THE RELEASE OF JEFF DAVIS.

Public Opinion Upon the Event.

Squabbles Among the Union Leagues, Radical Politicians and Republican Newspapers.

Smash Up of the Republican Party North and West.

&c. &c. &c.

[From the New York Times, May 28.]

We have not been inclined to concur in the harsh judgment passed by the republican press upon Mr. Greeley's act in volunteering to become the bondsman of Mr. Davis. The act itself has less significance and far less public importance than is generally ascribed to it. But the reasons by which Mr. Greeley seeks to justify himself for it touch the very essence of the whole rebellion. If those reasons are sound—if the war of the Revolution and the war of the late rebellion are analogous—then we have made a mistake in fighting Davis and his confederates at all.

[From the New York Nation.]

The expressions of feeling called forth by Mr. Greeley's performances at Richmond last week have been sufficiently strong and sufficiently numerous to warrant us in saying that, whatever difference of opinion there may be as to Mr. Greeley's motives, there is none at all as to the repulsiveness and inexpediency of his conduct. The majority of the republican papers ascribe his appearance as Davis' first bondsman to a love of notoriety which has been growing on him for some years, and which now finds expression in one way and now in another. * * But we do not need to show that in bailing Jefferson Davis he was actuated by any purely selfish motive in order to prove him guilty of that kind of blunder which, when committed by a man in his position, deserves almost as severe punishment as if it were a piece of sheer baseness. * * The struggle being now over, Mr. Greeley sets us the example of going to the South, not to relieve the sufferings of our late enemies—for this, as Christians, we are bound to do; nor yet to assure them of forgiveness and peace, for of this everybody sees the wisdom; but of testifying to them, by unasked and officious politeness, by offer of aid in escaping the legal consequences of their transgressions; by, in short, the usual marks of sympathy, esteem and respect, for this is what is meant by bailing a man out of jail when you have no personal acquaintance with him, and he neither asks nor needs your aid; that there has been nothing in their conduct to offend our consciences or lower them morally in our estimation. * * We have, as all our readers know, opposed all forms of persecution of the South. We have objected to confiscation and to the infliction of every other penalty not clearly called for to secure peace and good order. But, then, we believe in the existence of such a thing as national dignity, national self-respect and national conscience; and we say that a decent regard for these things makes Mr. Greeley's performances at Richmond—all except his speech, which was able and sensible—simply detestable, and calls for a more emphatic reprobation than they have yet received, although we have no doubt whatever as to the intensity of the disgust with which the public generally regards them.

[From the New York Independent.]

Jefferson Davis ought to have been tried long, long ago. His protracted detention in prison, without a trial, justly brought reproach upon the government. This reproach is now fearfully increased by his discharge on bail. It was hitherto supposed that the government, being either not ready or not willing to bring him to trial, had no other alternative than to continue him in custody. It now seems, however, that the prisoner might have been released at any time within the last two years, if only the officers of the law had bethought themselves of admitting him to bail. Can any good reason be assigned why he should have been bailed a few days ago rather than a few weeks ago, or a few months ago, or a year and a half ago? None! But he never should have been bailed at all! Does not everybody know that men charged with far less heinous crimes are not admitted to bail? Are small criminals to be denied the privilege of bail, and great criminals to enjoy it? If a man who robs a bank must remain in jail till his trial, shall a man who levies war against the government, fires hotels, starves prisoners and slaughters half a million of his fellow men, be obsequiously invited to put on a pair of green kid gloves, take a new hat and cane, and step out of prison to receive the congratulations of his friends? Our sense of justice revolts at such a proceeding. We grant that Mr. Davis should not have been incarcerated for an undue term without a trial. No apology can be made for the government's unusual and unjust delay in arraigning him before its bar. But to admit him to bail, like the commonest of culprits, is a mockery of justice—a confusion of moral distinctions—a national disgrace. Nothing in the punishment of Mr. Davis as a state prisoner, thus far, shows him to have been guilty of any greater crime than picking a pocket, or committing assault and battery. To say that treason is a bailable offence is next to saying that it is no offence at all. The greatest law breaker of modern times shocks the civilized world by his crimes, fills the land with mourning, darkens the nation's history with his shadow, and yet the sum total of his guilt is roundly estimated by the law at $100,000! This man stands charged with connivance at the murder of Abraham Lincoln. Has any other man so charged been so bailed? Why not release John H. Surratt on similar terms? As both men are charged with the same offence, and as neither has yet been brought to trial, why should not both be treated alike? In view of all the circumstances we have found it impossible to regard the release of Mr. Davis as other than a hideous blunder. We have no words adequate to express our mingled regret, indignation and scorn at the act. Some of the principal actors in it are men whom we personally love and revere. Of course they have acted from the noblest and purest of motives; they are incapable of acting from any other. But they have, nevertheless, lent their countenance to a proceeding which, in our judgment, is as great a disgrace as has fallen upon the nation since the public drunkenness of Andrew Johnson on the day of his inauguration as Vice President.

