The Somerset Herald.

WEDNESDAY . . . . . April 11, 1877.

For the first time in three years the Republicans of Rhode Island last week elected their entire State ticket, by the popular vote. They also secured a large majority in both branches of the Legislature.

WADE HAMPTON, pleading for his poor, bleeding South Carolina, reminds the Burlington *Hawkeye* of the man who killed his father and mother and then, when the court asked him if he had anything to say before sentence was passed upon him, begged for the mercy of the court, because he was "a poor orphan."

GARFIELD will probably be the Republican candidate for Speaker of the next House. If our conciliated Southern brethren mean business, they will of course accept a representative Republican of the North, the stronger the better. He should not be any less acceptable to Southern Democrats than WADE HAMPTON is to Northern Republicans.

THE New York *Times*, one of the warmest supporters of President Hayes, says of the withdrawal of the troops in South Carolina: "Hampton's unyielding arrogance proved more potent that Chamberlain's conciliatory suggestions, and the experiment resolved upon by the administration will at once begin. Hampton would make no bargain, but he has put on record promises the value of which remains to be tested. This is not the solution of the South Carolina problem which we have desired. It is a solution which justifies some anxiety. It has not been arrived at hastily, however, and we are not fully advised as to all the details.

How the magnanimous policy President Hayes is pursuing towards the South, is responded to in many sections of that community, may be gathered from the following conciliatory article from the Memphis *Appeal*:

The administration of Hayes is already doomed. The corruption fund which he set apart to purchase Democrats base enough to sell their honest convictions for gold, was exhausted in buying D. M. Key and Mike J. Wadras, and traitors no longer offer themselves for sale. Tennessee furnished the only two Democrats who got their prices before the market closed. But the honest masses, the horny-handed Democracy of the country would not exchange the honest sweat of their brows for the spoils which Key and Waldran may secure by selling themselves to maintain a great public fraud; a man who comes into power rejected by the people, scorned by the just, derided by the honest, and branded for all time, Hayes will learn what all history teaches, that "justice, which overmasters does the usurpers of those who rob the people of their rights, sooner or later overtakes the usurpers; and the creatures who have sold themselves will hide their dishonored heads when in future elections they see a South solid for integrity, for patriotism; solid in repudiating a fraudulent President, and solid in uniting with the noble men of the North, on the basis of the Constitution, the rights of the States, the liberty of the people, and for that peace and reconciliation which the Democratic party can alone give to the country.

And from the following extract from a communication from Congressman Ellis of Louisiana, published in the New Orleans *Democrat* of the 26th ult:

"I hope our people will, by no act, give even a coloring of acceptance of any decision of Louisiana matters by the Commission. We must prepare to resist the decree if it is unfavorable. The House is unquestionably Democratic, and will never give one cent dollar for the army until our people are free. Patience and a bold assertion of our rights will bring us victory in the end.

SAYS the usually well informed New York correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, in a late letter to that paper.

"It is conceded moreover, that the South, in any event, is entitled to the next candidate (for President) and that being the case, what better man could be got than Hampton."

Here is the milk in the cocoanut accounted for. The tremendous struggle—just successfully ended—to make Wade Hampton Governor of South Carolina, and its resulting consequence, the abandonment of the Louisiana Republicans, makes a solid South. Florida, South Carolina and Louisiana, by whose votes Hayes and Wheeler were elected, will be speedily converted to Democracy, by the same process that secured Mississippi and Georgia; and in 1880 when a solid South with her 138 electoral votes demands the candidacy, the Democratic party will concede it just as it used to do in the old slavery days. Meantime with a Democratic House, and a merely nominal Republican majority in the Senate, both bodies will be controlled by a well defined Southern policy, and all things will be made bend towards securing a Southern Democratic President in 1880.

It is a long way off, the next Presidential election, but it is well enough for the country to understand, that when it does come, we shall have to face a solid South, and that every energy of the Democratic party will be strained towards that end. We may as well face the truth, and prepare at once to act upon it.

WE guess it's all right, in fact we suppose it is entirely so, because the President has so decided; but still we cannot exactly get the hang of the thing through our hair, that it is right, that Chamberlain and Packard who were respectively elected Governors of South Carolina and Louisiana, by the Republicans of those States, in both of which that party has an unquestionable majority, should be ousted by their Democratic opponents, because they possess the money, the arms, and the lawless ability to do so. Beyond all doubt, the President believes that in both these States the Republicans were successful, else his own title is worthless. It is not a matter of dispute that in both, the Republicans have large majorities, and that therefore their success was a legitimate one, and yet the ground is taken that because the Democrats set up a false claim to have carried them, and with threats of armed violence, proceed to seize the public offices, and usurp their powers and prerogatives, therefore the President must not recognize the Republican officials, whom he believes to have been elected, because it follows that he would be compelled to support them with the power of the National Government. The President has no right—runs this new-fangled interpretation of State rights—to force a Governor upon the State that is not wanted by the people. It further follows then, as a corollary to this doctrine, that when a minority is beaten, all it has to do—and it is precisely what was done in Louisiana—is to seize the State arms, take charge by force, of the courts and other local offices, swear they won't have a Governor forced upon them, inaugurate their man, and insist that the President has no right to support the rightfully elected man with the power of the National Government.

