

EDITORIALS.

U. S. MARSHALS AND ELECTIONS.

THE issuance of the circular of instructions of the U. S. Attorney General to the U. S. marshals throughout the Union, concerning their duties in the forthcoming elections for members of federal bodies appears to be regarded by many as largely of the nature of a campaign device, though it may be within the letter of the law. The enactment of such a law was of the nature of an encroachment of the federal upon the State power, a triumph of centralization over the principle of local self-government. This it was in fact, no matter under what circumstances or on what plea the law was pushed through Congress. It is a law which grates harshly in the ears of those of the people who believe in local self-government and in the right of the States to conduct their own internal affairs within certain constitutional limits and widely acknowledged lines of demarcation. It gives the party in power an immense, an almost imperial power over the elections, and if corruptly used is sufficient to vitiate the elections all over the country and prevent, instead of insure, the free expression of the voice of the people at the polls. For those election days the authority of States and Territories is virtually annulled, swept out of existence, by the supreme power exercised by the federal authorities. This is really a very serious assumption, one that seems incompatible with the true spirit of a democratic republican form of government. On those days U. S. marshals and their deputies are charged with the duty of keeping the peace, and they can arrest any person in the community, if they choose, upon a charge or pretext of disturbing the peace, an enormous stretch of federal over local authority. So far as a governor of a State is concerned, he is required to have citizens petition for protection before he can call upon the army for aid. But at these election times the smallest deputy marshal has authority to call upon any citizen, or citizens, civil or military, to assist him in keeping the peace, whatever construction he may please to put upon that phrase. Thus he is clothed with far more plenary powers than the Governor of the State himself, or any other local officer. Nay, the U. S. deputy marshal can summon the Governor himself to his aid, and the local militia as well as the federal army, and possibly force the local authorities to be agents in their own humiliation and injury. These are remarkable powers, when we consider the character and social standing of some individuals who have been invested with the authority of the U. S. marshalship and deputy marshalship, low, unprincipled, dissipated fellows, to whom no respect whatever is accorded, except so far as they represent the federal government. It is very likely that it will only need a little pushing of the authority conveyed by this law to enable the people to see it in its true character and realize the extent of its power and influence. It is a very serious thing for a small officer like a deputy marshal, either general or special, to have the army, the navy, the militia, the State authorities, and the whole of the citizens at his command.

INDIAN PEACE COMMISSION MEETING.

THE Indian Peace Commissioners held their first meeting, at the Grand Central Hotel, Omaha, Aug. 29, at which Hon. Geo. W. Manypenny read the full instructions of the Department of the Interior (published elsewhere in to-day's News) to the members, who are named and placed by the Omaha Bee, of Aug. 30, as follows—

"Hon. Geo. W. Manypenny, Columbus, Ohio, chairman.

"H. C. Bullis, Esq., Decorah, Iowa.

"Newton Edmunds, Esq., Yankton, Dakota.

"Rt. Rev. H. Whipple, Fairbault, Minn.

"A. G. Boone, Esq., Colorado.

"Hon. A. S. Gaylord, Assistant Attorney-General, Washington, D. C., legal adviser.

"Gen. H. H. Sibley, St. Paul, Minn.

"There were also present Charles M. Hendley, of Washington, secretary of the commission; General Vandever, General Indian Inspector; Major Howard, Indian Agent at Spotted Tail Agency; and Dr. J. W. Daniels, Agent at the Red Cloud Agency.

"Gen. Sibley, of St. Paul, the old and successful Indian fighter, stated to the commission that he was unable to go with them, as his health would not permit, and he had to resign on this account.

"Dr. Daniels was accordingly appointed in his place, the correspondence concerning the matter being sent over the wires to and from Washington this morning."

On arriving at the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies, the Commissioners will first negotiate, principally with the Ogallala and Brule Sioux, for the session of the country west of the 103rd meridian of longitude, which will include the Black Hills country, and the country in which the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies are situated. This is expected to occupy the Commissioners a month or two, when they will return to Omaha and visit the Missouri River agencies. The Commission, says the Bee, has nothing to do with Sitting Bull and his forces, or any other hostile Indians, they being left to "do the military."

Gen. Sibley, on request, addressed the members of the Commission to the following effect—

"For forty years, more or less, he had been intimately acquainted with the Sioux. He had hunted with them for months at a time, hundreds of miles away from the white settlements. He had been their friend in their transactions with the Government, always insisting upon the performance of the treaties with them in good faith. In 1862, when the great outbreak occurred on the frontier of Minnesota and Iowa he was placed in command of the forces, and in two campaigns he defeated the Indians and drove them out of Minnesota. and in 1863 followed them and pursued them across the Missouri river. Subsequently, in 1865, as a military officer, he was detailed as a member of the mixed civil and military commission to treat with the hostile Indians on the upper Missouri river. Governor Edmunds, of this present commission, being also a member of that commission. They succeeded in making treaties with all of them, which treaties, if they had been faithfully performed on the part of the government, would have insured peace on the frontier.

