

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILLED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

ENLARGING THE ARMY IN ORDER TO RENOMINATE GRANT.

From the N. Y. Sun. While a good many people will be ready to assert that General Butler is neither a wise statesman nor a cautious politician, few will deny that he carries a clear head on his shoulders, and usually speaks his mind with freedom. He therefore distinctly sees what General Grant is after in the Ku-klux bill which he is urging upon Congress, and what is necessary to give effect to its provisions; and, if we are to credit the Tribune, General Butler is prepared to make an effort to so amend the measure as to afford the President ample means for exercising the tremendous power which this unprecedented bill confers upon him.

According to the Tribune, General Butler thinks "that such portion of the regular army as could be spared from duty in the Indian country would be too small to be of much service in enforcing the provisions of the bill." In this opinion Butler is certainly correct. If we are to have an armed force in every county and considerable town in the South where some carpet-bagger or nervous negro can be found to report to General Grant that there now exists or is likely to occur a breach of the peace, then our present army is not half large enough. If, whenever an assault and battery breaks out in that section of the Union between a white man and a colored man, with a show of pistols on either side, or wherever there is a small row in a liquor saloon in which a carpet-bagger gets the worst of it; or a set of thieves, disguised in long white robes, gets up a midnight raid to steal horses and frighten the colored element; we say if all portions of the South where such scenes occur are to be put under martial law, and the President is, according to this bill, to employ the land and naval forces to execute his decrees, and arrest and bring to prison and to trial all those whom he wishes to get out of the way, then it is undeniable that those forces, and especially the army, must be very largely increased.

Apparently believing that General Grant is right in declaring that a new rebellion has broken out at the South, General Butler is for putting into immediate operation the martial machinery whereby we crushed the old rebellion, by so amending the pending bill as to authorize General Grant "to call out and organize such number of the volunteers who served in the late war as he may deem necessary for such purpose, according to the provisions of the act of July 22, 1861." If this is really the intention of General Butler, then he is apparently bent upon supporting General Grant in his purpose, under the pretext of putting down a rebellion which exists only in his proclamation, to get control of the Southern States so that he may compel the Republican party therein to send delegates to the National Convention who are in favor of his renomination to the Presidency.

It away from them. If the law does not give them the right, how is it that they dare assume it? It is on this point that the investigation of the Judiciary Committee was expected to throw some light. But it seems to be the point which the committee most scrupulously avoided. In fact the course of the committee throughout has been directed to screening the railroad companies instead of investigating them. Colonel Gowen, President of the Reading Railroad Company, one of the chief offenders, has virtually been permitted to conduct the investigation, to cross-examine the witnesses, and, probably, to write the report. How well suited this gentleman is for carrying on an impartial investigation is apparent from the fact that he was the chief originator of the similar attempt last year to fleece the public by a concerted advance in freights. The attempt would have been successful then but for the refusal of the Baltimore and Ohio Company to join the conspiracy. Although at that time the Reading Company was charging on coal nearly double the freight rates per mile charged by the Baltimore Road, this self-same Colonel Gowen, representing, it is believed, the entire ring of carrying companies, is reported to have approached President Garret, of the Baltimore Road, with an urgent proposition to raise his freight charges another dollar a ton, so that they might all charge the consumers this extra dollar, and to have pointed out to President Garret how many hundred thousand dollars a year the Baltimore Road would make, and that they might just as well have it as not.

It is well to understand in advance the kind of justice to be expected from a committee acting under such influences; to know what faith to attach to the result of their inquiries. But it will not do to discard the matter lightly. While the railroads have made great efforts to influence the committee, and have been successful, it must not be forgotten that the working miners and those who have the public interest at heart have likewise made strenuous efforts to lay their case before them, and that the report of the committee partakes of the nature of a judicial decision. However much we may doubt the impartiality of the judge, however strongly we may be convinced of his unjust leaning towards one of the parties, it will not do to forget that his decision is for the time being the law of the land. And this decision virtually endorses the action of the railroad companies; it decides by its silence that the companies have not made themselves amenable to any law of the Commonwealth; that the citizens of Pennsylvania are dependent upon the mercy, the charity, the good-nature of the Reading Railroad Company; that the latter has the right to run trains when it pleases, and to stop running them, to carry freight and passengers, or not, as it pleases, to charge what it pleases, and to do or leave undone what it pleases, without any one having the right to interfere.

