

EDITORIALS.

THE bitter contest for political power in New Orleans, which has been carried to such an extreme as to lead the Federal government to interfere and the public to anticipate bloodshed, is really a disgrace to the State and the Union. As might be expected there appear to be faults on both sides, faults by no means venial. From recent issues of the New York Herald the following extracts have been culled, bearing upon this conflict of authority in Louisiana—

"The contest, it will be remembered, is between Governor Warmoth on one side and the Republican candidate for the office of Chief Executive in the recent election, Senator Kellogg, on the other side. Warmoth claims the election of McEnery, the Liberal Governor, and others, and with the Board of State Canvassers, as remodelled by himself, as he asserts, in accordance with law, has canvassed the returns of the election officers and issued his proclamation declaring the result. Senator Kellogg has obtained an order from the United States Circuit Court, of the Fifth district, enjoining Governor Warmoth from canvassing the votes and reinstating those officers of the Board of Canvassers displaced by the Governor. There are, therefore, two Boards of Canvassers, the one holding under State authority, the other under the authority of the United States Court, which claims jurisdiction under the laws for the enforcement of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution. The complaint of Senator Kellogg is that a number of voters sufficient to elect him and the republican Legislature, and who would have supported his party, were refused registration, and the law in question provides that, on proper affidavits of the fact of such refusal, the votes shall be canvassed as if actually cast. At half-past two o'clock on the morning of Dec. 6th a detachment of federal troops, comprising two companies of the First artillery, seized possession of the State Capitol. Part of the troops quartered in the Senate Chamber and part in the Chamber of the House of Representatives; the officers entered and appropriated the ante-room of the Executive Chambers; the doors were closed and guarded by federal bayonets. This *coup d'état*, executed while all the city was at rest, was the result of an order of a United States Circuit Court of the district of Louisiana, issued in consequence of the official proclamation of Governor Warmoth announcing the canvass of legislative votes by his Board of Canvassers, and directed to the United States Marshal, ordering that officer to take possession of the State House and prevent the assembling of the Warmoth Legislature. The order purports to be granted to prevent the further obstruction of proceedings in the cause of Kellogg against Warmoth and others, now before the Court, to prevent the violation of the orders of the Court, and to avert the imminent danger of a disturbance of the public peace. The United States Marshal immediately called upon General Emory, commanding the department, for a military force to carry the instructions of the Court into effect, and the result was the night capture of the State House and the temporary overthrow of the State government. For, disguise it as we will, cover it up in any phraseology we may please, the result is a revolution—a displacement of the State authorities by federal bayonets.

Our correspondent's description of the political condition of New Orleans and of the State of Louisiana calls vividly to our minds the worst days of the old Tammany rule in New York. Municipal offices filled with fortune-hunters, shoulder bluffers, criminals and rascals of all grades; jobs in every line of public work for the enrichment of a rascal; newspapers of no character or influence subsidized to do the work of the public robbers; a State Legislature waiting anxiously to be corrupted—not a feature of the picture but will be familiar to the memories of our own citizens. When we inquire how this lamentable condition of affairs came about we receive the old familiar answer, 'Through Congressional reconstruction and carpet bag rule.' Warmoth was the prince of carpet-baggers; bold, unscrupulous, ambitious and avaricious; reckless of the means by which he accomplished his end, and prepared to lend himself to any intrigue through which he could secure power. The radical politicians who were looking to the control of the State of Louisiana in its relation to the Federal government

—to its Presidential vote and its United States Senators and Representatives—discovered a convenient instrument in this young and daring adventurer, and were not slow to avail themselves of his services. They elected him Governor of the State, by what means we need not now inquire, and forced him into power through military aid before his term had properly begun. Opposition was made to his authority by the opponents of the radical party, and a riot occurred in New Orleans, in which several colored persons were killed. This outbreak, which by many was asserted to be purposely provoked by the radical politicians, was made the occasion of bestowing unusual and arbitrary powers upon the Governor to be used in favor of the party with which he was then acting. But Warmoth is now on the other side, and the weapons with which the radicals armed him to be used in their favor are now turned against them.

"The plan of the Kellogg party is to install such a Legislature as they declare to have been elected and to pronounce Senator Kellogg duly chosen Governor of the State. He would then recognize the Legislature as regular and would receive the prize for which he is contending with Governor Warmoth—the United States Senatorship for the next term. To carry out this plan the aid of the federal troops is required, for without them Senator Kellogg has no power, the police, the State Courts and nearly all the State authorities being in sympathy with Governor Warmoth. If Governor Warmoth should now be driven from power it will be by the same instrumentality originally used to install him in power.

