for controlling the polls by fraud or violence, and for exercising, meanwhile, the power of secret and unlawful organization. It is as unfortunate as it is discreditable that the President, sworn to obey the laws, should thus be relied upon by the enemies of law as their friend and co-worker; but the fact does not admit of dispute. The indifference with which suggestions for enabling local authority to preserve the peace are received, contrasts unfavorably with the encouragement given to applications easting discredit upon the local Governments. Amidst all these influences, it is not sur-

prising that in many localities local authority is defied, while murders and outrages are perpetrated with impunity. Events many degrees removed from insurrection have occurred in Arkansas; and according to Forrest, they will be multipled systematically unless Republican measures be abandoned or greatly modified. The lawlessness which renders portions of Tennessee uninhabitable for loyal men is a sample of what we are to expect if the South be left in its present condition. Cobb's exhortation in Georgia, and Vance's in North Carolina, prove how nearly allied the opposition is, in all the States, in passion and purpose. everywhere it derives courage from the opinions and conduct of the President, and from the teachings and intentions of the Seymour Party. This state of things has been reached, moreover, long before the heat of the con-

test has attained intensity. We are but just leaving the preliminary stage of the campaign. The next six weeks will witness a growth of excitement, the results of which, South, it is not pleasant the contemplate. The action of the Georgia Legislature, in declaring colored members ineligible, introduces a dangerous ground of quarrel. For that action the Democrats are responsible. Trimming and treachery there have doubtless been on the part of a few Republicans in the Legislature, but the expulsion was a Democracic measure, and its momentary success gives that party the control of the House. In Georgia, then, as in every Southern State, we expect to see the colored vote cast solidly against the Democracy. Its game has been revealed too soon for its managers, and the attempt to cajole the freedmen into the support of its nominees must fail. A party which proscribes color as such, must tight the battle without its aid. How quickly the fact is realized by colored members in other States, and how unwisely some of them meet threats with threats, the dispatch from Louisiana clearly proves. There and everywhere the signs point to a contest in which angry indiscretion on either side may be the beginning of great calamities. No single calamity, however, could equal the election of SEYMOUR and BLAIR. The man-

might be expected if the control of the national Government passed into Democratic hands. The possibility of Executive interference, under fresh and specific enactments of Congress, alone restrains the apostles of violence. Remove this restraint, and give them SEYMOUR as a President after the disloyal heart, and we discern no clear way of escaping a renewal of civil war. Under this view of the case the election of Grant as a peacemaker becomes of preeminent importance. It should be enough that he realizes the need of peace, and uphoids a policy which, with many defects,

ifestations of disleyalty and hate now seen

are as nothing compared to those which

secures the restoration of the Union on the broad basis of order and justice. The present condition of the South, and the encouragement given by the Democracy to bad and lawless men, may render other qualifications necessary. Decision and firmness in the enforcement of the law may be the means of averting the final outburst of the mischief which the indecision and bad faith of Mr. Johnson have fostered; and these are qualities which the country concedes to Gen. Grant. His elevation to the Presidency will be the most effectual antidote to the evils and perils now developing themselves in the South.

supreme importance of Gen. Grant's election.

Southern Developments-Grant's Elec-

tion a Necessity.

hibits a danger which is made more immi-

Every day's intelligence from the South ex-

nent by the conduct of the Democratic party, and which shows more plainly than ever the Mutterings indicative of unyielding hostility have been heard in several of the Southern States from the moment when Congress asserted its anthority over the question of reconstruction. But the opposition assumed the form of sullen discontent rather than of active resistance to the laws. There was a non-compliance with the requirements of Congress-not an avowed purpose to resist and defeat them. The fourteenth amendment was for a time frustrated by this policy, which seemed to ioreshadow the withdrawal of a large and powerful element from participation in public affairs. Beyond this passive opposition there seemed to be no serious danger. The New-York Convention materially changed the aspect of the situation. It reinvested the Southern malcontents with political influence, and enabled them to do much

toward moulding the policy of the Democratic They found Copperheadism strong in the Convention, and secured for it the mas-They thrust into the platform a declaration of war against the Reconstruction acts; crushed the plans and extinguished the hopes of the moderate section, and nominated for the Vice-Presidency a man whose recommendation was an avowed willingness to nullify the law and break it down by force. The effect of these demonstrations upon the South was immedi-The disaffected portion of its populaate. tion threw off the mask they had worn until then, and became bold and defiant. echoed the nullifying declaration of the Convention, and raised the standard of SEYMOUR and Blair as that under which they were resolved to wage war upon the new Governments and the authority of Congress. raised, in fact, the flag of revolution, and entered upon the canvass with an ardor and a bitterness which are already producing disastrous results. The first effect was to draw from their enforced retirement the old rebel leaders, and to fan into fiercest animosity the old proslavery passions and prejudices. Northern

denounced, the Governments men were formed under the Reconstruction acts were assailed as invalid, and, therefore, having no title to respect or obedience, and a determination was proclaimed to heap disabilities on the freedmen and reaffirm the exclusive right of white men to rule. Threats were uttered akin in their spirit to those which were indulged in the Fall of 1860. It was made evident not only that the policy adopted by the New-York Convention had imparted fresh vitality to the disloyal, but that the contest for the Presidency is to be made the occasion of a struggle, which nothing but great firmness and fidelity on the part of the National Government can keep within peaceful limits. The matter has been made worse by the dubious course of the President. His known sympathy with the Democratic Party in the

contest, and his published concurrence with

the Blair doctrine as to the invalidity of the

new Governments, are circumstances which

have given additional boldness to the oppo-

nents of the law. They have felt that with

the Executive on their side they may, with

comparative impunity, carry

out plans