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EVENING BULLETIN.

Tuesday, May 5, 1868.

THE CRISIS IN ENGLAND.

When the executive power in England finds a majority in Parliament opposed to it, resignation is the remedy recognized by authority of the Constitution. Therefore the continuance of the Disraeli Ministry, after being defeated in the House of Commons by sixty-five majority, is declared to be unconstitutional. The executive, according to historical precedents, must yield to the legislative power. The Tory ministers resist this doctrine, just as the Copperheads resist it in this country. We have to wait for the extreme measure of impeachment, to get rid of an obnoxious executive. But in England the Ministers defeated in Parliament must resign, and we cannot help regretting that there should not be some such necessity in this country, in a similar emergency.

Mr. Disraeli, while not denying the constitutional doctrine laid down by the Liberals, asks for time. He talks of an appeal to the new constituencies under the late reform bill. But the stronger party in Parliament object to this, and they evidently intend to employ their strength effectively and press matters to a resignation. Mr. Disraeli does not say that a course as Mr. Disraeli proposes is unconstitutional, and that it is "absurd for an executive and a legislature distrusting each other, to maintain a show of harmony until next year." Mr. Bright says: "An adverse vote is no disgrace to a ministry; but to hold office after such a vote is." These are sound views, the like of which are entertained by many good men with respect to the government of the United States, where the executive possesses a power that no modern English executive ever dared to assume.

It is quite evident that the Liberals in England, encouraged by their recent extraordinary successes, are determined not to let the revolution which they have begun be checked. Mr. Disraeli has disappointed many by his course. He is daily losing friends and votes. His short career as premier has been a failure; but his weakness has been of such positive advantage to the Liberals, that they may regard his elevation as a most fortunate circumstance. He may be allowed to remain in office a little longer, so as to help his opponents further. But he must at last yield and resign.

CLEARING AWAY RUBBISH.

The cane of "all the people of the United States" against Andrew Johnson, President, is a very simple and clear one. Preaching up the repeated acts of forbearance on the part of Congress, and grown bold by experiences which should have made him cautious, Andrew Johnson encroached more and more upon the powers of Congress and the Judiciary, until he crossed the fatal line of open transgression of a known law, and thus limited fairly within the grasp of that offended majesty which he had so often and so cunningly eluded. For very positive high crimes and misdemeanors, Andrew Johnson is arraigned before the Senate of the United States. The people, of all classes and conditions, understand the nature of his offences and demand his punishment. Those offences are of a character which demand conviction, not only for their own gravity, but because they prove before the world that the present Executive is wholly unfit for the office he holds, and is a fatal hindrance to the peace, prosperity and progress of the nation.

In view of the simplicity of the case, the President's defenders have resorted to all imaginable tactics. Every excuse known to clever lawyers has been drawn upon to exhaustion. Every effort has been made to be cloud the clearness of the issue; to lead the Senate and the people away from the truths embodied in the articles of impeachment. Every pitiful quibble which could be tortured into the service of the President has been resorted to. As the magician evokes mists and shadows to conceal his tricks, so the counsel of Andrew Johnson have called all the mists and shadows at the solemnly burned them before the grave and learned fathers of the Senate. The Senate has sat, with such patience as it could command, and watched all this mummery. The Managers, confident, as they well may be, in the righteousness of their cause, have stood and regarded the performances of Nelson, Curtis, Groesbeck, Stanbery and the interminable Evarts, very much as the ancient prophet must have stood all day on Mount Carmel, while the priests of Baal leaped and cried and cut themselves with knives, in their vain endeavor to work a miracle for which they had no real power. The whole purpose of this modern priesthood of the law has been to confuse the mind of the Senate, by the introduction of side issues, and burying simple propositions under mountains of words.

It falls to the lot of Mr. Bingham to clear away all this rubbish. It is not possible that any single Senator can have been deceived by the sophistries of the wicked and contradictory arguments and assertions of the defence. But it is none the less needful that all this rubbish shall be utterly swept away, that there may be no place of refuge or concealment for a single Senator who may contemplate a betrayal of the cause of justice. If Mr. Grimes or Mr. Fessenden or Mr. Henderson can be hurt upon self-destruction, they must be compelled to put on their garments of shame in the very blaze of noonday and before all the people. There can be no thickets of sophistry through which they may creep and sneak to the camp of the enemies of their country. They must cross the open plain in the full sight of the whole world, "known and read of all men" as operators and recreants to their highest and noblest duty.