This looks to us most marvellously like the doctrine of 1861. "The North had no right to elect Lincoln"—"He wasn't fairly elected"—"We won't have him forced upon us"—"The National Government has no right to coerce a State." We all know what came of that. We thought the pestilent doctrine had been stamped out, through years of blood and misery and unutterable woe, and yet here is the old serpent again rearing its head, and apparently making progress on the wrong side of the fence too.

We suppose it is only our obtuseness. We know that the President wants to do what is right, we feel that he thinks he is right, and we try to believe that he is right, but somehow as we said in the beginning, we can't get it through our hair. At all events, we most sincerely hope that the sequel will prove him right.

Peace Reigns.

A Washington dispatch to a Chicago morning papersays: It is believed "that by the time the next election occurs in that State [South Carolina], two years from last November, such changes will have taken place in the political association of the two races that the recurrence of a controversy similar to that which the State has just passed will be almost impossible."

We agree with this statement, and, indeed, go a step father. We are confident *any* political controversy in South Carolina, for some years to come, will be *quite* impossible. The condition of South Carolina under Hampton—we mean under him literally, under his heel—will doubtless be precisely what the condition of Mississippi is under the heel of the Democratic party of that State. There are practically no political controversies in Mississippi. There have been none since the adoption of Hampton's plan. The plan works admirably; it puts the negro where, according to the White League, he belongs, under the heel of the white man. The Mississippi or Hampton plan accomplishes just what the institution of slavery did—abolishes the freedom of speech, prohibits freedom of political action, and crushes out the negro as a faction in politics. The negro citizen does not vote cheerfully in the face of a shot-gun in the hands of a Hampton guard. In 1872, in Mississippi, 82,400 negro citizens voted, but the Hampton plan had not then been introduced. Last fall, when Hampton machinery had been put in full operation, 30,000 of the negro citizens remained away from the polls. Hampton is a very persuasive politician. His plan convinced the negroes of Mississippi that they were much more secure in their lives and property at home than at the polls on election day. He will exert the same gentle and repressive influence in South Carolina. Everybody is confident that there will be no more political controversies in South Carolina. There will be peace there; no doubt of it; but it will be the peace of despair. Order will reign in South Carolina, but it will be the same peculiar order that once reigned in Warsaw. In some parts of the South the Democratic authorities convict negroes of petty crimes, and hire them out to contractors in large gangs to build railways and work plantations. And the contractors, well, they treat them precisely as they used to treat slaves. Scourge them, half starve them, and then, when they seek to escape out of their misery, run them down with bloodhounds. It is believed that there will be no more political controversies in South Carolina for some time to come.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

A SPECIMEN of the regard to be paid in the future to Republicans at the South comes up to us from Mississippi. That State, be it remembered, is one of those redeemed from "carpet-bag rule" by the bullet of the revolver. Lamar sits in the Senate to represent a State where the party that detests Lamar and his party have 30,000 majority if they could manage to cast their votes and live. The Congressional districts in Mississippi were formed by the very fraudulent Legislature that elected this son of a slaver to the Senate; and in making this apportionment one district was formed which contained a majority of 16,000 colored voters. The purpose of this district was two fold. It was intended to thus give the Republicans at least one member of Congress, to serve as a foil for stealing all the other members in a State where, on an honest apportionment, the Democrats cannot elect one; and to combine in that one district a Republican majority which, being honestly distributed, would elect every Republican candidate in Mississippi. Having thus by a swindle secured the Congressional representation, save this one, the elated Democracy concluded not to permit "the d——d niggers and cawpet-baggahs" to have even that one. Applying the "Mississippi plan" to this district the White League drove the Republicans from the polls at the last pretended election at the muzzle of the shotgun, and so beat the colored candidate of that party, electing—or rather counting in—a rebel villain named Chalmers, who was the Adjutant of Forrest at Fort Pillow, and carried out the savage orders of that brute when he ordered the massacre of the negro troops there. Lynch, the Republican candidate, feeling sure that he could establish his right to the seat thus torn from his party, engaged a lawyer—a Democratic lawyer, too—to visit the district and secure such evidence of violence, cheating and false returns as he could procure for presentation to the House of Representatives to sustain a contest Lynch proposed to make against Chambers. And now Lynch's Democratic lawyer publishes his affidavits in the Natchez *Democrat* that the reconstructed law-and-order gentry—on whom some Republicans are securely relying for the protection of the political rights of all classes of citizens in the South—this Democratic lawyer of a Republican contestant swears, that he is received with blackguardism, that his legal work is hindered, that he is arrested for endangering the peace, that he is fined for administering pretended oaths, and that by a farcical distortion of law he is prevented from performing his legal duty to his client. Mr. Hewett, Mr. Lynch's lawyer who makes the charges against the officials of his own party, says the conviction invariably follows arraignment before these Democratic officials, and that he is forced to abandon the work his client has employed him to perform, simply because the White League ruffians who now trample on the majority of Mississippi have concluded that he shall not be permitted to gather evidence to oust the man from Congress whom their crimes thrust into that place, in violation of the very rights they are now trusted to protect and defend. What is it but a midsummer madness to remit one iota of precaution in the face of such proofs of ingrained devilry as this? Who but an idiot can look for faith in such an organization of Thugs as these? Turning over to men who, of all other men in South Carolina, chose the butcher of Hamburg as their especial representative and choice for a seat in the United States Senate, the endangering political freedom of the late slaves and the white Republicans is an act of such suicidal character that it is difficult to estimate the infatuation necessary to its commission. President Hayes will demand a better security than this. Depend upon it!—*Harrisburg Telegraph.*

