

The Democratic Watchman.

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Democracy to Win.

We have not the least doubt but that the Democracy will with the next Presidential contest. In spite of the Force Bill and all the legislation which the Radical majority in Congress have enacted for the benefit of their party and to secure themselves another lease of power, we believe the day of their overthrow is near at hand. We see it overshadowed in the changed sentiment of the people; we hear prophesied in the everyday talk of the laboring masses. The people are tired of the way things have been going on for so long, and are willing, nay, even anxious for a change. They are disgusted with niggerism and burdened to death with taxes. They begin now to feel that even their personal liberty is not secure, and view with alarm the significant encroachments of executive power upon their rights. They have at last awakened from their long apathy to see their liberties slipping away from them. They were warned time after time, earnestly and solemnly, to beware how they gave up their constitutional privileges into the keeping of the men who have betrayed them, but, crazed by the roar of cannon and dazzled by the glitter of epaulets, they gave no heed to the warnings. Recklessly, heedlessly and criminal, they disregarded the solemn admonitions of the "Father of his Country" who, in his farewell address, had years and years before cautioned them to beware of the very dangers into which they were then stumbling. At last they have fallen into the pit, and, in their desperate struggles to extricate themselves, have awakened from their criminal sleep to the full measure of distress which is upon them.

And now they begin to talk differently from what they did five, six, ten years ago. They hint about the constitution and intimate that too much power is centralizing at Washington. They don't like the looks of things. They have an ugly aspect. It wasn't so in old times, say they. Then we had more liberty, more money, less taxes. Niggers, then, couldn't be Congressmen and senators and judges and jurymen, as they can now. White men held the reins then, and the Government was administered for their benefit. All this is changed now. The reverse is the case at present. Luckily the people, although at first slow to comprehend, have at last seen this. Hence their feverish desire to restore things to their former status. Radicalism has lost its attractions for them, and they now see it as a natural hideousness. Democracy is now the bright star in the east, and they will hereafter follow it to the spot and hour where and when will soon be reborn and rebaptized the blessed and glorious principles and principles of constitutional liberty.

It is wise, if not sagacious, advice the New York *World* gives its Southern brethren when it tells them they should cease their outrages because it hurts the party. The *Standard* and *Watchman* should heed the advice and trim their policy sails. The *World* says that "every church torn down, every school house burnt and every case of whipping, branding, and political murder, is a nail driven into the Democratic coffin." These things should cease, the *World* thinks—at least for the present, not because they are wrong, but because the party is so badly off. A few local barbers would do well to heed the *World's* advice.—*Union Herald*

The *World*, like the *Herald*, is entirely a policy paper; and, also like the latter, prints for the side that it can make the most money out of. It is not a representative of Democratic principles, nor do the Southern people care anything about its advice. They know and we know, and so does every body else know, who knows anything at all, that every church torn down, every school house burnt and every case of whipping, branding and political murder is the act of Yankee carpet baggers, scoundrels, or demoralized niggers, whom Radicalism has prostituted to its base purposes. Don't be alarmed, Mr. *Herald*, about the nails that are being driven into the Democratic coffin. That dread receptacle for dead parties has not yet been prepared for the Democracy. In fact the timber out of which it is to be made is as yet but a very small sapling in the woods, with but little prospect of its ever being used for such a awful purpose. But let us advise you to be careful of your own diseased and rotten party. Death has already seized upon its vitals, and it will require the best skill of your most distinguished political quacks to keep it alive until the next presidential campaign.

Shall the Foot of the Tyrant Trample our Free-Born Necks?

If any attempt is ever made to execute the Force Bill, the text of which we published in last week's *Watchman*, it will be met with serious, indeed with very grave opposition. The people thus far have submitted to every indignity that the radical party has so vilely, so basely heaped upon them, but their patience is at last exhausted. They will not quietly or tamely submit to further imposition, and we warn the powers that be, that they, have proceeded too far already.

The right to choose their own rulers, untrammelled, is the inherent right of the citizens of this country. It is guaranteed to them in their great *Magna Charta*, and they will not allow it to be taken away from them. Neither Congress nor the President have any business to meddle with this right, and they will do so only at their peril.

