The Somerset Herald

WEDNESDAY.....February 4, 1880.

THE attempt to get up a boom for General Garfield for President has been squelched by that gentleman publishing an open letter in favor of John Sherman for President.

THE rightfully elected officials in Maine are now in full possession of the Government, but it is not to be forgotten that the conspiracy to defeat the will of the people, was the work of the Democratic party.

THE Maine larce having petered out, seven Fusion Senators and twenty-two Fusion members took their seats in the legal Legislature on Thursday last. So ends the Democratic conspiracy to steal the State.

SENATOR ROSCOE CONKLING of New York has openly declared in favor of General Grant for the Presidency. So that puts another Presidential candidate out of the field, and unmistakeably indicates how New York will vote in the Chicago Convention.

THE Philadelphia *Press* (Rep) and Mr. M'Clure's *Times* (Dem) are vieing with each other in their championship of James G. Blaine. Between them, they have done more to damage the cause of that distinguished gentleman in Pennsylvania than could the entire Democratic press of the State.

THAT was a very small hole through which Ex-Governor Curtin crept away from his futile attempt to obtain a seat in Congress to which he was not elected. A thousand votes—say the Democrats on the committee—were illegal, because they were not previously registered. Every tyro knows, that a voter although not registered, by proving his right, can obtain a vote. All that was wanted however was an excuse to procure a new election, and this transparent dodge answered as well as any other.

NOT content with a pair of black eyes received by two square knockdowns from the Supreme Court, the Fusionists of Maine tackled that body for a third time, and again were knocked clear knocked off their pins. This last knock down appears to be a settler. Fusion Governor Smith discovered that he was making a fool of himself, declared he tired of the farce he has been keeping up, and has retired from the business, while the Fusion Legislature has adjourned until next August, and a large number of its members have taken their seats in the regular or Republican Legislature. So what at one time threatened to be a bloody tragedy has ended in a broad farce.

FOR the first time during the present session, the Senate, on Thursday last, divided strictly on party lines upon the question of conferring the nomination of Mr. Kitchor as Collector of Internal Revenue for the third district of Wisconsin. He was defeated by a strict party vote, because he is an outspoken stalwart Republican. Time was when the professed Democratic test for office, was, "Is he honest? Is he competent? Is he faithful to the constitution?" Now it is—"Does he vote the Democratic ticket?"

Under the present administration there are hundreds of Democrats holding office, but not a single Republican can get in, where Democrats hold the power. The difference between the two parties is palpable.

THE noodles are just now excited over a rumor, which the howlers against Grant have put in circulation, that he will decline a nomination at or before the meeting of our State Convention, and that his letter of declination is in the hands of his friends. Well, we will not have long to wait, as the Convention will have met and adjourned before this journal will reach one-fourth its readers.

General Grant is not canvassing for the Presidency and will hardly decline what he is not seeking. When the people call he will answer. Meanwhile he is in Cuba maintaining that dignified reticence which is the truest index of his strength.

THE petitions pouring into Congress in favor of Weaver's new inflation scheme, of paying the soldiers of the late war the difference between the present and the former value of greenbacks, are evidently manufactured for the purpose, hundreds of the signatures being in the same handwriting. In presenting one the other day, Senator Cameron stated that in his opinion the signatures were all forgeries. A solution of the problem is probably to be found in Weaver's remark in the House that the cry for the passage of his bill came from "every hamlet and church yard in the land." Evidently thousands of names have been obtained from the tomb stones.

A FAVORITE position of certain would-be party leaders in this State for years past, has been to hold up the Camerons—father and son—as a species of political ogres wherewith to affright verdant Republicans.

This bugbear has however met with but indifferent success, but be that as it may, we believe neither father or son have been accused of being "natural born fools." Yet, to read and believe all the twaddle now being so plentifully published about the way Senator Cameron intends to, and asserts he will manage, control, trade off and use as his own, the State Convention and the delegates to Chicago, is to believe that he is a mere idiot.

With a certain class of these newspaper men it must be held that the mass of the people are fools, they so persistently publish this silly trash.

ON Saturday last, the Republicans of Allegheny and Dauphin Counties elected their delegates to the State Convention and instructed them solidly for Grant. It looks now as if Senator Blaine will have not exceeding one-third of the delegates in the Convention.

IT is remarkable with what unanimity, the Democratic and assistant Democratic press of the country declare that Grant is the weakest Republican candidate that can be nominated, and yet with what zeal they are laboring to prevent his nomination. How anxious the dear innocent fellows are, that we should put up a stronger man.

HON. E. A. HAYT, Commissioner of Indian affairs has been removed from office, it is stated for withholding important information from the department. The following is the curt letter of Secretary Schurz making the removal.

Hon. E. A. Hayt, Commissioner of Indian Affairs

SIR—It has become my duty to inform you that the public interest demands a change in the Commissionership of Indian Affairs, and that your services in that office are dispensed with.

Very respectfully,
C. SCHURZ, Secretary.

