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THE SUN.

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RECONSTRUCTION.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OPINIONS.

Results of the Cabinet Discussion.

The Opinions Examined by Sections and Adopted.

Secretary Stanton in Opposition.

Military Commanders to be Provided with Check Reins.

&c., &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, June 20.

The conclusions of the President and Cabinet in reference to the interpretation of the "Military Reconstruction Laws," are stated in the following proceedings, which are published by permission of the proper authorities:

IN CABINET, June 18th, 1867.

Present: The President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Postmaster General, the Attorney General, the Acting Secretary of the Interior.

The President announced that he had under consideration the two opinions from the Attorney General as to the legal questions arising upon the acts of Congress, commonly known as the "Reconstruction Acts," and that in view of the great magnitude of the subject, and of the various interests involved, he deemed it proper to have it considered fully in Cabinet, and to avail himself of all the light which could be afforded by the opinions and advice of the members of the Cabinet, to enable him to see that these laws are faithfully executed, and to decide what orders and instructions are necessary and expedient to be given to the military commanders. The President said, furthermore, the branch of the subject that seemed to him first in order for consideration was, as to the instructions to be sent to the military commanders for their guidance and for the guidance of persons offering for registration. The instructions proposed by the Attorney General and set forth in the summary contained in his last opinion, will therefore now be considered.

The summary was then read at length, and the reading of the summary having been concluded, each section was then discussed, considered, and voted upon as follows:

"The oath prescribed in the Supplemental Act relative to the qualifications required, and every person who can take it is entitled to have his name entered upon the list of voters."

All voted aye except the Secretary of War, who voted nay.

Second: "The Board of Registration shall have no authority to administer any other oath to the person applying for registration than this prescribed oath, nor to administer any oath to any other person touching the qualifications of the applicant or the validity of the oath so taken by him. No provision is made for challenging the qualifications of the applicant, or entering upon any trial or examination of his qualifications, either by notice or by any other form of proof."

All vote "Aye," except the Secretary of War, who votes "Nay."

Third: "As to citizenship and residence. The applicant for registration must be a citizen of the State and of the United States, and must be a resident of the county or parish included in the district for ninety days next preceding the election. If he has been such citizen for a period less than twelve months at the time he applies for registration, he cannot vote at any election held within that period except for electors for President and Vice President of the United States, or for a member of Congress, or for State officers, if any such election be held in the year of his registration. As to such a person, the exact length of his citizenship should be noted, if possible, by some one on the roll, so that it may appear on the day of election, upon reference to the roll, that the Fifteenth Amendment and Reconstruction Bill were both then fully accomplished."

Concurred in unanimously.

Fourth: "An unnaturalized person cannot take this oath. An alien who has been naturalized can take it, and no other proof of naturalization can be required from him."

All vote aye except the Secretary of War, who voted nay.

Fifth: "None who have been twenty-one years of age at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, can be disqualified from taking the oath, for he must swear that he has been attached thereto."

Concurred in unanimously.

Sixth: "No one who has been disfranchised for participation in any rebellion against the United States, or for felony committed against the laws of any State or of the United States, can take the oath. In the application of this section, or the second section of felony, does not amount to disfranchisement. The sort of disfranchisement here meant is that which is declared by the laws of the United States, or which has been fixed upon by a criminal by the sentence of a Court, which tried him for the crime. No law of the United States has declared the penalty of disfranchisement for participating in rebellion alone, nor do any Courts for participating in rebellion alone. We know of no such law as exists in either of these ten States, except perhaps Virginia, as to which State special instructions will be given."

All vote Aye except the Secretary of War, who dissents as to the second and third paragraphs.

Seventh: "As to disfranchisement arising from having held office under rebel authorities in rebellion. This is the most important part of the oath, and requires strict attention to arrive at its meaning. The applicant must swear or affirm as follows: 'That I have not been a member of any legislative or judicial office in any State, and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to enemies thereof. And I take this oath freely and without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion whatever. That I will support the Constitution of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature or as an Executive or judicial officer of any State, I will not recognize any ordinance, law, or act of any State purported to have been done in pursuance of such ordinance, law, or act, which shall be in violation of the Constitution of the United States, and will aid in the execution of no such ordinance, law, or act, so far as I can avoid the same without violating my official oath to support the Constitution of the United States.' I know of no other oath which can be taken by any person who has been a member of any State Legislature, or an Executive or judicial officer of any State, and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. Two elements must concur in order to disqualify a person who has taken these oaths. First, the office and the duties of the office must be such as to bring the person within the category of persons who are described in the oath. Secondly, the person must have been guilty of participation in the rebellion. Both must exist to work a disqualification. A civil officer may happen to be in the order of time succeeded by a military officer, and the latter may have failed to support the Federal Constitution, and has not afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to its enemies, but he has not afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion, but has took precisely the same oath, and is not disqualified."

