AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

MARBRITER'S FREE ART GALLERY, No. 630 E street northwest.

NATIONAL THEATRE—Carncross and Dixey's Minstrels.

AVENUE THEATRE—On the Sly.

Important Notice.

The Editorial and Business departments of this journal are separate and distinct. To insure prompt attention all communications *intended for the Editorial department* should be addressed to the

EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN,

and all communications appertaining to the *Business department* should be addressed to the

BUSINESS MANAGER OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

Subscription Rates.

Daily (4 pages) by carriers, 50 cents per month. By mail, postpaid, $6 per year; $4 for six months, and $2 for three months. Terms invariably in advance

Advertising Rates.

Daily—25 cents a line for ordinary advertising. On editorial page, $1 per line. First page, $1.50 per line

Notice.

We beg leave to state that we decline to return rejected Communications; and to this rule we can make no exception.

Persons leaving the city for the summer can have THE REPUBLICAN *mailed to any address by paying 65 cents per month, invariably in advance.*

THE DAILY NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CAN BE OBTAINED IN NEW YORK AT BRENTANO'S NEWS EMPORIUM, 39 UNION SQUARE.

National Republican.

W. J. MURTAGH.....PROPRIETOR.

SATURDAY.....APRIL 28, 1877.

BEFORE the world grows any older it should be understood that the whole thing is settled, for GEORGE T. DOWNING favors the Southern policy.

IT IS reported again that the resignation of Mr. A. M. CLAPP, Public Printer, has been requested, and the same rumor assigns Mr. JOHN D. DEFREES to the position. We hope this news is true.

EX-GOVERNOR NOYES, of Ohio, has no doubt of the absolute success of the President's Southern policy, and he believes that all expressions of dissatisfaction will die out within the next thirty days.

ALL the papers—Republican and Democratic—have good and kind words for the new Superintendent of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mr. MCPHERSON. This is one appointment at least which all can commend.

THE newspaper war maps are now in order. A New York daily proposes to publish a small map every day showing the relative positions of the contending forces, the battles fought and the next ones liable to be fought.

THE abject appeal of the Turk to the Great Powers of Europe shows clearly that they are not of the stuff of their ancestors, who carried the crescent to the walls of Vienna, and made all Europe tremble for its safety in the time of SULEIMAN the Great.

THE American people can rely upon one thing as being certain with this Administration—Mexico must restrain her border banditti or suffer the consequences. If she is unable to suppress these lawless bands, the duty will devolve upon the American Government, as a matter of self-defense.

THERE seems to be great activity in the English commerce, and it looks as though Great Britain intended to give Turkey a great deal of substantial aid after all her professions of non-interference. England cannot keep out of the fight. It is not in the nature of things for her to passively submit to Russian aggrandizement.

THE remarkable success of the Centennial Exposition adds great interest to the recent announcement that President HAYES and Secretary EVARTS earnestly favor a generous representation of the United States at the approaching exhibition at Paris. In Paris we hope to have a triumph and not a scandal such as has resulted from the Vienna Exposition.

GEN. COMLY says, in a recent number of the *Ohio State Journal*, that the South need not expect to be helped by subsidies in the next Congress, and intimates that President HAYES is not in favor of that sort of aid. We don't think Gen. COMLY speaks by the card. A more authoritative statement was telegraphed hence a day or two ago, that the President was very decidedly in favor of the Government aiding in that manner.

THE New York *Sun* insists that President HAYES is trying to "TYLERIZE" the Republican party. It bases the charge entirely on the rumor that a son of ex-President TYLER is to be appointed Commissioner of Agriculture. This will be news to the people of Washington. A few days ago a party of gentlemen called upon the President, and one of their number was suggested as a suitable person for this office. The reply of the President was embraced in the query: "Has Mr. WATTS resigned?" We have not yet heard of Mr. WATTS' resignation.

THE correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* telegraphs that—

> In making discharges in the Treasury Department of clerks from States whose quota is more than full those will be selected who have lost their legal residence by voting at municipal elections here in years past, or who have abstained from voting at all.

We cannot exactly see the civil service reform in that. Clerks who had been in office here long enough to have secured the right to vote at municipal elections must have been efficient or they could not have held their places so long. And if those are to be selected for dismissal who have abstained from voting in their States, then it might as well be announced at once that there are to be rewards for political services. True reform means the retention of the best and most efficient clerks without reference to how, when or where they voted.

A STATE GOVERNMENT that cannot sustain itself without the aid of the bayonet cannot be a government of the people. That, it seems to us, is a self-evident proposition, and especially so in this Republic. That PACKARD's government in Louisiana was not a government of the people is shown by the fact that it fell the moment Federal support was withdrawn. And yet PACKARD, in his farewell proclamation, talks of the NICHOLS government having been galvanized into life by the withdrawal of Federal troops. It is just because the NICHOLS government had life in itself and did not need to be supported by outside influence that it has endured and been triumphant. The citizens of Louisiana did not want PACKARD to rule over them, but they did want NICHOLS, and that is just why the latter was able to take peaceable control of the machinery of the State government.

