THIS number of the Weekly Intelligeneer is issued a day in advance of our usual publication day, in order to enable all connected with the establishment an opportunity of properly celebrating the Fourth.

The Fourth of July.

The preparations for a general and enthusiastic celebration of the National Anniversary on to-morrow are more extensive than have been known for years past. Throughout the North the day will be observed as a holiday, and there will be more than the usual amount of burning of powder, and of speech-making. This is all right and oroper. That is a beautiful custom vhich consecrates certain days as sacred o the memory of our hero dead, and ets apart others as occasions of public ejoicing. It is a pleasant thing to see nation's millions gather in grateful emembrance of great deeds about the onsecrated tomb of him who has justly von the proud title of a nation's beneactor. It is delightful to witness the ejoicing of a whole people, assembled commemorate some great event in heir past history. The Fourth of July s our great national holiday. Itshould lways be properly celebrated by all vho can appreciate aright the grandeur of the occasion, when, amid doubts. ind darkness and danger a great nation had its birth. We hail the universal disposition which has been exhibited to make the celebration of tomorrow more imposing than usual as a good omen.

The day will be one of joy, but the rejoicings will not be unmixed with sadness, nor will the minds of thoughtful men be free from anxious fears for the future. With our shouts of gladness will mingle deep sighs of regret for the ruin wrought by four years of the most sanguinary civil war. How many, many thousands of those who were brethren, children of a common country, born of a kindred blood, have fallen within the last four years. They battled as heroes for what they believed to be right, and they died with a heroic bravery which has never been surpassed. To-morrow we will think of those who laid down their lives to maintain the Union; but if we are wise we will ask ourselves whether their lives might not have been spared to themselves, to their families, and to their country by a judicious spirit of compromise: The present Fourth of July will be a good time for self-examination, a proper occasion for individual and national self-abasement. If we are truly patriotic we will show ourselves ready o sacrifice passion, and prejudice and all manner of selfish feelings upon the altar of our country's good.

The war is over. We should all repice that the bloody struggle has ended. It has left us weaker than we were. A half million of brave men lie stark and cold in their graves as its bleeding

A huge national debt rests upon us, which must hang for a long time as a heavy weight upon thearm of industry, retarding our material prosperity. One almost destroyed. There is not a little of bitterness mingling with the nation's joy in the great national holiday of tomorrow.

Wise men, looking forward to the future with anxious and patriotic hearts, ee but dimly what is to be the result. There are very many important quesons staring us in the face, and imperavely demanding to be met and answerd. How shall we meet the great issues I the day? That is the question for now. Will we show ourselves able rise above all partisan feelings, and act as patriotic men, who know no otive but the controlling one of the ountry's good, should do. If we can this, all may yet be well with us nd, by the time the next anniversary our nation's birthday comes round, e may be able to rejoice, without the xieties and the fears that oppress us w. May God grant that wisdom and oderation may guide our people in the ture: that the bonds of our glorious nion may be firmly cemented by the nly bond that ever firmly united us, netie of love; and that for all future ime, on every recurring anniversary of he Fourth of July, a united, prosperus, and happy people, knowing no North and no South, may hail with by as their common inheritance.

A union of lakes and a union of lands A Union none can sever Aunion of hearts and a union of hands, And the flag of our Union forever..

The Iowa Republican Platform. The Republican party of Iowa have ut themselves very squarely upon the cord in favor of negro suffrage and egro equality. The fourth resolution reported from the Committee of Resoitions and adopted by the Convention. as follows:

4th. Resolved, That with proper safeiards to the purity of the ballot box, he elective franchise should be based pon loyalty to the Constitution and nion, recognizing and affirming the uality of all men before the law. Even that was not regarded as strong

Mr. Russell, editor of the Davenport azette, offered the following amendent to the 4th resolution, which was fered as a minority report from the ommittee on Resolutions :

Therefore we are in favor of amend g the Constitution of our State by riking out the word "white" in the icle on suffrage.' The vote on the amendment was 5131

las, 212} nays. Thus it will be seen by what an imerase the word white from the State nstitution of Iowa. Conservative publicans of Pennsylvania can see here the party with which they have ted now stands. The radical leaders

ense majority the Convention voted New England and the Northwestern tes have always controlled the party, d given expression to its sentiments eir word has been law for it in the st. So it will be in the future. Every e cast for that party from this day Il be a vote in favor of negro suffrage d negro equality. It will be so nted and so intepreted, no matter at sort of a milk and water platform y be put forth to gull the people of nsylvania.

Important Decision. idge Miller, of the United States Sune Court, rendered a very important on the other day, in St. Paul, n. He discharged a man who aidsecuring fraudulent exemptions. who was indicted therefor, on the nd that the provision of the draft was void, as it not fix a certain term nishment. The penalty provided prisonment during the existence e rebellion, and the court held that s impossible to ascertain any defilength of time of imprisonment

The Hampton Roads Conference. Statements of what took place at the elebrated peace conference in Hampon Roads, where President Lincoln and Secretary Seward met Alexander H. Stephens and other prominent rebels, were published at the time. It appears that, as is not unusual in cases of this kind, some things that passed between the parties were kept back from the public.

A Georgia newspaper (the Augusta Chronicle) has published recently what ourports to be a detailed statement of the conversation that occurred between President Lincoln and Mr. Seward or the one side, and Vice President Stephens and Messrs. Hunter and Campbell on the other. The materials for this statement, which is remarkable in some of its points, are said to have been furnished by Mr. Stephens himself, and to consist in part of oral communications made by him to the writer, and in part of the confidential written report (never before published) turnished by the rebel commissioners to President Davis. From the report, which was signed by all three of the commissioners, the following significant extract is taken. It is illustrative of the liberal temper manifested on that occasion by

President Lincoln: Mr. Seward then remarked: Mr President, it is as well to inform these gentlemen that yesterday Congress act-ed upon the amendment of the Consti-

ution abolishing slavery. Mr. Lincoln stated that was true, and suggested that there was a question as to the right of the insurgent states to return at once and claim a right to vote upon the amendment, to which the con-currence of two-thirds of the states was required. He stated that it would be desirable to have the institution of slavery abolished by the consent of the people as soon as possible—he hoped within six years. He also stated that four hundred millions of dollars might be offered as compensation to the own ers; and remarked: "You would be surprised were I to give you the names of those who favor that."

