

“Negroes Argue Their Own Case”

Excerpts from an historic newspaper, the Vermont Watchman & State Journal, August 18, 1865 issue, Montpelier, Vermont. There is an article on page two entitled “*Negroes Argue Their Own Case.*” It reads in part “...*We, the delegates of the colored people of the State of Virginia...to act and advise what is thought best to be done for the interests of the colored people of the State, and to give expression of our feelings and desires, do hereby appeal to the conscientious, sympathetic, and just judgment of the American people, solemnly declaring that we desire to live upon the most friendly and agreeable terms with all men; we feel no ill-will or prejudice towards our former oppressors and are willing and desire to forgive and forget the past...*”

The article follows on pages two and three. The fourth page shows a portion of the front page of this issue.

THE NEGROES ARGUE THEIR OWN CASE.

A Convention of Virginia colored men met at Alexandria, on the 3d inst., and adopted the following eloquent appeal, after which three rousing cheers were given for the flag, and "Rally round the flag" was sung by all present. Who doubts the propriety of permitting the author of that appeal to vote?

APPEAL.

We, the delegates of the colored people of the State of Virginia, in Convention assembled at Alexandria, Va., to act and advise what is thought best to be done for the interests of the colored people of the State, and to give expression of our feelings and desires, do hereby appeal to the conscientious, sympathetic, and just judgment of the American people, solemnly declaring that we desire to live upon the most friendly and agreeable terms with all men; we feel no ill-will or prejudice towards our former oppressors; we are willing and desire to forgive and forget the past, and so shape our future conduct as shall promote our happiness, and the interest of the community in which we live; and that we believe that in this State we have still many warm and solid friends among the white people, and that this portion of them will do all they can for our improvement and elevation, that for this they have our kind thanks, and our constant prayers, that the Lord, Host, may bless them, and strengthen them, that they may strive to give us, as a people, that which is just and right before God, and the civilized world.

But, while we are free to acknowledge that we have said above, we must, on the other hand, be allowed to aver and assert that we believe that we have among the white people of this State many who are our most inveterate enemies, who hate us as a class, and who feel no sympathy with or for us; who despise us simply because we are black, and, more especially, because we have been made free by the power of the United States Government; and that they—the class last mentioned—will not, in our estimation, be willing to accord to us, as freemen, that protection which all freemen must contend for; they would be worthy of freedom; and that while we confess that the state of things which now exist was not of our making, yet we believe it was the intention, and is the will of God, that it shall be as it is, and for which we give Him our everlasting thanks.

We have ever been a people of docility and obedience, though we have felt for years that the condition of slavery was a curse upon us, imposed by might and not by right, yet we have submitted without any act of ours to avenge ourselves upon those who had so long oppressed us, as a race of men. Many of them treated us as brutes of the field. All this we confess we see the hand of an all-wise God, who has seen fit to hold the passions of His African children until He saw fit to stir the passions of the two sections of the country—that both North and South should suffer for the sin of slavery. This having been done, it has left us in a state of chaos and disorganization; and while we sympathize for the condition of the country, we do believe and recognize in it the hand of an all-wise God, and believe He will do all things right.

In this state of chaos and disorganization we are assembled here to-day, to appeal to the citizens of the State of Virginia and to the Government of the United States for that protection which we so much need, and for which freemen in all ages have contended. We, in our present condition, are without protection, so far as the laws of the State are concerned, and but for the strong arm of the military, we feel that we have nowhere to look for that protection which is essential for the safety of our persons or our property, our wives or our children; for while we had no law, neither did we have their protection, we have now no law, and we are left to the results of the vile and vicious to do with us as they please, and we are left without remedy.

We claim, then, as citizens of this State, the laws of the Commonwealth shall give to all men equal protection; that each and every

darker than the earth ever witnessed in the case of any other people.

We have been forced to silence and inaction; to look on the infernal spectacle of our sons groaning under the lash; our daughters ravished; our wives violated, and our firesides desolated; while we ourselves have been led to the shambles and sold like beasts of the field.

When the nation in her hour of trial called her sable sons to arms, we gladly went and fought her battles, but we were denied the pay accorded to others, until public opinion demanded it, and even then it was tardily granted.