IT IS announced (we know not how authoritatively) that there are to be a number of changes in bureau officers of the Treasury Department on May 1, and among those named for removal are some of the most efficient officers, men who have been there for years. They are not to be removed for cause, but to make places for gentlemen from States which it is claimed have not their quota. Is this civil service reform? We have very little confidence anyhow in the system of distributing offices geographically, and it is especially obnoxious when old, tried and faithful clerks are to be removed because they happen to come from a particular State. What we want is an efficient civil service, and that can best be secured by keeping all those whose experience, character and accomplishments make them worthy.

RUSSIAN SUPREMACY IN TURKEY

The reported result of the first action is in favor of the Turks, with considerable loss to the Russians, but the circumstance is of very little importance when regarded as an event of the campaign. It is likely to be the case, as shown by the common experience, that an invading army will meet with just such checks in the earlier marches until it has carried the intrenched positions which the home commanders naturally knew so well how to choose when preparing for the onset.

As now before Tchurukscos, so the Russians were repulsed before Shumla in the first campaign of 1828; but the defeat did not prevent their crossing the Balkan and occupancy of Adrianople in 1829, where a treaty of peace was concluded, by which they acquired numerous frontier fortresses on the Black Sea, and the protectorate of Moldavia and Wallachia, and prepared the way for that pre-eminence in the affairs of Turkey which culminated in 1833, after the assistance of Russia in putting down the rebel Pasha of Egypt, in a treaty binding the Porte to have recourse to no other Power for assistance, and to close the Dardanelles against all foreign ships of war. And for the benefit of those who do not understand the hostile feeling of England and the English press now manifested against Russia, it should be stated that it originated at this time, and has continued unabated ever since in consequence of the peculiar policy of that country toward Turkey, which has been to maintain its supremacy over her counsels by friendly aid in time of peace and vigorous campaigns in time of war. Gaining them an absolute ascendancy in the divan, she was regarded with jealous enmity by both England and France, in consequence of their exclusion, and when later, upon the accession of MOHAMMED SHA to the Persian throne, she also succeeded in obtaining a paramount influence in the counsels of that nation, to the exclusion of British interests, that Government was about to declare war against its rival to arrest these advances, fearing they contemplated ulterior purposes against its Indian provinces; and war would have followed but for the defeat of a Persian army directed by Russian officers, in a march against HERAT. In view of these facts, it is probably not so much British solicitude for the welfare of the Turk or for the integrity of the Ottoman Empire as it is the fear of Russian aggrandizement in the direction of India in case of annexation, or of Russian ascendancy with the Porte in case of non-annexation that leads to so much resentment in the British mind, and to such condemnation of the manifesto. The people of England know too well, from the experiences of the past, that the war means one of two things—either the extension of the Russian boundaries in a direction dangerous to her possessions, or a re-establishment or a firmer establishment of Russian power over the affairs of Turkey, looking to the exclusion of other nations, and notably themselves, from certain advantages to be extended to the aggressor. This has been the result of all former campaigns, and the lesson is of a character to excite apprehension.

It will not be at all surprising, therefore, if, notwithstanding the proclamation of neutrality which it is said is about to be issued by the British Government, the first six months of the war, if it shall continue so long, signalizes English interference between the combatants; and when this comes there will be a general participation in the conflict as fast as the Great Powers can reach the field, which will not be long delayed for want of patriotism, for they are all now actively engaged in putting themselves on a war footing, in view of the prospect of opportunity to readjust boundaries.

But if the war is left to the principals opening it it is more than probable that after a few repulses which the Turks will be able to give in the beginning, when commanding their entire strength in its freshness, the Russian army will turn them back upon their ancient territory, if it does not subject their Government to the house of Romanof; unless, as intimated, the purpose of the campaign is the same it has been so often before—to renew the influence of the invader with the Porte, in which case a few victories may exact the terms proposed and end the contest.

THE DEMOCRATS AND HAYES' SOUTHERN POLICY.

Now that President HAYES has accomplished the pacification of South Carolina and Louisiana—has done that in two months which others found it impossible to do in years—he not only encounters opposition in his own party, but even Democrats, with a shameless inconsistency, complain, as we pointed out a day or two ago. The complaint of the Democrats all results from captiousness. But there is "nothing succeeds like success," and few will venture to say that the Southern policy has not been a success. But these complaining spirits wanted failure. They wanted to be able to say, "Aha! we told you so. No Republican Administration could solve the Southern problem. To work that out successfully we must have a Democrat in the Presidential chair." They have been proven false prophets, and that is the cause of their chagrin. But there are Democratic papers of influence, such as the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, the Philadelphia *Times* and others, that have no patience with those who make this achievement in behalf of justice, tranquillity and law, the basis of a declaration that the solution of the Louisiana problem is a confession that President HAYES himself has no valid title to the office he holds.