We want free elections, as they used to be, and we will have them. No man nor set of men, not even an army with banners, shall prevent this. We may just as well fight for liberty now as years hence, and if it must come to this and the Radicals seem determined to force it on us—why, then, the sooner it is over the better.

If Gen. GRANT wants to be President for a second term, let him come before the people in the usual way and ask a re-nomination at the hands of his party. If he get it and is elected fairly, well and good. No one will have any right to gainsay it. But when he attempts to force himself, and his party attempts to force him, upon the country by the aid of the military and by the exercise of infamous and unconstitutional powers, it then becomes another matter entirely. The liberties of this country and the principles of Republican Government shall not be overturned and lost forever, for the sole and ignoble purpose of gratifying the inordinate and grasping ambition of one man. This the people have in their hearts determined, and they will abide by it.

The force bill is an outrage upon intelligence, and a dastardly attempt to usurp to the administration the God given rights of a free people. Any attempt to execute it, therefore, as we have said above, should be met by determined and organized resistance, and it will be. This is as certain as that the sun shines. Let GRANT and his Washington lick spittles take notice.

The bill repealing the act establishing a law library at the Court House, for the benefit of the lawyers of Belleville, passed the Senate on Wednesday last. The fines and forfeited recognizances will, hereafter, be paid into the treasury of the county, for the benefit of the tax payers, in place of being used for the purpose of purchasing law books for our lawyers. On the same day the Senate passed the bill repealing the act which requires the county commissioners to publish the local laws, in the different county papers. These two bills, if signed by Governor, will save to the tax payers of the county between twelve and fifteen hundred dollars per year.

We see it stated that the merchants of New York and Philadelphia are about to lesson the number of "drummers" who are now swarming through the country and flooding us all with samples. We are certain that country merchants will bear this news with great pleasure, for if ever a set of mortals were plagued to death by solicitations to "give our house a call," country dealers are. The "drummers" come in divisions, put up at the hotels in companies, and canvas the town by platoons. A letting up on this business would be a good thing.

Two or three of our politicians, who have been so long in a Radical senatorial district that they have got used to it, are growling now because the new apportionment bill places us in a Democratic district. It is the first time in twenty one years and perhaps longer, that the Democracy of Centre county have had it to say that they are in a Democratic district; and it is a reason for complaint, perhaps those who are troubled in that way had better move into a district where they can have Radical rule to their heart's content.

It is intimated that Gov. OSNEY will veto the apportionment bill which the Legislature, after so much trouble, has agreed upon. We hardly believe he will, for his sense of justice is certainly so acute to allow him to remand the people back to the infamous apportionment of 1864. If he should veto it, he will be taking a responsibility that will crush him.

The French Reds are getting whipped by the troops of the Government. Matters now look as though the end of the bloody work were approaching.

Simon says Wiggle-Waggle.

The Republican of this week has a long article laudatory of that old political villain, SIMON CAMERON. In the face of the fact that a baser old prostitute never lived, BROWN goes off into a perfect ecstacy of delight over his incomparable character. This isn't an hallucination of BROWN'S, however. There is method in his madness. Just now old SIMON WINSTON CAMERON has a vast influence with the administration of GRANT, who likes CAMERON because the latter is so much like himself. BROWN has the remembrance of former favors conferred upon the old *Centre Democrat* office by CAMERON, after that paper had deserted its principles for self, the recipient of which favors was Gen. JAMES S. BRISHIN, at that time connected with that establishment. BRISHIN was in the habit of puffing CAMERON to the skies about every other issue, and, in return for this, the hoary headed old sinner patronized him to the extent of getting him a commission as lieutenant in the regular army, and afterwards lent his aid in pushing him forward. BROWN thinks now that he can play the same game with the same success. We doubt it, however. We think he is wasting his powder. Lightning hardly ever strikes twice in the same place, and BROWN will find that CAMERON, after having been so badly lumbogged by BRISHIN, will not be particularly desirous of having the operation repeated. So there is pretty nearly two columns of wind and ink wasted, which, in these days of high prices for gas and printing materials, is considerable of an item. If our contemporary can induce old SIMON to refund him in cash the cost of preparing that weak solution of brains and dyspepsia, he may consider himself well off.