EX-MINISTER ELIHU B. WASHBURNE of Illinois, who has many friends anxious to make him a Presidential candidate, when in New York last week was interviewed on that subject. He said that he would be a candidate for Governor of Illinois if that position was tendered him, but that under no circumstances will he be a candidate for President, as he is an ardent supporter of General Grant for that position. So there is another very strong candidate, not only out of the road, but for Grant.

IN public estimation the Democrats in Congress, are "past praying for," but with that remarkable reliance on fraud for which the party leaders are proverbial,' they apparently hope to enforce Divine grace through the prayers of their chaplain. Accordingly, when amending the rules the other day, the House decided that its chaplain shall take an oath to faithfully discharge his duties. Think of the good man having to swear that he will faithfully pray for the salvation of the redemptionless scalawags who compose the majority of that body!!

UNDER the lead of the Philadelphia *Press*, aided by several assistant Democratic journals, there has been a Herculean effort made within the past few weeks, to get up a Blaine boom in Pennsylvania. There has been a miscellaneous blazing away at Grant, but the fusillade has not been very effective. It is an undenied fact that the Senator from Maine has many friends in this State, and none, or very few enemies in the Republican ranks, but converts to his side are not to be made, by misrepresentations or boasting, nor is it likely that the State Convention will be influenced, (which is really the object of these boomers,) by their braggadocio. While the Republicans of this State will unitedly and cheerfully support Mr Blaine, if nominated at Chicago, yet it is to our mind, just as certain, that General Grant is the first prime favorite, and deemed the most available candidate by the large majority of Republicans, and we think that this will be made apparent at the State Convention on the 4th. The quiet determination of the friends of General Grant, to give no cause for offense, to hold the party together as a unit if possible, to leave themselves in a position to zealously support Senator Blaine—their second choice—in the event of his nomination, has been mistaken for timidity by the superservicable friends of Mr. Blaine, and hence the boomers in this State are reckoning without their host.

FOR the first time in its history, the Republican party of Somerset County was disgraced on Tuesday evening last by a packed convention. The object of the meeting being the selection of delegates to the State Convention, and it being well known that General Grant and Senator Blaine both had friends desirous of nomination—in our judgment the Grant men being largely in the majority in this county—it was arranged for the sake of perfect harmony, that three gentlemen, (two of whom were known to prefer the Senator from Maine) should be nominated for delegates. Notwithstanding this—it is now alleged through ignorance—one or two irresponsible and superserviceable would be politicians of this borough, quietly notified all the Blaine men to be on hand, and having thus packed the meeting, shamelessly violated the understanding, and by quickly springing a nomination of three Blaine men as delegates, carried their point. The friends of General Grant were thus deprived of any voice in the State Convention, and even were they in the minority in the county, their rights were betrayed and trampled on in this meeting. The voice of the county was not heard in the meeting it reflected only the sentiment of a score or two of unreflecting citizens, principally of this borough, who were used by a few scurvy politicians to gain their ends. The harmony of the party has been largely impaired by this dirty trick, and we thus expose and denounce it, in the interests of common honesty and decency.

As to the *gentlemen* who connived at, and were privy to this outrage on the rights of their fellow Republicans, they will in future reap a return for the lack of sagacity and fair play exhibited in their conduct.

THE future of tobacco cultivation in Pennsylvania seems promising, if the accomplishments of the past in this direction are to be taken as evidence. In 1850, when the largest portion of the crop was raised in York county, the yield was 1,400,000 pounds, and this was regarded as something extraordinary in tobacco culture. Since that time it has become a part of the growing crops in a number of counties, and Lancaster has fairly earned the title of "the tobacco bed" of Pennsylvania. Careful estimates just made place the crop of 1879 in Lancaster, York and Lebanon counties—the principal counties of the State in which tobacco is grown—at 24,000,000 pounds, and this will realize about $3,000,000. A better yield even than this is expected in 1880.

BY estimates lately made it is claimed that the amount of wheat now in the grasp of the speculators is thirty million bushels. With this enormous stock on hand, the speculators have power to rule the market as they please, selling one day at a price and the next so depressing the market as to re-buy what they sold the day before at a much reduced figure. The farmers cannot market their wheat because there is no place to store it, and European freights feel the effects of the wheat blockade because exports are checked by our extreme prices.

FEBRUARY will be an odd month in several respects. It will have in the first place an odd number of days, owing to its leap-year distinction. It will have an odd number of Sundays—five—which is very odd for the shortest month of the year—and one of the Sundays will be Washington's birthday. It will begin on Sunday and end on Sunday, which is also odd. The five Sundays correspond in date with the five Sundays in the following August, which is odd again. It is said that no one now living will ever see another February so odd; nor will their children, nor their children's children—sufficient in itself to make the month interesting.

Et Tu, Brute!

From the Buffalo Express.

It now appears that the second opinion of the Maine Supreme Court was written by Judge Libby, the Democratic member.

