Important Democratic Meeting.

Last evening there was a meeting at the Central Democratic Association, No. 1014 Walnut street, of special importance. Among others present were ex-Gov. Bigler, Hon. Richard Vaux, Judge Parson, General Thomas and Col. Leech. J. Rinaldo Sank, Esq., was in the chair, supported by Col. James. Secretary, Mr. Pierrie. Ex-Gov. Bigler was called upon to give his recent experiences in the South.

Gen. Thomas advised the wards to organize, and Dr. Nebinger spoke briefly to tue same effect. The following resolution was adopt-

"Resolved, That the Association recommends the bolding of public meetings throughout the State to denounce the attempted usurpation by the National Administration, and to declare the belief in the electon of Gov. Tilden to the Presidency."

In pursuance of the resolution the President was directed to appoint a committee of seven to take the necessary steps for convening a public meeting in this city at an early day. The committee is composed of John Cadwalader, Jr., Wm. V. McGrath, Thomas L. Stewart, C. R. Wainwright, Dr. A. Nebinger, William T. Ladner, Gen. Wm. B. Thomas.-Phil. Times, 16th.

How the Democrats Should Deal with the Crisis.

| From Cincinnati Enquirer of 16th. There is not an honest man in this broad land to day who does not know have chosen Samuel J. Tilden to the Presidency. States that have cast their votes for him have been denied ized to cheat and swindle. Because certain States of the South were once of the States in dispute-we are in den at any and all hazards. We want the evidence to go to the people. After that we want our Representatives in Congress and the leaders of the party to pledge themselves to see justice done. The people will respond when they know they are right. The rights of men are as dear now as they were in the days of King John, fathers battled from Lexington to

Is Gov. Chamberlain Insanc? From Monday's New York Herald.

This desperate man has been driver by his insolent and ignoble ambition him either as a Cataline or a maniac. The most charitable treatment his friends could bestow on him would be to shave his head, put him in a straight-jacket and commit him to some kindly managed retreat for the as his temper is ungovernable and wicked he would be a dangerous man to be left at large. What he of Gen. Hampton would be small crime in comparison with the incendiary effect of such an attempt. A maniac who would carry a torch into a powder magazine, or a villian who than an incendiary politician underpopular and trusted citizen of South Carolina in the present inflammable condition of public feeling in that would kindle the whole State into a conflagration on Mr. Hous Make

The Outlook.

[From Baltimore Sun, Dec. 20.1 The most prominent merchants and taxpayers of Charleston have resolved to recognize only the Hampton government. Similar action will be taken throughout the State. Gov. lawfully elected persons in the va- ing the signatures of voters, rious county and town offices. The The committee will leave this Congressional committees examined evening for Live Oak, where they members of the Canvassing Roard will investigate the Hamilton county Eaton, of Connecticut, made a short yesterday, and will now investigate matter. speech to-day, in which he opposed ton and in the coast counties. The Louisiana investigation yesterday developed further facts of interest showing why the colored people have abandoned the Republican party so largely in the South. The misrule, the stealing of school funds and all other funds the carpet-baggers could get hold of, the failure to punish crime, the winking at the murder of colored men, as every such murder wes of great political value to the Republican party-these and be deprived of the office, and another that the committee will follow up other causes were set forth, the chief to be inaugurated who was elected the testimony from Democratic netinues, as does also the mandamus case before the Supreme Court.

The Composition of the Senate and House Committees on the Electeral

[Special to N. Y. Herald.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19. It was believed this morning that Speaker Randall and Vice P esident Ferry had agreed that the two com-mittees, which are to consider and report a method of "examining" the electoral vote, should be composed, for each house, of four of the majority and three of the minority, instead of five and two, and this gave great satisfaction to those who look for good results from the joint deliberations of the two committees. This afternoon, however, it is understood that Mr. Ferry has been unable to definitely make up his mind on the question. The object of having each committee nearly evenly divided it to give an opportunity for the selection of the wisest and ablest men in each house from each party. Whether the or five and two, of course the joint committee will be a tie politically. It is understood that Speaker Randall will select the House committee with great care, putting on it only men of moderate views and parliamentary experience.

