The Beaver Argus.

J. WEYAND, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Beaver, Pa., December 25, 1867.

We will issue no paper from this office next week. Our hands are unanimously in favor of "running at large" during the holidays. As we have not missed a paper before since our present connection with the *Argus*, it is to be hoped that our delinquency on this occasion will be "overlooked."

A FORGED letter was set afloat a few days ago, purporting to be written by Gen. Dent, a brother-in-law of Gen. Grant, in which it was asserted that if the latter became a candidate for President, he would not be the candidate of a *party*, but the candidate of the *people*. This letter induced a good deal of "chuckling" on the part of the Democrats, as well as those Republicans, who are unfriendly to the General. The laughing, however, was soon ended by General Dent's denial of the authorship of the letter referred to, and his pronouncing it a forgery, written for the purpose of injuring General Grant.

ON the 18th inst., the President sent a message to Congress, asking that body to recognize in a suitable manner the services of General Hancock as commander of the Fifth Military District. A correspondent of one of the New York papers speaks thus of the message and its reception:

The president's Message, lauding Gen. Hancock, was read in both Houses to-day, and is the topic of conversation this evening. The members generally take it as a cool piece of stupid impertinence on the part of Mr. Johnson. It is but a part of the plan that is being arranged here by Johnson, Seward and Co.—to have Gen. Hancock made the next Democratic nominee for the Presidency. Mr. Johnson's friends say it is a snub to Messrs. Pendleton, Seymour, and other aspirants for the Democratic Presidential nomination who ignored Johnson in the late political canvasses. The Blairs are figuring conspicuously in the business, and their idea and that of Mr. Seward's is to have Gen. Hancock run as a Conservative Democrat. Mr. Johnson openly expresses himself as in favor of the plan, and so also do most of his Cabinet. All the official patronage of the Executive will be turned in to help Gen. Hancock, and, from present indications, his name will be very prominent in the coming Democratic Convention.

QUESTIONS of a financial character have had precedence in Congress for some time past.—On the 17th inst, Senator Sherman of Ohio, of the Finance Committee of the Senate, reported a bill, which, with some slight modifications, will more than likely become the law in relation to the much talked of Bond question.

Section 1st provides that the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue registered and coupon bonds in such form and of such denominations as he may see proper, payable principal and interest in coin, and bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum. These bonds to be payable in forty years from date, and to be redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the United States after ten years from date, and to be issued to an amount sufficient to cover all outstanding or existing obligations of the Government, and to be disposed of exclusively in taking up the securities of the United States.

Section 2d specifies that the bonds thus issued shall be known as the "Consolidated debt of the United States, and the same shall be exempt from State" and municipal taxation, and interest thereon and income therefrom shall be exempt from payment of all taxes or duties to the United States, and in consideration of such exemption, the Treasurer of the United States, shall reserve one-sixth of the interest on the bonds. One-half of this sum is to be paid to the States according to population, and the other half to be applied to the payment of the National debt.

Section 3d substitutes for the sinking fund as provided for by the laws now in force, the plan of appropriating yearly from money not otherwise appropriated in the Treasury, a sum which includes the amount necessary for payment of the interest and maturing debt, and one-half of the reserved tax as aforesaid shall amount to——millions of dollars, which sum, during each fiscal year after the current year, shall be applied to the reduction of the public debt in such manner as may be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, or as Congress may hereafter direct.

The bill further provides that the bonds known as the Five-Twenty bonds shall, at the expiration of five years from their date, at the option of the holder thereof, be changed for the bonds authorized by this act; and such as are now redeemable shall be presented for exchange on or before the 1st day of November next, and not thereafter, and the residue to be presented on or before the expiration of five years from their date, and not thereafter; and such exchange shall be made at such places and under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

Section 5th provides that the holder of any lawful money of the United States to the amount of $100, or multiples of $100, may convert the same into a bond for any amount, the note so received to be held in the Treasury as a part of the reserve already provided for, and the holder of any of the Five-Twenty bonds, or of the bonds contemplated by this act, may demand their redemption in lawful money of the United States; and the Treasurer shall redeem the same in lawful money unless the amount of United States notes then outstanding shall be equal to $400,000,000, but such bonds shall not be so redeemable after the resumption of specie payment; and the Secretary of the Treasury, in order to carry out the foregoing provisions, is required to maintain in the Treasury a reserve of not less than $50,000,000 of lawful money, similar in all respects to the United States notes authorized by law, provided the same shall not at any time exceed $400,000,000, in order to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem the securities of the United States held abroad. He is further authorized to issue bonds payable, principal and interest, in coin, in Frankfort or London, bearing interest, at the rate of 4½ per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, at a rate of exchange equivalent to five francs per dollar, such bonds payable in 40 years and redeemable after 20 years from date, at the pleasure of the United States, in coin, at a like rate of exchange, and to be issued to an amount not exceeding $500,000,000 to be exchanged for an equal amount of Five-twenty bonds, or disposed of on such terms not less than par in lawful money as the Secretary may deem best; but the expenses of the sale or exchange of said bonds shall not exceed the difference between the said rate of exchange and the market rate of exchange on London or Frankfort.