The Chronicle also makes, on the authority of Mr. Stephens, the following statement :

Mr. Stephens came home with a new cause of sorrow, and those who said he talked of coming home to make war speeches and denounce the terms offered, staply lied. Before Mr. Lincoln's leath, he thought he was doing a favor to him not to include that offer of four hundred millions in gold for the South ern slaves, in the published report, for it would be used to the injury of Mr. Lincoln by those of his enemies who talk about taxation and the debt.

The World says these remarkable statements, which, if true, are important materials of history, raise two questions to which public curiosity will seek an answer:

1. It is probable that the main state ment—that relating to the offer by President Lincoln of the four hundred mil-

lions—is true? Supposing it true, who are the parties referred to by Mr. Lincoln whose approval of the offer would have surprised the rebel commissioners?

The fact that the statement was made

in a confidential report prepared by the Mr. Davis, and signed by all their names, creates a strong presumption of its truth, which can be rebutted only by evidence of its intrinsic improbability. If there be such improbability t certainly does not lie in any conflict between the offer and the tenor of Mr. Lincoln's antecedent views. In his second annual message. Mr. Lincoln said: "It is none the less true for having been often said, that the people of the South are not more responsible for been avoided, and there are multitudes who cannot see the good which has been who cannot see the all use cotton and sugar, and share the profits of dealing in them, it may not be quite safe to say that the South has been more responsible than the North section of the country lies wasted and for its continuance. If, then, for a common object, this property is to be sacrificed, is it not just that it be done at a common charge?" A comparison of this passage in the message with the

statement of the commissioners, renders the alleged offer entirely credible. The next question is, who Mr. Lincoln probably referred to in his dark intimation respecting those who approved of the offer. As he used the plural number, we can lift only one corner of the vail. Whoever may have been the surprising indorsers of this offer, it is certain that Mr. Horace Greeley was its original proposer. In his letter to President Lincoln recommending the Niagara Falls negotiation (surreptitiously published about the time of the Hampton Roads conference for the purpose of defaming Mr. Greeley) he suggested, as one of his six points to constitute the basis of peace, the payment of four hundred millions in United States five per cent. bonds, as slaves, to be distributed among the States in the ratio of the slave population; the share of each State to be at the absolute disposal of its Legislature. The paternity of the four hundred million offer made by President Lincoln clearly belongs to Mr. Greeley. It would seem, from the statement of Mr. Lincoln, that when he showed it to

in some very unexpected quarters. The facts here collated have only a historical interest; but they throw a curious light on one of the most remarkable transactions during the war. We dare say it was hardly surmised by those who violated confidence to procure the publication of Mr. Greeley's letter, that President Lincoln was, at that very time, giving the most scandalous part of it the highest sanction it could possibly receive.

others, it had the fortune to be indorsed

Commerce of the United States. Pursuant to the proclamation of the President, all the ports of the United States were reopened to the commerce

of the world on Saturday last, the first of July. The past four years have witnessed a great decline in the commerce of this country. The World is disposed to think that this decline is in a greater degree attributable to the Morrill tariff than to the Confederate cruisers; but, without discussing this point, it sets before us the results of the period above mentioned on our commercial prosperity. It apnears that in the year 1860 the commercial movement of the United States

stood as follows: Importations. \$400,122,296 making a general commercial move ment of more than \$761,000,000. Three years of war sufficed to reduce this movement to a little over \$583,000,000, divid-

ed as follows: Exportations \$331,809,459 Importations. \$252.187.587 By this fall of about thirty per cent. in the amount of the commercial activity we were put back to the point reached by us in 1853, making just about the same progress in a backward direction in three years of war which it had required ten years of peace for us to make in a forward direction. The results of the last year of the war, when fairly and fully tabulated, will show, we think, a still more unsatisfactory state of things as to our absolute commercial losses under the war, and the commercial policy which has prevailed in conse-

quence of the war. THE NEW YORK FIBM of Claffin, Mellen & Co., sold goods last year to the amount of over forty-two million dollars \$-\$42,000,000! A. T. Stewart's wholesale department sold over thirty-nine millions \$39,000,000. The amount sold in Stewart's retail department is not stated in the paper from which the above figures are obtained.

Opposing President Johnson. On last Tuesday the Democratic State

Convention of Vermont metat Burlington, nominated a full ticket, and laid down a platform for the party in the present campaign. The reconstruction policy of President Johnson was indorsed as wise, proper and judicious.-This the Convention did from no interested motives, and in so doing they gave utterance, not only to the views of the Democracy of Vermont, but of the party throughout the whole country. On the following day, last Wednesday, the Republican State Convention of Vermont assembled at Montpelier, nominated a ticket, and put forward platform. That body refused to indorse President Johnson and his policy of reconstruction. The stumbling block in the road was the doctrine of negro suffrage. On that question the following resolutions were adopted by the convention:

Resolved, That looking back to the happy experience of our own State in extending the largest liberty to native or naturalized citizen of quiet and peaceable behavior, irrespective of color or race, and forward to the inestimable lessings that will flow to the late slave States from a free, industrious, intelli gent, virtuous, peaceable and patriotic population; we do respectfully and earnestly counsel the people of those States that they blot out forever from their statutes all laws pertaining to the late condition of slavery, and to con-cede to all of their native and naturalized citizens, by Constitutional guaranty, equality of civil and political rights, eaving to each to reach his proper social position by the character he bears

and the merit he fairly wins.

