The Somerset Herald

WEDNESDAY . . . . . July 11, 1877.

THE editor having been absent this week, we are compelled to publish our paper without editorial, which we hope will not occur soon again.

BLAINE'S BLAST.

The "Fourth" Celebration at Woodstock.

Mr. Blaine's Address.

There is an agitation on the southwestern frontier of the United States at the present time that may possibly develop into a policy involving national danger and ultimately grave disaster. An intelligent Representative in Congress from the State of Texas has become the exponent of a new policy and has been urging it upon the Administration at Washington with persuasive force. He is sustained and endorsed by not a few influential newspapers in various sections of the country. The cause, or may I not say the plausible pretext of this policy, is the incursion of predatory bands from some of the border States of Mexico into the State of Texas, and the seizing and carrying off the herds and other property of her people. The line of action urged to suppress and prevent these outrages embraces three points:

First, The pursuit of these outlaws beyond the Rio Grande, and their capture and punishment on Mexican soil. It is understood that the War Department has issued orders to the General commanding the Southwestern Department to adopt this course. This is openly aggressive, and, though not done to create war, has a strong tendency in that direction. A similar invasion of Canadian soil would produce war with Great Britain in sixty days.

Second, Under a thin veil of Quixotic sentimentalism we are to extend a moral support to the Government of Mexico,—though what this may precisely mean we are not very clearly informed, unless we are at liberty to infer it from the more outspoken policy embraced in the

Third proposition—in which, upon a certain contingency, we are urged to give material support to that party of administration in Mexico which best promises to insure law and order,—in other words, to assume a sort of Protectorate over the sister Republic, and in the pending dispute it is quietly hinted that we should sustain Lerdo and frown upon Diaz.

These last two movements are not understood to have the assent or approval of the Administration at Washington,—those who are engineering the measure not having induced our authorities to go further than the step described in the first proposition.

ANNEXATION REPUDIATED.

As a comforting and consolatory addendum to the whole scheme, we are kindly assured that in no event shall any Mexican territory be acquired or annexed to the United States. As in many other cases of similar design and movement, the most important feature may be that which is specially disavowed. I do not mean to impute deception or insincerity to the Texas Representative, but I feel free to aver that, however candid he may be in his declaration of views, or however cautious the Administration might be if it should adopt and act upon them, yet the inevitable drift of events—rapidly whirled into a current that could neither be stayed nor directed—would be towards the absorption by this country of a large portion of the present Republic of Mexico.

While on this day, and before this audience, I would not introduce a merely partisan topic, nor speak words unbefitting the patriotic associations by which we are inspired and surrounded, I yet think that a danger of possible moment to our nationality may be most properly discussed before an assemblage of American citizens on the anniversary of the Republican birthday.

To the younger generation, who constitute the large part of my hearers, the war with Mexico is merely dim tradition or an historical fact; but the elderly and middle-aged will readily remember that the final act which precipitated actual conflict between the two countries in the spring of 1846 was not so palpable or so menacing as that which is now being foreshadowed on the dial of our nation's future from the same disturbed quarter in the political heavens. And, if the course of our Government shall now be guided or even largely influenced by the men and interests that stand behind this movement—some of them masked and some of them in sight—we may find ourselves rushed into a war, requiring indeed but a petty fraction of our military strength, yet involving a serious drain upon our Treasury, to be reimbursed in the end by a cession of territory acquired at the wrong time, located in the wrong place, inhabited by an undesirable population, adding weakness where we want strength, discord where we need peace, and a lack of patriotic inspiration where most of all we require the devoted spirit of a true American nationality.

THE ERA OF TEST AND TRIAL.

We are passing through an era of test and trial for the Republic. The war of the rebellion is long since over, but the political questions resulting therefrom, the new adjustments rendered necessary by the issue of the conflict, the permanent status of the races brought into new relations, have not been settled upon a basis that gives adequate guaranty for peace, harmony and security in the future. I do not wish to exaggerate these sources of disquietude, nor do I wish to underrate them. They present the grave problems of statesmanship for the present generation, and it yet remains to be seen whether our wisdom in peace is equal to our prowess in war. Nor would it be just to ignore or bellitle the grave difficulties which the states lately in rebellion have upon their own hands and within their own borders—which they alone can adjust, but which are assuredly rendered more difficult to them by their jealousy and distrust of the National Government. And in certain aspects these questions are being continually complicated and rendered more embarrassing by the actions of those States themselves.

