THE SOUTHERN STATES.

VIRGINIA.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION—CHALLENGE FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONVENTION TO GEN. BUTLER.

RICHMOND, Jan. 18.—In the Convention to-day the Bill of Rights was under discussion, and seven sections were adopted, including one declaring Virginia a coequal member of the General Government, and entitled to all the benefits and subject to all the burdens as other States. The Judiciary Committee reported adversely to settling debts prior to 1865 at 25 cents on the dollar. Gen. Grant is expected here on Tuesday to attend the meeting of the trustees of the Peabody Educational Fund. Robert Stevens (colored) of Charleston, S. C., has entered suit in the United States District Court here against the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad Company for requiring his wife to ride in a second-class car when she had first-class tickets. He lays damages at $1,000.

The Enquirer here will publish on Monday the challenge sent by Col. White, a Republican member of the State Convention, to Gen. Butler, when he was in the city last week. It demands reparation for being ordered out of Gen. Butler's department during the war. The affair is still pending. Col. White is one of the Republicans who refused to hear Gen. Butler speak.

GEORGIA.

THE RECONSTRUCTION CONVENTION—LETTER FROM GEN. MEADE IN REFERENCE TO THE EMPTY TREASURY.

ATLANTA, Jan. 18.—Gen. Meade sent in a communication, dated yesterday, to the Convention this morning, which, after acknowledging the receipt of the resolution asking for pay, says:

I have this day received information from the Treasurer that there are no funds in the treasury at Milledgeville. I have also been trustworthily informed that some of the public institutions of the State have been suffering on account of the non-payment of the appropriations for their support. Whether this failure of payment has been on account of the want of means in the State Treasury or for other reasons, I am not at present advised. I shall use my best efforts to secure without delay the means of pay the incidental expenses of the Convention, and at least a portion of the per diem and mileage of the members. If I find, on investigation, that any funds which should be in the State Treasury have been placed beyond my reach, I may deem it necessary to suspend temporarily the payment of a portion of the current salaries of all officers who receive their pay either from the State Treasury or the State road. You will perceive from the facts above stated that it is out of my power at present to comply with the request of the Convention, much as I desire to do it. In lieu of granting this authority I respectfully request that the requisition of your disbursing agent may be sent to me for my approval, that I may see that such funds of the State as may become available be properly distributed according to the public necessities.

The Convention refused almost unanimously to suspend the rules to consider a resolution asking the Federal authorities to make advances for the payment of the Convention expenses. They also tabled a resolution to appoint a Committee of three delegates to examine the State treasury. Sections 8 and 9 of the Bill of Rights of the old Constitution were adopted.

One of the delegates gave another the lie during to-day's session, the quarrel arising out of the non-receipt of pay. Both caught up their chairs; but violence was avoided and mutual apologies made.

Gen. Meagle has issued an order validating the relief ordinance of the Convention, with the exception that execution is not to be stayed in cases of taxes or laborers' wages.

THE FUNDS OF THE STATE IN NEW-YORK.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 18.—Advices from Milledgeville state that Gov. Jenkins, being called on to-day by the citizens at the Executive Mansion, made a speech, and said that the funds of the State had been removed to New-York, and that he should fight for them before the Supreme Court. The books of the State Treasurer cannot be found. The Postmaster and express agent have refused to deliver over to Capt. Rockwell, Gen. Meade's appointee, the packages and letters addressed to John Jones, Treasurer of Georgia.

THE STAY LAW—COLLECTION OF TAXES.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 19.—A circular has been issued from headquarters explaining general orders validating the Alabama ordinance to stay the collection of debts, to mean that there is to be no stay of proceedings on judgments in favor of mechanics and laborers since July 21, 1865. An order is looked for directing tax collectors in Georgia to proceed with the collection of State taxes. Nine-tenths of said taxes have been paid.

NORTH CAROLINA.

THE RECONSTRUCTION CONVENTION.

RALEIGH, Jan. 18.—Much confusion prevailed in the Convention to-day, and nothing was accomplished. The resolution of Mr. Durham (Conservative), alluded to yesterday, was, after much filibustering, indefinitely postponed.

Collins, a negro, was elected engrossing clerk. *The Sentinel* reporter is still in his seat.

MISSISSIPPI.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION—THANKS TO THE SENATE FOR RESTORING SECRETARY STANTON.

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 18.—In the Convention to-day a resolution indorsing the action of the Senate in restoring Secretary Stanton to the War Department was passed, and notice sent to the President of the Senate as follows:

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 18, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit you the following resolution, adopted to-day:

Resolved, The President of the United States suspended the Hon. Edwin M. Stanton from the office of Secretary of War without assigning any cause or prevarication other than carrying out the laws of Congress; therefore,

Resolved, That the Convention return a vote of thanks to the Senate of the United States for their righteous act in replacing him in his proper position as Secretary of War.