GOV. PACKARD'S POSITION.

An open Letter to the President.

NEW ORLEANS, April 5.—Governor Packard addresses the following open letter to the President:

STATE OF LA., EX. DEPARTMENT.
NEW ORLEANS, April 5, 1877.

To His Excellency President Hayes, Washington, D. C.

SIR: Permit me respectfully to call your attention to the fact that the instructions issued to the commission delegated by you to visit this State and report upon the situation of affairs either exclude or do not direct inquiry upon three essential points.

1. Which is the legal government, entitled to recognition?
2. Which is the legal judiciary?
3. Do domestic violence and insurrection prevail within the meaning of section 4, article 4, of the Constitution of the United States?

On the first of these points the instructions say the services desired of and entrusted to this commission do not include any examination into or report upon the facts of the recent State election, of the canvass of the votes cast at that election. This prohibits the commission from all inquiry as to who are entitled to the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor by virtue of the late election and canvass of votes by the General Assembly, and also as to who were elected to the other disputed State offices. It is my desire that a searching and satisfactory investigation should be made upon this important point. I believe the nation will judge of my claim according to whether it be a fact that I was elected. I am constrained to think that your Excellency is in doubt upon this point, as repeated requests for recognition of my government have not yet been responded to, and I confess that, having received several hundred more votes than some of the Republican electors, I did not anticipate that my title would thus be put in question. It further seems to me that, in considering the situation of affairs in this State, it is of material importance to a certain whether the Supreme Court, appointed in obedience to its constitution by my predecessor, Governor Kellogg, is the legal court. If it be so determined by the commission, the ascertainment of the fact will probably prove of assistance in the solution of existing difficulties. If the opposing (Nicholls') court be found to be entitled to no more recognition than any other equal number of lawyers convened on the call of any one other citizen of the State, the nation will surely justify the commission in so declaring by investigation on these points. Your Excellency will be thus able to ascertain the lawful executive and judicial branches of the State government. The legislative branch will adjust itself when you determine who is executive of the State. The fact as to which government was elected being once established, the commission would probably find little difficulty in coming to a conclusion on the third point, as to whether or not there exist such domestic violence and insurrection against that government as contemplated by section 4, article 4, of the Constitution of the United States, and sections 5,297, 5,299, and 5,300 of the United States Revised Statutes. The honorable Secretary of State, differing from Chief Justice Taney, of the United States Supreme Court, in the well-known case of Luther vs. Borden, holds, if I correctly understand his letter of instructions, that neither the constitutional provisions nor acts of Congress were framed with a design of giving the President power to decide between the contesting claimants to State governments. In the case referred to, Chief Justice Taney, as the organ of the court, said: "By this act the power of deciding whether the exigency had arisen upon which the government of the United States is bound to interfere is given to the President, he to act upon the application of the Legislature or the executive, and consequently he must determine what body of men constitute the Legislature, and who is the Governor before he can act. The fact that both parties claim the right to government cannot alter the case, for both cannot be entitled to it. If there is an armed conflict like the one of which we are speaking it is a case of domestic violence, and one of the parties must be in insurrection against the lawful government, and the President must of necessity decide which is the government, and which party is unlawfully against it before he can perform the duty imposed upon him by the act of Congress. "May I not expect that this decision, rich with precedents from your predecessors, will be taken as a safe guide for your actions. The distinguished gentleman by whom the instructions for the commission were prepared is understood to favor a line of policy toward this State which has been foreshadowed by the Hon. Stanley Matthews. The nature of that policy is disclosed in a statement of E. John Ellis, the most candid of Democratic Representatives in Congress from this State, published in the *National Republican* of the 30th inst., from which I quote:

"I then told Mr. Matthews that his views and those he attributed to Governor Hayes were most gratifying to us, but there appeared to me a good deal of practical difficulty in carrying out these views. I told him, for instance, with regard to Louisiana, that the people who had voted for Hayes had voted for Packard. The supporters of Tilden were the supporters of Nicholls; that the Returning Board, which had assumed to award the vote of Louisiana to Hayes, had awarded also a majority to Packard, and that I did not see how Mr. Hayes could consistently sustain Nicholls under the circumstances. He replied very quickly, 'I can see very easily how Nicholls can be sustained. I do not assume to speak absolutely for Governor Hayes, but my policy would be to obtain from Nicholls assurances that the peace would be maintained; no one persecuted on account of political offenses; life, liberty and prosperity guaranteed to all; then withdraw the troops. Your people would then pay taxes only to Nicholls, while his government would grow firmly in authority, and Packard would starve to death for lack of money to support his government; and that should it become necessary for the President to recognize any government in that State he would find only one government in the State, that of Nichols', and that without inquiring into its original title he would accept the fact and recognize it.'"

I earnestly urge that investigation by the commission be not confined to the narrow inquiry how Nicholls can be sustained and Packard starved to death for lack of money to support his government. If the inquiry be thus restricted a grave wrong will be done to those by whom I was called to the executive chair, and whose votes cast, often at the peril of their lives, have elevated your Excellency to the Presidency of the American people. In their name and on their behalf I ask that the instructions given to the commission may be so amended and enlarged that right can be ascertained, and that the government thus found to be republican in form, and to have been chosen by the majority of the people, according to the legal methods sanctioned by the Constitution and laws, may be recognized and sustained. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. PACKARD,
Governor.

"Playing the Devil."

This phrase is commonly used in the figurative sense, but it is literally descriptive of an occurrence which recently took place in the north of Spain. An individual who was about to die refused to receive the consolation of religion, and the parish priest who had been sent for, when the man refused to see him, departed with the declaration that the devil would come in person to carry off the hardened sinner as soon as he was dead. Not long after as the family were watching by the dead body, the door was burst open with a great noise and there appeared on the scene a personage arrayed in red, decorated with a long tail, and smelling strongly of sulphur. The apartment was speedily vacated by the mourners, who withdrew in great terror. A man servant in another part of the house heard the noise and went to the room. Mastering his fears he fired three shots from a revolver at the apparition, who had just taken the body in his arms. The supposed devil fell to the floor, and on examination turned out to be the parish sexton, who by the order of the priest, had undertaken the part of Satan. He was quite dead when picked up, and four priests who were suspected of having planned the masquerade, have been taken into custody.

Fire in West Virginia.

CUMBERLAND, April 6.—A fire at Piedmont, West Virginia, about 4 o'clock this morning, originated in a vacant house on Ashfield street, owned by Peter Lubrman, recently occupied by Mrs. Bell as a millinery store. Five houses occupied as dwellings were entirely destroyed, with Moran's bowling alley and saloon. The loss is ten to twelve thousand dollars, insured for little over half. The houses were torn down, which stopped the spread of the fire. The Cumberland fire companies and railroad employees went by special train from here in thirty-eight minutes. The fire was under control when they arrived. While assisting in pulling down the houses Nr. C. F. McAleer was caught by falling timbers, which broke one of his legs. The fire was opposite the City Hall. The new opera house barely escaped.

Coal Miners' Strikes.

PITTSBURGH, April 6.—The miners at Connellsville, Broadford and along the lines of branch roads in Fayette county have struck for higher wages. They were getting twent-five cents per wagon load, and now demand thirty-three cents. They are opposed to Company stores and want their pay in cash instead of part in store orders as heretofore. Throughout this region all coal mined is used for coking. In the Youghiogheny district the miners are still at work, but a strike is anticipated. There will be a meeting of miners at Broadford this afternoon.

CHICAGO, 6.—The Braidwood coal miners have struck for a dollar and five cents per ton against the proposed reduction from the present rate of ninety-five cents to seventy and eighty cents. At least 1,500 hands are out, and are well fixed for a strike.

Fiendish Outrage.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 2.—A fiendish outrage was committed last evening in Berea, Ohio. A Mrs. W. H. Crawford, recently divorced from her husband on account of trouble, has for the past few weeks been keeping house for her two nieces, young ladies attending school. During the temporary absence of the young ladies her divorced husband visited her house and violently assaulted and knocked her down, after which he poured oil of vitriol on her prostrate body, filling her ears, eyes, and face with the poisonous liquid. She is in a critical condition. The scoundrel escaped, and it is believed he has gone to Toledo.

A Mysterious Explosion.