When, after the close of the rebellion, the States engaged in it were readmitted to a participation in the Government of the Union, they all came in with Constitutions distinctly recognizing and affirming the paramount authority of the National Government and the paramount allegiance due to it from every citizen of the United States. Several of the States thus reconstructed have thus changed their Constitutions, and in every instance save one they have struck out the paramount authority of the Union and the paramount allegiance of the citizen to the National Government. The latest example is that of Georgia, that has just voted for a Convention to revise her Constitution on which she was readmitted to representation in Congress; and her distinguished Senator, Mr. Hill, is credited by the public press with declaring that among the prime motives of changing the Constitution of Georgia is to strike from its pages the assertion that the late war was a rebellion, and further to erase and annul that majestic utterance contained in the thirty-third section of the "Declaration of Fundamental Principles," which expresses more true patriotism than was ever before proclaimed on the soil of Georgia. It is in these memorable words: "The State of Georgia shall forever remain a member of the American Union; the people therefore are a part of the American nation; every citizen thereof owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and no law or ordinance of this State in contravention or subversion thereof shall ever have any binding force."

THE SOUTHERN HOPE.

Mr. Hill warmly urged that this patriotic provision should be struck from the organic law of Georgia, and he concluded his speech by assuring his hearers that the full power of the South is just dawning, and that the day is not far distant when it will control the Government of the Union.

In view of these significant facts, and still more significant tendencies, in the Southern part of our country, I ask men of all parties here assembled to-day on the soil of Connecticut, if they think it wise to provide now by the acquisition of Mexican territory for the creation of additional States holding these views of the National Government—as inevitably they would hold them, by reason of proximity of location, and by the character and creed of the men who would naturally inhabit and control them. In the States north of a certain line a countless majority of the people believe their paramount allegiance to be due to the Government of the United States, so that a conflict between a Northern State and the United States is practically impossible. In a majority of the States south of the same line the great mass of those who term themselves the governing class believe in an allegiance to their respective local Government superior to that which they owe Government of the Union. It is the same heresy that hurried tens of thousands of brave and honorable men into a conflict with the Government in 1861, and now sixteen years have elapsed with their frightful record of war and blood, of cruelty, and of carnage, the tragedy ends in one important aspect just where it began with the men who precipitated the conflict in solid power from Maryland to Mexico, resolute in purpose, and holding with tenacity the creed that underlaid the rebellion, a creed that is utterly irreconcilable with a lasting devotion to the States. I do not have the slightest doubt that these views are honestly held by those who avow them; they are proclaimed by able men with the force and skill, not indeed of logic, but of sophistry which deceives the unwary and sometimes entraps even the watchful.

There can be no doubt, I think, that an overwhelming majority of the people of the country, especially of the North, are hostile to further annexation of Southern territory. That was plainly shown when Mr. Seward's proposed purchase of the Island of St. Thomas was peremptorily rejected, and still later, when Gen. Grant's very earnest advocacy of the San Domingo scheme utterly failed to secure support, even at a time when his Administration was peculiarly powerful and influential in shaping measures and directing politics. For a period of sixty years from the adoption of the Federal Constitution annexation of territory in the South was a favorite policy with our Government. In 1803 we purchased Louisiana, in 1819 we purchased Florida; in 1845 we annexed Texas; in 1848 we took a vast area from Mexico; and in 1853 we paid a large price for a mail contract from the same country. All purchases were made by Southern Presidents, except the small one of 1853, and that by a President devoted to Southern interests.

THE SOUTHERN POLICY.

The aggregate area of these additions to our domain is at least two and a quarter millions of square miles, nearly three times as great as the whole of the territory fought for by our Revolutionary ancestors, and covered by the treaty of peace in 1783. I do not mean to imply that the whole benefit of these acquisitions went to the Southern section of the country, or to its peculiar political interests. Fate and fortitude rescued a large proportion of the Louisiana purchase to Northern interests, as some prosperous and powerful States in the west strikingly testify to-day. The magnificent empire of California and the neighboring territories were also rescued after one of the most memorable struggles in our civil and parliamentary history. But Northern annexation, as an original movement, has never flourished with us. Mr. Seward enjoys the honor of being the first statesman to add to our territory on the north, as he did in the purchase of Alaska. A Southern President gave away a valuable piece of territory on our northeastern frontier in 1842, and another Southern President, four years later, gave away a vast tract of most valuable country on our northwestern frontier—nearly five times as large as the State of New York. I wish to make no reflections on the great men who made those settlements, but I take no risk in saying that if either treaty were to be negotiated now, the United States would demand a far different boundary, both on the northeast and northwest. I wish further to say that, if, in 1842 or 1846, claims as strong as those which were given away on our northern frontier by Mr. Tyler and Mr. Polk had existed on our southern border, they would have been promptly maintained at the cannon's mouth, under the old cry of "indemnity for the past and security for the future."

CANADIAN ANNEXATION.

While regretting that our Government did not stand for its extreme rights, both in the north-east and the south-west, I would not attempt to force annexation or acquisition of territory in any direction; but at the same time I most frankly avow that the incorporation of the British-American provinces in our Union would be a vast addition to our strength, and a large element added to our growth and perpetuity. No manlier, stronger, abler, better portion of the Anglo-Saxon can be found on the globe than those who inhabit the Dominion of Canada. They are not at present contemplating any union with us, nor are we making the slightest overtures toward them; but the continued growth of mutual interests, the quickened and quickening influence of constant intercourse, will, in my judgment, ultimately bring us together. Our relations with them daily grow more intimate. We are drawn towards each other by a thousand ties of interest, friendship, and kindred, and the outpouring of our sympathy for their lately stricken city is but an expression of the kindly regard we feel for their entire people.