Gen. Patterson, of Philadelphia, Gen. Grant's old commander in the Mexican war, now nearly eighty years old, has been invited to accompany the ex-President on his tour to Mexico, and has accepted the invitation.

Grant is well out of the way, and now is a good time to "let loose the dogs." Go in, Cæsar! Go for him, Towser! Open up with full mouth ye whole pack that have been tugging at the chains which bound you to your kennels. Barking will do you good.—*Inter-Ocean.*

Nomination Means Election in This Case.

From the Charleston Courier.

If Grant be nominated, Grant will be elected; on this every Southern politician and organ can rely with perfect confidence in the certainty of winning all the money any responsible brigadier should be so foolish as to bet against it.

"Drivel of Second Childishness."

From the Boston Evening Traveller (Rep.)

Gen Grant is the only man we have that answers all the Republican requirements of the time. The cant about a third term's dangers is ridiculous, and proper only for Bedlam. No "unwritten law" could be violated in bringing him forward, for no such law exists. The Constitution contains all the law that we are bound to observe in electing a President; and the Constitution says nothing about one term, or a second term, or a third term of the Presidential office. As to "dictatorial power" coming from making a third-term President, it is nothing but bad fun, and will have no effect on the mind of any man who would not expect to see ghosts on State-st at high noon. It is, if serious, the drivel of second childishness, and will pass into mere oblivion.

The Democratic press has shown very clearly that it would be a crime to elect General Grant President for a third time, and that he would be a wicked man if he accepts the office. The criminality of these acts would consist in the fact that they would be contrary to the precedent established by Washington.

There can be no doubt that General Grant is an utterly unscrupulous man, for he has already flagrantly set the example of Washington at defiance by making a voyage around the world. Washington never went around the world. When his second Presidential term expired, he went to Mount Vernon and staid there. He said that the reason he did not want to be President any longer was that he was tired of public life and wanted to raise a few cabbages and smoke in peace on his front piazza. When General Grant retired from office he neglected to say a word about cabbages, and never intimated to any one that he was tired. On the contrary, not having the fear of Washington before his eyes, he deliberately undertook a journey to Europe, Asia, and Africa. A man who has no more respect for the Father of his Country than General Grant displayed in this matter, deserves to be regarded as a bold, bad man.—*N. Y. Times.*

The Last Fusionist.

AUGUSTA, ME., February 1.—P. A. Sawyer, Fusion Secretary of State, has yielded, and under protest given up all the state property in his possession. Yesterday afternoon Sawyer delivered to the Republican Secretary of State the State seal, returns of votes for Governor, county offices, Senators and Representatives, Council records, and all reports of the Executive Council of 1879 relating to the election returns. Sawyer was unable to find the key of the safe.

He says he received legal advice to hold out in his position, but as he was satisfied the sheriff had a warrant for his arrest, he did not choose to make a martyr of himself, and has therefore given up his claim to office.

Illicit Stills Destroyed.

Revenue officers seized twelve illicit distilleries, destroyed eight copper stills and 15,000 gallons of beer, and seized five barrels of whisky and arrested six illicit distillers in Laurel, Clay and Jackson counties, Kentucky.

GRANT'S SUPPORTERS.

A TALK WITH THE HON THOMAS C PLATT

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF GRANT'S NOMINATION — HIS STRENGTH IN NEW YORK AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY—MR. PLATT EXPECTS A SOLID GRANT DELEGATION FROM THIS STATE — SECRETARY SHERMAN'S CANDIDACY — THE STATE CONVENTION TO BE HELD EARLY IN MARCH

For the purpose of obtaining a fair statement of the views and expectation of the strong Grant element in the Republican party in this State, a representative of *The Tribune* called upon the Hon. Thomas C Platt recently. Mr Platt's thorough knowledge of State politics, his conspicuous position as chairman of the Republican Executive Committee, his close relations with Senator Conkling, Governor Cornell and other party leaders make him an excellent authority on this subject.

In reply to a query as to what proportion of Republicans in New York he supposed desired the nomination of General Grant, he said:

"From my intercourse with men who have a controlling influence in local politics in the different counties, I am led to believe that a very large majority of the Republicans in the rural districts are enthusiastically in favor of Grant's candidacy. The old soldier element, including the Grand Army organization, is almost unanimous in his support. Then there is a considerable class of business men who believe property would be safer and business more prosperous under his administration than under that of any other man."

"What are the arguments you hear urged in favor of his nomination?"

"The certainty of public tranquility and the enforcement of law which the country would enjoy under him is a strong one. Another which has great weight with the stalwart class of Republicans who still take a lively interest in what goes on in the South is the belief that the white and black Republicans in that section would have a better chance of their rights being respected with him in the White House than with any body else. His name is a terror to the shot-gun Democracy. He is feared and respected by the violent classes in the South. Still another argument is that on the score of availability. The supporters of General Grant believe that he would be the most popular candidate the party could nominate, and would carry New York overwhelmingly."

"Is this your own view?"

