

Chandler's money was omnipotent. —*Cleveland Herald.*

The defeat of old Zach. Chandler for senator in Michigan, gives the most complete satisfaction to the entire country. For eighteen years he has held Michigan in his grasp by the aid of his money and federal office-holders. At the last November election seven independent republicans were elected who could not be bought, threatened or coaxed into voting for Chandler. With these independent republicans the democratic members finally united, and selected an honest and conservative republican. A dispatch to the Associated Press thus gives the antecedents of Isaac P. Christianity, the senator elect: He has been for seventeen years one of the judges of the Supreme Court and part of the time Chief Justice. He has been elected to his position twice by the unanimous vote of both parties. In politics he was originally a Democrat, then a Free Soiler, and then a Republican. He is 63 years of age and a resident of Lansing. He is understood to be hard money and revenue tariff, conservative on constitutional questions and a man of marked ability. —*Cleveland Plain*

The President's Confession and Avoidance.

The President having been summoned to the bar of public opinion, files what the lawyers would call "a plea of confession and avoidance." Without staying to review the faults of composition that banish this document from the society of English classics, we proceed to the consideration of its material features. Prefacing, however, the remark that while the Executive had for his guides the arguments of his apologists in the Senate—some ingenious, and some which charity itself cannot relieve from the charge of stupidity—he in obedience to his infallible predisposition to error, selected the latter to lighten his uncertain footsteps. The American people, through their grand jury of statesmen, lawyers and patriots—Schurz, Thurman, Bayard, Evarts, Bryant and others equally illustrious for their brains and virtues—having indicted General Grant of a crime greater even than open rebellion—the offense of employing, in the name of liberty, the power entrusted to him to subvert the very principles which it was given to sustain—he has, in the form of an answer to Mr. Thurman's resolution of inquiry, made the following defense:

Reviewing the somewhat paradoxical working of the re-construction acts, he fixes the beginning of his late policy and the late disorders in the court-room of Judge Durell, a judge whose resignation was recently accepted to save him from impeachment. General Grant admits that some of the orders of this judge, in the case of Kellogg vs. Warmoth, and the kindred case of Antoine, were illegal, and admits that he caused the army of the United States to be used to enforce those illegal orders without inquiry, or to use his own language, "It was only made known to me that the process of the United States court was resisted;" showing the same recklessness in the use of troops then as he does now, and classifying opposition to an illegal order as among the lawless acts of Louisiana.

The next element of his defence is the following statement: "I recognize the administration organized with Wm. P. Kellogg as governor. Whether he was or not elected is not altogether certain, nor is it any more certain that his competitor, McEnery, was chosen. The election was a gigantic fraud." This uncertainty of right and certainty of wrong would have furnished any other man with means for "a masterly inactivity" between the counter claimants. While these matters are not responsive to the resolution, they are not without significance. The answer of a man conscious that his acts were inspired by honest motives and what he believed to be the necessities of the occasion, would have been confined within the limits of the inquiry; but General Grant has traveled back into the past and revived a remembrance of men and things which, while intended as a palliation of his conduct, is cumulative of his guilt.

The President next dwells with evident satisfaction upon a lengthy detail of the murders and other outrages visited upon the negroes

at Colfax, including in his vital statistics "some charred remains in addition to the fifty-nine bodies." Injustice to the living is a poor tribute to the memory of the dead, but we find the President indulging in expressions which are but the wild utterances of Sheridan's military dispatch toned down to the moderation of a State paper. "To say that the murder of a negro or white citizen was not considered a crime in Louisiana would probably be unjust to a great part of the people."

Insulted by the "banditti" of General Sheridan, how grateful must that people feel for the "probably" of General Grant; after having been driven into the wilds of barbarism by one, how sweet it is to be led back within the outer limits of civilization by the other.

After justifying the action of the returning board on the ground of his utter ignorance of what they did and how they did it, the President at last reaches the gist of the inquiry.

Before considering that part of the message which refers to the *corpus delicti* it might not be amiss to ask why, if the President was so intimately acquainted with the details of the disorders, outrages, murders and rebellions, as set forth in the first part of his statement, did he send his "faithful Achaetes" on his friendly mission of inquiry?