AT the Democratic meeting held here on last Monday one week ago, a committee on resolutions was appointed, consisting of the following named persons: E. P. Kuhn, S. B. French, W. W. Simpson, J. S. Dickey and J. H. Cunningham. This committee reported several resolutions. The following is the first one of the series:

Resolved, That this Convention, representing, at least, 3,000 of the voters of Beaver county, earnestly condemn the effort being made to break down the Democratic press of this county by a multiplicity of libel suits, commenced and carried on by partisan office-holders. That these suits are not prosecuted with any view to the public good, but to gratify personal malice and accomplish political ends, is clearly apparent, from the fact that the editor of the Radical organ, who is liable to like prosecutions, is permitted to go unpunished and unrebuked.

If the last sentence in this resolution means anything at all, it means that the *Republican* party of this county is censurable for not having commenced a prosecution for libel against the editor of this paper. As it is not pretended or claimed that we have libeled any member of the *Republican* party, it follows of course, that if any of its members began a prosecution against us, it would be in the interest of, and for the benefit of the Democracy! Now, according to the light we have, the Republicans of this county never did and do not now contemplate doing anything of this kind. They are a generous body of mortals, and for their tolerance in this particular, they deserve and we hereby tender them our unfeigned thanks. We can therefore dismiss this part of our subject by giving expression to our feelings in this wise: Astute Kuhn! Brilliant committee! Magnanimous Republican party!

At the same meeting in which the above resolution was passed, S. B. Wilson Esq., of this place made a speech. In that address he told his hearers that he had not read the *Argus* during the last campaign, (?) (he is reported to have told this to every Democratic meeting he has addressed for the last twelve years) but was informed that we had libeled Hugh B. Anderson, the Democratic candidate for Treasurer, and that it was Democratic forbearance that had shielded us from prosecution thus far. If Mr. W. will kindly hold his aversion to reading the *Argus* in abeyance for a moment or, two we will tell him exactly what the *Argus did not*, and what it did charge Mr. Anderson with during the last campaign: It *did not* tell the voters of the county that Mr. Anderson had stolen a coat from a "certain fishing party near Beaver Point." It *did not* insist that a lot of "spoons belonging to another man had been taken from his pocket while being ejected from the owner's premises." It *did not* insinuate that he had stolen a pocket book belonging to a man that was hurt by a passing train of cars. It *did not* charge him with having "obscenely tortured a small boy," nor with being a bar-room loafer, and a common drunkard. It *did not* claim that he had embezzled public funds confided to his care; nor did it accuse him of having swindled the State or of having made a fortune out of the necessities and wants of its soldiers.

But the *Argus did say* that he was permitting his son, who was living with him at the time, to insult the loyal people of the county by proposing to sell them a disloyal book. It *did say* in answer to an appeal made in his behalf for votes on the ground of his charitable disposition, that he had treated a distitute women and her children in Phillipsburg with more severity than a true christian spirit would warrant. It *did say* in answer to a similar appeal for votes for him, that he had not managed his private affairs successfully, and that this circumstance should weigh heavily against selecting him as the receiving and disbursing officer of the county.

This is the sum total of the *Argus's* charges against Mr. Anderson. If that gentleman believes that a judicial investigation of these charges will put him in a more enviable light than he is now in; or if it will soothe the savage breasts of Messrs. Wilson and Kuhn to conduct a prosecution for libel against us, it only remains for us to say: Go ahead gentlemen and "stand not upon the order of your going, but go at once."

BUT a year or two ago the Democracy were the "hard money" party of the country.—*Then* they took delight in holding up a greenback and pointing out its worthlessness as compared with gold and silver. "Give the Democracy power" said they, "and we will destroy this worthless paper money, and give the people the coin they used to have before the war!" But a change has come over the spirit of their dreams! Instead of being a "hard money" party now as they were some years ago, they have taken the ground that it is the duty of Congress to order the payment of our national debt in greenbacks. This would flood the country with paper money, raise prices to four or eight times their present value, and end in a condition of things similar to that which existed in the "Southern Confederacy" at the time of its collapse. It may be, however, that this is just what the leaders of the Democracy want.

COL. PARKER, of General Grant's staff, occasioned a good deal of gossip in Washington D. C. last week. He was to have been married on Tuesday to a Miss Sacket, a belle of that place, but when the appointed time arrived, he failed to make his appearance, and could not be found. In a day or two afterwards his whereabouts became known, and his reasons for "defaulting" in the matter are thus given: As is well known, he is an Indian, and his tribe hearing of his intended marriage, sent some of their members to Washington to prevent it. After arriving there they enticed him to their room, there drugged him heavily, kept him in that condition for sixty hours, and then abandoned him with the expectation that he would die from the effects of the dose administered to him.—Strange as this story is, it is credited in Washington. The wedding, which was thus prevented, will take place in a few days.

