# POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

**Progress of the Political Campaign—Both Parties Sanguine of Success—A closely Contested Election Expected—Fraudulent Voters—Review of the Situation.**

PITTSBURG, October 9, 1868.

Only two more working days (for politicians are notoriously too scrupulous to labor on the Sabbath) and the battle in Pennsylvania will be fought; some one will have won a victory, and a good many people in New York will have lost their money "put up" on the result. In a general point of view that result has not been so uncertain for many years in Pennsylvania. Two things, however, are certain. The contest will be a tight one. The radical majorities will be considerably reduced. The reduction will probably be found in the eastern counties, and the hardest labor will be imposed upon the working republicans west of the Alleghanies to save their former majorities in those counties. While, as I found in Philadelphia, the radicals claimed a majority in the State of 17,000, so I find in Pittsburg the democrats closely figure up a majority for their ticket of 10,050.

It is conceded now by the radicals that Philadelphia is lost to them and about to be given over to their opponents by about 3,000. In making that concession the majority in 1864 of 11,765 of Lincoln over McClellan counts against them in that city in 1868. But it is calculated that the heavy radical majorities in the western part of the State will conterbalance the falling off in the east. It is admitted by leading men of that party, who have made careful estimates of the vote, that it is the twenty-two counties at this side of the mountains which are to roll up the majority of 15,000 or 17,000, and they boast that it will be done. Here is the republican estimate of these counties:—

| *Republican.* | | *Democratic.* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alleghany | 8,000 | Cambria | 750 |
| Armstrong | 500 | Clarion | 1,000 |
| Beaver | 900 | Elk | 550 |
| Butler | 400 | Fayette | 750 |
| Crawford | 1,800 | Greene | 1,450 |
| Cameron | 50 | Clearfield | 1,300 |
| Erie | 3,000 | Westmoreland | 1,400 |
| Indiana | 2,250 | | |
| Lawrence | 2,000 | | |
| Mercer | 600 | | |
| McKean | 400 | | |
| Warren | 1,000 | | |
| Washington | 200 | | |
| Somerset | 1,300 | | |
| Venango | 750 | | |

These figures are proclaimed by the State Committee here, of course, as altogether false. In Alleghany county they admit a majority of 6,600 but not 8,000. I have seen the democratic estimate of all the sixty-six counties of the State. It gives majorities to the republicans in thirty-two and majorities for the democrats in thirty-four counties, the figures showing thus:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Aggregate majorities for democrats | 49,900 |
| Aggregate majorities for republicans | 39,850 |
| Democratic majority | 10,050 |

The total vote of the State will probably be 640,000 to 700,000, so that whichever estimate proves correct the run will be a close one, and the radical losses since 1864 will be considerable.

With regard to the alleged frauds in naturalization and "colonization" which are expected to be perpetrated at the polls on Tuesday, there is a good deal more fuss made than is necessary. A very prominent republican admitted candidly to me to-day that there was as much of that kind of business done by the republican party as the democratic party, but as the conspiracy had been exposed, it was probable that neither party would venture to bring up fraudulent voters in any number. Special police have been sworn in here and in Philadelphia by the two Mayors, one a democrat—Blackmore, of Pittsburg, and the other a radical—McMichael, of Philadelphia, to protect legal voters in their rights. It is to be hoped that they will keep the peace at the polls, for just now there is a good deal of turbulence at political displays. Mayor Blackmore has issued a proclamation condemning all processions, and in obedience thereto Mr. Thomas J. Keenan, Chairman of the County Democratic Committee, has published a card requesting the several clubs to have no more outdoor demonstrations until after the election of the 13th. The republicans so far have not manifested a similar amicable spirit. Should they have the good sense to do so there will be no more such disgraceful scenes as those which occurred in Wylie street on Wednesday night.

Colonization not only involves voting early and often, on the good old New York plan, but it means voting often in different Congressional districts. In this matter a controversy has sprung up between Hon. John Covode—"Honest John Covode," as he was once ironically called, but the soubriquet stuck to him in sober earnest—and Mr. Edward Keenan, his former competitor in the Westmoreland district. Covode had Keenan arrested on a charge of sending a fraudulent voter into the district, and the case remains yet undecided. On the other hand Keenan states that he will prove the fact that 160 colonizers, residents of Pittsburg, have been employed to vote for Covode on Tuesday, and that in 1864 Honest John Covode imported 180 fraudulent voters for the same purpose. An affidavit of the person employed to procure these men and send them up the railroad as pretended laborers, with picks and axes, has been sworn to. The affidavit, which I read, states that deponent, one D. E. Hall, received from Covode personally both money and instructions for this object, and that $700 in all was paid either by him or his relative and agent, a Mr. Wilson, to reimburse these men for their services. So that there is likely to be a lively time in Covode's district. It is not improbable, from statements I have heard, that there may be trouble there on election day. Mr. Keenan has informed Covode that he has a list of the names and residences of the men who intend to vote in the Westmoreland district in the morning and in Pittsburg in the afternoon, and that they will not be permitted to carry out their intentions. This may lead to squalls. Mr. Covode's chances of re-election, however, are said by his friends to be very small. In twenty-four hours after this letter is published the fate of both parties in Pennsylvania—and mayhap of the Presidential election too—will have been decided. You have the best light on the subject now which I have been able to collect from the east to the west of the Keystone State.

## ALABAMA.

**A Spot Where There is no Political Agitation—Every Race and Color with the Democracy—Sentiments of the People—They Begin to Fear that Grant will Be Elected, but will Work Hard for Seymour.**

COLUMBIA, Oct. 4, 1868.

