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MAINE'S BACKBONE

It is Further Strengthened by Immense Mass Meetings Indorsing His Action.

An Outpouring of the People of Portland and Biddeford—Militia Officers Summoned to Augusta, and Promise to Obey Orders—The Legislature to be Protected.

Certain Questions Submitted to the Supreme Court.

PORTLAND, Dec. 31.—An immense audience assembled in the City Hall last night in response to a call for a Democratic mass meeting to indorse the action of Gov. Garcelon in regard to the election returns. Sullivan C. Andrews presided, and speeches were made by Congressmen Littlejohn and Marsh, Hon. L. D. M. Sweat, [illegible] of the Governor's Council, [illegible] accused the Republicans of [illegible] and fraud, and said they had [illegible] which now led them to the contest [illegible] the State Legislature. Mr. Sweat [illegible] Governor and Council had acted prudently [illegible] with the letter and spirit of the law, and [illegible] the people of the State would sustain them, and that to attempt there would be any violation of [illegible] would be madness. He discussed in detail the legal points involved, and responded to the incredulity and pusillanimity of the Democrats, and said his party had shown [illegible] of the Governor's Council, defiant [illegible] of the body, and said if he were to [illegible] he would vote precisely as he had done except that he would throw out the returns from Auburn and Augusta.

THE MEETING IN BIDDEFORD.

BIDDEFORD, Dec. 31.—The citizens of Biddeford [illegible] indorsing the action of Governor Garcelon, held one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings ever held here.

A SUMMONS TO AUGUSTA.

Col. J. Marion, of Augusta, arrived here in a buggy, came on last night a special order, signed by Adjutant-General Jones, Col. commanding the First Regiment, to report at the Adjutant-General's office, in Augusta, on Wednesday, December 31, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, on Wednesday, December 31, by order of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief. Reports are current that some of the Governor's friends are secretly collecting men in various parts of the State to form a military force at Augusta at the opening of the Legislature.

THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRAMME IN PORTLAND.

PORTLAND, Dec. 31.—The Advertiser says: A conference of the leading Democrats of Portland has agreed that the Governor and Council must be certainly sustained in the decision of the new Legislature, and that all those elected with them should be seated. These views will be presented to the Democratic State Committee, which meets here to-night after the mass meeting.

THE ARMS FROM HAVANA.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 31.—When the arms and ammunition from the steamer at Bangor arrived last night there was quite a crowd at the depot, but no disturbance. They were taken to the State House.

GOV. GARCELON SUBMITS A SERIES OF QUESTIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 31.—In accordance with the suggestions made in the recent decision of Mr. Morrill, Gov. Garcelon prepared and submitted to the Supreme Court this afternoon a series of questions of law covering the essential points of Mr. Morrill's communication. No conference has been had with Mr. Morrill, and the questions are said to be made up by him and submitted by the Governor. They include the constitution and boundaries of the State, a variety of questions of law and notice to the Supreme Court.

HE MEETS AN OPPOSITION SUBMITTED TO EVERY GOVERNOR OF MAINE.

AUGUSTA, Me., Dec. 31.—Ex-Secretary Blaine arrived here from Bangor, but left for Lewiston early this evening. He said he had come home to see his family, and that he had not been consulted by the Republican leaders in the matter of calling out the militia. He said he had been opposed to the calling out of the militia, and had so stated to the Governor and Council