

The Passing Scepter.

WESTWARD MARCH OF POLITICAL POWER — REMARKABLE PAPER FROM THE LONDON TIMES.

The vast dominions of the American Union are divided, as all the world knows, between two classes of communities—those which are fully organized, and have taken their places as units of government, and those which are still partially unorganized, and have no share in nominating or directing the Federal authority. The former class are the States, the latter the Territories; but the peculiarity of the American system is that every undeveloped portion is slowly ripening by a steady process, and preparing, when the proper time comes, to be raised to the dignity and power of a constituent member of the federation. That time may be delayed by political difficulties, but if a Territory continues to grow it must assuredly obtain recognition as a State. The admission of Colorado and New Mexico into the Federal pact has for a long time been discussed in America. New Mexico was ceded to the Union by the Mexican Government after the war of 1848; and two years later was organized as a Territory, Utah being at the same time admitted on the same footing. Within the next ten years the vast West was still further partitioned among new Territorial governments, and one of these was Colorado.

It is, no doubt, to the recent changes in the Senate that the determination of the Republicans to admit New Mexico and Colorado as States without further delay is due. The party majority in the Senate has fallen from twenty-six to eight—too small a number to check the forces of the Democrats in the House of Representatives. But, probably, each of the two new States may be relied upon to send two Republican Senators to Washington, who will be hailed as a welcome reinforcement by the partisans of the administration. In the House of Representatives the measure will have less significance, for neither New Mexico nor Colorado has anything approaching to the population that would entitle either of them to more than a single Representative, which, according to the Constitution, every State must return. The number of members of the House is determined after each decennial census, and was fixed, upon the basis of the enumeration of 1870, at 283, distributed among the several States in proportion to their population. This gives one representative to 135,000 citizens; but it is provided that the representatives of any new States admitted during the decennial period are to be in addition to the 283 members divided among the thirty-seven States federated in 1870. One member from New Mexico and one from Colorado will raise the number, therefore, to 285. It is remarkable that this accession to the organized forces of the Union, occurring exactly 100 years after the first assembling of the Congress of the "Thirteen Colonies" at Philadelphia, will precisely triple the number of the Confederate States whose amalgamation was the work of that famous assembly. The thirteen States for whom the American Constitution was framed have grown to thirty-nine, and have extended their grasp from the seaboard of the Atlantic to which a century ago they timidly clung, across a mighty continent. Who shall forecast what teeming populations will in another century inhabit the vast regions west of the Mississippi? It is not too much to say that Colorado alone, which has now barely the numbers of a fourth rate town, will then outweigh, in all the elements of political strength, the whole of New England. The territory of this young and vigorous community, "astride upon the Rocky Mountains," giving one hand to Kansas and the other to Utah, is at least of magnificent dimensions. New Mexico, lying directly south, and, with its neighbor Arizona, stretching across half the continent from the northern wilds of Texas to the Californian frontier, has, perhaps, less possibilities before it, but they are such as might dazzle any nation less accustomed to contemplate a boundless inheritance than the people of the United States.

The organization of New Mexico and Colorado as states leaves no great proportion of the Territories unorganized. Along the northern frontier of the Union, it is true, where it marches with the Cana-