Resolved, That on the failure of any reorganized State to give the guaranty named in the preceding resolutions, we insist that Congress shall use all its constitutional powers, so as to secure a Re publican Government, both in form and essence, to the people of such State. The meaning of those resolutions is

too plain to be mistaken or misinterpreted. The first resolution insolently demands that each Southern State shall confer entire political equality upon the whole negro population; the second insists that Congress shall, despite the acts of President Johnson and in defiance of the Constitution of the United States, and of the rights of the several States, refuse to allow a return of any State into the Union, except upon condition of its accepting the fanatical idea of entire negro equality, as part of the fundamental law of its future existence. And this Congress, is urged to do, in the exercise of some imaginary power conferred upon it by that clause of the Constitution which says, "the United States shall guaranty to every State in this Union a Republican form of government.'

Was there ever a more absurd confusion of ideas. Here we have the assembled wisemen of the Abolition party in one of the New England States, urging Congress to assume absolute and aroitrary control of the local affairs of the Southern States for the purpose of forcing them, by pains and penalties, to adopt the ideas of a set of Yankee fanatics as part of the fundamental law commissioners for the information of of those States. And it is gravely suggested that authority for thus instituting a centralized despotism is to be found in the clause of the Constitution | litical effect. They have ignored Demguaranteeing to every State in the Union a Republican form of govern- do so, and have kept up the warn-out ment. Such ridiculous reasoning, conclusions so widely dissevered from all The result is, that the Democrats have connection with the premises laid down, could not be looked for in the public deliberations of any body except a Yan- | in the State each party will celebrate kee Abolition State Convention. To the day after its own fashion. It is safe

negro suffrage does not surprise us. The | as their fathers did, with unalloyed de-Iowa State Convention led off in that votion to the Union, and unbounded direction. In Ohio there was much | love for one common country. artful dodging for the purpose of evading the issue, but the N. Y. Tribunc. and other leading Republican papers, claim that both the platform and the candidate in that State are all right on the greatissue. Vermont comes out very plainly. It serves timely notice on Andy Johnson that what he declines to do will be done through the revolutionary agency of Congressional interference. There will be stormy times in Congress during the next session .-We shall see fanaticism making its last fierce fight. It will be the struggle of New England ideas for universal rule. That the impracticable crack-brained philanthropists, who would plunge the nation into a new war for the furtherance of impossible theories will be defeated in the end we believe. But they will not give up the ghost without a desperate struggle and an immense amount of clamor. They know that the last hope of power for their party in the future hangs upon the a compensation to the loyal owners of doubtful thread of negro suffrage, and they will leave no stone unturned to accomplish their purposes. The real leaders of the Republican party are irrevocably committed to the doctrine. It is a party measure now, and by it, as a party, the organization must ture than in the past." stand or fall. That the days of its political existence are numbered, we verily believe. All conservative men will speedily turn their backs upon it. Thousands who have acted with it will speedily desert its ranks, and will find a resting place in the bosom of the great

The Election at Norfolk. At the Mayor's election in Norfolk. Va., on Saturday last, 824 votes were polled, of which Thomas C. Tabb, conservative Union, received 621, and Col. Stone, regular Union, 203. The Norfolk Old Dominion alleges that Col. Stone was defeated because the radical portion of the Union party who sustained Col. ion. The radicals, it further alleges, were composed mostly of the old residents of Norfolk, while the settlers from the North who were entitled to vote opposed giving the right of suffrage to the placks, and either cast their ballots for Tabb or kept away from the polls. The same paper adds: "A majority of the voters understood that to vote the Stone ticket was voting in favor of negro suffrage, which is certainly very distasteful' to nine-tenths of the men who gave their votes for Col. Stone. No man, no matter how popular he may be as a good citizen or upright man, can succeed as a nominee with this incubus resting

upon his ticket or party." Starvation in the South. The picture of Southern exhaustion presented almost surpasses belief. The Augusta (Ga.) Transcript says, for instance, that "the system of plunder (by disbanded and hungry rebel soldiers) inaugurated in some of our Southern cities will, unless speedily arrested. bring the whole people to starvation,' and then mentions the sacking of Camden. South Carolina, after this fashion "The mob began with attacks upon the public stores, then private stables were sacked, then the supplies gathered at the depots for the suffering and starving poor of the city were carried off, then the wagons which brought in the chari-ties of other cities were emptied, and even the mules were taken from them, even the mules were taken from them, and then the cows upon which poor widows and orphans depended for support." Similar scenes are reported in various other places, from the Carolinas to Texas. To both races, whites and blacks, from the Potomac river to the Caulf of Maxion the all-angressing over

Bennett on the Pillory. That great embodiment of original

sin and wickedness, James Gordon Ben nett. of the New York Herald, who ha devoted his energies for the last four years to the work of maligning the pubic character of Mr. Buchanan and other distinguished Democrats, has just been placed on a pillory which will afford the whole country an opportunity of seeing him as he is.

Standing on this pillory and looking back over a long life devoted to the acquisition of wealth at the expense of truth, honor and justice, well might he exclaim with Mokanna—

Here! Judge if hell, with all its power to damn, an add one blot to the foul thing I am!" The Richmond Commercial Bulletin of the 22d instant, contains the follow ing statement of a fact:

"James Gordon Bennett is not only the implacable foe of the South, but likewise of the United States entire; in fact, the enemy f all who do not offer to reward him. Thi of an who do not offer to reward nim. This is the editor who has taken a most active part in the past war. He was the first to agitate secession; and at one time absolutely advocated the secession of New York city in 1861, as an 'independent city,' but the abolitionists, both of New England and other Northern States know his weathern. other Northern States, knew his weakness, and he was, therefore, easily converted to their bloodthirsty views by the sight of gold.

"It has been whispered that in the beginning of the war, this self-same 'old man' wrote a letter to Mr. Davis, then the President of the Confederate States, offering to support the policy of his government for the sum of fifty thousand pounds sterling—this is reported to be a tact by men of influence sum of fifty thousand pounds sterling—this is reported to be a fact by men of influence who are presumed to know; and as Mr. Davis is now a prisoner in the hands of the government, we most respectfully suggest that he be called upon to acknowledge whether or not our assertion is correct. Mr. Davis refused this disgusting proposition, as all gentlemen would have done, and hence the malignity of this 'poor old man' to the South." to the South.