NEW YORK, April 5.—An explosion occurred at 10:30 this morning, by which Mr. George W. Jewett, of the firm of John Jewett & Sons, manufacturers of white lead, was instantly killed, and Mr. Orville D. Jewett, his brother, fatally wounded. Mr. Joseph A. Dean, was wounded in his leg, but his injuries are not dangerous. Persons attracted to the scene by the noise and shattering of windows found the three members of the firm lying bleeding upon the floor amid the ruins of their office furniture. The floor and the persons of the injured men were covered with soot and fragments of a bomb, which, when whole must have been four inches in diameter, were found in the office and adjoining room, the partition having been wrecked, and even the framework of the safe damaged by the flying pieces of shell. There have been two theories advanced as to the cause of the accident. One is that the shell was thrown into the grate with the coal, and the other that it was a percussion shell and exploded while being carelessly handled. Mr. Orville D. Jewitt served in the army during the civil war, and it is stated that the missile in question was kept by him in the office as a relic of the struggle. Others who profess to be familiar with the office deny the existence there of such a memento. Mr. Dean was able to be driven to his residence in Waverley Place, but Mr. Orville D. Jewett, who resides at Orange, N. J., was conveyed to the Chambers Street Hospital, where, in the afternoon, he was thought to be dying. In connection with the accident a cruel rumor has been started to the effect that the disaster was the result of disagreement among the members of the firm. Mr. S. F. Rawson states that his firm were the legal advisers of Mr. O. D. Jewett and knew all the facts, and that the rumor is without the slightest foundation. It had been decided on January 1st that Mr. Orville D. Jewett should retire from business, and the final adjustment of the matter was to have been made at Mr. Rawson's office to-day. There was no feeling but that of good will among all the parties. The firm was composed of George W. Jewett, who was killed; J. W. Dean, slightly wounded; Orville H. Jewett, badly wounded; and Charles H. Jones, who was not injured. As Mr. George W. Jewett, who was killed, was one of the remaining partners, and O. D. Jewett the retiring one, the reflection will be seen at once to be entirely unwarranted.

Orville D. Jewett one of the members of the firm of Jewett & Sons, that was injured in the explosion to-day, died this evening.

THE MYSTERY UNRAVELED.

NEW YORK, April 5.—The *Times* to-morrow will publish from authentic sources the true story of the explosion, revealing the diabolical crime perpetrated. Orville D. Jewett was admitted to the firm, of which his father when alive was a member, six or seven years ago, simply because of that relationship. He has been somewhat wild and paid little attention to the business, which seems not to have been to his taste. He has been absent the past winter yachting at Bermuda, and on his return recently expressed a desire to withdraw from the firm. His partners did not wish to make any change in the business, and opposed his retiring, but he persisted in the determination, and finally became so disagreeable that they conceded his request and agreed to pay him $200,000 for his interest. The necessary papers were drawn up, and were to have been signed to day. Young Jewett, probably crazed with liquor, came to the office armed with a hand grenade, a pistol and a dirk. Some angry words passed, and he pulled the grenade from his pocket and threw it on the floor. The explosion followed. The uncle was killed, his own legs broken, and he received three terrible wounds in the abdomen. He then drew a pistol and attempted to shoot himself through the head, but his aim was ineffective. He died this evening in the hospital. Dean, who was injured by the explosion, is understood not to be in a dangerous condition.

Mr. Joseph Dean was visited at his residence, No. 14 Waverley Place, to-night, and found to be in a very favorable condition. He received a very severe wound in the thigh, and also right forearm. Judge Lathrop received all callers and represented Mr. Dean. He says that previous to the explosion Mr. G. W. and Orville Jewett were in office quietly conversing about the dissolution of the partnership which had previously been agreed upon, and that Mr. Dean had agreed to purchase Orville's interest, paying therefore about $200,000. Mr. Dean was sitting at the desk busily engaged in writing up the books, as articles of dissolution were to be signed and the money paid over at noon today.

Coroner Ellinger impaneled a jury to-day, who viewed the bodies. Investigation will be commenced on Monday.

Chamberlain Acquiescent.

WASHINGTON, April 5, 1877.—Governor Chamberlain to-day called upon the President to take leave of him before returning to South Carolina. The President expressed his profound appreciation of the spirit of acquiescence displayed by Governor Chamberlain, and which so satisfactorily tended to the solution of the South Carolina controversy. Governor Chamberlain observed in reply that though he had surrendered none of his views on the subject of his election, the result now inevitable was doubtless the imperative tendency of events, intimating by this that the element controlling, in influence if not in numbers, in South Carolina was against his successful contest for the sole executive authority in the State. He will make no factious opposition and will cooperate in any rightful measure in bringing the contest to a close—thus in his surrender of his Gubernatorial authority carrying out the uniform conduct of his administration of affairs in South Carolina and demonstrating conclusively his interest in the peace, welfare and prosperity of his adopted State.

A Defaulting Tax Clerk.

PHILADELPHIA, April 6.—A considerable deficit has been discovered in the accounts of Theodore Hanel, a clerk in the office of Receiver of Taxes. There is reason to believe that the amount is about $50,000, and has been used in speculation. The embezzlement has been in progress since about the beginning of March. City Solicitor Collins, who has charge of the matter, is very reticent as to the facts of the case, and little information can be gained at present.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7, 1877.

NEGLECTED LEGISLATION DURING LAST SESSION OF CONGRESS.

