

## THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

A Washington correspondent of a San Francisco paper sends to his patrons on the Pacific the following summary of presidential operations which he apparently picks up from another correspondent. As the cogitations of somebody, no matter who, we give them to our readers, as they indicate pretty well how the cauldron boils:—

"The past week has given a new and extraordinary turn to the Presidential canvass. The course of public opinion has been so erratic in connection with the foremost candidates of the two great parties, that the leading wire-pullers are strangely puzzled to know what to do, and what they can depend upon. The Republicans are beginning to admit that they have made a serious blunder in calling their National Convention at so early a day as June next; while the Democrats were equally at fault in not postponing their choice of a Presidential candidate until the close of the Summer campaign. It is now clearly seen by the leaders on both sides that the Presidency hinges upon the result of the campaign against Richmond. Should that fail, and the Army of the Potomac be again baffled in its efforts, General Grant, Mr. Lincoln, or any of the present Administration, would immediately become impossible candidates. In that event, General Fremont, General Butler, or General Banks, would loom up on the Republican side, and General McClellan *solus* on the Democratic side, with the chances decidedly in favor of the latter. Hence the trouble of the politicians, and the doubts and uncertainties connected with the meeting of the two great National Conventions. On the other hand, should General Grant be successful and Richmond be captured, no matter at what cost of treasure and blood, it will be in his power to say who will be the next President. If he desires that position himself, all the parties in the country cannot prevent his assuming the Chief Magistracy. Or should his modesty stand in the way, and he be disposed to support the claims of Mr. Lincoln, the Democracy cannot hope to make a successful canvass against this new saviour of his country. General Grant can play the role of Warwick, the king-maker, and he will undoubtedly do so, if by that means he can save his country. It is this consideration that has developed an entirely new programme among the leading members of both political parties. It is nothing more nor less than, under certain contingencies, to have

## NO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

That is to say, for the two great parties to come to an understanding as to the Presidency and Vice Presidency, and the disposal of the principal civil and military offices, and make the election unanimous. If General Grant, as the country hopes he will, proves successful, the proposition is to offer him the Presidency, in conjunction with some prominent Democrat, perhaps Horace Seymour of New York, as Vice President, and General McClellan to be restored to a position due his rank in the army. Should General Grant decline, and insist on Mr. Lincoln for the Presidency, a very similar arrangement will suffice for the position.

## DREAD OF THE FUTURE.

It is not to be disguised that the wisest men at Washington, as well as throughout the country, look with fear and dread upon the coming issues of the Presidential canvass. The temper of the people is so excited, the issues are so vital, the disturbances—civil, social and political—created by war are so profound, that it is feared an excited Presidential canvass will plunge the nation into chaos. Hence, the thoughtful and prudent men have warmly seconded this idea to postpone the excitement of a Presidential election for four years more, by which time, it is hoped, the rebellion will not only be subdued, but the country will be tranquilized and restored to its normal condition.

## PR-ABLE COMPLICATIONS.

The writer does not anticipate the easy occurrence of these events, and among the difficulties which present themselves are the following:

First.—In the event of an election, with General McClellan on one side and Abraham Lincoln on the other, should the mass of the soldiers' votes be thrown, through Administration influence, in favor of Mr. Lincoln, the North will at once be plunged into all the horrors of civil war. The Democrats would claim, and will no doubt be able to prove, that the vote was, to all intents and purposes, fraudulent; that the soldiers, either through discipline, fear, favoritism, or the doctoring of the returns, were compelled to vote en masse for Mr. Lincoln. In that case, the whole nation would flame up in revolution, and the streets of our cities would run with blood.

Second.—If Mr. Lincoln should be elected by the votes of the South Western States, under his own Amnesty Proclamation, that also would create an outbreak in the North. The people of the State of New York, for instance, would never consent to be outvoted in the Electoral College by bogus electors representing the camp-followers and creatures of Mr. Lincoln in Arkansas, Texas, Tennessee, Florida, etc. In other words, they would never consent that the few pretended loyal thousands in the Southern States should outvie the undoubtedly loyal millions in the Northern States.

Thirdly.—On the other hand it is believed

that if, by charges of corruption against the Administration and the prejudices created by clamor against miscegenation and negro equality, the Democrats should succeed in electing General McClellan, it is not believed that the people who have control of the Administration would consent to give up their power. The monetary interests involved are so enormous, that every consideration which can appeal to the selfishness of ambitious men would tempt the party in power to ignore the election.

