

On Saturday President Johnson returned the Arkansas Bill to the House of Representatives, with a message stating the reasons why he declined to append it to his signature.

Like all his veto messages, this paper is a very strong one. In the statement of reasons why it should not become a law, the President is so clear that the most ordinary reader cannot fail to understand him fully.

The unconstitutional character of the enactment is established beyond controversy, and only by displaying the most utter disregard of the fundamental law of the land was its passage effected.

The evils sure to flow from such improper legislation are not dealt with in detail in this message, but they are suggested so plainly that no one fail to be struck by them.

The recklessness with which the bill was again hurried through the lower House of Congress, over the veto of the President, shows how utterly desperate the Radicals have become.

They confess that they have no hope of electing Grant except through the disfranchisement of the whites of the South and the manipulation of the negro vote by their unprincipled tools, the agents of the Freedman's Bureau, and other officials, who are paid for doing this dirty work out of the public treasury.

Such being the well known conditions of the party it was not to be expected that the majority in Congress would hesitate at any desperate act which might be deemed necessary to achieve the purpose they have in view.

The President's patriotic message and the act of the lower House in hurriedly passing the Arkansas bill go to the country together. The people will sit in judgment upon them, and at the coming Presidential and Congressional election, they will record a verdict in favor of sustaining the supremacy of the white race.

In Pennsylvania we expect to see a complete revolution in the Congressional representation. The people of this State are waiting impatiently for the hour to come when they shall have the opportunity to rebuke the Radicals who misrepresent them at Washington.

The election in October will seal their doom.

THE RADICAL PLATFORM.

The Radical platform appears to be a regular gutta serena affair. The moderate Rads accept it because it does not declare for negro suffrage in the North, and the ultras swallow it because it means—if it means anything—that the principle of negro suffrage shall be extended over every inch of American soil.

The Eastern bond-holding Radicals are pleased with it because it declares that every bond—principal and interest—shall be paid in gold, and the Western semi-republican Radicals assert quite as positively that it means no such thing.

To settle the matter satisfactorily to all, Gen. Grant steps in and, without undertaking to put any interpretation upon it, says he endorses it all, but will do as he pleases about being guided or governed by it.

It would be strange indeed, therefore, if, among the multitude of opinions and declarations, any "narrow minded blockhead" should fail to find something to tie to—till after the election. Those who want to enforce negro supremacy at the South and nowhere else, can have it so by the platform; those who want the "great boon" everywhere will not be disappointed by the platform; those who want gold for bonds can have it by the platform; those who don't want to pay gold for bonds need not do so by the platform; those who want the platform carried out—just as they understand it,

and nobody else—will certainly be accommodated by the platform, and those who want the platform kicked entirely overboard will be pleased to read Grant's letter of acceptance.

The platform, therefore, may be considered a sort of inexhaustible egg bag. Any sort of trumpery can be drawn from it on call of the audience, without the slightest alteration of its form or diminution of its capacity.

Like the same, too, it can be thrown into the lumber room of obscurity so soon as it has served its purpose of exciting wonder—never again to resume its magical properties. So was cast the platform of 1860, after Lincoln was inaugurated in 1861; so went that of 1864 when, in 1865, he entered upon his second term, and so must follow in 1869 should Grant be elected, the inexhaustible egg bag of 1868.

It matters not, therefore, whether the platform means one thing or another, or how tight or how loose the "little creatures" may attach themselves to it, for in the language of a Radical print of Philadelphia, it is "but a device of today," concocted to catch gulleons and delude fools.

The Radical prints are claiming immense credit (as we knew they would and as they intended to do) for the trouble and expense to which Radical officeholders and speculators in the necessities of the Government put themselves, in strewing flowers upon the graves of the fallen braves.

Whenever we find any of them relieving the necessities of the surviving widows and orphans of those braves, we will willingly give them due credit for both acts. Flowers for the dead are all right, of course, but now let their be some flour and bacon for the living.

ANARCHY IN THE SOUTH.

The Radical newspapers may be expected to team with accounts of rebel outrages in the South, till the close of the Presidential Campaign. All the acts of violence that have been committed in that disturbed country will be paraded in sensational paragraphs to give piquancy to a dull argument.

To "revive the memories of the war," is essential to Radical success in the canvass. The death of Ashburn in Georgia, has been turned to great use, and has been the justification of innumerable military arrests, to be soon followed by drum-head courts martial.