[From the New York Evening Post—Rep.]

Jefferson Davis, instead of being put to the experience of a turn in Libby Prison, where, in the days of his treason, he tortured to death so many better men than himself, has been suffered to go at large without even the form of a legal inquiry into his conduct. The clause of the constitution which defines treason against the country, and the laws of Congress which prescribe the proper punishment of treason, are made a dead letter. For all that appears, the crime of treason is henceforth as safe to commit in the United States as speculation is in New York city. This is the construction which is forced upon the case by the fact that the first use which the bonded traitor proposes to make of his enlargement is to go at once to a foreign country, beyond the reach of our laws.

As he leaves the country with the connivance of his bondsmen it is plain that they consider the bailment a mere matter of form, a farce, and that they have no expectation of being called upon to pay the $100,000 as the ransom of a traitor. Their desire to sign the bond is only for the sake of having their names enrolled for posterity as those who gladly did all in their power to procure his exemption from the penalty of law. Let them have their reward.

To Mr. Greeley was accorded the proud satisfaction of putting his name at the head of the list of bondsmen. He doubtless looks upon it as the culmination of his long continued efforts in behalf of the rebellion. It will compensate all his disappointments in regard to the payment for the slaves, the surrender of the South to the rebellion, the peace negotiations in Canada, the permanent recognition of the government at Richmond. He could not do what he would, but he has gladly done what he could. He has at least preserved his consistency to the end.

[From the Albany Evening Journal—Rep.]

The Union League Club of New York has given Horace Greeley notice of its intention to "inquire into" his conduct in becoming bondsman for Jeff Davis. While we appreciate the ridiculousness and absurdity of this proceeding, there seems to be peculiar justice in its application. This pompous and arrogant club * * * was never so arrogant, never so unjust, never so ridiculous, but that it found in the *Tribune* a ready advocate for its greatest assumptions and a bitter assailant of all whom it denounced. It is withal a little satisfactory, therefore, to find that Mr. Greeley has himself come within the ban of "suspects," and that the Committee of Safety has been directed to hold inquest upon his political virtues. If they shall record against him the verdict, "mene, mene, tekel," he may perhaps be able to judge how he would have felt had he been an honest member of the last Legislature.

[From the Buffalo Express—Rep.]

The Albany *Evening Journal* denounces Union League organizations as "prone to become arrogant and overbearing, substituting caprice for reason, and putting arbitrary dictation in the stead of individual judgment." The occasion of this bitter piece of scolding is the fact that the Union League Club of New York disapproves of Mr. Greeley becoming bondsman for the high priest of treason. It is the *Journal's* business, not ours, that it does not favor such organizations, but it is our duty, as it is the duty of every other member of that organization, to repel such defamatory assaults as are made upon it by our cotemporary. We care not what the *Journal* may think of them, the Union Leagues of the State of New York and the United States are as patriotic, high-minded and unselfish organizations as have ever been known to the political history of this country, and what is more, they have imparted an efficiency and power to our political contests that have magnified our victories and secured results that could not have been reached without them.

[From the White Plains (Westchester county, N. Y.) Journal—Dem.]

* * * At last the rebel confederacy succumbed to the overwhelming numbers and vastly superior resources of the North, and Jefferson Davis became a prisoner of war and Horace Greeley was at large. Had Providence permitted the issue to have eventuated the other way Horace Greeley would probably have been a prisoner and Jefferson Davis would have been hailed as the greatest and most successful chieftain of his age. How success or defeat changes the relative positions of men! Had the rebel confederacy proved a success, Jefferson Davis would doubtless have permitted Horace Greeley and his chief co-operators in the work of producing the conflict to have gone at large on their simple parole, or, at all events, on their own recognizance.

Had it not been for Greeley there would have been no republican party; had there been no republican party there would have been no "irrepressible conflict;" had there been no "irrepressible conflict" there would have been no secession, no war, no rebel confederacy, no Jefferson Davis as chief and President of such rebel confederacy, no Jefferson Davis as a prisoner of war, held for two years, charged with treason against the government of the United States and awaiting trial. It is appropriate, then, it is right and just, that Horace Greeley, the great disorganizer of the country, should at the last come to the rescue of his victim.

[From the Portland Argus—Dem.]

We are asked "How long the *Argus* has been one of Greeley's champions." We answer:—Ever since he left the company of his evil disposed radical brethren, and had the manhood to pursue a generous, liberal course, in spite of the "deluge of mud" which he knew he would be required to face. Mr. Greeley's fracas has far greater significance than that of the quarrel between an individual and his club. *It is another dissention in the ranks of the radical party.* As excitement and hot blood have given place to calm, serious reflection, the doctrine of undying hate is becoming distasteful to many, who perceive it underlying the thin veneering of patriotism which is to make it presentable to well disposed men. Mr. Greeley does not stand alone. He has many followers and worshippers, who only need to hear his slogan, and they follow him into the fight.

