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CHAMBERLAIN'S THEORY.

DEFINING HIS POSITION AND THE GROUNDS OF HIS CONTEST.

He Will Not Yield Unless Compelled to by Force—He Holds that the Legislature and Not the Courts Must Decide the Question.

The subdenues with which the Chamberlain party in South Carolina have changed their tactics with respect to the question of the Governorship of the State has quite naturally set the public mind wondering at the reason therefore. It is a known fact that when the President's intention of withdrawing the troops from South Carolina was made public the supporters of Governor Chamberlain were disabled in opinion as to what was best to be done. Bowen, Corbin, and Patterson urged the policy of steadfast resistance to the end, while Governor Chamberlain himself, upheld by several of his personal friends, seemed to be of the opinion that the best thing to do would be to quietly withdraw without further opposition after the troops had left the State-house. The latter course was decided upon by Governor Chamberlain, and it became a matter of public information, being admitted on all sides.

As soon as this was done, Messrs. Patterson and Bowen immediately set to work to make the most of the situation, and called upon General Hampton, saying that they would abide by the results, give their allegiance to the Hampton government, holding the "Governor" to the promises set forth in his inaugural. The reason for this hopeless heading of the knee on the part of these ex-rose gentlemen caused much comment at the time. It was generally attributed to the "sullenness" of their feeling against the policy of the Administration and their desire to work with any party as against the one partisanly identified with the Administration. But now it seems that Governor Chamberlain has changed his mind as to what he will do, and Patterson and Bowen both claim to and say they have remembered their action. Governor Chamberlain intends to stand by his post, and will only leave the office in the manner as provided for by the constitution. He says it is not a matter to be decided by legal process, but by the Legislature or else by a new election.

The status of the case as it now stands, together with the constitutional theory of Governor Chamberlain, were all set forth in detail in these columns yesterday. The Chamberlain party maintain that nothing short of a new election will settle the dispute, unless it be a resort to lynch-law process. They say that Hampton will no doubt act upon the decision in the Wallace vs. Mackey case before the Supreme Court of the State, which decided that the Hampton House was the legal House and Wallace its Speaker, and that Hampton will resort to legal process of ejecting Chamberlain from the executive office. They further claim, however, that, though one or all of the circuit courts of the State should issue a writ of ejectment against Chamberlain, the matter would be subject to an appeal to the Supreme Court. This court being composed of but two justices at present, divided in opinion, it would be the same as if no court existed, as a decision could not be obtained.

Admitting that the Hampton House is the legal one, they claim to have a Republican majority in the Senate. If, therefore, the question of disputed title comes up before the Legislature, as it properly should under the constitution, and the House votes for Hampton and the Senate for Chamberlain, there would be no agreement; and, as further provided by the constitution, the matter must then remain in state quo and a new election ordered, to take place within sixty days. Chamberlain meanwhile holding over as Governor. Now, if this theory is disregarded by Hampton, and he proceeds to compel the enforcement of the writ by mere physical force, then Chamberlain will no doubt yield, and throw himself upon the country in the hope of creating a sympathetic sentiment.

It is different, of course, to understand exactly what set the canon of this changed policy of Mr. Chamberlain. It is pretty generally believed, however, that it is a well-studied movement, having a bearer upon future contingencies, and is advised by some of the statesmen Northern Republicans. It is also suggested that the idea is merely to kill time until the Louisiana case becomes more developed, in the hope of obtaining a reaction in the sentiment North. The results must speak for themselves, and will, no doubt, foreshadow the success of the new policy towards the South.

THE JEWETT TRAGEDY.

Statements of Mr. Charles Tolmer and the Jailer—The Theory of Murder and Suicide by Orville D. Jewett Here Certain.

NEW YORK, April 8.—Yesterday's developments in the Jewett tragedy make the theory that Orville committed murder and suicide more and more certain. A third witness to the firing of the small revolver was found yesday in the person of the jailor, Thomas Jackson. Jackson's wife said that while she and her husband were seated at the breakfast table the explosion of the hand grenade startled them, and they rushed down stairs. When she was about half way down she heard the four shots fired in quick succession. Subsequently Mr. Charles Tolmer's statement that he had witnessed the shooting was given to the public.