A TELEGRAM from Washington on the 12th inst., stated that while the National Republican Committee was in session in that city Governor Ward of New Jersey its Chairman, made a motion to change the name of the party from National Republican to National Union. The New York *Tribune* of last Monday, says:

We are authorized to state that no motion was made or favored in the National Committee by Gov. Ward, Chairman, to change the name from National Republican to National Union. No proposition for change of name, in any shape, was before the Committee, which would have had no power to change the name of the party organization.

BOTH Houses of Congress adjourned on last Friday, to convene again on the 6th of January. A large number of important bills were introduced previous to the adjournment.—These will be taken up in regular order, after the holidays are over, and put upon their passage. The country will await with anxiety the passage of all bills relating to the finances of the country.

The Banner Republican County of Pennsylvania.

During the last political campaign the Republican State Central Committee promised to give to the County making the best return compared with the vote for Governor Geary, the large and costly flag which was suspended across Chestnut street, Philadelphia, in front of the Committee's headquarters. After the election was over the Republicans of Dauphin, Schuylkill, Perry, Luzerne, and Wayne, each submitted their claims for the contested prize. The return in these Counties was as follows:

DAUPHIN.—Vote 1866—Geary 5,691, Clymer 4,301—majority for Geary 1,390. Vote 1867—Williams 5,247, Sharswood 3,847—majority for Williams 1,400. Decrease of vote 1867, 444; increase of majority 14.

LUZERNE.—Vote 1866—Geary 8,783, Clymer 12,837—majority for Clymer 3,654.—Vote 1867—Williams 7,985, Sharswood 10,404—majority for Sharswood 2,419. Decrease of vote 1867, 748; decrease of majority, 1,235.

PERRY.—Vote 1866—Geary 2,581, Clymer 2,495—majority for Geary 86. Vote 1867—Williams 2,427, Sharswood 2,292—majority for Williams 135. Decrease of vote 1867, 154; increase of majority, 49.

SCHUYLKILL.—Vote 1866—Geary 8,793, Clymer 10,514—majority for Clymer 1,721. Vote 1867—Williams 7,256, Sharswood 8,380—majority for Sharswood 1,124. Decrease of vote 1867, 1,537; decrease of majority 597.

WAYNE.—Vote 1866—Geary 2,357, Clymer 2,883—majority for Clymer 526. Vote 1867—Williams 2,320, Sharswood 2,586—majority for Sharswood 266. Decrease of vote 1867, 37; decrease of majority 260.

After giving the matter a careful consideration the committee decided that Wayne county was entitled to the banner, and to her it has been awarded; but it was also determined that the gallant struggle of the Republicans in Luzerne county, that stronghold of Copperheadism, should also be recognized and encouraged, and another flag is to be purchased and sent thither with the compliments and thanks of the committee. We congratulate our friends in both counties on this honorable recognition of their services. —*State Guard.*

ST. THOMAS.

When Mr. Jefferson bought of France for $15,000,000 the vast region then known as Louisiana—a mighty empire of the most fertile land under the sun—he frankly avowed that he had no authority for so doing—that he had utterly transcended his constitutional power. He declared that Congress migh disavow his act, and leave him to brave the consequences. He held that the Constitution should be amended in order to legalize his purchase which must otherwise remain a gross usurpation. If any one had told him that his act was valid without the assent of Congress, he would have deemed that superserviceable champion a fit tenant for a straight jacket.

President Johnson and Secretary Seward have chosen to iniate a negotiation for the purchase of the Danish West India isle of St. Thomas, and another even more significant—the two comprising an area of less than one hundred square miles. The stipulated price of these two islets—for which $1,000,000 would be exorbitant—is $7,200 000.—*The World* asserts that, though we are to pay this vast amount, Denmark is to receive $400,000 less—this nice sum sticking to the fingers of certain go-betweens who are kept out of sight.

Congress has been repeatedly in session while this dicker was in progress, and might have been called at any other time. Yet its advice or concurrence was never asked.—There has been no pretense of deferring to its authority. And while the Danish King reserves the right of consulting the "Rigsdag," or legislature of his realm, the American President does not even hint that Congress has any voice in the matter. The treaty is made; the consent of the islanders to the transfer solicited, a clerical townsman of Gov. Seward sent thither to secure that consent; and we daily expect to hear that the transfer has been effected, although neither the American People nor their representatives have as yet had a word to say in the premises.

