THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

TERMS TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

The NATIONAL REPUBLICAN is now conceded to be pre-eminently the best daily newspaper published in Washington, and prints more reading matter in each issue than all the other daily journals of the Capital combined. It contains the latest telegraphic news and correspondence; it is free from all objectionable articles, reports and advertisements, and may be safely admitted in every domestic circle.

The NATIONAL REPUBLICAN is delivered by carriers to any address in the District of Columbia for

Fifty Cents a Month

or

Twelve Cents a Week.

TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

The NATIONAL REPUBLICAN will be mailed to subscribers in the United States, POSTAGE PREPAID, at the following rates, always in advance:

One year	$5 00
Six months	3 00
Three months	2 00
One month	75

The above rates are invariable. Remit in Post Office money orders, if possible; otherwise send money in a registered letter.

Address NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, Washington, D. C.

Advertising Rates.

Daily—25 cents a line for ordinary advertising. On editorial page, $1 per line. First page, $2.50 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 Republican in New York

can be obtained at BRENTANO'S News Emporium, 39 Union square.

We shall esteem it a favor if Persons who fail to receive their Paper regularly will report that fact to this office as often as it occurs.

National Republican.

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

WEDNESDAY.....MAY 23, 1877.

PREACHERS IN POLITICS.

Preachers who faithfully attend to their legitimate calling and duties have no time to meddle in politics. The New England conference of the M. E. Church, a short time ago, undertook to regulate President HAYES' Southern policy, and they were so thoroughly condemned by the public sentiment of the country that as a body, they felt heartily ashamed of themselves. The African M. E. Zion Conference, in session here, has also gone into the political field, and passed resolutions indorsing Marshal DOUGLASS, and in reference to Southern appointments, etc. We are too obtuse to understand how FRED. DOUGLASS' removal or retention in office, or the Southern appointments are to affect the cause of religion.

Yesterday the members of the Conference called at the White House in a body. Their congratulations and prayers for the success of the Administration were perfectly proper, but when they assumed to interfere in a purely political matter, and one of local interest to us, and not to them, they became meddlers in matters that did not concern them. Here is what their spokesman said:

> We are not a political body, Mr. President, nor are we here to ask any special favor, above that given to white citizens, nor are we here to dictate to your honor, the President. We are here to ask for simple justice; we are here in regard to the grievous grievance of the removal of the marshal of this District. We ask you, Mr. President, to require legal disqualification, and not that he shall be removed in order to satisfy the extreme malevolence of the party that hates his race. We seem to count what, bitter, burning wrongs we have been subjected to by the party that are now clamoring for the removal of Mr. DOUGLASS. We do not ask you to retain the marshal, but that you will not be influenced by your decision to popular sentiment.

If they were not a political body what right had they to interfere in political matters? And what right furthermore, had these professed followers of the Prince of Peace to assume that Mr. DOUGLASS' removal was asked "to satisfy the extreme malevolence of the party that hates his race?" If they had inquired they would have ascertained that there was no such demand for any such purpose. What warrant do they find in the Scriptures for an attempt to regulate matters of State? If preachers will attend to the salvation of souls they will have a life work before them. The spiritual matters are in their keeping. The temporal matters in the keeping of others.

FURTHER REFLECTIONS ON CIVIL SERVICE.

The question of civil service reform is so unlimited in its extent and application that once raised it is difficult to put an end to the inquiry. The precise power of the Government over the employee would seem clear enough, for it must be conceded to be coequal with its power over the employment, and that is obviously entire and absolute. But the lodgment of this power and the measure of its exercise have never been determined by such competent authority as commands the confidence of the people and establishes settled precedents. Many insist, and this seems to be the view of Congress, that it is distributed among the several branches of the Government. But if this be so the judicial branch has never exercised any part of it, and has consequently been remiss in its duties. And as it is not apparent in what manner this branch of the Government could participate, except upon a final determination of questions arising out of its exercise, the better opinion would appear to be that there is no distribution of the power whatever; and that being in its nature purely executive it belongs exclusively to that Department.

