

EDITORIALS.

THE NEW APPOINTMENTS.

THE New York papers seem to be considerably exercised over the appointments just made by President Grant, of Pierpont to fill Schenck's place as minister to England, Taft to be attorney general, and Cameron to be secretary of war. It appears to be allowed that the appointees possess ability to a good degree, but it is hinted that one is an unprincipled schemer, and that all the appointments were made more with reference to party and even still more special success in the coming presidential election than from considerations single to the welfare of the country. It is true self and party deception may work in this way—"We are the salt of the earth, the only possible saviours of the country. If the country is saved it must be saved by us, it cannot be saved by any other party, or even any other section of our party. Therefore we must secure the nomination, we must secure the appointment, we must secure the election, for our candidate, at all hazards, or the country is lost."

This is deception of the most gossamer-like kind, but it seems to be sufficiently opaque to satisfy many people, who evidently forget that the world and the country existed, and got along tolerably well, long before they were born, and will exist long after they are dead, and that if they and their section of the party, and the entire party itself, were to be swept out of existence to-morrow, the country would still remain, and after a short time would go on much as if they had never had an existence here.

The thing that grates most harshly upon the feelings of those citizens who do really think more of their country than they do of party, and who consequently wish that to be given to the country which others seem desirous to have confined strictly to party, and even to a section of a party, is the evident fact that the various offices of the government, from the highest to the lowest, should be scrambled for and parcelled out as party prizes or sectional prizes, rather than be given where ability and integrity and prudence and broad patriotism are found combined. To give a public office to a man for the sake of securing certain votes is nothing less than selling that office to the highest bidder. If the office were given for a money consideration, the venality of the transaction would at once be apparent and when published would be roundly denounced. But giving an office for a suffrage consideration, though equally venal, is not apparently so, and is nevertheless so common as to occasion little surprise or comment.

In the matter of the dispensing of public offices, there is only one policy which will stand the test, and upon which the national superstructure can be safely and permanently reared, and that is the policy of giving the office to the man best fitted for it, such fitness to especially include integrity, wisdom, and ability, for if either of these is lacking the appointment will be unsatisfactory and it will be found that there is something rotten in the State.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

THE Eastern question is a question of antiquity. To Europe and Asia and Africa in the Christian era there always was an eastern question. From the time the Romans possessed Palestine and took Jerusalem until the present there has been an eastern question looming up ever and anon into the gravest importance. The core of the Eastern Question may be said to be Jerusalem and Palestine. The Romans, the Persians, the Mohammedan Arabs, the Egyptians, the crusading Christians, and the Turks have been alternately masters of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, the last named still holding the sway, but, latterly at least, by the permission of the European powers, a permission growing out of mutual jealousy. For upwards of six

hundred years Jerusalem has been subject to the Mohammedans, and for three hundred and fifty years, excepting an intermission of a few years, Turkey has held rule over it.

The Eastern Question grows out of Jerusalem, but extends to the matter of the quarrels of the Mohammedan and Christian peoples, and visibly affects the political policy of the chief powers of Europe. Russia appears as the special champion of the Greek Christians, and the other great powers champion the remaining Christians. Great Britain not only acts for Christian peoples, but is also the particular supporter of Turkey—firstly and chiefly, because of the jealousy of Britain towards Russia; and, secondly and subordinately, because Britain is Turkey's creditor to a large amount.

More than any other European power, at least of late years, Russia has pushed forward in the path of territorial aggrandizement. This is her traditional policy. More particularly has she been pressing upon Turkey and towards British India. Russia may or may not desire to bear down upon the regions of India which are now more or less subjected to British sway. But it seems to be generally accepted that Russia does greatly desire to possess Constantinople, and make it the capital of another grand religio-political Eastern Empire. With Constantinople would go Jerusalem and Palestine. The other European powers, and especially Britain, could not endure this while preventable, and therefore their suspicions are aroused with every new difficulty between the Turks and Christians. Hence the great to do over the present quarrel between Turkey and Herzegovina, and the assemblage of vessels of war of the various nations in consequence of the murders of the French and German consuls at Salonica, and the attendant threatening demonstrations of the Mohammedan populace, both at Salonica and at Constantinople.

Scripture leads us to expect most exciting events in connection with this Eastern Question in the latter days, and there is an apprehension, more or less distinct and more or less latent, in the minds of people generally, statesmen and common men, that things will yet come to a dreadful crisis in connection with that question, that will shake Europe, and the old world, from centre to circumference, and remodel the map of the Eastern Hemisphere. In this view perhaps all the powers have a fear of the outbreak, and are anxious to stave it off as long as possible, and by conferences and diplomatic arrangements prevent if possible the tremendous shock of arms and loss of life and treasure which are almost certain to ensue if this great question shall blaze out into open war between the nations. There is a general belief, however, that with all the diplomatic caution and sagacity that may be brought to bear upon the question, the materials are there for a stupendous eruption, and that some day or other the rumbling volcano will burst forth and deluge much of Europe and Asia and North Africa with fire and blood.