It cannot be disguised that the passions of the populace are at fever heat. That paper-money, the high prices, the fierce excitement of the war, have so wrought upon the passions of the multitude that it needs but a spark to blow the whole framework of society into atoms. It is the man on horseback who would then rule us, and our boasted liberties would find their grave in the tomb of military despotism. It will thus be seen why it is seriously proposed to postpone the Presidential election.

## MAXIMILIAN'S SPEECH ON ACCEPTING THE MEXICAN CROWN.

The following is the official text of the speech delivered to the Mexican deputation by Maximilian on the 10th instant, in his formal acceptance of the Mexican crown. The speech was in the Spanish language:

"Mature examination of the acts of adhesion you have come to lay before me affords me the assurance that the resolution of the Mexican notables which brought you the first time to Miramar is confirmed by the immense majority of your compatriots, and that I may with good right consider myself the legitimate elect of the Mexican people. The first condition expressed in my reply of October 3 is therefore fulfilled. The guarantees which the future empire requires to be able to consecrate itself in peace to the first of its passions—the establishment upon firm basis of the independence and welfare of the country—are now secured, thanks to the magnanimity of the Emperor of the French, who, throughout the progress of the negotiations, has shown himself constantly animated by a spirit of loyalty and good will, of which I shall ever preserve the remembrance. The august head of my family, upon his part has given his consent to my taking possession of the throne offered to me. I am thus enabled to fulfil the eventual promise I gave you six months ago, and I now solemnly declare that, with the aid of the Almighty, I accept the crown at the hands of the Mexican nation which tenders it to me. Following the traditions of that new continent, so full of strength and future, Mexico has used her right of selecting a government in harmony with her wishes and her requirements. She has placed her confidence in a descendant of that House of Hapsburg which three centuries ago planted a Christian Monarchy upon her soil. This confidence touches me, and I will not betray it. I accept the power of organization which the nation, of which you are the organs, confers upon me, and I shall in any case retain it only so long as may be necessary to introduce settled order into Mexico, and to establish wise and liberal institutions. As I stated to you, gentlemen, in my address of the 3d October, I shall hasten to place the monarchy under the safeguard of constitutional laws as soon as the country shall be completely pacified. The strength of the executive power is, in my opinion, secured by the precision equally with the well defined establishment of its limits; it is therefore my intention, in carrying on my government, to fix such boundaries as may guaranty its stability. I firmly hope we shall prove that well-regulated liberty is perfectly compatible with the reign of order. I shall know how to respect the one and to cause respect to be shown to the other. I shall hold high the flag of independence, the symbol of future greatness, with the same vigor. I ask the assistance of all Mexicans who love their country to aid me in accomplishing my splendid but difficult task. Union will make us strong, will procure for us peace and prosperity. My government will never forget the gratitude it owes to the illustrious prince whose generous support has brought about the regeneration of our beautiful country. Upon the way to my new country it is my intention to visit Rome, to receive from the hands of the Holy Father those benedictions so precious to all sovereigns, and which are doubly important to me, as called upon to found a new empire.

OCCUPATION FOR CHILDREN.—The habits of children prove that occupation is a necessity with the most of them. They to be busy, even about nothing, still more to be usefully employed. With some children it is a strongly developed necessity, and if not turned to good account, will be productive of positive evil, thus verifying the old adage, that "Idleness is the mother of mischief." Children should be encouraged, or if indolently disinclined to it, should be disciplined into performing for themselves every little office relative to the toilet which they are capable of performing. They should also keep their own clothes and other possessions in neat order, and fetch for themselves whatever they want; in short, they should learn to be as independent of others as possible, fitting them alike to make a good use of prosperity, and to meet with fortitude any reverse of fortune that may befall them. I know of no rank, however exalted, in which such a system would not prove beneficial.