Respectfully, your obedient servant, T. P. SEARS.

To Hon. B. F. Wade, President United States Senate.

The following were referred: A resolution that any voter, on the presentation of his certificate of registration to the managers of the election for the ratification or rejection of the acts of this Convention shall be entitled and allowed to vote in any county or precinct of the State, without regard to the county or precinct in which they shall be registered; a resolution that there shall be no enforcement of the collection of any debt contracted prior to January, 1861, all such debts to be suspended until the year 1900. A resolution that 150 copies of the minutes be printed in book form for the use of the members of the Convention; a resolution that all persons occupying public lands be required to pay a tax for school purposes, the same as the lawful owner; a resolution forbidding the State of Mississippi to assume or pay any debts or obligations incurred in the Rebellion, or claim from the United States any compensation for slaves emancipated; an ordinance to invalidate all transactions of executors, administrators, or guardians for widows and orphans where Confederate securities are a consideration, and granting the right to parties thus wronged through the intervention of the courts of the State to enter upon and take possession of all the lands and tenements sold or disposed of as above, and the right of action at law against such executors, administrators, guardians, or their securities, for damages; also, an ordinance providing for levying a special tax on all real estate and movable property of the State, providing for an election by this Convention for a sufficient number of tax collectors, not to exceed one from each county, to collect said tax; the Convention shall elect a treasurer, to be known as the Treasurer of the Convention, for the purpose of receiving the money thus collected, who shall continue in office sixty days after the adjournment. The Convention also appointed a committee of three to memorialize Congress that at least one-fourth the tax collected on the cotton produced in the year 1867 be expended through the Freedmen's Bureau to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, without regard to color.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE RECONSTRUCTION CONVENTION.

From Our Special Correspondent.

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 13, 1868.

The question of furnishing some relief to the destitute among the freedmen of this State is enlisting the earnest thought and efforts of sympathizing members of this Convention. That there is abundant reason for some interposition in their behalf seems clearly evident. Resolutions have been presented in the Convention bearing upon this subject, but as yet no definite action has been taken. From statements made, it certainly appears that speedy measures of help are demanded. Suffering unrelieved will result in crime, crime in arrest, conviction, and punishment, when innocent and guilty together must bear sorer distress than ever.

Representations were made on Saturday by delegates from various counties, as to the condition of those people in their respective localities. There are counties, without doubt, where help will not be called for. Possibly a very large share of the interior districts will require little or no aid. The worst accounts come from the river counties. It is said that planters on the Mississippi, what proportion I cannot specify, gave their attention entirely to growing cotton last year, putting in no corn, buying food in the States north. With cotton at its present low price, and but a moderate crop at best, the negroes had already consumed the avails of their labor by the time the crop was in the market, their share of it having been sufficient only to keep them in food in the past, and sometimes even leaving them in debt. With no corn in their region, and no money to buy, the prospect is gloomy and threatening. Without Government aid still longer extended there seems to be no adequate resource to meet the need.

The colored delegate from Claiborne County said he knew of families being turned out of their houses simply for doing what Congress gave them the right to do. They were dependent upon others to provide for their daily wants. Some were working for just what they could eat. That, in fact, nine-tenths of the colored people of his county were without homes and the very necessaries of life. Many had come to him and begged him to take them to work for their food. When he left home he had two such families in his house. This was the condition of things at Port Gibson and all along the river. The people were now in debt, and it would take next year to pay it up. He thought gentlemen sitting behind counters knew but little of the grim starvation that was looking these poor people in the face.

The delegate from Bolivar County said that in his region there was neither food or cotton of any account, and there must be suffering, not among the blacks alone, but also in the cabins of the poor whites. He added to the evidence of destitution prevailing along the Mississippi River. Labor was plenty and cheap, and few wanting to hire. On the other hand, it was pleasant to hear that this was not the fact everywhere. Yazoo County was mentioned, in which no surplus labor could be found. Taking into account all the testimony thus far given, it is certain that in portions of the State extreme want already exists; and the relief to be most available should come speedily. This whole subject will be further had under consideration, when additional facts will be brought to light, and a more discriminating opinion can be given upon the character and extent of this destitution.

A resolution was offered and carried to raise a committee to ascertain the grounds upon which Gov. Humphries issued his proclamation dated Dec. 9, 1867, with authority to send for persons and papers. The proclamation states that "serious apprehensions have been expressed by gentlemen of high official and social position, that combinations and conspiracies are being formed among the blacks to seize the lands and establish farms, expecting and hoping that Congress will arrange a plan of division and distribution. Unless this is done by January next, they will proceed to help themselves, and are determined *to go to war*, and are confident that they will be victors in any conflict with the whites. Therefore, the black race is admonished that if any such hopes are entertained they have been grossly deceived; and are warned that if any such conspiracies have been formed to carry into effect such purposes of lawless violence they can never succeed. The first outbreak against the peace of society will signalize the destruction of their hopes and the ruin of their race."

