

Solid Sense.

From the Chicago Tribune (Rep.)

If we can get at the difficulty in Louisiana correctly, the dispute is over five parishes or counties, and whether the returns shall be counted at all, or, if counted, how they shall be counted.

It is alleged that these five parishes had a large registered vote, three-fifths or two-thirds of which was republican; but that on election day the greater part of the colored republicans, being intimidated by the white-liners, ran off and did not vote, while the confederates remained and voted. The following figures will illustrate the situation, which gives the result of the vote in 1874 as well as in 1876. The 1874 vote was said to be full and fair for both sides:

Table with columns: Parishes, Dem. 1874, Rep. 1874, Total. Rows include E. Feliciana, W. Feliciana, E. Baton Rouge, Morehouse, Ouachita.

At the election in 1874 these parishes gave a republican majority for state treasurer of 3,861. They now give a democratic majority of 4,417, which exceeds the democratic vote cast in 1874. The democrats admit that, had the republican vote been polled the republicans would have had a large majority. Now the controversy stands: On the one hand the democrats insist on the votes being counted in accordance with the number of tickets cast; on the other hand, there are two propositions: 1. That the vote of these parishes be wholly thrown out, on the ground of intimidation, by the canvassing board. 2. That the vote polled be counted, but that the canvassing board reckon also as polled the votes of those absenting themselves from fear of bodily harm. The average Northern voter has no precedent for such a condition of things as this. In the first place, deadly intimidation is not known at the north, and in the next place it will be difficult for a northern man of any party to understand how 2,000 voters of one party in a county can be so successfully "intimidated" by 1,000 as to be unable to approach the poll, though the latter were protected, or supposed to be, by the United States supervisors. It will be difficult to persuade the people of any northern county that the minority, numbering 900 voters, could so intimidate the majority in East Feliciana, numbering 1,800, that none of the latter dare show themselves at the polls. Nevertheless, it is certain that the negroes did not vote for some reason. We assume that those who did vote were legal voters, and know of no right recognized by any law of any state where the votes of legal voters, lawfully polled, can be rejected and they disfranchised. We do not believe, therefore, that the moral sense of the American people will consent to or tolerate that the election of a President of the United States shall be determined and decided by throwing out the votes of several thousands of legal voters, legally polled in any state of the Union. We take it, therefore, that the votes actually polled in these five "bulldozed" parishes of Louisiana will be counted, no matter what the result produced upon the election by so doing.

If the facts be as stated, and we have tried to collate them fairly from the statements of both sides, the republicans of Louisiana and of the country will have to bear the consequences of the panic, which seems to have so stiffened the colored voters in these five districts. We look upon it as a calamity, because we know no legal remedy. There is no precedent known to any election law that we ever heard of where the votes of persons not voting, and not offering to vote, can be counted, no matter how strong may be the presumption that such votes had been polled they would have changed the result. In 1874 the democrats elected at least fifty members to congress in republican districts because republicans stayed away and did not vote. For the same reason the democrats elected the governors of several states, and a majority of the legislature in several states in 1874. No such thing as offsetting the vote actually polled by that not polled has ever been recognized at any election in any state in this country. Even in the desperate conflict in Louisiana four years ago when both parties claimed the election, both parties assumed the votes counted to have been polled.

It is claimed by the democrats that their party will have a majority of the whole vote of the state, over and above their vote in these parishes; but, while this ought to settle the matter, it may not do so, if the counting of the non-polled vote be insisted upon by the other side. If, however, the democrats do not have a majority except by counting the votes in these parishes, and the result in the state depend on their being counted or not counted, then the issue will be a direct one, and one upon which the country will promptly reach a judgement, and no canvassing board will dare attempt to put the judgment of the nation at defiance; and the American people will never engage in a civil war to uphold the counting of votes never cast or offered to be cast, or to reject lawful votes legally cast and recorded on the poll-lists.

Turned up Again.

HARRISBURG, Nov. 16.—A gentleman who arrived here this morning from Sunbury states that last evening a man having in charge a boy supposed to be the missing Charlie Ross was arrested in this place last evening. When arrested, the

man told the child to give no information in reference to his friends or place of residence; he, however, said his name was "Charlie" that he was stolen from Philadelphia, and was with his brother at the time; that his brother cried considerably when they separated; and that he was subsequently placed in charge of a woman, who locked him up in a room. Our informant states that Mr. Ross was immediately telegraphed notice of the arrest and the parties were held until his arrival.

LATER—THE LATEST CLUE A MISTAKE ONE.