We have fought and conquered, but have been denied the benefits of victory.

We have fought where victory gave us no glory, and where captivity meant cold blooded murder on the field, and no black man flinched. We are taxed, but denied the right of representation; we are practically debarred the right of trial by jury, and institutions of learning which we help to support are closed against us.

Such being our wrongs, we submit to the American people and to the world the following declaration of our rights, asking a calm consideration thereof:

"All men being born free and equal," no man or government has a right to annul, repeal, or render inoperative this fundamental principle, except it be for crime; therefore we ask the immediate repeal of all laws operating against us as a separate class of people.

"That as natives of American soil we claim the right to remain upon it, and that any attempt to remove, expatriate, or colonize us in any other land against our will is unjust, for here we were born and for this country our fathers have fought, and we hope to remain here in the full enjoyment of enfranchised manhood and its dignities. As citizens of the republic we claim the rights of citizens; we claim that we are, by right, entitled to respect; that all due attention should be given to our needs; that proper rewards should be given for our services; that the immunities and privileges of all other citizens and defenders of the nation's honor should be conceded to us. We claim the right to be heard in the State Legislature, in all the courts of the country, and the hall of congress. That, emerging as we are, from the long night of gloom and sorrow, we are entitled to, and claim the sympathy and aid of the entire Christian world. We invoke the considerate aid of mankind in this crisis of our history, and in this hour of trial."

These are a portion of our rights as men, as patriots, as citizens, and as children of a common Father; and that we may realize and retain them, this is our purpose. We confide our cause to the just God, whose benign aid we most solemnly invoke.

KENTUCKY ELECTION.—The Chicago Tribune of Wednesday last has the following paragraph concerning the recent election in Kentucky:

"The election in Kentucky has probably resulted in the defeat of the emancipation amendment by a decisive majority. The ancient Bourbons of that State, who learn nothing and forget nothing, have carried a majority of the Legislature and a majority of the delegation to Congress. They have voted practically to be crushed between the upper and nether millstones of freedom in Ohio and Tennessee. They can, of course, have as much as they desire of this sort of grinding. The following is the substance of the returns received up to the present time:

- Congressmen:
1. L. S. Tremble, pro-slavery, elected.
 2. Geo. H. Yeaman, emancipation, re-elected.
 3. Henry Grider, pro-slavery, re-elected.
 4. Aaron Harding, pro-slavery, re-elected.
 5. Lovell H. Rousseau, emancipation, 2000 majority.
 6. Green Clay Smith, emancipation, re-elected, 800 majority.
 7. Geo. S. Shantlin, pro-slavery, 2000 majority.
 8. William H. Randall, emancipation, re-elected.
- The returns of members to the Legislature.

Watchman & State Journal

BY E. F. WALTON

MONTPELIER, AUG. 18, 1865.

The telegraph has given a story from Washington, to the effect that the Cabinet has had an exciting time over the reconstruction question, and that the President declared his intention to stick to the policy he has entered upon in spite of all opposition. Now we venture to say that this is of the sensation sort of stuff, a guess at the topic discussed in a cabinet meeting, and not worth the cost of telegraphing it. President Johnson undoubtedly adopted his policy (which is said to be that of President Lincoln) with the consent of the cabinet; he has issued his Proclamations and appointed provisional governors, and they have called State conventions and appointed elections therefor—or all but two. Pray what is or can be changed, or what reason exists for any change provided a change be possible? Has any body in the cabinet found out that the policy will be a failure? We doubt whether any body in it, Presidents Lincoln and Johnson included, ever was very sanguine of success, or rather of immediate success. The line which Gen. Grant fought on for a year proved to be a very good one at last, but it led through a Wilderness almost as fatal as that through which the children of Israel passed from bondage to the promised land. The President's line for reconstruction may be a good one, too, but we think it is to have its wilderness. There may be hard fighting and many rebuffs on both sides of the line; we expect them; and we do not expect a satisfactory settlement until the resistless power of the nation is brought to bear upon reluctant states, as the resistless power of the army was brought to bear upon rebels in arms. To that shape the question would come under any policy, and it is just as well to look the thing in the face and meet it under the President's policy. We see no reason for desiring any change because the people of the southern states will not, in all human probability, adopt satisfactory constitutions. We do not expect then to do it until they better understand their own necessities and their duties both to the nation and their own people; and we do not expect them to do that for some time yet. The President has given them the opportunity to try; and that, we have no doubt, is the length and breadth of what is called the President's policy. We do not suppose he is pledged to accept of any State action, right or wrong, or that he has any desire to have it anything but right. In a word we suppose he is and will be just as free as is and will be Congress and the people to test the constitution of each State when it shall be presented.