"Yes, decidedly. I recognize the fact that a few Republicans, influenced by old prejudice, would refuse to vote for him, but I am confident that the loss of this small element would be much more than compensated for by the gain of thousands of votes from conservative Democrats, who are sick of the disturbing course pursued by their party and desire a strong, safe government at Washington. A good many Democratic soldiers would also be attached to Grant by his world-wide fame and their recollections of his great deeds in suppressing the Rebellion. One of the strongest proofs of General Grant's strength is the fact that all the Democratic and assistant Democratic newspapers in the land are making such desperate efforts to weaken and defeat his nomination."

"What States do you think General Grant would be sure to carry—at the election, I mean, not in the convention?"

"Every Northern State, with the possible exception of Indiana. He would have besides a fair chance of carrying three Southern States—Virginia, Florida and Louisiana. I was down in Virginia during the recent Senatorial contest at Richmond. While there I learned much of the popularity of General Grant with the people, including many Confederate soldiers. They said they believed the best President would be a Republican in any case, and they hoped to see Grant chosen because he had always treated them fairly, and they felt sure that their interest would be best subserved by his election. Large numbers of them will vote for him if he is nominated.—*New York Tribune.*

General Washington News.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The majority report of the sub-committee in the contested election case of Mr. Yocum, from the Twentieth district of Pennsylvania, recommends a declaration that the election of the sitting member was null and void, and that a new election be ordered. It is contended as the ground for this report that the number of unregistered votes received, counted and returned in the entire district, without any evidence to show for whom they were cast, was not less than 900, or ten times the majority of the sitting member. The contestant claims that 240 illegal votes were cast for the sitting member and 29 for himself, which would give him a majority of 99. The minority report, from Messrs. Calkins and Weaver, dissents from the reasoning of the majority, and insists that the non-registered votes were not necessarily illegal votes, and that the well-known rule of law that public officers are presumed to have done their duty until the contrary is proved, applied in this case. The report also insists that the burden of proving his case rests with the contestant, and it cannot be shifted from him to the contestee on the mere showing that a sufficient number of non registered votes were cast to more than counterbalance the returned majority. It denies that there were 900 unregistered votes which were in fact illegal; but the facts show that the illegal votes cast were not far from the same number cast for each candidate. The minority report states as an important fact, that ex Governor Curtin resisted the effort made by the contestee to have the ballots preserved, and aided in having them destroyed, though at the time he was engaged in taking evidence in chief for contesting the election; and he cannot now complain of the returns from these precincts, as he stands in the light of a spoliator of record evidence. The minority report concludes with a resolution declaring that Mr. Yocum is entitled to his seat.

A Young Clerk Shot

SYRACUSE, N. Y., January 28.—At noon to day Elias Gebhardt, sixteen years of age, a clerk in a hardware store, was accidentally shot and instantly killed by a customer to whom he was selling a pistol. In the excitement the customer, who gave his name as Costello, from Wayne county, disappeared. The revolver, which was thought to be unloaded, contained three charges.

Grant as a Candidate.

GATH'S ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION AND OF GRANT'S CHARACTER.

I am satisfied that Grant desires to be and expects to be President. If he did not every strong feeling would have made him speak ere now. His silence can only have one interpretation. Governor Hoyt told me that General Grant would not allow his political friends to be committing themselves for him, and therefore against other candidates, if he expected to desert them. He said Blaine had friends in the State, but they had grown more cautious than in 1876, when they attempted to gallop away with the nomination.

GRANT'S APPEARANCE.

Grant looks better than ever in his life; his skin is of a clear, grayish brown, his beard well cropped all around, but strong, as if rooted in clear veins of blood; his massive, square head, where the rear and side parts come so nobly to the support of his features, shows powerfully amidst other heads; he stands pigeon-kneed, with pointing toes, like one trained to ride horses, and his expression is that of sensibility, and patience with the public; but now and then, at some stranger pressing too near his confidence, the blue-gray eyes unclose, and he takes the intruder in with every sense of caution. His dress and bearing are decidedly those of a man of strength, of thought, cultivation and love of cleanliness. While never rising to be an actor like Van Buren and Jackson, or wrapping himself in cold indifference like the Adamses, or stilted and awful like Washington, he is still a resolute, wary, dry, powerful portrait in which there is the fighter from the toes to the temples.

WHY HE WILL RUN.

He loves a race, a game of chance, a trial of possibilities. Not a literary man nor an idealist, he thinks he has a right to such occupation as suits him best, and that is now the great arena of public life. He knows that in occupation, as in physology, the moment a man ceases to grow he commences to decay. At the age of only 57, with fair prospects of living to be 80—his father lived to be 75 and his mother lives still—Grant has no notion of being shelved somewhere, bully ragged by stockholders or commanded by an official martinet. There is one place, independent, supreme, respectable and not retrogressive, for which he seems to be destined—the Presidency again.

Four years he has been a private citizen, more popular than ever, no less notorious, and with new elements of mind and quality coming forward. The few people who continue to call him names and sauce him he can answer best by passing beyond the bounds of Washington.