"I did not know that any such thing as the alleged interference of the military with the organization of the legislature on the 4th was anticipated."

"It is exceedingly unpalatable to use troops in anticipation of danger."

"Troops had been sent to the State; they were allowed to remain there to render the executive such aid as might become necessary to enforce the laws of the State and repress the continued violence, which seemed inevitable the moment Federal support should be withdrawn."

These excerpts, somewhat contradictory, it is true, explain in his characteristically cloudy manner how, why and what for the soldiers were in Louisiana. He informs the Senate next that "military interference with the organization of a State legislature is repugnant to our ideas of government," ignoring its repugnancy to the written Constitution and laws, but says it might be the duty under certain circumstances for the governor to forcibly interfere in the organization of the legislature, a sentiment familiar to Cromwell, and one which inspired the "L'etat c'est moi" of the French monarch.

After having stated Louisiana to be in a terribly disorganized condition from the date of the reconstruction, after having stated on the other hand that he had no knowledge of anticipated troubles of the 4th instant, he says that General Sheridan was requested to go to Louisiana, observe and report the situation, and, if necessary, assume command; from this pinnacle of absurd contradictions, His Excellency slides down to the defense of his favorite trooper, and by the assertion that if the barbarous recommendations of General Sheridan were adopted, they would put an end to the difficulties, regrets that they are liable to the objection of being illegal.

The country will be grateful for even this much constitutional consideration at the hands of the cavalryman's patron. Those who have the inviolability of person, property and life at heart will be pleased to learn from the exponent of his free lance's views that General Sheridan "never expressed a determination to proceed beyond what the law in the future might authorize." This either means nothing or means that General Sheridan never expressed a determination to hang the citizens of New Orleans to lamp-posts unless he had the President's assurance of an act of indemnification after the victims were cut down and buried. While we have these two kindred spirits together—two who recognize every political complication as a Gordian knot to be cut by the sword—we cannot refrain from recommending to their consideration some nice words from John Milton; they will find them somewhere in his *Areopagitica*: "A dram of well-doing should be preferred before many times as much the forcible hindrance of evil."

No reader of this message can fail to notice the constraint with which those portions relating to military

interference in Louisiana affairs are written. Where the President would justify, he unwillingly is reduced to the mildness of an excuse. Public opinion has at last penetrated the inner walls of the White House, and made some impression on the Jupiter *Tonans* of the Republican party. We have called the reader's attention to General Grant's exposition of the Constitution and laws as he understands them, without dwelling upon the state of facts as he represents them, or as they really are. But one thing is certain: no state of facts will sustain the principle that Federal soldiers can be used by a State governor in "a debatable question."

The soldier's message closes by shifting the responsibility of the misgovernment in the South upon Congress, and that body, comparing their devoted support of his errors, with the unmanliness of the subterfuge, may well exclaim with the prophet, "I was wounded in the house of my friend."

Eight years ago General Grant stood first in the hearts of his countrymen.

Gratitude and admiration of the silent soldier blinded the public eye to the faults of the man, and the partiality of the people clothed him with characteristics that nature had denied to him.

He was elevated to the first civil position in the land, and as soon as he ceased to be commander-in-chief of the armies he ceased to be great. And our history has never afforded such an illustration of a man so

"Cursed and stigmatized by power,
And raised to be exposed."

—*Washington Capital.*

Bonner Protests Against It.

Whatever difference of opinion there may be among the readers of the *Ledger* on public questions, we think they will agree with us that there should never be a reign of military power in the United States. No such thing can be tolerated. It matters not by whom it is proposed it will never be submitted to. The military authority must be kept in strict subordination to the civil. The executive is to execute laws, not to make them.

These principles are applicable to all times and all circumstances, and there must be no departure from them. We have all felt that this country owes a debt of gratitude to General Grant and General Sheridan for their conduct during the war; but by their recent arbitrary interference in Louisiana affairs they are rapidly canceling that debt. —*New York Ledger.*

The Vicksburg Affair.