If Congress should succumb to this glaring usurpation and weakly vote the money, it were absurd to elect another Congress. We may better hand over the Government and the Treasury to the President, and bid him do with cash as he shall see fit. The National Credit will have received a fatal shock when it shall thus be established that the Executive may buy Greenland and a billion of dollars for it whenever he will, leaving nothing to either House but to levy the requisite taxes and vote the money. Though St. Thomas were as valuable as Cuba—and it is not a hundredth part so much—we trust Congress would deal with this assumption of power as it deserves. Let it be settled evermore that the People's money can only be disposed of by the People's chosen representatives.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

THE *Village Record*, in response to a paragraph that recently appeared in these columns says:

"Mr. Hickman was at Washington on business entirely private, but not political. He is not for Hancock, or for any other man, for President, who is not fully identified with Republican principles; and so far from lowering the platform of the Republican party, he is in favor of elevating it still higher. Mr. Hickman will go to Harrisburg in obedience to the call of the people of Chester county, and will be found the advocate of honest legislation, public economy, and high-toned Republicanism."

THE New York *Leader* of the 14th says:—"One of the *Tribune* staff, who has very carefully examined the immense mass of Republican exchanges received by that paper, says that, so far as he has gone 63 journals have expressed their preference for Grant, 13 for Salmon P. Chase, 4 for Sheridan, and 6 scattering, and that for the Vice Presidency 12 support Wm D. Kelley, 7 Schuyler Colfax, 4 George S. Boutwell, 4 Renben F. Fenton, 2 John A. Bingham and 6 scattering.

"CURSES, like chickens, always come home to roost," says the proverb. The earthquake which Secretary Seward recently purchased with the Island of St. Thomas has got as far north as Auburn, where, on yesterday morning, the tremulous lightning informs us, "buildings were shaken to their foundations." Dr. Blackburn lives in history as the importer of yellow fever for political purposes; but his genius never ventured upon the importation of real living earthquakes.

The President loses no time in putting in his answer to Grant's celebrated "private letter." Gen. Hancock has scarcely begun his overturning of Sheridan's work in Louisiana; but the little he has already accomplished moves Mr. Johnson to intrude upon Congress a special message calling their attention to the facts, and extolling the heroism, patriotism, self-denial, and high Roman virtue of the present Commander of the Fifth Military District. It may be all very well for Johnson, but how long can Hancock stand it?

A Scathing Letter to Gen. Hancock.

Hon. J. R. G. Pitkin has written a most scathing letter to Gen. Hancock, relative to his administration of affairs since assuming command of the Fifth Military District. The ostensible purpose of the letter is to request that the recent appointment of the writer, as Secretary of State, contained in the suspended order of Gen. Mower, may not be confirmed. We subjoin a few of the most pointed paragraphs:

When that appointment was announced by our local prints, no one could have been more surprised than myself. I had sought nothing at the hands of that worthy officer, and a regard for the political friends, whose opinion I hold dear, will certainly dissuade me from ever obtruding upon his successor. Had the former been continued in command, I am persuaded that his appointees would have cordially and materially assisted him in the labor of reconstruction, and I am equally certain that not one of them would have consented to be miserable stewards of the apostate President.

There are rebels, numerous and abject enough for this service, buzzing like wasps about your headquarters and stinging loyal reputations—"dogs easily won to fawn on any man." The officer who suffers them, and installs them in public places, accepts a desperate risk.

Speaking of other matters, Mr. Pitkin remarks that "every official indirection is a danger for which the best field credit does not compensate," and adds

It is when a soldier confesses in his initial order, that the military should defer to a civil authority, which is forwith recommitted to rebel hands, either that he has suddenly ceased to aspire to high national ends, or that his patient waiting since 1861 for a chance to surrender to the enemy is at length fully rewarded. That enemy is at least consistent, has not changed its front, has not forborne its old heresies.

That I cannot capitulate with you suffices as a reason why my name should no longer be entertained at headquarters with reference to a bureau of this State. Your advent, Sir, has lent renewed cheer to one class of our people—it is a class which, by its practice upon one Convention, can fondly dream a grim murder of another now in session in this city—which has already bought our public trusts for its Monroes and Abells anew, which impatiently seeks to render loyalty again a discredit and a peril, and which may personably confide its schemes to him, whose enviable distinction it is to be not only one of the five district commanders that can discover more force in a mad whim of the President than in a solemn decree of Congress.

The writer then refers to the statement of Gen. Hancock, that he "had been informed that the administration of criminal justice in the courts had been clogged, if not entirely frustrated," by negro jurors; and after remarking that "it is easy to determine whence this information comes" to the General, adds:

Men who have just doffed their rebel uniforms, and as proficients in partisan shames, have been virtually promoted to your civil staff; men, the final chapter of whose biography will be, in too many cases, an indictment; men to whom the insulting color may cast back the odium of having defeated the ends of justice. A dozen hands from which, sir, you cannot wash the red smear of rebellion may shoot erect to a juror's oath as they once did to a citizens. The fidelity of their observance of the latter vow is, perhaps the best lesson for your espousal of the arbitrary jealousy of the jury box. When, sir, not one of your local misadvisers shall longer crouch at your heels in security from his dues, and when a better authority than yours shall have declared, as soon it will, that a temple of justice can question no color except that of crime, you will discover that the black juror will neither "fustrate nor clog the administration of justice," and especially of what some in this community may well complain of not having yet received "criminal justice."