It was asserted in debate by Gen. Alderson that the design of the proclamation was to excite the people, to bring on a collision between the white and the black. He had made examination to find sufficient reasons for it, and there was not the *shadow of an excuse*. It was a *slander* upon the people.

It was admitted by the opposition that no reasonable ground existed for charging any portion of the people with intent to make disturbance.

So sinks, baseless to the ground, an official attempt to arouse hatred against the blacks, to stir up to deeds of blood, to call out the indignation of peace-loving citizens against them everywhere, to reprobate excesses existing only in the imaginations of their enemies, and to awaken a sympathy in favor of the white, who is compelled to live over a slumbering volcano whose irruptions may break forth at any moment and involve him in its fiery destruction. A proclamation issued with any such intent cannot surely be too severely condemned. It deserves all that can be heaped upon it. It is hoped that the investigation of the Committee will bring out the whole truth, and repair the wrong already done an innocent people to the fullest extent possible.

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 14, 1868.

The Union Congressional Committee in Washington donated a copy of the "New-York Constitutional Manual" to the Constitutional Convention of this State, through the Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee. An expression of thanks was proposed in return for the valuable volume, when the following preamble and resolution were offered by Mr. Townsend, in lieu of a vote of thanks, which contain a sharp point, well thrust, which ought to puncture the obnoxious word "white," and exorcise it from every constitution in the land:

Whereas, This Convention has been presented by the Union Republican party, through its Executive Committee, with a copy of the New-York Constitutional Manual, containing the Constitutions of the 37 States of this Union as they now exist, for the information and guidance of this body in its deliberations; and

Whereas, The Constitutions of all but six of the States, as therein given, contain the word "white" as a qualification for electors under their Constitutions; and *whereas*, in three of the remaining six States both an educational and property qualification is required of electors under their Constitutions; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Convention gratefully accepts the said volume from the said party, and indulges the hope that the delegates to this body, in adopting a Constitution for the State of Mississippi, will, on the subject of suffrage, imitate the example of nine-tenths of the States of this Union.

Mr. Townsend added the remark that "he wished the Republican party to understand that this body, in its deliberations, does not wish to be governed by any such incendiary documents."

This is only a mild sample of the spirit that rules within the limits of the opposition. Worse and more contemptuously inimical to the work of the Convention than this has not shown itself. There are members who are acting the part of obstructionists, who would gladly ruin since they cannot rule. If it is their pleasure so to stand; it is well to have them revealed, that there may be no doubt as to their purpose. The following is an illustration of this:

When the Committee on the Pay of Members reported, a minority report was submitted also, as follows, by Mr. Compton:

Whereas, The Military Bill passed by the Congress of the United States, on the 2d of March, 1867, together with the supplements thereto, known as the Reconstruction measures, are unconstitutional, and unjust and oppressive to the people of Mississippi; and *whereas*, in pursuance thereof, an officer of the United States Army has ordered the assembling of a convention for the purpose of making revolutionary changes in the constitution of the State; and *whereas*, although the Constitution of the United States and laws made in pursuance thereof are the supreme law of the land, yet the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States respectively, or to the people, and among the rights thus reserved to the States is the right to prescribe the qualifications for the elective franchise therein, with which Congress has no right to interfere; and

Whereas, In prescribing the qualification of voters in the election of delegates to the said Convention, a large and influential class of the citizens of this State who have heretofore exercised the rights of suffrage under the Constitution of the United States, and of the State of Mississippi, have been disfranchised. And on the other hand, a still larger class of persons who are not, and have never been recognized as citizens of this State, or of the United States, have been permitted to vote, and believing that a majority of the persons on this floor are either not citizens of this State, or that they have been elected by illegal votes; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this assembly is unconstitutionally convened, and is not competent to make amendments to the Constitution of the State of Mississippi in any respect whatever; and, therefore, the delegates and members of this body are not entitled to compensation for any services which they may propose to perform in such capacity to the people of the State of Mississippi, or to the people of the United States.

If any men hold such opinions as the above, they had best find vent in some manner, for they are of too inflammable a character to be pent up safely; but in ventilating them in the Convention, Mr. Compton came to grief. A long, exciting, and able debate ensued, when a resolution passed declaring that Mr. C. had violated his registration oath, in which he had sworn to "support the Constitution and obey the laws of the United States, and, *to the best of his ability, encourage others to do so*." The passage of the resolution was a biting rebuke, such as the gentleman will not want to court every day.

