National Republican.

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CAPITAL TOPICS.

CHANGES IN THE CABINET

DON CAMERON WAR MINISTER

JUDGE TAFT ATTORNEY GENERAL

MR. PIERREPONT GOES TO ENGLAND

MR. ROBESON KILLS A LIE

THE STAR-CHAMBER COMMITTEE'S REPORT

A Series of Ex-Parte Statements

THE DEAD OF OUR ASYLUMS

MEMORIAL FROM MR. CLAPP

A RASCALLY EX-CONFEDERATE WITNESS

BRUMIDI'S PICTURE OF JOHN FITCH

More Confederate Lies Nailed.

The Secretary of the Navy says that the publication by the Naval Committee of the House of the testimony taken in Philadelphia, before giving him or the officers of his Department any opportunity to state the true version of the affairs inquired into, is but one instance of the unfair action of the committee. The testimony taken has extended over all the operations of his Department for more than seven years, and has entered into the details of almost every transaction. The examination has been conducted in secret session, in a manner to leave everything, as far as possible, unexplained, without notice to anybody sought to be implicated, and without any opportunity to repel any inference, and the evidence is now published in detached parts, so that such explanations as have come out in the course of the examination are either not published, or have no apparent connection with the matters they explain.

He says he is ready and anxious to go before the committee whenever they will hear him; that he has been silent hitherto with the idea that the testimony would not be published until both sides were heard, but that now he thinks he has a right to demand a speedy hearing with open doors, so that the public can have his testimony at once, and the justification follow as soon as possible after the publication of the matters complained of. He says that his business transactions with the Cattells, since he has been in the Navy Department, have been very few, and will be easily explained; that the circumstances of the Monmouth Beach property were fully explained in the testimony of Mr. Alexander G. Cattell, taken two months since in Washington, but which has never been published.

He says further that it will appear that Mr. E. G. Cattell's transactions were studiously concealed from him; that the persons with whom he carried them on were persons who were wholly unknown to the Secretary, and who never came in contact with the Department proper, and that the Secretary never either gave, or directed, or recommended any contract or any favor of any kind to any one of them. Indeed, he says that it will appear that it was never his habit, in conducting the business of the Department, to interfere with the details of either contracts or prices, leaving that to the proper officers, who are selected as experts in these matters and with whom it by law belongs.

He pronounces the statement appearing in some of the papers to the effect that the testimony shows that the Cattells have paid him large sums of money which they cannot account for to be entirely false; that, on the contrary, the truth is, and the testimony already taken shows that they never paid to or advanced for him since he came into the Navy Department any money which was not repaid by him, except the cost of the Monmouth Beach cottage, the repayment of which is amply secured to them.

The Silver Question

was argued before the Banking and Currency Committee yesterday by Hons. N. P. Banks and S. J. Randall.

Internal Revenue Reform.

The Ways and Means Committee will to-day hear the advocates of internal reform on the distilled spirits bills.

The Question of Jurisdiction,

in the Belknap case, has become so close a matter that neither side wants a test until all the probabilities are thoroughly canvassed.

The Schenck Report.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs yesterday agreed to report on the case of ex-Minister R. C. England Schenck. The report acquits him of any international fraud, but censures him for allowing his official position to be used to give credit to the directory.

Financial.

The receipts from internal revenue yesterday were $708,680.79, and from customs, $455,359.92. The following were the balances in the Treasury at the close of business yesterday: Currency, $10,422,813; special deposit of legal-tenders for redemption of certificates of deposit, $37,355,000; coin, $71,362,998; including coin certificates, $27,004,800; outstanding legal-tenders, $370,027,876.

Judge Miller as the "Great Unknown."

George Alfred Townsend writes to the New York *Graphic* that perhaps Judge Miller, of Iowa, now on the Supreme Bench, is the dark horse. He is a man of exceeding power, will, sociability and learning. Miller is, like Bristow, a native of Kentucky, a staunch Republican and the ablest jurist west of the Mississippi river. His character is lofty, his person is attractive and he is in the prime of life, a fine orator and accomplished.

The Flagstaff Mine Patent.

Ex-Senator McDonald, of Arkansas, testified yesterday before the Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department that he paid General William Shafer $5,000, which was paid by the latter to John Delano, chief clerk of the Interior Department. The object was to withhold the patent to the Flagstaff mine, adjoining the Emma mine, in Utah, until they asked its issue. He said he gave the money to Shafer, and did not know until the latter told him to whom it was paid.

Brumidi's Picture of John Fitch.

Mr. Brumidi, the artist, has just completed a picture of John Fitch, the original inventor of the steamboat, over the door opposite the room of the Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. It represents Fitch at work on his model, which is placed on a table, while a tool-chest is seen in his right. In the upper right-hand corner of the picture is a representation of the steamboat as devised by him, showing the large paddle-wheel by which it was to be propelled.