At 7 o'clock yesterday morning Detective Roach, of Sunbury, arrived in this city, bringing with him the boy who was supposed to be Charles Brewster Ross, the abducted son of Mr. Christian K. Ross. The latter was at once confronted with the child, who is either half idiotic or had been crammed with a story, but Mr. Ross failed to identify him as his missing boy. The little fellow, who was about eight years old, bore slight resemblance to Charlie, but was almost entirely unacquainted with the English language. After questioning him Mr. Ross was certain that it was another case of mistaken identity, and regretted very much, in a conversation with a Times man, that so much importance had been given it. It had cost him \$15 to pay the expenses of bringing the boy to Philadelphia, a night of sleeplessness and the vexatious annoyance of at least fifty reporters. He had not asked that the boy should be brought to the city, but only that his photograph should be sent, and his arrival yesterday morning was an entire surprise. The production of the boy in the city was unauthorized by him, and from the first he had discountenanced the idea that the Sunbury authorities had struck the right clue—in fact, they had disarranged plans which were on foot and which looked to the possible recovery of his son. The boy that he had seen was the son of a respectable German living in Elk county. He had been sent home, and the man who had him in charge and who is now under arrest, having been clearly proved to be his father, will at once be released. The name of the man and boy were kept religiously secret. All the parties left for Sunbury yesterday afternoon. That the authorities, however, do not despair of recovering Charlie Ross was evidenced yesterday by a conference between Assistant District Attorney Hagert (Mr. Sheppard being absent on account of illness), Mr. Ross and Nelson Parker, the colored man upon whose information Sam Benners alias Youshing, Pigott alias Bell, and Sarah Brown were arrested, which lasted fully three hours. The conference lasted until after 4 o'clock. Nelson Parker, the go-between, intimated that there was "a big fire up there," meaning at Sunbury. The conspirator, he said, often traveled over Northumberland county, and he only feared that the bungling country police had spoiled the job. Recent and important developments, he said, had placed them upon a fresh track, and he was positive that the boy would soon be found.

Too Much Mere Politics.

Before the canvas drew to a close everybody heartily wished that it was at an end, for everybody supposed that a season of rest from contention and relief from anxiety would follow the 7th of November; but election day passed, and the days that have succeeded it have been so crowded with excitement and care that the confusion of the past campaign looks like a smooth reach of river to those whirling along the rapids. Assuredly the people of this country are getting too much of politics. Granting that the business of government affords the noblest field for human abilities, deals with the largest interests and involves to some extent the prosperity of all arts and occupations, still there is such a thing as making mere politics too great a part of the national life. A people can spend too much of their energy in contention over the control of the administration of affairs, and waste too much passion on exaggerated and sometimes imaginary issues. Elections are necessary to ascertain the will of the people in regard to the management of public business, and they are in use in educating citizens on broad and important subjects, but we have too many of them, and they are conducted with too much vehemence. Between the municipal State and national elections the country is kept in a constant turmoil. It is plain that we must either appeal to the ballot less frequently or moderate the feeling with which canvasses are conducted. Already political campaigns have degenerated into seasons for the slander of personal character, the diffusions of false intelligence, and the assiduous cultivation of hatred and prejudice among neighbors. We are apt to forget that when partisanship becomes too rancorous, patriotism flies out. Party spirit has ever been the destruction of republics. We are inclined to think that the Republican party, even if it had all the virtues which its members claim for it, would be dangerous from its habit of keeping the public strained to the utmost all the time, and from its policy of teaching one-half of the community that the other half is made up of burglars, pirates, drunkards, and body-snatchers. Since it has come into existence it has lived too fast. More money has been collected and spent by it than in the previous eighty years; more men have been killed; more changes have taken place; more strange crimes have been committed than during all our previous history. The anguish, excitement and experience of a hundred years have been crowded into a decade. We had the anti-slavery crusade, the war and reconstruction, and finally the present excitement, which is a distinct result of the policy of reconstruction adopted. It may be said in explanation that this has been an era of great exertion and rapid progress; but there is such a thing as over-exertion, and rapid progress for too long a period will wear out any piece of machinery from a wagon to a government. American society has been for years as it were under the influence of powerful stimulants, and it is a serious question whether its naturally strong constitution has not got a little too much of them. It is a great thing to have lived through a great revolution, to have trembled at its dangers, enjoyed its triumphs and seen its heroes; but a chronic condition of revolutionary excitement is bad for the national development. We are inclined to think that the people are sick of feverish political feeling, and we trust that the present crisis will end in the settlement of the old question which led to the rebellion and sprang from victory, and not in the reopening of them all with strange and harassing complications. The time has come when the nation should once again devote the greater part of its energy to literature, art, commerce, manufactures and social happiness. None of these have been altogether neglected, but it is not too much to say that none of them has received one tithe of the attention given to political rivalries. Neither business enterprises nor the arts thrive in communities that are restless and unquiet. They need peace and contentment, and there has been little of either in America lately. Every part of the country and all classes are utterly weary of perpetual political jarring and contention, and the common cant phrase, "Give us a rest," expresses the general sentiment. Without such a rest the great advance in art, literature and material prosperity that has commonly followed great wars in other lands will not be made in ours.—N. Y. World.