[From the Portland (Me.) Evening Star—Rep.]

The recent scene at Richmond in which Mr. Greeley participated has no equal in the history of America, unless it be the part which "the little villain," editor of the *Times*, took in the weeping scene at the wigwam in Philadelphia last summer. Greeley can learn from the experience of Raymond how much capital is made by the performers at such menageries, and not count so loosely when he seeks applause merely for its own sake. If Jeff Davis is to be released under bail we object to Mr. Greeley's stealing the livery and thunder of Sanders, Pendleton, Beverly Tucker, Heister Clymer, Vallandigham, the Seymours and August Belmont. We protest against this philanthropic and patriotic (?) action on the part of Mr. Greeley, who seeks to make himself an accomplice after the fact to the assassination—if not of Lincoln to that of tens of thousands at Belle Isle, Libby and Andersonville—and his doing it by virtue of his editorship of a newspaper (to which abler men than he, have given the character it enjoys)—a paper supported by the loyal millions of the North, and which stands in some sense as the organ of the republican party; we object to his dragging the party down, by implication, to the base level he seeks to, for his own aggrandizement.

[From the Boston Advertiser—Rep.]

Mr. Greeley is, no doubt, quite right in maintaining that for him to sign the bail bond of Jefferson Davis was no more than should have been expected. This act, although it had some of the freshness of a new discovery in folly, seemed to us no more remarkable, and was certainly less mischievous than some of his previous eccentricities—and it is true, moreover, that ample warning had been given of it.

[From the Hartford Times—Dem.]

We do not propose to interfere with this quarrel. It grows out of the despotism of the radical party, and the determination of that party to perpetuate a divided Union, though free institutions are sacrificed and the business men of the country are ruined. With the national debt increasing—government expenditures more lavish and foolish than in any imperial government—the "War Department" controlling the people and civil liberty staggering to a disgraceful fall—it is not surprising that such breaks as this one between Horace Greeley and the "Union Leagues" should occur. They tell us of the dissolution of the radical party and encourage the belief that power will return to the hands of the people.

[From the Newark, N. J., Advertiser—Rep.]

It is especially to be lamented in such an exigency as ours, laboring as we are under the defection of the executive head of the country from all those principles which he was entrusted to vindicate, that the great party of the country, which has saved it once, and which (if necessary) must save it again, should be distracted and disturbed by the eccentricities of any of its chosen leaders.

Pride himself as he may on the clear consistency of his individual course, Mr. Greeley cannot but see that his coquetting with the heads of the rebellion at this very critical period in the political history of the country must tend to divide the energies of the great republican party, and, therefore, must tend to evil unmitigated. Holding the position he does, he has no right to allow his individual whims to be the means of disseminating discord or demoralizing in any way the only organization to which the country looks for prosperity and strength.

[From the Trenton (N. J.) State Gazette—Rep.]

The mere signing of the bond by Mr. Greeley was of little consequence, as hundreds of sufficient men stood ready to take his place. Had this aspect of the case continued unchanged our opinion would have been unchanged; but Mr. Greeley has himself presented a very different view. In his first article of defiance to all who dared to criticise his course he alleged that the counsel of Jeff Davis thought that in order to insure the liberation of their client it was necessary that some prominent Northern republican should join in giving the bail. If this is true—if the signature of Mr. Greeley to the bond was the means of liberating Davis—then the case is presented in a very different light, and Greeley is responsible for the liberation of the leading traitor. In this aspect his course scarcely admits of defence.

[From the Philadelphia Age—Dem.]

Chief Justice Chase or Judge Underwood can call back Mr. Jefferson Davis for a trial before them at their own pleasure. If they do not do so it is because they and their political advisers have concluded that it is not politic to do so—that no political capital can be made by it. We believe this has been substantially the result of their long and anxious deliberation on the subject. They have put off the trial term after term, in hopes that the prisoner might obtain his release from President Johnson. On that they could have raised a cry—of that they could have made some capital. Failing in that, the radical chief and the radical associate were compelled to get rid of the case by bailing the prisoner. They will never call him up again. This we do not say invidiously. It is, we believe, the general sentiment of the whole American people that a trial of Jefferson Davis for a political crime at this late day would be discreditable to us as a nation. * * * At any rate, if anybody wanted to try him, there has been ample chance to do so, and he is still under bonds to appear when called for. Chief Justice Chase was made to express surprise at the course of Judge Underwood; but this was of course a little bit of political clap-trap, for the same telegraph could have carried an order for the bail of Mr. Davis to produce him in court the next morning, or any other time that would suit the Chief Justice's convenience. But the Chief Justice did not then, and has not since, shown the slightest inclination to proceed further in the case, and we shall, in all human probability, hear no more of it in his or any other court.

[From the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin—Rep.]