Naval Orders.

Lieutenant Commander A. H. Wright, ordered to assume the temporary command of the Michigan at Erie, Pa. Commander James H. Gillis detached from the command of the Michigan and ordered to equipment duty at the navy yard, New York, first of June next. Passed Assistant Engineer Joseph R. Harmony from the Pensacola, at the navy yard, Mare Island, Cal., with permission to go to his home. Passed Assistant Surgeon Abel F. Price from the receiving ship Independence, Mare Island, (Cal.) navy yard, and placed on sick leave.

The New Secretary of War.

Mr. J. Donald Cameron is, like his father, (Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, a man of great vitality, energy and deservings. He is public spirited, strong in every essential to the proper conduct of the office, and cannot fail to make a first-class Secretary. He is only forty-three years old, but has held in troublous times the presidency of the Northern Central railway, which was in fact then a more important and responsible office than the War Secretaryship is in times of peace. He is a man of business and very wealthy.

Reunion of Old Comrades.

The Society of the Army of the Potomac, General Winfield S. Hancock, president, holds its seventh annual reunion at the Academy of Music, in Philadelphia, Tuesday, the 6th of June. The oration will be delivered by General John A. Dix, and the poem by Mr. William Winter, of New York. The meeting of various corps belonging to the Army of the Potomac will be held June 5. The Society of the Army of the Cumberland, General P. H. Sheridan, president, and the Society of the Army of the James, General A. H. Terry, president, meet in Philadelphia June 6 and 7.

Credit of the Awards.

The President transmitted to the Senate to-day, in response to the resolution of that body of March 27 last, a report from the Secretary of State showing that at the date of the resolution the Department had in its possession to the credit of the awards of the United States and Venezuelan Mixed Commission $31,480 in United States bonds, $5,073 in coin, $769 in currency, and £1,200 in London, being the amount of drafts received from the Venezuelan Government and sent there for collection. Secretary Fish also mentions that on the 28th ultimo he issued an advertisement offering to distribute eight per cent. of the sum awarded among the holders of the certificates, and adds that since that date the further sum of $13,058 has been received on the same account.

Confirmations.

The Senate in executive session yesterday confirmed the following nominations: Edwards Pierrepont, of New York, to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Great Britain; Alfonso Taft, of Ohio, to be Attorney General of the United States; James Donald Cameron, of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary of War; John Pratt, to be Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico; John S. Brahton, of Virginia, to be Consul at Montevideo; John J. Redick, to be Associate Justice of New Mexico; James R. Hayden, to be collector of internal revenue, Washington Territory; Benjamin F. Chambers, of Nebraska, to be register of the land office at Niobra, Neb.; Andrew J. Evans, to be United States attorney for the Western district of Texas; Nathan Goff, to be United States attorney for the District of West Virginia; Andrew M. Wheeler, postmaster at Danville, Va.; George M. Miller, postmaster at Appleton, Wis., and Seth W. Clark, to be Recorder of the General Land Office, vice C. W. Halbomb, resigned.

The Cabinet Changes—Views Expressed at the Capitol.

The Capitol yesterday was at both ends and in the middle a scene of great political excitement, growing out of the nominations of Mr. Pierrepont for the Court of St. James, Mr. Taft for the Attorney Generalship and Don Cameron for the War Department. Either of these nominations would have created a sensation; but coming altogether, a question as to why General Schenck was to be removed and Attorney General Pierrepont put in his place, and why Hon. Alfonso Taft was to be made Attorney General, and their fitnesses for the offices, were left out of the question. The whole discussion was upon the question why Don Cameron was appointed. It was generally conceded that this was a movement in favor of Senator Conkling, because it was intended that through these changes the Republican delegates from the States of Pennsylvania were to cast their votes at Cincinnati in his favor instead of in favor of Mr. Blaine, as was generally supposed they would. (Columns of comment were sent from Washington to the New Northern and Western papers upon the changes.

Exeunt Doorkeeper Fitzhugh.

As will be seen by reference to another column, Doorkeeper Fitzhugh was yesterday stripped of the slate by a resolution from the Committee on Rules. The effect of this is to put the position temporarily in the hands of the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, but the disposition shown in the debate was decidedly against the consolidation of the two offices of Doorkeeper and Sergeant-at-Arms. It was distinctly understood that this was to be a temporary thing, Mr. Fitzhugh and his son Fay were in the background all the time, the former feeling towards the last that he had made a mistake when he stated that he was "a tiger man from old Clay." As soon as the resolution was adopted the candidates for his place were as numerous as blackberries, but the general verdict seemed to be that Mr. Patterson, of New Jersey, should be the temporary incumbent, he being a prominent man for the office before, holding fifty-two votes for Sergeant-at-Arms, was entitled to the place. If it becomes a question of strength and merit combined, Mr. Patterson will get it; if there is a disposition to avoid all canvass, it may be given to Mr. Jennings, assistant doorkeeper.