In my remarks I have been compelled to speak of the North and the South as in a certain sense antagonistic forces in our Government. It is not my speaking of this antagonism that creates it, nor would the fact cease to exist if every man in the North should keep silent. Nor will it be removed by effusive oratory on Decoration Day nor by swelling periods on the Fourth of July. It has its deep-seated origin in different phases of civilization and its radically different views of the function, powers, and limits of the State and National Government. It is deeply to be regretted that it has grown up. I hope that it will some day die out. The North and the South, just as much as the East and the West, are fitted by nature for harmonious co-operation and for mutual development and strength. I would include all sections in the folds of a common patriotism, inspired by a single aim, warmed by the same traditions, stimulated by like pride, looking forward for one destiny. But we should gain nothing—nay, we should loose a good deal—by concealing from ourselves the palpable fact that the controlling political element in the South holds views which are at war with the prestige and prosperity of the American Union. I speak it here to-day in sorrow, and not in anger, and yet I could not be just to my convictions if I should fail to speak it plainly! The remedy is in the hands of the vast majority of our countrymen who believe that their paramount allegiance is due to the national Government, and who hold with Washington that "the Union of the States should ever be the primary object of patriotic desire."

UNION MEN ONLY TO THE FRONT.

The consolidated strength of the sixteen States that were lately slaveholding is a tremendous political force, embodying almost one-half the Senate of the United States, more than one-third of the House of Representatives, and about two-fifths of the aggregate Electoral College. This entire element is controlled by a small majority of the people of those States; it will be wielded in the future with the unity of despotism, and it aims at permanent domination in the Government of the country. Let us look the future squarely in the face, prepare for the danger in season, and avert it if possible. I take my position without hesitation, without distrust, without acrimony, and without concealment. I believe that Southern control in the Government of the Union is the worst possible result, even for the South itself. I believe that it is menacing and dangerous to every interest in the land; I believe that the men who in battle and council saved the Union should govern it; I believe that the men who for four years sought the life of the nation should not be entrusted with its supreme control; I believe that the heresy of the citizen's primary allegiance being due to the State—a heresy which has already wrought so much misery and shed so much blood—should be confined to the States that cherish it, and not be permitted to entail itself in the government of the nation, and, finally, I believe that any policy which contemplates, or by any posibilities involves, the annexation of Mexican territory or any other addition to the disturbed elements of the South, is at war with the highest interests of every American citizen of the generation that now is, and of those countless generations which, in the providence of God, shall succeed to our proud title and its continually widening responsibilities.

At the conclusion of Mr. Blaine's speech he was loudly applauded, and received a vote of thanks of the assembly. Letters were then read from Cyrus W. Field and Dr. Bishop Haven.

Another Violent Storm.

On Thursday evening, when we had only a little sprinkle of rain in the city, the people living in the southern part of the county were the sufferers by a terrible storm, which was of short duration, but damaged the crops, in some places ruining them utterly. All along the Chartiers creek valley and Saw Mill run the people suffered by the flood, but nowhere so badly as in the end of Snowden township, near Library postoffice, about ten miles from the city. A perfect water tpout descended about four o'clock on Thursday afternoon so that little gullies in which there never flowed any water became torrents. Hailstones the size of pigeon eggs, fell, covering the ground. The storm was only about four miles long and two wide, but the crops in this space are totally ruined. The oats, wheat, corn, potatoes and other vegetables were beaten down into the ground. A large kitchen attached to the rear of 'Squire Handel's house was flooded away about a hundred feet. About a mile of fence belonging to him was also swept away. To give an idea of the force of the storm it may be said that Mr. Handel's grindstone, in wood fastening, was swept about a hundred yards, and the shingles on the roofs of the houses and buildings were actually split by the hailstones. A large number of Mr. Handel's neighbors were similarly served as to their fences and crops. The loss is estimated at about $10,000. The water fell as if a cloud suddenly sat on the ground, washing everything away, and what the water did not destroy the hail did, that fell directly afterward. A few chickens were drowned, but fortunately no human beings lost their lives. The frequency and force of local storms this year is really remarkable.

Express Train Wrecked.

CRESTLINE, O., July 5, 1877.—The Cincinnati express, due here at 4:30 p.m., was wrecked about two miles south of Galion, this afternoon. The engineer W. L. Needham, and his fireman, were killed, and several passengers were injured, but none seriously. A terrific rain storm passed over that section this afternoon, washing away a bridge that was known to be a substantial one, and the train went through it. The engineer and fireman jumped from the engine as it went down. Trains will be delayed several hours by the accident.