All vote aye, except the Secretary of War, who voted nay.

Eighth: "Officers of the United States. As to these the language is without limitation. The person who takes any imposer to the rebellion had no authority to administer such oath to any officer of the United States, or to any other person who could hold no office under the United States, so far as I know."

Concurred in unanimously.

Ninth: "Military officers of any state prior to the rebellion are not subject to disqualification."

All vote aye, except the Secretary of War, who voted nay.

Tenth: "Municipal officers, that is to say, officers of incorporated cities, towns and villages, such as mayors, aldermen, city council, police officers, and town officers, are not subject to disqualification."

Concurred in unanimously.

Eleventh: "Persons who have, prior to the rebellion, been members of the Congress of the United States, or members of a State Legislature, are subject to disqualification. But those who have been members of no legislative functions or executive or judicial officers of a State prior to the rebellion, are not subject to disqualification."

Concurred in unanimously.

Twelfth: "All the executive or judicial officers of any State, who took an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, are subject to disqualification, including the only class of persons who are subject to the disability if they were placed to take, as part of their official oath, the oath to support the Constitution of the United States."

Concurred in unanimously.

Thirteenth: "Persons who exercised mere employments under the State authority, are not disqualified, such as commissioners to lay out roads, commissioners of public works, visitors of State institutions, directors of State institutions, examiners of banks, notaries public, commissioners to take acknowledgments of deeds."

Concurred in unanimously; but the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of War, expressed the opinion that lawyers are such officers as are disqualified if they participated in the rebellion.

"Two things must exist as to any person, to disqualify him from voting—first, the office held prior to the rebellion, and afterwards participation in the rebellion; an act to fix upon a person the offence of engaging in the rebellion, under this law, must be an overt and voluntary act done with the intent of aiding or furthering the common unlawful purpose. A person forced into the rebel service by conscription, or under a paramount authority which he could not safely disobey and who would not have entered such service if left to the free exercise of his own will, cannot be held to be disqualified from voting."

All vote aye except the Secretary of War, who votes nay.

"As the proposition is stated, mere acts of charity, where the intent is to relieve the wants of the object of such charity, and not done in aid of the cause in which he may have been engaged do not disqualify, but organized contributions of food and clothing for the general relief of persons engaged in the rebellion, and not of a merely sanitary character, but contributed to enable them to perform their unlawful object, may be classed with acts which do disqualify. Forced contributions to the rebel cause, in the form of taxes or military assessments which a person was compelled to say or contribute, do not disqualify; but voluntary contributions to the rebel cause, even such indirect contributions as arise from the voluntary loan of money to rebel authority, or purchase of bonds or securities created to afford the means of carrying on the rebellion, will work disqualifications."

Concurred in unanimously.

"All those who, in legislation or other official capacity, were engaged in the furtherance of the common unlawful purpose where the duties of the office necessarily had relation to the support of the rebellion, such as members of the rebel conventions, Congresses and legislatures, diplomatic agents of the rebel confederacy and other officials whose offices were created for the purpose of more effectually carrying on hostilities, or whose duties appertained to the support of the rebel cause, must be held to disqualify. But officers, who, during the rebellion, discharged official duties not incident to war, but only such duties as belong even to a state of peace, and were necessary to the protection of order and the administration of law, are not to be considered as the city engaging in rebellion, or as disqualified. Disloyal sentiments, opinions, or sympathies would not disqualify, but an active participation should be shown by some overt act in support of rebellion, or it must come under the disqualification."

All vote Aye except the Secretary of War, who dissents as to the second paragraph, with the exception of the words "where a person has, by speech or by writing, incited others to engage in rebellion," he must come under the disqualification."

"The duties of the Board appointed to supervise the elections. This Board, having the custody of the list of registered voters in the district for which it is established, must see that the name of the person offering to vote is found upon the registration list, and if such proves to be the fact, it is the duty of the Board to receive his vote if then qualified by residence. They cannot receive the vote of any person whose name is not upon the list, though he may be ready to take the registration oath, and although he may satisfy them that he was unable to have his name enrolled in the proper time in consequence of absence, sickness or other cause, the Board cannot enter into any enquiry as to the qualifications of any person whose name is not on the registration list, or as to the qualification of any person whose name is on the list."

The paper referred to was a letter to Gen. L. C. Baker.

Mr. Pierrepont wanted to know if Baker's book and its contents could be put in evidence. He certainly objected to it.

The Court said he should sustain an objection to reading Baker's book, or any other book except a law book. Everybody knows that Baker's was not one of law, and it was generally doubted whether it was one of facts.