The subject of the Presidential aspirations of Gen. Hancock are alluded to, and these remarks are made.

But some one must soon thrust his feet into the President's shoes, and your evident willingness, General, so to be persuaded by a Democratic nomination excites less solicitude for the nation than for yourself. To the American people, however belongs the uniform upon your back, and I cannot believe they contemplated that it was to be used through this district simply for the purpose of a political canvass, with its pockets distended with the summaries of Johnsonian speeches, collated in advance at the White House, and issued here as "general orders."

The letter concludes in these emphatic words:

Our present convention has two imperative duties to perform—first, to rend with its two hands, white and black each of your adverse orders to tatters, to decree every local post vacant, and to cancel every distinction of race; and second, to place those hands austerely upon our commander's shoulders, and face to face with him, with the firmness of a just defense with honor for his stars, and in all charity of spirit, distinctly to admonish him that the mistaken purpose of his embassy, if unfortunate for Louisiana, is tenfold more so for himself.

Johnson's Scheme to Secure the next Presidency.

Johnson's oft-repeated declaration of regard for and abiding confidence in "the people"—his transparent demagogueism—were not without motive. Even at a time when the whole nation was disgusted with his action and utterances, he kept his eye steadily on the succession in the White House, and has ever since been shaping his ends to accomplish that result. A Washington correspondent exposes the scheme, and gives the programme which the President has laid down in order to compel his nomination on the Democratic ticket. Having thus far failed to command the support of the Northern Democrats—such support as looks towards his nomination—he naturally feels indignant at them. He has done all in his power to secure their indorsement for the Presidency, but they stand aloof, regarding him as too much crippled to succeed in the race. He has now, in a rather startling programme, laid his plans for *making* them come to time. Tennessee is the field chosen for commencing the scheme. The bitterness of feeling existing between the factions in that State is expected to culminate next spring, at the county elections, in the prostration of the elements opposed to Johnson's policy. Some time in April Johnson will "show his hand," and advise the holding of a Constitutional State Convention, at any time, and the reconstruction of the State Government. In return for this service, Johnson expects to have the electoral vote of Tennessee pleged for him. In this manner it is expected that Tennessee will be "redeemed." This State secured, the ice will be broken. The correspondent says:

By a similar strategy the ten Southern States will be wheeled into line. With the prestige of success in Tennessee it will be an easy matter for Mr. Johnson to declare once the time for unrolling the Constitution is at hand—that the Southern States are in the Union (he has said so in a dozen messages already), and that they have a right to regulate their own affairs and take part in the coming national election. The reconstruction acts will be *made* a nullity, by ordering Uncle Sam's nephews to mind their own business and let civil matters alone. In order to do this, Grant will be ousted in February, according to the six months' clause of the Tenure of Office bill, and Sherman or Hancock, probably the latter, placed in the War Office *ad interim*, while the Senate will wrangle over such nominations as Johnson may choose to make. In return Johnson naturally expects the *douceur* of political support from the States he liberates. With the electoral votes of eleven States thus secured, he he expects to present to the National Democratic Convention the alternatives of making him their nominee, or of certain defeat. Such is the startling, but perfectly legitimate, programme, outlined for Johnson, by his friends in Washington, and so far as Tennessee is concerned, it meets with unstinted approval at the hands of lifelong personal and political enemies of the President, mostly old line Whigs. The Democrats cannot well gainsay it, because it is precisely what they would do if in power to-day. They condemn it, however, as making the Southern States a mere foot-ball between Chase and Johnson. There are many drawbacks to the consummation of this scheme, but with all these the friends of the President are sanguine, and feel confident that bold action will overcome all obstacles.

INTELLIGENT SUFFRAGE.

Letter from Senator Wilson.

The following is a letter from Senator Wilson to Hon. John C. Underwood, Judge of the United States District Court of Virginia, and one of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention at Richmond:

SENATE CHAMBER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 17.