The New York World confirms this harge of the Richmond paper. It says: That Bennett asked Mr. Davis to give him £50,000 to support and advocate the rebellion, and that Mr. Davis declined the offer, we have known for some months. The fact was stated to us by a gentleman to whom Mr. Davis himsel alleged it—a gentleman whose word would not be doubted were we at liberty to mention his name, and who, although politically opposed to him, yet enjoyed his personal confidence, and between whom and the rebel president there was such intimacy that to him first, Mr. Davis communicated the dispatch of General Lee urging the evacuation of Richmond.

If our recollection serves us, Bennett, n his offer to Mr. Davis, stipulated that this £50,000 should be deposited to his credit abroad, and also that the rebel government should make good any losses he might incur in advocating its cause. Mr. Davis declined the offer, preferring to establish an open, honest organ, the *Index*, in London, and thereby the bottom of the restablish and the restablishment of the by showed a very correct appreciation of the *Herald's* utter lack of political veight and influence, its probable reachery, its certain cowardice, as hown when it was compelled to hoist the stars and stripes, and its capacity to make any cause odious by its support.

A Result of Partisan Bitterness. The Radicals have been making des perate efforts in many of the prominent towns throughout this State to capture the Fourth of July for partisan purposes. In getting up celebrations they have generally insisted upon making a prominent display of their extravagancies of opinion, for the purpose of poocrats wherever they could manage to slang about Copperheads, disloyalty, &c. resented the insults thus attempted to be put upon them; and in many towns President Johnson upon the subject of The Democracy will celebrate the day

General Sherman at Home. General Sherman reached his home at Lancaster, Ohio, on Saturday, June 24th. He was warmly welcomed by his old friends and neighbors, and his re-

sponse among other things, read: 'The past is now with the historian but we must still grapple with the fu-ture. In this we need a guide, and for-tunately for us all, we can trust the Constitution which has safely brought us through the gloom and danger of the past. Let each State take care of its own local interests and affairs, Ohio of hers, Louisiana of hers, Wisconsin of hers, and I believe the best results will follow. You all know well that I have lived much at the South, and I say that though we have been bitter and fierce enemies in the war, we must trust this people again in peace. The bad men among them will separate from those who ask for order and peace, and when the people do thus separate, we can en-courage the good, and, if need be, we can cut the head of the bad off at one blow. Let the present take care of the present, and with the faith inspired by the past, we can trust the future to the future. The Government of the United States and the Constitution of our fathers have proven their strength and power in time of war, and we can safely trust them now in peace, and I believe oor whole country will be even more brilliant in the vast and unknown fu-

Missouri. An immense meeting was held at St. Louis, on the 19th instant, to denounce the action of Governor Fletcher in removing the Judges of the Supreme Court of that State by military force. The result of the deliberation of the conservative political party of the counmeeting was the declaration that "the most dangerous and guiltiest of criminals" was the man who, entrusted with power, abused that power "for purposes of lawlessness and tyranny." It was charged that Governor Fletcher was that man; that his outrage upon the majesty of the law is not to be pardoned until those who were lawlessly placed in power were by lawful means ejected from their places. Finally, Stone advocated the extension of the | those present at the meeting solemnly right of suffrage to the colored popula- pledged themselves not to rest or slumber until, with all the ceremonials of criminal justice, sentence is passed upon the chief offenders.

Organization of Invalid Companies for the Regular Army Discontinued. The necessity for the services of the invalid companies of the regular army, authorized by paragraph five of General the War Department has ordered those organizations to be discontinued. Commanding officers of depots are ordered to at once cause a careful medical examination to be made of the enlisted men composing them. All men who are not now. or who are not likely to become. capable of performing field duty, will at once be discharged on the usual medical certificates. The remainder will be forwarded to their companies as rapidly as

their condition will permit. The Russian Plague. The following copy of a letter, addressed to the Acting Secretary of State, has been received at the custom-house in New York:

UNITED STATES CONSULATE PORT MAHON, May 31, 1865. \\
Hon. W. Hunter, Acting Secretary of State
to the United States: Sir: I have the honor to inform the lepartment that, from various sources information has been received here that the Russian plague is extending westward more rapidly than is generally supposed. Some of the faculty call it con-

posed. Some of the faculty call it contagious, others do not.

I would respectfully suggest that all cargoes arriving in the United States from Russian or Turkish ports be subjected to a rigid scrutiny before landing, especially hedding, clothing, rags, etc.

The disease is said to be the same as that which yisited London over a century ach.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant, H. B. Robinson, Consul.

Are the Southern Negroes Destined to a race forcibly transported to a state of York World.]

This

by some of the public journals, is of such rave import as to deserve adequate disission. It is doubtless impossible to aproach it in a spirit of independence, without shocking great numbers of people. The same kind of shallow sentimentalism that raised a general outcry against Mr. Malthus when he first promulgated the true theory of population will be even more offended at the idea of the extinction of an existing race of people. But as all living must die, why should anybody be startled at the idea that now existing negroes will certainly die too? Extinction will come, if at all, by fewer and fewer negroes being born. The arguments applicable to this subect are simply an extension of the Malthusian theory; and there is no more reason why humane people should be shocked by what we have to offer on his question than at the well-establish-

d principles of Mr. Malthus. The vigor of the procreative principle will cause any population (bating exceptional conditions) to overtake and press hard upon the means of subsistence. At the present rate of increase the white population of the United States would, in a century from this time, amount to three hundred millions; and then, if it continued to double every thirty years, it would quickly outstrip the capacity of the country to support it. Before the end of this century the checks which prevent the populations of Europe from multiplying at the same rapid rate as ours, will begin to operate with some vigor in this country; and they will become constantly more effi-