Mr. Merrick said he did not propose to read from Baker's book or any other book. He simply proposed to read a statement of what he proposed to prove, if the witness Hobart was recalled. It was the object of the prosecution to show that Surratt was in Maryland on the afternoon of April 14th, that he was at St. Albans the morning of the 18th, and was at Burlington on the night of the 17th, on his way to Montreal. As against that the defence proposed to prove that the two men described by Mr. Bleine were put on the train on Friday morning, and not on Thursday; that the two men were pursued through Vermont to Canada. The men were asked if they lived in Canada. That they were pursued and tracked to their residence in Canada, and it was ascertained that neither of the men were Surratt; and these facts reported to the Department at Washington, and is still in possession of the United States Government, and he (Pierrepont) knows that neither of the men who slept at the depot were John H. Surratt. A Judge exercising discretionary power should hesitate a long while before saying he would not summon back a witness whose re-examination might prove these material facts. As to the recall of Sergeant Dyer, Mr. Merrick purposed to read a transcript from the docket of Adlerman Dowling, of Philadelphia, showing that Dyer was arrested in the early part of 1866 for passing a counterfeit note on the First National Bank of New York. Mr. Merrick was reading the transcript when Mr. Carrington objected to the reading, and said it should not be placed in evidence unless first submitted to the Court.

Judge Fisher said the paper must not be read in the hearing of the jury.

Mr. Pierrepont said counsel for the prosecution were willing to extend all the courtesy in their power. They would make no objection to the recall of any of the witnesses now in the city, but they should not bring them back, unless ordered to do so by the Court.

Mr. Carrington—Is not the application somewhat unprecedented? A witness has been fully examined, and after the examination in chief and the cross-examination has been completed—

The Court—(interrupting Mr. Carrington)—I don't want to hear you further. No motion ought to be made unless founded on an affidavit, which the Court can inspect.

Mr. Carrington—I think it but justice to bring to the attention of your Honor the slander presented against Sergeant Dye. I regret exceedingly that counsel for the defence published a libel against him in open Court.

The Court—It is not worth the paper on which it is written.

Messrs. Pierrepont and Merrick were both addressing the Court at the same time, when the Court interrupted them by saying: "You must proceed in regular order. When one side is examining witnesses in chief the other side can cross-examine, and *vice versa*; otherwise there will be no end to the trial."

Mr. Merrick—Counsel for the prosecution said I produced a libel. I can only remark it came to me under official seal from the State of Pennsylvania. I know nothing more. I would not do a wrong to save my life.

The Court—Overruled it.

Edward L. South was sworn and examined by the prosecution. He had since 1861 resided about a mile from Surratsville. Had known the prisoner very well for three or four years; recollected he staid at his house in January or February, 1865, and went away next morning. They on that occasion conversed about different things; the prisoner talked about going to Richmond; but never acknowledged having been there; he, however, laughed and said if the Yankees knew what he had done they would stretch his neck; witness did not recollect what reply he himself made to this.

Cross-examined by the defence—He came to Washington last Sunday, having been summoned to appear before the District Attorney. He told that officer what he had just stated here. The witness had said to Mr Townley R. Robey, that being away from home would be a great loss to him; when Robey said he would guaranty him two dollars a day if witness would do what was right; besides this, his hotel bill was to be paid. Mr. Robey said he had seen Mr. Wilson, the Assistant District Attorney, and made it all right.

James M. Wright, chief clerk of the Bureau of Military Justice, was recalled, and identified certain papers as having been placed in his custody. These papers were Jacob Thompson's account with the Ontario Bank of Montreal; a draft on the bank, and Booth's bank book.

Robert A. Campbell, teller of the Ontario Bank, Montreal, was sworn, and gave testimony concerning the papers which Mr. Wright had identified. The witness testified as to the condition of the separate accounts of Booth and Thompson with the Ontario Bank, showing among other things, that on the 25th of October, 1864, a bill of exchange was drawn for Booth at £261 10s 13d, and that on the 6th of April, 1865, Thompson drew a check on the Bank for $7,098, and the bank gave him in the course of the transactions a certificate of deposit for $180,000. This was placed against his account, he having a large balance all the time to his credit—probably $200,000. The witness also testified to the fact that Jacob Thompson was an American.

John Lee was sworn, and examined by Mr. Carrington. Witness now lived in Mississippi, between Meridian and Vicksburg; previous to that time, lived in Washington; had been sergeant of Co. B, 9th Regiment New York Volunteers; was ordered to Washington in 1862 for duty as a detective in Colonel Baker's force; in his business became familiar with people in this city; had seen John H. Surratt; recognized the prisoner at the bar as Surratt; in April, 1865, was on duty at the quarters of Colonel J. R. O'Beirne, Provost Marshal; on April 14, 1865, was chief of the detective force under Colonel O'Beirne, and went down to the depot that day to look after deserters; on returning, and when at the corner of 6th street and Pennsylvania avenue, stopped to talk to an acquaintance; then went on up Pennsylvania avenue to Willard's Hotel, and when opposite the hat store of Mr. Stinemetz, passed a man I took to be John H. Surratt; to the best of witness' knowledge, the prisoner at the bar was the man he met; Surratt was walking at an ordinary gait; I was walking fast.