It will be admitted that the existence of the authority somewhere is indisputable, how much soever its residence may be questioned. But the fullness of the authority has not heretofore been exercised, and just how far in that direction reform may go consistent with the freedom of the citizen engaged in the service, is a point of difference and a cause of embarrassment. The propriety of its enforcement in all its completeness as affecting the selection and retention of officers and employees is variously considered, and the diversity of opinion is caused by the variance of premises. If all agreed that the power was strictly executive, to be enforced by the President alone, there would be more harmony in their conclusions, and correct judgment would result. If the theory be once adopted that the Executive is solely responsible for the condition and efficiency of the public service, embracing as such responsibility would, the character and competency of the force employed, there would be no suggestion of limitation upon the power for in so far as the power should be limited, responsibility would cease, as the Government itself would be responsible. In such a view of the case there is no restraint upon the means of reform, and the President may go to any extent in his efforts to secure a satisfactory personnel of the service, and not only may do so, but is in duty bound to prosecute his labors to that end until it be accomplished. It is his privilege to determine the qualifications of all persons received, and there is no one to question. He may appoint whom he pleases without reference to their residence or citizenship, having regard only to the fitness of the party. So far from being confined to localities within the United States, and being called upon to respect their various territorial rights as prescribed by Congress, he need not even inquire if applicants are citizens of the United States; and he may impose just such tests of character and capacity as will satisfy him in respect thereto. And he may exact strict integrity in personal relations the same as in official station, as a guaranty of the tenure of the office or position. Hence it is entirely proper for the President to require all persons employed in the service of the Government to be upright and honest and to take notice of complaints made concerning them. And for the investigation of complaints there should be a board of honorable and impartial men whose duty it should be to hear and report thereon. Such a tribunal would do more toward maintaining the efficiency and character of the service than a board of examiners deputed to pass upon the sufficiency of merit of appointees; for a large proportion of the human family will find means to pass the scrutiny of a given examination while they have not the fortitude to remain faithful to the standard of merit it assigns them. When such a system is introduced into the public service its character will be changed, and a position under the Government will be regarded as the highest voucher of the entire correctness of the person, and the very best basis for credit, instead of being looked upon as now, as a rule, as *prima facie* evidence of some personal demerit.

THE RICHMOND POST OFFICE.

Col. W. W. FORNES has been appointed postmaster at Richmond, Va., in place of Miss LIZZIE VAN LEW, who has long and well filled the place. This removal was, in our judgment, a mistake. The appointments and changes made by the President have, with very few exceptions, met our hearty approval, and we would have been glad if we could have cordially indorsed all of them. But this change, we fear, will meet the disapprobation of a large majority of the Republicans in this section of the country at least. Miss VAN LEW, it is admitted, performed her duties well. There are no charges against her official conduct, and her services to the country during the war certainly entitled her to much consideration. Until very recently she had reason to hope that she would be retained. The Richmond *Dispatch* of yesterday, commenting on the change, says:

> Miss LIZZIE had very strong friends near the President, and at one time, it is certain, she was assured by persons thoroughly well informed that she could go home in full confidence that she would not be disturbed. But after that a change came over the presidential mind, and when people would speak of Miss LIZZIE's loyalty, her services to the Union, how well the post office under her management had been conducted, and all that, he would quietly ask: "Is her removal expected greatly to disappoint people?" Will it be painful? That is what I want to know." The answers to this interrogatories could not help been of a very reassuring kind, judging by the result.

There are some things, it seems to us, besides "expediency," and "popularity" which should be taken into the account in making appointments or reappointments. Honesty and capability should be considered worth something. It is not denied that Miss VAN LEW had these qualifications in an eminent degree, and to them was added a devoted patriotism. We have nothing to say against Col. FORNES. He is well and kindly spoken of by all the Richmond papers, and is a Republican, but in this case the President could very well have let "well enough alone," without in the least degree raising a question of the wisdom of his Southern policy.

Has Dana Sold Himself to the Devil?

The good Deacon RICHARD SMITH says he has, and we are bound to accept the good Deacon's testimony as true. But after all the attention that the *Sun* has paid to the editor of the Cincinnati *Gazette* it is rather cruel to make the exposure. DANA's course is now in part accounted for. It is no doubt nominated in the band that he is to make as much of a heaven earth as he can by slander and vilification, and such infamous attacks as will pierce the heart and embitter public and private life. But here is what Deacon SMITH says in Monday's *Gazette*:

> How often do we have cause to remark that accidents, misfortunes and calamities run in a sort of successive or cycle. Only a few weeks ago the world saw the sad breaking down of Charles A. Dana under the decree of the diabolical compact, when he shrouded the *Sun* in black lines of woe, and placed the flag over the *Sun* office at half mast, and began to call on rocks and mountains to fall on and hide him from the devil, to whom he had sold his mortal soul; and now we have an account of a similar breaking down in despair, because of this diabolical compact, as with the wretched Dana, so with this man—the thought of the compact he made, and of the inevitable approach of the time when his soul will be seized by the buyer, took away all enjoyment of the issues he had bought so dearly, and he became desperate and wanted to pull down ruin on his own head and on all others, and at last, in his desire to escape from manhood and from the ever pursuing fiend, he wanted to be sent to the state prison. Here is another wreck of a life by the diabolical compact, and another warning that even in this life the man who sells his soul to the devil shall not have enjoyment in the price, but that his torment shall begin even when he thought he would be reveling in the wealth so purchased. The truly good cannot but pity these wretched men, but their terrible example must be improved to warn mankind against the diabolical compact.

THE Buffalo (N. Y.) *Express* publishes a twenty-column advertisement of tax sales. That's a bad outlook for a flourishing city.