He described Orville D. Jewett as lying across the body of his uncle, and firing shot after shot into his own body in rapid succession. Yesterday Mr. Jackson fully corroborated both these accounts in every important particular. He said that he and his wife were eating their breakfast when suddenly the floor seemed to lift up beneath them and a tremendous noise followed. He jumped from his chair and sprang down stairs; at the bottom he turned and grasped the knob of the rear office door intending to go in that way.

He forgot that it was secured by a catch, and while fumbling at it he caught a momentary glimpse of the inside of the room through the broken glass panel. The air was filled with smoke and soot, but he distinctly saw two bodies lying near each other on the floor. He does not know whether Orville was across his uncle or not, but is positive that his position was in part at least nearer the fire than George W's.

In an instant four quick reports sounded in his ears, and he jumped back alarmed, and ran to the main office door and opened it. As he did so, he saw Mr. Tolmer standing on the threshold of the inner entrance to the rear office, with his back to it, as though he was coming out. Mr. Tolmer appeared much excited, and addressing him, (Jackson,) shouted: "What's the matter here?" Being excited himself, and knowing nothing definite, he did not reply. The other events happened as already narrated.

CANADA.

The Object of Sir Edward Thornton's Mission.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

NEW YORK, April 8.—A special from Ottawa says Sir Edward Thornton is now in Ottawa, visiting the Governor General. His mission is partly diplomatic, having reference to the extradition treaty, fisheries and other matters in which Canadian interests are involved. His consultations with Lord Dufferin, as the representative of the Queen, are expected to be of no little moment in shaping the action of the British Government with the United States, and in determining questions growing out of the Washington treaty that have long remained unsettled.

A False Report.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

NEW YORK, April 8.—Ship news collectors here pronounce the report of the sinking of the schooner Maud Thompson and the loss of four of the crew as entirely unfounded.

STREAKING THE COUPER.

The Press Enlisted in the Cause of Christ—Annual Meeting of the American Tract Society.

At the annual meeting of the friends of the American Tract Society in the West-street Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, last evening, there was a large attendance. Mr. Justice Strong, president of the society, occupied the chair, and made an address. Rev. S. H. Howe, pastor of the church, conducted the devotional exercises.

Judge Strong said that the society had a record of more than fifty years of honorable influence in shaping religious effort; that it was a boon for any one to live in the years where through such admirably adapted agencies such mighty results were practicable; that no part of our country, in all its wide extent, had not been without the touch of the books, tracts, and papers of the society. He knew no agency which with the means used was doing so much good.

Rev. G. L. Shearer, secretary of the society, then presented the annual report as follows:

The report contained an interesting statement of the condition of the society, and the immense amount of work transacted by it. The society issues 6,[illegible] publications, of which [illegible] are volumes printed in 140 languages and dialects. During the year 4,[illegible] copies of periodicals have been distributed. The entire receipts for the year are estimated at $[illegible], of which about $[illegible] were in donations and legacies. The report also gave an account of the work of the society in foreign lands, which was listened to with interest.

Rev. Thos. S. Wyckoff, of Allahabad, India, spoke after the report was submitted, and said that often an object was lost sight of at a distance; that his residence of ten years in India had given him a new conception of the power of the press in evangelization in this country; that the use of trains by sewing machine companies and other business interests and by the great political parties was a striking illustration of its value, and he suggested practicable methods of operation. He argued from this also the greater need and desirableness of using the press in the foreign field. He had labored in the valley of the Ganges, containing 30,000,000 people, and the great capitals, Benares, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Agra and Delhi. In all from fifty to sixty missionaries were higher to reach this vast multitude. They preach in the market places, but they have a permanent influence in the tracts and books circulated among those that come to hear.

He had seen a million people in one assembly at a heathen festival, and six missionaries had tried to reach small portions of the crowd with their voices, but it was vain to hope for any general influence without the help of the press. He gave two instances of the conversion of Brahmins to Christianity, by means of books and tracts, that had penetrated beyond the parts visited by missionaries. In one of these cases enough Christians were found to justify the immediate organization of a church.

A paper is issued in India by the funds of the American Tract Society designed to expose the errors of Mohammedanism and humiliate Christianity. So great was its influence that two Mohammedan papers have been started in opposition. The refusing Princes of Cashmere, seeing the great power of Christian tracts, had a tract printed setting forth the glories of Vishnu, of which his messenger had distributed 200,000 copies at a single festival. He appealed by the sympathy readily accorded to those under physical suffering for beauty co-operation in the use of means which had so wonderfully influenced the Indian people.