At fifteen minutes past twelve, the Court took a recess for half an hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Upon reassembling John Lee was recalled and cross-examined by Mr. Bradley as follows:

I was a detective officer under Colonel O Beirne, was with Colonel Baker before 1865. I left Colonel Baker some time in the Spring of 1864; the detective force was at that time employed in ferreting out blockade runners, who were carrying medicine South, and it was at this time Surratt was pointed out to me at the depot. I do not know when that was, but it was many months before the assassination; saw him after that; I know him in no other way except that his name was Surratt, and was said to be a rebel. It was our duty to find out where such people belonged; after we had our order for them Surratt was pointed out as a man who ran through the lines; I do not recollect his dress; he was never pointed out to me especially; a good many men who were pointed out to me; I never took especial notice of; did not think I took special notice of him; think he had a little moustache, but am not positive; when I saw Surratt April 14 h, 1865, do not know how he was dressed; there was nothing on my mind that induced me to take special notice of him; I passed him on F street, but did not turn to look at him; I did not go to Surratt's house; I had the assassination conspiracy, because I was not asked the question; my whole business was after Atzerodt; I knew Surratt was implicated in the conspiracy, but did not think it necessary to say anything about his presence unless interrogated; I never told any one, except a few acquaintances, that I saw Surratt on April 14th; I told the Provost Marshal of Georgetown my arrival here, that I had seen Surratt; I told Mr Wilson so, and also told Mr. Fred Butler so; it was between 3 and 5 o'clock when I met Surratt on April 14th; Surratt was coming down and I was going up when I met him on the 14th.

Samuel A. Rainey was sworn and examined by Mr. Pierrepont. Have lived in Washington twenty years and upwards; in horses and kept a livery stable; in 1861 he had horses at the corner of 6th and C streets, on January 1st, 1865, took a stable on 6th street, below Pennsylvania avenue; took the stable with Dr. Wm. E. Cleaver, and from January 1st to June 14 we were partners, and we kept books; Cleaver kept the books; I knew John W. Booth only by name; knew John H. Surratt, and have seen him at the stable several times; on Washington Surratt came there and hired a horse; I saw Surratt there, but do not recollect the time; Cleaver hired the horse to Surratt; I saw the horse; it was a bay mare; can't say if it was in January, 1865, or not; we kept a set of books at the stable. [The books were exhibited and recognized as the books kept at the stable, and in Surratt's handwriting.]

Mr Bradley said they had no questions to ask the witness. He supposed the witness would be retained.

Mr. Pierrepont said the Court had ruled that the prosecution was not bound to give notice whether they would or would not discharge a witness, and they did not intend to give notice.

Mr Bradley said that was no reason why counsel should be snappish. If the gentleman could not be courteous, he [Mr. Bradley] would teach him to be so.

Mr. Pierrepont said he was disposed to be courteous, but it was not his intention to give information they were not bound to give.

Mr. Bradley said he wanted Mr. Pierrepont to respond in a courteous manner, and, if not, he would teach him to do so.

Mr. Pierrepont did not see the necessity of asking us to the same point at every moment.

The Court directed another witness to be called, and personal difficulties to be settled in writing.

William E. Cleaver was sworn and examined by Mr. Pierrepont. Witness kept a livery stable in 1865 on Sixth street, between B and Missouri avenues; was a partner of Mr. Rainey; knew J. W. Booth and knows John H. Surratt; has known Surratt eleven or twelve years; was familar with him; he addressed him as Doc, and I addressed him as John; Booth kept his horses at our stables, and the first time he brought there was a light built bay horse. Booth and Surratt came to the stables together, and afterwards, on January 25th, 1865, Surratt came to hire a horse; previous to this time Booth and Surratt always came together; on this occasion Surratt came alone and ordered me to have Booth's horse ready at 7 o'clock; Surratt on January 26th ordered the horse at 3 o'clock, and came for him at 7, it was then raining hard, and I asked him if he was going to the country such a night as that; he said he was going to "T. B." to a party; I asked him to go to the Clorendon to take a drink, and he said he had enough, and I thought he had too; Booth had not yet come, and I asked Surratt to take a seat in the office; he did so, and said he was going to meet a party; I asked Surratt to meet a party to help them across the river; that they were going to do some bloody work; that they were going to kill Lincoln, the old scoundrel, as he had ruined Maryland and the whole South, and he would kill him himself; Surratt showed his pistol, and said he represented two counties in Maryland; Booth came in at 8 o'clock and Surratt chided him for being so late and keeping him waiting; witness was in Washington the day of the assassination; was out that afternoon exercising a black horse, and rode to the Navy Yard bridge; while going along H street that day, I met John H. Surratt; he was riding along H street; I spoke to him and said "How are you, John?" and he nodded to me; he was dressed in a rusty colored suit, and wore a sort of a jockey cap on his head.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bradley—Surratt was dressed rather rough, and wore something around his neck like a cravat; I met him between the printing office and the railroad; it was about four o'clock when I met him. Witness was questioned as to his testimony at the Military Commission, and said he had not told them anything of what he had said here to-day because he was not asked. Witness knew that Surratt was implicated in the conspiracy, but did not deem it necessary to mention the fact of having met him, because he knew Surratt and wanted to shield him if possible. I, however, told that Surratt came to my stable with Booth.

