The Pittsburgh Gazette.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1866.

EDUCATION OF THE FREEDMEN.

The chief wealth of a city consists in its men and women. Nor are these all rated of equal value. There are many grades. The classification of individuals, as high or low, does not depend exclusively or mainly on muscular development. Indeed, in rating persons, physical powers count for little. If a man has ability and skill to work principally or only with his hands, he must be content to fall into the bottom-most grade. He rates really not much higher than a corresponding amount of brute or machine force. Only when a man combines a considerable amount of brain work with hand work, does he rise in the scale and command increased remuneration. But in proportion as mental labor predominates, and as it rises to the higher sphere, does the value of the man putting forth that labor. Hence is disclosed one of the essential differences between a State in which the bulk of the population are slaves and a State in which the people are all free.

Ignorance is one of the necessary concomitants of slavery. Those who dominate much know more than those who are dominated. Hence, it invariably happens that under any form of despotism the ruling class must have larger powers and superior culture to those over whom they exercise authority. Directly as this rule is reversed nothing can prevent the enfranchisement of the enslaved.

The Southern leaders, for many years, allowed themselves to be gangrened by the manner in which the free States surpassed the slave ones in the march of improvement, wealth and knowledge. Not willing to attribute the difference to its real cause, they insisted that it was due to partisan legislation by the general government. True, they could specify acts of legislation which were unfriendly to the interest they sought to uphold, but as blinded were they by prejudice they could find nothing else competent to produce the result. Every body else saw that a thousand or a million uneducated serfs, working with bare hands, or at best, with the rudest implements of agricultural industry, were not equal, as a producing power, to a like number of highly-organized and educated men, exercising the higher industries, and with numberless appliances of art and mechanism.

Slavery having been abolished, the chief reason for denying education to the blacks has ceased to be operative. It is no longer needful to keep upwards of four millions of people in mental darkness that a few thousand educated people may hold them in subjection. The education of these ignorant people has become a necessity, in the commonwealths of which they respectively constitute parts. By education their capabilities of production will be augmented, and the general wealth enlarged. Whether four millions of blacks can be made to equal like exact number of whites, as producing forces, is not the question here. It is manifest that whatever differences may exist between the two races, education does as much relatively for one race as for another; that is, an educated black man bears the same proportion to an uneducated one, as a cultivated white man does to one that is not cultured.

In this aspect of the case it is palpable that the future of the Southern States depends largely upon the opportunities of education extended to the blacks. If they shall be kept in ignorance, the bare possession of personal freedom will not materially enhance their powers of industrial production. The incentive of wages will, indeed, stimulate them to work longer or more energetically, but that is not the main point. Heroic work alone never made a man rich, much less a State. Before the South can compete with the North in the race for prosperity the blacks must be transformed into intelligent men and women.

Some of the Southern people, who are least under the dominion of passions and prejudices, and hence are in moods to take a comprehensive survey of the case, see this already, and advocate a systematic training for the blacks as a wise public policy. It may be doubted whether the time has arrived when a public educational system, to embrace even the whites, much less the blacks, will be adopted by most any of the Southern States. Certainly it is folly to expect the schooling of the blacks will be provided for by law before provision shall be made in behalf the whites.

But the removal of all hindrances to the blacks providing education for themselves, to the fullest extent they will, is earnestly to be desired for the good of both races. There are not wanting indications that the blacks in a fair field would prove formidable competitors with the whites in acquiring knowledge of all rudimental branches. Larger experience may show that the competition will reach beyond into the higher departments of learning and the applications thereof to practical affairs. If such shall be the case, some problems now held to be delicate will find an easy solution in the very nature of things, and by a process so gradual as not to convulse society.

THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS.

The elections have had in one particular, at least, a salutary effect on the President. While the canvass was progressing, and entrenched in the omnipotence of governmental patronage and fraudulent naturalization certificates, he spoke contemptuously of Congress as a body "assuming to be Congress," as not constituting an integral and indispensable portion of the government, but as a fungus hanging on its forge. Journals in his confidence, such as the *New York Times*, repeatedly asked, with a look of intelligence, what the Radicals would do if the President should ignore Congress and set up a rival body as the legitimate one. They clearly conveyed the impression that such was his purpose and that weighty reasons impelled him thereto. The day after the election the Philadelphia *Ledger* published a special telegram from Washington detailing five questions relative to the legality of Congress as at present organized, said to have been propounded by the President to the Attorney General. These question pointed in the same direction as the incantations of the President and the threatenings of his friends. They seemed intended to supplement and complete the positions taken, and to prepare the way for decisive action.