Presidents and Congress have never hesitated in respect to the constitutions formed by the people of new States, and we do not see why they should hesitate to scrutinize the work of the new people of old states. Of course we know that some people's heads are still muddled with what are termed State Right doctrines; and the whole country has been terribly muddled with them too, at the cost of a rebellion and four years of war. We are as jealous of State rights as any body feeling, as a citizen of one of the small states of the Union, that there lies the security of our own against larger states and the nation itself; but we have learned that there are no State rights, as against each other or the nation, except such as are recognized by the Constitution of the United States; and non-subversive of the Union or inconsistent with

ty of enemies, slaves were lawful prizes of war. History
tells with another parallel between British policy
and Yankee policy, and its results. It informs us that in
Virginia alone, 37,000 negroes taken from their masters,
shed of disease in British camps. The same destruc-
tion of life is now going on in Yankee camps from dis-
ease, exposure, privation and neglect.

The statesmen of the Union never remained satisfied
with the inscription of the treaty of 1783. In the sev-
enth article of that treaty, it was specifically stipulated
that the emigration (by the British troops) should be
made "without carrying away any negroes or other prop-
erty belonging to the American inhabitants." Yet thou-
sands were carried away without restitution or compen-
sation. The Congress of the Confederation, and after-
wards the Federal Government, continued to insist on
indemnity until the claim became obsolete by being
omitted at the conclusion of Jay's Treaty of 1794. But
Gen. Washington's administration contended for in-
demnities after a protracted negotiation and
the war of 1812.

The United States Commissioners at Ghent provided
against this old difficulty in the first article of the treaty.
In these words: "All places taken, &c., shall be restored
without delay, &c., or carrying away of the artillery, or
other public property originally captured in the said
ports or places, or any slaves or other private property."
Plain as this provision was, Great Britain made it the
subject of a long continued controversy with the United
States, and after seven years of vain efforts to come to
an understanding, the two powers were unable to accom-
plish it, and it was agreed to refer the question to arbi-
tration. The Emperor Alexander of Russia accepted
the post of arbitrator and decided in favor of the United
States. The decision of the Emperor was as unimpeach-
able as Great Britain as the treaty stipulation had been.
A second misunderstanding gave rise to another negotia-
tion, which ended in an agreement to pay the value of
the deported slaves. This took place in 1827, John Q.
Adams being President, and some twelve hundred thou-
sand dollars being the amount of the indemnity.

The case was solemnly presented to the Emperor Alex-
ander, the United States represented by Mr. Henry Mid-
dleton, then minister, and Great Britain by Sir Charles
Bagot—the Counts Nesselrode and Cape D'Istrie receiv-
ing the arguments to be laid before the Emperor. His
Majesty's decision was peremptory, "that the United
States are entitled to a just indemnification from Great
Britain for all private property carried away by the
British forces and for all such slaves as were carried
away," &c. Explicit as was the decision, the British
minister raised the point that it did not apply to slaves
who voluntarily joined the British troops to obtain their
freedom, and he submitted a note to be laid before the
Emperor on that point. "To this note," says Mr. Ben-
ton in his "Thirty Years' View," "Alexander gave an
answer which is a model of categorical reply to unfaun-
dationed insinuation." It was again against Great Britain, and
that power having exhausted every diplomatic pretext
for delay, and being bound to obey the arbitration of
the Emperor, concluded a convention for carrying the
decision into effect. The value of deported slaves was
settled by a commission and paid into the United States
Treasury, and at the commencement of the session of
Congress 1827-28, President J. Q. Adams was able to
communicate the fact of the settlement of this important
dispute.