The report discovers something of what the loyal men of the Convention have to deal with, and what the Republican party in the State will have to deal with in greater measure, when engaged in the active canvass in support of the Constitution to be framed, before the people. Such men as Compton have learned nothing from the war, but are still swathed in all the secession prejudices that wrapped them six years ago. To all such, and their sympathizers North, negro suffrage is a stench, and this is only a white man's government still. The idea of a black man meeting them in debate, standing on the same floor as their peer, pains them exceedingly. It turns their gastric juice to gall.

LOUISIANA.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION—GEN. HANCOCK ORDERS THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OUT OF THE RECONSTRUCTION FUND.

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 18.—In the Convention to-day a resolution was adopted fixing the hours of the daily session at from 10 o'clock in the morning to four in the afternoon. Mr. Cromwell (colored) said he was opposed to any steps looking toward a speedy completion of the business of the Convention and a permanent adjournment until the question of funds had been definitely settled. A communication was received from Gen. Hancock, stating that, having received information from Gen. Sheridan to the effect that he had intended paying the Commissioners of Election for delegates to the Convention, he has ordered their payment out of the Reconstruction Fund. A communication was received from Gen. Hancock to the Committee appointed to confer with him relative to the collection of the tax levied by the Convention. Gen. Hancock says by the ordinance levying the tax the Convention has prescribed its mode of collection. That ordinance makes it the duty of the Auditor to direct the Sheriff and Collectors to enforce the payment. Should any officers be forcibly resisted, the Major-General commanding will promptly use the military power to maintain the supremacy of the law to this extent. He has authority to act, but it is not his province to interfere in the matter in any other way.

COLLECTION OF TAXES—THE STAY LAW.

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 19.—Judge Cooley having addressed a note to Gen. Hancock, inquiring whether he would enforce an ordinance which the Constitutional Convention may adopt, staying executions on all judgments by State courts until the 1st of January, 1870, except judgments for taxes and wages of laborers, the General, in reply, calls attention to the fourth and eighth sections of the act of March, 1867, defining the powers of the Convention, and says: From these provisions, it is clear that the Convention is clothed with the extraordinary power of framing a constitution and civil government, and that it possesses no authority to deal with subjects of ordinary legislation, except to levy and provide for the collection of taxes, and to pay its members, officers, &c., and as the ordinance to which you refer in your letter is entirely foreign to the framing of a constitution and civil government, it appears to the Major-General Commanding that such an ordinance, if passed by the Convention, would be without any validity. The State Auditor addressed a communication to Gen. Hancock, stating that the taxes imposed by the Constitutional Convention cannot be collected through the ordinary process of collecting State taxes; that the tax-collectors of the Parishes of Orleans and Jefferson report that tax-payers have generally refused to pay the tax; and refers the whole matter to Gen. Hancock for action. Gen. Hancock, in reply, refers the Auditor to an ordinance of the Convention, making it his duty to superintend the collection of taxes, and says it does not appear from the Auditor's statement that any process for the collection of taxes had been issued, or any steps taken except a notice in the newspapers, and a demand for payment, which had been refused; that no resort had been had to coercive means to enforce the payment of taxes, pointed out by the laws, which it is the Auditor's duty to direct the tax-collectors to do; that when this is done, and forcible resistance made, the Major-General Commanding will, upon its being reported to him, take prompt measures to vindicate the supremacy of the law.

THE "KUKLUX" GANG AGAIN.—At Lionville Station, Giles Co., Tenn., last Saturday night, three colored men were seized by sixteen white men, carried into the woods, stripped, tied over a log, and then whipped at intervals for the space of two hours. They were told that this was done because they belonged to the Union League, and had voted the Radical ticket. After they were released, they were threatened with still rougher treatment if they did not leave the State. The white men were armed and work masks. Three of the villains, Tom Mitchell, Henry Fox, and McDougherty, were recognized. They belong to the notorious "Kuklux Klan," which was implicated in the Pulaski riot last week. Frank Dickerson, one of the men whipped, reached Nashville to-day, and reported to Gen. Carlin. His back is severely lacerated. [Cin. Gazette, 16th.

A HORRIBLE DEATH.—On Thursday morning, Henry Shade, a carpenter employed in a saw-mill in Sandusky, had his clothing caught in a disconnected coupling of the machinery, and before the engine could be stopped his leg was caught between the gear-wheels of a windlass attached to the shaft, and torn off between the knee and ankle. The right side of the head was badly crushed and mangled, so that death ensued immediately. After his coat caught in the machinery, the unfortunate man had only time to exclaim, "George! George!" before he was hurried to a terrible death. The engine was stopped as quickly as possible, but too late to do any good. The deceased leaves a wife and six children—the youngest having been born only a few hours before the deplorable accident.

