

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Republican Association—Election of Officers—Speech of Attorney General Akerman, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6th, 1879.

EDITORS CHRONICLE.—The Southern Republican Association of this city is now no longer a creation of the imagination only, but is assuming the proportions of a living, practical power in the Republican ranks.

With such active men at its head as General Allan Rutherford, of North Carolina, as President, Judge J. J. Martin, of Alabama, as Vice President, united with the labors of energetic members like Capt. Merritt, of Tennessee, Butler, of Georgia, Flood, of Virginia, and Major Wrapp, of West Virginia, together with a host of others who have "faced the music," in Southern States, in nearly every struggle and campaign during and since the war, this Association is destined to accomplish a work potent with the most gratifying results to the Republican cause in the South.

At the next business meeting, held on to-night, a new election of officers takes place, which no doubt will result in the reelection of the present very able enunciations. After this election, a political committee will be appointed, consisting of one member from each Congressional District of every Southern State represented, whose duty it will be to distribute documents and look after the interests of his respective District, by working in and through the Republican organizations at home.

The speech of Attorney General Akerman recently delivered before this Association, on "The Political Situation at the South," at Lincoln Hall, was as much a treat to Washington as it was a success for and a compliment to the Association. It is understood that this speech will be used to a considerable extent by the Congressional Republican Committee as a campaign document, and we will be enabled to distribute it throughout the South at but little expense.

It is generally considered here in political circles that the reelection of the Hon. Horace Maynard is as certain as it is an act of justice to this veteran legislator. Bitter opposition to a man of such marked ability and purity of character does not surprise us, but is always to be expected. But when we trace this opposition to its source, and find it to be the detestable issue of rebel hatred to loyal men, we come to the support of Mr. Maynard with a pride that the chief slanders against our Representative are uttered by the same tongues which sounded forth, in flaming sheets of ruin, the bloody sentiments of treason. Is not this a fact? Let it be answered at the polls by a unanimous support of Mr. Maynard, by every Republican who can boast of a ballot in his hand. One of the chief allegations of his traducers is, that he holds himself above the masses of his constituents and the common yeomanry of his District.

That he is reserved and is no great "babler" who grins and smiles at every step for favor and popularity he will acknowledge, but the assertion that his reticence is the offspring of a feeling of superiority either in moral or intellectual attainments, from place of birth or education, is as malicious as it is utterly false. While we admire allively, whole-souled man, we have heard so much of this false adulation lavished upon men here and everywhere to obtain favors which vanished as soon as the favor was wanted, or the vote deposited, and have seen men ride into offices of responsibility upon an assumed sociability and familiar "gab," without either the stability of character or the necessary attainments as the basis for their aspirations or demands upon their party, to the utter disgust of all men of prudence and honesty, that to find a man who depends more upon his works for the support of his constituents is almost as rare in the political field as a delicious spring in a sandy desert.

We all know how Mr. Maynard is regarded at home by the Republican party—as an honest and learned statesman. Let us see how he is estimated by members of the House. In order to obtain his exact status I inquired of a Northern member—a Christian gentleman—from whom I knew I would get the truth—how Mr. M. stood with his fellow-members. "Well," said he, "Horace Maynard is regarded, by far, the best and ablest man you have from the South." I further inquired the extent of his influence. His warm and animated response was: "When I get Maynard, and one or two others of similar stamina voting on a bill of mine, I have no fears as to the result."

Let the Republicans of the 2d District of East Tennessee remember that they are honored with a Representative in Congress who stands at the head of Southern statesmen, whose record for the last decade or more in public life has not a blemish to cause them regret; who resisted the red-hot blasts of treason hurled against him during and since the war unshaken, and sustained their honor and that of the State, while to our shame, numbers of our citizens, from the President down, have fallen before the temptations and trials of a Southern loyalist. But Mr. Maynard—true to the loyal people of the South—has been their firm champion, having his eye fixed steadily upon the plain path of duty and the interests of his suffering people. His course elicits the admiration of all Tennessee Republicans in Washington who join with me in giving "three cheers" for Mr. Maynard and the Republican party in East Tennessee. W. R. M.

When a horse refuses to eat, he should not be made to do any more service that day, for it may be known that he is tired or sick. It is barbarous to compel a horse to perform labor when in such a condition that he refuses grain, yet it is often done, and by men, too, who think they are merciful.