Mr. Greeley's silly behavior at Richmond has recoiled upon him, not only from Union Square, but from all parts of the country. The republican press everywhere, upon which he assumes to look down with such sublime contempt, has passed its verdict upon him, and he feels it. It has cut him to the quick and put him in a rage. It has betrayed him to the people in his real character as a petulent, supercilious and overbearing individual, with an utter contempt for all opinions but his own, and inflated with the insane idea that he can accomplish that impossible feat of swimming against the tide of the fixed opinions and instincts of the American people. Mr. Greeley, albeit nearly sixty years old, has not yet learned that no man, not even Horace Greeley, is essential in this country. His absurd denunciations of the best men of his own party will not hurt them, but will damage him beyond repair. * He forms a party of his own in his devotion to Jeff Davis, and will do no harm.

The argument of Mr. Greeley is simply that because Jefferson Davis had been imprisoned for two years without a trial, he was entitled to be released on bail. Granting all this, still the act of Horace Greeley in proceeding to Richmond and becoming surety for the traitor could only be tolerated by an imperative need growing out of a scarcity of bail-goers. The philosopher of the *Tribune* stigmatized his old associates of the New York Union League as "narrow minded blockheads" because they could not perceive the wisdom of the propriety of the course pursued by Mr. G. If this opinion proves a man to be a "narrow minded blockhead" the entire republican party must be composed of just such ninnies, for we have yet to hear of a single individual outside the copperhead ranks who does not hold precisely this opinion.

[From the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph—Rep.]

One result of the great excitement which has been caused by the release of Jeff Davis on bail will probably be that the government will be forced to bring him to trial next fall. Davis is now released on bail, to make his appearance at court to answer to the charge of treason. We have no doubt that he will be forthcoming at the specified time. * * * But what if convicted? He would not necessarily be punished. The Executive could interfere and commute the sentence or pardon him outright. Mr. Johnson's action in the premises in such a contingency could not be foretold. It would depend very much on his judgment of political consequences. He is cold-blooded enough to hang without mercy, and crafty enough to pardon without cause. But whatever his action might be the law would at least have triumphed. We should be spared the national mortification of an apparent inability to stamp as legally treasonable the great attempt made to overthrow the government by the rebellion.

[From the Oil City (Pa.) Republican.]

* * The fiend of Andersonville suffered for cruelty to prisoners of war. Mrs. Surratt and the conspirators suffered for the assassination of the lamented Lincoln. But in the person of him who was not only the cause of these crimes, but also the exponent and acknowledged head of the entire rebellion, treason itself could have been immediately punished and an example made as a warning to future generations. But he is now at large, and poor John Brown for a comparatively trivial crime dangled at a rope's end. He who has brought desolation to the fairest portion of our territory, threatened our cities and villages with fire and sword, almost destroyed the government of our fathers and brought death in some most dreadful shape to every home in the land, is received by his friends as a guest in the metropolis which he threatened to destroy by the torch of the incendiary. This action upon the part of the authorities will be heard by the loyal people of the country with the deepest regret, and by the soldiers of the war with indignation.

[From the Norristown (Pa.) Herald and Free Press—Rep.]

Horace Greeley says he went to Richmond and gave his name as bondsman for Jefferson Davis because, in the opinion of his counsel, it was necessary to do so, and "because the anti-republican names so abundantly proffered would not answer as well." He makes this statement to contradict the repeated assertion that he was "not wanted." But it matters little what his reason may have been in going bail for the head of the rebellion. Mr. Greeley did an act that is and will continue to be reprobated by republicans generally, and approved of by copperheads everywhere. Comment is unnecessary.

[From the Aroostook (Me.) Times—Rep.]

We should not be surprised to learn of subscriptions in circulation at an early day among the rebels and rebel sympathizers, to procure a splendid estate, to be presented to the ex-President of the "lost cause," as a testimonial of gratitude for his vain efforts. Mr. Davis would lead a triumphal march through the South were it not for the "military despotism" down there.

A Mississippi paper says:—"The Mississippians are inaugurating a movement to raise means to purchase a home for Mr. Davis at the capital of the State."

[From the Charles City (Iowa) Intelligencer—Rep.]

From every quarter of this great country the cry arises, Jefferson Davis is free! with only a suspension of a small sum of money; small in comparison to the guilt, but a large sum in comparison to the worth of the principal. The only solution of this question that we can think of is, what next? It is reasonable to presume at least, from what has already occurred, that Greeley & Co. will call a convention of abolition leaders to nominate the Hon. Jefferson Davis for President of the United States, since he failed in connection with the *de facto* confederacy. What next? Are we to have a new political party, with Davis, Chase and Greeley at the head, followed by no lesser stars in the great tableaux than Gerritt Smith, John Minor Botts, Augustus Schell and Judge Underwood, with many smaller fry, such as L. H. Chandler, Joseph Segar and Judge Lyon? * * * What may we not expect after such a wondrous change has come over some of our leading radicals and Southern Union men? The graves of our dead patriots, numbered by thousands, cry out in horror at the damning act of injustice to their honor and glory, while millions of citizens and thousands of comrades cry out in tones anything but complimentary to this last disgusting, disgraceful act of the powers that be. It is hardly reasonable to place faith in any man now in relation to the punishment of Jefferson Davis.