OUR NEW-YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, June 29, 1877.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

is going on vigorously. The old law, restricting licenses to sell intoxicating drinks those keeping inns, and defining inn-keepers to be those persons keeping three beds for the accommodation of the public, has been revived, and its performance insisted upon. The big beer saloon under the *Tribune* building put in three cots, to conform to the law, and put them in the lowest cellar. A temperance detective, thinking that such a concern would not have the beds, and that an opening would be had for a prosecution, went in last night and demanded lodgings. "All right," said the proprietor, "come dis way." And down through long, winding cellars he took him, till, in a dark vault, they came to three cots, of the hardest, meanest description, and with rats coursing over them. "You vill dake No. 2," said the proprietor; "Good night." And away he went, leaving the detective in a place from which no man unacquainted with the premises could escape, without a guide. In a doleful mood he passed the night, and in the morning paid his dollar, thinking it cheap as he had the company of the rats. The league is working vigorously and to the point. Wherever they catch a liquor dealer napping, they bring him to book; and, as they have plenty of money and the best legal talent in the city, they are accomplishing something. The breaking up of the rings has lessened the political power of the gin mills, and the politicians are willing to see them go to the wall. (Note for the benefit of all kinds of respectable people.) Politicians are beginning to court the favor of decent people, because the decent people kicked in the traces and refused to follow them, unless they had at least as much attention paid to their wishes as to the demands of the rum sellers. Possibly what is being done in New York may be profitably imitated elsewhere.

POLITICAL.

The President is receiving accessions daily. The office-holders who have walked the plank, and those whose heads hang lightly on their shoulders, don't like him, but the people do. The Republicans who have tried to have decent men in Congress and in the Legislature, but who have been overridden by the trained cohorts of the Custom-House and the Post-Office, whose proprietors had axes of their own to grind, are rejoiced that this is at last over, and that hereafter the people will have a chance to be represented as they desired to be. It was a nuisance and a curse. The swarm of office-holders made politics a business, and it was no use for the citizens to undertake to compete with them. Let them turn out at a caucus as freely as they might, the machine men had twice the number there, men who were never known in their wards, but who acted all the same; and as a consequence the worst, instead of the best, men have represented the city. Hayes' order prohibiting federal officials taking part in primary politics gives great satisfaction. It takes out of the political field the elements that were dangerous to the people, and will go a great way toward purifying politics. It is a good thing. Of course New York is opposed to the remonetizing of silver, for the interests of a great commercial city are always in the direction of keeping faith in the spirit as well as the letter. The production of silver has been so enormous as to lessen its value, and New York insists that nothing shall be legal tender that is not par the world over. There will be trouble in this city if any attempt is made to have a double standard, for it would disarrange values to a degree that would be disastrous. Whatever may be the action of the people elsewhere, New York will be a unit against anything but gold.

THE JEWS

are still excited about the order excluding them from the summer hotels. Every Rabbi in the city preached on the topic, and to read the papers Monday, one would suppose that all the bravery, all the virtue, all the capacity, and all the good that ever blessed humanity, were concentrated in the Jews. They may be excused for slopping over somewhat, in view of the insult that was put upon them, but without all this there is much to be said in their favor. There is an enormous population of them in the city, probably sixty thousand. They are the heaviest bankers, the heaviest merchants, and the best financiers in the city. There are thousands of small retailers, and thousands of rag-pickers and all that, among them; but there are no Jew mendicants, and very few Jew criminals. They take care of their poor better than any other people on the globe; they are the most charitable and the most enterprising. Here the Jew has had a chance, and he has shown himself to be great in more ways than one. The ghost of Stewart, who is known as Hilton, made a grave mistake when he insulted a race of such wonderful capabilities, capacity and means. They cut altogether too wide a swath to be lightly considered or cavalierly used. The Jews of the country have all withdrawn their trade from the Stewart concern, and it makes a hole in their profits.

TENEMENT HOUSES.

A building six stories high, in which over four hundred people existed, commenced caving in at eleven o'clock in the morning, and at four in the afternoon it fell with a mighty crash, embracing in its ruins all the worldly possessions of the people who inhabited it. Fortunately the cracking walls gave timely warning of their intention to go down, and no lives were lost. Had it happened in the night the loss of life would have been terrible. There are thousands of such buildings in the city, the falling of which is a mere matter of time, for the walls are as thin as they can possibly be and stand, and everything so built as to make the interest on the cost as large as possible. The authorities have taken it in hand, and an inspection is being made of the tenement houses. Quite a number of them have been condemned, and the tenants ordered to move out. The owners who are reaping twenty-five per cent. on this class of structures are indignant. They don't see why the shouldn't have the privilege of building any kind of a trap they choose, so that it pays them.