POTATOE VALLEY.

MR. JAMES GALE gives the Beaver *Enterprise* some information about Potatoe Valley, he having recently returned thence. The valley is about 100 miles south-east of Beaver, and beyond the Rim of the Basin. The climate is much milder than that of Beaver, though the rainfall does not appear to be any greater than if equal to that of the Basin. Potatoe Valley stream is a little larger than Parowan Creek, Iron County. The openings from Potatoe Valley are rather cañons than valleys, but there is one where a few families have settled and are putting in crops, though stock raising is their chief business. It is thought that the water can be taken out of Potatoe Creek just below Potatoe Valley and conducted into a large valley to the south-east, suitable for farming. The country is a good stock country, and considerable stock has already been driven there from Pangwitch and other settlements west of the mountain range. The country is sandstone, and stone-coal crops out in beds and seams of astonishing magnitude. Castle Valley is on the

north and the Kanab country on the south. It is said to be one of the largest coal districts in the West. Petrifications are scattered all over the country, and there is a good deal of crystallized quartz. The greatest curiosity is the wild potatoe (from which the valley takes its name), supposed to be similar to the original of the cultivated potatoe, though the tubers are small, no larger than beans. They have a strong flavor, but the grain and texture are like those of the cultivated varieties. Sage brush grows twelve to fifteen feet high, and four feet in circumference. Large groves of pine timber cover the mountain range to the east, and water is plentiful for mills. There is considerable game in the country, particularly fur-bearing animals. Beaver and otter abound.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—It is said that cotton subjected to hydraulic pressure is only half as strong as that which has not been so treated, and that the former is dull and lustreless, while the latter retains its glossiness and silken sheen.

—It is held in the Cincinnati *Commercial* that the Republican party in the South is dying for want of white material.

—The present depression of trade and business, according to European critics, will not end for some time to come.

—The Boston *Globe* does not seem to be well up in fashion English, but is evidently somewhat bewildered therewith and thereby, according to the following in that paper—The descriptions of a genuine fashion writer are almost as difficult to decipher as a Chaldean inscription, and might furnish severe study for one trained in the mysteries of Egyptology. Taking the matter and the method together, they are calculated to craze the mind of a man of only ordinary accomplishments." The *Globe* man should ask one of his wives to interpret and explain the hard words and difficult terms.

—Religious papers are not always so courteous and nice spoken as they might be. The New York *Examiner* and *Chronicle* talks thus of a Philadelphia contemporary—"The *National Baptist*, of last week, has a leading editorial, which might possibly have been dreamed of by some dyspeptic who had made his supper on sourkrout."

—An Englishman figures out the causes of railroad accidents in this way—human machinery 41 per cent., defective signals 28 per cent., defective roadway 18 per cent., defective rolling stock 13 per cent.

—In many of the States no divorce is granted but by special act of the Legislature. In New York adultery is the only legal cause. In the benighted State of South Carolina it is claimed that there has been no grant of divorce since the Revolution. Owing to depression in business and general stagnation Chicago divorces scarcely averaged one a day last year.

—Coral is coming into fashion again.

—Queen Isabella writes to the Pope, offering to intervene with her son, King Alfonso, on the religious question. Isabella would make a nice mediator in religious matters.

—The London *Church Bells* doubts whether "Shakespear is decent reading for a Christian man."

—In the Royal Theatre of Munich, actors who "die" on the stage, are prohibited from coming before the curtain to bow to the audience before the close of the play.

—The London press advises Americans in London to abstain from the "silly practice" of deluging the stage and smothering favorite performers with bouquets.

—Charles Bradlaugh sued an Oxford grocer, and recovered £50 damages, for slander in the grocer saying that Mr. B. had been disciplined for neglecting his family and leaving them chargeable to the workhouse. If Mr. B. would enjoy the luxury of being profusely slandered with a great improbability of securing even fifty cents damages, and the certainty of being further slandered if he sought damages, let him come to this country.

—The San Francisco *Chronicle* says—"It is a well-authenticated fact that the female population of the world is to-day more numerous

than the male, and that this numerical preponderance is constantly increasing. At the ratio laid down in tabular form by the various census bureaus of civilized nations, not more than a thousand years will elapse before the whole world will be turned over to the tender mercies of the softer sex, and the few men remaining on earth at that time will occupy cages and cages in museums and zoological gardens." The scriptures talk of a man being as precious as fine gold in the latter days, which would be the case now if all the men who are not men were deducted.

—Some years ago Rev. F. W. Roberts, of Brighton, England, said of that country, "what is quite as pertinent now of this country—"If judgments are in store for our country they will fall because we are selfish men, and because we prefer pleasure to duty, and traffic to honor, and because we love our church more than our Christianity, and our Christianity more than truth, and ourselves more than all. These are the things that defile a nation."

—The Savannah *News* thinks that the prospect is that if the business of investigation goes on much longer it will result in the total destruction of the government and also of "the great party of moral ideas itself."

