The Beaver Argus.

J. WEYAND, Editor and Proprietor.

Beaver, Pa., April, 6, 1870.

☞ The editor of this paper is absent.

THE Supreme Court has decided to re-open the argument on the Legal Tender case on the second Monday in April.

THE Turkish Minister on Friday last announced to the President that the Sultan, as a token of sympathy, is having manufactured a large carpet of one piece for the East room of the White House.

THE Committee of Ways and Means has agreed to amend the tariff bill on sugars, so it will read: On all raw or Muscovado sugar, and on all other sugars not above No. 12, Dutch standard, in color, two cents per pound. Also to admit free of duty machinery exclusively for spinning cotton yarn enough for ten thousand spindles in any one manufactory.

BY order of the President the Fifth Military District has ceased to exist. Texas is created a separate department, General Reynolds commanding. The department of Louisiana is broken up, and Louisiana is added to the Department of Texas, while Arkansas is added to the Department of Missouri, the new Department

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York *Times* in predicting a second authorities to the demand made by the United States for the release of the Steamer Lloyd Aspinwall, improperly detained at Havana, Cuba, since January last. A reply is daily looked for; and should it not soon be received, or prove unsatisfactory when considered, the country may expect sharp and prompt measures for the redress of this outrage upon American commerce.

THE Darien ship canal treaty was laid before the Senate on Friday last. It is a very long document, and all the essential points have recently been given in letters from Panama. It is not likely that there will be any action on it at present. Ratification may take place at any time within 18 months. The President says the San Domingo and Darion treaties are parts of one policy, and we cannot get the full benefit of the ship canal unless we take San Domingo.

THE *Radical* is inconsolable. It will not be reconciled to a change in the Treasury Depatment. Its wounds will persist in breaking out afresh, even after the public had been led to believe they were in a fair way of healing. And now, in the extremest agony, it invokes the Legislature to request the Treasurer elect to *resign!* Perhaps, if General Irwin would consent to recognize on the 1st of May, certain paper, to the amount of two or three hundred thousand dollars, as *cash*, there would be a general letting-up all around; and everything thenceforward would be lovely. But, we fear the General is incorrigible, and that he won't do it.

THE Boston *Advertiser* states that private letters from San Domingo are filled with warnings against the proposed purchase of that republic, and represenat the whole thing as a vast job. They represent that the schemers have bought up all the valuable territory, which, in the event of annexation, would be necessary for fortifications and warehouses. The election is represented as a farce. No such thing as a vote by ballot is known. Voters are brought up by force and compelled to vote in a certain way. "The forts, arsenals and navy," described in the treaty, are myths. The debt, as we learn from another source, will not fall much short of $20,000,000.

IT was reported at Washington, last week, that the President was waiting for a reply from the Spanish term for Grant, gives the following fair summary of the present administration: "Grant has tried to do what is right. He has kept the peace; he has paid the debt; he has controlled the revenue; he has shunned alluring quarrels; he has not angered the country by distracting dissertations on the Constitution, he has been rich in saving common sense; and although he has disappointed aldermen and ward politicians, and the shoo-fly statesmen who would own him—the people who plow and weave and dig, and who have no interest beyond their crops and yarn believe in Grant. It is a great thing to know we have a man who means to do what is right, and once we have him we are going to sustain him."

THE President was serenaded last Friday night, by the Republican Association in honor of his message to Congress announcing the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment, and responded to some remarks from Col. Forney, as follows:

"I can assure those present that no consummation since the close of the war affords me so much pleasure as the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution by three-fourths of the States of the Union. I have felt the greatest anxiety ever since I was called to this house to know that this was to be secured. It looked like the realization of the declaration of Indepeneence. (Applause.) I cannot say never so much on this subject as I would like to, not being accustomed to speaking, but I thank you for your presence this evening."

When the applause subsided Vice President Colfax was called for and made a short address, assuring those present that his heart was with them in gratitude for the proclamation, which has declared to the people of the Republic and the world the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment.

