

THE BEAVER RADICAL.

SMITH CURTIS, EDITOR.

BEAVER, PA.

Friday Morning, January 24, 1873.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

General Grant in his message called attention to the importance of furnishing cheaper transportation for the surplus products of the South and West to the Atlantic, and the subject is occupying the thoughtful attention of our Statesmen, and is being agitated somewhat by the press of the country. General Grant pointed out two routes, both feasible, and recommended Congress to give them serious consideration. These routes were the extensions of the Kanawha and James River canal to the Ohio and the Chesapeake and Ohio canal. In regard to this latter route a committee has been appointed and instructed to secure a charter for the improvement and navigation of the Youghiogheny river, and also to procure such legislation as would authorize and empower the Company to connect the slack water of this river by canal with the Chesapeake and Ohio canal at Cumberland, Maryland. The extension is said to have been General Washington's idea when the canal was first projected, and by survey it has been found to be practicable, though somewhat expensive. By the Kanawha and James River route it will require two hundred and forty miles of canal to be constructed, while by the Youghiogheny only about one hundred miles to make connection, making a difference of one hundred and forty miles in favor of the latter route. The national importance of this route cannot be well over-estimated. It will afford cheap transportation for the products of the West and South to the East, and also supply the South, the West and the East with the only superior gas coal in the country. Boats laden with grain from the West can return freighted with coal. Corn that is burnt for fuel in the West, while persons are suffering for it in the East, can then be exchanged for coal to the great advantage of both sections. The East needs grain, the West fuel, and by this contemplated internal improvement a mutual exchange of their products can easily and cheaply be made. This route passing through the very centre of the Youghiogheny coal basin, said to be the largest and richest in America, will not only be the rich source of abundant freight, but will furnish a cheaper and better gas coal to the large cities of the East, and thus save to those places in annual cost of consumption a sum of money nearly large enough, it is estimated, to construct the work. We think that it is a matter of national interest to build both of the projected canals, for as the Southern and Western part of our country is becoming rapidly more productive, all the means of transportation to the Atlantic seaboard will surely be taxed to the utmost to transport the immense annual surplus of products.

We hope, therefore, that this whole subject will carefully be considered by Congress, and that more than ordinary efforts will be used to secure cheaper transportation between the West and East, an object certainly of vast interest to all sections of our common country.

The Constitutional Convention so far has been occupied with preliminary work. Many important subjects have been presented and await discussion. Since the present Constitution of the State was made, there has been so many changes, so many new ideas of government put afloat, and so many reform measures advocated, that it will be no easy matter to frame an instrument which will meet every demand, and satisfy all classes. Radical changes are proposed in regard to every branch of the Government: the Executive, the Judiciary, and Legislative, as well as in the manner of choosing officers. The members of the constitution we think should be cautious in regard to taking any very wide departure from the present Constitution, and especially in regard to adopting changes that have already been disapproved by the

people, such as filling certain State and county offices by appointment rather than by an election. The tendency of the times is towards a democracy in which the people are, in all branches of the government, directly responsible for the conduct of their public servants, and can make and unmake them according to the will of the majority. If the new Constitution favors this tendency, the people and their officers will be brought as near as possible together, and the officers be made dependent upon the people for their positions.

But if the Republican idea predominates in the Constitution, and changes in that direction are as sweeping as some propose, appointing such officers in the country as Prothonotaries Clerk of Court of Quarter Sessions, and Judges, and in the State, Judges, Treasurer and other officers, there is great danger that the Convention, like the mountain in labor, will bring forth a ridiculous instrument that the people will reject. Without having great expectations, we hope to be disappointed in the final result.