Ashburn was an ignorant fellow without influence or position in Georgia before the war. If a Union man at all, his obscurity or discreet temper saved him from molestation. When Sherman captured Atlanta, Ashburn raised a regiment of stragglers in his rear, which was called the "First Regiment of Loyal Georgians."

Ashburn was made its Colonel. In one of the frequent rebel raids around Atlanta in the fall of 1864, Ashburn, with a small squad of his "Loyal Georgians," was captured, and remained a prisoner of war until the surrender of Lee.

On his exchange, he returned to Georgia, and became one of the most relentless tools of the Jacobin despotism in that State. Being a man of low character and revengeful temper, he resented his ostracism by the whites, by association with the negroes, and exciting in them feelings of jealousy and hostility towards their former masters.

He was the organizer of loyal leagues, a legitimate off spring of Know Nothingism; he was the patron and promoter of midnight meetings of negroes. While his violent death cannot be palliated, it will not be denied that this man counted his fate. It was one of the many acts of vengeance that may be expected in such a state of society.

But who are responsible for all these outrages? The Radicals have established a hateful despotism through out the South. The worst of the white, abusing the most sacred symbols of patriotism, have become the willing tools of this despotism. The army of the United States is employed to enforce its decrees and uphold its agents.

The Freedman's Bureau, established with the hypocritical pretense of distributing public charity, directs the political machinery, for the benefit of carpet bag stragglers and negroes. In this condition of affairs in the South, the generous can but despair, and the craven submit. It is the oppression which "maketh the wise man mad." Instead of extorting sympathy and compassion for the tools of tyranny, the Radicals should address themselves to relieving the Southern people of the heavy burden of their grievances.

Let the odious laws for the enslavement of the Southern people be repealed. Let the military be at once withdrawn, and the freedman's bureau be abolished. Then these outrages will cease and not fill them. In the history of the Caucasian race, the tools of tyranny have rarely escaped the vengeance of the people.

Chief Justice Chase, in conversation recently expressed himself anxious for the withdrawal of troops from the Southern States before the election in order that the country may see how the people will vote when unassisted by bayonets.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

VETO OF THE ARKANSAS BILL.

The President has transmitted to the House the following message, returning with his objections the bill for the admission of Arkansas:

To the House of Representatives: I return without my signature a bill entitled "An Act to admit the State of Arkansas."

The approval of this bill would be an admission on the part of the Executive that the "Act for the more efficient government of the rebel States," passed March 2d, 1867, and the act supplementary thereto, were proper and constitutional. My opinion however, in reference to these measures has undergone no change, but on the contrary has been strengthened by the results which have attended their execution.

Even were this not the case, I could not consent to a bill which is based upon the assumption either that by an act of rebellion a portion of its people the State of Arkansas seceded from the Union, or that Congress may at its pleasure, expel or exclude a State from the Union, or interrupt its relations with the Government by arbitrarily depriving it of representation in the Senate and House of Representatives.

If Arkansas is a State not in the Union, this bill does not admit it as a State in the Union. If, on the other hand, Arkansas is a State in the Union, no legislation is necessary to declare it entitled to representation in Congress as one of the States in the Union.

The Constitution already declares that "each State shall have at least one Representative;" "that the senate shall be composed of two Senators from each State;" and "that no State without its consent shall be deprived of its suffrage in the Senate."

That instrument also makes each House "the judges of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members," and therefore all that is now necessary to restore Arkansas to all its constitutional relations to the Government is the decision by each House upon the eligibility of those who, presenting their credentials, claim seats in the respective Houses of Congress.

This is the plain and simple plan of the Constitution; and believing that had it been pursued when Congress assembled in the month of December, 1865, the restoration of the States would long since have been completed, I once again recommend that it be adopted by each House in preference to legislation which I respectfully submit is not only of at least doubtful constitutionality, and therefore unsafe and dangerous as a precedent, but is unnecessary, not so effective in its operation as the mode prescribed by the Constitution, involves the additional delay, and from its terms may be taken rather as applicable to a Territory about to be admitted as one of the United States than to a State which has occupied a place in the Union for upwards of a quarter of a century.