Lately, none of the five has been submitted for the gentleness of the document, and gold in stocks experienced a considerable fall in price. The public excitement was to believe that the President was forced to deny and explain. He projected not only that he had not submitted the particular series of interrogatories to the Attorney General, but that he had never "questioned the constitutionality of Congress." Everybody knows this protestation to be untrue. The President cannot blot out his denunciation of Congress as an illegal and usurping body, nor can he make people forget it. The October elections have been held—that is all—and the conspiracy entered into between the President, the rebels, the copperheads, and the conservatives, against Congress stands exposed, shivered and broken. There is no possibility of his being able to put his threat into execution, and so he denies having made it, or feels any impulse in that direction. In this the result of the election is beneficial. One pregnant source of danger has been taken away; and the authority of the people, through their representatives, will not again be disputed.

CLAIMS ON ENGLAND.

Rumors are afloat that the advisers of the President are urging him to make a peremptory demand upon the British government for a settlement of the claims arising out of the depredations upon American commerce committed by the Alabama and other British rebel cruisers. This course is urged on the score of policy—as a means of regaining lost popularity, of reconciling adverse parties, and of rallying the country around the administration on a new and different issue. That such a policy may be talked of is very probable; but we think the country is in no humor for plunging into another war just now, nor do we think there is much reason to be alarmed.

In England, on the other hand, there appears to be a growing disposition to settle these claims on the just principles of international law. Even the London *Times* had a leading article recently advocating that course. But anything in the nature of a *threat* coming from this side would at once arrest and turn back whatever current of public sentiment there may be in England in favor of a just settlement of those claims.

Pennsylvania—The Vote.

The following table compares the reported majorities of Geary and Clymer with those of Lincoln and McClellan in 1864:

	1866.		1864.	
DISTRICTS.	GEARY.	CLYMER.	LINCOLN.	McCLELLAN.
Adams	7,716		9,105	
Allegheny	680		315	
Armstrong	923		933	
Beaver		244		416
Bedford		6,168		6,066
Berks	762		606	
Blair	4,043		3,838	
Bradford		594	528	
Bucks	483			899
Butler		659	93	
Cambria	71			792
Cameron		453		539
Carbon		471		582
Centre	2,270		2,459	
Chester		1,037		1,103
Clarion		1,136		1,353
Clearfield		393		469
Clinton		1,018		1,553
Columbia	1,745		1,915	
Crawford		857		750
Cumberland	1,259		1,224	
Dauphin	1,385		1,319	
Delaware		540	3,189	487
Elk	3,286			905
Erie		700	713	
Fayette	20		41	
Forest	193			212
Franklin		280	1,531	1,491
Fulton	1,000		844	
Greene	2,340		3,128	57
Huntingdon	123			316
Indiana		208		
Jefferson	6,000		6,022	
Juniata	2,150		2,019	
Lancaster	1,466		1,001	
Lawrence		1,572		2,912
Lebanon		3,706		2,400
Luzerne		577		806
Lycoming	165		115	
McKean	684		357	
Mercer		110		75
Mifflin		1,991		2,018
Monroe		1,159		1,071
Montgomery		592		306
Montour	9,011		5,318	
Northampton	468		603	
Northumb'd	86		40	
Perry		11,765		620
Philadelp'a	5,388		710	
Pike		990		1,689
Potter	726		1,722	
Schuylkill		1,809		1,069
Somerset	486		317	
Snyder		825		291
Sullivan	1,477		1,244	
Susqueh'a		3,168		5,089
Tioga		704		693
Union		919		508
Venango		1,115		1,036
Warren	265		272	
Washington		236		1,718
Wayne		3,057		1,827
Westmore'd		94		65
Wyoming		2,884		2,952
York				

Total Lincoln vote, 296,891; McClellan vote, 276,316. Lincoln's majority, 20,075.