Question, Did you ever take a horse to break for me? Answer, Yes, sir.

Q. Did you sell him? Ans. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever give me any money for him? Ans. No, sir.

Q. You sold him without my authority? Ans. No, sir, I had your authority.

Q. Are you the same Dr. Cleaver who was convicted here of committing a rape upon a poor little girl, and in whose case a new trial has been granted?

Mr. Carrington objected. The witness was not bound to answer.

Witness declined to answer that question.

Mr. Carrington said that the question should not have been asked.

Mr. Bradley insisted he had a right to ask the question—the witness could answer or not, as he pleased.

Witness was asked where he was within the last three weeks, and he declined to answer, as it would tend to degrade him.

Q. Have you seen and spoken to Sanford Conover *alias* Chas. A. Dunham? Ans. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you tell Conover all about this? A. I did, sir. I told him pretty much what I said here.

Q. How did you happen to tell Conover? A. We were talking about the Surratt trial, and I told him about hiring horses to Surratt.

Q. Did Conover write down what you told him. Ans. He did not as I saw.

Q. Where did you see Conover? Ans. In this city at a house on Fourth street—the house has a lot around it and extends up to G street. Have told other parties besides Conover; told a man named Lewis, who was in my employ. I would not have told all about it now if it had not been for Sanford Conover.

Mr. Bradley said that was enough, but Mr. Pierrepont insisted that the witness should complete a statement he was making.

Witness said it was through Conover he was made a witness. Conover told what I told him, and a man came to the jail to see me. I was so mad at Conover I could have hit him over the head, and I did not talk to him for five or six days. I then talked to a man named Ashley, who came to see me about the case. Ashley was a short, stoutish man, and Conover told him about it. I told him all I tell here, but I failed to tell him many things, I fail to tell now. Saw Ashley at the jail, in Conover's company.

By Mr. Pierrepont—I understand that Mr. Ashley is a member of Congress. He came to the jail to see me.

By Mr. Bradley—I have not received promises of reward from any one for the testimony I should give.

Mr. Eddy Martin was sworn and examined by Mr. Pierrepont. Witness was a commercial broker, and in 1861 went to Richmond, Va. Witness was asked relative to a visit to Richmond, and asked permission to make an explanation, saying that Mr. Pierrepont had promised that opportunity should be afforded to order that witness might show that he was not there improperly. Witness then made a statement to the effect that he had visited Richmond with reference to the sale of some cotton and tobacco, and with the tacit consent of President Lincoln. Witness then testified that while at Port Tobacco, wanting to cross, he was detained by the guard employed a man named Andrew Atzerodt to get him across. Witness also saw Surratt at Port Tobacco; was introduced to him there, but had never seen him before that; he was not observed to speak with Atzerodt; this was between the 7th and 15th of January, 1865, and has not seen Surratt from that time till now; never saw either Surratt or Atzerodt on the other side of the river. After remaining at Port Tobacco ten days and not being able to cross the river, witness had an interview with Atzerodt, and scolded him on his inability and of helping other people to cross; Atzerodt denied it, but intimated that on the Wednesday night following a large party would cross; witness asked Atzerodt what he meant, and he said he could not say; witness came to the conclusion that a party of escaped Confederate officers were to cross, and gave the subject no more attention.

Lewis, a soldier, was sworn and examined by Mr. Pierrepont. Witness had charge of Howard's livery stable on G street, between 6th and 7th, in 1865; witness knew Booth, Atzerodt and Surratt; the latter put his horses at livery at the stable, and gave orders that Booth, but no one else, but himself should get the horses. Booth, Surratt and Atzerodt came to the stables together and sometimes separately; Surratt gave orders that Booth and none else should have the horses. Witness here produced a paper in Surratt's handwriting, and it was handed to the jury. It was a note dated March 20th, 1865, and was written by Surratt to witness, returning a team which he had hired, and requesting witness to let Booth have the team. [Sensation.] The order was offered in evidence. Witness resumed, and said he had seen Surratt ride out with Booth and Atzerodt; had received another note from Surratt, and also one from Mrs. Surratt. Witness was asked if he had had any conversation with Atzerodt about Surratt in April, 1865.