ABSOLUTE DULLNESS

pervades the city now. The hot weather brings business to an end, and closes everything except the gin-mills and such churches as are not able to give their pastors large enough salaries to enable them to go to Europe or California. Such pastors find it more in the line of their duty to stay and preach the gospel during the hot months. It has been a disastrous year all around. The theatres have all lost money, the business men who come out even consider themselves lucky, the bars are all short and everything is stagnant. It has been a season of economy and cutting down, and the spirit of retrenchment has extended into places where it would not be looked for. The Missionary Societies have done little or nothing, the receipts barely paying the heavy salaries of the officers. Speaking of

MISSIONARY SOCIETIES,

one, a society for aiding weak churches, has just published its report, and funny reading it is. It has collected during the year $18,000, and paid out for rent, and salaries to its officers, $17,165, leaving exactly $835 for the aid of weak churches. It does not state where that went to; but the President, Secretary and Treasurer all had good salaries. It is rather expensive getting money to weak churches when it takes $32 to get $1 to the church that needs it.

THE WEATHER

is terribly warm, and everybody who can raise money enough is getting away to the mountains or the sea-side. When these miles of brick walls and stone pavements get heated, it stays hot, and they are heated now. It is fearful and bids fair to continue so.

PIETRO.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 6, 1877.

THE BIRTH-DAY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

The anniversary of the natal day of American independence has passed. Reviews of the one hundred and one years of the nation's history have been given by learned and patriotic orators, and the people have been exhorted to press forward in the true line of progress, taking as a guide the admonitions of the fathers to keep clear of the rocks upon which other Republics have split, and to maintain, in their integrity, the institutions established by the founders of the government. The past has gone into history; the future is sealed to all except the Omniscient Eye; but the past should teach how to perform future duties even if errors and their effects cannot be recalled. It is not the part of wisdom to shut out from view "a policy" or a public measure merely because it is beyond recall. If any such be correctly included in the long list of administrative wrongs, let it be pointed to, time and again, that those who come after us may be saved from like infliction upon truth.

MORE LIGHT ON THE CIVIL SERVICE ORDER.

Gen. Barlow and Horace White have each given to the public their views in relation to the order of the President, having for its object a reform in the civil service. They confine themselves mainly to a criticism of the propriety of prohibiting those holding office from participation in the management of party caucuses, elections, and election campaigns. Gen. Barlow stoutly condemns the order as calculated to degrade the service by making the officer a cypher in the body-politic, and taking from him the right belonging to every American citizen. He takes the position that, if the proper persons be appointed to office, there will be no danger of their transcending the limits of propriety in the exercise of their political privileges.

Horace White, on the contrary, not only endorses the order but boldly asserts that it does not go far enough. He contends that the permission to contribute money of their own accord, will leave a loophole for evading the spirit of the order. Like all who take sides with him on this question, he points the to civil service of England, and insinuates that, in this country as in Great Britain, the office-holders should not be permitted to vote. These extreme views answers themselves. They will have no sympathy with a nation whose birth-day we have just been celebrating, and whose severance from Old England was caused by the exercise of a tyranny which repudiated freedom in the exercise of political rights. But Mr. White, in his praise of the order, should, if he could, have pointed to the consistency of the appointing power in the application of the rule. Examination would have shown him that ninety-nine out of every hundred of the offices conferred since the 4th of last March, have been rewards for political services. To issue the order now is like "locking the stable after the horse has been stolen." The truth is, the principal advocates of the proposed change are the Democrats, who "have every thing to gain and nothing to lose" by it.

PACKARD AND CHAMBERLAIN HAVE SPOKEN.

The country now has the formal speeches of Packard, at Des Moins, and of Chamberlain, at Woodstock, in each of which the Administration is arraigned on the charge of defection to Republican principles.

These ejected governors of Republican States evidently intended to appeal to their Republican brethren of the North for an expression of opinion relative to the action of the Executive in the matter of expulsion. Of course, they cannot look to a restoration to power, but they wish to secure a recorded verdict of approval. So far as there has been any avowal on the subject, by conventions or meetings of Republicans in the North, it has been largely in sympathy with the ex-Governors, Packard and Chamberlain.

Notwithstanding the promise was given by the President, that, if in his public action he should find himself to be wrong, he would retrace his steps; but it is claimed that in his Southern policy he has gone so far that he cannot retrieve himself, even if he would be convinced that he had made a mistake. It is evidently the desire of all but a small fraction of the Republican party of the country to maintain the organization of the party, and the future predominance of Republican principles. Free discussion is a means of securing these ends, and should prominent individuals be relegated to political obscurity, the life of the organization must be preserved.

CLAIMS OF EX GOV. DIX AS A REFORMER.

Ex-Gov. John A. Dix, of New York, in his recent letter to the President, lays claims to being the author of the civil service rule, now again promulgated, relative to reductions of force, repudiating the influence of Members of Congress in procuring appointments, and prohibiting assessments upon employees for political purposes. All this, he avers, he did in 1860, as *Democratic* Postmaster of the City of New York. He has carefully preserved, for seventeen years, and now publishes these letters as evidences of his having been the John the Baptist of the present crusade (?) against political wickedness.