Rev. J. T. Murray, D. D., pastor of the Methodist Protestant church of Georgetown, said even to the diplomatic of Secretary speech. He described the effect but slightly information of the society's work, and said of Thomas's translating a tract written by a Jesuit, which, with some alterations, he had published, of its falling into the hand of Father Hecker, who wrote "Rebels" Book," which was the source of the conversion of Philip Doddridge, by which were converted Rev. Leigh Richmond, who wrote "Dairyman's Daughter," and also of Wilberforce, whose "Practical View" was blest to the conversion of the great Scotch preacher, Thomas Chalmers.

He bespoke a hearty interest in behalf of the society which for so many years had been the instrument of good to men and glory to to God.

After the singing of "Watchman tell us of the night," and a collection, the meeting adjourned with the doxology and benediction.

NEITHER A PATENT NOR A COPYRIGHT.

An Interesting Decision by the Assistant Commissioner of Patents.

Assistant Commissioner Doolittle, of the Patent Office, has made a decision in the case of Sheppenhorst & Mosser, applicants for the registration of a certain print or engraving. The decision of the examiner is overruled and the registration of the print refused. The applicants sought to register a cut or print representing a scene at a masquerade without any descriptive matter thereon, the intention being to dispose of the print (which is one of a class) to customers who may apply the same in conjunction with their business as manufacturers, as a trade-mark. The examiner rejected an application on the ground that the symbol was a trade-mark, and if registered at all it must be under the trade-mark statute. The Assistant Commissioner, on appeal, holds that the print in question does not come up to the requirements of a trade-mark or a label, nor is it such a work of art as to entitle it to protection under the copyright act, and that it may, under the act of June 18, 1874, be registered as a "print or label designed to be used for other articles of manufacture" than the fine arts.

THE ENGINEERS' BROTHERHOOD.

A Part of Them Quit Work—A General Strike Expected in a Few Days.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

PHILADELPHIA, April 8.—On Saturday 26 out of the 373 Brotherhood men in the Germantown and Northtown branch of the Reading railroad left their places. Seventeen men left prior to that. Other men were put on in their places, and there was no disturbance of trains. Division 72 of the Brotherhood met last night and discussed the situation, and other meetings were held to-day. It is rumored to-night that there will be a general strike on the Germantown and Northtown branches, and also on the main line in a few days.

SUPPORT PROMISED TO THE BRAKEMEN ENGINEERS IN CASE OF A STRIKE.

PHILADELPHIA, April 8.—The locomotive engineers held a meeting to-day at which three hundred and fifty members of the Brotherhood were present. Delegates appeared from over forty divisions in other cities and in Canada, who promised support to the engineers of the Reading road in case of a strike, or if they were discharged on account of their connection with the Brotherhood. Fifteen firemen who refused to take charge of engines have also been discharged.

A $20,000 Fire in Norwalk, Ohio.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

CLEVELAND, April 8.—This morning a fire broke out in the City hotel at Norwalk, Ohio, which was totally destroyed, many of the guests barely escaping with their lives. The fire also destroyed Wheaton Brothers' boot and shoe, John Lee's liquor store, J. H. Buckman's livery and sale stable, and two others. The contents of all the buildings except the hotel were saved. Total loss, $20,000.

Imprisoned for the Murder of Her Husband.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

LEBANON, Pa., April 8.—Mrs. Sidney Miller, wife of Joseph T. Miller, the man who was murdered here last week, has been committed to prison by the coroner to answer the charge of willful murder. The victim was buried to-day, and his funeral was attended by three thousand persons.

REBELLION ARCHIVES.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN OF ARRANGING THE WAR RECORDS.

The Work to Consist of Hundreds of Volumes—Both Sides to Be Thoroughly and Truthfully Shown Up.

The progress of the work of publishing the official records of the war, both of the Confederate and Union armies, has often been alluded to, and the magnitude of the undertaking at times partially set forth. During the past year much has been accomplished, and a statement of the present condition of the work cannot fail to interest all who took part in the war, and all who are interested in preserving the material which is necessary to an accurate history of its various campaigns.