Mr. Bradley objected to the question, as the conversation related to a note which was not in court.

Mr. Pierrepont suggested that it would be best to postpone further investigation until the note was produced, and the Court thereupon took a recess until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

TEMPERANCE.

National Division of the Sons of Temperance.

WILMINGTON, DEL., June 20th.—The National Division of the Sons of Temperance met here yesterday. Delegates were present from all the States but one, and from the Canadas, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward's Island. Reports of officers, including the most worthy patriarch and most worthy scribe, were received. The Committee on Credentials reported, and other preliminary business was transacted. In the evening a grand welcome meeting was held at Temperance Hall, when William Silver, G. W. P., of Delaware, made the welcome address, which was responded to by John H. Stearns, M. W. P. of the National Division, who was followed by O. D. Wetmore, of New Brunswick; William E. McDonough and Edward Carswell, of Canada East, and others. The meeting adjourned about ten o'clock to another hall, where a grand collation was then provided by the friends of the order. The reports of the officers show a very encouraging condition of the order. A thorough reorganization has been effected throughout the South, except in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. The Most Worthy Patriarch advocated the carrying of temperance into politics, saying the question of voting against a drunkard or a drunkard's friend is not opinion, but of moral right and duty. He calls special attention to the contest between prohibition and license laws in Massachusetts and Maine. The session will probably continue several days. Among the questions discussed will probably be whether colored men shall be admitted as members of the order, the particular importance of the issue being desired from the great temperance feeling among the freedmen of the South.

NEWSPAPER CELEBRATION.

Inauguration of the Philadelphia Ledger Building.

PHILADELPHIA, June 20.—Geo. W. Childs, of the LEDGER, inaugurated the completion of a new establishment, this evening, by a splendid entertainment at the Continental Hotel. Nearly 200 gentlemen sat down. Mayor McMichael presided, and among the guests were Generals Meade, Patterson and Cadwallader; Governor Ward and Senator Cattell, of New Jersey; Mayor Hoffman and P. T. Barnum, of New York; Judge Kelley, and about 200 of the editorial fraternity, including delegations from New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Washington, Louisville, Cincinnati, Detroit, Richmond, and a large number from the interior of Pennsylvania. The building is the largest printing house in the Union, and is constructed in the shape of the letter E, and is located on the corner of Sixth and Chestnut streets. 81 feet on Chestnut street, 165 feet on Sixth, and 115 feet on the southern end portion of Chestnut street. The front is devoted to a branch of of A. T. Stewart's New York establishment. Every part of the LEDGER establishment is complete with regard to light, heating, ventilation and other comforts. The office and editorial rooms are finished splendidly. The composing room is on the upper floor, and by aid of a mansard roof has a height of twenty one feet, and is twenty three by one hundred and twenty seven feet. The main entrance is ornamented by a sculptured coat of arms of Pennsylvania, and over the doorway at the corner of the streets is a pedestal sustaining a statue of Franklin. In his right hand is a lightning-rod, which at night will emit gas jets. At the base of the pedestal is a public drinking fountain. The press-room is a model one, having 9,183 feet of space, and a height of over 25 feet. The room contains three Hoe's presses. The LEDGER will be issued from the new establishment next Monday. The New York and Boston was represented. When the repast was concluded and the music ceased, Mayor McMichael opened the speech-making, returning thanks on behalf of Mr. Childs for his guests, who had honored him with their presence. He also thanked Mr. Childs for erecting a building which was an ornament to Philadelphia. Joseph R. C. Chandler, formerly editor of the NORTH AMERICAN, Mayor Hoffman, of New York and General Meade spoke before the conclusion of the entertainment.

THE OLD WORLD.

SUN CABLE DISPATCHES.

News from England, Ireland, France and Turkey.

JOHN BULL AFTER THE TURKS

SENTENCE OF FENIAN PRISONERS.

FRANCE AS A PEACEMAKER.

A Turkish Ambassador for America.

&c., &c., &c.

John Bull After the Turks.

LONDON, June 20—Evening.—In the House of Commons this evening the Government was asked if it could give the House any information in regard to the cruelties alleged to have been practiced by Omar Pasha in the Island of Candia. Lord Stanley, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replied that his Government had received no official advices that such cruelties had been committed, and knew nothing more of the matter than had appeared in the public prints.

Sentence of Fenians.