SENATOR MORTON'S speech in the Senate of the United States on the mode of electing a President and Vice President of the United States, contains many valuable suggestions. We agree with the Senator that the present mode of choosing electors should be changed, but we would not consent to adopt the plan of direct voting, which he would substitute. If the President of the United States were chosen by a direct vote of the people, that is all the States voting as one community, it would lead to the commission of frauds to an extent not even yet dreamed of. In the excitement of a close Presidential election where every vote counted, the disposition to commit fraud would develop to an alarming extent, and would not be confined to large cities, but pervade the whole country. The stake would be so great, and thousands so deeply interested in the result, that every kind of fraud upon the ballot box would be attempted. New York City would roll up one or two hundred thousand majority, if necessary, and Philadelphia and other large cities would imitate the example of New York, and frauds upon one side would be excused by reason of the frauds of the other. The temptation and the danger are too great to warrant any experiment of this kind. If this plan is ever adopted it will prove the ruin of the country in the not distant future. Where the vote is taken by States or districts, the temptation to commit fraud is not so great. If a district or even a State is carried by fraud, it may not effect the general result, as it would under the plan proposed by the Senator from Indiana. In place of choosing electors by States, let them be chosen by districts, as the Congressmen are, and fraud would be checked and the will of the people more nearly ascertained. This plan may be liable to objections, but it is certainly better—indeed, every plan is better than that of direct voting.

INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR HARTRANFT.

General John F. Hartranft, Governor elect, was inaugurated last Tuesday. The city of Harrisburg was filled with strangers. Various military organizations from different parts of the State were present, and participated in the ceremonies. Although the day was unfavorable everything passed off according to previous arrangement, and in a very acceptable manner. Governor Geary walked arm in arm with General Hartranft to the main stand in front of the Capitol, where the inauguration took place. George H. Anderson, Speaker of the Senate, administered the official oath. After the cheering of the immense multitude had subsided, the Governor proceeded to deliver his inaugural, which is exceedingly able and practical, touching upon all the leading questions of general interest to the State. This interesting document will appear in our next issue. The Governor's vigorous style and tolerant manner, will disarm his enemies and meet with praise from all good citizens irrespective of party consideration.

It is currently reported, and very generally believed in the East, that the liquor dealers are raising a large fund to secure the repeal of the Local Option Law. Two hundred thousand dollars have been raised, or promised, for this purpose, and the agents of the Liquor League will soon be at Harrisburg to negotiate for votes to secure the repeal. The result in Clearfield county has created a panic among the vendors of intoxicating liquors, and the most desperate efforts will be made to repeal or so modify the law as to render it practically inoperative. The party or the men that aid this movement will acquire unparalleled infamy. Let the people give their Representatives to understand that hesitation in this matter even, is political death. The question has been submitted to the people, and any attempt to take it out of their hands can only spring from corrupt motives, and must be visited with the severest condemnation.

THE New York Tribune has for five years consistently and ably opposed the postal telegraph scheme, and therefore its opposition cannot be charged to its hostility to the Administration. In its issue of Saturday, the 18th instant, it prints a long and able article from the Hon. David Wells against postal telegraphy, and closes an able editorial as follows:

"We believe that no man with the interest of his country at heart, will favor a measure that may become an engine of political oppression: that may turn a national election into the plebiscitum of an empire."

This sentiment is endorsed by the whole opposition press, and by many of the ablest friends of the Administration in the country. There are many honest and true men, it is true, who favor the scheme, and it was in deference to the opinions of such, no doubt, that the Postmaster General recommended it. We regret very much that the recommendation of Mr. Creswell seemingly commits the Administration to the scheme, as we regard it as not only dangerous in its tendency to centralization, but as a huge job of the worst kind. That it will succeed we hardly can believe, although millions may be spent to carry the project through, and the companies selling realize two or three times the value of their property and franchises.

SENATOR CAMERON on Tuesday, though virtually elected before by the Republican caucus, was legally made, by the Legislature, a Senator for six years from the fourth of March next. We have already expressed our mind upon this election, and have no cause to change or repeat it.

Senator Conkling has also been elected without substantial opposition, from the State of New York. He has been a brilliant, able and faithful Senator, and his services during the last campaign were very valuable to the Republican party. Though comparatively young, he has already gained an enviable reputation as a brave and safe party leader, and won for himself the highest honors in the gift of a free people. His election, like Senator Cameron's, was secured by the decided victory of last fall, and in the Legislature was a mere matter of form.

Also Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, is re-elected, and Governor Oglesby, of Illinois, is chosen in place of Senator Trumbull, who is permitted to remain at home and look after his domestic affairs. These Senators are some of the gathered fruit of the Presidential struggle, but the crop is not all in yet.