"Gen. Sibley said he had subsequently urged upon the government the enlisting into the service the choicest and bravest warriors of the Sioux bands, which could easily have been effected; and they would have proved the most efficient protection to the frontier against all the refractory bands, whether of the Sioux or of other tribes, thereby adding to the regular army an irregular force of warriors well acquainted with the country, and who would have been a terror to all hostile tribes and bands. His own experience in that direction justified him in that conclusion, for he had had employment in 1864 more than 100 warriors—who had been fiercely fighting in the field against him and who subsequently surrendered—as scouts to guard the frontier against raiding bands of their own kindred. They had proved entirely faithful in the discharge of their duty, never hesitating to attack raiders, no matter how superior in numbers, and driving them back. Gen. Sibley believed it would still be the correct course and prove the solution of the Indian problem. With Sitting Bull there were, doubtless, numbers of warriors who found themselves in his camp when it was attacked, who were not there with hostile intent, but for the purpose of hunting, and the commission ought, in his judgment, to keep the door open for that class that they might enjoy the benefit of any arrangement that might be made with a friendly tribe. That there was another element with Sitting Bull, he was satisfied, and they would never make peace until they were sub-

dued by the military. They would have to be pursued until they were overwhelmed and exterminated."

CLOUDS IN THE SKY.

THE political horizon is a little clouded just now, in both hemispheres. There is some prospect of trouble between China and England, which, if it lead to war, may be a little or a great thing, but is not likely to have more than a collateral effect upon the peace of Europe. The eastern question, however, is evidently a far more serious matter. That may embroil directly the great powers of Europe in a tremendous war. Russia now can hardly keep her hands off, her sympathies being with the Serbians, Montenegrins, etc., who are called Christian people, and against Turkey, whose capital she covets. The Turkish excesses and atrocities in Bulgaria have not only aggravated the Russians, but have shocked the whole civilized world and done much to estrange from Turkey the sympathies of England. If Turkey will not make a reasonable peace, then Russia will take sides against her, which will be likely, sooner or later, to bring England and Austria, and possibly Germany into the fight. If Germany should be hard pressed, then France would be likely to seek to avenge the defeats of the late war. If England should be seriously engaged, then the Fenians would be likely to make another attempt at rebellion. Italy might readily jump into the fight, and other small nations, such as Belgium, Denmark, and Sweden, could hardly escape being drawn into the dread vortex. Spain has closed her home war, but she has apparently an endless war in Cuba.

As for this country, the prospects are little if any brighter. There are rumors of probable unpleasantness with other nations over the Hawaiian treaty. But the most threatening thing is the giving into the hands of U. S. marshals and deputy marshals supreme power in all the States and Territories of the Union, at the coming elections for federal office, absolutely ignoring all State powers and causing them to lie in perfect abeyance during that day. There is no doubt that the assumption of such sweeping powers will cause much trouble this fall. In fact, the trouble has already commenced. To what extent it will go throughout the Union is not for us to say. If the elections are held peaceably, and without much bloodshed, it will be a thing to be thankful for. But the situation is one fraught with danger, and more or less trouble may naturally be apprehended, for the agencies for effecting the same are all there, and provocations will hardly be avoided.

Another unpromising feature is the Sioux war. The troops have done nothing effectual this campaign. The triumph so far is altogether with the Indians, and many fear that a long and expensive war has been commenced. If the elections should cause much trouble, it is possible that the troops might have to be recalled from the Sioux country to maintain peace at home, and then that might embolden the Indians to make extensive raids and commit grievous depredations in revenge, and thus might be inaugurated a series of warlike troubles with citizens and aborigines which might seriously interrupt the general peace and prosperity of the whole Union.

Altogether the situation seems decidedly critical, both in Europe and in America. Would it not be a notable thing if the centennial year of the United States should witness the inauguration of a general state of war throughout Europe and the United States? Who can say that such will not be the case? But whatever may be in the immediate future, let us meantime hope for the best.

SIOUX GOING TO THE SWEET GRASS HILLS.

THE Helena (Montana) Independent has the following—

"It is reported that Sitting Bull and a large force of Uncapapas, Cheyennes, Brules and Minneconjous, under their principal chiefs, are heading in the direction of the Sweet Grass Hills, over the Montana border, in the British posses-

sions. It was discovered by Frank Granger, a scout of Terry's, that a large body of the hostiles, supposed to number five thousand warriors, had crossed the Yellowstone near the mouth of Glendive Creek and were heading directly north on the 17th inst. This report confirms the impression generally entertained, that Sitting Bull will make an effort to enlist the British Indians in his cause, and during the fall and winter will attempt to raid across the border into Montana. It also confirms the previously published reports that the Indians had separated, and a part of them were going north. The frontier settlements will be an easy prey for the savages unless a much stronger military force is put at Benton and Fort Shaw than we have ever had there.

"It is said that there is a large band of Indians in the Sweet Grass Hills, and that they have congregated for some sinister purpose is evident from the fact that they have been here for more than a month, while their emissaries have alternately cajoled and threatened the British authorities with demands for ammunition and arms. All the reports we are getting indicate that the seat of war is to be removed from the Yellowstone to the northern border of Montana."

THE GRASSHOPPERS AND THEIR DEPREDACTIONS.