Hon. John Underwood:

MY DEAR SIR—I received your note yesterday, in which you ask my views touching the proposition to disfranchise all persons in 1871 who cannot read and write. If such a proposition is seriously pressed by any number of persons, they are doubtless influenced to it by the reading and writing provision in the Constitution of Massachusetts. That provision disfranchised no one; it secured the ballot to all who possessed it, and applied the educational test only to those who came of age or were naturalized after its adoption.—If a proposition is to be put in your constitution of an educational test in 1871, to apply only to those who come of age at that date, or are naturalized, or take up their residence in your State, it would be in accordance with the oft quoted provision in the constitution of Massachusetts. Such a provision might be an incentive to young men of both races to better qualify themselves to the exercise of the elective franchise. But to take from tens of thousands of colored men to whom education has been denied, and to whom suffrage has been given, a right so essential to the security of their lives, liberty and property, and to disfranchise thousands of poor white men who have never enjoyed the priceless blessings of common schools, would be a great wrong—a measure utterly indefensible.—Poor laboring men, more than any other class, need the ballot for their security. Ignorance, if it be loyal, liberty-loving and just, is safer than intelligence that is unpatriotic, unjust and selfish. No poor man in the possession of manhood suffrage shall have the ballot taken from him by my advice or with my consent, unless for crime

When slavery, the prolific mother of all our woes, perished, and when the civil war ended, I hoped to see nothing done for revenge, but all for security. Heart, conscience and reason bade me strive to secure equal rights for black men, protection for the loyal, and forgiveness for the disloyal. It seemed to me to be a duty of patriotism, humanity, and Christianity to lift up the poor, secure the rights of the weak, and to forgive the erring. I hope our friends in your Convention, and in Conventions of other States, will inflexibly maintain the equal rights of all the blacks and whites, and deal generously with those who raised their hands against their country. It seems to me that the policy that shall securely hedge about and guard the civil and political rights of all, and deal mercifully and generously with our erring countrymen, will hasten the time to be strived, hoped and prayed for, when the bitter memories of the bloody conflict through which we have passed, will be forgotten in the common enjoyment of impartial liberty and equal justice, and in the general prosperity and common renown of our native land.

I am, dear sir, very truly,
[Signed] HENRY WILSON.

Presidential.

The force of the tide of public opinion, and the almost absolute certainty that General Grant will be the Republican nominee for President, renders it quite unnecessary to repeat the evidences of his great popularity which come to us from all quarters. Nevertheless the extract below will doubtless be of interest to the general reader. A correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* writing from St. Louis, says:

"It is well known that in the Baltimore Convention in 1864, the Missouri delegation, being opposed to Lincoln, cast their votes for General Grant for the Presidency. This is a singular condition of things for 1867, for it cannot be truly said that the Radicals now favor General Grant as their first choice.—Still it is evident to all thinking minds here that General Grant will be the Republican nominee for 1868. As it is useless to resist this movement, our Missouri Radicals are one by one acquiescing in the necessity, and declaring for Grant as the coming man. It is understood Senator Henderson is a hearty supporter of General Grant, and that he proposes to make a speech in this city, shortly, favorable to his acceptance as the Radical candidate. There is every probability that ere sixty days have rolled around there will be a Grant club in every ward in St. Louis.—In the interior the sentiment in favor of General Grant is even more unanimous than in St. Louis.

The Grant meeting in the old Cradle of Liberty—Faneuil Hall, Boston—was large, enthusiastic and in every way a great success. Of it the *Advertiser* says:

"It was large, enthusiastic, and greatly resembled the gatherings fifteen years ago, when the merchants and business men of Boston were more in the habit of assembling in this historical building than they have been of late. As our readers know, none of the usual efforts were made to insure a large meeting. There has been no parade of the names of speakers, and the official announcement was only made yesterday morning. Nor did it have the appearance of a mere political gathering. It seemed more, as it really was, an assemblage of business men, to compare views in relation to the remarkable man who is destined to be the next President of the United States.

The Atlanta (Ga.) *Era* says: "The whole nation is rising *en masse* for Grant for President. Let the column move forward. Our camp-fires burn brightly to day, and 1868 will inaugurate a brilliant future for the nation."

The Lake Shore Railroad Tragedy.

A terrible accident occurred at Angola, N Y. on the Lake Shore railroad, last week—The two rear cars of a passenger train were thrown down an embankment some fifty feet in height. The cars immediately took fire, and before assistance could be rendered some sixty persons were burned to death. The Buffalo *Express* of last Saturday says:

The fearful accident at Angola is still the constant theme of all classes of society in this city. The process of identifying the bodies lying at Union Chapel, opposite the Central Depot, progresses very slowly. The place is thronged continually by people who come from distant parts in search of friends and relatives known to have been on the ill-fated train. In some instances they discovered the object of their search among the unburned bodies which were first examined, but in most cases they passed around to the remnants of men and women lying in the boxes on the right side of the room, only to turn away with tearful eyes and bursting hearts from the horrible scene. The dreadful thought that the object of their love was lying among the blackened fragments of humanity caused a dreariness of the soul which was plainly shown upon their faces, and many a sympathetic tear was shed by the spectators. The railroad and other officials are untiring in their efforts to secure the identification of the remains, and in all probability it will ere long be ascertained very nearly how many and who were killed and burned. The unclaimed baggage of the passengers is being carefully examined, and the least circumstance likely to be of use in establishing the individuality of the burned is noted.