Interesting from Washington. [Special to the Richmond Whig.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20. The House to-day took an important step by adopting Knott's resolution affirming in the strongest terms the power of Congress and its committees to compel witnesses to produce papers and telegrams. This action will greatly help the investhat the people of the United States tigation of the Morrison and other committees. The Republicans did their best to adopt rules which would impede the action of the committee, him by illegal partisan boards organ- their game being to cover up their late work.

Mr. Hewitt made a short, telling in rebellion the leaders of the Repub- speech, in which he made a great senlican party assume that they have no sation by stating that his letters had rights and that indignities can be put I been broken open in the United upon them with impunity which States postoffice. The belief of many would drive other States into open here is that both the government revolt. Committees of Congress, mails and telegraph offices are sold

puted Southern States to ascertain from Florida has reached here. It is last. facts. They will investigate and re- | believed that the action of the State | about the appointment is that Conkport in a week or two. If their re- Supreme Court there will be such as ling was offered a place on the comports shall be conclusive as to the to demonstrate that the State went mittee but declined. His action has point in issue-if they declare that for Tilden, and that on hearing of Mr. Tilden has honestly carried either the return to the writ of quo war- the few who know of it. A few ranto on the 28th of December they favor of the inauguration of Mr. Til- | will decide that the Hayes electors were not elected, and their acts in voting for Haves null and void.

The President has been keeping open the office of United States District Judge in Florida, the object being to hold up the prize before the eyes of the State Supreme Court in order to tempt them from their duty.

The Democrats are growing more and Republican institutions are worth | and more sanguine of final victory just as much now as when our every hour. The conspiracy seems to be weakening. It is necessary, however, to secure the triumph of known holds strongly that all dispuright that the Northern Democracy I ted questions should be left to the should be firm in their purpose not to submit to the fraud, and that the South should indicate her purpose to act with them whenever it may be to meditate a measure which stamps | necessary to secure the inauguration of the President-elect. L. G. W.

> The Florida Investigation. TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Dec. 19.

The committees have been in session all day, the Senate committee insane. If his power were as great sitting with closed doors. The House committee had fourteen colored witnesses before it. Their names appear on the poll list of precinct 13, now threatens is to arrest Wade in this county, and there were votes Hampton on a charge of treason. in the box to balance the names on The atrocity of this wild threat does the list. Each of them swore that not consist in the intended conse- he did not vote at precinct 13. There quence to the victim. The hanging | were eighteen similar witnesses before the committee on yesterday, and more are looked for to-morrow.

The case of Manatee county, thrown out because there was no clerk in the county during the election, was callshould send a tool on that errand, ed up. One witness appeared, Judge would hardly excite more horror Graham. He testified that the clerk resigned just before the election, and taking to arrest for treason the most | that the Governor did not fill his place in time for the Democrata to register; that the Republican county commissioners called an election, State. A man must be absolutely which was regularly held by inspec-insane not to know that such an act tors appointed by them; that no man was allowed to vote at said election without first subscribing to an oath which recited that he was a regularly qualified voter and was on the registry list of the year before,

The inspectors made up their returns carefully and sent them to the county board, which canvassed them, signed the canvass and forwarded it to the State Board. Judge Gra-Hampton has taken steps to instal ham had the original papers contain-

GOV. HENDRICKS OPINION.

The Democracy Loyal, but they will not Tolerate. Usarpation. Governor Hendricks has been in terviewed by the Indianapolis Jour-

nal (Republican). We give the essential points: The Governor said the men who dishonest.