## CULTURE OF MUSK AND WATER-MELONS.

New Jersey is famous for its musk and watermelons, immense quantities being sent every season to the New York markets. "E. J. K." of Bergen Co., in that State, gives the details of his practice in cultivating watermelons, from which we extract the following: "Our soil is a sandy loam with a sub-stratum of pure sand. In the early part of May the land receives a compost of muck and barn-yard manure at the rate of twenty-five loads to the acre, is then plowed, harrowed three or four times to pulverize it thoroughly, and then marked off so that the hills shall stand 8 feet apart, and exactly opposite to each other, so as to allow of the use of a horse cultivator. Excavations are then made of a depth of 4 to 6 inches and a foot in diameter, into each of which is put one large forkful of manure or compost, which is thoroughly incorporated with the soil. The holes are then filled up with the earth that was taken from them, which raises the hills 3 or 4 inches higher than the surrounding soil. The seed is planted in the hills half an inch deep, and 8 or 10 to the hill. In about 8 days they will germinate, and the appearance of the plant may be greatly facilitated by gently loosening the earth around them with the finger. In three weeks from this time, they will have made two rough leaves, when all the plants but three should be pulled out. Should they be attacked by bugs, dust the plants in the morning, while the dew is on them, with wood ashes or plaster and pepper. If attacked by worms, which eat the young stalks of the plant off near the earth, the only remedy is to search diligently until you find them; they are generally at the root of the plant. The plants should be hoed at least once a week and kept perfectly clean until they begin to put forth runners, when all cultivation should cease. When the runners have reached 4 feet in length, the ends are to be pinched off, and this should be continued throughout the season, to force the strength of the vines into the fruit. By pursuing this course the melons will be of superior excellence as regards size and quality. This system answers equally well for growing nutmeg and citron melons, squashes and cucumbers.... Mr. J. Van Riper, of the same County, and a very successful cultivator of muskmelons for the New York market, sends a statement of his last year's crop. Early in April he plowed in manure and a dressing of salt hay, harrowed on May 2d, and planted on May 14th, manuring in the hill. From 3.18 acres Mr. Van R. gathered 1000 barrels of melons, which brought \$1608 00. Expenses of cultivation, sending to market, commission, etc., \$560 50, leaving a profit of \$1047.50.—[American Ag., May, 1864.]

## FLOWERS—WHAT ANNUALS SHALL I PLANT?

This often asked question becomes each year more difficult to answer, as the Annual Catalogues come to us with their constantly expanding lists. If those who have had little experience with plants, look over the catalogues and make their selections from the descriptions there given, they will very often be disappointed. Flowers must have certain requisites to make them popular, and mere novelty will never satisfy the great mass of cultivators. The fact is that for the people in general, not one fourth of the flowers of the seed lists are worth growing—not because they are not good of their kind, but because they are not of a kind which meets the popular idea of a flower. To be satisfactory, an annual must be a free bloomer, and last a long while in bloom; the flowers must be showy individually, or in the mass, and be of good color, or to compensate for a lack of these qualities, they must have a pleasing fragrance. A plant with a tall weedy growth, with here and there a showy flower of short duration, may be interesting and pretty, but will never be popular. The following list gives some of those which can be safely recommended for general culture: Sweet Alyssum; white flowers with honey-like fragrance; once sown will perpetuate itself like a weed. Antirrhinum or Snap-Drum, slow, but satisfactory. Astors; indispensable for late summer and autumn. Many sorts are in the catalogues; Peony-flowered, Ranunculus-flowered, and Giant Empress, are good, as many others. Clarkias; all pretty. Convolvulus minor; fine. Dianthus or Pinks; the Chinese sort and D. Hedewigii are good. Gilias; small, but pretty when grown in masses, and the same may be said of those Gilias which in the catalogues are called Leptosiphons. Linum grandiflorum; fair. Martynia; those with colored flowers are showy in a large garden, and the fruit is good for pickles. Marigolds; the bronze and striped sorts are good, when they come true from seed, which is not always. Mignonette; grown for fragrance only. Nemophilas or Lovegrove; all are fine in a cool and shady place. Pansy; too well known to need comment. Phlox Drummondii; this is the showy annual; it gives the best effect in masses; a colors from deep scarlet to white. Portulacae; good, especially the double; all colors. Petunia; nothing is finer than the best sorts of this. Stock—Ten-Weeks; grown for both

beauty and fragrance. Tropaeolum or Nasturtium; the dwarf sorts are very brilliant, yellow to deep scarlet and bronze. Whitlavia; fine blue, self-sowing. Zinnia; coarse in growth and foliage, but with large and showy flowers, the double ones are fine and in great variety of colors. Candytuft; white, crimson and purple sorts, are showy in the bed, and fine for bouquets; blooms all the better for cutting. These with some of the "everlasting flowers," noticed in the April *American Agriculturist*, will give a good selection of reliable sorts. The list does not include all the good things, nor is it intended to discourage those who wish from trying novelties, but merely as a guide to those who have no experience.—[Ibid.]

