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EVENING BULLETIN.

Friday, May 15, 1868.

HENDERSON.

Whatever be the price that Senator Henderson is to receive for his treachery, it is sufficiently plain that he is hopelessly lost. Those who have got possession of him have no idea of letting him go, and it would be further to the general cause of the public morals if he would suppress the hypocritical telegrams and letters which he is publishing, and do the base deed to which he has given himself, in silence. Each step that he takes betrays more plainly the man's utter weakness, and sinks him lower in the estimation of the people. After promising to do at least a little fraction of his duty, and so save some remnant of his good name, he comes out, to-day (in a long rigmarole of words, which he has promised shall be published), to say that he will not vote for the impeachment, and yet, he says, he will not be unable to ascertain how his fellow-conspirators are going to vote. He is sensitively afraid that if he were to resign his chairmanship, that would plainly feel a delicacy in voting for conviction. He cannot even be silent, because the result of the vote would be the same if he voted either way, as if he voted for acquittal. And finally he "appeals to a generous people."

Now all this simply means that the compact which Henderson has made with Andrew Johnson is signed, sealed and delivered. It means that that compact holds him in an iron grasp, and that his new owners are utterly masters of his conscience and of his course. At the first sign of any deviation from the task assigned him, they have lightened their hold upon him, and while they permit him to amuse himself with pen and paper, they have no fear of any further attempt on his part to break faith with them.

We Americans are "a generous people," and an appeal to that generosity, when it has any pretext of a foundation in truth, rarely fails of a kindly response. But that generosity has been too often abused by bad men, and the people have not forgotten that justice and mercy must ever go together. Three years have been spent by Andrew Johnson in abusing the national generosity, and making treason light and venial offence. But the world knows now how an outraged people have turned against him, and declared that they will no longer tolerate his abuses. Mr. Henderson's shallow appeal to "a generous people" is badly taken. He has no claim, however, on that generosity. He has sold himself to a conspiracy against the very majesty of the law, the will of the people, the safety, honor and welfare of the nation. He must take the consequences, and be counted hereafter as unworthy of public trust or personal esteem.

We have little hope from the investigation which the Senate have set on foot in this matter. All the signs point to the worst corruption in high places; but men who plot such treachery are generally cunning enough to conceal their tracks. Bribery's twin sister is perjury, and there are too many flagrant cases of this relationship, in the history of American politics, not to raise a grave doubt whether these sister crimes will not carry each other safely through the severest scrutiny which the Board of Managers can bring to bear.

But the failure to expose the corruption does not affect the fact of its existence. There has been such a total absence of all open, manly, honorable, high-toned candor among these men, and their departure from their whole second term has been so second one been so complete, that they are shut up to the one fearfully degrading conclusion that influences have been brought to bear upon them more powerful than all considerations of honor, consistency, and duty. We trust that the Missouri delegation will treat the shallow letter of Mr. Henderson with the contempt which it deserves, and that the people of Missouri will let him feel that if they are generous, they are also true and just to themselves and their country.

STREET CLEANING ONCE MORE.

City Councils, at their meeting yesterday, took decided and definite action concerning the important subject of cleansing, and they will receive the thanks of their constituents for so doing. The ordinance submitted a week before was agreed to by both branches, and it only awaits the signature of the Mayor to become a law. It provides for the cleansing of all that portion of the city which lies north of Market street, the southern district still remaining in the hands of Mr. Bickley, who, it is hoped, will be enabled to do his work effectually in the more contracted sphere to which he is now limited. The new ordinance provides for the division of the northern section of the city into three districts, viz.: Delaware avenue to Sixth street; Sixth street to Broad street, and Broad street to the Schuylkill. Proposals for cleaning the streets are to be advertised for; the work to be awarded to the lowest bidder, and the streets are to be well cleaned at least once a week. In the meantime the Mayor is authorized to contract with a responsible party for the cleaning of the northern section of the city until the provisions of the ordinance can be carried out.

There can be no two opinions as to the hugeness of the task of going carefully over every square of the hundreds of miles of streets, lanes and alleys of the city once or ever twice in each week and giving them a thorough cleansing. Machinery has been tried in the past, and although it was never afforded a thorough and fair trial, it was made manifest to all close observers that it could be made a very valuable aid to human brawn and muscle in the prosecution of this important work. For some reason machinery for this work has never yet been practically successful; whether it is because machinery cannot vote, or because of the inattention, or other shortcomings of those who had the control of it, it has not been a practical success. The present City Councils, with the Mayor, all of whom, we are quite sure, regard public health and public decency too earnestly to sacrifice either for a little indecorous street-cleaning voting patronage, would do well to consider this question of cleansing by machinery.

Reaping and mowing-machines do the work of hundreds of men in the harvest-field. Dredging-machines have been in use for many years, and they readily perform toil that would be almost beyond the reach of unaided human strength. On the broad prairies of the far West, excavating machines, on the line of the Pacific Railroad, remove masses of earth from where they are not needed, and place them where they are wanted, with a power and efficiency that almost suggest thoughts of Milton's Incentients who tore up mountain masses to hurl about at will. The anti-salt regulations of last winter compelled the city railway companies to adopt some agency more thorough than the shovel and individual muscle for clearing their tracks, and the emergency brought forth its remedy in the shape of the snow-plough. This contrivance, which is simply a great sweeping machine which scatters instead of gathering encumbrances, illustrated its power and efficiency during the frequent storms of the last winter. An officer of a city railroad company assured us that it was capable of scattering a hundred tons of snow a minute! A power like this applied to the work of street cleaning could not fail to effect great results and the Mayor and Councils would do well to consider the propriety of so employing it. In European cities labor is so cheap that machine substitutes for it are almost unnecessary, and scavenging, as well as all other street cleaning work, is performed promptly and at little expense by the hands of men and women, and even children. In our country it is different: labor is scarce and dear, and it is wise, where practicable, to eke it out with the appliances of mechanical skill and ingenuity.