The Blaine Bond Investigation.

Chairman Hunton, of the sub-Committee on Judiciary, investigating the Blaine bond case, asked permission of the full committee this morning to summon Josiah Caldwell from Europe as a witness. The committee declined to grant the request. A proposition was then submitted as to whether the sub-committee should take hearsay testimony. It was decided that the committee should, provided the witnesses from whom the hearsay statements originated were within the reach of a Congressional summons. Several Arkansas witnesses are anxious to swear that Caldwell told them to see to it that the bonds of the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad to effect legislation in the interest of the road at Washington. It is generally believed that Caldwell made off with a good many of the bonds and reported that he had used them here in order to get a settlement with the road, and that he diverted the proceeds of the same to his own use. The manifest injustice of hearing this class of testimony is apparent, as Caldwell could not be brought here before the Cincinnati convention, and in the meantime Mr. Blaine's calumniators could circulate their scandals.

Another Nice Witness.

At last a committee of the ex-Confederate House has reached a rascally witness who has got them into trouble. They could stand Bell against Babcock, Bluford Wilson and General Dyer; Marsh and Carter against General Belknap; Jim Lyon against Secretary Bigglesworth, testament that President Grant went through the keyhole to see him at midnight; the perjurer Selye against Morey, and Johnny Davenport's showing of Democratic frauds; but the climax seems to have been reached when the sub-committee, moreover, in which Louisiana special committee that most of the cigar importers of New Orleans, all Democrats, deserve the penitentiary on account of smuggling, bribery and forgery, the Louisiana committee is now very anxious to prevent their official visit to Louisiana, because of the effrontery of the witness they picked up, and begin to believe that not only are all the custom-house people in New Orleans honest, but they claim that the cigar importers are also honest. A number of the members of the committee are beginning to believe that Selye, who swears he agreed to murder, committed perjury, levied blackmail and is a forger, may not be entirely reliable, though he swears against a Republican member of Congress.

The Dead of Our Asylums.

The bill introduced by Mr. Buckner yesterday for the advancement of medical and surgical science and for the better protection of cemeteries in the District of Columbia, provides that the bodies of persons dying in any asylum, hospital, almshouse, jail or other public institution in the District of Columbia, supported in whole or in part by the District of Columbia or the General Government, or whose burial is at the public expense, shall be turned over to designated medical and surgical institutions for dissection; provided that if the deceased makes a request not to be so turned over, or if any of the kindred or friends of the deceased make such a request within twenty-four hours after death, or if the deceased was imprisoned for debt, as a warrant, or on suspicion of crime, or a stranger or traveler, then the body shall be decently buried.

The bill further provides for the decent burial after they have been used for anatomical purposes, and no such remains shall be unnecessarily mutilated or disfigured, and for every willful violation of the provisions of this act a penalty of not less than $500 nor more than $500 is imposed. The Board of Health is to regulate the delivery of bodies for dissection, but none are to go outside the District, and any one delivering remains in violation of the act is to be subject to imprisonment not exceeding seven years.

Army Orders.

The leave of absence granted Capt. David S. Gordon, 2d cavalry, (Fort Fred Steele, Wyoming Territory,) is extended two months. Leave of absence for ten months, with permission to go beyond the sea, is granted First Lieutenant Henry Seton, (Fort Fred Steele.) The leave of absence granted Capt. E. R. Ames, 6th infantry, is extended until October 31, 1876, and his resignation has been accepted by the President to take effect on that date. First Lieutenant James B. Quinn, corps of engineers, is relieved from duty under the orders of Capt. C. W. Howell, and will report in person to Major H. L. Abbott, at Willet's Point, New York, for duty with the battalion of engineers. Leave of absence for two months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted to Capt. D. W. Poffner, assistant quartermaster, (Charleston, S. C.,) with permission to leave the Department of the South. Second Lieutenants James E. Macklin, company F, and Edward W. Casey, company I, of 23d infantry, will change positions. Leave of absence for eleven days is granted First Lieutenant Thomas J. Gregg, 2d cavalry, (Pittsburg, Pa.) A board of medical officers, consisting of Col. Charles H. Crane, assistant surgeon general, Lieutenant Colonels Simmons and Dallas Bache will assemble in this city on the 24th inst. to determine and report upon a question to be placed before it in papers to be transmitted by the adjutant general of the army.

The Insane Asylum Investigation.

The Committee on the Expenditures of the Interior Department resumed their investigation of the management of the United States Insane Asylum yesterday. A letter was read from Miss D. L. Dix, speaking of Dr. Nichols in very complimentary terms, and as a "benefactor of the unfortunate." She states that she has known Dr. Nichols in family and social life for thirty years, and as superintendent of the asylum, interested from principle, as well as ready choice, in the labor of his profession. Were, therefore, such a man is charged with willful inhumanities, with sanctioning or permitting brutality and severe treatment of the helpless and dependent persons intrusted to him for guardian protection and healing treatment, it is safe as it is sure to say such charges cannot be sustained.