Now, as births of some kind must be prevented, in virtue of the irresistible law demonstrated by Malthus, why not the births of negroes as well as the births of whites? And as the negroes are an inferior race, why not the births of negroes rather than the births of whites? Will it not be better that the country, when fully settled, shall be peopled from the stock of white Europeans, confessedly superior to all others, than by an intermixture of whites and negroes? If there are tears to be shed over the doomed race, let them be reserved till the extinction of the aboriginal inhabitants of the country has been duly wept.

cussion we will confine ourselves to a statement and elucidation of some of the facts which will form the basis of subsequent reasoning. It is a fact susceptible of conclusive proof, that the ree negroes of the United States are more subject to disease, more given to vice and crime, and less prolific in births, than negroes in a state of slavery. Attention was first drawn to this subject after the census of 1840. By that census, it appeared that the number of insane, deaf, dumb, and blind among the negro population of the free States was far larger, in proportion, than either among the slaves of the South, or the white population of the free States .-The facts then disclosed were made a ground for impeaching the accuracy of the census and representations were made to the Department of State, which then had charge of the Census Bureau, the Department of the Interior not hav-

ing yet been created. The Secretary of State thereupon opened communications with the state governments, and instituted other inquiries, the result of of negroes undergoing penalties, in 1840 and the two or three subsequent years, uniformly bore a much larger proportion to the whole negro population of those states, than the number of white criminals did to the white population. Each census since taken has enlarged the subjects of inquiry; and since that of 1860, it may be considered as settled, that the physical, moral, and sanitary condition of the free negroes is not only inferior to that of the white population (which is evident without statistics) but inferior to that of negroes in a state of

slavery. As we can expect little atten-

tion to our inferences on this subject

without a complete authentication of

the facts from which they are drawn,

we shall make copious extracts of interesting matter from the census of 1860: In the interval from 1850 to 1860 the total free colored population of the United States increased from 434,449 to 487,970, or at the rate of 12.33 per cent. in ten years, showing an annual increase of above one per cent. This result includes the number of slaves liberated and those who have escaped from their owners, together with the natural increase. In the same decade the slave population, omitting those of the Indian tribes west of Arkansas, increased 23.39 per cent., and the white population 37.97 per cent., which rates exceed that of the free colored by two-fold and three-fold respectively. Inversely, these comparisons imply an excessive mortality among the free colored, which is particularly evident in the large cities.— Thus, in Boston during the five years ending with 1859, the city regis-trar observes: "The number of colored births was one less than the numbe of marriages, and the deaths exceeded the births in the proportion of nearly two to one." In Providence, where a very correct registry has been in operation under the superintendence of Dr. Snow, the deaths are one in twenty-four of the colored; and in Philadelphia, during he last six months of the census year, the new city registration gives 148 births against 306 deaths among the free color-ed. Taking town and country together, lowever, the results are more favorable In the state registries of Rhode Island and Connecticut, where the distinction of color has been specified, the yearly deaths of the blacks and mulattoes have generally, though not uniformly, exceeded the yearly births—a high rate of mortality.

tality, chiefly ascribed to consumption and her diseases of the respiratory system₁ The striking and instructive facts here stated will be perceived to have an intimate bearing on the great problem of the ultimate destiny of the American freedmen. Although the ranks of the free negroes were recruited, in the ten years, by those manumitted by their masters and those who escaped by their own enterprise, they did not increase Orders No. 245, of 1863, having ceased, half so fast, in proportion, as the negroes in slavery; and only one-third as fast as the white population of the country. It is fair to infer that whenever the the is fair to infer that whenever the checks on procreative vigor shall come into full action in this country, they will operate with far greater force in the prevention of negro than of white births. They were already operating as powerfully on the free negroes, in this land of good wages and abundance, between the years 1850 and 1860, as among the growded and bulk-new representations of the country to the crowded and half-pauper populations of Europe.

The cause of this fact will hereafter be reinforced and intensified by new influences, which we will specify in a subsequent article. One of the most important of the causes heretofore in operation, is so well demonstrated in the following extract from the last census report, that we need not make no apology for its length:

One great cause of the declension of One great cause of the declension of the free people of color in some portions of the country, and their slow increase in other parts, arises, doubtless, from their greater indifference, as a class, to virtuous moral restraint, attributable, in part, to the fact of the entire free colored population coming, not very rein part, to the fact of the entire free colored population coming, not very remotely, from a state of slavery where but little respect was paid to parental rights, or to the conjugal relation, and perhaps, in part, to a condition or estate which tends to depress those ambitious aspirations which are not harren of effect in the promotion of virtue. That

slavery here, from a country without history, literature, or laws, whose peo-ple remain in barbarism, should not have been able to attain to an equality stion, which has been started in morals with their intellectual superi-ors, is not surprising. In fact, when we consider the obstacles which have

interposed to impede their advancement, it must be admitted that their progress as a class has been as great as circumstances would allow. The extent to which they are susceptible of culture must be left for the future to determine. That an unfavorable moral condition has existed and continues among the free colored, be the cause what it may notwithstanding the great number of excellent people included in that population necessar for a moment doubt lation, no one can for a moment doubt who will consider that with them an element exists which is to some extent positive, and that is the fact of there h ing more than half as many mulattoes as blacks, forming, as they do, thirty-six and one-fourth per cent. of the whole colored population; and they are maternally descendents of the closed maternally desc ndants of the colored race, as it is well known that no appre ciable amount of this admixture is the result of marriage between white and black, or the progeny of white mothers —a fact showing that whatever deterio-ration may be the consequence of this alloyage is incurred by the colored race. Where such a proportion of the mixed race exists, it may reasonably be inferred that the barriers to license are not more insuperable among those of the same That corruption of morals pro ceeds with greater admixture of races and that the product of vice stimulate the propensity to immorality, is as evi-dent to observation as it is natural to circumstances. These developments of the census, to a good degree, explain the slow progress of the free colored popu-lation in the Northern States, and indi-

