea of motion has met practically and treated intelligently The negroes must be disposed of, and i their disposition can be marked out, the and motion. Upon this idea of destroying States my position has been heretofore well known and matter of freeing them is at once settled. But unless some humane course is adopted, based on wisdom and Christian principles, you do a gross wrong and in-justice to the whole negro race in setting them free. And it is only this consider-ation that has led the wisdom, intelligence and Christianity of the South to

pport and defend the institution up to this time. THE GENERAL A NATIONAL MAN. The conversation then turned into other channels, and finally touched other channels, and nnany touched upon the prospects of peace. And here a very noticeable form of expression was used by the General. In speaking was used by the General. In speaking of the probable course of the administration towards the South, the General remarked that, "if we do" so and so. I immediately called his attention to the expression, and sought an explanation of the sense in which he used the propoun "we" but otherwood received. pronoun "we," but obtained none other than a marked repetition of it. It was noticeable throughout the entire interview that in no single instance did he speak of the Southern confederacy, nor of the Yankees nor the rebels. He frequently alluded to the country, and expressed most earnestly his solicitude for its restoration to peace and tran-quility, cautiously avoiding any expression that would imply the possibility of its disintegration.

THE SOUTH NOT YET CONQUERED.

Throughout all the conversation he manifested an earnest desire that such counsels should prevail and such policies be pursued as would conduce to an immediate peace, implying in his remarks that peace was now at our option. he was particular to say that, should arbitrary or vindictive or revengeful policies be adopted, the end was not yet. There yet remained a great deal vitality in the South There were undeveloped resources and hitherto unavailable sources of strength, which harsh measures on our part would call into action; and that the would call into action; and that the South could protract the struggle for an indefinite period. We might, it was true, destroy all that remained of the country east of the Mississippi river by a lavish expenditure of men and means; but then we would be required to fight on the other side of that river, and, after subduing them there, we would be com-pelled to follow them into Mexico, and pelied to follow them into mexico, and thus the struggle would be prolonged until the whole country would be im-poverished and ruined. And this we would be compelled to do if extermination, confiscation and general annihila-tion and destruction are to be our policy. For if a people are to be destroyed they will sell their lives as dearly as possible.

CONDEMNATION OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN. The assassination of the President was spent in advocating those great principles as the foundation of our government and, therefore, I have been by many denounced as a demagogue. I was striving to please the people. I am free to say to you that my highest ambition I man could approve from any conceiving the foundation of the President was the assassination of the President was the sassistation of the President was the soundation of the President was the sassistation of the President was the sassistation of the President was the sassistation of the President was the sample of the sassistation of the President was the sample of the

able motive. Undoubtedly the effort would be made to fasten the respon-sibility of it upon the South; but, from his intimate acquaintance with the leading men of the South, he was confident there was not one of them who would sanction or approve it. The scheme was wholly unknown in the South before its execution, and would never have received the slightest encouragement had it been known; but, on the contrary, the most severe execra-tion. I called the General's attention at this point, to a notice that had been printed in the Northern papers, purporting to have been taken from a paper published in the interior of the South,

proposing, for the sum of one million of dollars, to undertake the assassination of the President and his Cabinet. The General affirmed that he had never seen nor heard of such a proposition, nor did he believe it had ever been printed in the South; though if it had, it had been permitted merely as the whim of some crazy person that could possibly amount to nothing. Such a crime was an anomaly in the history of our country, and we had yet before its perpetration to learn that it was possible of either earnest conception or actual expension. est conception or actual execution. THE SOUTH NEVER HALF IN EARNEST IN THE WAR.