The letter is dated Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, near Pittsburg, Pa., May 19. Miss Dix not being able to be present, her letter was accepted as evidence.

Mr. Voorhees, counsel for Dr. Nichols, said that while there had still a number of witnesses they could examine, as well as a numbered patients who have been cured and their friends who would give favorable testimony, still he did not think that they would call any more witnesses, as he felt that they had met all specific allegations and had submitted sufficient testimony in regard to the management of the asylum. He said they could be taking testimony *pro* and *con.* for three months, and still not get out the more facts. He said that if the committee intended to hear any more charges against the asylum they would meet them.

The committee informed him that they would further examine Dr. Nichols to-day, and would decide by that time whether or not they would hear any more witnesses.

The New Secretary of War.

A dispatch received from Hon. James Donald Cameron, the new Secretary of War, last night was to the effect that, while he fully appreciated the compliment the President had conferred by appointing him as Secretary of War, and by the Senate in so promptly confirming him, he was still in the doctor's hands. He said he would not be able to leave home for several days, and that in the meantime he would decide whether or no to accept.

Partisan Purity Compared.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* says: "On February 9 the Senate passed a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Senate what balances are on the books of the Treasury against public officers, the statement to embrace the accounts of all such officers or parties in which balances have accrued since January 1, 1830. In response to this resolution, Commissioner of Customs Johnson, by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, has prepared a statement showing the balances standing against customs officers and disbursing agents not customs officers. In submitting this tabulated statement, Commissioner Johnson makes the following explanatory remarks: 'In this connection, I deem it my duty to call your attention to the following facts shown by the statement mentioned: The total collection from customs from Jan. 1, 1830, to June 30, 1850, (see Finance Report, 1875, page 672,) were $1,006,258,043.05; the outstanding balances from the same time, $2,755,115.12, the total collections from July 1, 1850, to June 30, 1875, $2,170,460,215.90; outstanding balances for the same time, $1,431,148.82; from which deduct amount advanced to E. P. Fox, R. L. Maxon, unprocured but account not yet adjusted, $1,025,000, leaving actually outstanding, $426,148.82. The loss on the transactions of customs officers being, from 1830 to 1850, $25 in 10,000; from 1850 to 1875, $10 in $100,000. Owing to the lapse of time, it is supposed but little of the deficiency accruing prior to 1850 will be collected, and the rate of loss given—$25 in $10,000—may be considered as fixed, while of the deficiency arising since that time there is every probability of so much being accounted for as to materially reduce the rate of loss for the period from 1850 to 1875, viz: $10 in $100,000. I am impressed with the belief that no private business in this country has been conducted with so small a loss as that given for the first period, viz: $25 in $10,000, and when we consider the loss during the second period, it seems incredibly small, viz., $10 in $100,000, and is convincing evidence of the general efficiency and integrity of the officers engaged in collecting the vast sums involved and paying them into the Treasury. A similar examination of the facts presented in the second statement gives the following result: Total amounts from 1830 to 1850, amounting to $2,755,115.12, the deficiency was $20,959.39, or $76 in $10,000; on disbursements from 1850 to 1875, amounting to $2,423,625.94, the deficiency was $1,319.45, or $54 in $100,000—$379.38 of the $1,319.45 has been paid into the Treasury since this letter was written, leaving this deficiency $940.09. This exhibit demonstrates that the same care and fidelity to the Government which was shown by customs officers in accounting for duties collected was also exercised in the disbursements of Congressional appropriations by those having them in charge.

Memorial of Mr. Clapp.

The memorial of A. M. Clapp, Government printer, presented to the Senate yesterday by Mr. Sherman, and referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, sets forth the resolution of the House of Representatives under which the Printing Committee of that body has conducted its recent investigation, and states that the memorialist and his subordinates attended as witnesses and furnished to it a number of books which are necessary to the transaction of the business of the Government printing office, and which the committee failed to return.

The memorialist further represents that the purpose of said committee seems to have been to cast censure upon him, and that much of the testimony taken relates to matters wholly outside of the scope of the investigation directed by the House of Representatives. He continues as follows: "If it was the purpose of said committee to ascertain the truth in regard to the management of said printing establishment, they were alike unfortunate in their selection of witnesses and in the manner of their examination. Many of the witnesses had been employees, and had been dismissed from said establishment for cause. These witnesses manifested the utmost willingness to state pretended facts calculated to throw discredit upon your memorialist.

Other witnesses were engaged in the business of printing and binding, and looked upon the Government printing establishment as being in the way of their jobs they might expect to secure should the Government depart from its present policy and return to the contract system of printing.

