

EDITORIALS.

THE SOLUTION.

If the utterances, on the political situation, of numerous prominent persons and newspapers are to be taken as expressions of their genuine sentiments and opinions, there must be a strong belief that the present difficulties growing out of the doings of the late presidential election will soon meet with a satisfactory and peaceful solution. Congress is looked to as the power which is to allay the turbulent waves of the muddied waters of the political sea of the republic. If those expressions be genuine it is somewhat difficult to conceive how such conclusions can be arrived at, their ground work not being at all apparent. The present issue is a momentous one, and of stupendous interest to the whole country, for upon its solution depends, as we view it, the very existence of the republican form of government.

If opinions that the near approach of a peaceful solution is at hand were supported by the reasons for such a view it would be much more consoling. Upon what grounds is Congress expected to settle the agitating troubles? Is not Congress in the same anomalous situation as nearly every similar lesser organization of the same lawmaking character in what is called, not very consistently, however, the Union, divided against itself, that being the condition of the whole country to-day? It is "a house divided against itself," and He who "spoke as never man spoke," the highest authority, said that a house in that condition could not stand, but must fall. Of course it may be within the range of possibility for Congress to settle this all-absorbing difficulty, but how is not very clear at present. Both political parties claim that their particular candidates for the Presidency are "squarely" elected, and Congress is divided between the supporters of the opposing claimants, the Senate being republican and the House democratic. If the National Legislature, so "squarely" divided against itself, can come to a peaceful understanding on the subject itself, there might be some hope of its solving the problem and arriving at a conclusion that would satisfy the people. But this result is not very likely to be attained, and even should Congress arrive at any definite conclusion, it is doubtful if a people, nearly equally divided on the question at issue, would, with the political fever of expectation at boiling heat, calmly accept of such decision as final.

The democratic meeting held recently in Indiana has a somewhat ominous look. If it indicates anything it is that the democrats of that democratic State are convinced of the election of the democratic presidential candidate, and that their present temper is that they shall see that he is inaugurated, peaceably if they can, forcibly if they must. Were this feeling confined to that State only, the showing would not be so gloomy, but everywhere are manifested outcroppings of the same determined spirit. Take in connection with these expressed determinations the fact that the adherents of the republican party are no less, according to their expressions, confident of the election of their candidate, and no less resolute in their determination to have him inaugurated, and that they are encouraged by the leaning attitude toward them of the present incumbent of the White House, whose action in interfering, by means of federal bayonets, with the internal local affairs of sovereign States of the Union does not improve the situation. These facts are staring men in the face who keep asserting their conviction that there will be no conflict. If the elements are not favorable to the production of a bloody culmination, to what are they tending? Do they tend to peace, harmony and prosperity? If they do, we can scarcely see it, the indications lending to the belief that the end is nigh, the republican form of government being even now apparently almost a thing of the past. The present issue is one that cannot be compromised, the decision, should one be reached, must be in favor of one claimant and against the other, hence the supporters of the disap-

pointed one, unless they tamely recede from the position now taken, will be likely to offer resistance.

It is surprising how peculiar are the reasons offered against the possibility of a conflict. Captain Codman, for instance, writing to a New York paper, said there would be "no conflict," because if one should come, people would have to shoot each other over their dining tables, and barricade their houses against their neighbors across the street. The fact that that would necessarily be the nature of the conflict is no proof that it will not ensue, and in fact it is, in our view, but a matter of time for such a bloody national drama to be enacted. Joseph Smith, the great prophet of the 19th century, raised up for a special purpose, by the Supreme Ruler of the universe, foretold, by prophetic inspiration, that just such a conflict would arrive in the history of this nation, that city would be divided against city, county against county, State against State, and even every man's hand against his neighbor, until every one who would not take part in the horrid carnival of blood would have to flee to the location of the Latter-day Saints for safety. Which political party has the majority of adherents is a matter of dispute, although appearances seem to favor the democrats in that regard, and the division is of that nature likely to produce the fulfillment of the inspired prediction. We do not pretend to say that the time has arrived for the conflict to ensue, but it is certain to come some time. We are led to this conclusion not only from conviction of the divine authenticity of the great Latter-day work of the Lord in general sense, but there is special evidence, of an indisputable character, which shows that Joseph Smith was a true prophet. The evidence is of a nature too that cannot but strike even the candid non-"Mormon" observer, being the fulfillment of numerous of his predictions with the nicest accuracy. So plain and clear has been their fulfillment that they now read, although given and published many years before the occurrence of the events prognosticated, like records of facts after they have taken place.

In our view the only hope for salvation for the nation is for the people to repent of their sins and turn unto the Lord with full purpose of heart, a consummation the attainment of which we candidly confess to not having a great deal of faith in. If they do not, however, there is no way of escape from the execution, by the Lord, of his everlasting decree in relation to the people who should dwell upon this land, which, as recorded in the Book of Mormon, is that they should serve the Lord, or that they should, when they were fully ripe in wickedness, be utterly destroyed and wasted away.