The Philadelphia *Times*, in the quotations we give below from its columns, disposes of the argument that HAYES' title to the Presidency is invalid, and at the same time pays a just tribute to the President's firmness, and his determination to do the right:

> In the desperation of the struggle between contending parties, the one demanding the summary overthrow of fraud, and the other pleading the law in defense of their cause, the proper constitutional authority of the nation appointed its own lawful method of deciding the disputed title to the Presidency, and, whether approved or condemned by individuals, its judgment was the solemn, irreversible judgment of the supreme law, and the President so chosen became the lawfully elected Executive of the United States. A weak man would have hesitated to be just to the Southern States in composing their local governments, before the taunts of the destructionists that the overthrew of Packard was to declare his own election a fraud; but President HAYES has accepted his high trust from the lawfully created and universally accepted tribunal charged with calling either him or Mr. TILDEN to the Presidential chair, and he has turned neither to the right nor to the left in the faithful execution of the laws in the interest of prosperity and peace. Whatever errors of the Administration may hereafter invoke the just criticism of independent journals and citizens, there will ever be grateful memories and generous devotion for the ruler who has risen above party and sectional clamor to summon law and peace as the jewels of the nation.

WASHINGTON'S FUTURE.

In our news columns this morning we publish an interview with Mr. HALLET KILBOURN, in which that gentleman predicts the bright future of Washington real estate. Mr. KILBOURN is too shrewd a business man to be accused of entertaining visionary ideas, and his statements have the force of incontestable truth. His logic is business-like, and he has furnished proof of his own enthusiastic faith in the inevitable growth and prosperity of Washington by investing his means in property in this city and devoting himself to building up and improving the District. That the Capital will prosper as the country grows is self-evident. It depends upon no local causes for its growth. Other cities may spring up and prosper, but they can detract nothing from the wealth and prosperity of Washington. The prosperity of every other city benefits Washington. The Capital will grow with the nation, and the nation contributes to its growth. Every nugget of gold taken out of the Colorado hills; every bale of cotton produced by Southern fields; every railroad built, every harvest that is garnered, pays a toll to the Capital city. Every immigrant that lands on our shores, every pioneer that makes a clearing in the Western wilds, is helping to build up Washington. With the growth of the nation the business of Government increases, and it has to be transacted here. The city of Washington is Uncle Sam's vast office, and the more business Uncle Sam has to do the bigger will his office grow. So the growth of Washington depends upon the general prosperity of the country and upon no local causes. Nothing but the destruction of the Government can overthrow Washington's prosperity. And now is the time to invest. The improvements that have been made in the last seven years have made the city so attractive that many wealthy strangers have bought property and erected residences here. Every year it is becoming more and more a resort for persons of wealth and refinement. The day is rapidly approaching when, without any impropriety, Washington may be termed the Paris of America in respect to the magnificence of the city and its importance to both the social and political world. Investments in real estate in Washington, then, will not only be safe, but the only thing that can interrupt a steady increase in value is the decline of the Republic.

COMBAT OF THE GIANTS.

The British lion has commenced to roar, and the double-headed eagles of Austria have begun to scream, and Europe is on the eve of a desperate struggle for the supremacy. At present there are no clouds with silvery linings which augur peace. Within the past forty-eight hours England has become agitated from the subject to the sovereign. Austria is also disturbed and perplexed, while Germany is quietly preparing for the struggle which must inevitably come. For a hundred years the Eastern question has been the bone of contention, at which every Power of Europe has been growling and snapping, and over which many desperate and sanguinary battles have already been fought. In 1856 the combined Powers of France, England and Turkey humbled the Czar of all the Russias, and forcibly wrenched from his grasp a large tract of territory lying on the northeast of Turkey. Since then apparent peace has reigned between Russia and Turkey up to within a few days past. This peace can, however, be likened unto the terrible calm which sometimes precedes a tempest. It has been a peace in which Russia has been silently preparing for war. She was crushed in 1856 only to arise with renewed desperation in 1877, and not only win back what she lost, but fight her way to the Golden Horn and become mistress of the Mediterranean. This is Russia's object, but the question is, will she succeed?

The General of our own army, who is a keen observer, remarked in conversation the other day that "before the war in Europe closes more than a million of lives will have been destroyed, and they will not be all Turks and Russians either." Our latest dispatches confirm the genuine prophecy of the words, "and they will will not be all Turks and Russians either." The latest developments indicate that the game which Russia, Germany and Austria played in the Poland dismemberment is to be repeated in the case of Turkey. Russia is to do the fighting at first, while Germany and Austria hold England and France in abeyance. But when these two last-mentioned Powers, in the defense of their vital interests in the East, attempt to interfere, then Germany and Austria will form an alliance with the Czar, and with their embattled hosts conquer Turkey and divide the spoils. This is the only interpretation that can be placed upon the "handwriting on the wall," and it augurs one of the most gigantic struggles ever fought by the human race. With England, France, Italy, Spain and Turkey combined against Russia, Germany and Austria in a conflict for the supremacy, we may expect some of the mightiest battles and the greatest slaughter of men and destruction of property ever yet recorded in the annals of history.