Your memorialist further represents that the treatment of your memorialist and his subordinates and employees, while before said committee, was abusive and tyrannical, and when their answers, containing a truthful statement of facts, were not satisfactory to the committee, they were threatened with punishment for contempt of the House. The well-established methods of examining witnesses in courts of justice were departed from, and the rules of evidence which have been found by centuries of experience necessary to ascertain truth and exclude error were constantly violated.

And the committee has reported to the House a mass of stuff, consisting of hearsay, gossip, speculation and opinions of witnesses based upon errors of fact, which is as unjust to your memorialist as it is injurious to his reputation as an officer of the Senate.

Mr. Clapp, after expressing his belief that "Mr. Franklin Rives and other persons" have entered into a conspiracy to ruin him, the publication of the Congressional debates, which, if successful, would enrich Rives at the expense of the Government, proceeds to state that the House committee on the 24th ultimo informed him that they intended soon to close the case, and allowed less than three days to examine the testimony against him and produce other witnesses to rebut it. He asserts that this time was utterly insufficient for the purpose, and he, moreover, he was then advised by counsel that the House had no jurisdiction to impeach, criticise or censure him, and that he ought not to make an appearance at the time indicated.

In conclusion he declares that he is ready and able to vindicate his official character against all aspersions, and prays an investigation by some committee of the Senate.

POLITICAL CONVENTIONS.

Complete List of the Dates of the State and National Conventions of Both Parties.

The dates on which the National Republican and Democratic conventions are to be held, and the dates of all the State conventions charged with the duty of electing delegates to them, are given in the table below. Conventions yet to be held are printed in italics. It should be stated that the district delegates to Cincinnati from Maine, Massachusetts and North Carolina are chosen by district conventions; only the delegates from the State at large being selected at the time or in the manner here mentioned:

ALABAMA	*Republican,*	May 16 and 24.
	Democratic,	May 31.
ARKANSAS	Republican,	April 27.
	Democratic,	June 14.
CALIFORNIA	Republican,	April 26.
	Democratic,	May 24.
CONNECTICUT	Republican,	Feb. 23.
	Democratic,	Feb. 23.
DELAWARE	Republican,	May 18.
	Democratic,	June 13.
FLORIDA	*Republican,*	May 31.
	Democratic,	June 21.
GEORGIA	Republican,	May 3.
	Democratic,	April 26.
ILLINOIS	*Republican,*	May 24.
	Democratic,	June 22.
INDIANA	Republican,	Feb. 22.
	Democratic,	April 19.
IOWA	*Republican,*	May 31.
	Democratic,	May 17.
KANSAS	*Republican,*	May 24.
	Democratic,	May 18.
KENTUCKY	Republican,	May 18.
	Democratic,	May 25.
LOUISIANA	*Republican,*	May 30.
	Democratic,	Jan. 5.
MAINE	Republican, chosen by members of legislature.	
	Democratic,	June 13.
MARYLAND	Republican,	May 4.
	Democratic,	May 31.
MASSACHUSETTS	Republican,	April 26.
	Democratic,	Sept. 22, 1875.
MICHIGAN	Republican,	May 10.
	Democratic,	May 24.
MINNESOTA	*Republican,*	May 24.
	Democratic,	June 1.
MISSISSIPPI	Republican,	March 30.
	Democratic,	June 14.
MISSOURI	*Republican,*	May 24.
	Democratic,	May 31.
NEBRASKA	*Republican,*	May 23.
	Democratic,	April 19.
NEVADA	Republican, appointed by State Committee.	
	Democratic,	May 15.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	*Republican,*	May 24.
	Democratic,	Jan. 12.
NEW JERSEY	Republican,	May 17.
	Democratic,	May 23.
NEW YORK	Republican,	March 22.
	Democratic,	April 25.
NORTH CAROLINA	Republican, appointed by State Committee.	
	Democratic,	June 14.
OHIO	Republican,	March 29.
	Democratic,	May 17.
OREGON	Republican,	May 3.
	Democratic,	April 26.
PENNSYLVANIA	Republican,	March 29.
	Democratic,	March 22.
RHODE ISLAND	Republican,	March 23.
	Democratic,	March 16.
SOUTH CAROLINA	Republican,	April 13.
	Democratic,	May 4.
TENNESSEE	Republican,	May 17.
	Democratic,	May 31.
TEXAS	Republican,	Jan. 12.
	Democratic,	Jan. 5.
VERMONT	Republican,	March 29.
	Democratic,	June 1.
VIRGINIA	Republican,	April 12.
	Democratic,	May 31.
WEST VIRGINIA	Republican,	May 11.
	Democratic,	June 8.
WISCONSIN	Republican,	Feb. 22.
	Democratic,	June 7.
NATIONAL	*Republican,*	June 14.
	Democratic,	June 27.