[From the Same.]

HORACE GREELEY.

This quiet town was startled the other morning with something more than a casual occurrence. It was shocked with the disgraceful news, that Davis was free. But still more disgusting did the news seem, when it was known that the acknowledged leader of republicanism in the North—Horace Greeley—hand in hand with Gerrit Smith, John Minor Botts and others, had managed and contrived to secure the release of the arch traitor Davis from custody and enable him to roam at large, a damning evidence of the injustice shown by our government towards the thousands of brave patriots who fell in the defence of our country. What are we to think of Horace Greeley for this last act of friendship towards a man who would have gloried in seeing New York in flames, and our glorious Union severed in fragments and humiliated in the estimation of every nation on the face of the earth? We doubt if words can convey or express the indignation that every lover of his country will manifest towards the imbecility of the government officials and the puny aspirant for anti-Union glory. Every soldier and every true American citizen should discountenance Horace Greeley and his companions by word, act and deed. The *Tribune* should be forbidden admission in every household, as a miserable sheet, unworthy of the patronage of any good Union citizen.

[From the Toledo Blade—Rep.]

Referring to the denial of Mr. Greeley that he had ridden in the coach with Jeff Davis to the New York Hotel, the *Blade* says:—"Why should Mr. Greeley be so sensitive? His name stands in close proximity to Davis' on a bail bond, and the ex-President was congratulated by the white coated philosopher upon his happy release. Indeed, so anxious was he to couple his name with that of the rebel chief, in some way, that he took the trouble to go all the way to Richmond to elbow out of the way the horde of rebels who desired to go upon the bond. We do not understand why, after all this, he should make haste to deny that he was in one of the carriages which conveyed Jeff Davis to the New York Hotel."

Mr. Horace Greeley has always claimed to be a lover of his kind. As he is just now engaged in vituperating republicans, and is performing offices for a perjured murderer such as only bosom friends perform for each other, it is not difficult to understand which "kind" he desires to be understood as loving. We prefer the other kind.

[From the Detroit Free Press—Dem.]

Can Mr. Greeley expect to allay the evil spirits which he has all his life labored to raise? Does he not already discover to his cost that he resembles the luckless amateur in the legend? Like Gerrit Smith, Garrison and a few other surviving original abolitionists, Greeley belongs to a school which has nothing in common with the present generation of radicals. However misguided, they were honest and good men, ready to prove their faith by their works. They wished to do away with slavery, not to spite their Southern brethren, but really to benefit the African. Their love for the blacks was not inspired by lust for office and power. They lived in days when philanthropy did not pay; when no commissions in the army, no fat contracts or sinecures rewarded negrophilism. On the contrary, the penitentiary, the whipping post, the fence rail, tar and feathers, and often death itself were the only returns they could expect. Are the Loyal Leaguers of New York or Philadelphia men of that stamp? Is the radical party composed of men of that stamp? How long would the Butlers, Forneys, Kelleys, &c., take an interest in the negro if such were to be their only reward? Poor Horace!

[From the Detroit Post—Rep.]

People will laugh at some of Greeley's humanitarian "splurges." But if he is to revenge himself by bringing back into the United States Mason, Slidell, Breckinridge, Thompson and all the little and big rascals in Europe and the Canadas whom we have once happily got rid of, really that will be carrying the thing a trifle too far; and people that now only laugh, or that condemn without anger, will vigorously curse the *Tribune* and its editor. We beg of Horace to be content with having helped to free Jeff Davis, and not attempt to bring back into our midst all the traitors travelling abroad. There are still people who believe that treason is a crime and should be made odious, if Greeley does not; and he is likely to stir up a storm about his ears to which the present flurry is nothing, if he attempts to procure the return of all the exiled scoundrels of the rebellion. Six years ago the 21st of May, Jefferson Davis promulgated an act compelling Southern debtors to contribute the amount of their Northern obligations to the rebel treasury. To-day, Jefferson Davis is free to walk unharmed among the men he robbed, and who are taking money from their pockets to feed the famished victims of his accursed ambition.

[From the Ohio State Journal—Rep.]

It seems to us the republican brethren are giving unnecessary prominence to H. G.'s last little weakness. If H. G can't be permitted to make an ass of himself occasionally, in a strictly private and personal capacity, what is all the circulation of the *Tribune* worth to a man? His eccentricities used to expend themselves in the wearing of cast-off clothes, which he bought of the *chiffoniers* and paid for in waste paper.

[From the Xenia (Ohio) Torchlight—Rep.]

What call was there for Horace Greeley at Richmond the other day when Jeff Davis was brought up from Fortress Monroe and brought into court? How was he connected with the case on either side or in any way? What right had he to presume to thrust himself into a United States' court and advise the judge what to do? The judge had no proper appreciation of his own dignity, or of the dignity of his court, or else he would have had Mr. Horace Greeley led by the ear to the door and kicked out into the street.