The important bearing of this scrap of American history
as a precedent upon the issues of the present strug-
gle, cannot be better illustrated than by quoting from
Mr. Benton, and remembering that he wrote before the
present contest began:

"The sum received was large, and ample to pay the
damages; but that was the smallest part of the advan-
tage gained. The example and the principle were the
main points—the enforcement of such a demand against
a government so powerful, and after so much resistance,
and the condemnation on which it carried, and the respon-
sibility which it involved, that was the grand advantage.
The capture and abduction of slaves was one of the modes
of warfare adopted by the British, and largely counted
on as a means of harassing and injuring one-half of
the Union." It had been practiced during the revolution, and
indemnity avoided. "If avoided a second time, impunity
would have sanctioned the practice and rendered it in-
veterate; and in future wars not only with Great Bri-
tain, but with all powers, this mode of annoyance would
have become an ordinary resort, leading to servile in-
surrections. The indemnity exacted carried along with
it the condemnation of the practice, as a spoliation of
private property to be atoned for; and was both a com-
pensation for the past and a warning for the future. It
implied a responsibility which no power, or art, or time
could evade, and the principle of which being estab-
lished, there will be no need for future arbitrations.

The following passage occurs further on in Mr. Ben-
ton's history of the transaction. It is instructive to read
now, and shows what was the spirit of the statesmen of
the old Union, before the trail of the Black Puritan de-
filed the Cabinet Board and the Senate House:

"Northern men did their duty to the South in getting
compensation (and what is infinitely more, establishing
the principle that there shall be compensation in such
cases) for the slaves carried away in the war of 1812.
A majority of the commissioners at Ghent who obtained
the stipulation for indemnity were Northern men—Ad-
ams, Russell, Gallatin, from the free, and Clay and Bay-
ard from the slave States. A Northern negotiator (Mr.
Gallatin), under a Northern President (Mr. John Quincy
Adams), finally obtained it; and it is a coincidence wor-
thy of remark that this Northern negotiator, who was
finally successful, was the same debater in Congress in
1793, who delivered the best argument (in my opinion
surpassing even that of Mr. Madison) against the grounds
on which the British Government resisted the execution
of this article of the treaty."

Mr. Seymour of New York.

Tomorrow the successful candidate for the Govern-
ment of New York, Seymour, will be installed in office,

A mistake in what? Only nine days previously, he
had stated to a delegation from Chicago his objection to
issue a proclamation of emancipation on the ground
"that the whole world would see it to be necessary as
"operative as the Pope's Bull against a comet." In now
issuing it, is the mistake which he decried that the pro-
clamation may be too effective in rounding the slaves against
their masters, or not effective enough? With every de-
sire to do justice to Mr. Lincoln, as an honest but weak
man placed in very trying circumstances, we must believe
that his only apprehension, as to the effect of his pro-
clamation, is not in regard to the awful horrors which it
may occasion, but lest, after all, it should fail in accom-
plishing the conquest of the South.

He said himself not long ago—"I will proclaim eman-
cipation entirely, or partially, or not at all, according to
whichever of these measures shall seem to me best for
the Union." Mr. Seward, in his despatch, "Foreign
governments, take the same view of the matter." He
abolished the President's proclamation as "a just and honest
military act." Adding with an effrontery purely American,
that he does not doubt that it will be recognized as such
by "all the good and wise men of all countries." We
are greatly mistaken in Earl Russell if he allows Mr. Sew-
ard to continue in that convenient belief, and if he does
not express in strong terms the reprobation by the Brit-
ish Government of this atrocious attempt to devastate
the South by means of a servile war.