IN another portion of to-day's News may be found a proclamation of the Governor of Minnesota regarding the grasshopper, which is coming to be a burden to many States as well as Territories. It has become a pest already in several of the States east of the Rocky Mountains, and in the South, and the area of its visits and depredations is manifestly increasing and extending towards the Atlantic Ocean.

The Governor also calls attention to the grasshopper convention of various States and Territories interested, to be held next October.

Utah may lay claim to the honor of receiving some of the first visits of these destructive insects to the settlements of the white man in the United States. Those persons who were here in 1855 have a vivid recollection of the pinching results of the first grasshopper visitation to the settlements in this Territory. From about 1863 to 1871 annual visitations of these insects were vouchsafed to various portions of the Territory. Though in each of those years considerable grain, grass, vegetables, and fruit was raised in different parts, yet in particular neighborhoods great losses were sustained, grain and grass and root and fruit crops were consumed, and trees and shrubs were bared and bleached, and some killed.

Again this fall these insects are on a visit to the northern portions of the Territory, and they have done some damage, though not enough to have much influence on the aggregate crops.

It is a Scripture saying that judgments shall begin at the house of God, and thence go forth to the world, and hence the extension of the grasshopper visitations, which commenced first in this Territory, and thence have spread eastward year after year to and in the States and on the Atlantic slope, looks greatly as if it were in fulfillment of that expression of an apparently determinate policy of Divine Providence.

DOM PEDRO AND THE MENNONITES.

It appears that Dom Pedro is naturally very anxious to encourage emigration to Brazil, and has made efforts to induce the Mennonites to abandon their policy of settling in the northwestern portions of the United States and go to Brazil. The Mennonites already in this country are said to be much opposed to colonizing Brazil, considering the climate too hot for them. A reporter of the New York Herald interviewed a company of Mennonite emigrants recently arrived in New York, and the following is given in that paper—

"The forty colonies, before noted, had appointed five delegates to go to Brazil and spy out the land, ascertain the conditions offered by

the emperor, and report their conclusions to the proposed colonists, who are still at their home. The delegates left, but on reaching Hamburg, on their way to Brazil, were sadly disappointed on finding that the first of the conditions promised had not been fulfilled. The promise made was that such delegates as the forty colonies might select should receive a free passage from Hamburg to Brazil, be cared for while there, and the expenses of their return paid. On reaching Hamburg they found that there had not been any provision made for them, but nevertheless, they resolved to fulfill their mission, and made the needed arrangements on their own account and the belief of their brethren is that they are already in Brazil. Those who have landed here lately and are on their way to the western states are very much afraid that the attentions the delegates will receive and the promises which will be made to them will blind their minds to the very dangerous climatic conditions, and that they will thereby be led to report favorably."

A NICE STATE OF THINGS.

A NICE state of things exists at Virginia, Nevada, judging by the following in the San Francisco Chronicle—

"Virginia City, Sept. 7.—Charges were made last night in the Board of Police Commissioners against Jailer Roby, the City prison keeper, for lodging women in the same cells with men, and he was acquitted of all blame. Facts have since come to the knowledge of the Commissioners which implicate him in the grave mismanagement of the place, such as stripping women naked in the presence of men, lodging prostitutes in his room, keeping men and women in the same cell, and bad treatment, such as keeping food from prisoners, bucking and gagging men, and tying them up by the thumbs. A special meeting of the Commissioners has been called by the mayor for to-morrow night, at which the charges will be examined into. The Mayor and Chief of Police are at open war, and the debate last night nearly resulted in a personal collision."

To which the above may be added—

"VIRGINIA CITY, September 8.—Chief Lackey published a card in this morning's Enterprise, charging that the Chronicle's report of the Police Commissioners' meeting of Wednesday was untrue, and that the Mayor was too drunk to transact business. His card has created great excitement, and the friends of the Mayor denounce it as false from beginning to end. To-night there will be a special meeting of the Board to investigate the charges made by the Chronicle against the City Prison management and other charges against officers, and a stormy time is expected."

Local and Other Matters

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, SEP. 12.

Personal.—This afternoon we had the pleasure of a call from the Rev. Charles Clark, lecturer, educationist and humorist, now on his return to England, after a successful professional tour in Australia. He was accompanied by Mrs. Clark and by his business agent, Mr. R. S. Smythe.

For Cache.—This morning a large number of people availed themselves of the opportunity of a cheap and pleasant excursion to Cache Valley. The weather is most propitious and doubtless the party will have a very agreeable time.

Ancient Outlet of Salt Lake.—According to Professor G. K. Gilbert, of Wheeler's Expedition, the Great Salt Lake of Utah anciently had an outlet northward, the overflow being carried to the ocean by the Columbia river. But the Great Salt Lake was then a great inland sea, as is evidenced by the existence of an ancient beach 970 feet higher than the Great Salt Lake to-day, and 700 feet higher than Sevier Lake.—Ex.

"Utah and Her Founders."—Mr. Edward W. Tullidge has received an advance copy of his new book, "Brigham Young, or Utah and Her Founders." It is a work of between 400 and 500 pages, besides the supplement, which contains