About the close of the war the military authorities in Washington, impressed with the importance of saving the vast amount of condemned history which was presented at the various headquarters of all grades, from those of the regiments up to the office of the commanding general of the army, the War Department in Washington issued an order directing the collection of all such records, and the forwarding them to Washington at the expense of the Department. The engineer Confederate records were also collected, and as soon as possible a force was set at work to arrange this vast mass of material in a form which would render ready access to it possible. A great amount of time and labor by a considerable force was expended upon this work, and at last a very large part of the records thus collected were put in order and stored in such buildings as the War Department could secure in Washington.

About three years since several volunteer officers were temporarily detailed in the condition of this valuable collection and the danger to which it was constantly exposed by fires which had occurred in the immediate neighborhood of the buildings containing it. General Rucker showed this interest and anxiety, and finally the Military Committee of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations, upon hearing the matter represented to them, recommended an appropriation to begin the publication of the records necessary to present the purely military history of the rebellion as contained in the Union and Confederate records. Considerable work was done towards arranging these records, and compiling extracts from portions of them for publication, but this work was, through the failure of Congress to make any appropriation, suspended a few years after the close of the war.

In January, 1873, at the instance of General Sherman, of Ohio, Congress again made an appropriation to enable the publication of these records, and General Rucker, Adjutant-General Townsend, E. Crosby, chief clerk of the Department, and R. Bennett, who had long had charge of military publications, spent much time in studying the arrangement of the records and preparing a proper plan for their publication. The work then contracted to the War Department in such no less than ten years, unless from 40 to 50 clerks should be detailed to the work, presenting a complete history of the military campaigns. When printed it will comprise, duplicates, a hundred volumes, averaging five hundred pages. If the works of the various staff corps is added to that of the purely military operations it will probably reach

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY VOLUMES.

From one-third to one-half of this work is already accomplished.

At the outset it was found necessary, in order to facilitate the compilation and historical arrangement of the reports and correspondence, to print a few proof-sheets of each document, so that the services of more than one person could be made available upon this part of the task assigned the Department. The advantages of this arrangement are multiplied. In the first place, most of the records are of a very perishable character, either as regards the material upon which they are written, and being in daily use their ultimate destruction, unless supplanted, because merely a question of time. Again, these records, as before stated, were in almost indescribably bad condition, so far as preserving and classifying them, for any purpose, was concerned. Their mere handling would be intolerable. But by multiplication, they might be in the interest as to prevent their destruction by any conceivable combination of circumstances. Experience showed that the work of compiling these small in some respects, and yet important, and the arrangement of the papers in an intelligent form, made much more satisfactory and complete by the person designated for that purpose by using printed instead of manuscript copy.

It is also claimed that aside from these advantages the printing is less expensive than the copying, whenever in this case the work must be duplicated for compilation. The copying force was, therefore, early reduced, and the number of printers increased.

From a report of the Secretary of War the following extracts of the manner in which these records are being prepared in connection with the immense mass of papers on hand, the required documents are collected and put in proper at the Department; the proof being carefully read and compared with the original papers, and printed in instalments, letter, report, telegram and paper in its proper place, and separately. Accuracy is absolutely required before the printed copies are placed in the hands of the compiler, whose duty it then is to collect and group the various subjects in order of date, and in accordance with their relation to each other. A large mass of original has been collected, copied, and a great portion of it printed, and, so far as practicable, the printing has been done from original documents, when the nature of the records admitted, without resorting to copying by hand. This matter has not yet received its final arrangement and revision, owing to the difficulty of selecting, at the same time, papers relating to contemporary subjects.

The amount of research and investigation which are required before any compilation progresses appears to very great, owing to the presence of affairs during the war.

THE PAPER REGARDING

were kept in a hurried and sometimes crude and careless manner, and when turned in to the Department were often in a chaotic condition, so that the labor of their arrangement, which is now understood, is naturally slow and tedious. It is hardly necessary to state that in the compilation no document in the possession of the War Department will be omitted which will throw light upon the events of the late war, or be valuable in military history, and I may add, in respect to what shall be included and what not, it is safer to err in favor of the compilation than to err in the other direction. It is better to embody too much than too little. It is not to be supposed that the War Department can furnish no more than its own records afford, and that for a complete history the records of almost every other Department will need to be consulted, and to this end the attention of Congress is limited to this part of the subject.