According to the ex-Governor's own showing, his preaching in the wilderness had but little effect, and the war having been inaugurated, civil service reform went to the dogs. But after the close of the war, this same gentleman became Governor of the great state of New York, and was clothed with the power of dispensing patronage immeasurably greater than that pertaining to the office of Postmaster. It is strange that, in his retrospect, he jumps over this period, to collect instances of exertions in the line of civil service reform. He subsequently became a candidate for reelection and was defeated, while his opponent was elected, ostensibly, as a *reform* candidate. The ex-Governor is, no doubt, a pure man, but his attempt to appropriate to himself the rights of "an original inventor" is answered by proofs of subsequent "abandonment," and the verdict of a jury [the people of New York] against him.

FEW DIE AND NONE RESIGN.

The members of the "corps reportorial" make daily inquiries, at the appointment offices in the several Executive Departments, to ascertain whether any Federal officer has yet sent in a resignation of his office, giving as a reason for so doing that, being a member of a political committee, he is unwilling to forego his freedom of action as a politician at the behest of those whom he has aided as partisan candidates. The universal reply has been; not one so far, nor do we expect any one to sacrifice his office and his emoluments on the altar of his manhood." Will not this kind of reform end in making public officers a body of political imbeciles, nonentities in the body-politic, and a new *caste* in American society to be despised rather than admired.

DELTA.

The Undismayed Mollies.

MAUCH CHUNK, July 5.—On the 23d ult, I wrote you from here that there was reason to expect further violence and more murders from the Molly Maguire organization. The order has been the terror of law-abiding citizens for a score of years, but when ten prominent members of it were sentenced to be hanged on the same day, and when all attempts to procure pardon for them had failed, many persons, even among those who were familiar with the outside history of the order, believed that it had received its death-blow. To the careful observer, however, there were evident signs of further trouble; and when at the wakes over the bodies of the dead men there were wild threats of murder; in the very doorway of the jail there were defiant members of the order who openly swore to have vengeance; when the lodge meetings of the order were statedly held and no prominent Molly was known to have abjured his obligations, there was good reason for supposing that even the terrible vindication of the law of June 21st would not wholly end the lawlessness.

Events recorded in the files of the *World* in outline have proved that this supposition was correct. Three men obnoxious to the Molly Maguires have disappeared, and three others are known to have been murdered. It is true that the scenes of former years, when men were killed deliberately in broad daylight in the presence of witnesses, by men who were known to the witnesses, have not been repeated, but the order, though more cautious, is as dangerous as ever. The mere fact of six murders having been committed—supposing that the three lost men were killed—does not, it is true, prove that Molly Maguires did the work, but when a number of "breakers" are set on fire in a single night, as happened last Saturday, and when a number of persons who have incurred the hatred of the Mollies received the old-time notices to prepare for death, it is impossible to disconnect the circumstances.

William O'Connor, whose body was found on the very day I wrote you on the railroad track near White Haven, and John Grady, who was killed near the same place at the same time, were both obnoxious to the Molly Maguires, O'Connor because he had denounced their murders, and Grady because he was one of the miners who refused to join them. No other cause is known for which they were likely to have been killed, and as men have been killed for exactly these reasons for years past, it is assumed here that the Mollies committed these crimes. Only three days afterward there was an altercation in Nanticoke between a party of miners and another party known to be Molly Maguires. Some of the men had been drinking, and words led to blows, fisticuffs to the use of clubs and stones, and Martin McIntyre was hurt so badly that he died next morning. I do not know that the question of blame for the quarrel has been settled judicially, but I do know that in the minds of the citizens here the affair is looked upon as one more addition to the long list of Molly Maguire murders, and the logic, if a little crude seems correct enough.

The three men who have disappeared—McAugh, the former, James McDermott and Michael O'Brien—were all witnesses for the prosecution in the trials of the Mollies who were hanged, and are three of the very men whose murder was openly threatened by Mrs Campbell, who is one of the leading spirits in the order, and who since her husband was hanged has had more influence than ever. And the people here are so accustomed to learn that men have disappeared after they have been threatened by Mollie Maguires that they have come to think the one is a consequence of the other.

The idea maintained by some people at a distance from the scene of these murders—notably by writers in one of the New York papers—that they are the outgrowth of the eternal fight between labor and capital, is laughed at here. And as an illustration of this is only necessary to point to the fact that about twelve hundred men in the neighborhood of Mahanoy City struck work a few days since, thinking that the coal and iron companies were about to reduce wages from 10 to 20 per cent. Finding that this was not so, they decided to resume work; but while they were "out" no one expected to hear of murders by the strikers, certainly not of the murder of any one who should speak in deprecation of the strike. But if one-tenth as many Mollies had been together any where the citizens would have judged from their experience that some one would be killed in a cowardly way.

The miners, as a class, though they are, many of them, out of work and almost in a starving condition, are a law-abiding set. They are disposed to resist any further reduction of their pay, for even when they work full time at the present rates they are barely able to keep their families alive. But they are peaceable, and the citizens do not fear them. So far from being connected with Molly Maguireism, many of them have been victims to it, even while they were bearing an active part in the struggle between capital and labor.