FROM WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—A letter dated Olympia, Dec. 12, says: But little of general interest has occurred in connection with the Legislature now in session. In the Council, everything of a general nature seems to be waiting for the decision of the contested seat case between McLain, the sitting member (Republican), and Longmire (Democrat). Memorials have been introduced into the House, and will undoubtedly pass, praying for an appropriation by Congress to locate, build, and maintain a dry dock and naval arsenal on Puget Sound; also, relative to fortifications, on the ground that every dollar invested and even the lives of the people are hourly exposed to the incursions of savage hordes of Indians, and the capital itself to the freaks of freebooters or enemies at war; also praying for a monthly mail service from Olympia, via ports of Puget Sound, to Aliaska; also for appropriations for the erection of lighthouses on Point-no-Point, on the Alki Point, and on Fort Defiance.

POLITICAL.

THE PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION.

From The Frederick (Md.) Examiner.

In about four months the National Republican Convention will meet to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the United States. The gentlemen most prominently spoken of in connection with the Presidency are Gen. Grant and the Hon. Salmon P. Chase. We have already expressed our preference for the latter, and in doing so we were not influenced by any consideration of availability, but based our choice altogether on the standard of qualification. Uncompromisingly honest in his opinions, firm in his convictions, inflexible in his purpose, and, above all, devotedly attached to the principles of republican institutions, he seems qualified in every respect for the onerous and responsible duties that will necessarily devolve upon the successor of Andrew Johnson.

The great question with which the American people now have to deal, is in connection with our financial policy, and what they need the most is a man at the head of the Government who combines with the patriotism of the statesman the sagacity and experience of the financier. In our humble judgment, Judge Chase is that man. He is the author of our present financial system, and when money was needed to equip and sustain the army during the Rebellion, he called "greenbacks" into existence. We are indebted to his financial ability and statesmanship for the national banking system, and, as we said on a former occasion, he contributed as much by his judicious administration of the national finances toward putting down armed treason, as the bravery of our troops on the field.

Apart from the great experience of Judge Chase as a financier, he is truly a representative man, one whose sympathies are entirely in accord with the masses of the people in their desire to see the Union reconstructed on the broad principle of impartial justice. He thoroughly appreciates the wants of the country, and we think we can say, without disparagement to the claims of others, that no one is better qualified by nature and experience to lead this Government out of its present difficulties and embarrassments into the enjoyment of its former peace and prosperity than the subject of this notice.

Mr. Chase is no politician. He is a plain, common, straightforward man, deeply solicitous of the public welfare, and earnestly devoted to the true interests of the people. He is above the wiles and temptations that are apt to corrupt and impoverish the usefulness of public men; and it is this very virtue that has made him the object of envy, and, we may add, of vilification. He never stoops to crush the pigmies that would defile his escutcheon; he scorns the tricks of the demagogue; he lives and strives to serve his country and promote her honor and greatness among the nations of the earth. The service he rendered the country while in the Cabinet of President Lincoln is a record of imperishable glory, and should rally to his support every lover of the Union.

NEW-YORK.

THE BROOKYN SEVENTH WARD ALDERMAN.

At the late general election, Thos. C. Steers, Republican, was reelected Alderman of the Seventh Ward by 42 majority (as shown by the official returns on file in the City Clerk's office). During the canvass of the votes in the First District, a dispute arose relative to a deficiency of 10, to make it agree with the poll-list. After a short discussion, a settlement was reached; the next morning one of the Canvassers refused to sign the page on which the vote for Alderman was recorded. Thompson, Mr. Pinchout, the Democratic candidate, sent a protest to the Common Council. The subject was examined by a Committee of the Board of Canvassers, and, notwithstanding a majority of the Committee reported in favor of Steers, and he was allowed to take his seat at the first meeting this year, voting and otherwise acting as one of the Board, last Monday evening (he being absent on account of sickness) the report of the minority was taken up and adopted, declaring a vacancy, and ordering a new election on the 28th inst. A meeting of citizens, irrespective of party, is to be held this evening at Oxford Hall, Classon and Fulton aves., the object being to protest against this action.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT REPUBLICANS.

The Eighteenth District Union Republican Association has elected Mr. James N. Trimble Chairman, and Mr. Samuel M. Cox Secretary.

UNION REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Union Republican Executive Committee on Saturday evening, Mr. Rufus F. Andrews read a letter from Mr. F. J. Fithian, President of the General Committee, in which he said that as soon as the Union Republican General Committee for 1868 was organized he would bring before it the communication which he had received from Mr. Andrews providing for a committee of conference between the organization of which the Hon. Thomas Murphy is Chairman and the the Radical General Committee. Mr. A. J. Dittenhoffer was elected President, and Mr. Pierre C. Van Wyck Secretary.