dian possessions on the Red River, and Saskatchewan, and with the Province of British Columbia, there are four vast Territories still unorganized, and, indeed, for the most part unpeopled—Dakota, Montana, Idaho and Washington; and South of Montana and north of Colorado is Wyoming, which has recently adopted woman suffrage as an experiment. These five Territories had in 1870 some 83,000 inhabitants, yet they covered an area much greater than that of all the States north of the Potomac and west of the Ohio. Beyond Idaho, on the Pacific coast, is the State of Oregon, and south of Oregon, California claims the whole seaboard down to the Mexican frontier. Eastward from Oregon is Nevada, erected into a State a few years ago. But between Nevada and Colorado we find a singular hiatus in the work of political organization. The Territory of Utah was organized a quarter of a century ago, at the same time with New Mexico; at the last census it had 86,000 inhabitants—nearly as many as the State of Oregon, more than twice as many as Nevada. Yet New Mexico and Colorado are now to take their place in the order of American government alongside of Oregon and Nevada; but there is no thought of admitting Utah to the privileges of a State. The explanation is, of course, a simple one. Congress can refuse admission as a State to any Territory, and will do so unless satisfied with the form of constitution offered by the Territorial population. In the case of Utah, which claimed to be admitted many years ago as the State of Deseret, Congress required special guarantees against the perpetuation of polygamy and the other peculiar institutions of Mormonism. That the Mormons of Utah are not disposed to give any such guarantees may be inferred from the fact that they have lately sent to Washington, as Delegate from the Territory, an Elder of the church, whom a committee of the House of Representatives has pronounced to be disqualified, as an avowed and notorious polygamist. In spite of this it may be confidently predicted that the pressure of population in Utah will eventually compel Congress to organize it as a State. The arguments for this course will be greatly increased in weight by the admission of New Mexico and Colorado, and probably will meet with more attention from the Democratic party, who are now beginning to feel the responsibilities of their recent victory, than they would have received from the Republicans, leavened as they are with the Puritan traditions of New England.—*London Times, March 1.*

IS IT CONTAGIOUS?—A friend sends us the following: Whooping cough seems at present to be the rage among the young folks. A young man who considered himself to be invulnerable against the reading cough has been sadly deceived. The other evening he called upon a young lady and learned that she and her mother both had the whooping cough, and a young lady visitor also had it. Undismayed he took his seat, remarking that both his aunt and grandmother had the whooping cough, and that he was not afraid of catching it, having already had it three times. He then commenced rocking a cradle in which was a sleeping child. It awoke and began coughing, then the two young ladies commenced coughing, and after continuing it for fifteen minutes, the young man joined the coughing party, and whooped as heartily as any of them.—*Vallejo (Cal.) Independent.*

American Genius for Tyranny.

The genius for tyranny in the American people is something amazing to those who have had an opportunity of comparing our people with other civilized communities. It is true that we came by this trait honestly, from our ancestors, and we have improved our opportunities since with great success. It will be noted that the Pilgrim fathers, who fled their homes because they were not allowed to worship God in their own disagreeable way, signaled their arrival on these shores by burning and hanging all who differed from them in religious belief. The famous Huguenots were not much better. Indeed that religion which carries the Bible in one hand and sword or fagot in the other differs

so essentially from the religion of Christ that tyranny, intolerance and persecution are the natural fruit.

We have ceased to be religious even in the pilgrim sense of religion, but the traits instilled by that morbid condition remain in full force. "The insolence of office," spoken of by Shakespeare as one of the great evils of life, is felt by the American citizen in a way Shakespeare never dreamed of. And the lower the office the more offensive the insolence. A cabinet officer is so impudent when dealing with a private citizen that he ceases to be a gentleman, if he ever were one, while a committee in Congress will make the star chamber or the inquisition respectable. As one descends the scale the insolence increases. The head of a bureau is a ruffian, while the chief of a division would make an overseer of slaves blush.

We once had a Venetian door in one of our departments rudely slammed to in our face. Knowing that the messenger stood on the other side and could hear every word we said, we turned to the little crowd waiting outside and quietly remarked:

"Gentlemen, we must not mind these things. Courtesy is a very expensive article. Our Government is poor. It cannot afford to employ gentlemen as messengers while penitentiary convicts, such as this fellow, can be had for what they steal."

The messenger was polite enough to us after those few observations.

Of the same sort is our police. Arrests are made with clubs, and any remonstrance is followed by a sound beating.

How different is all this in Europe, where the genius for tyranny does not exist to the same extent. We remember one bright moonlight night in Cologne we were awakened by a drunken fellow under our window, who, between shouts, songs and stump-speaking in German, that sounds dreadful, made the night hideous. We threw up the window and contributed a series of empty bottles to the row, and were feeling around for the bootjack, when the police intervened, and, to our amazement, entered into a discussion with the inebriated German. After a time the intoxicated individual walked away in one direction and the policeman in another. Our genius for tyranny was outraged. We wanted to see that fellow who had disturbed our slumbers incontinently knocked on the head.