DUBLIN, June 20.—The Special Commission in session at Limerick has concluded its labors. Several of the prisoners found guilty of treason have been sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for life.

France Wants to Stop a Fight.

PARIS, June 20—Evening.—The Marquis de Moustier, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has held a special conference with the Ministers of the United States and Spain. The meeting was called for the consideration of South American affairs, and it is said that the war now existing on the Rio de la Plate between the Allied South American powers and Paraguay was the principal topic discussed.

Turkey.

CONSTANTINOPLE, June 20.—Edouard Blacque Bey, the Ambassador of the Sublime Porte to the United States, departed from this city yesterday on his voyage to America.

FINANCIAL.

LONDON, June 20—Evening.—Consols have declined fully ½ per cent. since morning, and closed at 93¾ for money. American Securities—Railway shares are weaker, but United States bonds are steady and firm. The following are the closing rates: United States Five-Twenty bonds, 73; Illinois Central Railway shares, 79; Erie Railway shares, 39; Atlantic and Great Western Consolidated shares, 26.

FRANKFORT, June 20, Evening.—United States bonds closed at 77¾.

COMMERCIAL.

LIVERPOOL, June 20—Evening.—Cotton—The inactivity in cotton continued throughout the day, and the market closed dull at following quotations:

Middling Uplands.....11¼d
Middling Orleans.....11¾d

The sales of the day did not exceed 8,000 bales.

Breadstuffs—The Breadstuff market is irregular. Corn is 3d lower. Mixed Western was last quoted at 37s. 3d. per quarter. California Wheat closed firmer, with an improved tendency; quoted at 13s. 6d@13s. 9d. per central. Barley, 4s. 8d. Oats, 3s. 7d. Peas unchanged.

Provisions—American lard has declined to 78s. 9d. per cwt. Pork 74s. Beef 115s. 6d. Bacon 4s. 6d. for Cumberland cut middles.

Produce—Ashes have advanced to 30s. 6d. Rosin steady at 7s. for common Wilming ton and 12s. for fine American. Sperm tallow declined 3d, sales at 39s. 3d per cwt. Petroleum spirits 7d. and refined 1s. 2d. per gal. Tallow 45s. 3d for American.

LIVERPOOL, June 20—Evening.—Sugar—No. 12 Dutch standard quoted at 30s. Iron steady; Scotch pig 64s. per ton. Whale oil £41 10s. Linseed £42.

CRIME.

Lawlessness in the West—Lynching by Who esale—The Fitzgerald Rape at Sawyer Murder and Suicide of Lovers, &c., &c.

Crime is not confined to any locality, but its increase and horrors are more apparent in the Western cities and states than elsewhere. The Cincinnati TIMES of Monday reports a terrible case of murder, by a young man of his lady love and then his own suicide, at a place between Cincinnati and Warsaw. The following are the details:

Sarah Klein, one of the victims, is a young lady of 18, and a Catholic, while her lover was a Protestant, of 22 years of age, and an employee of a lard factory at Lock hav. The two had been acquainted for a number of years, and had been accepted lovers so far as they were themselves concerned, but Sarah's friends were opposed to the marriage, it is said, on theological grounds. Her father was an old settler in that region, and accumulated a considerable quantity of property, but recently died, leaving only Sarah, her mother and a brother, the three living together at the old homestead, which is located on the direct road leading from the Rapid Run turnpike to the Cleves turnpike.

Young Betz, the murderer and suicide, had often proposed to Sarah to become his wife, and repeated his proposal as late as yesterday morning; but she always stated that the opposition of those in whose charge she was, was an obstacle she could not for the time overcome. It apparently satisfied with this answer, and hoping for better days in the future, continued his visits clandestinely, having full confidence in her, and firmly believing, so far as the outside world knew, to her sincerity, though the tragedy of last evening would indicate that he had secret misgivings of her fidelity.

Last night, at about eight o'clock, Betz determined to visit Miss Klein, and, accordingly about dusk, started in the direction of her residence, near which place he arrived just about eight o'clock—arrived only to see her standing beside a young man, whose name we were unable to learn, apparently absorbed in a deep conversation. Betz had himself to watch the result, and just as the party was about leaving, Betz perceived certain appearances of endearment between him and Sarah, which he regarded as inconsistent with his claims to her hand and heart, and as soon as the party had left he (Betz) rushed to the gate and exclaimed:

"Sarah, who was that d—d etc., etc., who was was with you?"

She made some evasive reply, when he added:

"I'd like to know what business any one has to be with you except myself?"

Another evasive reply was made, and he followed after her with a drawn pistol, firing three times without effect, when she entered the house and closed the door, but he at once broke the lock, and discharged a fourth shot at her, which struck her in the back, and proved fatal in an instant.

