

THE BEAVER ARGUS.

J. WEYLAND, Editor and Proprietor. March 13th, 1867.

Nullification in Alexandria.

The Reconstruction bill, says the N. Y. Tribune of March 8, is disregarded by the President. March 5, three days after it was made a law by Congress, a municipal election was held in Alexandria, Virginia, at which legal voters were excluded on account of color. Nothing could be plainer than that the terms of the law, nothing more absolute than the right of color, ed men to vote in Alexandria last Tuesday. The refusal of the Judges of Election to receive their ballots was an impudent defiance of the law, the desperate act of men who know their selves to be a minority, and who elected a Rebel Mayor by denying loyal men their rights. In Alexandria 900 men voted for the Rebel candidate; there were 56 Radical white, and more than 1,000 colored voters. The latter, excludied from the regular polls, voted at polls of their own, but while the result is a clear Radical majority, the Rebel candidate for Mayor, Hugh Latham, is declared elected.

But this defiance of the law is not as important as the disobedience of the President to its commands. He was directed to enforce it, yet without one step of his to prevent, 1,000 legal voters of the United States are barred from the polls. By Gen. Canby's order, not Mr. Johnson's—a police force of 500 soldiers was sent to Alexandria to preserve order; but the President, with an army at his orders, did not send one man to execute the laws. The act of the Alexandria Rebels was even worse than a riot—it was a deliberate contempt of the Government, and we can see no excuse for Mr. Johnson's failure to meet disobedience with authority. There could have been no doubt of his duty to interfere in the Alexandria election. The law declares that its provisions shall apply to "all elections to any office." It makes no exceptions, fixes no distant day for its provisions to go into operation; it took effect from the moment of its passage, and Mr. Johnson was as much bound to obey it last Tuesday as he would a year hence. We are told, but can scarcely believe, that the Attorney General of the United States is of the opinion that the President was not required to prevent this outrage, because appointed in the district of which Virginia is a part. But where in the law is there any clause which obliges the President to act only through the District-Commanders or the President himself, in the matter of the elective franchise? The right to vote is unalienable; the language of the law is unmistakable; the suffrage laws exist independently of Brigadier Generals. Yet, even if the opinion had any value, it would be no excuse; for if Military Commanders are necessary to the execution of this portion of the law why did not the President appoint them? The law declares that certain things shall be done, and they are not done; that he shall appoint certain officers and they are not appointed.

In the Alexandria election, the authority of the Government has been insulted and defied, while, as the first election held under the law, it was the very case in which that authority should have been asserted. When we consider that Alexandria is but an hour's ride from the Capitol, almost under the eyes of the President, and that there he permitted the laws of which he is the Executive to be trampled under foot, his apologies for the massacre at New Orleans, his indifference to the disregard of the Civil Rights bill, cease to surprise. Nor do we see how care that the Rebel voters of Alexandria disobeyed the law, for that is an offense which inures, but does not offend citizens, we look at the disregard of the law by Andrew Johnson as a matter which affects the nation.

The communication of "A. B." is respectfully declined for the present, at least. Its unusual severity induces us to hold it over. We know very well that the ex-army officer to whom "A. B." refers is neither a friend just now to the Union party of the county, nor a friend of ours, or a well wisher of the Argus, yet notwithstanding this we do not feel that we ought to give publicity to an opinion entertained by some of his "somrades" and the publication of which would excite remarks that would follow him through life. At least, this is our conclusion now. Circumstances may hereafter induce us to change this opinion.

District Commanders. Under the Reconstruction Bill, recently passed, the President has appointed Generals Sherman, Schofield, Meade, Hancock and McDowell to command the five military districts in the rebellious States. We are a little sorry that the number of districts was not made say so that Sheridan would have had one of them, and left in command in Texas. He appreciates the situation, and understands how to treat rebels as well any man in the service.

"TRUTH" CORRECTED.