THE trial of McFarland in New York, which has been postponed from time to time, it is said, will most likely take place during the current week. The prisoner's counsel are reported as having at all times been ready for trial; but, not so with the District Attorney, who has obtained postponements on the plea that he was overcrowded, and lacked time to make the necessary preliminary arrangements, while the attorneys for the defense—not being thus burdened—have had ample time to prepare for trial. A correspondent of the Chicago *Journal* says that in a conversation with some of Mr. Richardson's friends he has learned that they do not entertain any hope of convicting McFarland. They affirm, however, that they will demonstrate on the trial that McFarland was a brute and treated his wife in the most cruel manner; that the relations existing between her and Richardson were of the purest character, and that McFarland shot Richardson after he had offered to compromise the matter on the payment of several thousand dollars. There is no foundation for the report circulating through the papers to the effect that Mrs. McFarland is living in a cottage at Woodside belonging to the "Richardson estate." The stories as to the property left by Richardson have been grossly exaggerated. Beyond his few shares in the Tribune he owned but little, and there was a considerable sum due on those shares. All told, his property, after deducting the payments due, did not exceed eighteen or twenty thousand dollars.

THE argument in the injunction case of Cahoon against Ellison, rival mayors of Richmond, Va., closed in the United States Circuit Court on Wednesday, March 30, Ex-Governor Wise making the closing speech for Cahoon. He repudiated in strong terms any affiliation with the black Republican party, claimed to be still an unrepentant rebel, and did not want his position misunderstood because he appeared as counsel for the Republican claimant. He claimed the Court has jurisdiction, because Cahoon, as a provisional annointee, is go out of office until the regular election by the people. Ellison's counsel claimed the admission of the State terminated the powers of all provisional officers in the State. The decision will affect all offices in the State, which are nearly all filled by military appointees, and who will remain in, until July, if the decision is in favor of Cahoon.

Since the above was in type we learn that Judge Underwood has granted an injunction against Ellison restraining him from acting as Mayor. Ellison's counsel gave notice that the injunction would be disobeyed in order to cause the arrest of Ellison and bring his case before the Supreme Court on a writ of *habeas corpus*. The Judge, in his dicision declares the enabling Act of the State of Virginia unconstitutional, which decision affects nearly all the officers of the State.

THERE is one redeeming trait in the character of Bailey, late revenue defaulter of New York; and that is—if it be true—that he did not use the public funds for his individual aggrandizement, but for the public weal. The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* says: Whatever may have been Bailey's reasons for his disappearance, there is no doubt of the use which he has made of the money which he has illegally appropriated. It has been expended in conducting the prosecution of whiskey thieves and revenue defrauders, the law requiring that Collectors engaging in this warfare shall almost entirely bear their own expenses. Bailey fought against men who wielded millions, and his private resources were entirely inadequate. There is no evidence that he has appropriated any of the missing money for his own profit, and his intimate acquaintances most earnestly insist that he has employed the Government money only in the Government service. Less than a week before his departure, Bailey borrowed $250 of Assessor Cleveland, of his district, and subsequently returned $100 of it. He also borrowed a sum much larger from Mr. Runkle, of the Tribune office, and he evidently had but a small amount of money in his possession when he left. The stories of his extravagance in family matters and reckless profusion in personal expenses are simply fabrications. He offered for sale the other day, for $450, one of that span of blacks, which the papers have appraised at $10,000, and his magnificent landed estate in New Jersey, consists of a few hundred acres of wild lands, bought in company with Mr. Runkle, on long time and at low interest. Mr. Bailey's family are entirely without means, and except the furniture of the house which they occupy almost in destitute circumstances. His wife is utterly ignorant of her husband's fate, and completely prostrated mentally and physically by the fearful blow. The pamphlet which has lately appeared in circulation here, and from which some of the papers have made copious extracts, is the same document which was laid before the Senate when Bailey's nomination for Collector was pending, and all its charges completely dispelled. It is now brought forth without change, and published as an entirely distinct and fresh production.

Fair Play.

An effort is making in Congress to put women on the same footing as men in respect of eligibility to appointments as clerks and compensation. Mr. Arnell has introduced a bill enacting that hereafter all clerks and other employees in the civil service of the United States, shall be paid, irrespective of sex, with reference to the character and amount of services performed by them; that in the employment of labor, clerical or other, in any branch of the civil service of the United States, no discrimination shall be made in favor of either sex; and that where examinations of candidates for positions in the civil service of the United States are prescribed by law or by the heads of departments, bureaus or offices, said examination shall be of the same character for persons of both sexes. It is further provided that designations 'chief clerk, chief or head of division, chief or head of section, clerk of the fourth class, clerk of the third class, clerk of the second class, clerk of the first class, copyist, messenger, laborer,' and all other designations of employees, in existing acts of Congress, or in use in any branch of the civil service of the United States, shall be held, hereafter, to apply to women as well as men; and that women shall be regarded equally eligible with men to perform the duties of the afore designated clerks and employees, and shall receive the compensation therefore prescribed by law.