A prominent Democrat, who has was elected, and they are greatly excited at the possibility that he is to ceedings in Louisiana, says to-day.

witnesses being colored men who had changed their politics. Gen. Anderson, a member of the Returning Board, also gave his testimony in a manner satisfactory to the Republican continues, as does also the mandamus case before the Supreme Court. took to control the Presidential elec-

tain it. The opinion prevails generally, I believe universally, among them that the House of Representatives is clothed with equal power with the Senate in the decision of all questions which arise during the progress of the count of the electoral vote, and that it would be an usurpation, a violation of the rights of the people, should the vote be counted and questions decided by the presi ding officer of the Senate in defiance of the rights of the House. * * * * It is perhaps proper to add

that should the House positively assert its right to participate in the count, and should that right be denied and refused by the Senate, supported by the Executive, we would stand in the presence of serious dangers, not because of any party movements, but because of a conflict in the machinery of the government tively the assumption that the Preswithout any tribunal for its adjustment. I observe in some newspapers a statement that a secret political so- two sets of conflicting certificates clety is being organized in this State, shall be selected. There will be, the purposes of which are dangerous to the peace of society. I think I ator, no appeal from the decision of am in a position to know if there the President of the Senate, but when were any such movement in this this condition of affairs is reached a State or any portion of it, and I feel confident in saying that the report is __ "I object;" whereupon the two without any foundation in truth. It is false, and I believe and I think now it has originated with bad men, and for partisan and bad purposes,

[Special to Richmond Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. There is very little hope here that any telegrams very valuable to the Louisiana investigation will be ob tained. If any such ever passed it is probable that they have been destroyed, but by whom no fellow will ever find out.

Crosin, the Democratic elector from Oregon, arrived to-day, bearing the vote of his State, but will not deliver it to Vice-President Ferry until after a conference of Democrats has been held. He says he is very confident he can prove clearly Governor Grover's action was strictly in accordance with the laws of Oregon.

headed by Democrate, have been or out to the Republicans.

peaceable way to settle the Presiden warded to members of the Senate and ganized and sent into the three dis— The return of the Tilden electors tial question, have been appointed at House of Representatives at Wash-The most significant thing caused some comment here among think it means that he has already determined to break from his party on this question, and so did not feel that he ought to accept a place as one of the Republican members of the committee. The committee is generally considered a strong one. There is a wide diversity of opinion as to opinion is greatly increased by the widely different views which the several members are known to hold.

Edmunds, the Chairman, as is well Supreme Court. [Special to the Richmond Whig.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. Mr. Hewitt made another state ment in respect to the tampering with his letters in the postoffice, which was more damaging even than his revelations of yesterday.

Mr. C. P. Huntington, represent-ing the Southern Pacific Railroad, and Tem Scott, aspirant of the Texas Pacific Railroad, have buried the hatchet and agreed that each company shall build a part of the road under the Atkins bill.

It is known to friends of Chief Justice Waite that he does not expect Hayes to be inaugurated. He does not agree with the other justices. of the court of Republican antecedents that Hayes is elected and must be inaugurated, regardless of the fraud in Louisiana. L. Q. W. The Count of the Electoral Vote. [Special to the Baltimore Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, Dec., 20. It is known that the new Senators who have openly committed themselves in favor of the theory that the President of the Senate alone can count the electoral votes and determine all the questions connected therewith, are not certain of the support of some of their fellow Repubicans. There is a considerable number of Republican Senators who have not expressed an opinion, one way or the other, and have baffled all the attempts of Morton and Sherman to find out where they stand on this question.

The Radical leaders are descending by degrees from their position of confidence in regard to the honest election of Hayes, and are preparing themselves for surrender when the facts shall be submitted. Senator securing Tilden's election by Cronin's Oregon vote, and said he believed only two electors had been regularly chosen in that State. In conclusion, he referred with remarkable candor to the present complications, saving it was the wish of all his colleagues, cided ability, and strong Republi-he believed, in both Houses, not to cans, yet are rather conciliatory on endorse or submit to anything wrong the great question of the day. Wil-

- Ex-Governor Cozzens, of Rhode Island, who died on Saturday, resembled Charles Francis Adams so much that he was frequently mustaken for him when away from home.

took to control the Presidential election by fraudulent means. They be lieve that it is the duty of the House of Representatives to see that the proposed wrong is defeated, even and after him Mr. Stebbing."