COL. M. S. QUAY, of Beaver, recently editor of this paper, has been appointed, by Governor Hartranft, Secretary of the Commonwealth. His appointment has been conceded for some time, and now that it is made will take no one by surprise. The Republican press of this State, with one or two exceptions, have warmly praised the selection of Col. Quay to fill so responsible a position, and he will enter upon his new duties bearing with him the kind wishes of an innumerable multitude of friends, of which any man, in like circumstances, would have good reasons to be proud.

GOVERNOR GEARY'S term of office expired on Tuesday, the 21st inst., having then completed his second term, making in all six years of service. On the whole he has made a very acceptable Governor, and his administration will compare favorably with any preceding one. He has retired from public life, but will still reside in Harrisburg. It is not probable that a citizen so full of experience in public affairs will long be allowed to remain in retirement; and we shall expect sometime to see the Governor occupy a higher position even than he has left, one commensurate with his acknowledged ability.

HON. FRANCIS JORDAN, whose term of office expires with Governor Geary's, has served the State acceptably and efficiently for six years, and he has retired enjoying the respect of all good citizens, and meriting honor for the just and honest discharge of his official duties.

THE Pennsylvania Legislature, at the recommendation of Governor Geary, has passed a bill which he has approved, to increase the Governor's salary to \$10,000 per year. This law takes effect upon the retirement of the late incumbent.

WE have just time to announce that Samuel E. Dimmick, of Wayne county, has been appointed Attorney General by the Governor. He is a good lawyer, an able man and a high-toned gentleman, and his appointment will be received with universal satisfaction by the Republicans of the State.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Senate and House Committees—Local Option—Governor's Appointments—Geary's Promises.

Correspondence of the Radical.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 20, 1873. Speaker Anderson announced the Senate committees on Friday, and the important committees were constituted as predicted in our last. Col. McClure is well satisfied with the positions assigned him, although he objects being charged to the Democrats. There is a very general satisfaction with the arrangement of the committees, Republicans, Democrats and Liberals all feeling that they have been fairly treated.

In the House the committees were not announced until Wednesday, and Speaker Elliott is entitled to great credit for the judgment and impartiality manifested in the make-up of the committees. The members from your district, considering that this is the first session for all, fared unusually well. Mr. Cross is on Ways and Means, Education, Public Printing, Manufacturers, and Estates and Escheats. Allison is on Railroads, Apportionment, and three other committees. Waldron is on five committees, Judiciary and Corporations being the two important, while McKee is also on five committees. Of the regular committees Finance, as called in the Senate, and Ways and Means, in the House, Judiciary, Railroads and Corporations, in the order given, are the important regular standing committees. Apportionment and Constitutional Reforms being special committees. Of course the two last named committees take precedence in point of desirability during the sessions for which they are constituted. As your Senator is Chairman of Apportionment in the Senate, and Mr. Allison of your district is on the committee in the House, your Legislative district will doubtless be taken care of in the Congressional Apportionment.

Your members of the House are very attentive to their duties, stand well with their associates, and will prove efficient and popular Representatives.

Few local bills have yet been introduced, and the work of the session will not begin until after the Inauguration and election of United States Senator, which takes place to-morrow. Senator Rutan has introduced a bill constraining the Local Option law of last winter so as to cover elections in boroughs and cities voting at a different time than that fixed for the township elections in general. The bill fixes the third Friday of March for the taking of the vote under the law in all districts holding township and municipal elections before that date where the vote was not taken, and legalizes elections held under the act where the authority to vote was in doubt. There is a rumor here, which seems to be credited, that the liquor men are raising a large fund to secure the repeal of the law. No Representative voting for the repeal of the law should ever be returned, no matter what his politics or what his motives. The Legislature committed this subject to the people, and they should now decide it. Men may vote for the repeal without being corrupt, but it is safe to take it for granted none will do so, and those who allege differently should be compelled to furnish the clearest evidence to the contrary. Certainly no Republican can vote for repeal, if he is true to his party and desires its success in the future.