—Rapsall, the leader of the French Radicals, whose death was erroneously reported some time ago, is rapidly recovering his health and will resume his seat in the Chamber in the course of a few days.

—The skeleton of the beheaded murderer Troppman is said to have been sold to the proprietor of a London museum of curiosities by a French resurrectionist, who stole the corpse a few days after the execution had taken place.

THE Supreme Court of the United States held that the property in a bank called a share was distinct from the capital of the bank, and that such a share, as the property of the shareholder, could not be taxed by the State, notwithstanding the fact that all the stock of the bank was invested in Government securities. The law requiring the bank officers to pay the tax, it is said, does not make it a tax upon the stock of the bank. The banks are held to be subject to State laws in respect of the tax on shares of the holders, and they may be compelled to pay it. They could be garnisheed for a personal debt of a stockholder, and it is thought the object of the State law in this case was to make them similarly responsible in respect of the tax imposed. This decision was in the case of the First National Bank of Louisville against the State of Kentucky, and the opinion affirms the judgement of the court of appeals of that State. The Chief Justice dissented.

A SPECIAL dispatch from Springfield, Mo., to the St. Louis *Republican* says: "We have just received advices, dated Gainesville, Texas March 5, of an extensive raid of Camanche Indians in Western Texas. Over 40 families have been massacred. It is reported, also, that several houses have been burned and several hundred horses captured. It was believed that the commander at Fort Still could have prevented some of the massacres, if he had been disposed to do so. Over 76 of the horses are said to be near the fort in the possession of the 'Pein-Quaker' tribe."

It is asserted on good authority that a large deposit of iron ore of a very peculiar nature has been recently opened up in York county, Pa. This ore, we are informed upon good authority, has the quality of turning pig iron into good merchantable steel, by simple mixture and manipulation with the pig iron in a puddling furnace of the ordinary construction. The chemical analysis of the ore shows the presence of considerable quantities of manganese, silicon and aluminum with the iron. The ore is soft and friable in the bed, so much so that it can be mined with the spade, but upon exposure to the atmosphere it soon hardens. Professor Lesley, who has examined the ore bed, estimates the contents at 17,000,000 tons. For a few months past the discovery has made quite a stir among the iron *furnaces and rolling mills* of our State and Maryland and there is quite a strong desire to know more of a matter that seems to promise such important results. The ore, as we are informed, has been tested in the presence of experienced manufacturers, in the "Abbott" rolling mills in Baltimore; the "Cambria" iron works at Johnstown, Pa.; the "Lochiel" iron works near Harrisburg; the "Tamaqua" rolling mills; "Coleman, Rahm, & Co.'s" works at Pittsburgh; the "Alliance" rolling mills at Alliance, Ohio, and at other places, and in all cases it has been shown to possess the remarkable quality claimed for it. The steel produced during these tests was generally used for making steel-capped rails, and one of these bars, made at Pittsburgh was shown to possess a tensile strength of 112,500 pounds to the square inch of cross section.—*Exchange.*

The Legal Tender Decision.

In the Supreme Court on Friday last Attorney General Hoar made a brief argument to show why the legal tender decision should be reopened. He was not insensible to the great weight of the judiciary, its public reputation and its claims to the confidence of the country, but a more important decision in its consequences both public and private, was never before pronounced. The statute on which it was based was passed by a large majority in Congress, approved by the President, and having all forms of law. Attention had been called in both Houses to its constitutionality. There was this weight of authority to begin with, and besides it was a law, substantially acquiesced in by the people, for nearly eight years, and on which millions upon millions of dollars in contracts had been settled. The statutes so far as he was aware, with one exception, had been held constitutional by every State tribunal. But at a time when by law this court consisted of nine members, (there were seven only on the bench, there being two vacancies,) the question was decided here by four against three judges. The question therefore stood, reducing it to its essence, that upon the political opinion of a single man the case was adjudicated. He suggested it should not be left to a single man to decide upon the whole constitutional power affecting legislation of such important character. He pressed the reopening of the question, because it concerned the great mass of private interests, but more especially because it seemed to him to involve a fundamental principle, viz: the powers of the Government. He desired again to present it, when the bench was full, that they may forever settle what the law should be.