"The whole affair is a disgraceful scramble between two ambitious politicians, so greedy for power as to be reckless what disgrace they inflict upon the country, what misfortunes they bring upon the people, in their effort to secure success.

"The error that has been committed by the Kellogg party has been in placing federal bayonets round the State Capitol and seizing forcibly upon the State government. Governor Warmoth is known to be a reckless and unscrupulous man, and he would have found no sympathy on the part of the people of the United States in his bold attempt to usurp authority or to stretch the laws to his own purposes. But the example set by the men who have thus hastily invoked the violent interference of federal troops is full of danger and repugnant to the principles of free government. The actors in the drama evince their sense of the unpopular character of their course in their efforts to cover up the fact that it was the State House they seized—the halls of legislation and the Executive Chamber they invaded with armed troops."

The Herald is disposed to lay the chief blame upon the carpet-baggers and other aiding and abetting corruptionists, and is severe upon both factions, but most upon Kellogg and the custom house faction, although the Federal government supports that faction.

At a recent meeting of the Federal Council of the Internationals in New York a communication was read from California to the following effect:

"In California a person can now commit the foulest crimes in the catalogue and be certain of escape if he has money or friends. Murder is getting to be almost as common in San Francisco as it was before the dark days of 1856. Courts and officers sustained at an enormous expense, and yet large criminals go free, while the petty thief receives the punishment."

So far as the above is true, the first cause of such a state of things is corruption among the people and that vicious sympathy for criminals that virtually opposes the administration of justice. The last and determining cause is the corruption of the courts, because if the courts, judges and juries, were honest and impartial, criminals who came before them would be more certain to be convicted and receive the due punishment of their crimes than to escape scot free to renew the perpetration of their crimes with impunity. It is a serious fact, as this community knows by sad experience, that a large proportion of the members of the judicial brotherhood of this country, instead of administering even-handed justice, take part with one side or the other of a case, and put themselves in a situation that makes it impossible for

them to be upright and impartial judges, and in consequence offences against good laws multiply with unpromising rapidity.

THE dispatches report the decease of Viscountess Beaconsfield, wife of the Rt. Hon. Benjamin Disraeli. The Viscountess was the widow of Wyndham Lewis, friend and colleague of Disraeli in the representation of the borough of Maidstone in the British Parliament, the place which first elected the latter gentleman an M. P. Mrs. Lewis brought great wealth to Disraeli at a time when he was peculiarly hard pressed, and in addition constituted herself a "perfect wife" to him, having been a material assistance to him in achieving his high political fame, according to his own testimony concerning her, in the dedication of one of his novels. Mr. Disraeli having declined the peerage with which Queen Victoria wished to acknowledge his services and attainments, a compromise was effected by the creation of Mrs. Disraeli a viscountess.

The dispatches also announce that Mr. Disraeli's health was greatly impaired. That is very likely, and it would be by no means extraordinary if he should not long survive his wife, of whom he thought so much.

V. P. SCHUYLER COLFAX tells his friends that the question of his assuming the editorial chair of the New York Tribune is still but a matter of talk, and a report of the action of the Tribune shareholders in the affair gives some details explanatory of the situation. Notwithstanding the well known retiring disposition of Mr. Colfax, it does not appear that he would decline the new honor. But professional retiring and positive declining are two different things. It seems that Mr. Sinclair is the head and front of the movement to install Mr. Colfax, which installing would involve the abandonment of the Greeley-Tribune platform and policy, and the turning over of that paper to the administration interest. Sinclair, we believe, is the name of the contestant of the last will and testament of the deceased editor. Colfax has a large amount of popularity, but that seems to be on the decline. Nobody thinks that he could fill the chair of the late editor, and it is a matter of doubt that his assumption thereof and the abandonment of the Greeley policy in the conduct of the Tribune would be any advantage to that paper, or would increase its hold on the support of the public. Many people think that "on the contrary it would be quite the reverse."

LORD DUFFERIN is governor general of Canada, and Sir John A. McDonald is premier. We recently gave the substance of a reportorial interview with the former, and we now give the substance of a similar interview with the latter, for which we are indebted to the New York Herald. The affairs of Canada will always be interesting to the citizens of the United States.