Again, at the races near Wiesbaden, we drove our carriage to an eligible point of view. A policeman approached us, touched his hat and said something in German. Our driver seized his lines and drove back to a line of carriages. We asked Doctor Martin what the policeman said:

"He called our attention to the fact that we were out of line and might interfere with the races, and he asked us, if we pleased, to get into line again."—*D. P. in Washington Capital.*

The Enforcement Act.

THE ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THE ACT IN GRANT PARISH, LA.—ARGUMENT IN THE SUPREME COURT.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The question of the constitutionality of the Enforcement or so-called Ku Klux act, passed by Congress in 1870, has been pending for some time before the United States Supreme Court, and to-day came up for argument. The Solicitor-General opened for the United States, and will conclude to-morrow. Colonel R. H. Marr, of Louisiana, David Dudley Field and Reverdy Johnson, will follow for the defendants. The Attorney-General will then close for the Government. The case comes up on a certificate of division between Justice Bradley and Judge Woods, sitting as the Circuit Court of the United States in Louisiana. Three of the eighty citizens of Grant Parish, in that State, who were arrested for alleged conspiracy to deprive colored men of their votes, and brought before that Court were convicted under that act. The motion for an arrest of judgment was based, among other reasons, upon the following: First, that the offences created by the sixth section of the act of Congress referred to, and upon which section the counts are based, are not constitutionally within the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States,

and because the matters and things therein referred to are judicially cognizable by State tribunals only, and Legislative action thereon is among the constitutionally reserved rights of the several States; second, because the said act, in so far as it creates offences and imposes penalties, is violative of the Constitution of the United States and an infringement of the constitutionally reserved rights of the several States and the people. On this motion the opinion of Justice Bradley was that neither of the counts was good and sufficient in law and did not contain charges of criminal matters indictable under the laws of the United States. The opinion of Circuit Judge Woods was just the reverse. The case comes up at the instance of the Government on certificate of this division of opinion. The defendants' counsel, among many other cases cited to show the unconstitutionality of this law, quote from the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Louisiana Slaughter-House cases, which seems to clearly prove that the amendments to the Constitution do not cover any such legislation on the part of Congress as was developed in the Enforcement act. The decision will not be rendered for some weeks, but its very great importance will give it an extraordinary and anxious interest.—*N. Y. World.*

Correspondence.

Provo Schools.

PROVO CITY, April 7, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

A late issue appeared in the NEWS from the pen of O. H. Riggs, in relation to Schools in Provo, which I consider is unjust and an insult.

All the favor I ask is, for you to kindly insert in your paper an article from the "Provo Times," signed "Pilgrim." I forward you a copy.

Yours, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

A VOICE FROM PROVO.

PROVO CITY, April 5th, 1875.

Editor Utah County Times:

A short time since a communication appeared in the DESERET NEWS from O. H. Riggs Esq., Territorial Superintendent of Common Schools, wherein he gave a description of his travels South and the condition of the different schools that came under his personal view. The article opened up on Provo rather severely, expressing great surprise on the part of the Professor in finding our schools and appurtenances in a condition as he expresses it not at all in keeping with the spirit of the times. Quite a home thrust was made at the same time at our school designated the University, but of this we have no remarks to make, considering the gentlemen connected therewith as being abundantly able to take their own part, but as no reply has been made to Mr. Riggs, I do not think it fair to let such an "all bad, and no better" report go forth without some slight correction, or the mentioning of some redeeming feature.

From twelve to fifteen years ago our Ward school houses were built, four in number, and when finished were very creditable places indeed for the times then. They all had desks and benches neatly arranged, but alas, social parties in those school-houses misplaced those desks so often that but few of them remain except in one case where they were made stationary; thus the wear and tear of a building used constantly as a school-house, meeting room, and dancing academy for the space of fifteen years has, we must admit, taken off considerable of the polish, and in one instance might possibly have reminded the writers so forcibly, as he says, of "Mr. Burns' rat pit," but would not infer he had ever frequented the place he compared one of our school-houses to. He had probably only read of it.