One of the serious results of the late complication connected with the protracted congressional action in arriving at a satisfactory count of the electoral vote was the necessity postponement of the consideration of a large number of important bills, which died with the Congress. The depression of business of every description called for, and still calls for, curative legislation. The fact of to-day there are thousands upon thousands of able-bodied, skilful, and willing mechanics and laborers roaming through our large cities and over the country seeking, nay even begging, for employment is deplorable in the extreme. It must be admitted that the public interest does not demand this state of things. Unemployed capital in abundance is hidden away, the possessors being afraid to invest it in any enterprise, while, if public confidence were restored, it would be freely used for the development of the resources of the country in all its wide expanse.

Under the circumstances referred to it becomes the paramount duty of the representatives of the people, in Congress assembled, to initiate and probably perfect such legislation as will tend to ameliorate this lamentable condition of affairs. We have more particular reference to the enactment of proper public laws, although there are many private bills which have great merit, and which should receive favorable consideration. We do not hold that all bills left in an unfinished condition upon the table should be revived, but meritorious ones should be passed at the earliest day.

Taking this view of the situation, Congress, at the approaching extra session, should not limit its duration to the few days required to pass a single bill, nor do we believe it will do so. The demand for required legislation will be so pressing that it will be respected. Government aid to the construction of the Texas Pacific railroad would secure the speedy completion of the important link of communication with the Pacific, and would give employment to many who are now suffering for want. This is only one of several measures which should be acted upon if Congress will give heed to the wishes of the people. We predict a lively and interesting session. The newspaper press will be supplied with intelligence which will be anxiously looked for by all who give attention to what transpires at the Capital. Even in advance of the session the inauguration of a new administration, bringing with it new men and new measures, attracts public attention to the political metropolis. This interest will increase day by day as the policy of President Hayes develops itself.

THE EASTER RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN WASHINGTON.

The Easter services in the several churches in Washington on Sunday were of a very interesting character. Upon the birth and resurrection of the Savior the whole Christian fabric rests. The festival commemorating the latter event was generally observed at all the places of Christian worship, the attendance being very large at each. The President's family was represented at the Methodist, the Episcopal, and the Catholic churches, which fact woul seem to indicate a liberal religious sentiment in the domestic circle. As an individual the President has, no doubt, his preference among religious denominations; but it is becoming that, as President, he should give countenance to all modes or systems of worship which have for their object the inculcation of morality, and the elevation of mankind to a higher plane. Liberty of conscience, in the discharge of religious duties, is a birthright of which every American citizen should be proud, and which he should grard against innovation.

THE NEW ASSISTAT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The appointment of Governor McCormick as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury meets with general favor. The new Assistant Secretary takes the place of Mr Conant, who is transferred to another position in the public service. Mr. McCormick gained no little credit as Secretary of the National Republican Committee during the recent Presidential campaign. He is a Republican in principle, who has given his best efforts to the promotion of the interests of the party and its candidates. He was strongly recommended for a place in President Hayes' Cabinet. His valuable political services deserves recognition, and we are right glad that in the hour of triumph, he has not been forgotten. The new Assistant Secretary is the son-in-law of that prominent Democratic war-horse, Senator Thurman, of Ohio. Some ardent political friend of the Senator requested his influence to secure an official favor from Mr. McCormick requesting an introduction and a word in his behalf. To this the Senator replied that the husband of his daughter was a staunch Republican, and it were useless to ask him to dispense favors in the interest of the Democracy. In thus answering the request of his friend Senator Thurman paid a high tribute to the consistency and party integrity of his son-in-law. If the same could be truthfully said of the other officials who have been elevated, either directly or indirectly, by Republican votes, we apprehend that they would lose nothing in the estimation even of their political opponents.

BELIGERENT BULLS OPPOSED TO LOCOMOTIVES.

A serious disaster recently occurred on a Virginia railroad to a freight train while passing over a bridge. A beligerent bull, on the approach of the locomotive, stepped out upon the road and squared himself for a butt with the iron horse. The result was, that his bullship went under, but the locomotive and part of the train left the track, and was completely wrecked, killing the engineer. This reminds us of an occurrence upon what is now known as the Pennsylvania railroad, which at that time (1837) belonged to the State. Locomotives were being brought into requisition as a motive-power. The then Farmer Governor of the Keystone (Joseph Ritner) objected to their use on the ground that it would interfere with the business of wagoning freight between points in the East and West. He vetoed a bill appropriating money for the purchase of locomotives by the State, claiming that it was better to use horse-power than steam. A locomotive had been placed upon the road as an experiment, and was in use. Just at this time, at a point in Lancaster county, a bull, belonging to a Mr. Slaymaker, seeing the machine coming, belching fire and smoke in its progress, bowed his neck, and, showing more courage than discretion, contested the right-of-way. He had to succumb, but in his death he attested his approval of the patriotism of the Governor. The reigning toast then was: "Governor Ritner, who, like Slaymaker's bull, is opposed to locomotives."

THE PRESENT AND FORMER LADIES OF THE EXECUTIVE MANSION.