BROOKLYN DEMOCRATIC GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The new Kings County Democratic General Committee is composed thus: First Ward, J. B. Craige; Second, Hugh McLaughlin; Third, Frederick S. Massey; Fourth, James Troy; Fifth, Andrew Walsh; Sixth, Peter Keenan; Seventh, Thomas Riley; Eighth, Judge Delmar; Ninth, Francis McNeely; Tenth, James McConley; Eleventh, Thomas Giddings; Twelfth, Thomas Sheridan; Thirteenth, James Murphy; Fourteenth, Philip Brady; Fifteenth, Andrew Cunningham; Sixteenth, Bernard Haver; Seventeenth, Peter Callan; Eighteenth, contested; Nineteenth, Walter L. Livingston; Twentieth, Patrick Dolan; Gravesend, James B. Voorhees.

OHIO.

The Washington correspondent of *The Lewiston* (Me.) *Journal*, in a recent letter, says:

"In West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana the Democratic Conventions all unanimously recommend Geo. H. Pendleton for the Presidency of the United States. A glance at Pendleton's antecedents, therefore, may not be uninteresting just at this time. Many years ago, when Cincinnati was but a thriving village, one Nathan Hunt owned a tannery near near there, on 'Deer Creek,' about 16 miles from another tannery, owned by one Jesse R. Grant, whose name has since become widely known as the father of Gen. Grant. Nathan Hunt's tannery prospered, and he became a rich man; and his daughter, who married Nathaniel G. Pendleton, was the mother of the present Democratic favorite, Geo. H. Pendleton. Thus it would seem, from present appearances, that the two great opposing parties of the United States will run, as their chosen candidates for the first office in the gift of the people, the son of a tanner, and the grandson of a tanner."

GAG LAW IN THE LEGISLATURE.

From The Ohio State Journal.

The extraordinary ruling of the Speaker of the House upon the preamble left little room to doubt that the majority were resolved to force the resolution to withdraw the assent of Ohio to the Constitutional Amendment, through both bodies under whip and gag. It must have been a case of great urgency that could have forced the Speaker to risk his reputation as a parliamentarian upon the absurd decision that a preamble with so much matter and so many sections was not divisible. It is not to be supposed for a moment that a person of such large experience in parliamentary bodies should have made such a decision in ignorance. The exigency of partisan service could alone have led him to sacrifice his pride of knowledge to such an absurdity.

PROTEST OF THE UNION MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following is the protest of the Union members of the State House of Representatives against the passage of the resolution rescinding the ratification of the Fourteenth Constitutional Amendment:

The undersigned Union Representatives most earnestly protest against the action of the majority of this body in rescinding the resolution passed by the former Legislature, the legality of which action we seriously doubt, whereby the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States, known as the Fourteenth Article, was ratified, and the manner in which the same was accomplished, because,

First: In the late Congressional election, 16 members of Congress out of 19 were elected to that body, by a majority of more than 43,000, on the direct issue presented in said proposed amendment, after having being thoroughly examined and clearly understood, the people thereby intelligently adopting and ratifying said article in all its bearings, and have never since, by vote or otherwise, indicated a change in their opinions as to its justice or necessity.

Second: By repealing the amendment whereby the Constitutional Amendment in question was ratified by this State, a majority of this body virtually and impliedly, if not directly, declared that all persons born or naturalized into the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are not citizens of the United States and States wherein they reside; that States shall make or enforce laws which shall abridge the privileges of citizens of the United States, or may deprive persons of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, or without the equal protection of law.

Third: It removes all disability from persons becoming Senators and Representatives in Congress, electing a President and Vice-President, or holding any office, civil or military, under the United States or any State, who were recently engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the Government, notwithstanding they may have previously taken oath as members of Congress, or as officers of the United States or any State, in any and all their various departments.

Fourth: It allows the validity of the public debt of the United States, as authorized by law, including debts incurred by the payment of pensions and bounties for suppressing insurrection or rebellion, to be questioned, and removes all disabilities on the part of Congress or the States to assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in said insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or claims for the loss of emancipation of slaves.

Fifth: The resolution rescinding said amendment to the Constitution of the United States, by which Ohio ratified the same, was passed by a majority of this body under the spur and gag of the previous question, thereby preventing the friends and supporters of the amendment from uttering a word in its favor, or their constituents—composing, in the aggregate for Representatives and Senators, a majority of the votes of the State—being heard by their representatives on the floor of this House against such action.

For these and many other reasons, in the name of the constituency we represent, we make this protest, and ask that it be entered in the journal of the House.

Signed by all the Republican members.

IOWA.

GOV. STONE'S MESSAGE.

The annual message of Gov. Stone, of Iowa, gives a detailed statement of the progress of the State during the year last past. The finances of the State are in a very prosperous condition. During the last fiscal year there were received from all sources, $1,412,395 19. Expenditures for the same time were, $1,314,654 74, leaving an unexpended surplus of $97,740 45. Since the adjournment of the last session of the Legislature, $114,000 of the bonded debt of 1858 has been discharged, leaving $86,000 unpaid, but as the bonds are overdue they cease to draw interest. The only remaining indebtedness of the State is the $300,000 of seven per cent bonds due in 1881. The Governor recommends that if holders can be induced to surrender them before maturity, they shall be extinguished by appropriating the proceeds derived from claims against the United States to that purpose.