Vineland Revival.

VINELAND, N. J., May 22.—The revival meetings held by Rev. E. P. Hammond are increasing in interest. Yesterday a large meeting was held in the open air for unconverted people, and in the evening the Rev. Mr. Randall's church was packed with "professed" ones. The Rev. Mr. Hammond is being assisted by Prof. W. W. Bentley and the pastors of Vineland.

OLIVER P. MORTON.

A REVIEW OF HIS PROSPECTS

A THOROUGHLY SOUND REPUBLICAN

MUST BE BROUGHT FORWARD

Senator Morton Is Such a Man

THE EFFECTIVE LABORS OF HIS FRIENDS

Senator Conkling the Second Choice

[Special to the Alta California.]

WASHINGTON, May 21, 1876.

The Republican National Convention will convene at Cincinnati in about three weeks. The 14th of June is not now far off. The near approach of this important event is having a marked effect upon the more discreet and wise men in the Republican party, who have heretofore kept aloof from partisanship and have abstained from expressing opinions concerning rival candidates, while the political card players have been stocking their cards for the risky game of nomination. These men, who represent the reserve force and sound judgment of the party, are now beginning to assert the control, which rightfully belongs to them. The friends of rival candidates, moved by personal considerations, and in some cases by the direct generalship of their ambitious leaders, have brought to the surface their individual strength in expressions of local preference, and it is easy now to compare their relative merits. The great mass of the party will not consider

THESE PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS

except so far as they determine the character of the great chiefs, and, while they will claim the honors to the party, with which each has endowed his political record, they will select the man who represents sound Republican principles, under personal popularity with an unblemished record, and who will inspire confidence in his safe leadership if made the standard-bearer for the coming campaign. This sentiment unquestionably is the ruling one in the minds of the great reserve force, whose advice and counsel will influence the action of the Cincinnati convention. It is the expression that is heard every where in the ranks of those who are not without influence, yet who have not committed themselves to the support of any special favorite. It is less likely this year than it has ever been that the nomination will be carried by political tricksters, or that the contentions of the friends of leading candidates will produce such antagonisms among delegates that harmony can be secured only by the

NOMINATION OF THE "GREAT UNKNOWN."

The Republican party would cheerfully support either of the three most prominent chiefs—Morton, Blaine and Conkling—if nominated, and if, rather than concede the nomination to the one who promises greatest success for the party, the convention should select a less prominent leader, the excuse for so doing would probably be only an old-time trick of political managers. The failure of two out of these three to secure the nomination would not cause either to suffer in his high position of influence within the party or in the estimation of the people.

In the consideration of the relative merits and strength of these three men there is manifested no great political question at issue, though local influences and personal popularity may be debated with propriety.

Your correspondent has discussed this subject with some of the most sagacious politicians in Washington, and, in expressing views concerning the prospects of the convention's action, desires to be understood as reflecting the observations of others as well as his own.

The consideration which perhaps will weigh the heaviest when delegates come together to prepare notes will be the great feature in the coming campaign, which is now foreshadowed as generally conceded that the Southern States, with few, if any, exceptions, will fall under the control of the Southern Democrats, who indicate a determination to carry the election by violence. Violent scenes are anticipated, and the "bloody shirt" may become a reality instead of a figure of speech. If the Democrats are to succeed, they will owe success, with slight exceptions, to little in the North. This reflection will not be a comfortable thought for the great masses of the people, who are not ready yet to transfer the Government to the party which was so near paid over under ex-rebel influences. This feature alone determines that the Republican nominee must be a

THOROUGHLY-SOUND REPUBLICAN,

with a record that will insure public confidence in his political predilections, with a personal character above reproach, and associations that will indicate his faithfulness to the party that elects him to office.

There is only one great danger to be feared. A disposition has made itself manifest on the part of zealous advocates for certain candidates to risk the general result in the Northern States by placing too much upon the necessity of success in a single locality, insisting that a local favorite must be nominated who, though a strong man, may not have the elements of popular strength outside of his local surroundings, which may arouse sectional dissatisfaction. Part of this danger map come from unwise and senseless agitation of the currency question, which would only result in divided counsels in the East and West. The situation is peculiar. While there are leading Democrats in the West who favor inflation and further demoralisation of the currency values, there are no leading Republicans in the West who make more than a just regard for their interests on the part of the money lenders of the Middle and New England States. The West is composed largely of men who are debtors, their property mortgaged to New York and New England capital.