The decision is practically this:—The railroad companies have done no wrong; if there is wrong, it must be on the part of the miners; still we advise that the dispute be submitted to arbitration. The committee does not say what shall be done if the arbitrators cannot agree, nor what if one or the other party refuse to submit to arbitration or refuse to adhere to the award. Unsatisfactory as is this conclusion, we may indulge in the hope that it will strengthen the prevailing disposition to submit the whole question to the decision of unprejudiced persons, and that the result will be a speedy resumption of work at the mines, with ample opportunity to discuss the question quietly during the summer, so as to guard against a recurrence of the troubles next winter.

money is to be used without stint, both to secure the election of the Democratic State ticket and a majority of the Congressional legislation. In plain words, Hoffman and the knaves who are behind him with the money-bags have resolved to "buy Connecticut." The Fourth Congressional district (Barnum's) is regarded as almost hopelessly Democratic, and Barnum is said to be using money freely. In the Second District Mr. Kellogg was elected over Babcock in 1869 by 421 majority. This was owing to dissatisfaction in the Democratic ranks. This dissatisfaction Governor English, with the aid of Tammany's money, has been endeavoring to heal, and has met with partial success; and although Mr. Kellogg will secure some Democratic votes, the contest will be a close one. The First district—Strong's—is to be contested by every means known to the "Ring." In 1868, Mr. Strong had over Dixon, the Democratic candidate, 736 majority. This year a new man, Alfred E. Goodrich, has been placed in nomination. Goodrich is personally popular, and Tammany hopes to buy him in.

All this, however, will be impossible if the Republicans of the district do their duty and get out the full vote. This district should, if well worked, under the most adverse circumstances, give at least four hundred Republican majority. Governor English has done his best to sell the State of Connecticut to the Tammany Ring, but will the people endorse the transaction? Can Governor English deliver the article for which the money has been paid down in advance? We long ago warned the people of other States that the tactics which have been found so successful here would shortly be put in force whenever new Democratic organizations were formed. We hope Connecticut will not be the first to succumb to the huge bribing power which has been set up among us. Every man ought now to fight against corruption—not cast his vote in favor of it. The opportunity before the Republicans of Connecticut is a great one. Why should they play into the hands of the Tammany gang to suit the prejudices of discontented Republican Senators? Personal differences may safely be allowed to settle themselves, but for any State to assist the insidious designs of the Tweed faction at a crisis like the present is the very extreme of blindness and folly. We earnestly hope that our Republican friends in Connecticut will turn out to a man on Monday. It is not a question of supporting any one individual, but of striking a blow at an organization which has already inflicted incalculable injury on public morals and degraded every channel of political life. Republicans in Connecticut ought to show the Tammany gang that they cannot go into other States and buy up men as they would buy and sell cattle in the market. There never was a greater danger before the country than that which this huge system of corruption, everywhere growing up, threatens to bring upon us. We ask the Republicans of Connecticut to strike the first blow at it. Their example will be followed in every part of the Union, and redound to their own everlasting honor.

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REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION. EXECUTOR'S SALE—ESTATE OF WILLIAM HARPER, deceased.—Thomas & Sons' Auctioneers. On Tuesday, April 18, 1871, at 12 o'clock, P.M., will be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, the following described property, viz:—

SHIPPING. NATIONAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY. STEAM DIRECT TO AND FROM NEW YORK. CUREMBURG AND LIVERPOOL, and N. M. The magnificent Ocean Steamships of this line, sailing regularly every SATURDAY, are among the largest in the world, and famous for the degree of safety, comfort, and speed attained.

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Additional notices and advertisements at the bottom of the page, including mentions of THE ANCHOR LINE STEAMERS, THE PENSYLVANIA COMPANY, and various local business notices.