The bill declares the State of Arkansas entitled and admitted to representation in Congress as one of the States of the Union upon the following fundamental condition:

That the constitution of Arkansas shall never be so amended or changed as to deprive any citizen or class of citizens of the United States of the right to vote who are entitled to vote by the constitution herein recognized, except such crimes as are now felonies at common law, whereof they shall be duly convicted under laws equally applicable to all the inhabitants of said State.

That any alteration of said constitution, prospective in its effect, may be made in regard to the time and place of residence of voters.

I have been unable to find in the Constitution of the United States any warrant for the exercise of the authority thus claimed by Congress. In assuming the power to impose a "fundamental condition" upon a State which has been duly admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever, Congress asserts a right to enter a State as if a Territory, and to regulate the highest prerogative of a free people—the elective franchise. This question is reserved by the Constitution to the States themselves, and to concede to Congress the power to regulate this subject would be to reverse the fundamental principle of the Republic, and to place in the hands of the Federal Government (which is the creature of the States) the sovereignty which justly belongs to the States or the people, to the true source of all political power by whom our federal system was created, and to whose will all is subordinate.

The bill fails to provide in what manner the State of Arkansas is to signify its acceptance of the "fundamental condition" which Congress endeavors to make unalterable and irrevocable. Nor does it prescribe the penalty to be imposed should the people of the State amend or change the particular portions of the constitution which it is one of the purposes of the bill to perpetuate, but leaves them in uncertainty and doubt as to the consequences of such action, when the circumstances under which this constitution has been brought to the attention of Congress are considered. It is not unreasonable to suppose that efforts will be made to modify its provisions, and especially those in respect to which this measure prohibits any alteration. It

is seriously questioned whether the constitution has been ratified by a majority of the persons who, under the act of March 2d, 1867, and the acts supplementary thereto, were entitled to registration and to vote upon that issue. Section ten of the schedule provides that "no person disqualified from voting or registering under this constitution shall vote for candidates for any office nor shall be permitted to vote for the ratification or rejection of the constitution at the polls herein authorized."

Assumed to be in force before its adoption, in disregard of the law of Congress, the constitution undertakes to impose upon the elector other and further conditions. The fifth section of the eighth article provides that "all persons, before registering or voting," must take and subscribe an oath which, among others, contains the following clause:

"That I accept the civil and political equality of all men, and agree not to attempt to deprive any person or persons, on account of race, color, or previous condition, of any political or civil right, privileged, or immunity enjoyed by any other class of men."

It is well known that a very large portion of the electors in all the States, if not a large majority of all of them, do not believe in or accept the political equality of Indians, Mongolians, or negroes with the race to which they belong. If the voters of many of the States of the North and West were required to take such an oath as a test of their qualifications, there is reason to believe that a majority of them would remain from the polls rather than comply with its degrading conditions.

How far and to what extent this test oath prevented the registration of those who were qualified under the laws of Congress, it is not possible to know; but that such was its effect, at least sufficient to overcome them and all give a doubtful majority in favor of this constitution, there can be no reasonable doubt.

Should the people of Arkansas, therefore, desiring to regulate the elective franchise so as to make it conform to the constitution of a large proportion of the States of the North and West, modify the provisions referred to in the "fundamental condition," what is to be the consequence? It is intended that a denial of representation shall follow? And if so, may we not dread, at some future day, a recurrence of the troubles which have so long agitated the country? Would it not be the part of wisdom to take for our guide the Federal Constitution, rather than resort to measures which, looking only to the present, may in a few years renew, in an aggravated form, the strife and bitterness caused by legislation which has proved to be ill-timed and unfortunate?

ANDREW JOHNSON. Washington, June 20, 1868.

Was there ever a general who held the life of a soldier in greater contempt than Hiram Ulysses Grant, history has failed to record the fact. His theory of war was, that if he could kill one rebel soldier by sacrificing the lives of five union soldiers, he would crush the rebellion. His strategy consisted in "attrition and mashing." In the early days of the war, Postmaster General Randall said he knew of no way to end the rebellion but by "mashing armies together." Randall is several times over a general, and so it is not strange that he could think of no other way to bring the war to a successful close for the government.