Sir John is represented as a man of near 52 years, full of nervous energy, wears no hair on his face, is soft voiced and pleasant spoken, combining the *suaviter in modo* and the *fortiter in re*, of frank, hearty, democratic manner, with much of the American flavor about it. He is well and violently abused by the opposition press.

Sir John considered that it was absurd to blame him for the San Juan decision; that if persons or peoples consented to arbitration they were dishonest if they complained of the verdict; that he considered the surrender of the island of no material consequence to Canada. The Fenian raid damages were not pressed in the treaty of Washington, because the great point then was to settle the Alabama claims; the raid claims might come up on another occasion; England was not disposed to press for payment of the damages now, as she was doing her best to promote an *entente cordiale* with America, and she wanted as little opening of old sores as possible; Canada lost about \$2,500,000 by the Fenian invasion, but hoped to get it all back again, and more, from England, in an indirect way; Canada's Pacific R. R., 2,000 miles long, would work wonders for her, and England would go security for an issue of \$9,000,000 bonds, five per cent. interest, principal payable in forty years; this would repay, ten times over, Canada's losses by the Fenians, and England, at her own convenience, could settle the matter with America.

Sir John had no fear of England cutting Canada adrift; England never shook off a colony, whether worthless or valuable, unless she was compelled to; Canada cost her nothing, but gave her a wide field for the sale of her exports; the whole weight of English opinion was in favor of retaining the connection; annexationists existed in Canada as republicans did in England, but their presence was scarcely seen or felt. Sir John doubted if there were a party in Canada in favor of independence; if there were, he thought they were a class of idle, worthless people, with no stake in the country, but who were in opposition to the government, or had been disappointed in fortune. Many young men annually crossed the border into the United States, but the best of them returned and settled down in Canada, saying there was no place like it; on the American side were high wages, but board, clothing, and all details of living were a hundred per cent. higher than in Canada, so that nothing was gained by the exchange of locality. Emigrants whose destination was Canada, staid there, but many landed in Canadian ports in transit to the United States, as many landed at New York on their way to Canada. The Canadian Pacific railroad would open a territory for settlement superior to that on the Northern Pacific, there was less snow-fall on the route of the former than on that of the latter.

Sir John had a kindly feeling for the United States; some things in her institutions he admired, while he thought the business energy and enterprise of her citizens were the marvel of the age, and he acknowledged that in material advancement Canada was behind her.

It seems that a material change has come over the personnel of the proprietorship of the New York Tribune, largely caused by Mr. Sinclair, the publisher thereof. This change involves the retirement of Whitelaw Reid, part proprietor and present chief editor, as well as several other members of the editorial staff, and the expected accession of Schuyler Colfax to the editorial chair, vice Reid, vice Greeley. Under the new management the platform and tone of the paper, it is understood, will also undergo an important change. The Tribune will be no longer what it was. It will not be the Tribune of Greeley and of what he considered right, but the Tribune of Colfax and the administration. The entire policy of the paper, at least politically, will be changed. There is nothing in the antecedents of Mr. Colfax to give promise of a better paper than Mr. Greeley produced, nothing to promise that it will be nearly so good. But what it will be, whether as good, or better, or worse, time must prove. Meanwhile there can be no doubt that with the change in the proprietorship, the management, the policy, and the tone of the paper, a corresponding change will ensue in respect to the subscribers. Under the new regime the paper will be sure to lose many old subscribers, it will also be sure to gain some new ones, but on which side the figures will be the largest is a matter of uncertainty. The advertising patronage will naturally be governed largely by the subscriptions. At all events, good bye to the Tribune as we used to know it.

THE proposal of President Grant to dissolve the Territory of Wyoming and return the several portions of that Territory to the various Territories whence they were taken, may open up another question which is not very satisfactorily settled—concerning the matter of Congress abolishing the organization of a commonwealth. But the proposition to permit Colorado to assume a State government is one which will be warmly welcomed by all who are in favor of the enjoyment by American citizens of the rights and privileges of American citizens.

A Marseilles hair dresser has been sued for 2,000 francs damages, because he unfortunately dyed a lady's hair violet instead of red.

Prof. Kedzie, of the Michigan State agricultural college, says there is a much larger amount of ozone in the atmosphere this fall than for many years past. White paper chemically prepared turns perfectly blue in six hours by the action of ozone in the atmosphere. This excess of ozone is supposed to superinduce catarrhal disease.