ecome diffused among the dominan There are, however, other causes, al hough in themselves not sufficient to account for the great excess of deaths over births, as is found to occur in some Northern cities, and these are such as are incident to incongenial climate and are incident to incongenial climate and a condition involving all the exposure and hardships which accompany a peo-ple of lower caste. As but two censuses have been taken which discriminate between blacks and mulattoes, it is not yet so easy to determine how far the ad nixture of the races affects their vital power; but the developments already made would indicate that the mingling of the races is more unfavorable to vitali than a condition of slavery, which practically ignores marriage to the ex-clusion of the admixture of races, has proved-for among the natural increase has been been as high as three per cent., while the proportion of mulattoes at the present period reaches but 10.41 per cent. in the slave popula-In this preliminary stage of the distion. Among the free colored in the Southern States the admixture of races appears to have progressed at a some-what less ratio than at the North, by

the longer period of their freedom in the midst of the dominant and more numerous race, and the supposition of more mulattoes than blacks having es caped or been manumitted from slavery The extinction of slavery, in widen ing the field for white labor and enter prise, will tend to reduce the rate of in crease of the colored race, while its dif fusion will lead to a more rapid admix-fusion will lead to a more rapid admix-ture, the tendency of which, judging from the past, will be to impair it phy-sically without improving it morally. With the lights before us, it seems quite rational to conclude that we need not look forward to centuries to develor the fact that the white race is no more favorable to the progress of the African race in its midst than it has been to the perpetuity of the Indian on its borders, and that, as has been the case in all other countries. on this continent, wher the blacks were once numerous, colored population in America, wherever, either free or slave, it must in number and condition be greatly subo dinate to the white race, is doomed to comparatively rapid absorption or ex-tinction. How this result is to be avert-

respecting the past. We suppose the great number of from the fact that the bulk of the slaves ived on rural plantations, and a large proportion of the free negroes, in cities The consequence is, that the free negresses come oftener into contact with beastly, profligate whites, who become fathers of their offspring. The general licentiousness which prevails among the free negroes is unfavorable to procreation, for the same physic logical reasons that prostitutes are not prolific. This terrible vice, which is rapidly exterminating the Sandwich Islanders, and slowly wasting away our Indian tribes, is the common curse of inferior races in contact with civiliza tion. But it is principally the powerful causes that will now reinforce it. that

lead us to apprehend the speedy extinction of the freedmen. New England. The Middle, Western and Southern States have but little reason to love New England. It has always been the hotbed of fanaticism, and the fruitful source of hurtful political excitement. Its representation in the United States Senate, being so disproportionately large, has given to it an undue preponderance of power in the national councils. Had this ower not been so frequently misused, no complaints would ever have arisen; but, it is a fact that there is to-day a growing feeling of discontent in regard to that matter. The great States are beginning to ask why New England, with her comparatively diminutive territorial extent and meagre population, should be allowed so large a representation in the Senate and the Electoral College? It is not likely that this feelng will decrease with time. It is possible, nay quite probable, that before five years this matter of representation in the Senate and Electoral College, in proportion to population, will become a political issue. Some of the conservative journals of that section see indications of the coming struggle. The Manchester (New Hampshire) Union has the following excellent editorial on the sub-

Robert Dale Owen has published a letter on negro suffrage, in which he takes ground something like this: If only the whites are allowed to vote at the South; it will take only about half as many voters to elect a member of Congress there as here, inasmuch as the apportionment is not upon the number voters, but upon the population. The federal constitution guarantees to the States a republican form of government, and the basis of republicanism is the equality of all citizens; and to fulfill this guarantee it has the power to impose ne-gro suffrage upon the South—to establish from the working of her own theories, if they are carried out. The abolition of slavery, if it is abolished, gives the Southern States about fourteen additional representatives. ished, gives the Southern States about fourteen additional representatives; various causes set in operation by the war, will tend inevitably to diminish the population and influence of this section; the clamor for "equality" prevalent the claim for "equality" prevalent here in so many forms, if it amounts to anything, will "equalize" her worse than anybody else; and in the end, shorn of her political and commercial influence, she will stand only as a nonument of her own folly, a warning to meddlers in other people's busi-ness, and a sink of moral, social political and religious infidelity and rottenness. Another ten years like the last, and this language will not seem to subside into decent humility, purge herself of her own corruptions, and leave the chief part in national affairs to those whose temper has not been soured, nor their conscience seared, nor their hearts hardened by a life-long orusade against all men's sins—actual and hypothetical all men's sins—actus —except their own,

The President's Policy."

Interview between Mr. Johnson and Logan—A Discussion of Policy, in w Negro Suffrage is Touched Upon. springfield Correspondence Chic On the list of May, while at Washington, Gen. Logan called to pay his re-

spects to President Johnson, and was most cordially received. I am able to give the following synopsis of the conversation which took place at the interview, through the politeness of a gentleman who was present:

General Logan commenced by con-gratulating the President upon the conservative policy which he had initiated, and which was already productive of such excellent results. Hesaid that the era of war was necessarily closed, and that of reason and conciliation opened; and that it was essential to peace that the passions of both sections should now be allayed by kindly and considerate, yet firm, action on the part of the Executive, and he looked upon the Presi-

dent's as such.

President Johnson replied that he desired to have the seceded States return back to their former condition as quickly as possible. Slavery had been the cause of the war. That cause was now, most happily, removed, and consequent-ly he desired to see the Union restored as it was previously to the war, or, as the President laughingly remarked, as our Democratic friends used to say, "the Constitution as it is, the Union as it was," always saving and except slavery, that had been abolished. The war has decided that and forever. A gentleman present spoke of negro

suffrage, and suggested that, in reconstructing the Union, it would be necessary to disfranchise some leading rebels and enfranchise others (meaning loyal colored people,) or that the case of the cate, with unerring certainty, the grad-ual extinction of that people the more rapidly as, whether free or slave, they Virginia legislature reassembling would be repeated over again. The gentleman is a strong advocate of negro suffrage.