In this little village on, or rather near, the bank of the muddy Chattahoochie river there is not sufficient political agitation to excite even one of those enthusiastic yells for which the Southern people are so well known. It is true that the county (Henry) is a rather thinly populated one, but this does not explain the cause of an apparent lack of interest in the great Presidential contest now going on from one end of the country to the other. The people here appear to have thoroughly ignored politics. No radical meetings have been held and but very few democratic gatherings have taken place. As a natural consequence good feeling, friendliness and cordiality exist between whites and blacks to a greater and more earnest extent than at almost any other locality in the South which has been visited during the present tour. This may, however, result from the fact that everybody, or nearly everybody, belongs to the same party. Blacks as well as whites are tolerably unanimous for the democracy, so that where all agree there is but little chance for the engenderment of acrimony, not to say violence. "We are all democrats here," say the white citizens. "We 'longs to de white people's party," say the darkies. Radicals, like angels' visits, are few and far between. I am earnestly assured by the white citizens that at least two-thirds of the negro vote in this county will be cast for Seymour and Blair, and if those darkies with whom I have conversed faithfully represent the political opinions of their race this estimate is not an exaggerated one. Indeed, the mere fact that carpet-baggers and scalawags have not yet invaded this part of the State makes this statement all the more reliable. I have not visited any part of the South which has not been invaded by these two classes of Southern radicals where the two races have not been living together on the best possible terms and where the blacks were not almost unanimously democrats.

In all of the counties adjacent to this the same quiet and nearly unanimous political sentiments exist. The masses will not countenance the slightest agitation, thus setting an example worthy of imitation. Not that they are indifferent to politics, for every intelligent citizen takes the keenest interest in all that is transpiring, and all are working earnestly though quietly for Mr. Seymour. It is a notorious fact that nineteen-twentieths of the whites are democrats, thus precluding the necessity of my writing any thing as to their views. With the blacks it is different, although here at least they appear tolerably unanimous in their political opinions, which are simply no opinions at all, but rather those of their white employers. In this county a majority of the negroes will vote the democratic ticket, while from all that can be ascertained a very large minority, if not an actual majority of their votes, will be cast the same way in the adjacent counties. But few of them know or care who and what they are voting for. Their "bosses" tell them to vote for "Mr. Simmers," or the loyal leagues tell them to stand by the "Rev. Mr. General Grant," and they do either the one or the other with profound indifference as to the merits of either. This manner of being led by the nose does not say much for the intelligence of the Alabama colored citizens; but unfortunately it is an apparent fact that, however they vote, they are influenced in so doing. The great issues of the day affect them but very little; their cupidity, fears and prejudices, well worked upon by politicians, are the great causes which unfit them to go with one party or the other. The radicals, it must nevertheless be admitted, are in bad odor at present by reason of their not having kept to their promises. Several negroes have spoken to me regretfully and indignantly of their never having received the "forty acres and a mule" pledged to them as the price of their suffrages, and more than one has revengefully declared that he was "gwine help de white fokes kick dem scallerags and carpet-baggers right out ob de gub'ment, case dey's a triflin pack." None, or few of these negroes, expect that they will be permitted to continue voting long after the whites resume control of the State. Dull brained as they undoubtedly are they possess sufficient intelligence to perceive that the opposition to their possessing any potent political power is too intense to be destroyed in a week, a month, or a year. Thus they vote with the democrats, understanding fully that in so doing they are deliberately aiding in the destruction of their own political power. One thing, however, they are inflexibly resolved upon, and it is perfect equality with the whites before the law. They have been promised full and equal protection to person and property, the right to sue and be sued and an impartial administration of the laws. In a word, the whites have pledged themselves to know no difference between the two races, except in the matter of the elective franchise and those social restrictions which are necessary to preserve order and good feeling among the two races. That they will keep to these promises the negroes who have sided with them fully believe. If the whites deceive them serious troubles will result, and the former will deserve to get the worse. Good faith, if nothing more, demands a strict adherence to every pledge made.

In this part of Alabama the result of the Maine election has had some effect, and the whites now express a fear that Grant and Colfax will be elected. They believe that the North is not yet ready to abandon radicalism, but that some great commercial or political convulsion is necessary to effect a change in the sentiments of a majority of the people of that section. That this view of the situation has somewhat disheartened them is undeniably true, though they have not and will not relax their efforts towards carrying the State for Seymour and Blair. Here they work quietly, without political meetings, but the work is very effectively performed and has thus far resulted in making converts of hundreds of negroes. Should the October elections in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana result favorably to the democrats they will redouble their efforts and probably carry Alabama by a large majority, as well as most of the Congressional districts. The success of the radicals will depress them considerably, but I do not think it will lose them the State. Although Alabama has a majority of negro votes registered, there are local interests and influences which completely destroy all the advantages which this gives. Not the least powerful of these causes are the wholesale desertions of the white native radicals, carrying with them hundreds and thousands of negroes, over to the democracy.

## THE SOUTH—TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

The election of General Grant conceded, the course which he will take to realize his grand idea of "peace" becomes of importance to our Southern friends.

That he thoroughly understands the difficulties in the way of a peaceful solution of the present complication cannot be doubted by those who understand the "grain and twist" of his comprehensive and generalizing mind.

His past history shows that in the essential attributes of a statesman, as in a successful general, he possesses a wonderful power of adapting means to ends. His policy will be shaped by the hard and practical dictates of sound common sense. His Cabinet will be composed of men who will show the world that for once the "right man is in the right place."

In dealing with the South for the next two or three years the Secretary of War will be one of his most effective officers. It is hardly necessary to say that General Schofield will be retained in the place he now occupies. It is no disparagement to any of the gallant generals whom the war has "brought to the surface" to say, that as a soldier-statesman he is the peer of them all. In the sterling qualities he more than any other resembles his general, with more perspicuity and versatility of talents. He is a man who thinks when others sleeps. Like his commander he has studied the situation with great care, and most thoroughly comprehends the idiosyncracy of the Southern mind. Perhaps no Northern man so well understands the subject, or has the nerve to apply the necessary corrective. General Schofield will be General Grant's Secretary of War. The South will therefore be in the hands of General Grant and General Schofield—men who have no pet theories to throw up or down, and who have but one aim, and that will be to bring peace and order out of the anarchy and chaos to which it is given up.

There is in the South a class of men having about the same relation to the people as the Comanches have to the peacefully disposed Indians of the West—keen and shrewd, fearless and enterprising, knowing no arguments but brute force, and unscrupulous in compassing their ends. Banded together by the instincts of rapine and plunder, belonging to no political organization only as they may make it useful to their ends, they are ready to fight in one or both, as may best advance their interests. Like their congeners, the Comanches, there will be no peace until they are squelched or driven out of the country.