With this outlook the Congress of the United States owes a duty to the nation which it must perform. Our sea coast is almost entirely at the mercy of the navies of Europe. Our navy ranks lower than that of any civilized Power on earth, except that of Portugal. Congress should remedy this by furnishing us with war vessels of sufficient strength and capacity to protect our harbors and commerce from the ravages of privateersmen, foreign naval armaments and enemies in general. The time has come when American commerce can be built up and extended throughout the commercial world, and nothing but false economy of a parsimonious Congress can prevent a consummation so devoutly to be wished.

Roumania as Russia's Ally.

Roumania, in declaring war against Turkey, at once becomes a powerful ally of Russia. Had the Americans raised the escutcheon in defense of the Ottoman Porte the invaders from the North would have found a prompt check put upon their advance the moment they endeavored to cross the Pruth. Military sages have said that the great peril of the Russian invasion was in the support of their line of supplies. If the Roumanians had formed a coalition with the Turks the supplies of the Russians would have had to extend from the Pruth through Moldavia and Wallachia, two hostile countries to the banks of the Danube, where the important battles are expected to be fought. As it is now, Russia finds the Roumanian country friendly, and proposes to co-operate with her in her advance to the Danube. This will be invaluable aid to the cause of the Czar, and will enable him to crowd his force's advance towards the Danube, and strike a blow before the Turks are fully prepared for the shock.

WATTERSON utterly repudiates any movement looking to the disturbance of HAYES' title to the Presidency, no matter whence it may come. "No back snatches for us," he says, but a broad look and a strong pull for next time."

OUR detectives make it a boast that they can do what any other detective anywhere has ever done. They say they won't be beaten. Now look out for a put-up job to convict some innocent fellow of a crime he never committed, in emulation of the Brattleboro' case, reported yesterday by telegraph.

TO SAY of an individual that he would "steal the pennies from a dead darkey's eyes" was to indicate the acme of meanness. Where, then, would you place the baker who in these hard times raises the price of bread one cent per loaf, and then reduces the weight two ounces? We are glad to know that the bakers who have done this are exceptions. Their action is denounced by a majority of their brethren of the dough-tray.

JOHN POPE HODNETT has succeeded in having the fact spread all over the country that he and his laborers had an interview with the President. He is called the president of the Labor League. He is nothing of the sort. He never did a day's labor in his life, and is living to-day off the hard earnings of laborers, whom he taxes regularly under the pretense that he is doing something for them. He is a first-class fraud and pestiferous demagogue, compared with whom SIM TAPPERTIT was distinguished.

AFTER all that has been said and written about the exclusion of wine from the White House, it turns out that the President and Mrs. HAYES are not going to make themselves peculiar in this regard. But, suppose they chose to do so! We are not aware that wine drinking is an essential attribute of American hospitality. Why should a conscientiously-adopted custom of the White House be departed from because of the customs of the guests at home? The President would scarcely be asked to furnish blubber and oil for a delegation of Esquimaux, or a well-fed missionary for an African chief, or a harem for the social Turk.

THE Turkish leaders are making every effort to stir up the religious fanaticism of their followers. The Sultan has been advised to since the Sandjak Sheriff and lead the people against Russia either to victory or extermination. The Sandjak Sheriff is the sacred banner of the Prophet, supposed to made of the black curtain which originally hung before the door of one of MOHAMET's wives. It is deposited in the interior of the Seraglio at Constantinople, and is guarded by officers. The display of this sacred relic in the Ottoman capital would be the signal for the Mohammedans of the world to rally to the defense of their faith, and the conflict would resolve itself into a religious fanaticism so far as the Turks are concerned.

THE BARTHOLDI FOUNTAIN.

Preparations for Erecting it in the Botanical Gardens—President Hayes' Visit to the Grounds.

The fine large basin in the Botanical grounds, just north of the main conservatory, is now ready for the famous Bartholdi fountain which attracted so much attention at the Centennial. Mr. Edward Clark, architect, charged with that work, will proceed to Philadelphia in a few days to make arrangements for its transportation hither. The fountain, which is considered by all to be the finest work of art of its kind in this country, will probably be in position about the first of June next. It will be quite an acquisition to this city, and its arrival will be looked for with pleasant anticipations. The location is an excellent one, and its many beauties will be decidedly enhanced by the surrounding trees, shrubbery and pastures of lovely flowers and deep green grass.

Many improvements have been made in the grounds, and they are now more attractive than ever. A coat of paint would brighten up the buildings somewhat, but that is rendered impossible by the limited appropriation. Otherwise the grounds are in splendid condition, and show to fine effect the care and wisdom of Superintendent Smith, than whom there are few better botanists.