Look to control the Presidential election by fraudulent means. They be lieve that it is the duty of the House of Representatives to see that the proposed wrong is defeated, even and after him Mr. Stebbing."

Interesting from Washington. [Special to N. Y. Herald.]

WASHINGTON, Dec 21, 1876. It is said to be the belief of the Senate that the House will meist upon the observance of the following programme for the opening of the certificates of the electoral vote, especial ly in the treatment of the doubtful ones likely to come from some of the Southern States:-The House will take the position that after the President of the Senate has opened the certificates in the presence of the two Houses, without discrimination and without other declaration than the mere fact of what they state as to the result of the elections, there his duties end, and it will remain for the two Houses to decide what shall be done with the conflicting certificates. The House will resent posiident of the Senate has any authority whatever to decide which of the so says a prominent Republican Sen-Representative will rise and announce Houses will separate for consultation, and as soon as a decision is reached as to what shall be done it shall be announced and furmer action will be accordingly taken. He further says: "It is an erroneous opinion of Senator Morton that an appeal will be taken from the decision of the President of the Senate, and if not sustained by both Houses of Congress will fall. He adds that there is no such motion to be made, and that it would be futile to take any such position in case of a disagreement from the de-cision of the President of the Senate at the counting of the electoral vote.'

Leading Citizens of Philadelphia-Petition to Congress for a Pair Settlement.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21. A petition signed by John Welsh, A. J. Drexel, Henry C. Lea, Edwin M. Lewis, Joseph Patterson, Frank-The Senate members of the joint lin B. Gowen, and many other promicommittee of fourteen, which, it is nent citizens of this city, irrespechoped, will be able to devise some tive of political parties, has been forington, reciting that in the belief of the petitioners the citizens of the United States are almost unanimous in the demand that the questions arising from the late presidential election shall be dealt within a spirit predetermined to harmonize conflicting views, irrespective of the success or defeat of individual candidates. Any other course involves perils to the very structure of our government which no thoughtful man can contemplate without dread. A partisan contest in Congress, resulting whether it will be able to agree on in the proclamation of a President any compromise. This difference of without the acquiescence of both houses, would destroy the confidence of the people in the justice of the decision adopted: would weaken their respect for the forms of law, and impair their faith in the adequacy of the constitution to preserve substantial justice between contending parties. The consequences of such action could not fail to be deplorable to the country and ruinous to the party which might achieve a temporary triumph.

About Florida. What Comptroller Cowgill, of the Florida Returning Board, is represented as having said to a newspaper correspondent: "If the court orders new canvass I will at once proceed to make a new canvass. The judges are good and able men, and I not only respect but obey them." It is pretty clear that Cowgill was bulldozed into co-operating in throwing out Democratic votes in the recent count, and being a man of some con-science he would doubtless be glad, now that he has had time to contemplate his actions, to retrace his steps. -Baltimore Sun.

Republican Frauds Proved. A dispatch from Tallahassee, Flot ida, to the New York Herald, say the Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives has made a clear case of fraud in the canvass of precinct No. 13, Leon county. Mr. Hopkins, Democrat, of Pennsylvania, said: "It is so complete a case that Mr. Dunnell (Republican) abandoned it after the first witness was heard. He never asked another question or put in another witness. He will concur with us in our report on this case. He told a friend to-day that it was a piece of transparent fraud." The Herald's correspondent asked Mr. Dunnell his opinion of this case. He laughed and said, "Why, there can only be one opinion on that." pronounced it a fraud. One hundred and seventy-six Republican votes are involved in this precinct. The Board canvassed it without discussion. Interesting from the National Capital

[Special to Richmond Dispatch.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.

The appointments of the committees are regarded as being in the interest of a satisfactory solution of the muddle.

McCrary and Hoar are men of delard was elected as an Independent, as his Republicanism is mild. On the Presidential question Blaine has been very conservative in private conversation, and there is good rea. son to believe that he will be among

vestigation against him he will go for Tilden, or at least give up Hayes.

Apparently the Republican game now is to let the election go to the House, and thus secure for themselves

the Vice Presidency.