The Governor devotes considerable space to the increase of population in the State since its distinct political organization. When it was organized as a Territory in 1838 the population was 22,859, and at the time of its admission as a State in 1846, 97,588. From the taking of the national census in 1860 to the close of the Rebellion, the entire increase of population was 79,186. The census returns for 1867 show a total population of over 900,000, and the present population is set down at 1,000,000.

The whole number of persons of school age in the year 1867 was 372,963; the number of teachers, 10,343. There are 5,434 school-houses reported, making an average of 56 for each county. These are independent of 62 academies, colleges and universities. The total amount expended for the support of common schools during the year was $2,093,597 82.

The charitable institutions of the State are in an excellent condition. An eligible site has been secured for the new Deaf and Dumb Institution. The Orphans' Home is managed with care and ability, and is maintaining 834 children. The Penitentiary contains 160 convicts and cells. Additional cells are recommended. The Governor also recommends the immediate erection of a Reform School. Enlargement of the State House and repairs upon the Governor's mansion are also matters of recommendation.

Since the former report of the Register of the State Land Office there have been patented to the State 67,979 acres of land, all of which has been sold and patented by the State to individual purchasers.

In regard to railroads, the Governor recommends the passage of an act resuming to the State the control over the lands granted to the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad Company, as he is unable to discover any reliable evidence of earnest intention to construct the line to its terminal point on the Missouri River.

Considerable space is devoted in the message to the importance of the Mississippi River improvement, and, to avoid any hindrance in the work, the passage of an act is recommended authorizing the United States to appropriate private real estate along the river to the extent of 1,500 feet therefrom in width.

The Agricultural College is nearly completed, but an appropriation will be needed to furnish and prepare it for use, and a liberal appropriation is recommended for the purpose of thoroughly testing fruits in an experimental orchard.

The remainder of the report is devoted mainly to items of local importance. A removal of the uncertainty in settling the constitutionality of legislative enactments is asked. Material changes in the structure of the judicial department are also recommended. The establishment of the office of Auditor in every county having 15,000 inhabitants and upward, a revision of the revenue and registry laws, and the publication of the Adjutant-General's report, are also urged upon the General Assembly.

WISCONSIN.

THE LEGISLATURE—ORGANIZATION OF A GRANT CLUB.

MADISON, Jan. 19.—The Legislature has been sitting for ten days, but business of little importance has been done. A bill was introduced devoting land grants for railroads to the farm mortgagors who aided in their construction. Resolutions were passed in both houses asserting in the strongest terms the right of expatriation and demanding protection for American citizens abroad, native or adopted. An adjournment was agreed to February 19.

A Tippo Grant Club was organized last night, with Horace Rubie as President. The resolutions declare opposition to the amnesty and enfranchisement of Rebels, while any Union man of the South remains disfranchised, and emphatically favor Grant's nomination by the Republican party, which latter accords with the almost unanimous wish of the Republicans in Wisconsin.

CALIFORNIA.

THE NEW SENATOR FROM CALIFORNIA.

The San Francisco Times in speaking of Eugene Casserly, the new United States Senator from California, says that the Democratic caucus, with the material before them, could not have made a better choice. Mr. Casserly, it adds, "is an old Free Soiler; he was a member of the Buffalo Convention which nominated Van Buren in 1848, and which laid down the platform of free soil, free speech, a free press, and free men, and his record as a Free Soil Democrat has been consistent up to a late period. Judging from his speech to the caucus, however, he now seems to be in full accord with the Democracy in their opposition to the reconstruction plan of Congress, though whether he will go as far as most of them would like him to, is very doubtful." *The San Francisco Alta California* says: "The gentleman who will represent California in the United States Senate for six years from March 4, 1869, is undoubtedly the ablest man among those who have been prominent candidates for the support of the dominant party, possessing fine natural abilities and sterling integrity. He is an able lawyer, a good speaker, careful in judgment, enjoys the experience of a long residence in California, understands the wants of the State as well as the commercial metropolis, and has interests here which make him a thorough Californian. It was hardly to be expected at the hands of the astonished Democracy that a gentleman with Mr. Cassorly's known views and adherence to the Government during the Rebellion could be elected. At the beginning of the war, when we needed help, he came out strongly for the Union, and has ever since adhered to that faith. While we should, of course, have preferred the election of a member of the Union party to the Senate, it must be acknowledged that Mr. Casserly is the ablest of his party, will be a peer among the Senators, and his election is a triumph over the Peace wing of the Democracy."