There is a prospect of another dead lock in the Legislature in reference to the Registry law. The Democrats demand that it shall be amended, and some of the Republican members are willing that it should be, and refuse to be bound by their party caucus in the matter. The Radical majority in the House also refuse to pass the Senate's bills, until the Senate passes the House bills, and the Senate don't care about legislating any more until the governor signs the apportionment bill. So it goes.

On Friday of last week, it took but five minutes for a Republican member to induce a Republican House to pass a resolution, allowing themselves ten dollars per day, over and above their regular salary, for every day they are in session after the 7th of April. When the resolution went to the Democratic Senate, it was referred to its appropriate committee, where it is likely to "sleep the sleep that knows no waking."

Unjust, ungenerous, unkind and untrue—the charges of the *Huntingdog Monitor*, against one of the Democratic aspirants for Auditor General, Shame, Brother CORSMAN.

Senatorial Conference.

The conferees of the 21st senatorial district, composed of the Counties of Centre, Blair, Huntingdon, Millfin, Juniata and Perry, met at the Exchange Hotel, in Huntingdon, Pa., pursuant to a call for that purpose, on Tuesday, the 21 day of May, inst., and organized by electing John S. Miller, of Huntingdon county, President, and Wm. A. McGonigle, of Blair county, and R. E. Parker of Juniata county, Secretaries.

The following conferees were then announced by the reading of their credentials, to wit: Wm. A. McGonigle, Henry McIntosh and Samuel McFadden, of Blair county; Wm. Forey, George McCaffy and D. F. Fortney, of Centre; Robert McBurney, W. P. McNite and John S. Miller, of Huntingdon county; James North, Joseph Gibson and R. E. Parker, of Juniata county; Wm. Wilson, C. R. Dull and J. P. Selheimer, of Millfin county; and Dr. Swartz, B. P. Miller and Thomas Shively, of Perry county.

After which the convention, being duly organized, proceeded to elect delegates to represent said district in the next State Convention. Whereupon, John H. Orvis, Esq., of Centre, and Dr. D. P. Hook, of Perry county, were selected as delegates to represent this, the 21st district in the State Convention called to meet at Harrisburg, on Wednesday, the 24th inst., for the purpose of nominating candidates for Auditor General and Surveyor General and for other purposes.

After which the following resolutions were adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the delegates this day elected by this convention be and they are hereby instructed to use all legitimate and honorable means to secure the nomination of the Hon. Sam'l. T. Shugert, of Centre county, for Au-

ditor General; and if—after having exhausted all legitimate means available for that purpose—it should become impossible to secure Mr. Shugert's nomination—then and in that event, we deem it our duty to name Dr. A. D. Markley, of Bucks county, as the second choice of this district for that important office.

Resolved, That the delegates this day elected be and they are hereby instructed to use all honorable means to secure the nomination of H. Stewart Wilson, Esq., of Dauphin county, for Surveyor General.

W. A. MCGONIGLE,
R. E. PARKER,
Secretaries.

Swinging Round the Circle.