It was a most singular and remarkable expression to escape the lips of such a man as Gen. Lee that "the South was never more than half in earnest in this I cannot attempt to translate this remark or elucidate it. Its utterence conveyed to me the impression that the South was most heartily sick of the war, and anxious to get back into the Union and to peace. The General the Union and to peace. The General added that they went off after political leaders in a moment of passion and under the excitement of fancied wrongs, honestly believing that they were entering a struggle for an inalienable right and fundamental principle of their political creed. A man should not be judged creed. A man should not be judged harshly for contending for that which he honestly believes to be right. Such was the position of the vast majority of the Southern people now. And now that they are defeated they consider that they have lost everything that is worth contending for in the government. contending for in the government. They have sacrificed home, friends, property, health, all on this issue. Men do not make such sacrifices for nothing. They have made the sacrifice from hones

EXPATRIATION SCHEMES EXPATRIATION SCHEMES.
And now that they have lost in the ssue, they feel that they have no interests left in this country. It is the opinion of General Lee that unless opinion of General Lee that unless moderation and liberality be exercised towards them the country will lose its best people. Already, he says, they are seeking to expatriate themselves, and numerous schemes are started to go to Mexico, to Brazil, to Canada, to France and elsewhere. He is called upon frequently to discountenance and suppress such undertakings. The coun-try needs these young men. They are ts bone and sinew, its intelligence and enterprise, its hope for the future, and wisdom demands that no effort be spared to keep them in the country and pacify

GENERAL LEE'S STANDPOINT. It was a most noticeable feature of the onversation that Gen. Lee, strange as t may appear, talked throughout as citizen of the United States. o plant himself on the national plat rm, and take his observations from that standpoint. He talked deliberately and earnestly, but with no show of interest other or different from what might be expected from an honest peliever in his peculiar opinions. THE TERMS OF PEACE

The conversation, which had been greatly protracted, so much so that I became uneasy for fear of trespassing or time that I had no right to claim, ter minated with some allusions to the terms of peace. Here there was, perhaps haturally and properly, more re-ticence than on any other topic. But it vas plain from what transpired that the only question in the way of immediate peace was the treatment to be accorded the vanquished. Everything else, by implication, seems to be sur-rendered. Slavery, State rights, the doctrine of secession, and whatever else of political policy may be involved in the strife is abandoned, the only barrier o an immediate and univers sion of hostilities and return to the Union being the treatment the national authorities may promise those who have been resisting is power and paramount authority. It is proper to say that this was not so stated by General Lee, but a simply an inference from the conversation that took place on that topic. On the contrary, the General seemed very

cautious in regard to terms. In order to get at his views, if possible, I suggested the conservative sen timent of the North, general amesty to all soldiers and military officers, but that the political leaders of the South be held to a strict accountability. "Would that be just?" countability. "Would that be just." he asked. nore than any other Southerner, that should be punished? It is true he has occupied a prominent position as the agent of a whole people, but that has made him no more nor less a rebel than the rest. His acts were the acts of the whole people, and the acts of the whole people were his acts. He was not accountable for the commencement of the struggle. On the contrary, he was one of the last to give in his adherence to the secession movement, having strenuously opposed it from the outset and portrayed its ruinous consequences in his speeches and by his writings. Why, therefore, should he suffer more than others?" Of course, it was not my province to discuss these questions, and as this illustration disclosed the bent of General's mind it was all that I desired to know.

GENERAL LEE'S PERSONAL WISHES FOR THE FUTURE.
In taking leave of the General, I took occasion to say that he was greatly respected by a very large body of good men at the North, and that as a soldier he was universally admired, and that it was earnestly hoped that he would yet lead an army of United States troops in the enforcement of the Monroedoctrine. He thanked me for the expression of Northern sentiment toward himself, but as for more fighting he felt that he was getting too old; his only desire now being to be permitted to retire to private life and end his days in seclusion. It was, I thought, an evidence of painful sadness at heart that prompted the added expression that he would have been pleased had his life been taken in any the numerous battle fields on whic he had fought during this war.