It was the energy and perseverance of these men, urged on by such men as Bob Toombs, Jeff Davis, Jo Brown and other political aspirants, that drove the otherwise peaceful and loyal people of the South into rebellion. They were truly loyal until driven by the intimidation and violence of these Comanches into the support of a cause which they loathed, but lacked the energy and daring necessary to meet these traitors and beat them back with their own weapons.

Grant crushed the rebellion, but it has not yet been emasculated. That he will do, and in four years he will have no so loyal and enthusiastic supporters as in the masses of the South. He will crush out the ruins of the rebellion and give these people peace and rest. That will revive their industries, which will bring them prosperity, and with prosperity will come the love of the hand that confers it. Left to their own instincts they are a loyal and conservative people. One hundred men and the presses they control keep the whole country in commotion, marring the budding prosperity of the South and exciting the prejudice of race. I much mistake General Grant if he does not lay a heavy hand upon all disturbers of the peace of the people whoever they may be and wherever found.

## CITY POLITICS.

**Wm. H. Mansfield Tenth Ward Association.**

A democratic association, naming itself after Judge Mansfield, of the Third District Police Court, just organized in the Tenth ward and already numbering a thousand members, had a banner raising and meeting on Saturday evening in front of Essex Market. The banner, which is inscribed "Wm. H. Mansfield Tenth Ward Association," has on it the names of Seymour and Blair and Hoffman and Beach, and in the centre a large and excellent likeness of Mayor Hoffman. Judge Mansfield, John N. Andrews, James Dougherty, Simeon Levy, Karl Burke and others addressed the meeting.

## STATEN ISLAND POLITICS.

**Meeting of the Democracy at New Brighton.**

On Saturday evening the Democratic Club of New Brighton, Staten Island, held a meeting, and it having been largely advertised that the democratic nominee for the gubernatorial chair of New York would be present, there was an unusually large attendance. The public, however, were to be disappointed, for the meeting had barely opened when the President of the association came forward and apologized for the absence, in consequence of prior engagements, of the Mayoral orator. Mr. William F. McNamara and Mr. G. W. Chapman had also promised to deliver addresses; but as they had not arrived at a late hour, the Secretary called Mr. Warrington Sloat, son of the late Admiral Sloat, of the United States Navy, to take the stand. Mr. Sloat complied with the request, and made a brilliant offhand speech. He had just returned from a trip to Connecticut, where he had received a warm reception from the democrats of the State, and they had assured him that they were determined to send to the Electoral College men who would vote for Seymour and Blair. Mr. Sloat addressed himself with ability to the financial question, and urged his hearers to get in every vote for Seymour and Blair.

Mr. C. T. McCarthy, Secretary, followed with a few remarks, at the conclusion of which the President, Mr. McCormack, spoke briefly.

HOMICIDE IN GREENFIELD, MASS.—Harding G. Woodard, of Greenfield, who killed Walter G. Coombs by a blow from a whipstock, Wednesday, was brought before Justice W. T. Davis on Thursday and charged with wilful murder, but plead not guilty. James H. Pratt, of Greenfield, testified that he was present when Coombs accused Woodard of stealing a wagon wheel, and Woodard replied, "If you say I stole your wagon wheel again I'll knock you down." Mr. Coombs told Woodard he might have half a day in which to settle for the wheel, and Woodard thereupon struck Coombs a blow on the side of the head with a whipstock and knocked him down. Coombs arose in a staggering manner and called for help. Pratt and Woodard assisted Coombs to his house, the latter saying, "I'm a dead man." The other two then drove to the village for a physician. Coombs was struck a hard blow just over the ear, but as soon as the one who dealt it saw the extent of the injury he expressed regret for the act and said, "You should not have accused me of stealing." He also called for water and exerted himself in aid of Coombs. Mr. Powers was called and testified that he arrived at the spot two minutes after the blow was struck, and that Coombs said he should not live long. The blood was oozing from his ear. Dr. A. C. Walker, who attended him, testified that death was occasioned by concussion of the brain. Woodard was held to bail in the sum of $10,000, which was readily obtained, several citizens volunteering to act in that capacity.—*Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Oct. 10.*

## THE NEW REBELLION.

**Particulars of the Riot in Opelousas, La.—Radical Account.**

[From the New Orleans Republican (radical), Oct. 5.]

The following is a statement of the so-called "negro riot" in St. Landry parish:—

Last Monday morning three members of the Opelousas "Seymour Knights" went to the colored school, on the outer edge of the town, and severely whipped Mr. Emerson Bentley, the teacher, and also English editor of the St. Landry *Progress*, because of an article published by him giving an account of a republican meeting in Washington and saying that some rebel spirit was exhibited by the democratic organizations, who met the procession at Washington thoroughly armed and equipped. The account was true in every particular, which can be proved by over 500 persons who were present at the meeting at Washington.

Mr. Bentley was an active leader of the republican party in the parish, and as the news of his being whipped spread over Opelousas the freedmen began assembling, armed. But Mr. Bentley and many others told them to go back to their homes and not to start any riot, which advice was followed, and apprehensions of a difficulty subsided. Mr. Bentley made affidavits against the three persons who assaulted him and warrants were issued for their arrest, the time set for the trial being three o'clock in the afternoon. About eleven o'clock A. M. the rebels had assembled in strong force, armed with new guns, revolvers, &c., and, taking advantage of the return of the republicans to their homes, took possession of the town and sent patrols around to disarm the freedmen and capture the leaders of their party, who were obliged to conceal themselves or take refuge in flight if they were lucky enough to get out of town.

At eleven or tweve o'clock A. M. the same day a body of armed men went to the office of the *Progress* to see Messrs. Gustave and Cornelius Donato, who were at the office, and told them that the town belonged to them (the rebels) and if the radicals wanted to get possession of it they could only do so by riding over the dead bodies of the "peace-loving," "much abused," "down trodden" white people of the parish.

They had captured a courier on the road to Washington, who had told them that Mr. G. Donato had sent him to Washington to tell Sam Johnson to bring the Washington club, armed, to Opelousas; but when this courier was brought face to face with Mr. Donato he said that somebody had told him that Mr. Donato wanted him to go to Washington. At this juncture a courier informed the crowd at the *Progress* office that there was fighting at Mr. Hilaire Paillet's place, a short distance out of town, whereupon the crowd mounted their horses and rushed to the scene of action. The fight, as far as I was able to learn, resulted in the death of one white man and two or three colored, and three or four wounded on both sides. The number of freedmen was about fifteen, headed by one Adolphe Donato, and they only threw down their arms when strong reinforcements of whites arrived. Adolphe Donato succeeded in making his escape.