RECONSTRUCTION

The House, yesterday, took another important step toward the consummation of the great design of the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congresses. The bill admitting the Carolinas, Louisiana, Georgia and Alabama, was passed, after an interesting debate, and these States are thus put forward in the path of restoration to the Union. We regret that the blunder, by which Alabama was deprived of the same opportunity to adopt the new constitution, which was afforded to the other States, was not rectified by a new election, before her re-admission, but the wisdom of the House seems to have concluded to sacrifice the letter of the act to its spirit, and to bring Alabama in on an equality with the other reconstructed States. It will be a great pleasure to see these prodigal sons of the Republic sitting down once more, clothed and in their right minds, in the council of the Union, and sharing in the paternal home. As soon as the impeachment question is disposed of, the Senate will take up the case of those States, and speedy relief from them may be expected, unless the recent Senators have included in their late bargain an agreement to delay Andrew Johnson, should he escape the punishment of his crimes, by their votes upon his future vetoes.

The debate, yesterday, assumed a very personal tone, and gave Mr. Stevens an opportunity to administer a terrible castigation to Mr. Brooks, which he well deserved. The old statesman's indignant repudiation of praise from the other side of the House told with cutting effect, and his bold and broad enunciation of the great principle of freedom and equality on which the future of this country is to rest, is in splendid contrast with the stale and obsolete sophistries of those who still labor to narrow the scope of American destiny down to the miserable limits of ancient Democratic rule. Mr. Brooks took very little by his motion yesterday, while Mr. Stevens's eloquent and scathing response rings with all the genuine tone of the orator, the patriot and the statesman.

THE UNION LEAGUE.

The Directors of the Union League have called a special meeting for Thursday evening next, to adopt measures for securing local nominations for the Fall election, and to take such action as may be desired on national affairs.

We are glad to see the League actively moving in this direction. During the war the influence of this powerful and patriotic organization was felt throughout the community and all over the land, but since the rebellion was crushed out, it has done much less than it might have done, in giving tone and direction to the Republican party of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Its voice should never be unheard nor its arm ever idle, when there is need for its aid, and the meeting called for next week, if properly directed, may effect incalculable good.

In reference to our local politics the Union League may and should do this: Without assuming the nomination of particular individuals for any office, it should give a strong and decided expression to the sentiment, more prevalent to-day than ever, throughout the Republican ranks, that the ticket presented for the suffrages of the people next fall, shall consist, from first to last, of the most approved men that the party can produce. This sentiment is very wide-spread and will undoubtedly control the next election. The Republican ranks are full of men thoroughly tried, mentally, morally and politically, to fill every position in the gift of the people. The Union League of Philadelphia is a widely representative body, and it carries, deservedly, great weight in this community. But it should make its power felt more actively and more frequently. A great political campaign is before us, and the meeting of the League next week may be regarded as the initial movement of that campaign in this community. We do not imagine that this meeting is designed to promote any personal interests of particular aspirants to office. Such a design would not only be impolitic but it would fall of its aim. But if it will boldly lay down the one great principle that good nominations mean victory, and that bad or inferior ones mean defeat, it will be exercising its legitimate function, conferring a substantial benefit upon the Republican party at large.

Justice Dowling, of New York, has been playing into the hands of the brutalized portions of the people of the great Babylon by using his official position to sneer and scoff at the useful and praiseworthy labors of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Within a day or two he presided in the Court of Special Sessions in a case where the question of dog-fighting (which is a misdemeanor by the laws of the State) came up. In the face of the clearest evidence, that the prisoner on trial kept a dog-pit and was present at a fight in his establishment, the Justice (?) dismissed the case on the ground that, at the time of the arrest, the prisoner was not caught in the act of inciting or encouraging the dogs. In the course of the trial he repeatedly showed his contempt toward the Society by vulgar jests and sneers, alluding with pretended sympathy to the pain which was caused to oysters by inserting the knife between the shells, and otherwise approving the stupid witticisms of the prisoner's counsel. More recently this same coarse buffoon, to the vile brutality of Dead-Rabbitdom refused absolutely to hear several complaints which had been preferred by Mr. Bergh, the President of the Society, and which that gentleman stood ready to prosecute. He announced, before these cases were called up, that he had transferred them to the General Sessions, knowing perfectly well that such a disposition of them virtually threw them out of court—the calendar of the General Sessions being constantly full of cases of felony which, by law, take precedence in trial of mere cases of misdemeanor. With lottery dealers in the high places of political influence and control, a prize-fighter as one of its representatives in Congress, and a Justice Dowling to pander to the cock-fighters and dog-worriers of the lanes of the metropolis, it would not require the wisdom of a Solomon to indicate its political predictions, nor would it excite the wonder of a cool reducer of effect from cause to learn that it gives sixty-thousand majority for the Democratic ticket, and stands by Andrew Johnson through thick and thin.

SUICIDE.

The Coroner was notified yesterday that a man named Jacob Ziegler, residing at No. 1107 Ridge avenue, had committed suicide by hanging himself in the cellar of his residence. The deceased was about 60 years of age, and was in the habit of drinking to excess. He was found hanging by his wife, who had gone down into the cellar to see what he was doing. The Coroner will hold an inquest.

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mw f m 6m rpd

POINT BREEZE PARK.—Parties desirous of becoming subscribers to the Spring Meeting, to be held on March 31, 1869, may make application to the undersigned, at the Office of the Association, 828 Walnut street, where she will be made to render the season at the Park in every respect as satisfactory as possible.

S. KILPATRICK, Treasurer.
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