It is time for all people to consider whether or not the claim of Joseph Smith, that he was a prophet specially raised up by the Almighty, was genuine or spurious. If the conclusion is reached that his claim was sound, the other conclusion is inevitable, that his testimony and that of those called, through him, to the same authority he held, is in force in all the world.

GRANT AND THE TWO PARTIES.

PRESIDENT GRANT is a man whose action may be more safely inferred than the actions of many men. He is not a radical nor a revolutionist against existing authority, and is not in favor of sudden radical changes. He is not of a flighty disposition. He is a man of a stable mind and a doggedly tenacious disposition, inclined to uphold as he finds it the authority which exists and is established. He is an eminent military man and not remarkably great on civil polity. Consequently he inclines to military methods and principles, favoring centralism, obedience to the authority that is, and peace and quietness by those means. If Hayes was in power, Grant would support Hayes; if Tilden was in power, Grant would support Tilden; and in each case would enforce the same to the extent of the authority vested in him.

Being himself a Republican, and the republican party being in

power, he naturally supports the Republicans for those reasons, but more especially does he do so for the reason that the Republicans are the existing authority. Hence his hanging to them and their electees and appointees until it shall be demonstrated beyond doubt to him that another party has the power, or, which is equivalent to the same, the undeniable legal right to the power and the place. When that demonstration is made, he may be reasonably expected to support the democratic party, their electees and appointees, by all the power at his command.

Therefore so long as the Republicans can keep him convinced that they have the electoral vote, he will be likely to support them and their presidential electee, and, on the contrary, if the Democrats wish to secure his influence on their side, the readiest way would be to convince him that their presidential electee has the electoral vote. If they can do this, there is probability of little trouble between them and the present President.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE REFERENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING UTAH.

To President Grant's eighth and last annual message to Congress he appended, to use his own language, "a synopsis of administrative events and recommendations to Congress made by me during the last seven years." In this synopsis his references more or less concerning Utah are as follows—

THIRD ANNUAL MESSAGE.

Suggestions in relation to polygamy in Utah.

FOURTH ANNUAL MESSAGE, DEC. 2, 1872.

Territories.

"I recommend a careful revision of the present laws of the Territory of Utah, and the enactment of such a law (the one proposed in Congress at its last session, or something similar to it,) as will secure peace, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the ultimate extinguishment of polygamy."

FIFTH ANNUAL MESSAGE, DEC. 1, 1873.

Utah.

"To prevent anarchy there it is absolutely necessary that Congress provide the courts with some mode of obtaining jurors, and I recommend legislation to that end; and also that the probate courts of the Territory, now assuming to issue writs of injunction and *habeas corpus*, and to try criminal cases and questions as to land titles, be denied all jurisdiction not possessed ordinarily by courts of that description."

SEVENTH ANNUAL MESSAGE, DECEMBER 7, 1875.

Geological explorations in Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico Territories.

"The geological explorations have been prosecuted with energy during the year, covering an area of about forty thousand square miles in the Territories of Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico, developing the agricultural and mineral resources, and furnishing interesting scientific and topographical details of that region."

Utah—Polygamy.

"In nearly every annual message that I have had the honor of transmitting to Congress, I have called attention to the anomalous, not to say scandalous, condition of affairs existing in the Territory of Utah, and have asked for definite legislation to correct it. That polygamy should exist in a free, enlightened, and Christian country, without the power to punish so flagrant a crime against decency and morality, seems preposterous. True, there is no law to sustain this unnatural vice, but what is needed is a law to punish it as a crime, and at the same time to fix the status of the innocent children, the offspring of the system, and of the possibly innocent plural wives. But, as an institution, polygamy should be banished from the land."

Necessity for amendment of public land and mining laws.

"Observations while visiting the Territories of Wyoming, Utah and Colorado, during the past autumn, convinced me that existing laws regulating the disposition of public lands, timber, &c., and probably the mining laws themselves, are very defective, and should be carefully amended and at an early day. In territory where cultivation of the soil can only be followed by irrigation, and where irrigation is not practicable the lands can only be used as pasturage, and this only where stock can reach water (to quench its thirst), cannot be governed by the laws as to entries as lands every acre of which is an independent estate by itself.

"Land must be held in larger quantities to justify the expense of conducting water upon it to make it fruitful or to justify utilizing it as pasturage. The timber in most of the Territories is principally confined to the mountain regions, which are held for entry in small quantities only and as mineral lands. The timber is the property of the United States, for the disposal of which there is no adequate law. The settler must become a consumer of this timber whether he lives upon the plain or engages in working the mines. Hence every man becomes a trespasser himself or knowingly a patron of trespassers.

"My opportunities for observation were not sufficient to justify me in recommending specific legislation on these subjects, but I do recommend that a joint committee of the two Houses of Congress—sufficiently large to be divided into subcommittees—be organized to visit all the mining States and Territories during the coming summer, and that the committee shall report to Congress at the next session such laws or amendments to laws as it may deem necessary to secure the best interests of the Government and the people of these Territories, who are doing so much for their development."