A correspondent in the last issue over the signature of "Truth," makes a mean attack upon Col. Quay. The author of that communication has a heart full of disappointment and bitterness, and in his effort to malign an able and faithful representative of the people of this county, shows that he regards not the public welfare, but what he is seeking to attain. Col. Quay has a proud record in Pennsylvania, and the scribe, "Truth," instead of detracting from it, only plays the role of a hairless cowardly defamer, and the end will suffer in public estimation, while the object of his spleen will grow in favor with the people he represents. The animus of the writer of the communication referred to is so apparent that but little need be said in reply to the statements he makes. That these statements are false is easily to be seen. For instance: He says Col. Quay for introducing a bill prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in Beaver county. "Truth," is not honest enough to say that he is personally opposed to such a law; but basely and untruthfully impugns the motives of Mr. Quay for endeavoring to carry out the wishes of his constituents on this subject. For we have no doubt but that a majority of the people of just such a law as we now have. The Local correspondent knows this, but his business is to injure Col. Quay, and it would not do to give him any credit for honesty of purpose.

A number of Districts in this county were applying to the Legislature for a law of this kind for their own particular localities. Both of our representatives, we have no doubt thought, and justly too, that this kind of legislation was unwise, and were therefore under the necessity of introducing the bill referred to. This bill, as we have said elsewhere, will not take effect for one year after its passage. There is also a bill pending submitting this question to a vote of the people at the next election. What objection can there be to this? Is there anything wrong in this submission? Is it not Democratic?

"Truth" tells the readers of the Local that when the "Sunday car bill" was offered in the House, an amendment was proposed by Mr. Wilson, to the effect that the bill should have no force unless all persons be permitted to ride in said cars, without regard to color, sex or nationality, and that one "Wilson" voted against the amendment. He states here what he knows to be untrue, or betrays an utter ignorance of all parliamentary rules. If the previous question as voted for by Col. Quay had been sustained, the question would have been directly upon the amendment of Mr. Wilson, and if carried would have been part of the bill. This is known to all who have the least knowledge of parliamentary law. "Truth's" object, however, is not to state facts; misrepresentations gratify his disposition much better. But he does not stop here, but attacks Col. Quay because of his general course on this same "Sunday car" bill. Now what are the facts? A bill was brought into the Legislature to enable the Passenger Railway companies of Philadelphia to run their cars on Sunday, and in this shape there is no doubt but it would have passed. Col. Quay seeing this, and in order to defeat it, moved to amend it so as to submit the question to a vote of the people directly affected by it, and in this shape it passed the House. If submitted, there is scarcely a doubt but it will be voted down. Having thus stated the facts, we leave our readers to judge of the motives of the correspondent of the Local, and the wisdom of the Representative. It is passing strange that "Truth" should be so horrified at the idea of submitting "travel, or no travel on Sunday," to the people of Philadelphia, when he has not a word to say against the running of these cars on Sunday; within a stone's throw as it were of our own doors! For he surely knows, if he has not totally blinded him, that Passenger cars are running the streets of Pittsburgh every Sunday in the year. We are not an advocate of Sunday travel, and on the contrary have reconstrated against it, but we are not mean enough to find fault with a Legislature for submitting the question to a vote in Philadelphia, and landing another for allowing cars to run on Sunday in Pittsburgh, without asking the people there, whether they desired them to do so or not?

The Local correspondent again states that a bill providing annuities and gratuities, was postponed at Mr. Quay's request until the private calendar was gone through with, assuming that this bill was favorable to the soldiers. We have not space to notice this misrepresentation through out both communications. The bill referred to is not a bill for annuities and gratuities, but a bill for the purpose of restricting the operation of a

bill that passed the last session, and which was entirely to the soldiers of 1812. The act passed last year was also local, and was up, and as proposed by Mr. Quay, to the soldiers of 1812. The bill was intended to protect the people's money. It will thus be seen that every statement in whole or in part, and that his object only is to injure a faithful, influential, and diligent representative.