## THE OSAGE ORANGE FROM CUTTINGS.

The Osage Orange is readily propagated from pieces of the roots, and nurserymen have multiplied it in this way by starting the cuttings in a propagating house with the aid of bottom heat. John Porter, Esq., of Niagara Co., N. Y., writes to the *Agriculturist* that he succeeds perfectly well with root cuttings in the open ground. He cuts the roots into pieces about two or three inches long and plants them horizontally, where the hedge is to stand, covering the pieces entirely. He finds that he gets stronger plants than from seed, and that they are less liable to be thrown out by the frost. Those who have established hedges, can by pruning the roots get a supply of cuttings for increasing their stock of plants. As it is now impossible to get seeds, this plan seems to be well worth trying.—[Ibid.]

CHEAP COFFEE.—Some years ago, traveling in Northumberland county, in this State, I made a remark to the lady with whom I was breakfasting, upon the excellence of the coffee. She smiled, and said it was not coffee, but chickory, which was much used in the country. I have been surprised that I have never seen it recommended as a substitute for coffee. The plant is, I presume, as easily raised as other roots, and when taken from the ground should be well washed and cut in very thin slices, lengthwise, and dried in the sun for a few days, when it should be put in the oven, and baked until moisture is thoroughly expelled, when it may be put by for use. When wanted it is to be broken in small pieces, roasted and prepared as coffee. Every farmer might, with little trouble, raise enough for family use, and might perhaps find it profitable as a small crop. H. Philadelphia, April 4.

THE TAX BILL.—The new tax bill provides the following rates: Coal illuminating oil, etc., 20 cts. per gallon; ground and substitutes, 1 cent per pound; molasses syrup of molasses, etc., 5 per centum, *ad valorem*; sugars, 1 and 2 cts. per pound; paper, of all descriptions, 3 per centum, *ad valorem*; salt, 6 cents per 100 pounds; pig iron, \$1 per ton; blooms, slabs or loops, \$1 50 per ton; staves and hollow ware, \$3 per ton; leather, of all descriptions, 5 per centum, *ad valorem*; grape wines, 5 cts. per gallon; all other wines or liquors called wine, 25 cts. per gallon; ready-made clothing, boots, shoes, etc., 5 per cent. *ad valorem*; manufactures of cotton, wool, silk and worsted, 5 per cent. *ad valorem*; cavendish, plug, twist and stemmed tobacco, 25 cts.; smoking tobacco, made exclusively of stems and shorts and refuse, 10 cts.; snuff and snuff flour, 35 cts.; fine cut, 35 cts.; cigars, valued at \$10 per thousand, \$5 per thousand; valued at \$10 to \$20, \$7 per thousand; valued at \$20 to \$40 per thousand, \$12; valued at \$40 to \$75 per thousand, \$25; valued at over \$75 per thousand, \$40. First proof spirits, sold or received for consumption prior to July 1st, 60 cts. per gallon; after July and prior to January 1st, 1865, \$1; after January 1st, \$1.25. Distilled spirits and refined coal oil may be exported without excise duty.

## VARIETIES.

—A woman presented herself at the Central Police Station at Chicago, the other day, and complained that, though she had two husbands in the army, she could get no relief from either the country or city war committee.

—The salary of the Canadian Governor General is \$31,111, besides little perquisites of \$50,000 for winter residence, \$75,000 for clerks and secretaries, office expenses, water, gas, stables, church pew and other expenses.

—Our carrier had the pleasure on Monday night of feasting his eyes upon a rude nugget of the lucre, which he reports to have weighed 373 oz. 3 pwt. 42 grs. This was from the claim of Sensesderfer, No. 6, on the Bobtail. The value in greenbacks was \$28 per oz.; which when multiplied by the amount of gold, calls for something over ten thousand dollars. New Yorkers, attention!—[Central City Register.]

—Sambo says: "Dees folks made a good many of dees patches from the seat of war out of whole clof."

—It is said that he who giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord, but many who profess to believe it, dispute with the Lord about the amount of the loan.

—An able physiologist has written that one-fifth of the human body is composed of phosphorus. Punch remarks that this most likely accounts for the number of matches made.