Such cases of reconsideration were by no means without example. In the case of McCulloch vs. State of Maryland, the Court after the opinion was pronounced, allowed the whole question to be reopened and reargued. It seemed to him it would be better for all parties concerned if the opinion in the legal tender case could be changed.

Mr James M. Carlisle replied saying the Attorney General had analyzed and disparagingly criticised the Court, because, as he had remarked, the question was decided by the vote of a single Judge. However that might be, it was the judment of the court which had been pronounced in that case. What now was to become of the highest judicial tribunal in the land, if opinions were to be reopened and reargued because of a small majority deciding the question. Whatever might be the majority, it was nevertheless the opinion of the Court. What had they to do with the previous actions of the Court. He then referred to the fact that the case of Hoffman and Griswold, one of the bank cases involving principles applicable to another party, had been postponed from one time to another for the purpose of argument, showing they had all been carefully and elaborately considered.

A STRIKING illustration of the passion which some of our legislators have for squandering the public money and robbing the Treasury is found in the proceedings of the State Senate yesterday. Mr. Rutan moved to amend the appropriation bill by giving two hundred dollars extra pay to the clerks and officers of both Houses. Mr. Connell stated on behalf of the clerks that they did not desire any increase of their salaries. Yet, notwithstanding this uncontradicted statement, four members—Messrs. Findlay, Nagle, Robison and Watt—two Democrats and two Republicans—voted to pay them the money they do not ask, though their salaries are already from $600 to $800 each for 3 or 4 months services.—*Lancaster Examiner.*

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Admission of Texas—The Legal Tender Decision—Printing Investigation—Appeal in Patent cases—President's Message—Death of General Thomas—Special Message on San Domingo Matters—Decline of American Commerce—General Land Office.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 1, 1870.

Quite a spicy debate occurred in the House yesterday, upon the admission of the Texas Representatives. Butler, and several others objected very strongly to the admission of Capt Connor. Connor, it seems was a Captain in the Regular Army, and was stationed in Texas at the time of the election. He was charged with cruelty to soldiers, and further, that he had admitted in his public speeches in the canvass, that he had been guilty of subornation of perjury. Dawes, Banks, and others stated that the House had nothing to do with the private character of any member elect, that the only question to be considered was whether he had the requisite constitutional qualifications. The vote was taken, and he was admitted with the other Members of the delegation.

In the Supreme Court, yesterday, Attorney General Hoar delivered a brief argument in favor of reopening the legal tender decision, taking the ground that the decision was made when there were two vacancies on the bench, and that the decision was by one majority. Mr. Carlisle replied, maintaining that they had nothing to do with majorities making up decisions, and that much trouble would arise should former decisions be re opened and reviewed.

The investigation in the case of Mr. Clapp, the Public Printer, is still progressing and from present appearances an ugly case will be made out against him. The witnesses who have been examined, have all been connected with the office in some capacity, and unite pretty generally in their statements that the office is not carried on with economy, that many incompetent persons are employed in it, and that competent compositors and pressmen have been removed on account of personal pique to the detriment of the public work. This investigation will likely continue some days.

The Commissioner of Patents, is endeavoring to have the appeal from his decision to one of the Judges of the District Court abolished. Although, a number of patent attorneys are making opposition to this measure, still it is altogether probable, that it will be carried through successfully. Judge Fisher, of the District Court, who has been hearing the appeal patent cases, has made some erroneous decisions, and unless they are corrected disastrous results will be worked in the patent system. It is expected that the Chief Justice will correct the decisions referred to, and if the appeal is abolished, there will be no opportunity for a repetition of them.

The special Message of the President to Congress on Wednesday announcing the promulgation of the ratification of the fifteenth amendment by the Secretary of State, is a subject of much comment among all classes of people here. In the House, many of the Democrats became furious with madness, while the Republicans had a grand jollification over the message. Wood of New York, and Neblack of Indiana, declared that their States had not ratified the amendment, but to no purpose. The majority of the House thought differently.

The receipt of the telegram, announcing the unexpected death of General George H. Thomas, on Monday night, causes much sorrow here, especially among the ex-Army officers and soldiers, of whom Washington, more than any other place, possesses a large number. Among the number now in this city who served under Gen. Thomas, are Secretary Cox, Senators Stewart, Warner, Spencer, Rice; Representatives, Garfield, Slocum Negley, Beatty, Coburn, Stoughton, Prosser, Washburn, Ketcham; Generals W. T. Sherman, O. O. Howard, Porter, Schoepf, Michler, Balloch, Campron, Este, Muzzey, Williams, Poe, Swayne, Boynton McCook, Hunter, Laselle; Colonels, Givens, Brownlow, Martin, and many others.