Registering Voters. On Thursday last a bill was introduced in the Senate, by Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, and on the same day a similar one by Representative Kelly, of this State, in the House, which requires that a registration of all the voters in the Southern States, shall be made by Sept. 1st, under direction of the military commanders, and no one shall vote who is not registered, and that all voting shall be by ballot. The bill went to the Judiciary Committee of both Houses, and will be acted on at once. It will hardly fail to become a law. This is another move in the right direction, and a very material one in the work of reconstruction.

Free Railroad Bill. The State Senate on Thursday last passed a Free Railroad Law. The vote on its passage was as follows: Ayes—Messrs. Billingsfield, Brown, (Mercer,) Burnett, Coleman, Cornell, Cawley, Davis, Donovan, Glantz, Haines, Jackson, James, Landon, McCandless, McConaughey, Randall, Ridgeway, Royer, Schall, Shoemaker, Stutzman, Taylor, Wallace, Walls, White, Worthington and Hall, Speaker. Nays—Messrs. Bigam and Graham, of Allegheny, Lorio, of Erie, and Auzon, of Lawrence. Ayez—Messrs. Fisher and Seagriff.

We have not yet seen the bill, and are therefore personally unable to speak of what it provides or fails to provide. The Pittsburg Commercial is very much displeasid with it, and pronounces it a "booby" measure; while on the other hand, the fact of so many Senators voting for it, who are known to be in favor of a General Railroad Law, induces us to believe that this bill is not what they wanted; but which they accepted on the principle that a nearly lost cause was better than no bread. It nearly admitted that the bill contains the principle of free railroads. Gen. Harry White, of Indiana county, one of the most earnest advocates of a General Railroad Law in the Senate, voted for it, and in doing so remarked that, "time, which cures all evils, will doubtless enable the friends of free legislation in this matter to remove many of the offensive features of the bill." A correspondent of the Pittsburg Gazette under date of Harrisburg, March 7th, also writes to that paper:

"That the Free Railroad Law was disposed of finally in the Senate this morning, the friends of the bill protesting against its passage, but voting for it as the best that could be obtained."

From a private source, and since the above was in type, we learn that the eight senators, who have been considered the "head and front" of a General Railroad Law, but who finally voted for this bill, did so only after making many attempts to amend it, and failing, voted for it, on the ground that if the law could accomplish no good it would work no harm, and that an imperfect bill could be easily amended, than a new one passed. This was the view taken of the subject by Hon. Thos. Nicholson, of this county at present in Harrisburg, whose position on free railroad legislation is well understood here, and who advised Senators Taylor, Bigam and others to vote for the bill, when it became evident that it would pass without their support.

In this connection it may be well to bear in mind that Senator Bigam's bill, which was such a one as the people demanded, only received two Democratic votes (Wallace and Dave) when it was before the Senate. That party in the Senate not only voted for Bigam's bill, not the one that has just passed. Truly they are in favor of free railroads!

Communication. EDWDS BEAVER: If the Power company prohibitory license law has been extended to this county, please tell me to whom this prohibitory law has been passed. The Legislature for Economy and Independence townships?

We have assumed that of the State referred to, but least incidentally that the Power company act extended to this county, does not go into effect until for one year from the date of its passage. The law relating to Economy and Independence townships goes in to effect at once.

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Will you be kind enough to inform your readers whether this last is taken from "Janus" or does he now use a different "drawing knife"?

Public Meeting. A meeting was held at Mt. Pleasant, Polaski Tp., March 6th, 1867, for the purpose of listening to an address by J. I. Reed, County Superintendent. At an early hour the house was filled to overflowing by the young people of the community, together with parents and teachers from adjoining districts.

The meeting was organized by electing Mr. Elwood Thomas, Chairman, and H. D. Calloun, Secy. The object of the meeting was then presented by the Chairman, and the speaker introduced, who proceeded to address the audience in an interesting and instructive manner, on the subject of "Mental, Moral and Physical Culture," in which he suggested to the minds of Parents and Directors, the necessity of having properly constructed school buildings and furniture. Teachers naturally fitted and properly qualified for their work, and co-operation with them on the part of Parents and Directors, and many other items essential to the design of education were embraced in the three divisions of his subject. It is needless however to detail the reader with lengthy remarks concerning the address of Mr. Reed. Suffice it to say, that the subject was ably discussed by the speaker, and in a manner worthy the attention and admiration of his hearers. We think our worthy leaders and co-laborers in pursuing the proper course in this respect, to awaken the mind of the public to a sense of the duty in regard to the common Schools of our country.