SUDDEN AND UNREGULATED APPRECIATION OF THE MONEYS

which Western people have promised to pay is feared by them, and they regard such a result as an unjust discrimination in the value of their creditors against debtors. They say that they are willing to pay what they have borrowed, but they wish resumption of specie payments to be so wisely generated that there shall be no sudden values and the appreciation of debts may not suddenly cause solvent men to become bankrupts. If the money-lending interest should be permitted to appear to control the action of the Government there is danger that Western men might become demoralized by a sectional strife. Yet if due consideration be given to this question, and justice be permitted to prevail in the party, there is no danger that any man may be nominated whose success can mean injustice to the New England and Middle States. While there certainly is a conservative and effective element in the Republican party which fears agitation, there is no respectable inflation strength or disposition to injure the capitalist or the public credit. Fortunately for the good name and harmony of

THE GREAT PARTY OF THE NORTH,

the inflation theories and repudiation doctrines are almost wholly absorbed by the Democratic party. Nothing but insane factious strife or idiocy can make the currency question a source of weakness to the Republican party except injudicious local rivalry.

This danger avoided, with a standard-bearer fully in accord with Republican principles and the record of their achievements, it is the confident belief of the ablest and most sagacious politicians that the North will stand up solidly against the threatened peril and disgrace of a Democratic victory won by Southern Democrats.

The personal merits of leading candidates for the nomination cannot be judged by the fusillade of compliments which has been continually firing from one end of the country to the other. These complimentary allusions have their source in individual observations, coming from men who have been guessing at wished-for results, and from unequal pressure upon conventions, causing them to yield complimentary resolutions favorable to certain candidates. California is an instance of this latter observation. The only great certainty and feature of fixed importance in the California convention was the reconciliation of the

REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENT FACTIONS,

reuniting the party after a long separation. The delegates are from both parties, are uninstructed and will probably vote for a Presidential nominee quite independently and without concert. Yet California is counted among the States for Blaine, because the convention permitted his friends to secure the passage of a complimentary resolution indorsing him, such as any State convention in the country would have, properly and justice to him pass without an objection.

The friends of Blaine and Bristow have been the most active, and under earnest generalship they have called out in the expressions of good will that could possibly be obtained. This indicates that their personal strength has been brought to the surface, and can be measured with some degree of accuracy; yet Blaine, particularly, may have great strength in the hearts of many other quarters, which are pledged first for one of his great rivals, or for some local favorite, whose State has expressed no opinions respecting the more prominent candidates.

Conkling has the credit of being backed by able managers, but there is no certain expression of popular will to estimate his strength by. There are many who think the great contest will be between Conkling and Morton. Neither of these men have, however, their strength so antagonized by personal feelings that they cannot harmoniously unite.

MORTON HAS THE MOST POWERFUL

volunteer strength and the greatest number of instructed delegates yet reported. The votes which comes up for him is the most significant of great party strength. It is noticeable that his interests are not directly antagonized by those of any other candidate. This is owing to the fact that he has rested his case with the people rather than with political managers.

Your correspondent has taken great pains to discover the secret of Morton's strength, but has looked in vain for any subversive of the popular will through intrigue, political promises, buncombe speeches, combinations, or the usual political management of public sentiment. The sentiment in his case has manage itself. There are no secret movements with Morton. He can always be found, is always accessible, and does not appear to have abated one particle in his close attention to his public duties as a Senator. So far as he is concerned his management appears to consist in delegating to his private secretary the labor of responding to the great number of letters which he is constantly receiving from all parts of the United States, which are so numerous that he can scarcely read the more important ones, or find time to give instructions as to responses.

THE INDIANA STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

undoubtedly are doing still and effective work for him, but there does not appear to be any claptrap nor any display of financial resources. The most noticeable of their works is the circulation in quite a modest way of a very interesting account of his political record, which is more in the vein of an historical sketch than of a campaign document.

The most significant feature in the progress of his candidature is the absence of fair-weather friends and undignified solicitors in his behalf. The men who are working for him are long-time friends and sound, true Republicans—all volunteers, without any indication of promise of reward.

These things are too important to pass by unnoticed, and the people generally should understand how the campaign is being worked up, for on that depends very much the wisdom of their final decision. Morton comes to the front with the enthusiastic and undivided support of his own great State. That is more than can be said of any other candidate without qualification. Maine undoubtedly gives a similar, but less forcible start for Blaine. In these times of popular unrest and disaffection it is much to say for a public man, who has passed through many years of political strife, that he is most popular where he is best and longest known.

MORTON HAS NOT OUTLIVED HIMSELF,

as many others have done, but is stronger than ever in the confidence of his own party without contending factions, and has the respect of political opponents who are nearest and most subjected to his political influence. The Democrats of Indiana do not assail Morton's character. All these reflections will have some weight with the delegates at Cincinnati.

The next striking feature developed by his friends is the almost universal support which comes up for him from the leading Republicans here from the Pacific States. This is not generally known. In fact, there is a most cordial agreement.