Summary of questions deemed of vital importance.

"First. That the States shall be required to afford the opportunity of a good common-school education to every child within their limits.

"Second. No sectarian tenets shall ever be taught in any school supported in whole or in part by the State, nation, or by the proceeds of any tax levied upon any community. Make education compulsory, so as to deprive all persons who cannot read and write from becoming voters after the year 1890, disfranchising none, however, on grounds of illiteracy who may be voters at the time this amendment takes effect.

"Third. Declare church and State forever separate and distinct, but each free within its proper spheres, and that all church property shall bear its own proportion of taxation.

"Fourth. Drive out licensed immorality, such as polygamy and the importation of women for illegitimate purposes. To recur again to the centennial year, it would seem as though now, as we are about to begin the second century of our national existence, would be a most fitting time for these reforms."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Mr. M. P. Handy, correspondent at New Orleans of the Philadelphia Times, after investigating the Eliza Pinkston case, says, "Nobody in the neighborhood had heard any political complexion given to the outrage until the story came from New Orleans. Gentlemen with whom I talked are ready to testify that Eliza Pinkston was a rabid democrat, and that they heard her curse a republican speaker in open meeting just before the election, in language unfit for publication, after vainly trying to borrow a pistol to shoot him. All attempts to connect politics with this affair fall to the ground, and I say it, after careful investigation, begun with the abhorrence of such an outrage, and the conviction that it was a crime chargeable to the democrats."

—General John S. Phelps, Governor elect of Missouri, is said to be experiencing anew the perversity of woman. He and his wife separated several years ago. Now that he is elected to the State governorship she is determined to share the honors, so she puts in an appearance without any warning, declar-

ing that she has "come to be inaugurated with the Governor." The General's friends advise him to let the lady have her way. Half the women in Jefferson City pity the poor Governor, and the other half glory in his wife's spirit.

—The Sioux City (Iowa) Journal says the biggest and most severe snow storm ever known in that region fell about the last of November, 1856, lasting two days and two nights, and extending over a portion of that Territory and Nebraska, and the greater part of Iowa. The snow came down in solid sheets, so that a person could not see his hand at arm's length before him. After the snow storm, a gale set in from the north, drifting the snow badly. Sioux City was blocked from communication with any point, and the mail stages from Council Bluffs did not get through for five weeks.

—Dr. Storrs says the greatest danger to religion in this country is from the mechanical philosophy of the day, which is producing a community without a conscience. The greatest danger to religion is irreligion.

"Apple dumpling socials" and "cake walks" are popular pecuniary means of grace in New York colored people's churches. The most graceful lady walker walks off with the cake.

—Virgil L. Blanchard, of the New York Sun, that, speaking from fourteen years of scientific research and professional labor, he finds the cause of intemperance to be "the want of a proper supply of nerve food to meet the waste of the nervous tissue in the masses," and that stimulating brain poisons, such as tobacco, alcohol and opium, temporarily supply the place of brain or nerve food. He says, "In what does nerve food consist? What is it? Is it meat? No. White bread? No. Potatoes? No. If it is not found in these staples, in what is it to be found? I answer, in the exterior of the wheat kernel, in the skin of the potato, and in milk; partially also in eggs and fish."

—An exchange says, a new Peter the Hermit has appeared in Russia, in the person of Alexander Proshchikoff, an ex-Captain of the Guards, and one of the wealthiest citizens of Moscow. It is said he is employed, under the highest official auspices, in inflaming the populace to the requisite pitch of fury which the Russian Government may care to cultivate in support of the official policy in the Eastern question. He has come to conceive, or pretend, that he has a special mission from heaven to rouse the Russian people for a crusade against the Turks.

—Mlle. Fargenle, the actress, is said to have the smallest foot in France, for a woman.

—The Washington Star of Dec. 4 says, "Congress meets to-day under circumstances of peculiar gravity. It has in its hands the fearful issue of peace or war. The people want peace. Under all the heat of political discussions among them there is a strong current for peace, which can only be turned in an opposite direction through the persistent efforts of political demagogues. A tremendous responsibility rests upon the forty-fourth Congress, and every member ought to fully appreciate it and weigh well his words and actions. The time has come for the order, 'Statesmen to the front and partisans to the rear.'"

—The Cincinnati Times says it is all settled, the crisis is past, Hayes is elected, he will be duly inaugurated, will give the country a sound and popular administration, and "the four years of his term will be a period of peace, order and good government, and of unprecedented prosperity throughout the Nation."

—Dr. C. W. Faber, in the Practitioner, says the disposition to seasickness is not so general as is supposed. Natives and old residents of Australia are little subject to it. Thin people are less subject to it than fat people, some of the latter suffering greatly. Consumptive people are little subject to it. But then everybody can't be Australians, or thin, or consumptive.

—Father Gavazzi, the Italian Catholic pervert, has been lecturing lately at Edinburgh, Scotland.

—The Dominion Government has issued an order forbidding the running of railroad trains in Canada on the Sabbath except by direct order of the Government.