—Strawberries are not scarce in various parts of the country, but a St. Louis paper observes that no one can afford to buy them yet, unless he is in the post-trading business, or nestles within the shadow of the Emma mine.

—The St. Louis *Republican* says Peter Brown, a negro, beat out his wife's brains in a hut in Big Hollow, threw the body into the Missouri, burned the hut and fled. He was caught, tried, convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hung. The court of appeals reversed the judgment. Then he was tried, pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to 99 years in the penitentiary, as there is a State law that enables a man sentenced for life to be discharged at the end of fifteen years.

—They are quarrelling eastward upon the question whether visitors shall or shall not be allowed to walk on the grass on the Centennial Park grounds.

—Could not the American people have chosen a better time to wash their shockingly soiled linen than the centennial year, and under the very noses of the multitudes of foreigners who come to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the republic?

—During last winter, for the first time known to the present inhabitants, ice formed at Jerusalem, and the Arabs, having never seen it before, were puzzled with the query how ice could turn into glass.

—The Son of Man had not where to lay his head, and he rode into Jerusalem on an ass. Pious None, his professed representative, is said to have the choice of 4,000 rooms in the Vatican, and 480 horses in the Vatican stables.

—It is said to have been demonstrated that for telegraphic purposes the English language is twenty-five to thirty-three per cent cheaper than the French, German or any other language.

WHY SHOULD HE BE RELEASED?

THE U. S. House of Representatives, it appears, has passed a joint resolution to take steps to procure the pardon or release of one E. O. M. Condon, who is confined in an English prison.

As law is generally administered with some regard to justice in England, the presumption is unavoidable that Condon has been found transgressing the laws of that country, and that he has been thrown into prison in consequence, as a punishment due. It is as easy to live within the laws in England as it is in the United States, and there is practically quite as much personal liberty in the former as in the latter country for those who are inclined to obey the law as good citizens or subjects. But those who are not so minded will find there is much more certainty, if they transgress the laws, of their being judiciously punished therefor in England than in Amer-

ica. Condon must be an American citizen, or there would be no propriety whatever in President Grant acting as a mediator for him. Nor, as it is, does there seem to be much propriety in such mediation. If Condon went to Britain and by his Fenian acts broke the British laws, what could be more just and proper than that he suffer the penalty of those broken laws? He could easily have avoided such penalty by staying at home and minding his own business, or, if he had been minded to go to the British Isles, by minding his own proper business while there. There is no country in the wide world where a man from any country, if he will behave himself with any kind of decency and manifest any kind of respect for the laws of the land, will be more free and be let alone more strictly, than in Britain. But it appears Condon could not do this. He put his foot within the meshes of the law and he was caught. What can be said but, "Served him right?" Is it a pity that, being an American, Condon should be legally punished for committing any crime, or breaking any law? Such demoralizing presumptuousness can not be entertained by rational people. It is not customary in Britain for criminals to escape the law's penalty on the various frivolous pretexts which are often sufficient here to practically nullify legal provisions. As to Fenian insurrections, they are not circumstances which the British Government is likely to look upon with any great degree of leniency. The consequences of those insurrections, if trifled with, would be so serious that undue mercy to the offenders would be gross criminality to the peaceably disposed subjects of the realm. O'Donovan Rossa is reported to have told a San Francisco interviewer recently that among the designs of himself and his Fenian associates was the setting on fire of the large towns and cities of England, reckless of anybody's losses and sufferings. A crime of such deadly purpose, and such dreadful and widespread consequences, would not be entitled to any mercy whatever. Nor can a government which is the object of such threats be reasonably expected to be ready to extend much mercy to criminals connected with any such conspirators against the peace and welfare of the country.

If President Grant were to request the pardon of Condon he would make himself liable to the humiliation of having his request declined. If the request were granted, it would then appear that the criminal was released because he had influential friends, which would constitute an invidious distinction between him and his fellow criminals who had no such friends to intercede for them, and who might be no greater criminals than Condon, if so great as he. This, therefore, would be subserving the ends of favoritism, not of justice. Rather let Condon serve out the penalty of that law which he has broken, and then he may learn sense enough to stay at home, or behave himself if he goes abroad.

DARES TO DO RIGHT.

AN exchange has the following—

"There is one trait in General Grant's character that will be remembered to his honor long after the things for which he has been criticized shall have been forgotten. He has the courage of his convictions. There is absolutely nothing of the trimmer about him. He dares to do what he thinks to be right; does it without stopping to inquire what the world may say."

It is a commendable trait in any man, to have courage to act out his convictions, to dare to do what he believes to be right. So far as President Grant is endowed with this quality he should be respected as a man, and more respected as a high official. It would be a good thing for the country if the number of people who act upon their convictions were much greater than it is.

Now we come to reflect upon it, we are satisfied that in this Territory of Utah are a greater proportion of people who possess this quality of doing what they believe to be right, and to a greater degree, than can be found in any other community. What causes their daring to do what they think is right to stand out the more saliently is the fact that they dare to act