CONDITION OF THE BURNED.

There seems to be no reason to believe that any of those in the rear car were totally destroyed. The heat was most intense, but not sufficiently so to burn the entire body. The limbs of many are gone—burned away—but the trunks are not destroyed. In every case the human form can be recognized at a casual glance, but not the sex. Twenty-three burned bodies were removed from the ruins by the coroner and his assistants, and laid side by side on the ice of Big Sister Creek, under circumstances and in such a manner that there could be no possibility of a mistake as to the exact number—23. Of this number three are undoubtedly females. The reports of the passengers that there were between fifty and sixty in the car when it went over the bank are not considered reliable. It is well known that quite a number having seats in the car were at the time of the accident in the smoking car; several jumped from the car before it was thrown from the track, some escaped after it fell, and some were rescued alive, and others were taken out dead and burned, but not included in those placed in the boxes of charred bodies.

THE JURY VISIT THE SCENE.

Coroner Richards and the jury, accompanied by Superintendent Reynolds and a few other gentlemen, left the city about 9:20 yesterday morning in a car specially provided for Angola, to view the scene of the late calamitous accident, and to make the necessary inquiries as to its occasion. As the matter will soon be thoroughly investigated, we shall not now express any opinion on the subject, but simply confine ourselves to the cases of the sufferers lying at Angola, whose names have not yet been recorded, as well as any fresh circumstances relative to the affair which appear worthy of record.

General Sheridan's Report—His Rebuke of President Johnson.

After referring to his organization of the military forces of the Department he proceeds to say that "on the 3d of March, 1867, an Act entitled 'an Act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States' became a law, and he was assigned to the command of the Fifth District, comprising the States of Louisiana and Texas."

* * * * * * *

The report concludes as follows:

Assuming command of the Fifth Military District on the 19th of March, 1867, I found upon examining the law that I was required "to protect all persons and property; to suppress insurrection, disorder, and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals."

To accomplish this purpose, and to reorganize these two States as loyal to the government, I had a small military force and the authority vested in me by the law. I found upon a close examination of the existing civil governments of those two States, that nearly every civil functionary, from the Governor down, had been soldiers or aiders and abettors in the rebellion, and that in nearly all cases they had been elected on confederate grounds, and solely for services rendered in their attempts to destroy the General Government. In fact, many, if not all, had advertised, when they were candidates, their services in this respect as a meritorious appeal for votes. I found, also, that they were nearly all disfranchised by the law, and were substantially aliens.

It is scarcely necessary to state that from this condition of affairs nearly every civil officer within my command was either openly or secretly opposed to the law, and to myself as the authority held responsible by the order of the Executive of the nation for its faithful execution. It was a difficult situation in which to be placed, *rendered still more so by the apparently open sympathy of the President with the functionaries above alluded to. I make this remark, not as a charge, but simply as an explanation.* To have attempted "to protect all persons in their rights of person and property, to suppress insurrection, disorder and violence, and punish or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals," and reorganize the States against all this power and influence, in accordance with the intentions of the framers of the law, without exerting the right of removal, was simply absurd.

It would have taken years for military commissions to have tried those cases of violations of the law alone that would have occurred in exact registration of the legal voters of the States. There was only one course to pursue, and that was to remove every civil officer who did not faithfully execute the law, or who put any impediment in the way of its execution—and this course was adopted. In pursuance of the same, I decided to use the authority vested in me as leniently as possible; to almost allow myself to be forced to the wall by open overt acts before action was taken; and in every order issued the cause of removal was specified. I had no desire to oppress, and did not oppress. I only wished to give security to all good citizens, and did so, and insecurity to all office-holders who failed to carry out the law, or who put impediments in the way of reconstruction.

I have been charged by the highest authority in the nation with being tyrannical and partisan, and I am not afraid to say, when such charges are made against me, that I feel in my heart they are untruthful. In all my dealings with the people of Louisiana and Texas I was governed by honor, justice and truth; no political influences or interests were allowed to control my actions. I carried out the law with satisfaction to all except those whom it disfranchised and a set of dishonest, political tricksters who I had previously denounced, and who sought to make use of the law to obtain place and position; and the whole system of reconstruction was faithfully and successfully pushed forward to near its completion, with energy and economy, until the 1st of September, 1867, when I received General Orders No. 81, dated Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, August 23, 1867, relieving me from the command of the Fifth Military District, and assigning me to the Department of the Missouri.

In conclusion, I take the greatest pleasure in reporting to the General-in-Chief the cheerful and able manner in which all the officers of my command performed their difficult and responsible duties.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General.

Brevet Major General John A. Rawlins,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.