No attention seems yet to have been paid to the suggestion of the War Department that the other executive branches of the Government be called upon to furnish such records as their files contain. But as this undertaking progresses, and its nature understood, it is probable that the suggestion of the Secretary of War will receive due consideration.

The records of the Federal and Confederate Governments have always been kept separate and distinct, and while their preparation for publication has been conducted part passu, those of the North are so much more voluminous and complete that although the Department has announced to Congress its appreciation of submitting, in an entirely printed form, the purely military papers of the Confederacy for 1861, and probably those relating to the Union cause for the same period also during the next session of Congress, it is extremely doubtful if the latter can be given to the public before next fall.

The work was formerly under the control of the chief clerk of the Department, but shortly after Secretary Cameron's resignation of the portfolio of War, on account of the chief clerk's many and pressing duties the Secretary designated another gentleman, Dr. W. E. Baker, who has thoroughly conversant with the records and affairs of the Department, to take charge of it. That gentleman, under instructions to print "too much rather than too little," has continuously endeavored to embrace within the publication every paper of a military character, on the files of the Department or that his researches among the still papers would furnish that would serve to elucidate every point in

THE HISTORY OF OUR CIVIL CONFLICT

that the most thorough student of history would now be inquisitive into. No distinction has been made between the treatment of the Federal and Confederate records, and the Department, on account of the incomplete state of the latter, has used more strenuous exertions to complete them records by purchase from parties holding them, and by correspondence and advertising, than it has any of the records of the Union armies, which were themselves very complete. Probably the Southern Historical Society, of Richmond, Va., have, outside the General and State governments, the most valuable collection of Confederate records in existence. Early in the year 1876 the Secretary of War, having had his attention called to the incomplete character of the Confederate records, and to the existence in different sections of the country of many valuable papers relating to the war, and believing that all those engaged in the struggle on either side would feel an interest in making the work national in its character and as complete as possible, addressed politely the first of their incompleteness, and of their completion under the authority of Congress, and invited all persons having knowledge of such papers to place them at the disposal of the Government, either temporarily or permanently, for use in the publication now in hand. Further, that it bearing some to the knowledge of the Department that an impression prevailed, to a greater or less extent, in consequence of the military that a disposition existed on the part of the Adjutant-General to make a distinction between the Confederate and Federal archives, as regards the thoroughness of their compilation, the Secretary affirmed that he had no thought whatever of discriminating in favor of one section as against the other, the only object being to place on record, in an official form, for the use of historians and others interested, as was evidently the design of Congress all the data obtainable on this subject. Rightfully all official reports, letters, telegrams, rolls or other papers of historical character, no matter to whom addressed or how acquired, are the property of the Government, and although the Department does not seem to have considered it expedient to attempt to enforce its rights, its anxiety to secure original copies of existing documents that publicly expressed does not seem to have met with a very general response.

While in some instances the views of the Secretary of War were cordially met, in others papers were withheld in hopes of pecuniary reward for their delivery, and in others, because the Department would not reciprocate by allowing access to the records for private purposes. It therefore happens that

THE CONFEDERATE SIDE OF THE HISTORY

will not be nearly so complete as the data in existence would indicate, and although the publication may have the effect of bringing to light much that is now withheld, it will miss the stamp of authenticity which an official publication, under seal of the Government, alone is entitled to, and which would be infinitely more satisfactory than a private publication could be made. Up to the present time the matter arranged and ready for publication may be summarized as follows: Reports of the military operations of the rebellion—1861 to June 30, 1865, seven volumes of printed matter, averaging seven hundred pages each, and another volume in manuscript. Three volumes of military correspondence, averaging five hundred pages each, into it.

One volume War Department letters received and one of letters sent, 967 pages each; six volumes War Department telegrams received and four volumes of telegrams sent, the whole averaging 112 pages each, and embracing all the important telegrams received and sent by the President, the Secretary of War and his assistants during the whole period of the war; three volumes of telegrams received by the General-in-Chief, averaging 800 pages each; a summary of the military operations of 1861-'65 reported on the return of the armies of the United States, 110 pages. Besides these are the telegrams received and sent by the General-in-Chief and chief of staff (not yet printed) and other army commanders during the war. Its work was done because arranging these records, and compiling extracts from portions of them for publication, but this work was, through the failure of Congress to make any appropriation, suspended a few years after the close of the war.

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