Now what I wish to complain of is that Mr. Riggs did not admit that Provo was alive to the present wants of her children, and has already erected a more commodious building for school and other purposes in the Second Ward. The building is not yet finished, the roof is on, and it awaits the finishing touches this summer. Then again in the First Ward, we have a fine brick structure in course of erection, 60x35 feet. The foundation is laid and the brick hauled ready to commence operations this summer. The Fourth Ward has also a new

school house in contemplation, while the Third Ward, with that octagonal concern he spoke of, is sufficiently roomy, being the last one built, and would pass muster if it were only filled up with those Triumph desks that the Bureau are interested in disposing of. Thus, while admitting there is room for improvement, you see we are not entirely dead to school interests.

Please call again, Brother Riggs, for if the high school arrangements here did not suit you, we see no reason why you should denounce our entire school district as being so far behind this age of improvement; no doubt the Pond Town mud discouraged you, but come in fairer weather, and with fairer prospects and still fairer views, try another epistle on the school interests of Provo. PILGRIM.

—*Provo Times, April 6.*

The Brigham City Co-operative Cotton Farm.

Editor Deseret News:

Below is an extract from a letter which I received from James May. He has charge of thirteen men that went from Brigham City last Fall to open a cotton farm for the co-operative institution in that city, near the Virgin River, Washington Co.

PHILO DIBLE, Centreville, Davis Co.

"We are five miles east of Washington on the Virgin river. We have about 100 acres of land on the west side of the river, and 300 on the east side. We have dug a ditch one and a half miles long, three feet wide; blasted through a point of rocks 55 feet long, 11 feet deep, and 5 feet wide; built a dam across the river, 150 feet long, 40 wide, 4½ high; cleared the brush off fifty acres of land, plowed thirty acres, put out 625 grape vines, and 1800 grape cuttings, planted 100 peach trees; and are all well at this time. The Lord has blessed us in all our labors, for which we feel truly thankful. There is no swearing in camp. I have not heard an oath since I left home. We have no smoking, chewing, or card playing, but we have plenty of books and quite a variety, so we need not get lonesome for the want of amusements. Is not this a good showing for thirteen young men? We expect to plant 35 acres of cotton, 10 of corn, and 5 of lucern.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, APRIL 13.

Periodicals.—If you want "Harper's Monthly" for May, or "Harper's Weekly" or Leslie's "Illustrated Newspaper" for April 17, go to Dwyer's book store, they are for sale there.

Supt. Z. C. M. I.—At a special meeting of the Directors of Z. C. M. I. this afternoon, H. B. Clawson, Esq., was elected Superintendent of the Institution by a unanimous vote.

Personal.—John M. Neals, Esq., the well known and popular representative of the firm of Benedict, Hall & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, of New York, arrived in the City this morning, in good health and fine spirits.

About Time.—Now is the time to commence the manufacture of cloth and straw Summer hats. Last Summer people were hunting for home-made hats and couldn't find them. Time should be taken by the fore-lock in the matter this season.

The British Mission.—Pres. C. G. Larsen, writing from Copenhagen March 10th, says, "We have determined to hold our Spring Conference in this mission, as follows: Christiania, April 17th and 18th; Stockholm, 24th and 25th; Gothenburg, May 1st and 2nd; Aalborg, 8th and 9th; Aarhus, 15th and 16th; Copenhagen, 22nd and 23rd; and in Malmo, Skane Conference, May 29th and 30th. All is well here, everything is moving harmoniously and our meetings are well attended. My health is not so good at present as I could wish, as I have caught a severe cold, but I hope by the blessing of God soon to be all right again. On the whole the winter has been very pleasant, very little snow, but cold, the ice preventing navigation and interrupting the mails."—*Milennial Star, March 23.*

A Brutal Assault.—Yesterday John Wardell, a miner from Bing-