The President replied that the case of the Virginia Legislature was easily disposed of; that it had no power as a legislative body, and that it could do nothing anyhow. With regard to the extension of suffrage, the sentiment of the country the country at present appeared to tend towards a restriction rather than an extension of the right of suffrage generally.

Gen. Logan seconded the views of the President on the above, and then said that it might not be politic to give the rebels the right of suffrage immediately. He thought that it might be found advisable at first to hold them in a sort of publicage by military force. pupilage, by military force. As soon as they could be trusted, then give them the same power they possessed before.
The general also remarked that the wheel of reconstruction was a large and ponderous one, and that many who would take their stand upon it would be ground to powder. He had been fighting for four years to save the Union. He now proposed that those who desired to reconstruct it might go in and see what they could do. For his part he felt inclined to be rather a looker on

than an active participant in the contest which would naturally grow out of it. The President said: "General, there's no such thing as reconstruction States have not gone out of the Union, herefore, reconstruction is unnecessary. do not mean to treat them as inchoate States, but merely as existing States, but merely as existing under a temporary suspension of their Government, provided always they elect loyal men. The doctrine of coercion to preserve a State in the Union has been vindicated by the people. It is the province of the Executive to see that the will of the people is carried out in the will of the people is carried out in the rehabilitation of these rebellious States, once more under the authority as well as the protection of the Union.

General Logan responded, "That's The President then passed on to the question of the public debt. He said that the finances of the country were in a hopeful condition; that probably it was possible to resume specie payments immediately, were it not for the com-mercial distress it would create throughmercial distressit would create through-out the country generally. As to the public debt of the country, he was in favor of paying it to the last dollar, and would never countenance any man, party, sect, or measure that even squinted at repudiation in any form. The as incurred to save the country. It was a legacy of the war bequeathed to us for good or evil. It was not possible to shirk it. On the other hand, the mulatoes among the free negroes results | great question would be to make it, if

possible, an instrument of good, not evil, to the public generally.

The above is the substance of the conversation between these two distinguished men, brought up in the same party, and it seems to me that its purport is reassuring to the loyal mas country. On the question of negro suf frage the President appeared to be some what non-committal, probably, like Mr. Lincoln on emancipation, waiting to feel the public pulse upon it, and then acting as he thought they would desire him to act.

Platform of the Vermont Democracy. The following series of resolutions was unanimously adopted by the late Democratic State Convention of Ver-

Resolved, That we have renewed conindence in, and veneration for, Demo-cratic principles. Because those princi-ples were disregarded we have been af-flicted with one of the worst civil wars that the world hasever known, destroy ing probably halfa million of our citizens in the prime of life and the vigor of health, and oppressing us and our pos-terity with a national debt of more than four thousand millions of dollars and the consequent taxation to provide for the same; and, deploring these and other evils to the country which have deploring these and come upon it in consequence of a disregard of the principles of the national Democratic party, we have to-day renewed devotion to that party and its principles as the only basis of national liberty and self-government.

Resolved That symmet resistance to

Resolved, That armed resistance to the general Government having ceased in all the States, civil law should immediately be restored, not only in the States which have been true to the general government, and which have been arbitrarily and unjustly deprived of it, but throughout the whole country. Resolved, That this being the military

condition of the country, the control of the several States, as they existed before the rebellion, should at once be given to the white citizens thereof who have borne true allegiance to the general government, and those who will now take an oath to hereafter bear true allegiance to the national government.

Resolved, That believing with the im-

mortal Douglas that the government of the country was organized for, and should be controlled by the white race therein and the good of all will best be promoted by confining the right of suf-irage to the white citizens thereof, we are unalterably opposed to conferring the right of suffrage upon the ignorant negroes of the country.

Resolved, That we congratulate the men composing the Democratic party upon their patience and patriotism dur-ing the risk through which the country.

ing the crisis through which the country has passed. They have done their duty as good citizens, and no amount of party misrepresentation will prevent the country and the world from extolling a

misrepresented and oppressed party for those virtues.

Resolved, That in the wise and constitutional policy of President Johnson to restore all the States to their constito restore all the States to their consti-tutional position, reinvesting them with rights and corresponding duties, and cementing anew the integrity of the Government, we discern a most happy augury that the malignity which strife and collision have engendered may be utterly supplanted by the fraternity which enabled our fathers to form the Constitution and create the Union; and if with Jacksonian firmness he will if with Jacksonian firmness maintain his policy against the plot-tings of treason on the one hand and

the raving and ribaldry of fanaticism on the other, we tender to him our earnest and undivided support. Resolved, That our grateful thanks are due, and are hereby tendered, to the gallant soldiers of the army, who, by their bravery and self-sacrificing labors in the field, have subdued the rebellion, and thereby have nobly vindicated the declaration made by the immortal Jack-son—"The Union shall be preserved!"

Appointment of Provisional Governor for South Carolina.

President Johnson has appointed Benamin F. Perry Provisional Governor of South Carolina. The proclamation is similar to that issued in relation to the other States. Florida is the only State in which similar action has not been taken. Its case will be attended to speedily. Wisdom and moderation are all that are needed to insure the speedy restoration of all these States to the Spech of Governor Wells of Louisians. Gvernor J. M.: Wells of Louisiana was heralded to the world as a good Unio man when elected, has brought down upon his head the wrath of green Greeles, by a speech which he recently delivered at New Orleans. The speech is so little complimentary to the radical Abolitiolists, and so truthfully severe upon then, that we do not wonder at the ire of the white-hatted philosopher. But, while Horace fumes and frets, the conservative masses of the country will indorse the views of Governor Wells.— He said:

"It must be perceptible to every one who is at all conversant with the politi-cal history of the country, that the radi-cal abolition party is broken up, disor-ganized and demoralized, despite their apparent success during the present war.
The official corruption, unequalled by any party which has ever preceded or may ever succeed it, has rendered them obnoxious to the American people "The heavytaxation which must necessarily follow to pay the enormous debt of this wat and which must condeot of this wat and which must con-tinue for the next half-century, fixes an odium upon that party which will out-live the party itself.