On Monday night armed bands of men were sent over town to seek for the concealed republican leaders. The *Progress* office was searched without success. One band went to the residence of Mr. François D'Avy, the acknowledged leader of the republican party, and forced an entrance to his room where he was asleep and only awakened at the moment they entered. He was shot at while lying on the bed, but missed. He fell to the floor, feigning death, and the armed crowd started to leave. Mr. D'Avy jumped out of the back window and ran through the garden. He was shot at again while running and the ball grazed the side of his head near the ear, without inflicting serious damage. Mr. D'Avy succeeded in making his escape, as did all the rest of the leaders of our party, excepting Mr. Durand, French editor of the *Progress*, who has been in Opelousas twelve or fifteen years, but is a citizen of France, never having been naturalized. He was taken from his house Monday night by armed men into the woods and was not seen or heard from afterward.

All day Tuesday and the succeeding night the roads were strictly guarded, and persons were arrested and searched before being permitted to enter town. Tuesday night the *Progress* office was again entered and the material entirely destroyed. The type strewed over the streets and the press broken. Two young men who were employed in the *Progress* office were advised by the rebels to leave, which they did on Wednesday morning by the boat.

Mr. Violet, who is agent for the Freedmen's Bureau in St. Landry, fraternizes with and assists the rebels in their unlawful depredations. He was with the crowd who went to the *Progress* office to see the Messrs. Donato. The men who assaulted Mr. Bentley rode around town armed and no attempt was made to arrest them. Their names were Mayo, Dixon and Williams. All is now quiet, but a strict watch is kept by the rebels to prevent an uprising.

The above is a true statement of the facts as they occurred.

[From the New Orleans Bulletin, Oct. 5, democratic.]

We learn the following particulars of the riot at Opelousas from Dr. Taylor, of that place, who was present at the time and an eye witness at the terrible scene. Its origin is traced to an article published in a radical paper called the *Progress*, recently established there to disseminate republican principles, to promote peace and good order in that part of the State, and to do the printing under the famous bill of the Legislature. The editor, a Mr. Bentley, had misrepresented the official conduct of the deputy sheriff, an ex-federal officer, and was called upon to publish a correct statement the following week.

Instead, however, of making the desired retraction the editor of the *Progress* only added insult to injury by publishing a still grosser libel than the first. Whereupon he was waited on by the injured party, who proceeded to administer a severe castigation in the way of a wholesome application of the cowhide to the tune of fifty lashes. This performance took place in the presence of the negroes who were attending the school over which Bentley presided as dominie. The cowhiding of their preceptor naturally aroused their sympathies, and they set up such a howling as to cause the assembly of a gang of negroes about the school house, who proposed to commence the work immediately of cleaning out the people of Opelousas. The time had come for work, and it was proposed to "pitch in."

Couriers were then despatched to the plantations with orders to bring in all of the negroes, well armed. In a short time the whole town was almost entirely surrounded by these enraged negroes. A company of twenty-five white men then rode out to meet them and to persuade them to disband. Before reaching the place where the negroes had congregated the whites were fired upon by a band of negroes who were ambushed. Five horses were killed and the riders of four badly wounded. The whites then made an attack upon the assaulting party and succeeded in killing every one of them. The whites, after being reinforced, then rode into the crowd of negroes, who had assembled just beyond where the first attack was made. Upon their approach the negroes fired one volley and then fled. The whites then pursued them, and only desisted after killing all that they found with weapons in their hands. The next day the various plantations were visited and the negroes made to understand that unless they surrendered their arms they would be taken out and shot. This threat had the desired effect, and negroes from far and near brought in their arms, several hundred in number, and handed them over to the whites.

During the disturbance the office of the *Progress* was gutted and the type scattered to the winds. The editor was not to be found and has not since been heard of.

Our informant states that the negroes seemed to have learned a wholesome lesson and manifest now a quiet and peaceable disposition. At the time of his departure all was quiet and no fears entertained of any further disturbance. The precaution, however, had been taken of posting patrols at various points.

During the riot a number of negro women were arrested, and they were found to have had matches and bags. The matches, they said, were to fire the town, and the bags to carry off the plunder.

Four negroes were designated as the leaders of the four divisions that surrounded the town, and during the two days of the fight repeated attacks were made upon the town by the negroes, who would fire one volley and fall back and scatter before the pursuing whites. It is estimated that over 100 negroes were killed and about fifty wounded. The whites had four wounded, but none killed.

**Preparing for the New Rebellion—Critical Condition of Affairs in North Carolina.**

The following correspondence explains itself:—

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH, Oct. 7, 1868.

Gen. NELSON A. MILES, Commanding, &c.:—

SIR—I have information that arms have been imported into this State and distributed among members of a certain political organization. These arms are not of the ordinary character for sporting or hunting purposes, but repeating rifles, such as are used in war.

I have official information that a box of Enfield rifles has been found secreted in Newbern. I learn, also, that boxes of arms have been sulpped to Charlotte and to points west of that place.

I have also learned that arms have been received and distributed in and around Wilmington. It is known that arms are in the hands of persons in that city and in the surrounding country of a character to leave the impression that they are to be used for purposes hostile to the government and to the peace of society.

I have deemed it my duty to inform you of these facts, and to request you so to distribute the troops under your command as to afford the greatest aid practicable to the civil authorities in maintaining the peace. I trust that troops will be at once sent to Wilmington and to other points in the State. It is my fixed purpose to maintain the peace and to protect and maintain the State government by all the means I can command. The people were surprised and hurried into war in 1861 against their will. The authorities owe it to the people, to the government and to themselves to see to it that similar steps are not allowed to be taken now. The great body of our people are averse to violence and war. They want peace. They must have it. Those who may engage in war, or who may resort to violence to gain political ends, or to take vengeance on any portion of their fellow citizens, will be held to strict account and severely punished.

In the event of a conflict the civil authorities having first exhausted their power to preserve the peace, will call at once on the federal military; and I have written this to notify you in advance of my purpose in this respect. I feel sure of your aid in any emergency to the extent to which it can be given under the orders you have received.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. W. HOLDEN.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 9, 1868.

