

## WASHINGTON NOTES.

From the Washington Star, Oct. 16—

Secretary Bristow proposes to discharge all but one of any family having two or more members employed in the department, and at the very threshold of the proposed reform the mother-in-law question looms up, thusly: When a man and his wife's mother are both employed, which, if either, should "step down and out?"

The new one dollar legal tender note has upon its back two large cross lines, which form almost the Roman figure ten. To the unpracticed handler of money a mere glance at the reverse side would indicate that it represented on its back ten times the value of its face. In the South the colored people in many instances have received them for ten dollar bills, and the Treasury is advised that quite a profitable business has been carried on by some scamps in this way. These reports are supported by the collateral evidence which is furnished through the large number of bills of large denomination which have been changed with ones at the request of Southern correspondents by the United States Treasury. In Canada, it is said, the note, for this reason, is refused altogether, and a large number are daily received at the Treasury for exchange into other notes.

The following telegram was received by Adjutant General Townsend this morning, from army headquarters at St. Louis:

"Adjutant General U. S. A., Washington, D. C.—The following dispatch has just been received from Lieut. Col. Morrow:

"DYER, TENN., October 11.—The train with battalion of 13th infantry was wrecked at 11 o'clock last night two miles south of this place. The accident was caused by a wheel of the engine truck breaking. Two soldiers were killed and several wounded. The engine, four baggage cars and a passenger car were completely wrecked. We will be under headway again in the course of the afternoon. Please give publicity to the extent of the accident, to relieve the minds of friends.

Signed, "HENRY A. MORROW."

The rampant roosters which all the democratic papers wear since they heard the news from Ohio and Indiana are not aggravating enough to sensitive republicans it appears; but the exultant opposition must devise other means of agonizing the loyal heart. This morning a dilapidated looking character, clad in a costume of the days of Andrew Jackson, appeared upon the portico of the White House. On his arm he carried a basket. From this he drew a bottle containing a fluid, which the messengers say looked like muddy water (but it was evidently something with more snap in it) and proceeded after the manner of a priest at the baptismal font, to sprinkle the stone floor. Having done this to his own satisfaction, he replaced the bottle in the basket and brought forth a printed placard, having upon it in large letters the words "For rent." After placing this on one of the columns at the side of the main entrance door, he shuffled away with the satisfied air of a man who had done his duty and was content. He don't seem to realize that this is the off year.

## Radicalism.

The United States is laboring under a political disease engendered by an excess of centralization. It is a well established fact that it is being transformed, in departing from the principles of its origin, in encroaching upon the independence of the States and upon local liberties; in making authority absolute in the hands of a central oligarchy; in a word, that, in deviating from the course evidently designed by its founders, the government of the United States tends to fall into disgrace and disorder. "Qui trop embrasse, mal étire," says a wise French maxim. By dint of concentration, it divides; by dint of condensation, it dissolves. Local discords would be pacified by local action; they become exasperated by external action.

For instance, Louisiana would be in a more tolerable condition without the intervention of President Grant; and it is believed by many that the object had in view by his intervention was the furtherance of party purposes rather than the enforcement of the laws and the

furtherance of the interests of the people. To persevere in such a policy would aggravate, in generalizing it, an evil which is still limited, but which would otherwise soon reach the whole confederation. It is necessary, at any rate, that this carpetbag mismanagement cease, and that the nation, by a combined effort of reason and by a reaction of liberty, modify the direction which has been stamped on its government, as the result of the civil war. The abuse of the federal power is a most dangerous evil, the remedy for which can only be found in a wise and resolute return to the principles of popular sovereignty, which were the foundation of the republic, as was clearly pointed out by George Washington and his successors until the advent of radicalism.

LOUIS A. BERTRAND.

Poland and Frelinghuysen.

THE PARENTS OF THE PRESS "GAG LAW," AND THE POLAND BILL.

The parents of the press "gag law," Judge Poland and Senator Frelinghuysen, present an amusing spectacle of explanatory see-sawing. They are alternately bobbing up to shield themselves from the thickening odium which their own acts have incurred. The venerable Vermont Judge, beaten at every point and chagrined at his defeat, has just fulminated a very contradictory and unsatisfactory reply to some public criticisms, and now Mr. Frelinghuysen, alarmed at the reception of his colleague, rises again to show what a really harmless and angelic piece of legislation it was to provide this convenient throttle for any offensive truths that might creep into the newspapers. The plank in the Democratic platform of New Jersey, which stigmatizes the gag law in proper terms, he styles an "egregious blunder," having no intelligent application to the provisions of the new and outrageous law. He undertakes to show that it proposes no new punishments, and is in all respects merely a definite elaboration of existing statutes; yet the singular feature of the case is that after he has given it a character that he is satisfied with, he makes haste to deny all paternal responsibility for its passage. He says his entire speech on the subject, as reported in the Congressional Record, asked the Senate to pass a bill providing for a criminal court in the District, stating that it was very necessary that it should pass. This was not much to be sure, but Senators frequently make their most moving speeches outside their Chamber, and the public know it. He says that this is not a "gag law," because all such are used by despots to protect their injustice from being criticised by the people. But this was understood to be the very animus of the present act. The New Jersey Senator seems thoroughly frightened and with good reason, but he will have to speak many times more before the people will be brought to approve his action in the matter. — Boston Statesman, Oct. 9.

A DANGEROUS EXPERIMENT.—In the steamship Queen, which left this port yesterday afternoon, there was as one of the passengers the noted Paul Boynton, pearl diver, life-saver and man-fish in general. He leaves on a dangerous experiment, which is none other than to make a sea-voyage in a life-saving suit. It is his intention to drop overboard not less than 200 miles from land, either after leaving New York or before reaching Liverpool, when he will be left to the mercy of the waves until he shall meet with a passing vessel. Mr. Boynton is confident that he will come out all right in the matter, and prove the value of the dress. This is a rubber suit or armor of peculiar pattern, containing compartments, which, when inflated, it is claimed, are able to float a man of any weight in safety. The one taken by Boynton will weigh fifteen pounds, and he carries with him a rubber bag, two dozen signal lights, two pounds of cheese, six pounds of crackers, one piece of Bologna sausage, one axe and one bowie knife for sharks, signal flags, rockets, an extra suit of clothes and a large double bladed paddle with which to propel himself. Mr. Boynton is of fine physique, and weighed yesterday about 180 pounds. On the Jersey coast he claims to have saved seventy-one lives. — N. Y. Herald, Oct. 12.

MARKET FOR CATTLE.—It will be remembered that last spring Mr. Phil. Pointdexter, one of the leading stock growers of Beaverland county, started east with a grove of cattle. The result of this undertaking has been awaited with considerable interest by the stock growers throughout the Territory, as it has been a serious question whether the driving of cattle to an Eastern market would pay. The Madisonian learns that Mr. Pointdexter sold the herd, consisting of 407 head of average cattle, which he drove through Cheyenne, at \$46 per head on foot. The purchaser, a Mr. Fox, a butcher and speculator of Cheyenne, sold a part of the herd for an Eastern shipment at \$4.20 per hundred, gross weight. These figures are something for the stock owners of the Territory to study, and all those contemplating the driving of cattle through to the railroad will be interested in the result of this sale. — Helena, Montana, Herald, Oct. 12.

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