

## THE MONTH.

AS DIFFERENT CHURCHES ARE MOVING ON CONVERGING LINES, THE DISTANCE ACROSS FROM ONE TO ANOTHER BECOMES EVERY DAY SHORTER. — "THE SITUATION."

**THE BLACK MAN.** One of the most extraordinary single results of our great civil revolution was seen when the Hon. Hiram R. Revels, a black man from the State of Mississippi, took his seat in the Senate of the United States in the place of Jefferson Davis, the chief fomenter and arch conspirator of the rebellion. Senator Wilson, writing to the "Congregationalist" on the event which his own efforts had so largely contributed to bring to pass, describes the spectacle as one of "impressive and inspiring sublimity, when, in the hush of that crowded presence, after the exciting three days' debate, in which had been spoken the bitterest words of scorn and hate by the still remaining defenders of the dead demon, the representatives of the two races stood face to face, in the persons of the senator elect and of the second officer of the government, the one to administer, and the other to receive the oath of office. It needed no accessories to render it in the highest degree dramatic, a scene for the painter not to be forgotten." Scarcely less striking must have been the spectacle when this senator rose in his seat to perform his first official duty, that duty being the presentation of a resolution of the Legislature of his state, asking that all political disabilities might be removed from those who had participated in the rebellion, and that the honorable senator should be requested to lay it before Congress! Never were the Psalmist's words, "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes," more pertinent to any event since the world began. And now, following on the heels of the entrance of Mr. Revels into the Senate, comes the announcement that Gen. Butler has appointed to the cadetship at West Point a young man, named CHARLES SUMNER WILSON, of Salem, whom the "Salem Gazette" thus describes: "Young Wilson, we under-

stand, is of nearly pure African descent ; has passed through our English grammar schools, and at the last autumn term entered the high school, where he has sustained himself creditably."

These instances of the elevation of colored citizens to important positions in the state give a fine poetic point to our American doctrine of *the equality of all men before the law*. It must have afforded not a little satisfaction to the senator from Pennsylvania, when he saw his prediction, uttered in the face of Jefferson Davis as he was entering on his perilous and diabolical adventure, so to the letter fulfilled, — that "*the first gun against the Union would destroy slavery, and that Mississippi herself would send a black man to the United States Senate.*"