A YOUNG buck of the soap-lock order, who wore an unshaven face, because, as he said it looked foreign, lately accosted a Yankee, as follows, "I say fellow, some individuals think I am a Frenchman, and some take me for an Etalyean; now what do you think I am?" "Wael, I think you'r a darn'd fool," replied Jonathan.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ESTRAYS.

CAME TO THE PREMISES OF THE SUBSCRIber, in Economy township, Beaver county, Pa., on or about July last, forty head of sheep—some with half crop or off left ear, some with hole through left ear, and some with crop off of left ear, and about two-thirds of the flock with no mark at all.

The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take away.

HUGH COCHRAN.
dec25'67:2t.

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IT IS THE BEST CHANCE EVER OFFERED TO Agents. One or two days' time will secure a good Sewing Machine, Silk Dress, or some other article of equal value. Agents wanted everywhere, and FREE OF COST to the best One Dollar Pawnbroker's Sale, male and female, for the country. Send for Circular. S. C. TIHOLDEN & CO.
dec25'67:3m. 30 Hanover St. Boston, Mass.

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE.

A COMFORTABLE AND WELL FINISHED TWO story brick residence, situated on the North side of Third street, West of the Court House. Fine shade in front and water adjacent.

Will be sold low if application be made soon.

THOMAS M'CREERY,
Cor. 3d Street and Public Square,
dec25'67. Beaver, Pa.
P. S. Possession given immediately.

Desirable Property For Sale.

A VALUABLE AND DESIRABLE TWO STORY brick residence of eight rooms and full lot, is offered for sale at a low rate and reasonable terms.

Lot contains fine fruit grapes, berries, &c. Also, good cistern and all necessary out-building, including stable.

The situation is in one of the best thoroughfares of Beaver. Apply to

M. A. SANNER,
Somerset, Pa., or
W. M. S. MARKS,
dec25'67:2t. Beaver.

Conversion of 7-30's.

HOLDERS OF JUNE AND JULY 7-30'S CAN have them converted into the

New 5-20 Gold Coupon Bond,

On more advantageous terms than the government rates, by sending or presenting their 7-30s to us. 5-20s delivered immediately or sent by express. Agents for sale of Pacific Railroad Bonds.—Highest price paid for Government securities in exchange for same. Six per cent. interest paid on deposits. Money loaned on Government Bonds.

JAMES T. BRADY & CO,
Dealers in Government Securities,
Cor. Fourth & Wood Sts.,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Patent Bell Churn Dasher.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE PURCHASED THE right to manufacture and sell in Beaver, Co. Pa., Wallace & Cockerell's Patent Bell Churn Dasher. The leading feature of this invention is in having a bell shaped dasher, provided with more or less holes, leading from the exterior to the interior surface, the axis of each of these openings being perpendicular to a tangent at the point of the cane, where the hole is located.

This dasher will be sold on reasonable terms. Township rights will be disposed of to parties desiring to purchase. The following testimonials will show the estimation in which this dasher is held by those who have given it a trial.

We the undersigned, do hereby certify that we have used the above churn-dash, and would not be without it for double the price. Mrs. D. M. Donehoo, Mrs. John Caughey, Mrs. Thomas McCreery, Mrs. Samuel Ramsey.

SIR: Being engaged in the Dairy business for a number of years, and having tried everything new in the Churn line, pronounce yours the best labor saving machine yet tried in a cheap way.

JOS. ANDERSON.

Apply to or address

FINDLEY ANDERSON, or
ALEXANDER McMAHON,
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CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

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HOLYDAYS PRESENTS!

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MULHEIM'S!

AT

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Bridge st., Bridgewater.

HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM NEW YORK, I have selected the largest and most varied stock of Variety Goods ever offered in the county. I will sell as usual, at the lowest possible advance. To my friends, I am thankful for past favors, and hope to receive a call and see me. It would be impossible to enumerate each and every article.

Our stock is equal to any retail Variety Store in the country.

B. MULHEIM.

HOLIDAY GIFTS!

HOLIDAY GIFTS!

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Portfolios, Photograph Albums, Games, Ladies' Purses.

ELEGANTLY BOUND BOOKS, INCLUDING Miss Evans's works, viz: Beulah, Macaria, Inez and St. Elmo; Childrens' Libraries, latest Novels, Childrens' Toy Books, Doll Books and Dolls, Bird Wood and Wax Jewelry, Pencils and Pencil Sharpeners, Crocket Needles, Hair Brushes, and a variety of notions.
dec11'67:3t.

TO THE PUBLIC.

HAVING BEEN CREDIBLY INFORMED THAT different parties have been guilty of purchasing sacks that had once been filled by us, and on which we had placed our brands, and refilling them with an inferior article of flour, and then selling the same as flour manufactured by us thus being guilty of perpetrating a base fraud upon us and also on the public, we desire to expose the baseness of such parties and bring them to justice, and we therefore offer a reward of twenty