THE CUSTIS SLAVES.
While talking on the subject of th abolition of slavery I remarked that had lately been charged in some of the newspapers of the North that the Custis slaves, some two hundred in number, who had been left in Gen. Lee's custody for emancipation, had not been emanci pated. The General said this was a mis-take. As executor of the will he was required to emancipate these slaves at a certain time. That time had not rived when the war broke out. It did rived when the war oroke out. It dua arrive one or two years afterwards. At that time he could not get to the courts of the county in which Arlington is located to take out the emancipation papers as prescribed by law. But he did take out papers from the Supreme Court of the State in this city, liberating them all, and they are so recorded i the records of that court. He sent word of their freedom to Arlington, and the necessary papers were sent to those at the White House, and to all others that could be reached, and they were all thus iberated, together with a number who were either the General's or Mrs. Lee's private property.

The Rebel Ram Stonewall on a Cruise. Information has been received that the rebel ram Stonewall, Captain Page, arrived at Teneriffe on the 31st of March, in three days from Lisbon. She was allowed to take coal and provisions, but allowed to take coal and provisions, but was required to leave port at the expiration of twenty-four hours. She took on board one hundred and thirty tons of coal, and left April 1, at 6 o'clock P. M., and steamed rapidly to the southward. Our Consul at Teneriffe, Mr. Dabney, could hear nothing of her probable destination. The Stonewall rolled very much while at anchor. At sea this would be a serious difficulty in the successful management of her guns. round be a serious difficulty in the successful management of her guns.

In view of the possibility of this formidable vessel visiting our coast, the Navy Department is distributing iron clads all along the coast, and preparing all the torpedo vessels for service.

Reported Beath of John Bell. [From the Nashville Times.] report has reached here of the death John Bell, in Alabama, about a fortnight ago. The intelligence comes through channels of the highest respect-ability. It was communicated at Mur-

freesboro' to a gentleman by a lady whose family are in frequent commu-nication with the South.

The Last Hours of Booth. The correspondent of the New York Herald gives the following account of the last hours of J. W. Booth: Proceeding to the barn, Lieut. Baker wassent forward, and called upon Booth to come out, give up his arms and sur-render, and that young Garrett would ome into the barn to receive his arm Upon his entering the barn Booth said to the young man, "Get out of here; you have betrayed me."

Under the direction of Col. Conger, a colloquy then took place between Lieut. Baker and Booth, of which the following is the substance:
Lieut. Baker—You must give up your
arms and surrender. We have come to take you a prisoner; and will treat you as a prisoner. We will give you five minutes to surrender, or we will burn the barn

the barn.

Booth—Who are you, and what do ou want? Instructions had been given to Lieut. Baker not to disclose the character of those who were in pursuit.

Lieut. Baker—We want you.

tend to take you prisoner.

Booth—This is a hard case. It may be that I am to be taken by my friends.

After some further colloquy of this sort Booth, seemingly convinced that ne was in the coils of Federal soldiers "Give me a chance for my life. In a cripple, with one leg. Withdraw

am a cripple, with one leg. Withdraw your men one hundred yards from the parn and I will come out and fight Lieut. Baker—We did not come here o fight, but to take you prisoner. nust give up your arms and surrender. Booth-Let me have time to con-

A conversation in the barn between Booth and Harold then took place which was not overheard by the party In about fifteen or twenty minutes Booth called out, you? I could have picked off half a dozen of your men while you were dozen of your men white you were talking. I could have shot you two or three times, but don't want to kill any-Lieut. Baker—Then give up your arms and surrender. We have come iere to take you.

Booth-I will never surrender. I will ever be taken alive. Lieut. Baker—If you don't do so im-nediately we will set fire to the barn. Booth—Well, my brave boys, prepare

stretcher for me. After this a conversation took place side between Booth and Harold, during which Booth was heard to say. You damned coward, will you leave me now? But go—go. I don't want you to stay with me." He then addressed the party outside, and said: "There is a man here who vants to come out.