President Hayes visited the grounds a few evenings ago, and expressed great pleasure at the growth and successful treatment of the plants. The President is a great lover of flowers, and it is said of him that the only office he solicited in his life was the chairmanship of the Committee on the Libraries.

He had a two-fold object in this, which was to be brought more in contact with the Congressional library, and to devote more of his time to looking after the interests of the Botanical Garden, which was in charge of this committee. He secured the office and did good service in improving and completing the objects of his love. It is a singular fact that President Hayes is the first and only President of the United States who has ever graced these buildings with his presence.

ALL SHADES OF OPINION.

In this column of THE REPUBLICAN *will hereafter be found editorial extracts upon important questions from prominent American newspapers irrespective of party. Our readers will thus be kept informed of the temper of both the Republican and the Democratic press upon political and other subjects. We publish these extracts just as we would any other items of news, purely for information. Our own opinions and views will, as usual, be expressed only in our editorial columns.*

The Duties of Neutrals.

From the Baltimore Sun:

Since the declaration of war of Russia against Turkey discussions are rife relative to the international duties about to be performed by the United States Government, and the damage to be experienced by American cargoes and American ships. It is contended that under the precedents made by our Government at Geneva belligerent vessels cannot remain in a neutral port. The rules of neutral ports are said to be these: The armament of a ship and its supplies must not be increased on neutral territory; the ship must leave as soon as possible, and must not carry in general more than one half or one third of a complete cargo of coal, if a steamer, and not return to the port of the neutral until she has touched at the port of a belligerent. It is contended that, under these rules, the Russian fleet will have to leave the New York harbor if it retains its armament, though if it lands its guns on the piers, with intent to disarm, it can remain as long as it chooses pending the war. On the other hand, it is contended that the twenty-four hours' rule cannot be applied to the Russian squadron in New York, as the rule was made for vessels entering a neutral port after the declaration of war, and not for ships which such a declaration finds in that port as visitors and not as belligerents. Besides, the rule was that a man-of-war should not be permitted to leave a neutral port for twenty-four hours after the sailing of a belligerent ship. In regard to the selling and sending of warlike implements to belligerents Americans can do it as private citizens, but they do it at their own risk. It was agreed in the discussion at Geneva that it was right for neutrals to allow the exportation of goods contraband of war by parties, at their own risk, in contradistinction from the fitting out of war vessels. It is said that this is the position which the United States will assume. Vessels which carry goods contraband of war to Turkey must do it at the risk of capture by Russian vessels when on the high seas, without the right to claim the protection of the Government of the United States.

Guarding Against Fires.

From the New York Herald:

The recent disastrous fire at St. Louis has naturally set people to work in all parts of the country devising means of escape from burning buildings and methods of preventing the rapid spread of flames and smoke through the elevators and stairways. Some suggestions have been offered which seem worthy of consideration. The open space for the working of an elevator, extending from the basement to the roof of a hotel, no doubt acts as a chimney to draw up a fire occurring anywhere in its vicinity in the lower part of a building. A "well" stairway, such as that in the Southern hotel, has the same effect. The latter danger can be avoided by not putting a well stairway in any high building, especially in a hotel. An inventor proposes to prevent the spread of fire through elevator wells and also to guard against loss of life through falls—such as that which occurred a few days ago in one of our own hotels, by the use of double jointed hatches, provided with springs and counter balances. These hatches, which are to be on each story, open through the operation of one hinge as the elevator passes up, and through the operation of the other as the elevator passes down, closing again immediately after its passage. When shut they are quite firm, the spring which loosens them being touched by the elevator as it reaches the trap both on its ascent and descent. This certainly appears to be a simple and desirable invention. A suggestion made in relation to the rescue of persons from burning buildings also seems to merit attention from its simplicity, although it might not always be effective. It is that each truck in the fire department be supplied with a strong sheet of canvas of a convenient size, supplied on all its sides with strong rope handles. When persons are cut off from escape by stairway or roof, and appear at the window of a burning building praying for aid that cannot be rendered, one of these canvas sheets, held by strong arms beneath the window, might receive them one by one and probably without serious injury. The cost would be a mere trifle to supply all the trucks in the New York department with such sheets, and if they should save a single life they would be well paid for. The men would soon become experts in their use, and we believe that the experiment of making them a part of the machinery of the fire department would never be regretted.

The New York Custom-House Investigation.

From the New York Tribune:

The New York custom-house is not now under investigation for the first time. It has been sat upon by committees heretofore, has been inquired into, examined, testified about, and reported upon until volumes were filled with the results. The investigation just beginning, however, is of a different character from those that have preceded it. Previous investigations have been almost purely political in their character. They aimed to show on the one hand corrupt administration and gross abuses, and on the other the greatest efficiency and honesty in the transaction of official business. The present investigation means business as distinguished from politics. It has no special abuse or scandal to inquire into, no charges to refute or establish; nothing in the world except to look carefully into the conduct of the office, the methods of doing business, the principles of its management, if it has any; the quality and amount of service rendered by the employes, and in general to discover whether the business of the Government at this point is conducted as honestly, economically, and efficiently as it should be; and if not, where and in what particulars improvements can be effected. It is, in short, a business investigation made upon business principles, with no aim to benefit or injure any party, but only to secure to the Government what every business man seeks in his own transactions, the best service at the lowest cost. The directions of the Secretary of the Treasury look to this and nothing more. This being the case, there is of course nothing like the public interest and curiosity concerning the movements of the commission that have attended the deliberations of partisan committees which were expected to make an overhauling of personal relations and bring to light official misconduct.