THE New York *World* quotes approvingly the sentiment of a country paper, that it "is a moral in journalism." A New York Democratic journal a "moral!" What a gag!

TEMPERANCE advocates in New York are about to visit rum-mills in order to look up adulterated liquors. As temperance people are fallible like other folks, they had better pray with unusual earnestness, "Lead us not into temptation."

IN justice to Gen. KETCHAM, it is proper to state that he long ago placed his resignation at the disposal of the President, but he has remained here at the request of his colleagues, Messrs. DENNISON and PHELPS, who wanted his experience and assistance in preparing the assessment books.

JUDGING from the tone of the New York papers, the bull-dozers have left the South and taken possession of Albany. The Legislature having passed a bill appropriating half a million dollars for the new Capitol, they are accused of having been intimidated. But they all it a "mule," and not a bull-dozing."

[illegible] hundred in the important matter of commitments to the jail, and as a result we are likely to have the array of petty offenders considerably augmented. DENNIS [illegible] was convicted on three charges of perjury in the Police Court, and was sentenced to six months in each case. But the commitments were so defective that the judgment was reversed upon a writ by a higher court. JACKSON, it is true, had nearly completed his time when the defect was discovered, but, of course, there are others who were committed in the same way, and who will take advantage of the precedent just established and obtain their release. We have thieves enough now at large, and don't want a general jail delivery as a result of a court error.

THERE is a law against treason, and it will be well for certain prominent Democrats to remember the fact.

P. T. BARNUM has offered a reward of $10,000 for the recovery of CHARLEY ROSS, and "no questions asked." CHARLEY must be a pretty big boy by this time, but he will be a paying card for the great showman if found.

AS MR. TILDEN has declined to pay Mr. HEWITT the $100,000 the latter spent in the last campaign, won't the next House find some way of reimbursing Mr. HEWITT out of the United States Treasury? Mr. HOUMAN will no longer be at the Capitol to object.

A DISPATCH from Washington to the Pittsburg *Telegraph* credits the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN of yesterday with an editorial advocating the removal of Secretary SHERMAN. We published nothing of the kind, and nothing has yet occurred in his administration of the Treasury to make us desire a change there.

IN THE American race becoming extinct? There's the old conundrum up again. It looks that way. For in New York last week there were 400 deaths and only 376 births. And yet some people pronounce Hayes' administration successful.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

That's all right. HAYES' administration was not intended to raise a crop of New York city Democrats. Go to the Republican districts and you will find the births largely in excess of the deaths.

ROUMANIA has declared her independence and cast her fate gallantly into the scale against the Ottoman enemy. It has been hinted heretofore that an event of this nature might lead to complications with Austria, but it is more than likely now that she will seize this as a pretext to maintain an attitude of masterly inactivity.

WILL anything ever satisfy the New York *Sun*? In the course of a recent interview the President expressed himself against the practice of Federal officials having to do with the machinery of politics, and now the *Sun* adds:

> Why haven't they as much right as other citizens to undertake political management? Shall a man when he takes a Government office abandon any portion of his privileges as a voter?

Now, is not this condition in a paper which has devoted more space to the denunciation of Federal officials who participate in politics than any other paper in the land? But we forget the word consistency is not in the *Sun's* dictionary.

HON. GEORGE H. PENDLETON, according to the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, is the United States Senator from Ohio in place of STANLEY MATTHEWS, provided the Democrats succeed in obtaining control of the next State Legislature. That word "provided" has everything to do with it. The Democrats can't hope to win except by dissensions in the Republican ranks, and we think Gen. TOM YOUNG knows what he is talking about when he says that there are not more than one thousand Republicans in the whole State who are dissatisfied, and that the talk about a split in the party is all nonsense.

THERE is a practical benevolence in free summer excursions for the deserving poor. Now that the hot weather is approaching can't a fund be raised to give sick infants, ailing and worn mothers, and the decrepit aged some views of God's blessings outside of the alleys and slums of our city? Other cities have given such excursions with great benefit to the recipients, and Washington should not be a laggard in this regard. Two or three thousand dollars would defray the expenses of half a dozen or more excursions down the Potomac, which would confer incalculable benefit upon thousands who could have no other opportunity of spending a day outside of the heated city.

THE Massachusetts Legislature has been indulging in an interesting little game called "salary grab." While a majority of the Republican members opposed it, nearly every Democrat voted for it. Of course they did. They only followed the example of their great leader, Mr. SAMUEL J. RANDALL, the chief of Congressional salary-grabbers. It's true he subsequently became virtuous on the salary question, but it was a sort of compulsory virtue. At least it was not of the disinterested sort, for he expected a political reward for "going back on himself." Repentance without restitution does not amount to much, however, and we never heard that Mr. RANDALL returned the extra money which he voted into his pocket.