There can be no doubt that some Republicans think it constitutional to go behind Mr. Hewitt's seal, if not those of the States. Yesterday the House postmaster called his attention to several of his (Hewitt's) letters just received, which bore plainly the marks of having been steamed, open-ed and resealed Mr. Hewitt exhibited them to several Republican

members, who at once concurred in that opinion. W at sweet that seemed [Special to Richmond Whig.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. The address of the Democratic members of Congress will not be is-

South report. There is authority for stating that Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar is not satisfied with the position attributed to him in certain public joarnals, and that especially he is not willing to be understood as stating that the South is indifferent to the result of the Presidential contest, or would be neutral if, unfortunately, the two great par-ties at the North should undertake to settle question the by force.

ued until the committee now in the

The intelligence from Florida of the order of the Supreme Court for the canvass of the vote is regarded here as highly important in its bearings on the presidential question. In conjunction with the letter of Gen. Barlow it will lead all candid men to the belief that the State went for Tilden, The only point now that gives the Democrats serious concern is South Carolina, where the carpetbaggers and President Grant are anxious to precipitate a conflict, and have the power to do so by pushing the people beyond the point of en-L. Q. W. durance. From South Carelina. Special to the Charleston Journal of Com-

merce.] COLUMBIA, Dec. 22. It is reported that Chamberlain is preparing a blood and thunder proclamation, calling upon Governor Hampton and every one else, to disperse, disband and generally demolish themselves with the expectation

as his rifle fulmination was. The members of the Constitutional House are leaving for their homes in large numbers to-night. The Rump are also departing, leaving sorrowing boarding house keepers behind them.

that it will be supported by Grant,

The Senate committee is getting sick. The members express themselves as tired and disgusted with grinding the outrage mill.

The Congressional committee examined several witnesses to-day, in relation to Allen, colored, in Barnwell, who swore before the committee that he was a manager at the Robbins' precinct. All the witnesses examined to-day, testified that Allen was not present at the Robbins' box on election day, and therefore could not have acted as manager. The committee will probably not complete its work of aggregating corrected returns until early next week.

Prominent and skillful men are now engaged in each county, preparing the case for the Democrats, which is to be examined before the Senatorial committee. The examination will cover the whole State with separate cases for each county.

POLITICAL POINTS.

-The Pretender from Ohio is probably the most appropriate name that can be given him .- Washington Union.

-At last Republicans are speaking out. The more honest ones say it is not fair nor decent to count out Tilden when he is honestly elected, and the more prodent and sagacious say it is not safe to make the attempt. Both are right. The country will ring with their protests in an-other month.—The Union.

- There is just about as much chance for war to grow out of the Presidential dispute as for turnips to grow on rose-bushes. Nobody wants war and no-body can force war on the country to accommodate a few politicians, who will be the first to get into a bomb-proof. - Florida

- The conspirators are weakening. The proofs of the great frauds in each of the three bayonet States are now coming out, in spite of everything. The Washington dispatches show that there is a smiting together of the knees. Tilden was fairly elected. He carried all three of the Southern States, and he cannot be counted out. -Hartford Times.

- If in the debates which will arise on the method of counting the votes, the ablest and most conservative members on both sides will exhibit a spirit of mutual deference and consideration, and cultivate a calm judicial tone, the two Houses wil be brought into such a temper while agreeing upon the rules that it will be easy to carry them further in the same direction and secure an honest application of rules fair in themselves. - N. Y. Herald.

- We shall have no violence or disorder, and no resistance to the peaceable inauguration of the President formally declared to be duly and legally elected. For this we are in part indebted to the good sense and prudence of Governor Til-den, who, as we are willing to believe, has from the first, opposed everything looking measures, and set himself firmly against the insane plans of some of his hot-headed sup-porters. We are glad to be able to give him credit for pursuing so wise and pru-dent a course. But we are more largely in-debted to the good sense of the Southern Democrats in Congress, whose conservative action has had an effect where Governor Tilden's own advice and counsel might have been powerless.—N. Y. Tribuns.

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