THE ACTION OF GEN. GRANT—A REPUBLICAN PROTEST.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Several days ago a statement appeared in the Copperhead *Intelligencer* of Washington to the effect that Gen. Grant had promised the President that he would either *resign* his office as Acting Secretary of War, or relinquish it in obedience to a mandamus. I doubted it, of course. It seemed incredible that Gen. Grant would make a promise like this. The action implied by such a promise would be a clear defiance of the will of the Senate of the United States, taken after more than sixty days of careful deliberation, and, doubtless, much consultation. While I am prepared to find in Gen. Grant's prompt compliance with the conclusion of the Senate matter for congratulation, I confess it is a singular spectacle to see Republican papers everywhere exulting over it as an evidence of his sympathy with Republican principles. Nothing could better illustrate the darkness through which we grope our way to Gen. Grant's political tendencies than the avidity with which this abandonment of a civil office—held by him under circumstances of entirely doubtful right—in obedience to the mandate of the most august deliberative body of our country, has been caught up and echoed as confirmation of his affiliation with our great party. Strongly sympathizing heretofore with what has been popularly called the "Grant movement," I stop to ask—in no small alarm—the grave question: "Is this all?"

But in THE TRIBUNE of Thursday last, in your special telegraphic correspondence from Washington, is a detailed statement of the circumstances attending Gen. Grant's retiracy from, and Mr. Stanton's return to, the War Department. A portion of it is from "official information," doubtless from Gen. Grant himself or an authorized friend. To this official information I wish to ask your particular attention. I confess it startled me greatly, for it seems wholly to confirm the astounding allegation of *The Intelligencer*:

"*We have official authority for stating that Generals* GRANT *and Sherman waited on Mr. Johnson to-day*, AND INFORMED HIM THAT THEY HAD ADVISED MR. STANTON TO SEND IN HIS RESIGNATION AS SECRETARY OF WAR!"

When I first read this statement it filled me with anxiety. Re-reading it has not abated the force of that feeling. I could find no satisfactory motive for this extraordinary proceeding of Gen. Grant—heretofore so persistently reticent and careful—but this: that conscious of having forfeited his word to the President (I hesitate to use this strong language, but I find no other to express my meaning) he sought to repair so grave a fault by inducing Mr. Stanton to vacate his office. What other explanation can be offered? Can it be possible that, after all, Gen. Grant is in practical accord with Mr. Johnson (as certainly Lieut.-Gen. Sherman is), and seeks to aid him by procuring, if it be in his power, the retirement of Mr. Stanton? One or the other of these hypotheses can alone afford an explanation adequate to the gravity of the matter. I have read your editorial of yesterday, and your jokes of Thursday, but they are far, very far, indeed, from removing the difficulty.

Sir, I have to this time been content to support Gen. Grant upon what I esteemed to be sufficient proof of his Republican principles. Nay, more, I have advocated him with warmth. But I am constrained to stop at this last development. I cannot—positively, I cannot—go further without light. I have apologized conscientiously for many acts of doubtful Republicanism on the part of Gen. Grant. But *when* and *where* are my apologies to cease? My voice and vote are asked for him for the highest office in the gift of this great people. I have a right to know what his political principles are; and until I do know, my voice shall be silent and my vote withheld. Very truly, yours, M. S.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was written, it has been stated that Gen. Grant explains his action in yielding up the Department by saying that Mr. Stanton promised to resign at once if possession were quietly given him. Reluctant as I was to believe, this, taken in connection with your "official authority," leaves no room for escape. Gen. Grant made a bad promise and broke it. For one, count me out of the "Grant movement" for the future. While his action in this bewildering matter seems to have attracted you to his cause, it has converted me FROM it.

Philadelphia, Jan. 18, 1868. M. S.

PHALON'S NEW PERFUME, "FLOR DE MAYO," *or Flower of May*. This delightful perfume is unquestionably the finest perfume ever introduced in this country. It is dedicated to the beautiful flower from which it takes its name. It will be ready for the trade this week. Price $1 per bottle, or $5 for box containing ½ dozen. Sent to any address upon receipt of the money. For sale everywhere by druggists and fancy goods dealers.

Notice to the Trade.—"*Flor de Mayo*," or Flower of May, has been adopted by us as our trade-mark and copyrighted; any infringements will be promptly prosecuted.

[*Adv*. PHALON & SON.

THE ALBION.—Our readers are referred to the advertisements in our advertising columns.

THE WEATHER.

NEW-YORK AND THE SUBURBS ON ICE.

Seldom have the lovers of Winter pastimes in this vicinity been favored by the elements as they have been this season. Thus far we have been remarkably exempt from those wet and chilly days, and cold rainstorms, which so often render a New-York Winter the dread of residents and the terror of strangers; days when to stay within doors is dreariness, and to go out is misery; when rain and wind, and mud, and slush, and slippery sidewalks and clogged and uncertain stages