The city is already full of visitors,

come to visit the inauguration, and what is to become of the thousands on the way is a question now agitating the citizens of Harrisburg.

Col. Quay will take charge of the office now filled by Col. Jordan immediately, and General Hartranft says this is the only cabinet appointment he has definitely determined upon. Before this letter reaches you he must select his Attorney General, and will announce his appointments before the next issue of your paper.

The Governor has not many appointments at his disposal, but there are about fifty applicants for each place, and his courage, patience and endurance will be severely tried in the next few weeks. The Pittsburgh and Philadelphia appointments will be given to citizens of those cities where the Republican members of the Legislature, representing the localities named, united upon a candidate. Under this arrangement Mr. Weaver, of Allegheny county, will be appointed Flour Inspector of Pittsburgh, for which T. Noble, of your county, was strongly pressed. Had there been a division in the Allegheny delegation Mr. Noble would have received the appointment, but with a united delegation the Governor dare not go outside of the county in making his appointment.

Gen. Hartranft and family took possession of the Executive mansion on Thursday last, Governor Geary having moved into a house on Walnut street.

The outgoing Governor complains that the people are so much in haste to worship the rising sun, that they turn their backs upon him before his sun has set. He worked himself into a terrible passion on Saturday, while talking to a member of the House, because the House failed to have his message read, and railed at the Legislature in a furious manner. Geary has many fine qualities, but no man ever filled the Executive chair who was so little respected by the members of the Legislature, and this is true not only of the present, but of every session since his first election, and of members of both parties. This is in a great measure owing to his vanity, his ungovernable passion and his unreliability. He promised and failed to perform so frequently, that it became a by-word here "that when Geary said yes he meant no." Doubtless he was often misrepresented; and often again compelled to change his mind from the best motives, yet he was unfortunate in making promises where he was not certain he could perform. The pardon of Lister Smith, one of the greatest ruffians and villains in Philadelphia, who is charged with murder, arson, burglary, and every other offence, just as he was leaving office, was very unwise if not criminal, and brought down upon him the severest and madest verdicts of the best journals and best citizens in Philadelphia. The retiring Governor could not afford to gratify Hon. Samuel Josephs in this matter at the expense of the good opinions of the law-abiding citizens of Philadelphia.

Of Col. Jordan, the retiring Secretary of State, it can be said he was an honest, able and faithful officer, and retires to private life with the respect of men of all parties.

For the Radical.

Ed. Radical: Allow me through the medium of your paper to say that friend Weyand, in his reply to me, appears not only in a rage but somewhat absent-minded and forgets that last March, 1872, I called upon him at his office, and paid him two dollars for the Argus to January 1st, 1873, and at the same time presented him with a knife containing a photographic view of the Lord's prayer, a gift which I hoped might possibly be useful to him. The poor man must have coolie upon the brain, which does not, however, seem to have a very cooling effect, and has become forgetful of all things but the editorial he wrote on the 18th ultimo, and the consideration received for the same.

Friend Weyand, you go into a passion because I stated through the medium best calculated to convey information to the public, the reason why I discontinued to be a subscriber for the Argus. If my strictures were too severe, you ought not allow yourself to be lead away by such bad company, and lead your Argus to the advocacy of Coolieism to gain the smile and applause of your friends at the Cutlery. You know, or ought to know that the system is a damnable one. Why all this talk about slavery in the past? and about the blood that was shed, the lives that were lost in order to do away with the accursed system, if we are going to re-establish a slavery, worse in form than the African slave trade in its darkest ages, of which the Virginia City, Montana, Mountainian says "that nearly all the Chinamen who come to this Territory are owned by California speculators, who buy and sell their countrymen like cattle," and to this system you have sold yourself for—what?

What a change has come over your paper? In August, 1872, when I was about taking my departure from your State and county, you represented me to the readers of your paper and the people of Canton, among whom I was going to cast my lot, as an accomplished gentleman, and a manufacturer of cutlery that could not be surpassed. Please, sir, which of the statements are true, August, 1872, or January, 1873?