The numerous complaints from tax payers in different parts of the country, of incivility of revenue assessors has had the effect to cause Commissioner Delano, to issue a circular, instructing assessors and their assistants to be more patient and considerate in their dealings with all persons with whom their office brings them in contact.

Since my last writing, nothing of greater importance has transpired than the Message of the President to the Senate, notifying that honorable body, that an extension of thirty days from the 20th inst., had been obtained in which the treaty for San Domingo could be ratified. This extension was obtained for the express purpose, of course, of giving more time for deliberation in the matter, but the opponents to the measure will make a desperate effort to dispose of the bill at once; for they are assured that the necessary two-third vote cannot be obtained to ratify it. Senator Shurz, in opposition to the treaty contended that the people of the tropics are incapacitated for a constitutional Government, and would eventually lead us into trouble. It is understood to be the desire of the President that the treaty be recommitted, and that a commission be immediately sent to San Domingo that more information may be gained in the matter.

It is confidently expected that the San Domingo treaty will be rejected, 35 Senators are known to be for rejection, 23 against, 10 uncertain and two absent. If the 23 positive the uncertain and the absent were all to combine, it would only make a tie vote, but this is of course impossible.

The decline of American Commerce is a matter which has, and is still engaging the attention of Congress, but it is feared that little will be done to revive it. It has become a fixed fact that wooden steam vessels are now out of date—their day has gone by. Yet on account of the high protective tariff on iron, our people cannot compete with foreign nations in the construction of iron-clad vessels. A complete revolution in the carrying trade upon the ocean, has been worked since 1860, and now the scow propellers take the place of modern sailing vessels. The duty upon iron is such that it costs something over forty thousand dollars more to construct a vessel in this country of 1000 tons burthen than it does in England or other European States—adding as this is the case, our vessels cannot compete with those built abroad. It is a remarkable fact that we have not a single steam vessel upon the ocean engaged in commercial business between our ports and foreign nations. Our mails, our passengers and freight are all carried by foreign vessels. The United States Government pays annually a subsidy to foreign vessels of some $850,000 for simply transporting the mails.

Commissioner Wilson, of the General Land Office, is in receipt of advice from the Surveyor General at Washington Territory, located at Olympia, the Capital, showing the completion of the survey of four additional townships in the valley of the Columbia near the north west corner of the Territory, embracing an area of 92,160 acres. These lands are well watered by Colville and Douglass Creeks, eastern affluents of the Columbia, and a large proportion of them are nearly level, with a rich soil susceptible of a high state of cultivation. About 25,000 acres are now in cultivation, and the average yield of wheat in it last year is reported to be forty-five bushels per acre. There is a large number of settlers in this section of the State, some of whom have made extensive and valuable improvements. Marble of excellent qualities, and superior ledges of lime stone occur in numerous localities. The town of Colville, located on this track on Douglass creek, contains about eighty houses. Fort Colville is situated about half a mile south of the town. There is a distillery and several saw mills in this locality. The extension of the public surveys to this remote section of the Territory, will stimulate immigration, as settlers will now be able to acquire title to their homes at an early day. CHIEL.

MARINE DISASTER.

Mishap to an Ocean Steamer—Rescue of Passengers—Supposed Loss of the Vessel with Officers and Crew.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The steam fruiter Camilla, which arrived here yesterday, having on board the passengers of the steamship Venezuelan, of the West India and Pacific Steamship Company of Liverpool, who were transferred to the Camilla on the 16th of March, in the latitude thirty-three and thirty degrees north longitude forty-four and ten degrees west, or about 1,600 miles from New York, and between three hundred and four hundred miles to the westward of the Azores, brings the following particulars of the disaster: The Venezuelan is an iron screw steamer of one hundred & sixty tons register, with engines of two hundred horse power is brig-rigged, and plies on the line between Liverpool and Aspinwall, touching at several of the West India Islands, and at the ports on the Spanish main coast. She sailed from Liverpool on the 5th of March with a full cargo of general merchandise, £800 in specie, the mails thirteen passengers, and a crew of forty-six persons, bound to the West Indies. From the date of sailing she experienced fresh gales; but on the 12th she encountered very heavy weather, which continued until the 15th, when she broke down at eight and a half o'clock in the morning. It was blowing a moderate gale with a heavy cross sea running, and without any warning or shock the rudder dropped off. At the same time the stern post broke off, leaving a large hole in the vessel's side. Water rushed into the after store room, and in fifteen minutes after it was full. Measures were taken at once to confine the water in the after compartment. Fortunately, next day the Camilla hove in sight and took on board the passengers. The Captain and all the officers and thirty-six of the crew of the Venezuelan remained with the ship. In a few hours after the ships parted company a heavy gale set in, and the Captain of the Camilla fears that the Venezulan could not, in her crippled condition, weather it. There is a strong feeling among the passengers also that the Venezuelan did not survive the gale of the 16th and 17th insts.