The fear of a defeat is the chief inducement to Grant. He always enjoys a gallop more if the odds are against him. With his unideal Western nature he cannot understand the argument that he must stop where Washington did. Better stop where Washington didn't! And as to changing the form of the government, that would take the amusement out of the game; he wants it just as it is, played according to Hoyle, with all the present conditions and health in the competition.

THE ARGUMENT FOR GRANT.

In both the financial and the sectional question his point of vantage is superior. His executive policy, as General Creswell suggested to me, was so firm and steady that it never failed to produce the whole results. He is the veteer of inflation, and therefore the maker of resumption. Both Congress and the Supreme Court weakened upon it, but Grant carried it out. His administration, despite the peace which came in the course of it to the whole world—itself probably due to the displacing causes of great wars—secured the credit and peace of the United States and left us without a foreign enemy and the depository of great foreign investments. The Southern States, slightly as they have progressed, owe their deliverance from chaos to Grant's firm control as General and President. Our manufacturing perfection, as shown to the world in the exhibition of 1876, lost nothing by the firm countenance of Gen. Grant. He predicted in 1868, in his first message, the "strong box" in the Rocky Mountains where we should dig out the public debt; political economists sneered, but it has come true. He did a work of art in completing the city of Washington, for which the first President would have come out of his grave to thank him, if possible. Throughout his course as General and President, and since his retirement, General Grant has been in favor of going forward with something, whereas all criticism against him has been from the objecting side. He thinks well of human endeavor, that it is better than the non interference dogma of the dyspeptics. A wealth of learning was poured out from original investigation while he had control, which delighted mankind. The public documents were replete with surveys of our resources, observations of things terrestrial and astronomical, and the impression of enlightenment and cheerful development extended around the world. Yet authority was maintained not more sternly by Henry of Navarre or William of Orange, where there was occasion. The servant of the Czar of Russia withered in his Prince's presence under the Republican frown. The literary popularity of Mr. Motley, nor the long indulged meddling of Sumner, did not avail to spare either when the government felt its prerogatives trifled with. In the midst of public excitement such as has been seldom witnessed, the cool, clear order of the Attorney General went to St. Louis, "Remove John B Henderson for impertinence to the President of the United States!" And finally President Grant laid down his office with the approval of the very rebellion he had suppressed, and only such enemies as he had sought to load with favors. Prigs, egotists and slanderers found the silence dreadful when they mocked his retirement.

Narrow Escape.

OTTAWA, Jan. 30.—The small-pox patient who had such a narrow escape from being buried alive on Wednesday is doing well and will recover. It appears that when the grave diggers threw on the lid of the coffin, after it had been lowered into the grave, three shovelfuls of sand, that the noise aroused the slumbers of the supposed dead man and caused him to kick lustily against his narrow prison. The coffin was hastily drawn out of the grave and the lid was unscrewed. The supposed corpse sat up and exclaimed; "My God! Have I had such a narrow escape??" He was at once lifted out of the coffin and an overcoat thrown over his shoulders. He was then removed to the hospital.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

By Our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1880

The past week has been characterized by an unusual rush and hurry, and leaders of the social world declare themselves driven to death. Society has entered on a mad carnival of gaiety, and the storm of excitement will not be spent until the day marking the incoming of the season, devoted to spiritual affairs, when church-going, self communion, Dorcas societies and "gossip teas" will take the place of germans, kettle-drums and receptions. The weather has certainly been beautiful here this winter. We have not had one really cold day so far, no ice has formed yet half fit for skateing and the ladies dresses look more like spring clothes than the wraps for the month of January.

Congress is progressing slowly. During the first few weeks of the session some were led to believe but little legislation would be attempted.

The ruling majority in both houses was so quiet, and seemed disposed to take matters easy. Up to the present time it must be passed to the credit of the Democrats, that they have been on their good behavior. It is perhaps too much to expect that it will last; when the reports of the committees on the most disturbing questions shall be fairly before Congress there will be issues which will provoke warm discussion, and may possibly lead to a renewal of the turbulent scenes of the extra session, although such a result at present does not appear probable.

The committees having in charge the annual appropriations, and necessary legislation for keeping the machinery of government in motion have been busy in getting the work committed to them in readiness. It is reported that the Democrats will not insist at this session attaching offensive legislation to the appropriation bills, such as the repal of the federal election laws, which caused so much trouble at the last session; not will the mythical nonsense about federal troupes at the polls be harped upon again. These reported decencies of the bourbons may be premature, but should they prove true, it will be a great relief to the Country. Although the Democrats have a majority in Congress, and however anxious they may be to do away with the election laws, the attempt would be of no avail. The President will not recede from the stand he took last year, and would be sure to veto all such legislation, as he did before.