Crimes of the Mollies.

One bright Sunday morning in the days when the name of Mollie Maguire carried a chill to the heart of every man who heard it, and when it was a common thing in that region for men to die by violence and leave no sign of their murderer—on this Sunday morning, in October, 1868, the body of Alexander Rea, a prominent operator, was found by the roadside, near the border lines of Scyllkill and Columbia counties, riddled with bullets and stiff in death. The affair caused an excitement at the time, which has not wholly died away even yet. The high character and social position of the man, his importance in the business community, the boldness of his murder and the impossibility of fixing the guilt upon the suspected parties, combined to fix upon the region a deep disgrace, which it has never since been able to redeem with the lives of the perpetrators. It was the work of the Mollies, of course. Everybody said so, and everybody immediately added, as a necessary corollary, "of course nothing would be done about it." Very little was done. Pat Hester, a big, broad shouldered Irishman, living at Locust Gap, not far from the scene of the murder, who was called "the king of the Mollies," even by those who did not more than half believe in the existence of such an order, and Tom Donahue, another hard character, were arrested and taken to Bloomsburg for trial, but it was the days of ready alibis and Donahue, who was tried first, was promptly acquitted, while "Big Pat" was discharged on a nolle prosequi. Notwithstanding which, one of the commonwealth's attorneys told your correspondent, at the time, that the case was so clear and the evidence so full that every step of the crime could be traced, and they could put a finger on every man engaged in it and say just what part he took. A few days since, Pat Hester, Mike Graham and Pat McHugh were brought to Pottsville and lodged in jail, having been again arrested for the old crime, which they had hoped was forgotten. The avengers, who laugh at coffin notices and overrule false alibis, and who have carried such distain to the hearts of the Mollies during all this year, had sought them out, and they will have a chance to explain their position under the new order of things.

At the preliminary hearing the captured Mollies found themselves confronted with the full story of their crime, as told by an eye-witness, whose identity is withheld for prudential reasons. He told how and where the attack was planned, two months before. The first object was robbery, as Rea was, at times, obliged to carry large sums of money with him. But the Mollies never considered murder any additional trouble or risk, and they had no scruples in taking life when, in their judgement, it became advisable. A meeting of the conspirators was held the day before the attack was made when all arrangements were perfected. It was known that Rea would pass along a certain road at a certain time, and there the party awaited him. When he came they stopped him, demanded his money and watch, and though these were promptly surrendered, the whole party fired upon him. Rea turned and ran into the bushes which lined the road, but was followed and killed, after which the plunder was divided and the party separated. Hester, the witness said, was the first to propose the robbery, it having, apparently, occurred to him as he was on his way to the western part of the country to waylay

Major J. Claude White, and having been proposed to the first party of Mollies he met. White was afterward attacked from an ambush as he was going to his colliery with the month's wages to pay his men; but having two or three companions with him, they beat off their assailants and captured one, a severely wounded fellow, who refused to "peach" on his comrades, and died a couple of days afterwards, game to the last.

There seems to be as little hope of escape for Hester and his associates as there was for their predecessors in misfortune, and so another Mollie Maguire crime of long standing will be punished.

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Wm. Hayden

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DR. VAN DYKE'S SULPHUR SOAP advertisement with product image and text.

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TUNKHANNOCK MARBLE WORKS. BURNS & WHITE. Manufacturers of and Dealers in ITALIAN & AMERICAN MARBLE, MARBLE AND SLATE MANTLES, SCOTCH & AMERICAN GRANITE.

BUY YOUR WAGONS, CARRIAGES AND SLEIGHS, OF W. OUSTERHOUT, HARFORD, PA.

BLACKSMITHING. To shoe per pair new corn and set per set. All work warranted. Call and examine my stock before purchasing elsewhere.

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Table listing various insurance companies and their capital assets, including Fire Association of Phil., Fire Association of N. A., etc.

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Powder! Powder! Powder! Blasting, Rifle and Shot Powder, Shot, Lead, Gun Tubes, Caps, Pouches, Flasks, Fuse, &c., &c., for sale by

H. T. PURDY, Manufacturer of

WAGONS, CARRIAGES, & Sleighs. BUGGY, CONCORD, PHATON, AND SIDE-BAR GEARS. BODIES OF THE LATEST STYLES. JOBBER, &c., DONE PROMPTLY.

COACH & CARRIAGE PAINTING. The undersigned wishes to inform the public that he is prepared to do all kinds of