IT is very desirable that the United States should be represented at the Paris Exposition in 1878, but the postponement of the extra session of Congress until October delays the appropriation needed. There is believed to be a constitutional way out of the difficulty, however. In the case of the Vienna Exposition the invitation to participate in it was accepted by the Department of State before action was taken by Congress, and Secretary EVARTS' position is understood to be that an American commission should be appointed provisionally upon the understanding that the commission shall not have any compensation unless Congress shall ratify their appointment. The minimum expense supposed to be necessary is $300,000. The Cabinet will determine the question definitely within a few days.

THE *Star* is seemingly very ambitious of official place-making. In its issue of Monday it states that "all of the Assistant Postmasters General are from the West, Mr. TYNER and Mr. BRADY from Indiana, and Mr. BARRIER from Michigan." Now, if the *Star* will stretch its vision toward the Treasury Department or the Interior Department, it will see also that Western men do these should. It will be a long time before the President will be able to select more efficient or popular public officers than Messrs. TYNER, BARRIER and BRADY, and we apprehend the President is thoroughly conversant with the record of each. It is understood that the civil service rule still exists, and that worthy public servants will retain their positions at least so long as they are faithful and efficient. The *Star* evidently overlooked this important matter in the article referred to.

DEPARTMENTALITIES.

SENATOR BLAINE took in the Treasury yesterday.

SENATOR MCCREARY is expected back to-day or to-morrow.

MINISTER BOKER to Russia will be succeeded soon by a new appointee.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL BEN. SHERMAN is in town helping after his efficient way.

THERE was a minor affair yesterday that General Logan's candidate for a second term.

THE French Minister has taken a cottage for the season at Newport, pending his stay.

NO RECENT information has reached the Department of State regarding the French Millennial crisis.

A GRANDSON of Gen. Lafayette visited the tomb of Washington yesterday, accompanied by Gen. Ringgold.

MINISTER TARGEE's leave of absence having expired, he is now on the ocean on route for this country.

AT ONE time yesterday—as will much time—none of the chief officers would be found within the War Department.

SENATOR BRUCE, of Florida, is the oldest specimen of senatorial self-importance that now adorns the Capitol.

THE British, German and French Ministers being all absent from the city, their respective secretaries of legation are acting as charge d'affaires.

IT IS a curious fact that of all the Secretaries of State from Jefferson (1790) down to Mr. Evarts of to-day, not one of them spelled a monosyllable. This is purely the American feature of diplomatic dignity.

IN CONSIDERING the East room of the Executive Mansion yesterday it was discovered that moths had got into the fine carpet and rep furniture, and in some instances played great havoc by cutting large holes. This announcement will no doubt cause another wail of tears that we have a President in the interest of the moth exterminating process.

OUR COURTS, LAW BOOK.

Mr. Clapp Rises to Explain.

We publish below a communication from Mr. A. M. Clapp, referring to certain statements published in THE REPUBLICAN of Monday in relation to discharges and appointments at the Government printing office. Mr. Clapp need not have worked himself up into quite so "excited" a temper nor assume that THE REPUBLICAN desired to do him the least injustice. The information in the first instance was deemed entirely reliable, and with Mr. Clapp's explanation the public have both sides.

WASHINGTON, May 22, 1877.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN: Yesterday's issue of the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN contains a paragraph which, from its wording, I might be excusable in supposing was intended that I was responsible for the discharges and appointments of late relating to this office and its present management. I am not so anything that might be imputed to me, even when a sensational statement has been thus intended.

2. It is true that when the Bureau was formed and the superintendent of printing was called upon for the number of printers wanted, I gave my list.

3. It is also true that a large number of men have been appointed who not in my work, since a new Public Printer has assumed the duties of his office. Of the men so appointed, the following appointments only have been made in the printing department of this office: J. A. Wright, proofreader, for the President; D. C. Gardner, compositor, for Congress; A. Bergman, compositor, for the Secretary of War; R. Gilmer, A. W. Blackburn, who had been given a place in the War Department, Bureau Mines, appointed; J. H. Robson, compositor; R. C. Kimball, compositor.

In this I will be seen that only four new compositors have been appointed in four and a half months, while the number of men I have dismissed, by resignations in the same time, I can then particularly to the matter that I was not responsible for any such appointments, for in every case the office, or its chiefs, with an exception, recommended these appointments for the bureaus of the year.

4. To my enlistment, as evidently meaning in connection, or, for, the number of compositors in the office of Government, when he speaks of "at the time a portion of the force was furloughed, they were engaged on work for the Post Office Department. The work for the Post Office Department, I presume, is meant for Congress, and is being printed for Congress under its appropriations. For a copy of it to be delivered to the Post Office Department from this, by my, or, I presume, any other person, employed here for months past.

5. On Saturday work was resumed on the Post Office report, as you say, but no printers who have been employed here for months past.