There have been amendments and changes proposed to the laws regulating the currency, none of which have enlisted extensive favor. If the vote of the people of the whole country could be taken on the question of a change in our present financial policy, undoubtedly a large majority would be found opposed to any disturbance of the present laws. Unless there should be a change of sentiment in congress beyond what now appears, "the let alone policy," as has been expressed by Senator Matt Carpenter will prevail. Since the holiday recess there has been an avalanche of bills introduced on almost every conceivable subject of legislation. The country is not suffering for the want of more legislation, but is in danger of being legislated too much. If members of congress would stop making new laws and apply themselves to the enforcement of laws already enacted, it would be for the credit of the Republic abroad, and for the general welfare of the people at home. The civil and political rights of the people in nearly a dozen states are trampled upon with impunity, and there is no redress. The National Government is as weak as an infant, to protect citizens of the United States. These states are, in one respect, not unlike the "cities of refuge," spoken of in Bible times, to which if the culprit fled, he was safe. The olden time places of refuge were limited to a few cities; in the South the area of refuge is much broader—it covers entire States.

It is authoritively stated that within the past three years, twenty-two United States revenue agents have been killed, while in the performance of their duties required by law. Not one of those guilty of taking the lives of these officials have been brought to justice, nor have the authorities in the states were these crimes were committed taken any steps to punish the offenders. Nor is it the revenue officers, whose lives have been taken, and the assassins not punished. During the past few years, a long list of peaceable citizens have been butchered for no other cause than venturing to let their sentiment be known as Republicans. The heresy of State sovereignity interposes to shield the violators of law, and the general Government is important to avenge the murder of official officers, of its own commissioning. Of what nation in Europe can it be said, its government is powerless to punish the murderers of its subordinate subjects? These matters are too important to be passed over slightly, and will be commented upon at another time.

There is scarcely any man so perfect as to have no blemish of character, much less is there a city in this country or elsewhere, so well governed and orderly, as not to be marred by some dark spots; some localities, where those who subsist by stealing, robbery and plunder, congregate; New York has such, and even Boston, with all its culture and refinement has these excrescences. Washington like all other cities, has many dark localities, where peaceable citizens dare hardly venture alone in the night time. These places have significant names such as "Murder Bay" "Hell's Bottom" &c. Many of the most flagrant crimes which have been committed in the past years are traced to these vicious spots. There is a historical reminiscence illustrating the entailment of slavery, on those spots of earth where it was once tolerated.

It was in the immediate vicinity of that most iniquitious place in the city now known as "Murder Bay," where the old slave market house in Washington once stood. The curse of the slave pen seems to rest on the squares bordering on the spot where human beings were sold like cattle in the market. Those who seek to purify this infected district may say, with Lady Mackbeth "out damned spot," but the stain will not away.

Perhaps some people may say, this is a mere illusion; if it be such, then there are many like it. Stand on the steps of the capitol, and look across the Potomac, where the hills of old Virginia rise in full view. The country along the river and for miles faraway, was for many years one of the most prolific slave breeding territories in the south; the negroes raise in Virginia, it is said, commanded the highest price, in the more southern cotton and rice growing states. What mean the dilapidated houses, the broken down fences, and the many evidences of unthrift and poverty which now characterize that region of country? If it be not that, what is it? The same indubitable testimony fastens the plague spot on Murder Bay, in the city of Washington.

"Weaver's inflation bill" to pay soldiers the difference between gold and greenbacks is condemned by all classes of respectable men. Senator Logan has denounced the bill on the floor of the Senate as the most stupendous piece of demagoguery ever introduced in Congress. General Hawley has also done the same thing in the House.

A new committee under Mr. Harmer's resolution in the House has been appointed by Speaker Randall, to investigate the Pension office. This committee will be allowed a clerk which no doubt will be selected from the 17th district. Our member has also been allowed three additional clerks on the regular Pension committee. Now my royal friends, if you don't get your pensions don't blame it on the government, but blame it on the committee who have been given full power to find out what is the matter with the laws and correct them at once. No more putting the blame on Commissioner Bentley. Prompt work is demanded by the soldiers. No dilly dallying until after the next election. If the applications of soldiers for pensions are to be allowed by the Democratic Congress they have a chance now to say so, and that quickly.

Congress has given our representative and this committee power to find out where the trouble is and if the laws are at fault to rectify them. If the old soldiers don't get their pensions now, you know where the blame rests. A Republican member, Mr. Harmer, from Pennsylvania, was the instigator of this investigation and is on the committee. A majority of the committee are scheming politicians and, of course, will conduct the investigation in their own way, and will make all the political capital out of the organization they can with the old soldiers. Your cases are in the hands of the Democrats and they will be held responsible by every intelligent voter. Commissioner Bentley will grant all your claims if he is given the power, and President Hayes will gladly approve any bill to secure every man who wore a blue his just dues.

PICKET

Solid for Grant.

THE REPUBLICANS OF NORTH CAROLINA TO SEND A UNANIMOUS DELEGATION TO CHICAGO.