A Hopeless Scheme.

From the New York Times:

The Democratic newspapers assume that all that has taken place in Louisiana and South Carolina is the direct result of the refusal of the House of Representatives to pass the army bill unconditionally. In this they are clearly mistaken. If the President had felt that his duty required him to act differently in these two States he would have done so. If the leaders of the Democratic party imagine that the Republicans have chosen for President a man weak enough or cowardly enough to shirk his duty as he understands it because his opponents adopt an obstructive policy, they are greatly mistaken. It is a mistake like that made by the Southern politicians, who fancy that the President's course is the fruit of a bargain. It is not so in any sense. It is the fruit of his own convictions, carefully and conscientiously formed, and of nothing else. We shall be much mistaken in Mr. Hayes, should any occasion offer for him to show that he can administer the laws firmly and fairly without reference to what the House of Representatives may choose to do to embarrass him, if he is not found equal to the task. The Democratic leaders—or some of them—imagine that the House secured the adoption of the measures recently taken in the Senate by its action on the army appropriation bill, and they flatter themselves that they apply the same compulsion to secure the repeal of the reconstruction laws, or to prevent their enforcement by the President. In this we have little doubt that they will find themselves mistaken. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that the Senate would yield to any such threats, or that they could influence the course of the President. The reconstruction laws are designed to protect the political rights of the freedmen. They place in the hands of the Executive certain powers, the extent of which will naturally be determined to him by the opinion of his Attorney General, and by his own judgment, based on the laws as they exist, and on such judicial interpretations of them as have been made. These powers the President must use if occasion requires. He has no option in the matter. The House may refuse him an army, but while the army is in existence, he must employ it where the law requires it. He can make no promises, enter into no "understandings," be a party to no "compromises" whatever. He must do his duty as it is laid down for him, and the House can neither ask nor expect anything else.

What the War Will Profit Us.

From the Philadelphia Times:

While all Europe is uneasy lest it shall be drawn into the complications of the Russo-Turkish war, the United States is interested solely as a nation of shop-keepers. We are concerned only so far as material interests are affected, and business is just now so prostrated that it looks anxiously for the least sign of relief. The course of the markets for the past month indicates very clearly that American commerce, finance and agriculture will be materially benefited, but capital and labor will experience very little relief, except what may come secondarily. There was at one time a lingering hope that there might be some demand for arms and ammunition, but this hope has been pretty thoroughly dissipated. The war has already increased the actual cost of living in the United States an average of fully 25 per cent. This is a very serious matter, since neither capital nor labor yet see any avenue opened by which their earnings can be increased proportionately. Russian and Turkish vessels will be practically driven from the sea, and all cargoes of arms on the high seas destined for either nation, being contraband of war, will be liable to seizure under any flag. But the general effect upon commerce can hardly be predicted until it is known how much, if any, the navigation of the Mediterranean ports will be interfered with. So far there has been no increase in ocean freights to correspond with the enhanced prices. We may reasonably expect that the funding of the new loan will not be interfered with, but perhaps assisted.

Hayesism and Tylerism.

From the New York Sun:

It has been reported in the inner circles at Washington that John Tyler, jr., son of the accidental President who betrayed the Whigs a generation ago, is to be made Commissioner of Agriculture in place of Watts and the numerous family he has planted in that bureau, facetiously called a department in the statutes at large. John is a chip of the old block, and externally a reproduction of the Virginia abstractionist, whom Mr. Clay denounced as a traitor to his party and cause. The fraudulent President would at least be consistent in making this appointment. He has turned his back on the men who made him whatever he is; he has formed a motley Cabinet; he has deserted his professed principles, and, in a word, he has Tylerized. The fitness of things would be consulted, therefore, in honoring the son of the man whom he has taken for a model in politics. Caleb Cushing, who was one of the Tyler guard in 1842, and with five other Whig renegades, was bought for a price, will soon be back in Washington from his profitable mission in Spain, where he left the butcher Burriel enjoying unmolested one of the highest military distinctions, given to him in recognition of the murder of American citizens at Santiago de Cuba. He will find the White House quite natural with a fraudulent President, and a second John Tyler to illustrate how history repeats itself.

New Departure in the System of Domestic Help.

Upon this subject I am convinced, for I have a little daughter and would gladly substitute for the ordinary nurse one in whom I could feel all confidence.