No sooner did Betz perceive what he had done, than he ran out, apparently frantic, leaping several fences, and crossing the pike into a glass field owned by a Mr. Briggs, where he suddenly stopped, drew out his pistol again, and fired the remaining shot into his own head, scattering his brains about and killing himself almost instantly.

The intelligence of the fearful tragedy spread the country like wildfire, and soon a hundred or more of the neighbors were on hand to witness the dreadful sight, and learn the particulars of the tragedy. Had Betz failed to kill himself, he would, probably, have fallen a victim to the infuriated mob at once, but he was beyond the vengeance of man.

The mother of the girl was almost driven to distraction; she was taken from the floor in a senseless condition, she having fainted as soon as her daughter fell, while the brother of the unfortunate girl attempted more than once to put an end to his own life, so completely had he been driven to distraction by the occurrence of the moment.

The body of Betz was permitted to remain in the field, where he fell, till this morning, when the Coroner was informed of the matter, and started out to hold an inquest.

The foregoing is apparently bad enough, but it does not end the tale of horrors. It is well known that in parts of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, &c., mob law, otherwise lynch law, prevails to a great extent. Thieves and burglars have had such a long run that the people became aroused at length, and now they stop at nothing. When one of these unfortunate wretches falls into the hands of the mob, politely known as the Vigilance Committee, of any town or county his end is neither distant nor uncertain. The Omaha HERALD, of Sunday, 16th, reports the lynching of two men who were taken from the Farmers' Hotel, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and hung about eight miles south of the city the day previous. According to the reports, it appears that early on Friday morning a self-constituted Vigilance Committee entered the Farmers' Hotel, in Council Bluffs, and took by force from their beds two men who were registered guests at the Hotel, whose names were Wm. Lawn and F. W. Lawn. Hurrying them out of doors amidst cries of the victims of "Murder!" "Help!" they mounted them upon horses and conveyed them out of town to a place about 3 miles south of Council Bluffs, where their dead bodies were found on Saturday morning hanging to a tree. They were cut down and brought back to Council Bluffs to await the Coroner's inquest.

The cause of this horrible atrocity may be traced in the following circumstances:

It is some two years since a man by the name of Henderson was hung by a Vigilance Committee near Glenwood. These young men, the Lawns, recently returned from Bannock City to Glenwood, and while at the latter place made inquiry as to who it was that hung the man Henderson. The same day they came to the Bluffs and took lodgings at the Farmers Hotel, where they were taken, in defiance of all law, and murdered in cold blood in the manner above related.

The HERALD adds: We have given the leading circumstances connected with this lawless and murderous transaction, which is as disgraceful to the authorities of Council Bluffs as it is damnable and infamous in its perpetrators. Such a deed committed almost in open day—in a large and populous town, in spite of the loud cries of the murdered victims uttered in the very heart of it, as they were being borne from a public house by a band of ruffians, may well cause not only indignation among the good citizens of the neighboring city, but well-grounded alarms as well. How it could have occurred at all is the chief wonder. Only bold, bad men, aided by the utter cowardliness of officers of the law, could have succeeded in such a diabolical undertaking.

The Leavenworth (Kan.) REPUBLICAN, 15th, adds another to the list—a homicide in Platte county. It says:

Two men, said to be of bad repute, residing in Platte county, and named Milford Saunders and Marion Keller, recently or at least Marion Keller, had ordered the latter, to leave the country, for the reason that he (Keller) had informed on them for their evil doings. Keller, instead of leaving, got out a peace warrant, which was placed in the hands of Daniel Curran, a constable, who, with a posse of six or eight persons, went to make the arrests. Meeting the two together, near Farley, in Platte county, Curran ordered them to hold and hold up their hands. This Keller did, but Saunders placed his hands to his side, as if to draw a weapon, when Curran fired a pistol, the ball from which struck Saunders in the head, killing him instantly. A Coroner's jury took it upon themselves to pronounce the homicide justifiable, and Curran, who had surrendered himself promptly, was permitted to go unmolested.

Our readers can see for themselves from the above, how "justice reigns supreme" in these localities. The St. Joseph, Mo., HERALD, commenting on this in good spirit, says:

> Matters becoming so much worse of late in the West, and it is high time that means for their suppression should be vigorously enforced by those in authority. The telegraph yesterday gave the particulars of the horrible massacre of a couple of colored men, by a mob in Lawrence, at Wyandotte, Kansas. The negroes were charged with having robbed and murdered their former master. Evidence satisfactory to a mob, was produced, that they were innocent, and that the real guilty ones were leaders in the lynching party. To-day (8th) we have to record another case in which it seems probable that an innocent man was hurried into eternity at the hands of an infuriated mob. It will be remembered that the arrest of one Tom Little in St. Louis, was announ