The idea was a confession of ignorance; and yet it was controlling all of Grant's military movements. He lost 117,000 men in marching from the Rapidan to the James. Lee's whole force in that campaign was but 68,000 men. Grant's whole force was 222,000. If Burnside had been given men enough to continue the mashing progress, he would have been victorious at Fredericksburg. So would Hooker at Chancellorsville. So would McClellan at Mechanicsville. As fast as Grant had twenty thousand men killed in his last campaign, Stanton supplied him with thirty thousand fresh union soldiers. The men in reserve were the "fall of the cat" on which Grant depended for victory. His estimate of the value of union soldiers may be judged from his comparison of them to a "cat's tail."

Grant, it is announced, is going to Colorado, not on business, but for his health, which Washington water, etc., has somewhat seriously impaired. Perhaps, he will extend his trip to Oregon, where the people have recently responded unmistakably to his nomination on the Chicago ticket. No doubt Grant would be recorded a fitting reception in Oregon. "The colored troops fought nobly."

The Long Island Watchman (Penn. Union Democrat) think there are numbers of repentant republicans wearied with the "tyranny, profligacy, incompetency and general default of radicalism" who are unwilling to rest content with the smoke of Grant's cigar and ready to join heartily in support of the pure and vigorous young democratic statesman who is to redeem the republic.

Negro rule can only be army rule. The peace of Congressional reconstruction is the peace of the sword. It is not the peace of States; but the peace of provinces under military rule. It is not reconstructing the Union of the United States. It is abolishing it forever by abolishing the States.

A GRAND CELEBRATION OF Our National Birthday

WILL BE HELD AT St. Mary's, Saturday, July 4th.

THE PEOPLE OF ELK AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES ARE CORTEALY INVITED TO ATTEND.

"Come as the winds come, when forests are roused," "Come as the waves come, when oceans are stranded."

And let it be shown that we yet revere the memory of those who dared to do and die that their posterity might enjoy the blessings of liberty and freedom.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE.

ATTENTION!

ALL HONORABLY DISCHARGED SOLDIERS OF THE LATE WAR ARE EARNESTLY SOLICITED TO PARTICIPATE ON THE OCCASION.

By Order of the Committee on Military.

St. Mary's, June 25, 1868. C. H. VOLK, Late Major 54th P. V.

New Advertisements. SPECIAL NOTICE.

We have found it necessary, in order to keep the financial department of the Advocate on a good basis, to adopt the following rule:

Transient Advertisements must be paid for in advance; and all Job Work as soon as completed. Bills made out and presented to yearly advertisers at the beginning of each quarter.

Subscriptions to be paid for invariably in advance, unless otherwise notified. JOHN F. MOORE, Publisher.

PROVIDE FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY!!

AT THE BOOK AND VARIETY STORE IN ST. MARY'S,

WILL BE FOUND IN ADDITION TO A THOUSAND AND ONE OTHER ARTICLES.

Oranges and Lemons—Fresh Figs and Dates—Plain and French Candles, fresh and pure, and of 100 varieties—Sardines and Olive Oil.

—The Freshest of Cows Oysters—English Walnuts—Fruits—Peanuts—Soft and Paper Shelled Almonds—Water, Cream, Soda, Sugar, Wine, Oyster and Boston Crackers, Canned Corn, Blackberries, Strawberries, Lobsters and Cows Oysters, Jumbles, Cream Cakes, Sugar Cakes, Honey Cakes, Egg Crackers, &c., just received from Philadelphia, Syrups for cool and refreshing drinks.

FIRE-WORKS! FIRE-WORKS!

In abundance just received from New York, all of which will be sold at City Prices.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE U. S. FOR THE WESTERN OF PENN'A. IN THE MATTER OF P. W. BARRICK, Bankrupt.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as Assignee of P. W. Barrick, of Ridgeway, in the county of Elk, and State of Pennsylvania, who said Barrick, who has been adjudged a Bankrupt in his own petition by the District Court of said District.

H. T. TAGGART, Assignee. Emporium, Pa., June 20th 1868.

CAUTION.—Whereas my wife Harriet B. Pearsall, having left my bed and board without just cause or provocation, all persons are forbidden to trust her on my account, as I will not pay any debts of her contracting from this date.

ALBERT PEARSALL. Caledonia, June 9, 1868.

CAUTION.—Whereas my wife Charlotte Ann Luther has left my bed and board without just cause or provocation, all persons are hereby forbidden trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting.

JOHN C. LUTHER. Ridgeway, Pa., June 20th, 1868.

LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Ridgeway Postoffice to June 1st, 1868.