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 28.—The Republican State Committee will meet here to-morrow. Every member will be present. It is now indicated that the committee will appoint four delegates at large to the Chicago Convention, and that the Republican committee of the Congressional district will appoint the other 16. The four at large will undoubtedly be for Gen. Grant for President. The reports from the Congressional districts represent that the feeling is so strong among the Republican masses that a solid delegation for Grant will be sent from each district. But for the item of expense to the delegates, a State Convention would be called to elect the delegates for the whole State, and for the purpose of organizing for the campaign. Every member of the committee who lives outside of this city reports that the sentiment in his part of the State presents a marked change from that of 1876, in favor of the Republicans. The opinion is freely expressed that the Republicans are sure to carry the State in November next. On account of this change there is no defection among the Republicans, either white or black, but there is conclusive evidence that there is an alarming defection among the masses of the Democratic party. Nothing is feared except tissue ballots and systematic frauds by the Democratic election officers. If General Grant is not a candidate, Elihu B Washburne will receive several votes from this State. There seems to be strong opposition to either Blaine or Sherman. The two office holders on the committee—W P Cannady, Collector of the Port of Wilmington, and J. S. Mott, Collector of Internal Revenue—are for Sherman, but they have no following on the committee or among the masses.

Negro Exodus.

CINCINNATI, Jan 27.—A special dispatch from St Louis says that the tide of negro emigration from the south has set in again. About one hundred arrived on the steamer Scudder on Sunday, and left for Kansas, while as many more came by the steamer John B. Maude, last night. All of these people have some money, and came chiefly from East Baton Rouge, Washington county, and Grenada, Miss. Those who have arrived say there are hordes to come, numbers waiting on the banks of the river for transportation as thick as rice birds in a field.

A colored man, acting as agent, has sent to the relief committee a list of 900 families whom he says wish to come north. Within a few days some 700 emigrants have reached St. Louis. About 300 are now in this city awaiting aid to going on.

One State Sues Another.

WASHINGTON, January 29.—An original bill has been filed in the United States Supreme Court by the State of New Hampshire against the State of Louisiana et al., setting forth that the authorities of the latter, under the provisions of the new constitution, are about to use the proceeds of the taxes levied for 1879 under the act of 1874 to defray expenses of the State government instead of devoting them to the payment of the principal and interest of the consolidated bonds issued by the State under the law known as act No 3 of the Statues of 1874. The bill further sets forth that the State of New Hampshire is the owner of six of the said consolidated bonds, and prays the court that the provisions of the new Constitution, of Louisiana, in so far as they conflict with the contract expressed in said bonds and the act of 1874, under which they were issued may be adjudged void and unconstitutional as impairing the obligation of a contract. The bill also prays for a writ of injunction to restrain the State officers of Louisiana from using the proceeds of the said taxes for any other purposes than those specified in the said act.

The Missing Iowa Boy turns up Alive.

NEW HAMPTON, Ia., January 28.—The boy who was believed to have been murdered by his father, Elder Bush, the Adventist, is alive in an adjoining county, whither he fled after the beating his father gave him, to avoid a repetition of the outrage.

Third and Last Shot.

REPLY OF THE SUPREME COURT TO THE QUESTIONS FROM THE RUMP LEGISLATURE

BANGOR, ME., January 27.—The Supreme Court has given a unanimous reply to the questions and statement submitted to it by the Fusionists, declaring the House and Senate now holding sessions in the State House the legal legislature of Maine. The court does not admit that it was bound to give any reply to the Fusionists; but feels that it would have omitted an important service to the people of the state had it failed to gratify the desire of honest citizens to be instructed as to their duties. The court says the questions in regard to the action of Governor Garcelon and council were fully answered in their decision of January 3; and by the answers it affirmed that the acts and doings of the Governor and council in issuing certificates to certain men as members of the House of Representatives who did not appear to be elected and declining to issue certificates and summons to certain men appeared to be elected, were in violation of their legal and constitutional obligations and duties. We cannot accept a statement which asserts as facts matters that are in conflict with the record and historic facts that we are not at liberty to disregard. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the governor and council then in office disregarded the opinion of this court, given in answer to the Governor's questions: that they omitted to revoke the summons illegally issued to men who did not appear to be elected, or to issue summonses to men who did appear to be elected. We know that the officers who presided in the conventions of the members elect to the Senate and House, on the first Wednesday in January, recognized as members of both those bodies men who were unlawfully introduced into them by the unconstitutional and illegal method pursued by the Governor and council, and refused to recognize men who appeared to be legally elected, and refused to permit any appeal from their illegal decisions to the bodies over which they were temporarily presiding. It cannot be successfully claimed that there was even a quorum in the House of Representatives which undertook to organize on the first Wednesday in January, without counting men who could only appear to be elected. We cannot recognize a House of Representatives to make a quorum in which the presence of three men was necessary, as a lawfully constituted body. Nor can we recognize them a Senate which pursues a similar course.