In these three paragraphs we have, as editor, when he mentioned, no matter how upright his intentions, or with the truth, he can be misled into misrepresentations that reflect no credit upon the parties he intends to do justice to.

I do not, however, blame you, as editor, for the information which you are pleased to call the "I remain, very respectfully, &c.

A. M. CLAPP, Public Printer.

Who Is Public Printer?

While on the subject of the Government printing office the reader might as well read the following which raises a question as to who is really responsible for changes in the office:

WASHINGTON, May 21, 1877.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN: In an editorial article in the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, headed "Supplying for Mr. Clapp in Detail," you ask the question, "Is Mr. Clapp the very impersonation of goodness, and before you Mr. Clapp's position place him in such a way as to be unable to answer them with an explanation? I wish, in my a few words in reply to the foregoing, because of my connection, however remote, with the office.

In the first place, any one who has had anything whatever to do with the Government printing office knows, full well, or might be aware, that Mr. Clapp is nothing more than a figure-head, so far as the establishment, not even having the power to transfer a man employed in the office from one department to another, much less employ others in his stead, except by the labor of the compositors of the Congressional and the setting, generally, in our part of the city that "should have our work done and of the way Brown would the business like." Our work things be and not work Democratic! Therefore, I was surprised, a few in the Government Department, but when, the next morning, almost immediately upon receiving notice that their services would not be required until July 1, we have transferred to a department where there was an abundance of work, to keep the whole force employed until the next fiscal year, and thus making a living during the extremely hard winter just passed, and yet the answer invariably was that the other force, or greater part of it, at least, would not have employment longer than two weeks at the furthest. It may be that the Secretary of the Congressional printing office, who has charge of the compositors, did not know that there were other departments, and that they would be the loser by the transfer, but I do not know, nor do I believe that Mr. Brown knew where he telling them, furthermore, that there were men who were entitled to employment the first refusal of all work, which, in the office, instead of sending to Baltimore and other neighboring cities for new hands, while hundreds of good mechanics remained our streets daily for lack of employment of almost every kind. Are these questions impossible for you, Mr. Editor, to answer? Mr. Clapp, would it be more correct to answer now be "Mr. Clapp overwhelmed with the humble workings of that department, which, so only itself, is thoroughly overwhelming. Would it not be a very good idea to first ask Mr. Clapp who is virtually public printer, himself or R. E. Brown? And, now, Mr. Editor, as a good number of good, honest mechanics, and to left some of our best citizens, have been sadly injured by the frequent changes, administration of R. E. Brown, and as R. E. Brown, some give the above a place in your column, where your many readers may see that reform is needed as well in that as other departments. [illegible]

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The Result of Some Work in the Police Court.

The Police court case of Dennis Jackson was brought before the Supreme Court of the District yesterday upon an appeal from the decision of Judge Snell, holding the Criminal Court. This was an interesting case. The petitioner, Dennis Jackson, had been sentenced in the Police Court for three separate convictions of larceny. The sentences were all for the period of six months, and contained nothing to show that they were not to commence at once. The defendant had been committed under these sentences and remained in prison for a period of seventeen months. The commitments under which he was held were made part of the return of the warden of the jail, and on two of these there appeared a memorandum distinct and separate from the commitments to the effect that sentence in each of these two last commitments should commence from and after the next preceding commitment. The assistant District Attorney, Mr. Francis Miller, contended that this was all that was necessary to make the record regular and complete, but the court held that the prisoner was entitled to his discharge on the ground that the two last sentences should have expressed in some form the date of their commencement and expiration. The counsel for the petitioner, Mr. Charles Maurice Smith, argued the case with more than usual ability, and deserves much credit for the learned manner in which he discussed the law and important points involved. Mr. Francis Miller requested the court to reduce their opinion to writing for the guidance of the court below, which the court consented to do. This case, it is thought, will reverse many of the decisions of the Police Court, and free a number of criminals in the jail. The District Attorney admitted in his argument that the law expressed in the last judgment was erroneous and unlawful.

A DOUBLE DOSE.

Elegantly and Sumptuously Expended Upon an Unfortunate Pup.

Nicholas Wm. P. Hurdiet, residing at No. [illegible] Street southwest, was arraigned in the Police Court yesterday for keeping a dangerous dog. A young man named Edward H. Perlis was the complainant, and testified that while he and some companions were sitting on a door-step, at the corner of Second and C, Sunday afternoon, Major Hurdiet's servant came along with a child and a dog, not without any provocation whatever the dog jumped at him, and bit his arm through his coat. He showed the wound to the court. Major Hurdiet cross-examined the witness as to whether he did not call the dog or insult the servant, but only received answers to the contrary. Lewis Jenkins, one of Perlis's companions on the occasion, corroborated his statement, and said that no one called the dog, nor did any of them say anything to the girl, the little boy or the dog.