In the immediate effects, and so far as regards the po-
sition of the President, the proclamation has been a suc-
cess. The tub has been thrown to the whale. The
Northerners can no longer accuse for their reverses by
imputing them to the half measures of the Government.
It is extraordinary the amount of ferocity which exists
among the population of the Northern States, especially
among the Puritans of the New England States. The
clergy, who are entirely dependent on their congrega-
tions, show themselves on this, as on former occasions,
ready to pauper to the worst passions of the people, and
even to take the lead in expressions of ferocity. Even
in the churches the war fever rages. "Twenty churches
of a night," writes Manhattan from New York, "hold
prayer meetings to get recruits." Here is an in-
stance. The Rev. W. J. Sloane, pastor of the Third
Reformed Presbyterian Church of New York,
was reported in the newspapers to have said,
in a speech, abounding with similar atrocities,
"That it was better that the six millions of white men,
women and children of the South should be slaughtered
than that slavery should not be extinguished," and be-
ing censured by an editor for expressing such atrocity,
he replied, that what he really said was only as fol-
lows:—"But suppose that emancipation should lead to
insurrection? Let this, which I by no means admit, be
for the present granted; then I affirm that it is better,
far better, that every man, woman and child in every
rebel State should perish in one widespread, bloody,
and indiscriminate slaughter; better that the land should
be a Sahara; be as when God destroyed the Canaanites,
or overthrow Sodom and Gomorrah; than that this rebel-
lion should be successful." General Wadsworth, who
has been nominated by the Republicans as their candi-
date for the governorship of New York, expresses the
feeling of his party in not less ferocious terms. "We
intend," he says, "to hold the country together at what-
ever cost of life, blood, and suffering. We will devastate
it, if necessary, but not survive its dismemberment."

One might well be at a loss to understand the human
zeal which gives vent to such sentiments. The motive
to uphold the Union will not explain it. Doubtless every
Yankee would prefer to behold a State which, in its
own estimation at least, could "keep all creation." That
is the only condition of existence which allows of its in-
cluding in the unlimited impudences and bragadocio
which have become part of its nature. But does any
one who knows the Yankees imagine that they would
sacrifice millions and millions of dollars for the sake of
upholding an abstract advantage to the Constitution; they have
sacrificed both legally and liberty long ago, and without
a murmur. Just as little now they care for the Union as
a mere political arrangement. But the Union means far
more than this. At first it meant a continued monopoly
of the trade of the South; now it means the very exist-
ence of the North itself. It is an utter mistake to think
that it is the South alone which is fighting for exist-
ence.

SUCCESSOR TO HON. WM. B. PRESTON.

To the Editor of the *Whig*.

I see in the various papers the names of many gentle-
men, as suitable to fill the vacancy in the Confederate
Senate, caused by the death of W. B. Preston. Allow
me, through your columns, to offer the name of a gentle-
man, scholar and statesman, who has adorned all of the
many high positions in which he has been placed. An
ornament in the Cabinet of the old Government—the
master spirit in all the public councils to which he has
been called—in fact giving strength and beauty to every
work which he has touched. Hon. A. H. H. Stuart stands
pre eminently as the man to be placed in the Senate.—
He looks like a Senator—his calm, dignified demeanour—
his knowledge of our public affairs—his sagacity and
forethought, coupled with his great reputation abroad, at
once claim for him the highest place in the Confederate
councils. There are times when we need such men of
learning, of weight and standing at home and abroad,
men who can see, appreciate and provide for our country's
wants. It is to be trusted that the Legislature will
come freely up to a proper appreciation of what should
be the proper qualifications of men to fill such high
positions, and discarding all claims of mere speculating
politicians, elevate such men as can give advancement to
our country, and stand as lasting columns of its great-
ness.

MOUNTAIN.

elections, as required in the preliminary pro-
cess, and precluded for the present any other repres-
entation of the loyalty of the people than can be fur-
nished by the assurances of men of undoubted patriotism,
familiar with the people of that State. Similar
sentations have been made on the part of the
8th Congressional District of Virginia, know
Harper's Ferry District, composed of the count
Hampshire, Page, Warren, Clarke, Berkeley, Je-
ferson, Morgan and Loudoun. Numerous
have been received here by the Marshal of the
of Columbia, a native of that section, and other
ment residents of Washington, complaining at
the failure of Gov. Pierpont to order an election.
was a time when it might have been held with
safety, and the Union sentiment of the district
freely represented.