On the other hand history cannot fail to disclose the vital fact that the Republican organization of January 12 were formed with full quorums of members elect. The meetings were public, and under the circumstances, the failure to notify Fusionist members could not invalidate their organizations. There may have been trifling irregularities, but no essential defects existed. Thus, a legally organized legislature being now in existence and exercising its constitutional functions, it follows that no convention of members elect of either house can exist which can be treated as a nucleus for another organization. But one government can be recognized and obeyed. The responsibility and solemn duty imposed upon us to determine which is entitled to recognition. We, therefore, after due deliberation and consideration of all the matters involved, affirm and declare our judgment to be that the Senate whose presiding officer is Hon. Joseph A. Locke, and the House of Representatives whose presiding officer is Hon. George E Weeks, constitute the legal, constitutional legislature of the state.

"JOE" SMITH SUBSIDES

AUGUSTA, ME., January 27.—The Fusionists are very much depressed at the reception of the news from the court. Major Smith says he believes the controversy has ended. He states that while the previous opinion of the judges was based on the Republican statement, there was room for a reasonable doubt; but in view of the fact that the court had decided against them on a Fusion statement, they could but cheerfully submit. He said he had gotten through playing governor, and should go home. Major Smith's views will be adopted by the better part of the Fusionists, who will take their seats in the legislature. Mr Sawyer says he still considers himself Secretary of State. Henry Ingalls, the leading member of the Fusion House, says he is not prepared to give an opinion to-night, but he has always been in favor of yielding to the court.

Murdered and Robbed.

ELIZABETH, N. J., January 28.—Joseph W Ilt, aged nineteen, was shot down and robbed last night in going along the street at Evons. The murderer escaped, but several suspected persons have been arrested.

Pennsylvania Riot Losses.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—The $1,600,000 which the Pennsylvania Railroad Company agree to accept in full for its claims against Allegheny county on a count of the riot losses has been paid over to the company, and the county is now engaged in settling the other claims which, it is expected, will be compromised for a total of about $210,000.

Robbing the Mails.

PITTSBURGH, January 26.—To-day James R. Bumbaugh, of Lancaster county, was committed to jail here, to await trial for having tampered with the mails, while route agent between Harrisburg and this city, a position he had occupied for eight years. Valuable letters have been missed, and when arrested decoy letters were found concealed about him.

Reading Railroad Rolling Stocks Seized by U. S. Authorities.

PHILADELPHIA, January 26.—Twenty two locomotives belonging to the Reading railroad were seized to-day and placed in charge of watchmen by the United States government, upon a claim for taxes on the scrip recently issued by that company. The claim amounts to $168,000 but will eventually be increased to $500,000.

Steamboat in Flames.

NEW ORLEANS, January 26.—The steamboat Charmer, with 2,100 bales of cotton, has been totally destroyed by fire fifteen miles below the mouth of the Red River. Eight lives were lost—two chambermaids, two cooks, two cabin boys, one fireman and one deck hand. The boat and cargo were valued at $130,000. No further particulars are at hand.

Labor Troubles in Virginia.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28.—Telegrams received here state that intense excitement prevails in Shenandoah county in consequence of an apprehended fight between the white and black laborers at the Columbia furnace near Edinburg. The trouble, as far as can be ascertained, has its origin from the fact that the proprietors of the Columbia and Liberty furnaces are substituting colored for white labor in their works. These works have heretofore been almost entirely run by white operatives who live in and own their homes in the neighborhood of the furnaces, and who have no other means of support than their daily labor, while the negroes who are replacing them are imported from other counties where the negro element prevails to a greater extent than in Shenandoah, which county has but a very small colored population.

The sheriff telegraphed Governor Halliday for troops to aid in keeping peace. The governor immediately ordered Captain Magruder, of Woodstock military company, to place his command at the services of the sheriff.

LATER

RICHMOND, VA., January 28.—A private dispatch dated Woodstock, 4 P. M. says: Everything is quiet. An attack was made last night on some negroes and two men were wounded. The rioters then dispersed with threats of returning to-night. A dispatch from the commonwealth attorney says: All is quiet now but trouble is apprehended. More men are needed at once. The sheriff says a considerable number of rioters were severely hurt.

The governor has ordered the Winchester Light Infantry to proceed immediately to the scene of disturbance, and place themselves at the disposal of the sheriff.

Moonshiners.

WASHINGTON, Jan 26.—The Commissioners of Internal Revenue received the following telegram to-day from the Collector at Atlanta, Georgia: A raiding force in Rabun Co., just reports the seizure of six distilleries since the 21st inst. Three thousand gallons of beer and mash were destroyed. The revenue officers have the country under control.

Chicago Jewelers Swindled.

CHICAGO, January 30.—Pawnbrokers and jewelers of this city have been played upon by some clever swindlers, who sold them watch chains for $25 to $50, purporting to be gold, and which withstood all gold tests, but which prove to be manufactured of a new and dangerous composition, and to be worth not over $5. The police are looking after the swindlers, but they have probably left the city. Nearly every pawnshop has been victimized.

Fire at New York.

NEW YORK, Jan