[Chicago Post (rep.) New York correspondence.]

The general feeling—outside of the ranks of traitors and copperheads—is one of deep and utter indignation at his release by the government. It is felt as an outrage upon every principle of justice and a bitter insult to the memories of the brave men who gave their lives to save their country from the treason which Davis inaugurated. Now that country, by releasing the great arch traitor, virtually writes over the graves of these men—"Died as the fool dieth." I have not met with a Union soldier since the traitor's enlargement who does not denounce it with the most indignant emphasis. At a meeting of one of the divisions of the "Grand Army of the Republic," held in our city two evenings ago, an address was adopted expressive of this indignation. They regard his release on bail as equivalent to his discharge, and therefore criminal; and that the popular expression concerning the act proves that the people are more nearly right than some who assume to be their leaders. Mr. Greeley's connection with the matter excites general comment. Many of his most ardent admirers regret it, to say the least.

[From the Chicago Republican—Rep.]

Jefferson Davis has escaped a trial, but cannot elude punishment. He is fleeing through the country, nominally on bail, but virtually a fugitive.

[From the Evansville (Ind.) Journal.]

The important event of the current month has been the release of the arch-traitor, Jeff Davis. The most noticeable personage connected with that affair, after the leading character, the rebel chief, was Horace Greeley, the philosophic editor of the New York *Tribune*. Mr. Greeley deemed the case of sufficient importance for him to descend from his editorial tripod and hasten away to Richmond to act as bondsman to the much-abused ex-President.

[From the Lynchburg Virginian.]

It is represented that there is some squirming in certain quarters at the release of Mr. Davis on bail. Poor Greeley, whom we have always regarded as a kind-hearted gentleman, capable of a good deed when left to his better impulses, has been brought to bay by the radical bloodhounds, and has even been compelled to quote the Lynchburg *Virginian* in his defence. We wish that he had always been guided by the rule of safe precedents to the extent necessary to secure the endorsement and support of his old whig confreres.

[From the Colorado Times.]

There is something magnanimous in the act of Horace Greeley becoming one of the bail for Jefferson Davis. The very extremes meet—the one to render and the other to receive an act of noble kindness. Despite the great fanaticism of Mr. Greeley, he has at least a human heart beating within his bosom, which incites him to assist a fellow being, even though a foe; a mind that teaches him justice, by which he knows that Mr. Davis is entitled to a trial by the laws of his country, or his liberty should not that trial be granted.

The Denver *Tribune* is very severe on Horace Greeley—thinks he was governed by a "sickly sentimentality" in going bail for Davis; recalls the horrors of the Libby Prison as a reason why Jeff Davis should have a taste of them, and is altogether dissatisfied that Mr. Davis is out on bail.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Navy Department has despatches from Commander E. Simpson, dated April 26, announcing the arrival of the United States steamer Mohican, under his command, at Callao, Peru, after nine days' passage from San Francisco. She would proceed from that place to Panama.

Rear Admiral Dahlgren, commanding the South Pacific Squadron, communicates to the Department, under date of May 1, at sea, a statement of the stations of the squadron at that date, and also the locations of other United States ships in that jurisdiction and of foreign ships of war on the coast.

The Powhatan, flag ship, was at sea *en route* from Callao to Panama.

The Tuscarora was engaged in a cruise to the Fejee Islands.

The Dakota was cruising on the coast in the vicinity of Valparaiso.

The Wateree was at Panama.

The Nyack was at Callao repairing her boilers.

The Fredonia, store ship, was at Callao.

Of the vessels belonging to the North Pacific Squadron, the Resaca was at sea, on her passage from Callao to Panama, and the Mohican was at Callao.

The following French ships of war were at Callao:—Belligerena, flag ship; iron clad Venus, screw frigate and marine store ship. The Talisman, screw steamer, was at sea, on her passage from Callao to Panama.

The English ship-of-war Zealous, flag ship, iron-clad, was at Callao, and the Topaz, screw frigate, and Reindeer were at Valparaiso.

Rear Admiral Thatcher, commanding the North Pacific squadron, under date "Off Panama, May 4," reports the arrival of the United States steamer Saranac, used temporarily as a flagship, at that place, having left San Francisco bay on March 16, since when he had visited the following ports, viz:—Monterey, Cal.; Magdalena Bay, Lower Cal.; Mazatlan, Mexico; La Paz, Lower Cal.; San Blas, Mexico; Acapulco, Mexico; La Union, San Salvador; San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, and Punta Arenas, Costa Rica.

The United States steamer Wateree was at Panama, under command of Lieutenant Commander Mullow, her late commander, Leonard Paulding, having died a few days previous to the arrival of the Saranac.

The Resaca, Commander Bradford, and the Powhatan, Rear Admiral Dahlgren, also arrived at Panama on the 4th instant.

