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## EVENING BULLETIN.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1866.

MEKICO. The sick man of this continent refuses to take the boluses of French and Austrian empirical and imperial doctors; or at least, he refuses to get well under them. So they are about to abandon his case, and put him in the hands of Uncle Sam, if rumor be correct. But rumor has so often been at fault in regard to Mexico, that it is not safe to accept anything it says on the subject until it receives an official sanction.

A' United States protectorate over Mexico, after the withdrawal of Maximilian and his European troops, would be a good thing for the Mexicans, but not particularly good for the United States, even with the cession of Lower California and other parts of the Mexican republic. There should be some guarantees that the annexation would be made to pay, for with the enormousdebt we now have to bear, we cannot afford to maintain an army and a government in Mexico, any more than France could. There may be some such guarantees in the plan said to have been determined on, and these may be revealed by President Johnson in his annual message. Then, too, the Senate has a word to say in treaty-making, and the President has shown such contempt and hatred for the Senate, that it will probably scan very closely any project prepared by him and Mr. Seward.

THE JOHNSON PARTY.

During the election campaign in the States which voted on the 9th of the present month, the Copperhead press exulted in the rather dim prospect of the people endorsing the course of the President by their votes, and at the same time placing the seal of their disapprobation upon Congress. As the people did just the opposite thing, the coppery oracles have changed their tactics by denying that the masses have any privileges at all, and by contending for the divine right of Presidents. In this respect they merely imitate Mr. Johnson himself, for that patriotic Chief Magistrate and elegant and refined gentleman, while upon his late extraordinary tour, was much given to a recognition of the majesty of the people as opposed to all the regular constituted authorities, except Andrew Johnson, of course. Since the people to whom this question was referred have responded in a manner no less emphatic than unexpected, Mr. Johnson has thought better of the reference, and intends to disregard it, or he is very much misrepresented.

There are two classes of persons who support Andrew Johnson. The first, and by far the most numerous, forms the Democratic party. The Democracy support Andrew Johnson because he has gone over to them, and because through his treachery to the party that elected him, much of the fruits of the war, and of the struggle at the ballot-box in 1864, has been wasted or diverted into false channels. They sustain Andrew Johnson because he has relapsed into Copperheadism, and for no other reason; they oppose Congress as a logical necessity, because Congress is largely Republican, and because to oppose Congress is to sustain Andrew Johnson.

The second class of advocates of Andrew Johnson and his policy is made up of the successful Apostles of Bread and Butter. These gentry, who have sold out their principles for their fodder, cannot be expected to have much affection for a Congress, the highest branch of which will sweep them out of the way like so much chaff, at its coming session. has a light but delicious voice, remarkable They do not like Congress much, because they love bread and butter more, and as Andrew Johnson can help them to their rations, he is the man they will stand by. Then there is a section of the Bread and Butter Brigade who are hungry and who want to be filled, and who go for the great Presidential dispenser of the coveted loaves, in hope of being be repeated, and we advise all who want to

Richeliea has expressed the opinion that "hungry gratitude" is the most to be relied upon. These, and these only, are the men who support Andrew Johnson in the loyal States of the Union.

This condition of things does more or less credit to most of the parties concerned in it. The Democrats show their consistency by supporting a brother Copperhead whom chance has put in the presidential chair, and the Bread and Butter men are consistent with their fixed principle of considering the pursuit of loaves and fishes as the first and most sacred of human duties. Andrew Johnson can take great pride in his new party, if there is much to make him proud in the fact that it is composed exclusively of mean mercenaries, and of men who only support him because he is himself a traitor and a renegade.

AMERICAN MECHANICS. It has long been our boast that American mechanics were among the most skillful in the world, particularly in such branches of industry as were fitted to meet the wants of a new country. In machinery they have taken the front rank; in agricultural implements they have won a world-wide reputation; in ship-building they leave Europe far in the rear, and they acknowledgedly stand foremost in all labor-saving contrivances from apple-parers and cradle-rockers, to patent reapers, sewing-machines and electric telegraphs. In despite of this well-earned reputation, there is now a general complaint of a want of skillful mechanics. There are many men who claim to be competent workmen, but who are in reality mere botches; while in numerous trades that could be enumerated, foreign artisans have almost entirely taken the place of American workmen. The war which for a period of four years diverted tens of thousands of young men from their ordinary fields of usefulness, has had some share in bringing about this condition of things; but there are other and potent reasons for the falling off in the supply of skilled American workmen, and these reasons are eminently worthy of the attention of statesmen and philanthrophists.

The reluctance of American boys to learn mechanical trades, and their unwillingness to follow them after they have been taught them, because of a desire to live without manual labor, is, of course one primary cause. The spirit of traffic in preference to toil, the ambition to acquire a profession, the greed for office, all well enough and honorable enough—within proper limits—tend to create a varied class of poor lawyers, halfstarved doctors, unprincipled politicians and discontented and incompetent

workman. The agitations of Trade's Unions, and other combinations, that keep trade constantly unsettled by interfering with the business of the employer, has much to do with it; while eight hour laws and other threatened restrictions, deter master workmen from taking apprentices, and have in fact almost broken up the old apprentice system, which always secured a supply of skillful American workmen, who were generally equal to the demand.

There is yet another reason for this falling off, and that is in our system of public education. There is a growing feeling that it is radically defective in respect to the great object of making boys practically useful and valuable members of society, and its influence is felt in making up the grand summary of causes why skilled workmen are be-

coming scarce. As labor is the great foundation of all wealth, so are those who toil intelligently the most valuable members of the community. New England has gone ahead of Virginia and South Carolina just in the degree that her practical sons have exceeded the chivalry in respect to patient industry and in thrift. It is worthy of consideration whether we of the Middle States should continue to march shoulder to shoulder with New England in her grand mechanical progress, or relapse into a state approximating the forlorn condition of the "Old Dominion."

Italian Opera. Bellini's opera of La Sonnambula has been played so many times in Philadelphia that it is hard to fill the Academy of Music when it is produced anew. Still there was quite a large and elegant audience at its representation last evening. It was made interesting by the debut of Miss Amelia Hauck, a very young lady, whose child-like manner, on ntering the stage, won the sympathy of the audience at once, but whose first phrases of recitative revealed a pure, delicate soprano voice, perfectly under command, Her singing of the first air, "Come per me sereno," and the allegro, "Sovra il seu," proved her to be a thoroughly educated singer, and each one was repturously applauded. Like success attended her throughout the opera, and she was repeatedly called before the curtain.

Miss Hauck has a great deal to learn in acting and in knowledgedge of the stage, and her voice lacks fullness and passionate expression. But these will all come with years. Her method of singing is of the best school, and it may reasonably be predicted that she will rank among the very first singers of her time, after her powers are matured. She was admirably sustained by the tenor, Signor Baragli, who flexibility, an impassioned manner, and the advantages of youth, a handsome face and fine figure. Signor Antonucci made a good "Count Rodolfo," but the part would have been better sustained by Signor Bellini. The subordinate parts were well done, and the entire performance afforded

much delight. gratitude to be a lively sense of favors to see Ronconi, who in this operation inimitasee an extraordinary performance to go and be received; and as wily a statesman as ble. The other parts are also well

filled. To-morrow afternoon Il Trovatore will be played, with the fine cast of Tuesday evening, the price of admis sion being only one dollar. On Monday evening Meyerbeer's Etoile du nord will be played for the first time in Philadelphia. with a very fine cast.

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