The end is not yet. Some half dozen more of the Mollies are to be hanged, having been convicted of murder, and others are awaiting trial, but all this will not prevent the order from striking down more of its enemies, and, as has always been the case, they will be struck from behind.

The Mexican Border Troubles.

CITY OF MEXICO, June 30.—The spirit of the order to General Ord to cross the Rio Grande has been misunderstood by the press which has made bitter attacks on the American Government. The *Official Journal* charges the United States Government with violation of treaties and international law, alleging that the Rio Grande movement is a pretext for territorial aggrandizement or for forcing Lerdo upon the Mexican people. These attacks have called forth a memorandum from Minister Foster, which is addressed to the Government and foreign representatives. The following are the principal points of the memorandum: The instructions given to General Ord are not an announcement of a new measure on the part of the United States. The depredations committed during the past few years were not common to both sides of the frontier. Mexico took no adequate, no vigorous measures to prevent depredations or punish outlaws. Mexico frequently acknowledged its inability to discharge its duty regading the preserving of order on the Rio Grande frontier, giving as a reason internal dissentions. The instructions to General Ord are misinterpreted by the Mexican Government. Therefore the declaration made by the Mexican Minister of War is unwarranted in officially asserting that the instructions to General Ord are in contravention of treaties between Mexico and the United States.

Telegraphic dispatches announce a meeting between Generals Ord and Trevino at Piedras Yegras, at which amicable and satisfactory arrangements were made for the suppression of raids. The Mexican Government insists on a modification of the order to General Ord, and fears are entertained that a modification will not be conceded. There is considerable excitement over this affair in the Capital. Senor Rafael Benavides has been commissioned by the Mexican Government to make a special and minute study of the situation on the border, and report measures expedient for putting a stop to raids and disorders.

Vanderbilt's Will.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Judge Donohue has given a decision on the motion made by counsel for the defendant in the suit of Cornelius Vanderbilt vs. Wm. H Vanderbilt. The motion was to strike out as redundant the causes of action, which are substantially the same as the first; also the paragraph as to the value of the estate. He said that the contract set up is the payment of one million dollars, for withdrawing the objections of the plaintiff to the proof of the will mentioned, that but one contract is intended to set out, although made with different parties. Under the circumstances good pleading would seem to require but one statement of the cause of action. All these facts of the last two statements may be proven in evidence under the first. As to that part, defendant's motion is granted. As to the statement of the amount of the estate it seems to me that it is material to the plaintiff's case to show the value of the estate. As to that, the motion is denied, according to complainant's promise to pay $1,000,000 made on March 13th last. The plaintiff accordingly withdrew his opposition, but no part of the money has been paid.

Crime in Kentucky.

CINCINNATI, July 5.—A horrible crime has just been revealed in Lewis county, Kentucky. A man named Roberts, living on a farm a few miles from Vanceburg, had taken a white boy, some ten or eleven years old, to raise. Last September the boy disappeared and Roberts asserted he had run away. Lately a colored boy in the employ of Roberts asserted he had something to tell if protection was promised him, and on receiving a guarantee, conducted persons to the spot where the skeleton of the missing boy was found. Roberts was arrested and taken to the Vanceburg jail, where he is guarded by a posse of police of forty men, but citizens were organizing at last accounts threatening to lynch him to-night. He is reported as being a man guilty of other crimes. The reason assigned for killing the boy was that he feared the boy would expose him to prosecution.

Murder in Sharon.

The village of Sharon, Mercer county was shocked on Thursday morning by the death of W. W. McGilvray, a prominent citizen, and proprietor of a foundry and machine shop in the town, death having resulted from a blow given by Richard Bell, an estimable young man of Sharon. It seems that on Tuesday evening Mr. W. C. Bell, the father of the young man, was driving, and Mr. McGilvray's wife was driving in a phaeton. Her horse took fright at Bell's team and ran away. Mr. McGilvray, who is reported to have been drinking, took umbrage at the occurrence, and severely beat Mr. Bell, when Richard, the son, hearing of the assault on his father, undertook to avenge him, but finding himself overmatched retreated into a store and seizing a two pound weight struck McGilvray on the temple, the blow resulting in death as before stated. Mr. McGilvray formerly did business in Allegheny city, and was well known in this section. Mr. Bell is a brother of Mr. W. Dwight Bell, of the Masonic Bank, in this city. It is a peculiarly sad affair.

An Editor Assaulted.

LANCASTER, Pa., July 5.—This evening as J. W. M. Geist, editor of the *New Era*, of this city, was going home G. C. Haldeman stepped from the Leopard house and struck him across the face and shoulders with a cowhide. As Mr. Geist stepped backward, James E. Young, an accomplice of Haldeman's, attacked Geist with another cowhide, inflicting rapid blows. A crowd by this time had gathered and protected Mr. Geist from further violence. The assailants were promptly arrested and gave the required bail. The affair has created an immense excitement.

The circumstances leading to the assault were that a number of articles, published in the *New Era* recently, commented on the conduct of a number of young men and ladies of Columbia, this county, among whom were the assailants of the editor.