Governor W. W. HOLDEN:—

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 7th inst., requesting that troops may be sent to Wilmington, N. C., and stating that you have official information that a lot of Enfield rifles has been found secreted in Newbern, also that you have reason to believe that arms have been sent to Charlotte, N. C., and several other points, &c. I have forwarded your letter to General Meade for his information.

I have received reliable reports, legally substantiated, that several hundreds of Henry and Spencer rifles (many of them sixteen shooters) with accoutrements, &c., complete, have been received at Wilmington and thence distributed to organizations in this State, styling themselves "Seymour and Blair" Clubs, and "K. K. K's." From other points officers report similar movements, the object of which has as yet not been made public. These facts have also been reported to the Department Commander, and I have no doubt he will take proper action in the matter. While, therefore, these occurrences give rise to questions which may possibly produce serious results, still, action in the first instance should be taken by the civil authorities, which, in my opinion, can be done under the act of the General Assembly of this State, ratified August 24, 1868, forbidding the conspiring of persons, by force or otherwise, to prevent the execution of the laws of the State, and making it a high crime to engage in rebellion or insurrection against the authority thereof.

The constitutional right of all citizens to the possession of arms for proper purposes does not extend to the perfecting of organizations, armed with weapons of a purely military character, such as those reported as having been received in such unusual quantities at Wilmington and other points, otherwise batteries and regiments may be formed with equal propriety, inimical to the government, while it calmly awaits the fate intended by those who in 1860 pursued a similar course. It will undoubtedly be claimed by these parties that their motives are perfectly good and as indicating no intention to forcibly resist the law or otherwise interfere with the peace and quiet of their respective localities. This cannot be granted. In 1861 professions of intense loyalty to the constitution and laws went hand in hand with concealed preparations for war. Many of these men are paroled prisoners who have sworn to obey the laws in force where they reside and not to bear arms against the government, &c. This State has been reorganized under acts of Congress, the sequence of the rebellion, and any attempt to disturb its laws and prevent the re-establishing of its authority is in my opinion an act of hostility and a violation of their solemn obligations, which may justly excite action on the part of the general government. Their rights in asserting and maintaining political preferences cannot be questioned, but when pushed to the present extremity, assuming hostile positions towards the government, prompt condemnation on the part of all good citizens should follow.

This "apparent purpose and readiness" to appeal to arms, after the experience of the past seven years, is inexplicable. It is strange that many of the citizens of this State should so far forget their interests as to court another collision which cannot but be more disastrous than that recently ended. There is nothing in the present political contest to excite apprehensions on the part of any class or party. Two elections have quietly occurred here within the past twelve months as important as any that have taken place in the history of North Carolina, and with a degree of good order creditable to all concerned, and any attempts to excite disturbances by any parties, under any pretence whatsoever, are alike foolhardy and criminal. It probably requires no discussion to prove the entire futility of attempting any resistance of the government in its efforts to perfect and complete the questions arising from the late war. Its whole power is guaranteed for the maintenance of the laws as at present constituted, and until legally changed, they should and must be respected.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
NELSON A. MILES,
Bvt. Maj. Gen. U. S. A., Comd'g. Dist.

## LOUISIANA.

**Lively Times in the Legislature—The Governor and the Carpet-Baggers Denounced by the Negroes—Triple Division of the Negro Force—Dangerous Temper of the People—Subsiding of the Waters.**

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 28, 1868.

Governor Warmoth's veto of Isabelle's Social Equality bill seems to have allayed public excitement for a time and staved off the danger of an immediate resort to violence; but it has produced a considerable breach in the radical ranks. The colored vote of the State is now divided into three sections—the negro democracy, who denounce the carpet-baggers and will vote with the resident white people; the negro radicals, who denounce the carpet-baggers and will vote for themselves, and the negro radicals, who remain under carpet-bag tutelage and will vote any way their new masters tell them. The last division remains numerically the strongest and leaves no doubt that Warmoth's action will be sustained by the Legislature. The public sentiment against the bill is so intense that its passage over the veto would be the signal for the immediate appointment of a vigilance committee and the "cleaning out" of every white radical in the State of Louisiana. It speaks volumes for the iniquity of the legislation which has followed the reconstruction of the State that among the people generally a feeling is gaining ground that it will be better to make a clean sweep at once and go back to military government in perpetuity, if need be. If it were put to the vote of the white people to-morrow whether Ben Butler or the carpet-baggers should continue to rule the State it would be a close contest. Phil Sheridan would have a good chance, and Hancock, Buchanan or Rousseau would sweep the State, and yet, in order to get rid of a military despotism, the white people of the State allowed a reconstruction constitution to be foisted on them when anything like a united effort on their part would have defeated it.

When the veto message was presented in the Legislature on Saturday it was received with a howl of indignation. Murrell (colored), of Lafourche, declared that Warmoth by this message had violated his oath and betrayed his party, and Isabelle, the mulatto, who introduced if he did not originate the bill—rumor ascribes its origin to a deep political move on the part of ex-Governor Wells—declared that he would carry on the fight till the bill was carried, and then when that was done and when colored democrats were returned to Congress he would say:—"Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation."

To-day, when the debate was resumed in the Lower House, the lobby was crowded with white men—a circumstance which has never happened before—and half concealed by a doorway at the back of the Speaker's chair Governor Warmoth listened eagerly to the debate. The Sunday had been actively employed by the radical leaders. Many of the leading negroes had been "seen" and as the first indication of the influences brought to bear, Murrell, who on Saturday denounced the Governor as a traitor and said he must have been drunk when he declared some time ago that he would rise or fall with the black man, now patted Warmoth on the back as a young man of great promise, and took back all he had said against him and promised to sustain the veto.

Denis Burrell (black) also upheld the veto, and said if the measure had passed the knees of its proposer would shake under him like Belshazzar's when he read the writing on the wall. He (Burrell) would vote to sustain the Governor if he was assassinated the next moment, but, then, he was neither a demagogue nor was he anxious to run for Congress, (Isabelle is).