The military interference at Vicksburg has an exceedingly ugly look after the apologetic disclaimers put forth in the President's message. After the President had attempted to screen the Louisiana interference behind the assertion that army officers are not lawyers, thereby making an implied admission that they had overstepped legal limits, they would naturally refrain from taking any similar step on their own judgment and await commands from headquarters before venturing to act. It is therefore important to know by whose orders the troops acted at Vicksburg. Assuredly Gen. Emory would not have dared, without a specific command, to disregard the message and make a practical denial of its sincerity. It is incredible that the orders in the Vicksburg case did not emanate from Washington. Nobody but the President himself would have dared to thus stamp the message as a false disclaimer and a hollow apology. And yet it will not surprise us to find Senator Morton, on some bright morning, excusing the President on the ground that the whole thing took place without his knowledge. —*N. Y. Herald, Jan. 21.*

GEN. BLAIR IMPROVING. — The *St Louis Globe* says—

"Gen. Blair is improving in health, and his physicians have hopes that he will have so far recovered in a few weeks as to be able to be upon the streets again. It would gladden many hearts to see Frank with his hat on once more."

Speculations upon the coming spring bonnet begin to occupy the female mind. Mr. Peck, of Worcester, Mass., hanged himself because at eighty-nine he was tired of life.

A lady went into a carpet store recently and pointing out a carpet asked the proprietor what it was. "Brussels," says the proprietor; "Brussels," quoth the lady, passing her hand over it. "Seems to me the bristles don't stick up much."

In Lowell, the other day, a discouraged mill-girl said to her boarding-house mistress, who was lamenting the fate of a grocery who had opened with a scalawag butcher-keeper, "You keep us on bull-beef at four dollars a week and then expect us to be as contented as angels!"

(OFFICIAL.)

Arrivals and Departures of Mails.

ARRIVALS.

East—Through mail, daily..... 7 40 p m
Local—Ogden, Echo City, Wasatch and Morgan County, daily..... 7 45 p m
Summit and Wasatch counties, Tuesday and Thursday, 7 40 p m
Alta, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday..... 7 10 p m
West—Through mail, daily..... 10 10 a m
Local—West Jordan and Herriman, Thursday..... 7 10 p m
Ophir, Tooele City, daily, except Sunday..... 8 00 p m
Grantsville, Saturday..... 8 00 p m
Bingham, daily, except Sunday..... 7 10 p m
North—Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington Ter. daily..... 10 10 a m
Local—Davis and Box Elder counties, daily..... 10 10 a m
Cache county, Thursday and Saturday..... 10 10 a m
Rich county, Monday and Thursday..... 7 40 p m
South—To Pioche, daily..... 7 10 p m
St. George and Arizona, alternate days..... 7 10 p m
Sanpete county, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday..... 7 10 p m
Fairfield and Cedar Valley, alternate days..... 7 10 p m

CLOSING.

East—Through mail, daily..... 9 00 p m
Local—Ogden, Morgan county, Echo City and Wasatch, daily..... 9 00 p m
Summit and Wasatch counties, Monday and Wednesday, 9 00
Alta, Monday, Wednesday and Friday..... 5 30 a m
West—California, Nevada and Ogden, (through mail) daily..... 1 30 p m
Local—West Jordan and Herriman, Thursday..... 5 30 a m
Ophir, Tooele, Stockton and Grantsville, daily, except Sunday..... 6 30 a m
Bingham, daily, except Sunday..... 5 30 a m
North—Idaho, Montana, Washington and Oregon, daily..... 1 30 p m
Local—Davis and Weber counties, daily..... 9 00 p m
Box Elder county, daily..... 1 30 p m
Cache county, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday..... 1 30 p m
Rich county, Tuesday and Thursday, via Evanston..... 9 00 p m
South—Pioche, etc., daily..... 5 30 a m
St. George and Arizona, alternate days..... 5 30 a m
Sanpete county, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday..... 5 30 a m
Fairfield and Cedar Valley, Wednesday..... 5 30 a m

OFFICE HOURS.

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