Amey, Simon; Fisher, Aaron; Allen, J. R.; Grant, J. D.; Barked Anthony; Hamilton, W. A. 2; Branch, W. W.; Hurd, Mary; Bell, Richard; Mason, William; Burns, Patrick; Miles, Isaac 2; Coates, Robert; Reaser, Sarah E.; Dippel, Charles; Soffens, M.; Duley, Patrick; Snow, Harriet; Burns, John; Shields, Bernard.

FOREIGN LETTERS. Robinson, Joseph; Childs, Merrill; M. yer, Phillip; Quilley, Joseph; Wessney, Bartholomew.

P. S.—Persons calling for any of above will say "advertised," and give date of issue. One cent duty on each letter for advertising. G. G. MESSENGER, P. M.

BLANKS of all kinds for sale at this office.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE, That on the 1st day of June, A. D. 1868, a warrant in Bankruptcy was issued against the Estate of C. E. Berman of Helen in the County of Elk and State of Pennsylvania, who has been adjudged a Bankrupt, on his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to such Bankrupt to him or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him are forbidden by Law. Meaning of the Creditors of the said Bankrupt, to prove their debts, and to choose one or more assignees of his Estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be held at the Court House in Ridgeway Pa. before S. E. Woodruff Esq., Register, on the 1st day of August, A. D. 1868, at 3 o'clock P. M.

THOMAS A. ROWLEY, Clerk Marshal, do Messenger. By G. G. MESSENGER, P. M. June 20th, 1868.

COURT PROCLAMATION. WHEREAS, the Hon. R. W. Williams, President, and Hon. E. C. Schickel, and James Ryler, Associates, Justices of the Court of Quarter Sessions, Orphans' Court, Oyer and Terminer, and General Jail Delivery, for the county of Elk, and their officers, clerks in the county of Elk, by their petition to me directed, have offered the personal names of Courts to be held in said County, in and for the county of Elk, on the 1st Monday in August, being the 1st day of the month, and to continue one week. Notice is hereby given to the Clerks, Justices of the Peace, and Constables of the county of Elk, that they are by these presents commanded to be then and there to receive persons at 1 o'clock, A. M., of said day, with their rolls, records and inquests, bonds, and other remembrances, to do those things which their offices appertain to be done, and that all Justices of said county make returns of all recognizances returned into before them, to the Clerk of the Court as per Act of Assembly of May 4th, 1834. And those who are bound by their recognizances to prosecute the prisoners that are or shall be in the jail of the county of Elk, and to be then and there to prosecute against them as shall be just.

JAMES A. MALDROS, Sheriff. Ridgeway, June 20th.

ST. MARY'S STEAM TANNERY! H. F. ESTERHASE & Co.

Take pleasure in announcing to the public of Elk and surrounding counties that they have thoroughly refitted and renovated this old and well known establishment, and completely themselves with their extended facilities, with first class workmen, that they can put out as good work as can be found anywhere. We have, and keep constantly on hand all kinds of leather such as in general use in this section, including

Spanish and Country Side Leather! Calfills, Sheepskins, Kipskins! Harness & Upper Leather!

CASH PAID FOR HIDES. Give us a call and be convinced of the truth of what we state. [March 1868]

SHERIFF'S SALE.—By virtue of a writ of Fieri Facias, issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Elk county, and to me directed, there will, by virtue of said writ, on Monday, the 6th day of July, 1868, be exposed to PUBLIC SALE, the following described property, to wit:

A lot of ground, situate in the borough of St. Mary's, county of Elk, and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit: Bounded on the north by Centre street, on the east by St. Mary's street, on the south by Michael McNally's lot, and on the west by Anthony Biberger's lot, and being eighty-seven feet front and sixty feet back, known and numbered on the plan of said town of St. Mary's as lot Number 77. Being part of a larger lot of ground which was conveyed to the said Francis X. Biberger by Matthias Benzinger and wife, and John Eschbach and wife, by deed dated the 2nd day of August, A. D. 1864, and recorded in the office for recording deeds in Elk county, in deed book F, page 599. Said property has been erected on two-story frame house, with stone basement, 42x37 feet, and calculated for a store room.

Retired and taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of F. B. Biberger.

JAMES A. MALDROS, Sheriff's Office. Sheriff. Ridgeway, Pa., June 20, 1868.

ENVELOPES, LABELS & TAGS made by order of the Advocate Office.