To this end, Mr. Bingham yesterday took up the work which Mr. Stevens began last week. Clearly, vigorously, unsparingly, he hewe away the paltry undergrowth of brambles and weeds with which the President's counsel have crowded the open path of law and truth and justice, and lets in the clear light again upon every point about which his adversaries have sought to gather their mists and shadows. It is a tedious and yet an easy task. It is no fault of Mr. Bingham if the closing argument is long one, since it has been made necessary by the tactics of the President. All that he has to do is to strip the case of all the rubbish that has been heaped around it, and to leave it with the Senate, as the Board of Managers brought it from the House. For this task Mr. Bingham is showing himself fully competent, and the country will owe him, as it owes to his colleagues, the award of grateful commendation for the manner way in which he confronts the Senate with the plain and solemn responsibility which the Constitution and the country has entrusted to it.

PICKWICKIN IN CONGRESS.

Truth is said to be stronger than fiction, and by that token the famous scene at Mr. Bob Sawyer's party has become outdone in real life. The story as it came from the hands of Dickens, Messrs. Noddy and Gunter, having first indulged in very decided personalities subsequently agreed to consider it all in a Pickwickian sense, and they parted better friends than ever. The author of Pickwick thus describes the tumult:

"Sawyer," said the scorbutic youth, in a loud voice.

"Well, Noddy," replied Mr. Bob Sawyer.

"I should be very sorry, Sawyer," said Mr. Noddy, "to create any disagreeable feeling at any friend's table; and much less at yours, Sawyer—very; but I must take this opportunity of informing Mr. Gunter that he is no gentleman."

"I did I should be very much obliged, to create any disturbance in the street in which you reside," said Mr. Gunter, "but I am afraid I shall be under the necessity of alarming the neighbors by calling the person who has just spoken out o' the window."

"What do you mean by that, Sir?" inquired Mr. Noddy.

"What I say, Sir," replied Mr. Gunter.

"I should like to see you do it, Sir," said Mr. Noddy.

"You shall *feel* me do it in half a minute, Sir, replied Mr. Gunter.

"I request that you'll favor me with your card, Sir," said Mr. Noddy.

"I'll do nothing of the kind, Sir," replied Mr. Gunter.

"Why not, Sir?" inquired Mr. Noddy.

"Because you'll stick it up over your chimney-piece, and delude your visitors into the false belief that a gentleman has been to see you, Sir," replied Mr. Gunter.

"Sir, a friend of mine shall wait on you in the morning," said Mr. Noddy.

"Sir, I'm very much obliged to you for the caution, and I'll leave particular directions with the servant to lock up the spoons," replied Mr. Gunter.

Mutual friends having interposed, Mr. Noddy "gradually allowed his feelings to overcome him," and having declared that he had always entertained the profoundest feelings of personal regard and affection for Mr. Gunter, both gentlemen shook hands with great cordiality, and the lookers-on protested that the affair had resulted in the most highly honorable to both parties concerned.

If the reader will carefully peruse the debates in Congress on Saturday and yesterday, and substitute Gunter for Washburne and Noddy for Donnelly, he will realize the truth of the adage with which we set out. It was very well for the representatives from Illinois and Minnesota to retract the grossly offensive remarks they had indulged in during the debate on Saturday, and their protestations of strong private regard for each other were better than a fresh torrent of Billingsgate or a warlike visit to Bladensburg; but it would have been still better to have left unsaid what has been mended with so little real credit to their author. Speaker Colfax administers a rebuke to the House with as much intelligence and firmness as has ever distinguished the Speaker's chair since the foundation of the Government. It is to be regretted that the rules are not sufficiently strict to prevent such exhibitions and thus save the country the disgrace of a scene of angry squabbling upon one day, to be followed the next day with maudlin regrets and Pickwickian protestations of insincerity in the original use of coarse and foolish language. Upon the whole, it is as well for the credit of the country, in the eyes of posterity, that all notice of these debates should be expunged from the official records. In after ages, when thoughtful men come to peruse the history of an era which was marked by the trial and deposition of a false President; by the struggle of a great people to repair the ravages of a gigantic war, and when there were vast questions of finance and policy to be considered, the fact that two entire days had been wasted by the House of Representatives in a foolish and disgraceful quarrel, and in "hooking fingers and making up," would excite a feeling of surprise if not a sentiment of contempt and disgust for statesmen who thus belie their title, damage the public interests and bring discredit upon themselves.