There is scarcely a material point of difference in the financial views of the Pacific-coast Senators and Senator Morton, though he was at one time the apparent object of the most hostile opposition. Mr. Morton introduced a bill for the resumption of specie payments in 1871. He made the first strong speech in favor of specie resumption. In that speech he said: "The question to me is, I invite the attention of the Senate to-day is whether such legislation may be had and a plan adopted whereby the currency can be made good and the Government return to specie payments without producing a crash or great commercial disaster." At that time he believed the experiment could be safely tried. The Senate differed with him. Since then the panic of 1873 has materially changed the situation; and, while he is decidedly positive in his advocacy of resumption, with guarded restrictions to protect the people from distress, the views of Senators Jones and Sharon, freely expressed, scarcely show a shade of difference, notwithstanding the hot disputes of the currency debate.

THE ONLY POINT OF DIFFERENCE NOTICEABLE

during this session was an objection on the part of Senator Morton to the proposition of Senator Jones to issue a silver dollar worth ninety cents in gold in redemption of greenbacks. He desired that the value of the silver dollar should be equal to the value of a gold dollar. This is only an instance of how positions may change in public debate.

Senator Sharon expressed to your correspondent a warm regard for Morton, and said that he would like to see him President. Senator Jones, discussing the Presidential question, remarked, with a very pleasant allusion to Morton, that his name had the lucky termination. The last two letters which have been noticeable in the names of so many of our Presidents, from Washington down. Both of these Senators are delegates to the National Convention from Nevada.

MR. GORHAM, THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE,

is an advocate for Conkling, but the other California delegates are as yet unprovided. Senator Jones' first choice is supposed to be for Bristow.

The candidates for the Vice Presidency are not easily estimated as to strength. The selection will depend much upon the first name on the ticket. If Blaine or Conkling is nominated, it will undoubtedly insure a Western man for Vice President. Morton might be coupled with William A. Wheeler, of New York, who is one of the most popular men in the field, or with Hartranft, of Pennsylvania. This is all pure speculation, and must be determined by future developments. One thing is certain, that the general sentiment is in favor of putting up a strong man for Vice President as well as for President.

C. A. W.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Boating at the Centennial.

NEW YORK, May 22.—A cable dispatch says: "The Dublin University rowing club and the boat club have both decided to send representative crews to America to contest in the Centennial regattas. But the feud which exists between the organizations is so strong that there is no possibility of forming a combined crew. The only thing which is now to be done is to decide which club will send the representative crew. You will, however, surely have an Irish crew at Saratoga and at Philadelphia, too."

WINSLOW.

BOSTON, May 22.—A special dispatch from London says: England's last note abandons the objection to the surrender of Winslow based upon the British act, and relies only upon the treaty, arguing that the treaty gives positive stipulation that the prisoner is liable for the extraditable offense only. The Cabinet was surprised to find that some of the Crown advisers support Mr. Fish's construction of the implied stipulations.

WINSLOW WILL RETURN TO BOSTON IF RELEASED.

BOSTON, May 22.—The *Evening Journal* has authentic information that Winslow, the forger, will return to Boston if released, provided assurance is given him that he will be treated leniently. He claims to be able to save his creditors the loss of nearly $100,000, and says that many of the claims against him in bankruptcy are illegal.

MORE OF THE WINSLOW CASE.

LONDON, May 22.—It is understood that the Government will ask that Winslow be further remanded to-morrow, and as Baron Pollock is not probably in active duty, there is little probability of the prisoner's immediate discharge. Indeed, the feeling is growing in favor among those interested in the case that the Government will not adhere to is present position, but will seek some other solution of the question than a refusal on its own responsibility to comply with the requirements of the treaty. The *Pall Mall Gazette*, which has hitherto strongly indorsed the position of the Government, in a leading editorial on the subject of Secretary Fish's letter, of March 11, still maintains that the Government is obliged to obey the municipal law in preference to treaty stipulations, but says the Government ought to take steps to refer to the courts the question whether the Ashburton treaty is excepted from the operation of the act of 1870. In the last resort, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, it is a question not for law officers, but for law courts, and there are recognized means of raising it in the ordinary their decision. Our Government will not be wholly free from responsibility to the United States until this question has been so raised and decided.

ENGLAND AND SPAIN.

Mr. John Simon, Liberal, will ask to-morrow whether the Cubans on board the Octavia at the time of her capture by the Spanish have been released, and if not whether any steps have been taken to obtain their release, since all on board the Octavia were protected by the British flag.

Mr. Disraeli, replying to a question, said it was true that the Government was unable to concur in the proposal of the Northern Powers for the pacification of the Turkish provinces, and that it was impossible to publish the terms of the proposal until it had been formally communicated to the Porte.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Liberal, member for the city of Oxford, will to-morrow question the Government as to whether, before the final release of Winslow, the house will have an opportunity to consider the correspondence between the United States and the British Government in his case.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

THE MEMORIAL FROM MR. CLAPP

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