Our System of Practice.

The medical world has become divided into so many different cliques, isms and pathies, that our peculiar system of practice may need some explanation, it being the Eclectic connected with Uroscopin.

Our remedies are principally vegetable, discarding entirely the use of *Calomel on Mercury in any form*, believing it to be a disease creating agent of the worst description.

We are also opposed to the use of general blood letting in any case; believing it to be injurious to the constitution, and oftentimes dangerous to life.

Our mode of detecting "chronic affections" of the internal organs, is principally by an examination of the *urine*.

During the whole course of our study and practice we have paid particular attention to this old, "German Mode" of detecting diseases, and we feel perfectly satisfied that "there is no more certain sign offered in disease," than is presented in that secretion.

Therefore, we now more especially invite all those laboring under any lingering disease, that has not been cured, because, perhaps, the complaint was not properly understood, to send a vial of their *urine* for examination, and have the necessary medicines sent them. We wish it distinctly understood, that this "special" invitation is given to those who have sufficiently tried the remedies of their family physician, and have failed to obtain relief at his hand.

This is our privilege and right as a physician, and it is the right and privilege of the afflicted to obtain their professional advice and medicine where they choose. Our office and residence is at No. 132 Grant street, Pittsburgh, where if any others choose to apply we will give them our best medical attention, and will promise them relief in every case where a reasonable hope can be entertained. L. OLDSHUE, M. D.

George H. Thomas.

The ablest of Grant's lieutenants is the first to go. General George H. Thomas, whose death we record with much pain, was, of all the army subordinates, nearest a counterpart of the great leader, developed by the rebellion. More deliberate in planning, he was hardly less daring in conception; not less stubborn in resistance, he was only less prompt in acting than Grant. In both private and public career he was without reproach and above suspicion. Twice he refused promotion at the cost of others; again and again he declined to accept rewards for his services which he thought might better be expended in the interest of the private soldiers; throughout his career of thirty years he so bore himself as not to excite the hatred of a single rival; he was always modest, generous and just; always patriotic, always helpful and true to all. Let us not forget that he was a Virginian who never faltered in his allegiance to the Union, a Regular who was the idol of the Volunteers, a West Pointer who never sought a promotion, complained about his pay, abused Congress, or intrigued for place. Some of these are traits that made him very notable at the outbreak of the war, others made him very notable of late, and all entitle him to the grateful remembrance in which his name is sure to be cherished. A fortnight ago, writing in the full hope that we might still count on a score of years of service from him, we said that in the judgment of the American people George H. Thomas would be remembered the model soldier of the war. Now that he is gone we can do no more than repeat that estimate.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

XVTH AMENDMENT.

Proclamation by the President—Ratification Proclamation—4,000,000 People Enfranchised.

WASHINGTON, March 30, '70.

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

It is unusual to notify the two Houses of Congress by message of the promulgation by proclamation of the Secretary of State of the ratification of a Constitutional amendment. In view, however, of the vast importance of the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution, this day declared a part of that revered instrument, I deem a departure from the usual custom justifiable. A measure which makes at once four millions of people voters, who were heretofore declared by the highest tribunal in the land not citizens of the United States nor eligible to become so, with an assertion that at the time of the Declaration of Independence the opinion was fixed and universal in the civilized portion of the white race, and regarded as an axiom in morals as well as in politics, "that black men had no rights which white men were bound to respect," is indeed a measuer of grander importance than any other one act of the kind from the foundation of our free Government to the present time.

Institutions like ours, in which all power is derived directly from the people, must depend mainly upon their intelligence, patriotism and industry. I call the attention, therefore, of the newly enfranchised race to the importance of their striving in every honorable manner to make themselves worthy of their new privilege. To the race more favored heretofore by our laws, I would say, withhold no legal privilege of advancement to the new citizens.

