

of the bill as a law, which it will probably become in a very short time. It relegates the states back to the rigidly home rule condition which they occupied before the war. The Federal government or its agents as such must not cross the lines defining the respective commonwealths' boundaries without an invitation express or implied, and its power to interfere in any election that occurs after the bill is signed by the President will be completely extinguished. This, like almost every consummation of a public character, has its good and bad phases.

As stated by some of the Democrats in the debate preceding the passage of the bill, negro domination will not be tolerated and in order that this may be assured beyond all peradventure we suspect that negro equality will be made a matter of past history. This does not refer altogether to social equality a condition naturally repugnant to all the Caucasian race. North as well as South at last, and shown to be utterly impracticable despite the earlier legislation of Congress to that end; but it does refer particularly to the political equality secured to the colored men by the last amendment to the Constitution. With the presence of the blacks exercising suffrage on equal terms with the white people there must of necessity be a constant irritation which the band of time instead of soothing will but aggravate. Such a state of affairs is utterly abnormal and must sooner or later be overcome by some means. The means, as shown, cannot come from the government and upon the repeal of the bill becoming law will be more than ever in the hands of the white people of the South, with the negro left to such redress as he may obtain from the state courts only. He will not be likely to regard this as a cheerful prospect.

Another result may be the disruption of the solidarity hitherto and at present prevailing below Mason & Dixon's line. With those states in supreme and unopposed control of their own political affairs, the band of mutual action for the attainment of common ends which bound them together will be relaxed if not removed entirely and as before the war, business interests, local affairs and commercial relations will be among the elements of political controversy. If so Alabama may be counted on with some degree of confidence to vote for a protective tariff for the first time in this generation; ditto as to Louisiana and perhaps some other states. Of course this is all more or less speculation, but it all seems foreshadowed as a result of the Tucker bill becoming law.

THE U. P.'S CONDITION.

The annual report of the government directors of the Union Pacific railroad to the secretary of the Interior at Washington contains much that is of interest to the friends and patrons and neighbors of the road, in at least one of which classes every resident of this intermountain country will be found. It is good to hear that, from a recent personal examination by these directors, the system is in excellent "physical condition," both as to its

main line and its important branches. On the other hand, the figures show a material decrease in earnings and an increase in expenses; but this is easily accounted for in the prevailing hard times—we would like to see the road that has made any money this year. The business capacity of the U. P. and its traffic facilities, say these directors, have materially improved, but its earnings for the fiscal year 1893, both gross and net, show a considerable decrease. The earnings of the Union Pacific railway proper for the year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to \$19,958,058, a decrease for the year of \$1,952, while the expenses amounted to \$11,531,803, which is an increase for the year of \$399,649. The surplus for the year was therefore \$8,426,254, or \$401,602 less than the year before. The earnings for the entire system during the year covered by the report were \$44,240,703 and the expenses \$28,695,792. This represents a decrease of \$306,927 in the earnings and an increase of \$174,681 in the expenses.

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

Following the religious congress and conference on missions in Chicago, the representatives of the Evangelical Alliance met and now hold daily sessions. Yesterday "Christian Union and Co-operation" was the subject of discussion, which gave some of the speakers an opportunity of stating that the prospects of unity among the various churches is now greater than ever. In Holland this was said to be a notable fact. One Methodist bishop thought his denomination was willing to meet the others more than half way, and a similar sentiment was expressed by a Congregationalist.

The Evangelical Alliance is an association which was formed in 1845 in England, when in response to an invitation signed by ministers of various denominations and addressed to the Protestant churches of Great Britain, a number of influential clergymen met at Liverpool and after much friendly discussion agreed to unite on a broad basis. The principle laid down was that the Christian churches, notwithstanding the differences, are essentially one, and that this unity should be given some visible expression. The most appropriate one was thought to be an undenominational association, the members of which were free to unite with any evangelic church they might choose. The idea spread rapidly among the so called dissenters of the various countries, while the established churches as a rule maintained an attitude of opposition. Some of the most noted preachers of the day have displayed their eloquence at the gatherings held at Paris, Berlin, Geneva, New York and Copenhagen.

Originally the avowed object of the Alliance, besides promoting unity among the sects, was to combat Catholicism and Rationalism. In later years a tendency has been noted among the leaders to effect a better understanding between the three great divisions of Christendom. At the meeting in Copenhagen, for instance, pains were evidently taken by the leading speakers to show that the Greek, Roman and Protestant churches

had each had its important mission to fill and that all were necessary for the completion of the kingdom of God. At the same time some dissenting churches were almost ignored. Great efforts, and in many instances successful ones, have been made by the Alliance to promote toleration in various countries. It has sent petitions to the governments of Russia, Sweden, and Spain in favor of persecuted sects or persons and thus exercised a most commendable influence.

It is worth while noticing that the question from which the Evangelical Alliance sprung was identical with that which first laid such a hold on the youthful mind of Joseph the Prophet. But the men who formed the association dealt with it in a different way from what he did. It was clear to them that the endless divisions and subdivisions of the Christian denominations were a evil, and they were desirous of correcting it. They consequently called a meeting and discussed the matter with a view of obtaining a remedy. It was a kind of extra congress convened for a special emergency. There can be no doubt that those men went to work with the best of motives and purposes, although the results have not been all that was hoped for.

When the evil of the contentions among Christians became a momentous question to Joseph Smith, he adopted another method. He sought for Divine guidance in the matter of ascertaining which church was the true one. The result he obtained was as different from that of the Alliance as his method of inquiry was dissimilar to theirs. And yet it is evident that he was led in the right path. For holy writ itself stamps the condition under which the Christian world is, where strife and divisions reign, as "carnal," a condition of enmity towards God, and one that makes the whole body unfit for spiritual instructions. While this is the case it ought to be clear that the remedy cannot be found in a partial union of the various contending bodies, but in the establishment of the old standard of the Gospel, the departure from which is the chief cause of the confusion. To raise that standard Joseph was called in answer to his prayers. To follow that standard would be salvation for the whole world.

"THE WEDGE OF GOLD."

Judge C. C. Goodwin again enters the field of literature as an author, his production this time being a beautifully appearing and splendidly printed book of 283 pages bearing the above title. The story in the main illustrates the careers of two miners who emerge from a \$4 job in the lower levels of a Nevada mine to the condition of semi-millionaires through an investment in stocks when the "flush times" were upon the Comstock. With their subsequent proceedings many interesting characters are interwoven, and the incidents attending them are graphically depicted. Romance and quartz ledges, adventure and business, lovemaking and statistics, heroism and diviends, keep each other company without becoming awkwardly involved, and a great deal of information.