When President Johnson, during his official term as the tenant of the 'White House' at Washington, made a trip to the West on some really nationally interesting occasion, all the Radical Republican press—Tray, Blanche and Sweetheart—made a great out cry against him. They say he was ranging the country like a foot-pad to rob it of its political cash—or votes. Well, how now? Here is the beggar, the unqualified and unlimited acceptor of presents, and the unmitigated mannikin and dumb figure head of a political party, U. S. Grant, "swinging round the circle," in as conspicuous and demonstrative a manner as ever Andrew Johnson did. But instead of sneers and jeers and all that sort of thing, the very same press that ridiculed and slandered Johnson, now lauds, magnifies, and advertises the great military and political fraud and quack, 'Big Smoke' Grant. Well, it is truly wonderful how poor human nature can be misled by self motives and blinded by partisan bigotry, in politics, as well even as in morals and religion. Nobody of common sense, or whose eyes are not closed against light by the merest partisan prejudice, can fail to see that Grant, in company with Vice President Colfax and Senator Morton, a number of other prominent demagogues, are on a political tour with a view to the next Presidential election. We have and make no objection to this. We really and sincerely wish that the Republican party will nominate Grant for the succession. They, of course, think he is the only man they can elect. This is only a proof of their conscious poverty of good and great statesman, or an acknowledgment that, in their judgment, the people of this country don't want a statesman at the helm, but a third rate soldier, an ignorant statesman, a reclaimed drunkard, and a selfish man. We think that the weakest, corruptest, vainest, meanest, and foolishest man that ever sat in the Presidential chair is the present incumbent, and that a large majority of the people of this country are fast coming to that conviction.—*Sunday Mercury*.

ATTEMPT AT WHOLESALE THINKING.—As Major Huff was surveying a piece of land on the mountain, in the neighborhood of Sandy Ridge, a few days since, he discovered indications of a considerable large sized attempt at stealing a march upon land for which Mr. Richard Atherton of this place, is agent. Reporting it, a warrant was issued and placed in the hands of Constable J. C. Nason, who deputized Mr. Charles Copen, and together they made a descent upon the suspicious parties, capturing Jerry Sharrow and four others, whose names we did not learn. They had cut nearly seventy trees. Sharrow at first refused to be gobbled, but as Copen is possessed of a "winning way," which he rendered more effective by the exhibition of an argument in the shape of a six shooter, he was persuaded to submit. The party were brought to town and taken before a justice of the peace, where Sharrow and two others pleaded guilty, the remaining two affirming their innocence. After a hearing the matter was compromised, the guilty parties agreeing to pay the costs, \$100, and appear before a justice on Monday next. Our opinion is that these fellows were left off too easy. They should have been punished to the full extent of the law, for, if our information be correct, this is not the only time they have been engaged in this business, and an example cannot be made too soon.—*Philipsburg Journal*.

The Hon. James G. Blair of Missouri, who left the Republican caucus, replies to a note addressed him on the subject at some length and concludes:

If the Republican party has no higher, nobler, nor more exalted mission, aim, and purpose, than the taxing of the people of the West for the benefit of the aristocrats and monopolists of the East, and the continued degradation and humiliation of the white people of the South, then I must confess that I am at a loss to see how myself and my liberal Republican friend in my district, who agree with me in sentiment, can consistently longer affiliate or act with it.

And such is New Hampshire!

KU KLUX.—Two thousand active, unprincipled, Northern scoundrels (State prison convicts preferred), are wanted to travel through the South, scaring, robbing, murdering people here and there, burning houses and other property. Pay prompt, and no particular danger. These crimes to be charged to the Ku Klux, and paid for by the Republicans, who will then have something to talk about while they are passing life in the pockets of millions of dollars and millions of acres of land belonging to the public. For situations and information, address U. S. Grant, President and breeder of dogs, or B. F. Butler, thief and coward, Washington, D. C.—*Es*.

A minister not long ago preached from the text 'Be ye therefore steadfast,' but the printer made him exhort from 'Be ye therefore steadfast!'

THE BORDER CLAIMS.

Mr. DILL, from the special committee on the border war claims, made the following report:

The select committee to whom was referred the petition of 500 citizens of Chambersburg, praying for some legislation to make compensation for the extraordinary losses of property sustained by them during the late war, make the following report:

That they have considered the subject matter of the petition referred to them and generally the question of losses by our citizens of the southern border during the war, by reason of deprivations upon their property by the Confederate and Federal forces, and particularly by raids of the former, and will proceed to state their conclusions upon the several points involved in the question of public responsibility for those losses, with the grounds upon which their conclusions rest. Their report is made thus broad, because they understand that their investigation was not intended to be confined to the Chambersburg losses alone, but to extend to all the losses which occurred upon the border which heretofore have been subjected to examination under the authority of the State.