The framers of our Constitution firmly believed a Republican form of government could not endure without intelligence and education. The Father of his country, in his farewell address, used this language: "Promote, then, as a matter of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of the government gives force to public opinion it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened." In his first annual message to Congress the same views were forcibly presented and are again forcibly urged in his eighth message.

I repeat, that the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution completes the greatest civil change and constitutes the most important event that has occured since the nation came into life. The change will be beneficial in proportion to the heed given to the urgent recommendations of Washington. If these recommendations were important then, with a population of a few millions, how much more important now, with a population of forty millions and increasing in a rapid ratio.

I would therefore call upon Congress to take all means within their constitutional power to promote and encourage popular education throughout the country, and upon the people everywhere to see to it that all who possess and exercise political rights shall have an opportunity to acquire knowledge, which will make their share in the Government a blessing and not a danger. By such means only can the benefits contemplated by this amendment to the Constitution be secured.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, March 30, '70.

Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State, of the United States.

To all to whom these presents may come greeting: Know ye, that the Congress of the United States, on or about the 27th day of February, in the year 1869, passed a resolution in the words following, to wit:

"A resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

"*Resolved*, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, two-thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which, when ratified by three fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid as part of the Constitution namely;

Article 15. Section 1. The rights of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

"Sec. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

And further, that it appears from official documents on file in this department that the amendment to the Constitution proposed as aforesaid, has been ratified by the legislatures of the States of North Carolina, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Main, Louisiana, Michigan, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, New York, New Hampshire, Nevada, Vermont, Missouri, Virginia, Alabama, Kansas, Mississippi, Minnesota, Ohio, Rhode Island, Nebraska and Texas, in all twenty-nine States.

And further, that the State whose Legislatures have so ratified said proposed amendment constitute three-fourths of the whole number of States in the United States.

And further, that it appears from an official document on file in this Department that the Legislature of Georgia has by resolution ratified said proposed amendment.

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State of the United States, by virtue and in pursuance of the second section of the act of Congress, approved the 20th day of April, in year 1818, entitled "an act to provide for the publication of the laws of the United States and for other purposes," do hereby certify that the amendment aforesaid has become valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution of the United States.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 30th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1870, and of the independence of the United States the 94th.

(Signed) HAMILTON FISH.

Securities of National Banks.

A committee under the direction of Capt John Allison, Register of the Treasury, consisting of Messrs. Geo. L. Warren, of the Secretary's office, Chas. E. Prentis, of the Register's office, and J. L. Langworthy, of the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, has been engaged for some weeks past examining the securities of National Banks in the custody of Treasurer Spinner, and verifying and comparing the books of the Treasurer and Comptroller with the securities on deposit. This is the first thorough examination and comparison which have been made of the accounts, as kept by the two officers and the committee, who have just completed this tedious and difficult task, have reported that the books of both officers and the securities on deposit agree in every particular, and that the present system of checks and balances are excellent.

The result of this examination is very satisfactory to both offices, and highly creditable to the Department.

It appears from the report that there are deposited with the Treasures to secure the circulation of 1664 banks six per cent coin bonds, $229,955,450; five per cent. coin bonds, $94,468,900; six per cent. currency bonds, $17,960,000. Total, $342,384,450. To secure the Government deposits in 172 banks, designated as depositories, there are deposited with the Treasurer bonds amounting to $17,033,500.—*Wash. Nat. Rep.*

THE Philadelphia *Telegraph* remarks with much force: "For weal or for woe power is being concentrated in the hands of a few railway managers with a rapidity that is only paralleled by the rapid extension of the railway lines. They are not only gaining control of the questions which affect the interests of the gigantic corporations they represent, but, in insuring this end, they are acquiring absolute supremacy over every branch of the Government. Politics is becoming the mere plaything of these powerful monarchs, and they head legislators, Congressmen, Governors and Senators of both parties in the most abject vassalage."

THE DARIEN EXPEDITION

Safe Arrival of all the Vessels of the Fleet—Operations Commenced.

ISTHMUS OF DARIEN:
CALEDONIA BAY, Mar. 14, 1870.