Hannah Blackford, the colored servant, a good-looking mulatto, testified for the defense, that the boys did call "Betsey" (the dog.) They teased it, and made fun of witness and "Betsey's" name. The dog just snatched him. The boys were making all manner of fun of her, the child and the dog, and making remarks about all the passers-by.

Major Hurdiet then made an elegant plea in favor of the dog. He did not care so much for it himself, but was anxious it should live for his child's sake. It was a skye and Scotch terrier, and was a great pet of the boy's. It was with him all the time; and followed him everywhere. It was a very quiet, docile animal, and he had never known it to snap at, or bite any one, even under great provocation. The boys, he said, were known as common loafers, and had insulted the girl, and teased the dog, but he wanted the court to use its own discretion in passing judgment.

The Court replied that he was obliged to dispose of the case according to law. He believed dogs had some rights, but they were not extensive under the ordinances which he read, and as there is so much feeling in this city in regard to hydrophobia he felt bound to issue the usual order that the dog be killed within twenty-four hours.

An appeal was noted, thus giving the unfortunate animal a trifle longer lease on life. The case excited great interest, and while every one admitted the justness of the decision, no one could help but sympathize with the owner of the dog—a bright little boy of four summers, who played with his father's beard all during the hearing, utterly unconscious of the doom of his precious pet. Even the Court showed a disposition to spare it to him, and would undoubtedly have done so had it been within the law.

HON. JOSHUA HILL.

His Views on President Hayes' Administration.

The following extracts are taken from a private letter from ex-Senator Joshua Hill, of Georgia, to a friend:

> As to my views of the President's policy respecting the Southern States, it is but a waste of time to declare that it meets my hearty approval. I am profoundly impressed with the statesmanship he has exhibited throughout the management of this delicate and perplexing subject. He has risen so high above the usual course of mere partisan officials as already to have distinguished his administration. When I reflect on the golden opportunities of Grant to have given peace to the distracted States of Carolina and Louisiana, more particularly the latter, I am amazed at his suffering himself to become the sustainer of mere incompetent and adventurers. He might have achieved for himself more than one age and have added to the luster of his name a greater civic deed than any that attaches to it. It is a matter of serious contemplation to observe the satisfaction felt by ordinary Democrats at the unexpected course of President Hayes.
>
> It is the unanimous thing to hear men say they care nothing whether the means by which he reached the Presidency were fair or foul. They are satisfied he has done more for the oppressed States than Mr. Tilden could possibly have accomplished. The leaders of the party find it difficult to repress the growing admiration of the rank and file for the new administration. Nor is this feeling exhibited by the private only. It shows out in places that will give the deepest pain to the party leaders. The reported conversation of the reporter and Secretary Thompson, in regard to the resuscitation of the Whig party, will awaken feeling in many an old heart, in which the love and admiration of the noblest, self-sacrificing, truly national party has unsuspected, ready to break forth with fire and fervor of hope and mount into a flame. To see the old banner once more unfurled, and the old guard once more marching, keeping step to the music of the Union, would fill my heart with an enthusiasm it has been stranger to for more than a quarter of a century. But it may be that I ever edified myself with the notion that I was a Whig myself and a few old adherents. It is a theme on which I love to linger. All honor to the patriot who would rekindle in the breasts of the American people the almost love of the Union, respect for the Constitution and the enforcement of the laws that once animated the Whig hosts. I must stop right interposes. Love to all.

Sincerely yours, JOSHUA HILL.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

How to Feed the Basin Around the Statue of Peace.

The statue of Peace being erected at the foot of the west front of the Capitol grounds is in position and ready for unveiling. It is necessary that water should flow into the basin around the pedestal, and petitions have been submitted to Water Registrar Lubey asking that the Potomac water may be used for this purpose. When the fact is taken into consideration that the water supply on Capitol Hill is exceedingly limited, and not likely to be increased this summer, it will readily be perceived that to use the Potomac water for this purpose would be perpetrating a great injustice upon the residents of East Washington, for then the supply would become more reduced than it is now. The fountain in front of and portions of the Capitol building are furnished with water from springs which could be conducted without either trouble or expense to this basin. This would give the water needed and not detract from the city supply. The water registrar in replying to the petitioners says this suggestion calls for four or six square inches of water to supply the number of jets or outlets surrounding the statue. This quantity taken from three mains will reduce very much the already meagre pressure and supply to Capitol Hill. Instead of using Potomac water at all for the purpose, he suggests that the overflow from the spring fountain at the middle and lower entrance to the west front of the Capitol be utilized.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

The Contracts for $250,000 Work Not Yet Awarded.

The awarding of the contracts for the improvement of the streets, under the bids recently received, has not yet been made by the Commissioners. The proposed repairs will cover the $250,000 appropriated by the last Congress for the District. Commissioner Ketcham says that no definite action has yet been reached. The bids have been carefully scheduled, but the award will not be decided upon until some time during the present week, and then not until a full and thorough consideration of the subject. The Board of Commissioners have, within the past few days, accompanied by the engineer, traveled over the streets they propose improving and personally surveyed their condition in order to obtain a perfect knowledge of their requirements, and what work should be contracted for to put them in complete repair. After this inspection has been finished and they have become thoroughly conversant with the bids as scheduled so as to act, undoubtedly the awards will be made.