The lady who presides over the hospitalities of the Executive Mansion has always been an object of much interest to the American people. From the days of the first President, in the person of the Father of his Country, to the present time, each good mistress of the White House has been noted for peculiar traits, exhibited in her "walk and conversation." Many still living have a pleasant recollection of Mrs. Donaldson, who filled her station with much sweetness and dignity. Then came Mrs. Polk, whose rare accomplishments and intelligence were the themes of admiration while her husband occupied the Executive chair, and who still lives to receive the annual tributes of veneration from the representatives of the people of Tennessee. In turn, we come to the Presidency of James Buchanan, during which the sweet Miss Lane, his niece, so gracefully discharged her duties as the presiding lady of his home. No on in that station of life, before or since, acquitted herself with more marked magnificence than did the accomplished assistant of Pennsylvania's favorite son. In the very near past, who has not admired the exhibition of the wifely, the motherly, and the social qualities of Mrs. Grant, during her eight years' occupancy of the Executive Mansion. It is acknowledged that she handed over her residence, with its furniture and adornments, to her successor in such condition as to betoken the personal care of the true house-wife. And now, for a few days past, we have before us the newly-installed wife of President Hayes, whose urbanity and good sense are already the subjects of popular approbation. She is a type of the very best class of her sex. Although not claiming to be a prophet, or the son of a prophet, we feel very safe in predicting that she will perform all her womanly duties, in her exalted position, in such manner as to reflect credit upon the nation, her husband, and herself.

The Triumph of Art in Railroad Travel.

Year by year we note the footsteps of progress in many directions. In no direction is progress more palpable than in the facilities offered the railroad traveler of the present day. —Looking back but a few years, we can see the coiling snail-like advance made day by day by the emigrant's wagon, as it was slowly but surely drawn toward sundown by the patient ox, or the slowly moving farm horse; then came the old fashioned stage coach; following closely we had the canal packet; then the steamer on the lakes and rivers; then the locomotive engine and the stage like car. Now! the palatial coach, and more than the palatial drawing room and sleeping car. Yet, not satisfied with these, the marvel of mammoth western corporations the Chicago & North-Western Railway, as we stated some weeks ago, has developed hotel cars that will, for elegance, usefulness and real comfort, eclipse everything of the kind that has hitherto been placed in service on any road. Some of our readers seem to have some doubts about the merits of hotel cars, or their superiority over the so-called dining car, that is run for a few miles on some roads. "I am not so sure about that," said one of our friends, as he had finished reading our first article about these hotel coaches that are to be run on the Omaha and California line of the Chicago & North-Western Railway "I am not so sure I would care to take my dinner in any car, no matter how much like a palace, while it was running at the rate of forty miles an hour." It is a saying "that the faster you run the safer." Why last Jube it will be remembered, that this road hauled from Chicago to Council Bluffs, in less than ten hours, the new celebrated "Jarrett and Palmer Train." On that train was a hotel car, not as large, with less wheels under it, poorer springs, and in no way as strong and easy for riding in as these new cars are to be, and yet, Mr. Jarrett said "while on the Chicago & North Western line, running at an average rate of fifty miles an hour, we took our breakfast as comfortably as we would at Delmonico's in New York."

It is well known that the Chicago & North-Western Railway is built over the most favorable line as to grades that could be found between Chicago and the Missouri river, with not few curves; its track is mostly of heavy steel rail, gravel ballasted, with broad roadway, giving it permanence and solidity—it is as smooth as a floor; and its cars strong, with plenty of wheels under them, and with springs so adjusted that the usual "bouncing" and oscillation are reduced to the minimum. We observed last week that in any ordinary car the side motion and rising and falling of the car was less than half an inch, and sometimes scarcely perceptible. We believe it will be found that a person will sit in these hotel cars and eat or write as comfortably as he could at his desk at home; this we choose to call the triumph of art in railway travel.

We learn that this new line of hotel cars is being pushed to completion as fast as the full force of workmen in the Pullman shops can do it. We shall be certain to see them in a few weeks.—*Cedar Rapids Republican, Feb 1877.*

ELECTION IN RHODE ISLAND.

The Entire Republican Ticket Elected.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 4.—Present returns indicate that the Republican candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor are elected by from 400 to 600 majority, and the remainder of the Republican State ticket by from 1,000 to 2,000 majority. The General Assembly is undoubtedly Republican.

LATER.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 4.—For the first time in three years the Republicans have elected the entire State ticket by the people. The plurality for Governor and Lieutenant Governor is about 500. For the remainder of the State officers it is two or three times as large. The Republicans have a large majority in both branches of the Assembly.

PROVIDENCE, March 4.—Van Zandt, Republican, for Governor, one town, lacking, has 12,334 votes; Barnaby 11,623; scattering 23.

Josh Billings says: "The mewl is a larger bird than the guse or turkey. He has two legs to walk with, and two more to kick with, and wears its wings on the side of its bed."

Forty-Five Years in a Cave.