The departure of a schooner from here bound for Aspinwall enables me to give you some information regarding the expedition to explore the isthmus. All the vessels of the fleet arrived here safely in this, one of the finest bays on the coast. The steamship Guard, employed as supply ship to the expedition, is here, but the Nipsic sailed some time ago for Carthagena, for the purpose of procuring more native laborers, those here being insufficient in numbers. The officers and crews of both vessels are well excepting Commander Selfridge, who is suffering from a lame leg, which prevents him accompanying the exploring party across the isthmus.

The work of exploration has fairly commenced, and all are very sanguine of success in discovering an easy route for the construction of a ship canal. Contrary to the general expectation, the Indians have thus far been very friendly, though somewhat frightened at our first appearance, and have assisted the explorers in every possible way. The expedition has already cut a road three miles in length into the interior, meeting with a river which is said to flow into the Pacific Ocean.

I wrote last on the 14th inst., via St. Thomas, enclosing a copy of the new treaty just negotiated at Bogota for the excavation of an interoceanic canal across this isthmus, and giving full particulars of what had transpired at Bogota relative to it. On this subject there is nothing to add to day, as there has been no communication whatever with the interior since that date, and consequently no news has been received.

Another expedition, on a less pretentious scale, is also now at work in the same locality. A Captain (or General) Heine, an American, who arrived at Aspinwall by the steamship Alaska, on the 1st inst., claims that he knows of a route across the Darien superior to all others, by which he could pass from Aspinwall to Panama entirely by water. In proof of this assertion he has chartered a small sailboat on the other side, to be delivered here and, accompanied by two men, hearted on his voyage ten days ago. He also arrived safely at Caledonia bay, but when he will put in an appearance at Panama it is hard to say. Not soon, unless he procures force sufficient to carry his yacht from one stream to another over the mountains. He is said to have been sent out by some capitalists in New York. There seems to be no end at present to the number of feasible canal routes said to have been discovered across this isthmus, but which have never been heard of before. All, including that of Mr. Lucien de Puydt, of the French Colombian Canal Company, are originated or based on an old survey made in 1754 and the map accompanying it, lying in the archives at Bogota. The map is published in Admiral Davis' report, and is very complete of that portion of the isthmus. Those who knew M. de Puydt when here have good reason to doubt that he ever crossed the Darien at all.

No United States man of war has yet arrived on this side to co operate with the surveying party.

THE Yolo (California) *Mail* relates the following at the expense of Fr. Lucky, Principal of the State Normal School. "The Doctor is a pious, conscientious and earnest man, and has taken a great interest in the welfare of the convicts of the State Prison. He lately visited the State Senate, and having been requested to open with prayer, did so as follows, forgetful of the situation: 'O Lord, we pray Thee that Thy mercies may be extended to these poor men who have been sent here from all parts of the State. Have mercy upon them, we beseech Thee, while they are serving out the terms for which they were sent; and when they have served and are dismissed from these walls, may they return to their homes better men, and may they become useful and upright citizens and honorable members of society. Amen.' At this juncture a member from Yolo rose and said: 'Mr. President, I move to strike out Yolo county.'"

ONE of the identical old hard biscuits from the barrel which a company of hungry soldiers rejected on the ground that they were marked "B. C.," is in the possession of Henry Jordan, of Erie. It was manufactured in Baltimore in 1836, and apparently is good for a century or two more. A knife makes no more impression on it than it would on a brick.

—The newspapers contain the following marriage notice: "Married—In Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 16th inst., in the presence of Brigham, Elder Brigham Young to Mrs. J. R. Martin, Mr. Pendegrast, Mrs. J. M. Jenkins, Miss Susie R. Clevelland and Miss Emily P. Martin, all of the county of Berks, England. No cards."

—The Council of Kansas City, Mo., have removed Capt. Miserez, Republican Superintendent of Registration, for registering negroes, by a vote of six to eight, disregarding the injunction issued by Judge Jenkins.

—Jas. Caddington, arrested at New York for having counterfeit money in his posession, has been discharged, it appearing that the money was placed on his person by a secret detective who desired his conviction.

—The Viceroy of Egypt has invited Louise Muhlbach to spend six months on the banks of the Nile in order to write a book about the lands of the Pyramides.

New Advertisements.

NOTICE TO JURORS.—Persons summoned to attend Court as Jurors on the 4th Monday of March, are hereby notified that their attendance will not be required until Monday, April 25, 1870, unless in the meantime, at which time they are hereby notified and required to attend without further notice. By order of the Court. JOHN GREENING, Sh'ff. apr6:3w

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