Lieut. Baker—Let him hand out his irms and come out. Another talk here occurred between Booth and Harold, in which it appeared that the latter was begging to be allowed to take out some arms with him, and Booth was heard to say, "Go away from me. I don't want anything more to do with you." Harold then came to the door, and

sked to be let out. Lieut. Baker said

No; hand out your arms." No; nand out your arms. Therote eplied, "I have none."

Lieut. Baker—Yes, you have; you carried a carbine when you came here. You must hand it out. Booth-He has no arms. They are all mine. Upon my word as a gentle-man, he has no arms. All that are here

elong to me. Lieutenant Baker then approached the door. Harold thrust out his hands and was pulled from the door, tied, and placed in charge of a guard.

When Harold had come out, Colonel Conger was satisfied that further parley with Booth was vain; that he would not surrender; and, passing to the other ide of the barn he pulled out a whisp of hay from one of the crevices, and ighting it by a match, thrust it back

among the hay. Within a few minutes the blazing hay lighted up the in-side of the barn. Booth, who was at first discovered leaning upon a crutch, threw it down, and with the carbine in his hands, came towards the side where ins nands, came towards the side where the fire had been applied. But the light of the fire inside prevented him from seeing who was on the outside.—
He paused, looked at the fire for a moment, and then started towards the

When about the middle of the barn he was shot by Sergeant Corbett, who had, meanwhile, crept up to the barn, and fired through a crevice of the boards. It is the opinion of Colonel Baker's officers that if this shot had not been fired, they would in a few minutes more have had the assassin in their custofy alive. custody alive.

Booth fell on the floor of the barn.

Colonel Conger and Lieutenant Baker immediately entered, and with the assistance of two of the soldiers, removed the wounded man and placed him on the grass outside of the barn. He appeared to be insensible, but in a few mi nutes partially revived, and made efforts to speak. By placing his ear close to Booth's mouth, Col. Conger heard him say, "Tell mother I die for my coun-try."

He was then carried to the porch of He was then carried to the porch of Garrett's house. Col. Conger sent to Port Royal for a physician, who, on his arrival, found Booth dying. Before the moment of final dissolution he repeated:

"Tell mother I died for my country. I did what I thought was for the best."

When an effort was made to revive him, by bathing his face and hands in cold water, he uttered the worlds. cold water, he uttered the words, " us ess—useless."

He was shot at about fifteen minutes

past three a. m., and died a little after seven a. m. on Wednesday.

When it was ascertained that he was dead, the body was placed upon a car-the only conveyance that could be procured—and brought to Belle Plain where it was placed upon the steamer and conveyed to the Navy Yard at Washington. After it was deposited there it was identified by Doctor May, of this city, who had on one occasion cut a tumor from Booth's neck, and recognized the scar thus made. It was also identified by some thirty others, who wree familian thus made. with Booth during his lifetime. The body was somewhat bruised on the back and shoulders by the ride in the cart from Garrett's farm to Belle Plain

but the features were intact and per-fectly recognizable.

After the identification, by order of the War Department the body was pri-vately interred, in the clothing which was upon it at the time Booth was shot. Previous to being landed at the navy yard the body of Booth was for a time placed upon a gunboat in the harbor, and some of the officers availed themselves of the opportunity to secure locks of the hair of the murderer.

Circumstances of the Arrest of Junius [From the Philadelphia Ledger, April 29.]

There were peculiar circumstances onnected with the arrest of Junius Bruconnected with the arrestor Junius Brutus Booth in this city. After his arrest by Detective Krupp he was taken to the Provost-Marshal's office, to await the departure of the train for Washington. departure of the train for the was in charge while in the office, he was in charge of two men as a guard. He engaged in very little conversation, but was very little conversation, but was smoking a cigar, and during this time he frequently took from his pocket what appeared to be scraps of paper with which to light his cigar. The guard which to light his cigar. The guard did not attach any importance to the act, but it afterward transpired that these were letters and envelopes which were thus destroyed. After he had been sent away, the attention of Capt. Lane and Commissioner Barrett was called to the fact; they gathered together the fragments, but the letters were so effectually destroyed that nothing can now be gained from them. nothing can now be gained from them. The corner of an envelope showed the printed inscription, "British Province," and a small remnant of the letter inside