Rear Admiral Thatcher would sail for San Francisco in about a week from the date of his report, touching at Acapulco *en route*.

The Resaca would remain to look out for our interests until relieved.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Recent and Important Views of the Secretary of the Treasury—Increase of the Public Debt Unavoidable.

The Secretary of the Treasury having been invited by certain prominent citizens of Boston to accept the compliment of a public dinner in that city, makes a long reply, in which he regrets his inability to visit New England at present, and makes the following remarks upon the present financial situation (May 23):—

I need not assure you, gentlemen, that it shall be my earnest purpose to continue to so administer my office as to justify the confidence you have so generously given me. You must not expect, however, that our monthly statements for the rest of the present and the early part of the next fiscal year will be as satisfactory as they have been for many months past. The donations or bounties to soldiers, preparations for a threatening Indian war, even if the war itself should be avoided, and very liberal appropriations of a miscellaneous character will cause unusually heavy drafts to be made upon the treasury; while, on the other hand, the general failure of the wheat crop and the partial failure of the corn crop last year, slow progress in the restoration of the Southern States to their proper relations with the federal government, the dulness of trade throughout the country—partly the result of a decrease of production and partly of the natural reaction which always follows periods of excitement and speculation—together with reduced taxes, will very considerably affect our revenues. This combination of adverse circumstances may retard a return to specie payments, and with large issues of bonds to be made to the Pacific Railroad and its branches or divisions, will prevent for a brief season a reduction of the public debt, and may even render a temporary increase of it unavoidable; but it will not weaken my faith in our ability to move on again in the right direction at an early day. On the contrary, I believe that this check to our progress will lead to improvements in our revenue laws and to an increase of efficiency in their execution, hasten the representation in Congress of the Southern States, and secure greater economy in all branches of the public service.

Some surprise may exist that I have not for some months past reduced the circulation of United States notes according to the authority conferred upon me by Congress; and an inference may be drawn from it that my opinion upon the subject of contraction has undergone a change. Permit me to say, therefore, that I am as much persuaded as ever of the importance of an early return to specie payments, and of a reduction of the currency, as a means of checking extravagance and speculation and of increasing production, without which all efforts to restore permanently the specie standard will be ineffectual. What the country needs, in order that specie payments may be resumed and maintained, and real prosperity secured, is an increase of industry and a restoration of our former habits of economy. As a people, among ourselves, we must earn more and spend less. In our trade with foreign nations we must sell more or buy less. Any different prescription for existing financial evils is in my judgment quackery. That contraction will tend to bring about this desirable condition of things I have never doubted, but I have nevertheless suspended the reduction of the circulation of United States notes, and for the following reasons, either of which would perhaps have justified my course, and all of which have had more or less influence in determining it.

First.—The views of a majority of the members of Congress, as indicated by a number of votes last winter, were adverse to immediate contraction, and I have not felt at liberty to place myself in practical opposition to the law-making branch of the government, without whose support I must be powerless.

Second.—There have existed for some months past anxious forebodings of financial troubles, and while they continued I have been apprehensive that a contraction of the currency, the object and effect of it being misunderstood or misinterpreted, might produce a panic in the commercial cities, which, extending over the country and beyond the speculative interests, would injuriously affect legitimate business and the revenue dependent upon it.

Third.—Large amounts of interest-bearing notes are to be paid or converted within the present and next fiscal year, to which it seemed prudent for me first to direct my attention, leaving the question of a curtailment of the circulating notes to be determined, from month to month, by the condition of the country and of the Treasury.

Fourth.—Anticipating that the failure of the crops and the other circumstances alluded to would seriously affect business, I have considered it important that the public mind should not be diverted, by the criticisms and complaints of those who are opposed to contraction, from the real causes of trouble—that a sound policy should not be put in peril by being made the "scapegoat" for evils resulting from different causes.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

A. G. Hazard, of Connecticut, and C. Wendell and L. M. Closs, of Washington, are stopping at the Astor House.

Captain Judkins of the steamer Scotia, and C. H. Neilson, of St. Johns, N. B., are stopping at the St. Julien Hotel.

Joaquin Fernandez, of Costa Rica; Señor d'Antas, of Portugal; John E. Atkins, of Boston and J. H. Stevens, of Montreal, are stopping at the Brevoort House.

Rev. E. L. Magoon, of Albany; Dr. Ingersoll, of St. Paul, Minn.; Paymaster Caswell, of the United States Navy, and James Waterlow, of London, England, are stopping at the St. Denis Hotel.

P. C. Hanbury, J. E. Kew, W. L. Booker, Captain Seymour, Peter Penn Gaskell, of London, England, are stopping at the Clarendon Hotel.

Dr. George B. Graff, of New York, and R. C. Winthrop, of Boston, are stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Judge Neilson, of the Supreme Court; Judge Erskine, of Georgia; Pierre Richards, of Louisiana; Judge Miller, of Hudson, N. Y.; E. H. Smith, of Boston; Mayor Flagg, of Troy, and Gen. J. Meredith Reid, of Albany, are stopping at the Hoffman House.