THE FREDERICKSBURG DISASTER—UNFORTUNATE OF AS WASHINGTON.

The Northern papers devote much space to a
sign of the report of the Congressional Commi-
tee on the war, and the officials at Washington get
lectured on their responsibility for the failure at
icksburg. A long editorial in a New York
concludes as follows:

From General Halleck's own testimony it does
not seem that he is of any use whatever at Wash-
ington, the part of a more clerk, copying orders,
seeing that they are carried out. He neither pl-
paigns nor gives efficient assistance to the Gen-
eral to plan and fight them. The necessary sup-
ply withheld from McDowell at Harper's Ferry, at
when the radical journals were clamoring ag-
ainst not moving on, and so it has been in the
Burnside. General Franklin swears that, not-
withstanding the delay of the pontooners, the position of
my would have been captured had more men
the field on the day of battle. Whose fault is
it is not boasted that we have 800,000 men in it
it not the fault of General Halleck and the Sec-
War that we had not enough men at the decis-
It seems that there is not only no military men
ington to carry on the war, but not even men
mon sense. The only suggestion Burnside rece-
headquarters was a caution not to attack too
all his Generals agree that, from the imbecil-
rules at the capital, his attack was delayed too
thus failed.

There is abundant ground in this report for
determined action of both Houses of Congress
trust that immediately after this recess a joint
will be adopted, calling upon the President to
Stanton and Halleck, Meigs, and the whole
competent officers, whose delay, tardiness in
for the Generals in the field. And, to
same result, we would suggest that a great in-
called in this city to give expression to public
and send a deputation to Mr. Lincoln. The m-
tended to be held last Saturday was postponed
information could be obtained of the facts. T-
report of the Congressional Committee has fi-
on oath from the best sources, and now is th-
the people to act.

An army correspondent writes as follows
visit of the Congressional Investigating Com-
the Rappahannock, a week after the battle:

The soldiers, upon learning the nature of
were heard to say that they "should have
along at about the same hour one week ago
inquiry would have been necessary to have p-
we were being slaughtered in a manner which
ford the greatest degree of enjoyment in th-
space of time to some of them as have been l-
an "upward" movement.

"The distinguished party visited the head
various generals, and from all I can learn
good time over commissary whisky and
Of course they will go home and report th-
is comfortable and eager to advance. If, h-
the choice anathemas which were secretly
at them by the soldiers could take effect,
for the future have no cause to complain of
or at least.

"The idea begins to prevail that this war i-
lives at its back—the soldiers, or patriots, an
or political motive. The army is waiting fo-
of the next month to disprove this charge."

THE CRISIS IN THE ABOLITION CABINET—IT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MISMANAGEMENT OF

The papers of the North have commenced
factory settlement of the recent Cabinet dis-
the following editorials from the New York
wish evidence that the spirit of discon-
means crushed. The extracts will repay pe-

What influences, instrumentalities, and
really responsible for the mismanagement
The radical majority of the two Houses of C-
especially of the Senate, and their co-lab-
arguments in the Cabinet. Having the pow-
the control of Congress, to raise money, I
mines, or to deny them, this radical faction h-
the President, in many things, to yield to it
against his own sagacious and conservative
in order to secure the ways and means to
war. The abolition radicals, then, and th-
agents in the Cabinet and War Office, by
their disorganizing schemes and intrigues
folies, failures and disasters of the war, in
rangement of our financial affairs, and a de-
currency, which adds, perhaps, not les-
million of dollars a day to the national deb-
we any doubt that Mr. Secretary Chase
prime mover in all these radical schemes
co-worker with his confederates of the S-
Mr. Seward. Upon its face the voluntar-
of the Secretary of the Treasury is very

Watchman & State

MONTPELIER, AUGUST 18, 1865.

Watchman & State Journal.

BY E. F. WALTON

MONTPELIER, AUG. 18, 1865.

not from a letter of Moore, Assistant of the party sent to the Soldiers' ter is dated July within one hundred Andersonville, and the term nothing pen, where thirty were huddled to than two hundred a hundred yards posed to the rays and the shivering an fifteen thousand and suffering, are should never be but should stand ground by de the North may vince themselves performed by the There are about rds yet to letter."