MR. LOCKLEY UNLOCKED

From the Matrimonial Chain that Weighed Him Down.

Justice Wylie has granted a decree of divorce to Mr. J. H. Lockley from the bonds of matrimony with Phebe Lockley.

Colonel Mike Thompson was solicitor for the complainant, and the petition shows that both parties have been residents of the District for the past thirteen years. In 1866 they were married by Rev. Mr. Boreland, and lived together as man and wife for some months after the matrimonial knot was tied. Sometime previous to 1873, Mrs. Lockley, impelled by a sudden resolution, left home, and declined to return. No persuasion of the husband proved of any avail; away she went and away she stayed. To all his importunities she turned a deaf ear, and the home that had known her knew her no more forever. The husband determined to make the separation perpetual, and, therefore, applied for a legal dissolution of the nuptial ties.

LYNCH LAW IN KENTUCKY.

A Negro Taken from Jail at Midnight and Killed by a Disguised Mob.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

CAIRO, ILL., May 22.—On Sunday night last a party of disguised men went to the jail at Mandville, Ky., and with drawn pistols demanded and received the keys. They entered the jail and seized a negro named Levi Pile, who attempted to assault and murder Mrs. Pile, the wife of his employer, last week. They put a rope around his neck, tied him to a mule and dragged him away to the woods. Nothing further is known, except that his dead body was found hanging to a tree with several bullet holes in it and the clothing burned off.

ALL SHADES OF OPINION.

The subjoined editorial extracts from prominent American newspapers, irrespective of party, are published just as are other news items, solely for the information of our readers. Our own opinions and views will, as usual, be expressed only in our editorial columns.

A Good Beginning.

From the New York Tribune:

The reaction has begun already. Statesmen, who made haste to say that President Hayes had "betrayed the country," already perceive a degree of coolness and indifference in public opinion which shocks them. There was a moment when even Mr. Wendell Phillips thought that some people were listening to him. Republican voters had but recently emerged from a desperate contest, in which many of their old leaders had labored to convince them that the South was more dangerous than ever, and more in need of stern repression. The policy of the new President had been fairly and frankly announced, but a great many voters had believed the leaders who treated the avowal as a mere bit of political strategy. By a large number it had never been seriously considered. To them the first steps of President Hayes were like a sudden shower-bath to an overheated man—very exciting, but not yet agreeable. Before the Louisiana settlement had been reached, however, public opinion had become disposed to give the new sensation a fair trial. Those who were in haste to condemn the President were even then not more numerous than those who were inclined to commend him. But a large portion of the Republican voters were not yet ready to do either, and thought it well to wait. * * * The President's course is being tested by actual trial, and thus far it yields very good fruit. A great many things remain to be done. The condition of the South is not yet what its best friends desire. But candid men realize that so great a change as is desired could not be effected in an instant; that it would be wonderful if some difficulties should not remain, after so many years of bitterness and bloodshed, and that the improvement thus far gives great reason to hope that the policy of the President may prove completely successful.

Federal Offices in the Southern States.

From the New York Herald:

The President is apparently in no hurry to make removals or new appointments, but there are very good reasons for believing that he means in general to select Southern men of character and influence for the prominent Federal offices in the South. In doing this he will have the cordial support of the Northern public. There is a class of Northern men who went to the South as political adventurers, and who have lived exclusively by politics. It is this class, a kind of political tramps, who are properly known as "carpet-baggers." He is a person who has migrated to a Southern State, not to engage in business or any other usual occupation, but to control its politics. He has no other interest in the State he infests than to hold office there, either Federal or local. * * * It matters little, in the long run, what individual Southern men, so long as they are persons of character and influence, the President may appoint to the Southern Federal offices. It is not likely that under President Hayes Federal office-holders will be allowed to take such a truculent and mischievous part in politics as under the last Administration; but it is probably true that the Whigs in the South, rather than the Democrats, will be drawn to the Republican side by the Republican policy; and when the white vote begins to divide, as it will, on policy and principle, the President can, without improper interference, help the new formation of parties by his Federal appointments. His selection of "Southern men for Southern offices" will help to break up the present and mischievous party lines in the Southern States.

Morton in Retreat.