The first question to be considered is, whether the United States are liable for the losses upon the border, either by reason of a direct constitutional obligation or by reason of particular facts connected with the several invasions of the State or by both.

By the fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States it is provided that the United States shall protect each of the States of the Union against invasion. This guarantee is coupled with two others—the one for protection of the several States against domestic violence upon demand of state authorities, and the other secure to them republican forms of government. Against every form of external and internal danger, accompanied by violence, this comprehensive section of guarantees was intended to protect the States, and the obligation assumed by the United States under it has been one expressed limitation, which is, that the interposition of the federal government against domestic violence must be invoked by the legislature of a State or by the executive thereof when the legislature cannot be convened. No one can doubt, upon reading these guarantees of the constitution, and duly considering the general objects for which the constitution was made, as announced in its preamble, that complete defense to the States was promised and intended thereby, and that an obligation of self-defense which, in the absence of the constitutional compact, would have rested exclusively upon the several States was thereby charged upon the federal government. It is not necessary to insist that the States respectively parted with the right of defending themselves against external danger, when imminent, or against actual invasion, but unquestionably the whole duty of defending them imposed upon the United States. Nor can it be doubted that this obligation and duty of the United States to protect each State against invasion is not confined to cases of invasion by a foreign enemy. The guarantee is expressed in general language and is without limitation. An invasion of a State from another State or association of States is as much provided against as an invasion from abroad. This is the clear conclusion to be drawn from the language of the guarantee and from considering the known reasons which dictated its insertion in the constitution. Hence Judge Story, in his work upon the constitution, section 1, 818, in speaking of this guarantee, declares "that the latitude of the expression here used seems to secure each State not only against foreign hostility, but against ambitious and vindictive enterprises of its more powerful neighbors."

It is beyond dispute that the United States did not keep this guarantee of defense upon the several occasions when our border was struck by the enemy during the recent war of the rebellion. The guarantee was not kept and duties under it performed by the United States, and by reason of their default, our citizens were assailed in their peaceful homes and their property appropriated, or wasted and consumed. They were completely innocent of all blame. They had performed all their duties both to the State and federal governments by contribution of taxes, by voluntary assessments upon themselves in aid of the common defense, by the raising of troops, and by complete obedience to all the laws of the land. But their just claim—their absolute right to protection and defense against external violence—was not maintained by either of the governments to which they owed allegiance.

It is true, as a general principle, that protection against invasion is due from every State to the parts composing it. (Story on Const. sec. 1, 818.) This corollary of all justice rests upon every treaty between states is exclusively a state obligation. But under our system of dual government the case is widely different, as already shown. Primarily, the protection unquestionably rests upon the United States, and was assumed by them in the federal compact for full and valuable consideration. The contribution of state strength to the Union, and the assumption of numerous and onerous duties to the federal government by the people and government of each state constitutes the solid foundation upon which this federal obligation rests. It follows that a state may demand this protection for its citizens from the federal government in every possible case, and hence, in no case can the answer be made by or in behalf of that government that the state is bound to defend itself.

If, then, any obligation or duty rests upon a state to protect its own people against invasion, it must be considered as one to be discussed only between the state and its own citizens in view of the peculiar relations which subsist between them. The United States cannot assert any such state obligation or duty in the face of their own clear guarantee contained in the fourth article of the constitution.

In the default of the constitutional protection of the state by the United States against invasion, and of an actual defense of the state by herself (in consequence of such default), can any one doubt that the outlay incurred by

the state for defensive purposes would constitute a just demand against the United States? In such case, ought not the guaranteeing party to make good the outlay incurred by reason of his default, and when the state makes her demand for reimbursement would it not be most unreasonable and unjust to repudiate or reject it? But can losses incurred by the state or by her citizens in consequence of a breach of the guarantee to put upon a different footing from the outlays incurred by the state in self defense? In each case the default of the guaranteeing and protecting party is the cause and foundation of the demand. The committee can discover no limitation in such case upon the responsibility of the United States except their inability to respond to the demand. It is admitted that war ravages may be so extensive as to render indemnity to innocent sufferers impossible. The burden may be too great to be borne, and cannot, therefore, be accepted or assumed. But in the present case the plea of bankruptcy or inability cannot be interposed.