True, I did "once own a proprietorship in the Cutlery at Beaver Falls," and it would have been well for the parties in connection with it had I continued a proprietor of it and had charge of the same, for during the time that I had charge, the establishment was a paying institution. For your benefit, and the readers

at large, I will make the following statement, and challenge a successful contradiction: That during the time that I had the charge and management of the Cutlery, the company made and paid one hundred per cent. on the capital invested. I dare the present proprietors to deny the above statement, or any of the former proprietors, and you, the editor of the Beaver Argus, included.

The true reason why I was turned out is not what you assert, but rather because I was gaining the confidence of Mr. Henrici, of Economy, and thus endangering the prospects of others prominent in his employment. I await the future to vindicate me and verify the prediction which I made, that the Cutlery does not prosper, nor ever will under the present management, and this is not my opinion only, but the opinion of others who have had opportunity to know something about the way business is conducted in that establishment.

SAMUEL MASON.

BEAVER FALLS, Jan. 21, 1873.

Mr. Editor: Will you please give me a place in your paper to say something about John Chinaman?

We heard a speech sometime since, in which the speaker took strong ground against the system of introducing Chinese labor into this country. He said the Chinese would work for two cents a day, and also declared himself opposed to such cheap labor, and considered it an outrage upon the laborers of the country.

Now Mr. Editor, as to the iniquity of the Coolie trade, we are agreed that all engaged in it should be severely punished, but as to the matter of introducing Chinese or any other kind of laborers, who will behave themselves, obey the laws and develop the resources of the country, we differ from our esteemed friend. When Chinamen come to this country they mean business? They come here to make money, and the idea of keeping out Chinese labor is neither in accordance with sound political economy nor the principles of the Gospel. What we need in this country to-day, more than anything else, is an increase of labor. Consumers are increasing out of all proportion to the producers. Ask any intelligent farmer why, butter for example, is so high, and he will tell you that it is because of the impossibility of obtaining household help. If the Chinese will supply this want, and if they will perform many of the minor industries about our cities, and drive multitudes who are lounging about the streets and living from hand to mouth to the country to till the soil, and produce bread for themselves and others, the introduction of Chinese labor will be a blessing to every mechanic and laboring man in the country.

There is not the least reason to fear that the country will be overrun with these people. They live at an immense distance from here, and love their homes. They have been coming to this country for more than twenty years, and their numbers in the United States have been greatly exaggerated.

The Gospel requires us to treat these people kindly, to give them an opportunity to better their condition, to seek to make them intelligent christians, that they may be useful here and be the means of carrying the blessings of the christian religion to their homes and countrymen; for by so doing, we will aid both foreign and domestic missions. Here is a foreign mission on our own soil, and all that are truly converted here, we expect, when they return to their relations and neighbors, will be the messengers of salvation. But how, you may ask, with so much prejudice against them here, will they learn, except some one teach them?

Be it to the honor of the Young Men's Christian Association of Beaver Falls, it has resolved to do its duty, although in much want of suitable rooms. Are there not some wealthy persons upon whom these Chinese have peculiar claims who desire to leave some monument of their worth in Beaver Falls? With what more justice can they do it, than to aid in putting up some place to educate and mould all this mass of debased heathenism into the family of Jesus.

These heathens bring with them to our shores, all the filthy habits pertaining to every nation that know not God. The living portraits of such a people is drawn by Paul in Romans, and seems to apply to the Chinese, with the single exception that in the family the children honor their parents, which is the only commandment with promise. Hence in its keeping they have been long upon the land given to them. For thousands of years these countless millions of the East have been on this land, until it seems no longer able to bear its multitudes and so they have turned to America to better their condition. We are a great people, a nation highly favored, not only in advance, but above all other nations in political and social freedom, and in rapid and wonderful material progress. It seems providential that American christians shall educate these heathen Chinese, and teach them not only how to make knives, but how to worship the true God.

The old and new world are brought together, but the result of this strange contact, the keenest eye cannot now see, nor the shrewdest intellect guess; but God's ways are not our ways, but as high as the heavens are above the earth, so are God's ways above our ways; and in the bringing of these heathens to our shores, the time has now come to sow the incorruptible seed of God's word in the hearts of these Chinese at our doors where it will catch root and bring forth an abundant harvest.

M. M. W.