"Then to whom are we to look for

the healing of the national wounds? Is it not to those who have taken national conservative grounds, and who have ever, during this war, advocated con servative principles—those principles advocated in past years by the old Whig party, and more recently by the conser-vatives of the Republican party and of the Democracy, and under whose be-

nign teachings we have grown and prospered as a nation? "Our President, Andrew Johnson, has ever been a constructive Democrat. In his hands is placed the destiny of this nation, and from him we have nothing to fear, but everything to hope I bespeak for his Administration one of the brightest pages in our history; and under this Administration, fellow-citizens, looking to him fer protection and taking his policy as our guide, must we organize our State Government. Every effort will be made by the radical Abovernment. lition party to prevent the return of power to the conservatives of the South and all the elements of opposition wi combine to prevent their success; and one of their formidable anxiliaries they suppose, is to extend the right of suffrage to that class of persons recently in possession of their freedom.
"This has been too clearly fore-shadowed by the political adventurers

who have come among us to have escapedattention. This, then, will be a your future action; and if, after having taken this country from the Red man and holding it for more than a century, you have becomeso charitable as to give it to the black man, I can only submit, and bow to the will of the people. The power granted to the several States by the Constitution of the United States to

egulate this question of suffrage is plain "It clearly belongs to the people, and I shall abide their decision.

Letter from General Ewell Giving His Reasons for Descriing the Old Flag. [From the St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer.]

A gentleman of St. Paul, who was formerly a non-commissioned officer in General (then Captain) Ewell's company of the regular army, wrote a friendly letter to his old commander a few weeks ago, and has received the following reply, which he has permitted us to publish on account of the explanation it affords of the motives and inducements which led General Ewell to embrace the secession cause. The letter is as follows:

FORT WARREN, B. H., June 13th, 1865. DEAR SIR—I was highly gratified at the receipts of yours of the 30th ult. Long experience has given me very dif-ferent views in regard to the responsibilities of an officer from those with which I left West Point, where a few mathematical formulas, never used afterwards, and abstruse branches of science, were dwelt upon, to the utter exclusion of the duties and responsibili-ties that were to occupy our lives. It is therefore highly gratifying that I have the testimony of one companion in arms that I made some friends among the soldiers—a portion of humanity where the treatment of the best is measure often by what the worst deserve, and whom it is easier to govern by the harshest rules than to take the trouble to discriminate between good and bad, and to make the profession easier when possi-

le. After the time of which you write my After the time of which you write my health suffered terribly for years, not much to the improvement of my temper, and I remember with regretmuch harsh language and conduct towards men who showed themselves better able to control themselves that I seeder hemselves than I could control myself. However, I always tried to be just in the long run, and while the discipline the long run, and while the discipline and good behavior of my company was notorious, I hope I may say no man was made worse by service with me, and many of the boys discharged from my company became valuable and industrious citizens. I never heard of one turning out badly during many years in New Mexico, and I learned that kindness gives a far more perfect control over the human as well as the brute races than harshness and cruelty

over the human as well as the brute races than harshness and cruelty.

That you may have as little as possible to be ashamed of serving with me, I will give you a short account of how I came into the Southern cause:

I came from Arizona, sick, in the spring of 1861. Staid in the country, in Virginia, my State, trying to get well, and found the war, to my bitter regret, was being started. All the highest United States army officers were resigning, except General Scott, and he published a letter that the United States would divide into four parts, thus showing that he was to the states would divide into four parts, thus showing that the thinked states would divide into four parts, thus showing the states are stated.

would divide into four parts, thus show-ing that he thought all was over. A United States Senator said he would march a Northern regiment to help the South for every one sent against her. Nothing was done with either of these men, or with others whose deeds were treasonable. A member of Congress, from California, made a public speech calling upon the South to resist the election of Mr. Lincoln.

Now I found myself forced to fight

Now I found myself forced to fight against my brothers and all my nearest and dearest relatives—against my own State, when many abler men than myself contended she was right. By taking up the side of the South I forfeited a handsome position, fine pay and the earnings of twenty years' hard service. All the pay I drew in four years in the South was not as much as one year's pay in the old army. The greatest political favoritism against me I ever had was from Mr. Davis after the Mexican war. It is hard to account for my course. from Mr. Davis after the Mexican war.

It is hard to account for my course,
except from a painful sense of duty—I
say painful, because I believe few were
more devoted to the old country than more devoted to the old country than myself; and the greatest objection I had to it was because of my predilection for a strong one. Now I see persons who did what they could to bring about the war, in high favor in the North, holding high office. It was like death the war, in high lawer in the North, holding high office. It was like death to me. En route here from New Mexico, in 1861, I volunteered my services to fight the Texans, threatening a United States post, and was eareful to do nothing against the United States before resigning.

ing.

I have asked to be allowed to take the oath of allegiance and return to my dusties as a citizen. I see, though, that many persons, active in the first steps in bringing this war about, are at liberty, while I am here with no very good prospect of getting out. while my wife prospect of getting out; while my wife is under arrest in St. Louis, and has been since April, but up to this time has ut-terly failed even to find out why she is arrested. Neither she or myself have the slightest idea of the cause of her

I have given you a long letter about myself because of the friendly tone of your letter, and because I feel naturally drawn toward those with whom I have served. I remain very respectfully, &c. R. S. EWELL.

Trial of the Conspirators. A telegraphic despatch from Washington says all the prisoners arraigned were found guilty by the Court. The President is now deliberating on the verdict of this military commission, and will examine the voluminous testimony closely before rendering a decision. It is understood that the President is by no means pleased at the responsibility imposed upon thim of endorsing the proceedings, and it is not improbable that he may quesh the affair, and order a new trial by the civil courts That is what he should do, for the sakeof his own reputation and the future of fair fame of the country. They alike a demand it.