CINGMAN'S FERRY, PENN., April 2.—Austin Sheldon, who has lived for 41 years the life of a hermit in a cave in a lonely place in the mountains nine miles south-east of this village, was found frozen to death in a deep snow drift near the entrance of his cave on Friday evening last. A terrible storm of snow and wind had prevailed in the mountains for two days, and on Tuesday evening, contrary to his custom, Sheldon had visited the cabin of some hoop-pole cutters, about a mile from his abode, to buy something to eat, he having been without food for two or three days. The cutters invited the hermit to remain with them all night, and not attempt to brave the fury of the storm by returning to his cave. He had not spent a night from his cave since he inhabited it, and he refused to stay at the cabin. The snow piled in such drifts before the storm was over that no communication with the settlement outside could be obtained until Friday. The cutters themselves were nearly frozen to death. The hermit, although nearly 72 years old, managed to reach within a few feet of his cave, when he was overcome and buried 10 feet deep by the snow. His features were fearfully distorted, and his knees were drawn up to his chin.

It does not seem credible that this man, who buried himself in the wilderness for over half his life, and who at last met so terrible a death, might have lived in ease and luxury and been surrounded by friends in the best society. He was born near Stony Creek, Conn., in 1806, and when he was 26 years old married a lady named Tuthill, the daughter of a wealthy gentleman living near the city of Hartford. Sheldon's family was the leading one in the town of Bradford, where he has a brother and sister still living. His wife died 10 years after their marriage, and Sheldon soon afterward disappeared. He had always been an enthusiast in religion, and has often expressed a wish to go to heathen countries as a missionary. His friends believed that he had gone to some such country, and never hearing from him thought he had died there.

Forty-five years ago the country in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania was still in great part a primitive wilderness. Lumbermen had commenced invading the forests, however. In 1833 a party of prospecting lumbermen made a camp on the northern slope of the Moosic Mountains, in Wayne County, Penn., and one day discovered a cave occupied by a man, miles away from any human habitation. He said he had lived there a year, and had been roaming the forests of Connecticut, Vermont and New York looking for such a place as his cave for two years. He gave his name as Austin Sheldon, but told nothing of his past. The lumbermen growing more plenty, he left his cave and was heard of no more by them.

In 1843 two hunters discovered a man living in the cave near which the hermit was found dead on Friday. This was Austin Sheldon. He told them he had not seen a human being for 10 years. He continued to live there, but nothing was known about him until last Summer, when a paragraph appeared in the New York *Times*, mentioning the fact that a man named Austin Sheldon was living as a hermit in a cave in the wilderness of Pike County, Penna., his past being a mystery. This item was seen by his relatives in Connecticut, and a brother and sister visited his cave. They offered him everything that wealth could bestow if he would leave his cave and go home with them, but he refused. From these relatives the facts as to Sheldon's early life were learned.

Sheldon seldom left his cave, and then only to obtain fish, game, roots, or berries for his food. At the time of his death he was bent and wrinkled with long, matted gray locks, and a beard reaching almost to his waist. The clothes he wore he had not taken off his body for 22 years. They were tattered and ragged, and held together by hickory withes. The hermit never washed and his face and hands were encrusted with dirt. His cave was about eight feet square, dark, damp, and loathesome. He slept in a rude chair, surrounded with bones, filth, and rubbish of all kinds. He was very taciturn, speaking willingly only on the subject of religion. It was his boast that he had read his Bible through nearly 100 times, and that he communed personally with God and the ancient prophets. When he walked he used a long staff, and his old, well-worn Bible was fastened to his leathern girdle. Forest fires frequently swept over the mountains about the hermit's cave, and many times it was surrounded on all sides by fire. The hermit, saying that he was in the hands of God, never voluntarily sought safety when thus imperiled, and courageous natives often saved his life at the risk of their own. He was often saved from death by freezing in the same manner. His only explanation of his living in the wilderness alone was that he wanted nothing to take his thoughts from God. As he had considerable money, according to his relatives, at the time he left Connecticut, many believe that he buried it about his cave.

The President Bounced For Making Terms With Wade Hampton.

BOSTON, April 4.—The New England Conference of the M. E. Church opened to-day, one hundred and eleven of the 245 members present. Resolutions on the Southern question were presented by Rev. W. F. Mallen, D. D., of Boston, and upon being read were received with great applause, and by a vote of the Conference were referred to a special committee of five to be appointed by the Chair. The preamble to the resolutions reviews the blighting effects of slavery, and the two final resolutions are in substance as follows: That we are alarmed and filled with apprehensions for the future when we contemplate the practical sale of one of the great political parties of the Republic by two politicians of that party, who have held, and now hold, very intimate relations to the President, thus sacrificing principle and party and righteousness for the sake of temporary success; that we protest most earnestly against the action of the new administration in making terms with the chief KuKlux instigator of the Hamburg massacre, M. C. Butler, and still more earnestly do we protest against the official recognition by the administration of that arch enemy of the Republic, who long since ought to have been hung for treason, Wade Hamp