The supporters of the bill were not to be thus choked off, however. Hall, a bright mulatto, of New Orleans, rose and made a terribly effective speech against the Governor and the carpet-baggers. "Had a democratic Governor presented this veto," he said, "I could have understood it; but Henry Clay Warmoth—Judge Warmoth, the pet idol of the colored people of the State of Louisiana—the man to whom we looked up as radicalism personified; the man who occupies the position on the front bastion; the man whose language to us has always been 'Stand to your ground; we will put you in the proudest position of any Anglo-Saxon in the State'—this is the man who has deceived us; this is the man who is too much of a pettifogger to become a statesman. He says the laws of the State gave us these rights. What chance have we to enforce them before Judge Abel? Does he suppose that I or any colored man can go to Victor's restaurant or Johnny Hawkins' and be served? How much law, how much compensation can we expect to get from six democratic judges out of seven in New Orleans? The Governor says this bill makes that a crime, which is not so. Why didn't he make use of that language before his own election? I have heard him use language more pernicious and more incendiary than I have ever heard from a colored man yet. Why does the Governor preach to us about his knowledge of those communities where the highest respect is paid to the rights of all men? There are communities here which, in my opinion, would be much benefited by his absence. No class of men have ever profited by yielding. The more we, the colored men, give up the more the whites will exact from us. If we had only stood firm by that tried, true friend of the colored race, Mr. Thomas J. Durant, we should not now be misrepresented by Governor Warmoth. I appeal to you, my colored friends, to support the bill. If the Governor goes back on us, and the Senate goes back on us, in God's name let us stand foot to foot and battle not only here but to all eternity for our just rights."

Holland (quadroon of Tensas) delivered an almost equally telling address, and from his frequent reference to a MS. in his hat would seem to have had a prompter at his back. He characterized Warmoth's veto as an attempt to whip the devil round the stump and to evade the real question at issue. Social equality was what the colored man did not want. There had been too much of it already. But they demanded and meant to have the same rights as the white men of Louisiana enjoyed. He invoked the memories of the lash, the bloodhound, the slave pen and Fort Pillow, and said if the Governor's veto was sustained he trusted the telegraph would flash the news from one end of the Continent to the other that a new rebellion had broken out in Louisiana.

Isabelle closed the debate with a speech of characteristic ignorance, conceit and absurdity. He denied that the colored race were inferior to the white in any respect but in education, and wound up a most astounding peroration by declaring that if this bill was only passed the community would not in times to come be cursed to anything like the extent they had been in the past with yellow fever, overflows and cotton worm, which calamities, he believed, had been brought down upon them by their disregard of the divine declaration that one man was as good as another man.

The Governor's veto, as the telegraph has already informed you, was sustained by a tie vote of 32 to 32. Four or five white radicals and all the colored delegates but three or four voted against the veto.

It will be sustained with even greater ease in the Senate. Pinchbeck and Antoine will there be its colored champions.

## WALL STREET.

**Its Business and Its Boards of Brokers.**

Throughout the country people speak of Wall street as if it were something definite and peculiar, and are usually understood in the same manner. The street itself, running from Broadway, opposite Trinity church, down to the East river, is filled with offices of all kinds, besides the Custom House, the Sub-Treasury and the Government Assay buildings. Lawyers, bankers, dealers in bullion and specie, stockbrokers, banks, trust companies, watchmakers, soda water men, newspapers, hogsheads of molasses and sugar, bales of cotton and chain cables contend with restaurants of various degree for the honor of watching the unending stream of stages and trucks that makes the crossing dangerous. A Brooklyn ferry closes this short but multifarious street, and is always busy with way and through passengers from this best known of American thoroughfares. Since the street itself is so diversified in its interests, what is the reason that its name is universally accepted only in one meaning? For it is clear to any observation that, in ordinary speech, Wall street means simply the Stock Exchange, or the business of buying and selling railroad stocks, together with whatever else stock brokers are supposed to deal in. The reason why lawyers, banks, sugar, ferry and all the rest are neglected seems to be that with the best will in the world no one has ever succeeded in losing half the money in these varied businesses that he could lose by faithfully keeping to the stock market.

The name Wall street, however, has outlasted its origin, for the glory, such as it is, has mainly centred upon Broad street and bids fair to remain there. The removal of the Stock Exchange to that locality, and the near neighborhood of the open board and the Gold Room, have settled that question for some years to come—say until the banks remove in a body to Canal street or Madison square.

What, then, is the attraction in this so-called Wall street? There is the business in stocks, the business in government bonds and the business in gold. These three little affairs seem to suffice to attract the attention of the whole country and furnish constant occupation for an immense number of men whose business is diversified, as far as one can judge, by more noise, joking and general amusement than those in other businesses can form any idea of. The wandering visitor or the unlucky woman who encounters the crowd on the west side of Broad street at certain times of the day carries away a general confused idea that the howling mob that bars the passage is taking a very strange way to transact any business, and that the people might as well be all made together. But there is method in the madness. Men do not shout all day long, six days a week, for the mere pleasure of testing their lungs, and the repulsive noises are found to arise simply from the necessity of making one's self heard. This tumultuous rabble is composed of a mass of people interested in the price of stocks—many as brokers and others as principals, who wish to be within easy reach of their brokers, in the event of any turn in the market favoring their operations or making it desirable to change them. And the manner of the business is of this kind:—

Take gold first, as the simplest, and employing the constant attention of a large number of brokers and dealers. All the importers, who have to pay duties at the Custom House, study when to buy gold for that purpose to the best advantage. Every dealer in exchange has to buy or sell gold to an amount equivalent to his exchange, in order to know how he stands; and most persons who collect gold interest on government bonds or similar securities will sell their coin for the current money of the country. These classes furnish a basis of legitimate dealings for the Gold Room, and around them is grouped the whole mass of speculative transactions in the precious metal.

Government bonds may be classed next, as everybody is directly or indirectly interested in them. These are negotiated in a branch of the Stock Exchange, to which bankers and others are admitted for that purpose. Here are made the rates that govern prices of the public funds everywhere, and above all in the great offices in the neighborhood, where the public usually buys or sells these bonds.