It is to be observed that the guarantee in the constitution is one in favor of the several states in their capacities as parties to the compact, and is therefore to be asserted by the states and not by individual citizens in all cases of its violation. Hence it is proper and becomes necessary, in the present instance, to examine the relation and intercourse between the state and the federal government during the war, and the conduct of each in relation to the defense of the state. Did the state perform all her duties to the federal government, and is she in a position to claim that the guarantee in question should have been kept? The answer to this question is furnished by the statutes of the Commonwealth, and by the public records of the war.

The state furnished her due share of militia and volunteers under the several calls made by the President of the United States and she submitted without complaint to the vigorous execution within her limits of the conscription act of March, 1863, and its several supplements. Her due share of troops for the public service was furnished by her or drawn from her under United States laws and presidential proclamations throughout the war, and in addition thereto, in several cases of emergency, she furnished to the United States her own defensive force. At the urgent demand of the war department she allowed her border to be uncovered to the stroke of the enemy, when, by a more selfish policy, she could have secured her own protection at the peril of the common interests involved in the struggle.

But it is a material consideration in passing upon her conduct as a member of the federal Union in a time of unexampled difficulty and danger that she did not rely wholly upon the United States for her protection from external danger. In addition to a prompt, zealous and complete performance of all her duties to the common cause, she made adequate provision for defending herself, and would have wholly relieved the federal government from the performance of practical duties to her under the constitutional guarantee if that government had not interfered with her defensive arrangements and taken from her defensive force.

The report then proceeds to review the measures taken by the state for the defense of her citizens. The reserve corps was organized at a cost to the state of \$3,000,000, and transferred to the federal army immediately after the Bull Run defeat, thereby exposing our borders to the enemy. In 1863 the militia were called out to defend the exposed portions of the state, and the money advanced to pay them. The legislature subsequently legalized the payment and authorized a loan to meet it. In 1864 six regiments were organized for border defense, but were called to the Potomac to reinforce Hunter, after his defeat, and the destruction of Chambersburg was the result. An extraordinary session of the legislature was called, and \$5,000,000 more appropriated for defense, but the war soon after closed, and no part of it was expended and the money paid for the reserve corps, and for the militia in 1863, was repaid to the state by the general government. The state, in the opinion of the committee, discharged her duty faithfully, but her borders were exposed, and her citizens suffered spoliation, because her defensive troops were transferred to save the Union armies.

The report then reviews the various acts of assembly from 1861 to 1868, in all eight different enactments providing for the adjudication of the claims and for the payment of a portion of them. They show that the ultimate payment of the claims by the general government was steadily kept in view by the state, and that the state has recognized her duty to procure an adjustment of them for her citizens.

The report concludes as follows: Under the several acts above mentioned the border claims have been examined and ascertained under the sanction of state authority, and the evidence of their amount and character is upon file in the office of the attorney general. Some of those ascertained under the earlier assessments have been paid by the United States, and upon those located in Chambersburg half a million of dollars has been paid out of the state treasury under the act of 15th of February, 1866. Speaking generally, the validity and justice of the border claims have been asserted in the strongest possible manner by the state government, and the whole scope of state action concerning them points to the ultimate adjustment and payment.

The losses which are the subject of the present inquiry were caused by successive raids in 1862, 1863 and 1864, by the advance and operations of Lee's army in 1863, and by depredations and appropriations of property at several times by federal troops. As to the latter, it is to be noted that the militia, by whom some of the damages were occasioned, were mustered into the United States service before their advance to the border, and constituted a part of the federal forces. The aggregate amount of the claims cannot, with the means of information at hand, be exactly stated. In the official reports on file in the auditor general's office some of the claims are duplicated, some of those reported upon under the act of 1868 being contained in prior reports. But the sum total of the claims will not exceed two million eight hundred thousand dollars, and they will be subject to such