THE WARS OF NAPOLEON III.—The present war is the fourth one in which France has been engaged under the present Emperor. The Crimean campaign cost him 80,000 men and \$1,700,000 in treasure; the Italian war cost 60,000 men and \$300,000,000, and China and Mexico cost 65,000 men and \$200,000,000. What the present difficulty will cost no man can foresee, but unless it ends speedily in the utter humiliation of France, it cannot fail to be by far the most expensive struggle both in blood and treasure that France has seen under the present empire. Added to all this drain on the country, is the enormous increase of the standing army, a perfect and sufficient expansion of the almost stationary condition in which the French people have been during the past fifteen years. Whatever is spent in war and on standing armies is a direct outlay for which there is no equivalent except in the fruits of conquest, and the failure of Napoleon to conquer anything of any value has put his war account wholly upon the debit side of the books.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—Cruelty to animals indicates a very bad heart. Mr. Berg points the moral on this subject by some historical facts: A royal child, afterward Louis XIII., once crushed beneath the heel of his boot a little sparrow, which had taken refuge in his bosom; seeing which, the good King, his father, Henry IV., exclaimed to his Queen, "Wife," said he, "I pray I may outlive that son, else he will be sure to maltreat his mother." And the prediction was verified, for that mother, Catharine de Medicis, died in poverty and exile, inflicted by that same son, Peter the Cruel, King of Spain; Peter the Cruel, King of Portugal; Peter the Great, as well as cruel, Emperor of Russia, prepared themselves for the crimes which soiled their reigns by the little cruelties inflicted on inferior animals.

BRILLIANT REPARTEE.—One morning after the campaign of Dresden, Napoleon observed Talleyrand at his levee, and bade him remain, as he wished to talk privately with him. After the company had gone, he went up to Talleyrand and bawled: "What have you come here for? To show me your ingratitude? You give the public to believe that you belong to a party in opposition! You think, I dare say, that were I to die, you would be President of the Council of Regency. Now, mark my words: Were I so much as dangerously ill, the first thing I should do would be to have you shot." Talleyrand, with the grace and quiet of a courtier who had just received new favors, bowed low and respectfully as he replied: "I did not require, sire, such a warning to address most fervent prayers to heaven to vouchsafe health and long life to your majesty."

TERMS OF PEACE.—There is good authority for believing that definite propositions for peace will be offered in behalf of the provisional government of Paris, and that Thiers is authorized to lay them before the British government, whose intervention is solicited. The terms are as follows: Payment to Prussia of the war expenses. Destruction of all the forts in Alsace and Lorraine. Temporary occupation of Metz and Strasbourg by German troops until the election of an authorized government for France and the ratification of the treaty by the proper authorities.

PARIS SAFE FROM THE INVADERS.—Gen. Trochu reiterates his statement that Paris is safe. The adjoining departments are organizing. Reports having been circulated that the Municipal Guard was averse to defending the city, the officers and men have published a statement to the effect that they will fight to the last. The *Moniteur* says orders have been given to barricade the streets to render any assaults of the enemy more difficult. People are quitting the city with the utmost haste, now that the Prussians have approached so near. There seems to be but one patriotic sentiment among the people.

THE WOMAN OF STENAY.—The Lorraine peasant loves to narrate the story of the "Woman of Stenay," who offered a barrel of wine to a detachment of Austrians, saying: "You are thirsty, friends; drink; you are welcome to all my store." drinking, as she spoke, a cupful in their honor. The soldiers accepted with pleasure, and in a few minutes four hundred men were writhing on the ground in agony. Then the "Woman of Stenay" rose, and, with her dying gasp, shrieked out, "You are all poisoned! Vive la France!" fell back a corpse. This is the legend of Lorraine, and the memory of its heroine is revered by the peasantry as high as that of Charlotte Corday.

Napoleon, it would seem, is having a luxurious time as a prisoner of King William. Attended by two physicians, sixteen officers, and forty servants, his physical wants must be pretty well looked after. Surrounded as he is by his personal sycophants, who vie with one another in their attentions, he can not, nevertheless, forget the disasters he has brought upon a great people. He may console himself with the thought, however, that he was the unwitting cause of the creation of a new Republic in place of the Empire which he misgoverned.—*Wash. Chronicle.*

Josh Billings has been to Long Branch, and therefore writes: "The biggest thing they have got here for the present is the pool of water in front of the hotels. The pool is used, by good judges, to be 30,000 miles in length, and in some places 5 miles in the thickness. Into this, every day at 10 o'clock, the folks all retire—males and females, and widder, promiskies. They dress in flannel, attire of many colors, and look as near like, when they are in the pool, as a flock of ducks and drakes. The water in the pool has stood so long it has got salty, and ought to be changed."

A charming story is told by a foreign correspondent of the Crown Prince of Prussia.—A for the battle of Welschburg several hundred prisoners fled in with high heads and stern looks, poor fellows! Gen. Von Bittenfeld and his staff looked at them coldly. Suddenly the Prince of Prussia rode up, and when he saw the prisoners he took off his hat with serious respect and bowed to them; then, turning to Von Bittenfeld and the others he said, "Salute courage, gentlemen; never in my life have I seen anything so brave as these soldiers, whom ill-luck has played falsely."

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