From the New York Sun:

Senator Morton keeps very shady, and has hardly opened his lips since he left Washington with the patronage in his own State and the Post Office Department, bagged as the game of a few days' hunt, to say nothing of a representative in the Cabinet. As a thrifty politician with a great appetite for spoils and a paternal care for his followers, he is hardly excelled. Nor does he confine his watchfulness to Indiana. All over the South he has planted sentinels to watch his interests, and has generously pensioned them on the Treasury. The custom-houses and post offices in the North rejoice in a goodly number of Morton's friends. In foreign lands they do duty as Ministers and Secretaries of Legation, with a liberal sprinkling of Consuls. While he has made no public sign of his intention toward "Hayes' policy," his intimate friends have not been left to grope in the dark as to the course he will pursue when Congress comes together. That he will sustain the claim of Kellogg to a seat in the Senate against Spofford or anybody else is certain. The case of Kellogg upon this recommendation will bring up the whole Louisiana question, and the whole conduct of the Administration. The greatest debate of the Senate may be expected on this subject, and with the strongest leaders on both sides contending for the palm. Whoever advocates Kellogg must necessarily oppose Hayes, through whose intervention the Kellogg Legislature was disbanded and fused in order to make a Spofford Legislature. It is easy to foresee, when this discussion once begins, where it will lead. The Republicans will be driven by the force of circumstances to take sides, and that cannot be done without an open collision with the Administration. The Presidential candidates will, of course, strive for the leadership in this struggle, which is only to be attained by a bold and bitter war on the Administration. To accept the situation as made by Hayes, Schurz, Evarts, Key, and company, is to break the back of the Republican party and leave the Democracy with supreme control in public affairs. Therefore the policy of Morton, Blaine, and their associates will be to preserve their party by the expulsion of their President.

MATTERS IN MEXICO.

Diaz Gaining Ground—General Jimeniz Removed—A Railroad Conductor's Story.

[By Cable to the National Republican.]

CITY OF MEXICO, May 16, via HAVANA.—The popularity of the Diaz administration is apparently increasing. Diaz is generally credited with the determination to act according to the constitution. Senor Zamacona, late member of the mixed commission at Washington, and Senor Romero, ex-minister of Mexico to the United States, have strongly recommended their friends in the United States to urge the early recognition of Diaz.

Ten thousand arms have been distributed by General Mendez to the soldiers in exchange for old arms and in lieu of their pay. A train from the City of Mexico for Vera Cruz, on the night of the 16th inst., was stopped about eight miles from the city. After starting again the conductor announced that robbers had stopped the train and taken $33,000, which was in transit for Europe. The passengers discredited the story.

On the arrival of the train at Orizaba the authorities arrested the conductor and baggage master. Diaz has expressed an intention to order the War Department to hold all haciendas and officials personally responsible for all crimes committed in their vicinity. It is reported that the acknowledgement of Diaz by foreign Powers would follow his acknowledgement by the United States. France and England will then be invited to renew relations.

General Jimeniz has been relieved of the State Governorship and of all military command for the outrage on the American consul at Acapulco.

Four thousand troops have marched to the northern frontier, where General Escobedo is expected to commence a revolution.

AN INSANE MAN'S FREAK.

He Undertakes to Run a Locomotive, and is Pitched into the River and Drowned.

[By Telegraph to the National Republican.]

PHILADELPHIA, PA., May 22.—As an engine belonging to the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad was standing on the track on Washington avenue this afternoon, and during the temporary absence of the engineer and fireman, an unknown man jumped upon the engine and started it at full speed toward the river front. Two freight cars which were attached to the engine struck the bumpers at Washington street wharf with such force that the engine was thrown from the track and the cars ran into the river. The stranger, who was evidently insane, was pitched into the water by the shock and drowned.

MISCELLANY.

—A report reaches us from Paris that the ladies are wearing cat-tails in their bonnets. It seems like a waste of cat to cut off the tail and throw the body away.

—A lady residing in Maryland is said to have received a letter last week which was mailed in 1866. The agony of that woman to find out where it has been all this time passes comprehension.

—Under the lumbatongs two
Cooper and Tilden stay,
Under the one the Glue,
Under the other the Bray.

—A curious case of a man being struck by lightning occurred at the Thames gold field, New Zealand, the flash having to travel down a mount five hundred feet in length before reaching him

"Will you Wackeen to my parlor?"
Said the spider to the fly.
"Oh, no—you re only Jonquin!"
The bitter didst reply.

—Twenty varieties of California grapes have been painted from nature in as many separate publishings for an artist of that state. The wine growers' Association of California is about to issue chromos—water reproductions of the publishing—in book form.

—A French blacksmith filled a large tube with hammers, chisels, bits of steel, iron and gunpowder; then put his head in one extremity, and applied a hot bar of iron to the other. The result was that he knocked off his head and blew up his forge.

—A splendid bronze fountain has lately been inaugurated at Berlin. Around the base are four colossal figures, representing the Rhine, Elbe, Oder and Weser, each with its appropriate tributes and in the middle of the heads are four smaller figures, representing Agriculture, Trade, Defensive Warfare and Art.

—The first game of croquet of the season of 1877 was played on West Hill day before yesterday