Take a com-mouthed; fill it top with water; co oil flask remov- cleaning the flask of the flask as arometer is com-water will rise in- and in wet and within an inch Before a heavy as been seen to least eight hours height. The in-man, and commu-

the Mobile News informed that onment of on and Abolition- hater by instinc- in favor of negro a source equal- the late equiv- have drawn which it is quite fited by judg- and change of der' circumstan- trol," as it re-logy for its forc-

sufficient funds ery dollar of in- With the re- the department liabilities be- on of Congress- ming old certifi- of a million turing. Nearly d of and very the next nine d-credited the dlar greenbacks

all parts of the lations between masters. It is be raised with- between farmers luced under the re being gener- people who have

Hon. Paul Dillingham has had erected at the grave of his son, Major Edwin Dillingham, who was killed in the battle near Winchester, Va., Sept. 19, 1864, one of the largest and finest Monuments in the State. Elegance and simplicity seem to be combined, both in the design and cutting. It is fifteen feet high and weighs seven tons. It is entirely a production of Vermont. The marble, of which it is constructed, was taken from the Sutherland Falls quarry, in Rutland; and the work of cutting and erecting was done by Geo. C. Arms of Waterbury. The Sutherland Falls marble is white delicately mottled, and admits of a very fine polish. We think it altogether superior to any of the white marbles for rural monuments when well executed, as Mr. Arms does his work. Specimens may be seen at his shops in Waterbury and Montpelier.

SHOOTING ACCIDENT.—At Troy, about 10 o'clock on the 6th inst., a returned soldier named Elkins, being with the team of C. H. Cross & Son, when it was seized by the custom-house officer for smuggling, got off the wagon to render some assistance to the officer, when a pistol carried in the inner pocket of his vest, exploded and lodged a ball in his abdomen. He was living two hours afterwards and showed no signs of external hemorrhage. The accident will undoubtedly prove fatal.—*News Dealer.*

We have learned the facts as to the alleged smuggling by C. H. Cross & Son's teamster, Marcus Cutler. He was asked by a customer to take on a barrel of whiskey as a matter of accommodation, and did so, with Mr. Josiah Elkins, who discharged his pistol accidentally when trying to remove the whiskey barrel. The man who asked the favor was the smuggler. He promptly assumed the responsibility for the damages, and the Messrs. Cross's team was released and is now at home, to be employed in their legitimate business as usual. They are not smugglers, and Elkins was not in their employ.

Several applications having been made to the Commissioner of Pensions, under the mistaken impression that at the last session of Congress the rate of pension for the loss of a limb had been increased, it is officially announced that no such pension for the loss of one limb has been made. The army pensioner for such a loss receives \$8 per month, if he was a private, non-commissioned officer or musician; \$15 a month if he was a second lieutenant; \$17 if a first lieutenant; \$20 if a captain; \$25 if a major, and \$30 if a lieutenant colonel or of any higher grade. The same rates, according to rank, are applicable to navy pensions.

ACCIDENT.—Rev. Eli Ballou and lady, of Montpelier, were thrown from a carriage recently, while on a visit to some relatives in Northern New York. and Mrs. Ballou was

ANECDOTES OF PRES. JOHNSON.

[Correspondence of the Missouri Democrat.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 26.

Immediately upon Mr. Lincoln's death, before his remains had reached their resting place, the new President was beset by a swarm of party fishermen, clamorous for the fish-pots whence they had drawn sustenance from time immemorial during the predominance of the "great" Democratic or Conservative party. While the heroic and patriotic kept aloof from any hasty participation in the inauguration of a new order of things, out of reverence for that great soul whose mortal light was extinguished, the ragged cohorts of old time demagogues were rallying for a fearful onslaught. By every train, in every conveyance, through any means, the political fossils of an age gone by are seen arriving at Washington. The hotels are thronged; boarding houses are crammed; bars and saloons are crowded. The Southern "chivalry" and the Northern "doughface" are revived in their original proportions. Committees and delegations appeal daily to the President and volunteer oracular advice. It is but a short time since a distinguished Senator called upon the President. A delegation of Conservatives had just left him. Turning to the Senator, he said: "I wonder if those persons, who but now passed out, imagine that I forgot the power and the party to which I owe my elevation. There was not a man in that delegation that would not have united in offering a reward for my scalp a few years ago, and now they talk to me as if I owed everything to them. I guess they'll find I have a memory."