So writes a correspondent in your paper of the 18th instant. I wonder how many who are willing and would prove most faithful to their trust know of her requirements and wishes. How many, whose childhood spent under the care of a tender mother and among loving brothers and sisters fits them for the care of little children, and whose employment, since work is necessary to them, would be, at least, somewhat congenial to them, look and wish in vain for such positions, and whose spirits become sickened at the thought that there is no avenue open to honest independence and ladylike dignity. I who was reared in a home of wealth and luxury, and whose younger years were devoted with pleasure to study in a bright blaze of hope and ambition, and whose references are wholly unexceptionable, would gladly accept a position to care for little children, but I doubt not it would be as difficult to obtain such a position in a refined, respectable family as to obtain a clerkship in the Departments. I have never yet had to encounter the world's cold unkindness till now, and the dear home that sheltered me so long and where have been spent so many happy days, grim misfortune has entered, and now I realize what disadvantages those who seek employment labor under. Mothers cognizant that those who have the care of their children are unworthy of the charge and wholly incompetent of discharging the duties still continue them in service, leaving those who are willing and efficient to the prey of weary hope and bitter disappointment.

MISS C. R. S.

The sentiment expressed in the above shows how readily our housekeepers could renovate the present system of help, and substitute ignorance and negligence with refinement and efficiency. There are hundreds in Washington to-day who would gladly do all that our correspondent is willing and even anxious to do, and who would greatly improve our present system of domestic help by adding intelligence, care and honesty to all its departments. We are gratified to see that our housekeepers are taking a deep interest in this very important subject. It is said that within the past week some thirty of the young ladies discharged from the Treasury Department have been employed to discharge household duties, and have proven themselves thoroughly competent, and a vast improvement on the old system and old material.

ART.

Draw Poker on Canvas.

Mrs. Shorb's incomparable picture, to which attention has been directed by previous brief mention in the press and private circles, is a novelty in art rarely met with. The conception is as peculiar as it is original, not that it is claimed to be a master-piece of painting, but the idea is instructive and amusing to a degree. A picture may be admirably painted, and yet fail to secure a response from those who view it, either critically or otherwise. One of the chief merits of art is to amuse as well as to instruct, and as the better side of human nature is that which betrays pleasure, the artist who succeeds in evoking it through the medium of the canvas, secures a great triumph.

The picture represents a large and elegantly caparisoned-room, such as might be found in the houses of any of our well-to-do citizens, either as study or dining-room. At, or rather upon a table, covered with crimson cloth, a very absorbing and exciting game of "draw poker" (to use the American vernacular) is progressing. The players are neither gamblers nor politicians, professional nor unprofessional, tyros nor adepts, but these characters are all tipified by birds, with figure and plumage perfectly represented as in life; and the grouping and attitude of each assert a moral.

From left to right are presented in their order the pigeon, the owl, the crow, the parrot and the hawk, while above the group, high removed from all contact, but in supervising attitude, is perched the cockatoo, head on side to catch a better bird's-eye view of the situation.

This situation is peculiar, but no more or less so than the varied fortunes the exciting game commonly produce. The pigeon, typical of the "plucked," has either by fair or foul means succeeded in acquiring "four kings;" the owl and crow have evidently been raised or have voluntarily "passed out," and the subsequent proceedings are to them those only of passive interest—looking on. The parrot has, in emulation of Henry Clay at the Court of St. James, as chronicled by the stump orator, made a large "bluff" on a pair of deuces; but the hawk, which, as the proverb goes, does not "peck out hawks' e'en," has been laying in wait with four pronounced "aces," which, as we are told, in the absence of a "straight flush" is an "invincible." Of course, the poor pigeon, unsuspicious of his fate, has disbursed his treasure betting upon "four kings," and falls a victim to the hawk, who stands, not as Tennyson says, "with his foot on the prey," but with his foot on a plethoric stack of blue chips or checks, secure in the invincibility of his "hand."

There is no "falcon towering in his pride of place, and by a mousing owl hawked at and killed;" for both the owl and crow have determined that the better part of valor is discretion, a truism which the gabbling parrot has not yet realized. At the extreme right stands the traditional *beaufet*, and mounted upon its marble slab is a decanter half filled with rosy wine, attended by two delicately formed glasses.

To criticise the picture in detail would doubtless reveal some demerits; but taken as a whole, it is full of life, produced by artistic blending of colors and clever grouping of figures. The cockatoo is in itself a work of art, vastly superior to all the others, and must be taken as indicative of the ability of the painter to faithfully and graphically represent animal life.

This is one of the pictures which may not be accurately or properly described. It must be seen to be appreciated, for no one can understand its merits, whether *connoisseur* or otherwise, unless viewed and examined. It is the first conceptive effort of the artist, and being a lady it is a matter of wonder how she hit upon this "human" subject, for, after all, it is an allegorical painting purely American. The picture is as national as the Stars and Stripes, and not to be misunderstood by the uninitiated. For those educated in American games and their common practices and indulgences the picture speaks volumes. To those who know nothing of our provincialisms it is a fine and beautiful study. The Englishman knows All-fours and Cribbage, the French Piquet, Ecarte, Lansquenet and Rouge-et-noire; the German is an adept in Zolo-techieck, Pennuckle and Whist, and other various nations have various games in common, but nowhere, save in America, prevails the game of Poker. It is *sui generis*.