Lastly, the business in railroad stocks (and bonds, a small item) is done in the Stock Exchange, its companion picture, the open board, and in the Long Room, jointly occupied by both institutions. This is the business that makes the noise and attracts the attention of the passer-by. This is Wall street of a truth and with a vengeance. Here rise and fall the prices of railroad property, whether the roads themselves are changed in value or not, and here are made and lost the fortunes and the names that stir the envy of fools and the ambition of even steady-going men. This is the market in which a man may begin with a hundred dollars and gain a million or may begin with a million and end with pressing need of a hundred. And here, for all that may be said to the contrary, is the nicest touchstone of financial morality. The freemasonry of stock dealers is so complete that a man can hardly overstep the correct limit without its being at once detected and borne in mind by all his fellows. The usual salutations may meet him, but the precautions are there, and none the less carefully kept up that they are not openly seen.

These three or four markets, then, make up what is called, or understood to be in a financial sense, Wall street, and the stranger may well ask why they are not united into one great market, as elsewhere. To answer this very natural inquiry we must go back to the good old times before the war, and then, perhaps, the reason will appear and the chances of a working union can be better estimated. Before the war, then, nothing had for a long time occurred to disturb the sole supremacy of the Stock Exchange. Its numbers were not very large, and the admission of a new member was quite an event. Most of those who applied for membership had served a regular apprenticeship to the business, and were known as clerks to the great majority of those who were to vote on them. The ambition of getting into the board was the natural aim for clerks who had established their reputation for capacity and integrity. Once in that sacred enclosure a fair living was expected to be open to any man who attended faithfully to his business. The retrospect is touching and calculated to draw tears from many a man who had not the luck to be born a few years earlier. This shows the hardship we all suffer in not receiving formal invitations, instead of an imperative summons, to enter this life.

This happy state of peace was destined to be rudely shocked. A band of men who operated continually in stocks and had not the membership of the Stock Exchange used to meet in a room which immediately adjoined that institution. As the speculative tendency of the time increased so did their numbers, and in addition to their own transactions they found that, like other people, they had friends of their own. These friends did not care a straw where their orders were executed so long as they got their prices and a tolerable degree of solvency in the men they dealt with. Hereupon arose a mighty and sagacious man, who opened at his own risk a room in which at the first any one could deal on a simple payment of so much to the lessee. It may well be supposed that many queer customers found their way into this society and many losses were sustained from irresponsible parties. But it gave the outsiders a knowledge of their strength and in due time served to establish a regular organization, with rules as stringent as those heretofore used in the Stock Exchange. Many of the principal men in this outside board became applicants for admission at the Stock Exchange, which somehow failed to see the enormous increase that was springing up in the business, and apparently had no idea of enlarging its borders. Others of the outsiders would under no circumstances allow their names to be put up for ballot at the Stock Exchange; and between the conservatism of the old board, the temper of the new, and the great increase of business, the new board was a living being almost before its apparition was fairly perceived. After this had occurred candidates were sent before the old board from most of the prosperous houses in the new; and, after varying fortune, admitted. As time wore on it became clear that the two organizations must constantly come in contact, and that no one in active business could hope to confine his dealings exclusively to either of the two. A free and neutral ground was then provided by private enterprise, and here for a long time met the members of the two boards and such operators as chose to pay entrance fees. This gave more satisfaction to customers than to brokers, and many attempts were made to harmonize the two boards in a working plan for dealings, and for a long time without success. Every step had to be discussed in each assembly before it could be submitted for joint discussion. The old board was a democracy, in which sometimes one influence prevailed and sometimes another. The new board was guided by committees, which possessed very considerable power, but were still subject to human influences. Temper was at work in both associations, and for a long time it seemed doubtful if the plain interests of business were not to be sacrificed to some theory of the power of legislation. At last it seems that all parties tacitly admitted that, while they could legislate business away, they could hardly legislate it into their hands; and possibly they found out that business, like other human relations, is very apt to go where it finds itself best suited, taking everything into account. At any rate, the two rivals settled on a joint occupation of the Long Room of the Stock Exchange building, and there they meet when their own boards are not in session, and none but members of one of the organizations can buy and sell there. So far, then, their warfare is over; and so much for the origin and progress of the open board.

The Gold Room was a different affair. After the suspension of specie payment, when gold began to bear a small premium, transactions in the metal were for a time frequent on the Stock Exchange. The point of honor was to sell gold, and against this no one offered objections. It soon became clear, however, that to buy was the winning side, and buyers made their appearance boldly. This was unpatriotic and drew forth the anger of influential men. When people cannot deal where they would they deal where they can. Knowing quite well that foreign accounts had to be settled in gold, that foreign bankers had put most of their capital into gold and that the regular business of exchange furnished a constant market, those who wished to deal in gold lost little time in joining with the men engaged in foreign business, and so had a gold market of their own. Here they could buy or sell, as they pleased, without comment, unless it might be on the amounts they dealt in. Here it was well understood that every speculative buyer is of necessity a seller, and every speculative seller of necessity a buyer. These little facts had escaped the judgment of the patriotic men who called a man unpatriotic because he bought gold. But they were so patriotic that they may have thought the rebellion was to be crushed on Wall street, and that the premium on gold could be reduced, regardless of the progress of the war, simply by an honest frown.

The business in government stocks was, of course, largely withdrawn from the Stock Exchange by the direct appeals to the people, which are now identified with one man's name. Dealers in all classes of government securities sprang up to meet the public requirements, and would deal with anybody across the counter. Unheard of innovation. The board was being robbed and everything horrible would follow. Somehow it did not follow. Those members of the board who wished to share in this class of business actually went to work, and it is a positive fact that it paid them to do so. In due time, when the business had reached an importance that could not be denied, the board invited all persons of good standing in business as bankers to join a branch of the Stock Exchange for this exclusive business. The invitation was generally accepted, and the business among dealers is satisfactorily transacted under the auspices of the venerable old Stock Exchange.

The Mining and Petroleum Board has not been mentioned in this sketch, and in the absence of any good reason, either in the kind of business or its continued success it need not be.

After stating what Wall street is and attempting to give some idea of how it reached the present state of affairs, speculation as to the future is not out of place. And here the government branch of the Stock Exchange may be left out of sight, since those who belong only to it had no further object in joining it. The question simply concerns the two stock boards and the gold board, and mainly the stock boards.