J. M. Campbell, of Rhode Island, and H. D. Lockwood, of Boston, are stopping at the St. James Hotel.

General J. W. Fisher, of Pennsylvania; Lieutenant T. M. Fisher, of the Twenty-third Infantry; C. D. O'Sullivan, of California; G. F. Arbster, of Paris; D. G. Thomas, of the United States Army, and G. N. Henderson, of Paris, are stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Governor Burnside, of Rhode Island, was inaugurated for his second term yesterday.

Senator Morrill and Representative Morrill, of Congress, have both gone to Europe.

Ex-Governor Isham Harris, of Tennessee, is now a commission merchant in Liverpool.

Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, now Representative of one of the Minnesota districts in Congress, is talked of as Senator Ramsay's successor.

Rev. Mr. Lynch, Roman Catholic Bishop of Canada, lies ill at the Episcopal residence in Buffalo.

Ex-Governor Wells, of California, will make New Orleans his home.

General A. S. Hartwell, of Natick, Mass., now in the Legislature, it is reported, intends to settle in Mobile to practice law.

Ex-President Jeremiah Day, of New Haven, now in his ninety-third year, is very low, and will probably never be able to leave his house again. He is the oldest college president living in this country, if not in the world.

The Florida correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* says that Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe has three hundred acres of land near Jacksonville, which she planted with orange orchards.

Gen. John B. Gordon, late of the Confederate army, was at Atlanta, Ga., on the 24th instant.

Major General George H. Thomas is in Washington.

Hon. Mr. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, is announced to speak in Leesburg, Va., on Friday evening.

A brother of Governor Orr, of South Carolina, Colonel John Amaziah Orr, of Columbus, Miss., an ex-Colonel of the rebel army and ex-Senator to the Confederate Congress, is one of the leaders of the radicals in his State, and will possibly be their candidate for Governor.

A freedman named Lenkhorn is a candidate in Fluvanna county, Va., for Delegate to the State Convention.

General D. N. Couch, of Massachusetts, it is said, has been elected and accepted the Presidency of a mining and manufacturing company that has recently purchased sixty square miles of mineral land in Virginia.

General Wade Hampton contributes regularly to the *Freedman's Journal*, a colored organ, published in Charleston, S. C.

Governor R. J. Oglesby, of Illinois, has convened the Illinois Legislature in extra session.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax is lecturing in Iowa.

Governor Fletcher, of Missouri, is going to Tennessee this summer to take an active part in the approaching political campaign in that State.

Hon. Thomas A. R. Nelson is stumping Tennessee in behalf of the democracy.

Ex-President Millard Fillmore, the Governors of Indiana and North Carolina, Judge Curtis, of the United States Supreme Court, and other distinguished public men, have accepted invitations to be present at the Clay statue inauguration in Louisville to-morrow.

Ex-member of Congress Riddle, of Ohio, has been engaged to assist the United states District Attorney in the Surratt case. Mr. Bingham declined to give his services.

A subscription to buy a property for John C. Breckinridge is to be started in Tennessee.

List of Americans registered in Paris for the week ending May 17, 1867:—From New York—Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Spiegelberg, Mr. J. McCall, Mr. W. S. Wyckoff, Mr. A. W. Colgate, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Rand, Miss Chadwick, Mr. L. R. Lyon and family, Mr. H. H. Johnson, Mr. W. A. Stimson, Mr. H. Stanfield, Mr. J. M. Schermerhorn and family, Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Ray, Miss F. H. Whiting, Mr. H. E. Hoy, Mr. R. T. Rhum, Mr. C. J. Martin, Mr. E. F. Holbrook, Mr. H. W. Johnson, Mr. D. D. Vail, Mr. T. A. Howell, Mr. C. D. Adams, Mr. J. Rumsay, Mr. O. Wilson, Mr. Dudley Field, Mrs. D. Field. Boston—Mr. G. Carruth and family, Mr. J. H. Hodgman, Mrs. Hodgman, Mr. H. A. Boardman, Mr. Renslow Crosby, Mr. W. A. Bates, Mr. C. H. Richardson, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. H. Montgomery, Mr. N. Hooper and family, Mr. J. A. Page, Mr. A. Sturtevant, Mr. F. G. Frothingham, Mr. G. L. Whittaker, Mr. H. Freeland, Mr. B. Heath, Mr. Marshal P. Wilder, Mrs. M. P. Wilder. Cincinnati—Mr. F. F. Brooks, Mr. G. E. Phipps, Mr. N. P. Dandridge, Mr. C. E. Baker, Mr. C. Ernest. Brooklyn, New York—Mr. Litchfield. Philadelphia—Mr. J. W. Forney and Miss Forney, Mr. J. W. Johnson and family, Mr. S. Moore, Jr