of this envelope contains only the words
"your brother."
While in the office Junius Booth was engaged in looking over the Bible on the table. When he had finished this he took a narrow slip of paper and wrote what now appears to have been a letter. It was written on both sides; but as soon as finished he tore them into small pieces and threw them into the spit-box or on the floor. After he was gone an or on the moor. After ne was gone an attempt was made to collect the fragments of this letter, but without success. Enough was found to show that the letter was intended for his sister, and referred to the fact that he was waiting in the Marshal's office for the cars. He bade her be of good cheer. There is also a reference to "grandma," but the rest of the sentence is gone. Attention is called to two psalms; one can be made out—the forty-ninth; the other is not decipherable, as a part of the numerals are torn off and lost.

-At latest accounts the guerrillas were in quiet possession of Uniontown, Ky.

Important Order of the War Depart-

ment. The following important order has been issued by the War. Department WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJ'T GENER-AL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, April 28, 1865—General Order, No. 77.—For relucing the expenses of the military establishment.
Ordered First. That the chiefs of the

respective bureaus of this department proceed immediately to reduce the exproceed immediately to reduce the state of their respective departments to what is absolutely necessary, in view of an immediate reduction of the forces in the field and corrieous and the in the field, and garrisons, and the speedy termination of hostilities, and that they severally make out statements of the reduction they deem practicable. Second. That the Quartermaster General discharge all ocean transports not required to bring home troops in remote departments. All river and inland transportation will be discharged, except that required for the necess plies to troops in the field. Purchases of horses, mules, wagons, and other land transportation will bestopped; also, purchases of forger was to be stopped; also, the stopped of the stop purchases of forage, except what is re quired for immediate consumption. All purchases for railroad construction and transportation will also be stopped.
Third. That the Commissary General

of subsistence stop the purchase of supplies in his department, for such as may, with what is on hand, be required for the forces in the field to the 1st of June Fourth. That the Chief of Ordnance stop all purchase of arms, ammunition and material therefor, and reduce the manufacturing of arms and ordnance

stores in Government arsenals as rapid ly as can be done without injury to the ervice.
Fifth, That the Chief of Engineer. stop work on all field fortifications and other works, except those for which specific appropriations have been made by Congress for completion or that may be required for the proper protection of

works in progress.
Sixth. That all soldiers in hospitals who require no further medical treatment be honorably discharged from service, with immediate payment. All officers and enlisted men who have been prisoners of war, and are now on furlough or at parole camps, and all refuriough or at parole camps, and all re-cruits in rendezvous, except those for the regular army, will likewise be hon-orably discharged. Officers whose duty it is under the regulations of the service to make out rolls and other final papers connected with the discharge and law. connected with the discharge and payment of soldiers, are directed to make them out without delay, so that this order may be carried into effect imp

diately.
Seventh. The Adjutant General of the army will cause immediate returns to be made by all commanders in the field, garrisons, detachments and posts of their respective forces, with a view to their immediate reduction. Eighth. The Quartermasters of Subsistence, Ordnance, Engineers and Pro-

vost Marshal Generals Departments will reduce the number of clerks and employees to that absolutely required for closing the business of their respec-tive departments, and will without delay report to the Secretary of War the number required of each class or grade. The Surgeon General will make similar reduction of surgeons, nurses nd attendants in his bureau

Ninth. The chiefs of the respective bureaus will immediately cause property returns to be made out of public property in their charge, and a statement of property in each that may be sold upor advertisement and public sale with prejudice to the service.