It was supposed by many last spring that an amalgamation would speedily follow the working agreement upon which they then entered. There are no signs of such a change just now. Both boards seem to be on their dignity, even if either really desires it; the new is too proud of its demonstrated success, and the old is too proud of its long continued existence. Who is to mediate between them? Nobody, save the same stress of circumstances that has abated all their quarrels hitherto. Bad blood will have an outlet in some way, as in the past. After that comes repose, reflection and sensible arrangements for mutual benefit. It is now ununderstood and conceded that there is no such thing as divine right to the stock business, and while all are aware, and some quite painfully, that there are too many brokers in the street, all are willing to let each try his best and sink or swim as he can with brotherly impartiality. The principle of natural selection will send many back to callings which they deserted for the excitements, as they thought, of Wall street, and exhaustion will send many an imprudent man back to a desk in the office of some one who remembers his capacity as a bookkeeper before he was a full-blown broker. Failures will continue to occur and a time will come when they will be scrutinized much more closely than has hitherto been the case. Meanwhile fresh applicants for admission are constantly before the two boards and all the outward signs indicate a perpetual convergence without any actual union.

Beyond all this it must boldly be asserted that it is better the two boards should continue as they are. They have the benefits of their separate organizations in the first place, then they have all the benefits of union in their joint occupation of the long room; they can do business for each other and for customers at any rate of commission they please, and to crown all they have the inestimable privilege of paying more than two rents and of maintaining two entire sets of officers and two printing offices. If this will not reconcile men to existing circumstances, what will?

Of an amalgamation of these two with the gold board there is no present prospect. The last argument alone has cumulative force enough to forbid this.

But suppose a man of experience should dream that he saw organized here a stock exchange which fulfilled its promise and gave all facilities for dealings in stocks, government bonds, gold, and even foreign exchange, should he be allowed to parade his dream in Wall street? And if he further dreamed that three-quarters of the officers were suppressed together with their salaries and that men found it possible to deal without a president, what then? Knock him on the head for a madman.

## THE OLD QUARANTINE.

**The Counsel of the Quarantine Commissioners Comes Again to the Rescue of the Quarantine Ground Purchasers.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

A correspondent in your issue of to-day asks some further information in regard to the sale of the Quarantine grounds. He precedes his inquiries with a question which has no connection with that matter and makes a statement which has no existence in fact. I have never said or advised "that no appeal could be made from the decision of Dr. Swinburne, no matter how flagrantly wrong that decision might be." I have simply advised that matters resting purely in the discretion of that officer were not reviewable on appeal to the Quarantine Commissioners. The correctness of this advice, I think, will not be questioned by any lawyer.

Your correspondent suggests a doubt whether my statement can be relied upon as a faithful account of the transaction in the sale of the Quarantine grounds. If he will take the trouble to call at my office I will show him such records and documents as I think will satisfy even him that I am not accustomed to publish false statements.

At the proper time the Board who made that sale will make an official report to the Legislature, giving a full account of that transaction. Were I alone concerned I should await that report for a full justification of all I had to do with the sale, but as my silence might do injustice to others I will briefly reply to some of the remaining portions of your correspondent's letter.

He says that, "though he reads all the morning papers of New York the advertisement under which the recent sale was made never came under his eyes." This advertisement was published in the following New York papers, viz.:—The *Post*, the *Express*, the *World*, the *Times* and the *Tribune*. It was also published in the Brooklyn *Eagle*, the Brooklyn *Daily Union* and the Williamsburg *Times*, and, I believe, in every one of the papers published on Staten Island. The directions given were to publish in each of the daily papers above mentioned twice in each week for three consecutive weeks, and I presume the direction was complied with, though of that I cannot personally speak, as I did not watch each paper to see whether the notice appeared as often as was required. The advertisement was inserted in the papers above mentioned in the months of May and June last, and if it escaped the notice of your correspondent it was not for want of an effort on my part to notify the public that the Quarantine grounds were for sale. And here I may add that the Board hardly deemed it necessary to advertise the property so extensively, as it had already been several times before advertised for sale, and the fact that it was in the market was generally well understood by the public.

Your correspondent asks, "Where did the sale take place?" The written offer for the property was handed to me as the secretary and counsel of the Board, and was by me submitted to the Board at a meeting held at the office of the Quarantine Commissioners on the 4th day of August last, at which the offer was accepted, and the fact of such acceptance was then duly certified to the Governor, Comptroller and Secretary of State, by whom the sale was approved, as stated in my previous letter. Afterwards the papers were submitted to the Commissioners of the Land Office, who directed a patent to issue, in accordance with law.

Your correspondent next desires to know whether the purchasers have paid the cash agreement of $100,000 and asks my opinion as to whether they are capable of paying the balance out of their own property. I answer, they have complied strictly with the terms of their offer. They have paid to the treasurer of the Board $70,000 in cash, which is now on deposit in the United States Trust Company and will be used to defray the cost of erecting the new boarding station on West Bank as fast as the contractor shall be entitled to receive it. The balance of the purchase money, $150,000, is paid by the purchasers assuming an encumbrance to that amount now on the property; that encumbrance consists of a mortgage executed by the Commissioners of Emigration to the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, pursuant to authority given by chapter 28 of the laws of 1850, and which mortgage was duly recorded in the clerk's office of Richmond county. As this property is conveyed to the purchasers subject to this mortgage, and as your correspondent says it is worth $1,000,000, it matters not whether they are able to pay it or not. The land is worth the money and the State cannot be the loser by their failure. Your correspondent suggests that the most sensible way to have disposed of the property would have been to divide it into lots and dispose of them separately to the highest bidder. Such is not the opinion of many of the best judges of real estate with whom I have conversed, taking the property in its present condition, without any streets being opened, with conflicting views as to where they should be opened, and with no power on the part of the Board to improve the property before the sale. Besides there were two serious obstacles to a sale of the property in this mode. One was that a release of separate lots from the lien of the mortgage could not be secured before the sale, so as to convey a perfect title; and another was that the property could not, under the law, be sold at auction subject to a reservation of the use of the landing and boarding station, which, under existing circumstances, was deemed to be indispensably necessary.

Your correspondent seems much exercised by the fact that the deed of the property is not yet on record. Whether it is or not is a matter which does not concern me. I am not aware of any law that requires the purchasers to record the deed unless they choose to do so. But I presume that ordinary prudence will cause them soon to gratify the curiosity of your correspondent by placing the document on record.

HENRY W. JOHNSON.

NEW YORK, October 10, 1868.