Again: A well known editor of a prominent Northern journal said to the President: "The Democracy say you will yet be found with them; that you have always been a good Democrat, and always so remain."

"Do they," responded Mr. Johnson. "Well sir, you are at liberty to tell all such good men that while, as President, I shall endeavor to drop any partisan character, I certainly am not prepared to do more than pray for those who despitely use me.—I think they stand in need of prayers, and it's all I can do for them."

"Mr. President, we are discouraged," said a committee of freedmen to the President. "Richmond is as much in the hands of secessionists now as it was before Lee surrendered. Nominally free, we are yet the worst of slaves, and we see no hope of redress unless you aid us."

"Gentlemen," answered Mr. Johnson, "you must exercise patience.—You are free, and the valnest Virginian shall yet not only acknowledge your freedom but your equality, if you are true to your selves."

"But the local and State laws of Virginia, Mr. President?"

"What of the local and State laws of Virginia? Until these F. P. V's comes to their senses, I rather think United States bayonets will be about the only laws they shall have. Go back to your homes, work hard, do your duty, and I will see that the lowest among you is secured in his right and title to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

As the President uttered this last remark his face glowed with a high resolve, and I never saw manhood more sterling and erect than his every lineament betokened. From what I have written, and from many more things of similar import, you have the reasons for my faith in our new President. The work before him is Titanic. He feels its grand import, and he does not wish to err

THE LATE MRS. SEWARD

BY MRS. JANE G. SWISSE

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Courier

WASHINGTON, July 2

The pall of silence which has fallen upon the grave of Mrs. Seward is still remarkable than the unobtrusive life, and I trust it is not idle curiosity makes me more anxious to know than that of any woman whose name ever heard. If I mistake not her name, one which the women of this count afford to lose; and in hope it may some one who knew her to give us incidents in her honorable life, let me the little, the very little, I know.

When I went into Campbell hospital the battle of Chancellorsville, I was the public for fruit acids as an a thrist and hospital gangrene; the tribulation I received was from Mrs. Seward. It was accompanied by a ing me to send to her when anything was wanted. Some one that I knew told me this Mrs. Frederick was the wife of a nephew of the State, who, being a bachelor, had to reside over his home. She called at my rooms, and I at Mr. house, on hospital business, I suppose was Mr. Seward's niece by marriage the following winter, when there was trouble in the contraband camps. A teachers was a Quakeress, from New York—one of those women who left wealth and refinement to live in camp and barracks, to distribute clothing encouragement, and instruction among scattered and bereaved people. We day in troubled council on one of the wrongs which had stubbornly refused righted. It was hard to ask Secretaries to give the time necessary to run the case, while his ante-room was crowded with persons waiting on it business. What to do, was the question. Folding her hands in her lap, and down thoughtfully, this lady soliloquized: "If Mrs. Seward was only here."

"What Mrs. Seward?"

"Mrs. Secretary Seward," she answered abstractedly, and kept on thinking. My exclamation of surprise aroused and her surprise at my ignorance was to mine at her information. A question to the presentability of that lady, said a person did actually exist, started her as I had never before heard her.

She described Mrs. Seward as an excellent of the earth, and a woman of wonderful intellectual power, and great of attainment—the companion, co-counsellor of her husband—one who wrote written speeches before the printer set and gave an opinion which he valued more than any other—one who read and long, tiresome documents, and gave substance in a few moments' freest thus contributing largely to that fund formation which distinguished Mr. S. She was his "higher law" adviser, and ever his policy fell below that standard had differed with her in opinion. She was the right as the expedient; other words, aimed always to walk the narrow path straight toward "the prize of the high calling which is in Jesus, our Lord."

In dress and manner this friend described her as simple, and unostentatious to singularity. A smart mechanic's wife would not have exchanged wardrobe with her and all