Tenth. That the Commissary of Pris

Tenth. That the Commissary of Prisoners will have rolls made out of the name, residence, time and place of capture, and occupation of all prisoners of war who will take the oath of allegiance to the United States, to the end that such as are disposed to become good and loyal citizens of the United States, and who are proper objects of executive clemency, may be released upon terms that to the President shall seem fit and consistent with the public safety. consistent with the public safety.

By order of the Secretary of War:

(Official.) T. M. VINCENT, A. A. G.

Booth's Burial Place The correspondent of the New York World, at the conclusion of a most interesting account of the capture of Booth gives the following account of the dis-

posal of his remains : The Secretary of War, without instructions of any kind, committed to Colonel Lafayette C. Baker of the sewilkes Booth. The secret service never fulfilled its volition more secretively. "What have you done with the body?" said I to Baker. "That is known" he answered "to only one man living hearing meanly in the body." man living beside myself. It is I will not tell you where. The I will not tell you where. The only man who knows is sworn to silence. Never till the great trumpeter comes shall the grave of Booth be discovered." And this is true. Last night, the 27th of April, a small row boat received the of April, a small row boat received the carcass of the murderer; two men were in it; they carried the body off into the darkness, and out of that darkness it will never return. In the darkness, like his great crime, may it remain forever, impalpable, invisible, nondescript, condemned to that worse than damnation, annihilation. The river bottom may once about it lades. river bottom may ooze about it laden with great shot and drowning manacles. The earth may have opened to give it hat silence and forgiveness which will never give its memory. nay swim around it, or the daisies grow white above it; but we shall never know. Mysterious, incomprehensible, unattainable, like the dim times through which we live and think upon as if we only dreamed them in perturbid fever, the assassin of a nation's head rests somewhere in the elements, and that is all; but if the indignant seas or the profaned turf shall ever vomit this corpse from their recesses, and it receives humane or Christian burial from some who do not recognize it, let the last words those decaying lips ever uttered be carved above them with a dagger, to tell the history of a young and once promising life—useless! useless!

## John Wilkes Booth's Last Letter to His

Mother. A letter written by John Wilkes Booth to his mother, dated on the morning of the 14th of April, the day of assassination, has fallen into the hands of the government authorities. It is directed to "Mrs. M. A. Booth, No. 28 East Nineteenth street, New York, N. Y.," and bears a Washington, D. C., Postoffice stamp dated April 14. It bears the appearance of having been written in considerable haste, and is contained on one side of half a sheet of note paper.

APRIL 14-2 A. M.
DEAREST MOTHER-I know you expect a letter from me, and am sure you will hardly forgive me. But indeed I have had nothing to write about. Everything is dull; that is, has been till last night. (The illumination.) Everything was bright and splendid. More so in my eyes if it had been a display in a nobler cause. But so goes the world. Might makes right. I only dronyou these few lipse teletrate. drop you these few lines to let you know I am well, and to say I have not heard from you. Excuse brevity, I am in haste. Had one from Rose. With best least to word! love to you all, I am your affectionate son ever,

Lo, the Poor Brigadier.

We will suppose the war over and peace declared. To do so is only lookng a little way into the future. being declared, and all things having resumed their old time routine, what is resumed their old time routine, what is to become of the caravan of the political Brigadier Generals, two-thirds of whom have loafed and lived, and liquored up at the expense of Uncle Samuel. Where will the poor Brigadiers go to find comfort, not to say salary? On training days, in times gone by, a Brigadier was an enormous being, and a matter of awe, and cocked hat, spurs, gold lace to the gaping crowd, and fearfully and majestically wonderful. Now a Brigadier is regarded in most instances as a joke, a political sarcasm upon the military. Not much more respect is paid his title, in common conversation, than to that of an Orderly Sergeant or a Drum Major. Alas for the Jigadier Brindles.—Sunday Mercury. Mercury.

The Tribunesays, that had President Lincoln lived, there would have been no armed force in the field, at farthest, in thirty days; and that the war would by that time have been finished forever ;-but that now, no mortal can foretell the limit or duration of the fighting.