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CONGRESSIONAL. SENATE. The Senate on Tuesday, March 12, 1867, passed a bill to amend the act relating to the National Academy of Sciences, and to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The bill was passed by a vote of 24 yeas and 12 nays.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. L. MICHAEL RYAN, late of Economy, Pa., deceased, having been granted letters of administration on the estate of the said deceased, all persons indebted to said estate are notified to present their claims against said estate within the time specified in the said letters, and to present them to the undersigned, who is the administrator of said estate, at his office, in the town of Economy, Pa., on or before the 15th day of April, 1867. L. MICHAEL RYAN, Administrator. mar13'67-5w.

SPRING FASHIONS. 1867. Bridge St. Bridgewater. NEW assortment of Military wear, adapted to the season, late of Economy, Pa., deceased, having been granted letters of administration on the estate of the said deceased, all persons indebted to said estate are notified to present their claims against said estate within the time specified in the said letters, and to present them to the undersigned, who is the administrator of said estate, at his office, in the town of Economy, Pa., on or before the 15th day of April, 1867. L. MICHAEL RYAN, Administrator. mar13'67-5w.

FINE GROCERIES! W. M. F. CLARKE. SECOND DOOR above the Post Office, has just received a fresh and carefully selected stock of Fine Family Groceries, which are offered to the citizens of Beaver County, at the lowest prices. Goods are purchased at the lowest rates, and a better class of goods than can be found west of the mountains. [mar13'67-16.

A BOOK FOR THE MILLION. Every Family needs it. Every Teacher should have it. "100 Choice Selections," embracing the most popular patriotic Epigrams of the day, the most beautiful Gems of the finest Spoken of Oratory, and a fund of Mirth and Humor, for the use of SCHOOLS. LYCEUMS. EXHIBITION ROOMS, &c. 180 Pages, 12 mo. price, Pamphlet Edition, 25 Cts. Cloth, Gilt back, 75 Cts. Mail Free. Great inducements to Clubs. Agents wanted everywhere. P. GARRETT & CO., Publishers, 702 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. mar13'67-31.

SPRING TRADE! 1867. M'ELROY, DICKSON & CO. No. 54 WOOD STREET, PITTSBURGH. WHOLESALE DRY GOODS. Have their stock open for trade. GOOD GOODS AT Reasonable Prices. S. B. M'ELROY, JAMES DICKSON, JOHN T. SHANE. mar13'67-5m.

Fallston Foundry! ENGINE & REPAIR SHOP. In Fallston Beaver County, Pa. HAVING refitted and enlarged my stock of machinery and tools, and having received the services of the best of mechanics, I am prepared to warrant all work done to give entire satisfaction. (There are hand made Cast Iron and Steel Engines, Engines for Clay Rills, and am prepared to make or repair all descriptions of machinery, on reasonable terms.

Plows and Plow Castings. I have all the best plow patterns that this market, among which is the "New Western," which has been run since 1840, and is the best of the kind. I have also a large stock of plow castings, and am prepared to make or repair all descriptions of machinery, on reasonable terms. JOHN THORNTON. mar13'67-1y.

VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE. THE undersigned offers for sale at a reasonable price his present residence situated on First or River street, in the Borough of Beaver, Beaver County, Pa. The place is 500 feet the house is 24 feet wide, and 32 feet deep, and is built of brick, and has a good cellar. The house is on a lot of 1/2 acre, and is surrounded by a good fence. The property is in a healthy and desirable location, and is well adapted for a residence. The price is \$1,000. For further information inquire of the undersigned, or of H. C. Burton, Beaver, Pa. mar13'67-2t.