Pike, Juniata and Wyoming (Forest,) and indicate a majority for Geary of 17,152.

A Miser's Breakfast.

A miser recently died in Paris whose ways of living were certainly novel in the extreme. He boasted that his breakfast never cost him more than a half-penny, and that it always consisted of bread and butter, or bread and fruit. This was his economic plan: Every morning he bought a sou roll of bread. With this he went to one of the markets, and if it was winter he began by tasting the country women's butter. A bit of this was put in his mouth with a bit of bread previously deposited. Somehow the butter was always bad, or had some flavor he did not like. Not to be rude he swallowed it, but made no purchase. In summer he fared more luxuriously, especially in the time of the cherries, the strawberries, the plums and the grapes. "Have you good cherries to day?" "Yes." "How do you sell them?" "Six sous a pound." "Can I taste them?" "Certainly." He takes two or three cherries, eats them with a mouthful of bread, and says "Heu! heu! they're a little sour," and so he passes on to the next stall. Before he got half down he used to breakfast perfectly. Of course, after a time, they who sold fruit and butter at the various markets began to know him, and unused at his eccentricity, they seldom refused to let him taste their goods. He has recently died, 72 years old, very rich, having never breakfasted on dry bread, or on a sou exceeding a half penny.

Silk Growing in Alabama.

Mr. Wiley Duffy of Daviden, Tallapoosa county, was in our office yesterday and exhibited a number of skeins of sewing silk of all colors. They were spun by his wife, and equal the silk which is brought by our merchants from the North. Mr. Duffy is able to sell them under the market price. Last year Mr. Duffy's wife sold as silk spread to the value of $160. When we reflect that the mulberry grows luxuriantly on the hills of Alabama, and that the labor of spinning the silk is but slight, the whole work of feeding the silk worm and gathering the cocoons occupying but four months in the year, and when we reflect furthermore, that $180 will supply most any bread enough to a large family for the year, we would advise our people of the hills who are in want to plant mulberry orchards and spin silk.

—The wool sack has for ages been termed the seat of the Lord Chancellor, in the English Houses of Lords. It is a large square bag of wool, without back or arms, covered with red cloth. It is represented as having originated in very early times, when the great business of life was in keeping flocks and flocks—in producing the simple necessities of life, and manufacturing, in the primitive way, the clothes of the flocks, which were their principal material at that time for that purpose, into clothing. When any dispute arose, the Judge of Justice in the case mounted a wool sack. Hence the introduction of it into the dignity of the legislature or parliamentary proceedings of Great Britain. It looks like a large feather bed. The Lord Chancellor is said to have taken his seat upon the wool sack, but he sits in a chair beside it.

—The greatest elevation yet attained by man without leaving the surface of the earth is in a balloon, is nineteen thousand feet. M. Bonsanquin and Col. Hall ascended Chimborazo to that height.

LUMBER PLENTY IN CHICAGO.—The Chicago (Ill.) *Journal* of Thursday says: "Chicago river is crowded with vessels to-day as it never has been at one time before—mostly lumber vessels, scores of which have arrived with heavy cargoes since yesterday morning. The river is so jammed up in some parts that it is impossible for tugs or grain vessels above to get through into the lake. There are now over 25,000,000 feet of lumber afloat in any river, of which 12,665,000 feet arrived since yesterday morning. Lumber vessels are still coming in hourly. The prospect is that there will be a material decline in the price of lumber as soon as the cargoes now in port come into market."

GEORGE MUIR, of Armstrong's Coal Works, Penn township, Allegheny county, speaks as follows of the

REV. E. A. WILSON'S
Great Remedy for Consumption:

"I was reduced so low with consumption that I was unable to leave my bed, and my physicians informed me that they could do nothing more for me, case being utterly hopeless, that I had not certainly over a month to live. At this stage I was induced to try REV. E. A. WILSON'S REMEDY, and to-day I am as well as any man in the world. If there are any who doubt this statement, they can call and see me, (as per above address) and I will give them all the particulars of my case. Yours truly,

The sole agency for the sale of WILSON'S CONSUMPTIVE REMEDY in Pittsburgh is

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