THE NEW STATE TREASURER.

Gen. W. W. Irwin yesterday assumed the responsible post of State Treasurer of Pennsylvania. In the selection of General Irwin the Legislature manifested an excellent discrimination. He has already occupied several important public offices in this State, and has always manifested a degree of patriotic energy, unimpeached integrity and clear judgment which eminently qualify him for the post to which he has now been called. During the war he was one of Governor Curtin's most efficient co-adjutors, both as a sagacious and reliable counsellor and in his official capacity as Commissary-General of the State. Under his administration there can be no doubt that the business of this important department of the State government will be conducted with dispatch, promptness and wisdom, and that his official career will amply vindicate the good sense exhibited by the Legislature in his selection.

The retiring Treasurer, Mr. W. H. Kemble, has filled the office during three successive terms, a fact which is, of itself, sufficient to prove that his abilities have been fully recognized and appreciated. He has been able, from time to time, to render important services to the State by sound practical suggestions, and we have, for instance, accepting the unfortunate Belmont correspondence, when his policy has not been heartily endorsed and approved by the good sense, not only of the Legislature, but of the business community generally.

ART STEALS.

THE PICTURES AT SCOTT'S.—A considerable proportion of the Aaron Shaw collection (exposed day and night at Scott's Gallery, and to be sold May 7th and 8th), is good.

The best picture we think, is the Beach, No. 38, entitled "No Ear for Music." It is low toned, but magnificently touched. In the second distance a Savoyard boy is grinding music, in a gateway leading to one of a group of village gardens. Snow, in shadow, covers the ground. In front, a large dog is howling, in competition with the instrument.

Two subjects by Henriette Rosmer, are spirited. The larger, 53, represents three dogs, harnessed to a cart loaded with sand, and resting. The driver repose against a tree behind. The other picture, 22, shows a single dog, pulling a vegetable cart. An intimacy with canine nature not often exercised is what gives life to these studies. Another manner of painting, but equally good, is revealed in 51, by De Vos, of Courtray, the picture representing a Terrier and Hare. The manner would be easier to describe if the example were on a larger scale. However, we may point out that an equally fine expression of the furry hide is given by the broad, loaded brush of De Vos, as by the separate, almost pen-and-ink touches of Madame Rosmer.

57, Neuhuisse, a Paris painter, who imitates the style of John Lewis Brown, has a good humorous scene. The horses are capital, and the general tone soft and harmonious.

W. T. D. Van Starkenborgh and J. N. T. Van Starkenborgh, of Dusseldorf, lately of this city, exhibit large canvases of considerable merit. The former, the animal painter, is perhaps the correct, decorous group of cattle, No. 96. His brother, in No. 42, depicts the Sassenfant, a celebrated peasant in Dusseldorf Swiss view with the exhibition chalet, pines, snow-peaks, &c., all as well painted as we usually see in that class.

The lump painters are pretty fairly represented. Hamilton has his "After the Storm," No. 1, Edward Moran, an animated representation of waves assaulting a rocky coast. Wyant's "Little Miami," 35, is sunny and agreeable. Moonlight effects by Bennett, 19, "Moonlight on waterfalls of all colors, and centrifugal pines shooting about like ice-crystals, looks like a bit of scene painting for a thousand-night-long drama. Sheridan Young's landscapes are painted in what is called auction style.

Death of Commodore Ridgley.

Commodore Daniel S. Ridgley, of the United States Navy, died at noon to-day at the St. Lawrence Hotel, in this city, of bilious pneumonia. Commodore Ridgley was born in Kentucky, and received his appointment from that State. He entered the navy April 1st, 1826, and has been upon active duty during a larger part of his term of service. He was attached to the blockading squadron during the late war, and was throughout one of the most active and heartily loyal men. His residence was in Baltimore, but he was here upon duty at the time of his death.

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