Grover Under Fire.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 6.—A Portland press dispatch says: The Grover investigation is progressing slowly. Several witnesses were examined to-day. James Brown testified he knew Representative Wilson, of Tillamook county; had a conversation with him in regard to the Senatorial question. Vic Travett and Barnhart wanted to find whether he would throw off on Nesmith. Witness said Barnhart gave me some money to try him with. I asked him how much it would take to get him not to vote for Grover, and whether $1,500 would do. He said no, he could do better. He said he would talk to me the second evening after, if Grover was not elected, and he would talk business. Never had any conversation with him afterward, and gave the money back to Barnhart the next day.

This was two nights before Gov. Grover's election. He stated to me he wanted Nesmith. He said Nesmith was a fool for not going into the caucus to tempt him. I laid money on the table and wanted him to name what sum would do him. He did not agree to that money. There was talk about money being used, and talk came from both sides, but most of it came from Nesmith and the Democrats.

The testimony of Senator Goodman, of Lynn county, was in relation to the conversation which took place between witness and J. H. Mosier, member of the House, from Wasco county. Mosier said to me on the night before the Senatorial election, "How is this Senatorial question going?" I said, "I don't know," and he said, "well, Mr. Grover is a good man, but he is not my choice." "Well," he said, "there's a chance to make some money; a man can get $1,000 for his vote." Said I, "Who has the money?" He said, "I know where the money is, and you can get $1,000 for your vote; they want three more votes, and they have $3,000 to pay for them."

To the question of who offered it, the witness said: You will have to judge of that as I did.

Bloody Doings in Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE KY., July 2.—A despatch from Mount Vernon says at midnight Saturday nearly one hundred men attacked the house of James Bethurman, a noted desperado. Bethurman would not surrender, and fired on the attacking with a shot gun, killing Charles Burton. Though some fifty shots were fired at him, Bethurman escaped. The same party entered Mount Vernon, and, visiting the jail, took therefrom James Smith, Andrew Cummings, Kirk and Joe Gibbs, all charged with robbery. Removing those four a mile from the town, they hung all of them. There is considerable excitement, but no outbreak is feared.

Excitement in Uniontown.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., July 5, 1877.—The citizens of this place are greatly excited to-night over the dissolution of the injunction restraining the Southwest Railroad from laying its tracks through the streets of Uniontown. The Junction was dissolved by the court this afternoon, and in less than ten minutes laborers were at work grading, laying ties and rails. Operations will continue all night for fear of another injunction. The track once laid, the company is secure. The people consider it an outrage. The indignation is pretty high.

A Disastrous Fourth of July Explosion.

CINCINNATI, July 6.—It has just transpired that a number of boys and young men found about half a keg of blasting powder in Brockmann's quarry, in the western suburbs of the city, on the Fourth, took it to an open lot near by, put part of it in a tight box, then covered the box with hay which they fired, and withdrew a short distance to watch the result. The explosion was terrific and disastrous. John Ryan, about fifteen years old, was so badly injured that he died last night, and James Gallagher, aged nineteen, cannot live. Several other boys were more or less injured, but none seriously.

South America.

PANAMA, June 27.—Advices from Peru state that in consequence of the attack of the British war vessels Shah and Amethyst on the Peruvian ram Huascar, the President has issued a proclamation in which he declares that he will exact from Great Britain explanations and satisfaction consequent on such a wanton outrage upon a friendly power.

President Prado has organized a new Cabinet. Mr. Gibbs, United States Minister, received orders from Washington to insist upon the immediate release of the steamer Georgia, detained at Cafon at the request of the Government of Chili for alleged offenses committed in Chilian waters, and succeeded in having the vessel placed at liberty.

Fourth of July Affray.

CHILLICOTHE, July 5.—A fatal affray occurred at Clarksburg, eight miles from this city, yesterday afternoon. The victim was a young man, Phil. Radcliff, and the assailant Dan. McQuay. The cutting was done with a pocket knife. Radcliff was stabbed in eight or nine places. McQuay was arrested, and had an examination to-day. The particulars are not received.

Death by Lightning.

MEADVILLE, Pa., July 5.—During a heavy storm, about one o'clock today, the lightning struck a shade tree in the cornfield of George W. Miller, one mile east of this city, under which his son, George Miller, Jr., aged sixteen, had taken shelter. Young Miller was killed instantly. There were two marks on his face and one near the heart, where the fatal bolt had done its work.

Pullman Palatial Hotel Cars.

These Celebrated Hotel Dining Cars are now running regularly between Chicago and Omaha, on the California Express Trains of the CHICAGO & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY. West bound, they leave Chicago daily, except Sunday, (and on every third Sunday) from the Wells street depot, opposite Omaha, at 5:15 P. M., daily, except Saturday, (and every third Saturday) and reach Chicago the next afternoon.

No other road west of Chicago runs these celebrated Pullman Hotel Cars or any form of Hotel Cars.

W. H.