This picture ought to be commemorated in a first-class chromo, and for decorative purposes of the dining or card-room would prove a great acquisition. It may be bad morals to thus eulogize the counterfeit presentment of a game of Poker, but when the picture is considered in its allegorical bearings the benefit is obvious. The hawks prey upon the weaker birds, just as the big fish eat up the little ones, whether at Poker, politics, love, fame or religion.

THE OLD Keystone State would seem to need reform. The penitentiaries are so full that they have to slam the doors in the face of criminals and send them back to the county prisons. The people are advocating the erection of another penitentiary in the central part of the State.

MISCELLANY.

—A new lawn game is called "Vexillo," and it is said to be a great improvement on croquet.

—Coaching by moonlight is now in vogue. The melody of the horn is frequently heard after dark.

—Italian brigands now wear standing collars, diamond pins and alligator boots. It has always been suspected there was money in it, if well followed.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

—A Mr. Nuther, of Wisconsin, recently married. The bickerings in that family will be made up mostly of the old, familiar words, "You're a Nuther."—*Rochester Democrat.*

—There is a near prospect of utilizing creatures of the feline race, and London is excited over the intelligence of a carrier cat. We have seen one carry her kitten.—*New Orleans Republican.*

—How wise is the tramp who sleeps in a fence corner and has no fear of hotel fires and six-story leaps to stone pavements. Go to the tramp, thou architect, consider his ways and be wise.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—Four newspaper men in Chicago agreed to act in a farce for the benefit of a theatrical manager there, the penalty of not appearing being $100 each. On the appointed night all but one backed out, and paid the forfeits. The brave fourth went on the stage, explained the situation, and said that he would give the money to charity

—Not long since a negro was caught stealing a cow in Pike county, Miss. The parties who caught him cut the cow open and placed him inside of her, took a grass rope and sewed him in securely, leaving only his head out. In this manner he remained for four days, when he was discovered nearly dead. He said that it was all he could do to keep the buzzards from picking his eyes out.

—M. Blanc, the celebrated gambler of Monte Carlo, pays the Prince of Monaco, who owns the property which he employs, £50,000 per annum, and yet in spite of the vast sums which he spends in addition in improving the attractions of the place he has amassed a fortune of over £25,000,000. Much of his income, however, he derives from legitimate trade, as he controls nearly all the industries of the place.

—A short time ago a lady residing at Clifton, England, having an income of £1,000 a year, was so struck by the devotion of a young crossing sweeper to his mother that she proposed to him, placed him in the hands of a tutor for a couple of months, and when he had been intellectually veneered and polished, married him at Well's Cathedral. The experiment was not a success, and the lady is now suing for a divorce.

—Lord William Lennox is contributing a series of papers on "Private Theatricals" to the *Queen*. He tells a story of a French dramatist who, on the production of one of his pieces, sat in a secluded part of the pit applauding furiously, while his wife was gently clapping her hands in one of the side boxes. At the end of the first act he looked daggers at his unlucky spouse, and beckoning her to him reproached her for her want of enthusiasm. "What could I do more," she innocently asked, "with these lovely violet-colored gloves?"

—A ton of cotton seed yields about 700 pounds of cake or meal, thirty-five gallons of oil, a few pounds of lint cotton, some ashes, and other refuse. The meal is worth $18 per ton, the cake from $24 to $28, and the crude oil thirty-eight cents per gallon. The oil is valuable in paints and chemicals, and when refined makes an excellent table oil. The cakes are shipped to Europe for stock feed, the refuse used in the manufacture of soap, and the meal is in constantly increasing demand as a sugar cane fertilizer.

—The village of Saratoga Springs is bankrupt, and its president says that the streets cannot be lighted or cleaned this summer, unless the citizens do it voluntarily. Those who read this may wonder why money so scarce in a place where so much of it is expended every year by visitors. The truth seems to be that most of the summer business is done by non-residents, who take away the profits they make, and the public treasury is rather emptied than filled by the fact that the village is a fashionable resort.

—Felix Holt writes from London to the Springfield *Republican* about American beef in that city. He visited a large market where it is sold, and found that the demand far exceeded the supply. The prices were from three to five pence a pound less than for English beef. The buyers generally were of the opinion that they could tell the differences between the two products, but admitted that it was too slight to offset the less cost. Probably their imagination was responsible for their idea of a perceptible difference, for the writer learned that much of the imported meat was sold by butchers as English. In restaurants it is used extensively, sometimes unavowedly; but in most cases it is billed for what it is, and a larger quantity is given for the usual price.

*OUR COMPLAIN