

Bedford



Inquirer.

A Weekly Paper, Devoted to Literature, Politics, the Arts, Sciences, Agriculture, &c., &c.—Terms: One Dollar and Fifty Cents in Advance.

BY DAVID OVER.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1861.

VOL. 34, NO. 28.

For the Inquirer.

The Union vs. State Sovereignty.

The present unhappy state of affairs in national matters may be traced to the Calhoun heresy of State Sovereignty. This doctrine long opposed by both Whigs and Democrats, has lately been generally advocated throughout the South, and secession, with its attendant train of evils, is its legitimate offspring. To show that the States are not sovereign, and that the Government of the United States has the right to enforce its laws against States in rebellion as well as individuals, we will demonstrate the following propositions:

1. *No State ever exercised sovereign powers.* Prior to the Declaration of Independence, the Colonies were really and legally dependencies of Great Britain. The State governments which they formed prior to July 4th, 1776, were formed by the recommendation of the Continental Congress. "The Declaration of Independence," says Judge Story, "was the act of the whole people of the Colonies. The act was not competent to the State governments. It was the achievement of the whole for the benefit of the whole. The people of the united colonies made the United Colonies free and independent States, and absolved them from allegiance to the British crown."

Mark: by this act the people of the colonies as individuals and not as States, acquired the sovereignty which Great Britain had previously exercised over them.

In confirmation of the above views, we quote the following from a speech delivered by a distinguished statesman of South Carolina, in the Legislature of that State, Jan. 1788, respecting the propriety of calling a convention of the people to ratify the constitution of the United States:

"The Declaration of Independence itself sufficiently refutes the doctrine of the individual sovereignty of the States. In that Declaration the several States are not even enumerated; but after reciting, in nervous language, and with convincing arguments, our right to independence, and the tyranny which compelled us to assert it, the Declaration is made in the following words: 'We, therefore, the representatives of the United States, &c., do, in the name, &c., of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish, &c., that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States. The separate independence and individual sovereignty of the several States were never thought of by the enlightened band of patriots who framed this Declaration. The several States are not even mentioned by name in any part, as if it were intended to impress the maxim on America, that our freedom and independence arose FROM OUR UNION, and that without it, we could NEVER be free or independent. Let us then consider all attempts to WEAKEN this union, by maintaining that each State is separately and individually independent, as a species of political heresy, which can never benefit us, BUT MAY BRING ON US, THE MOST SERIOUS DISTRESSES.'

How prophetic is this language. And how keenly does this voice of the patriots, grave rebuke the degenerate sons of South Carolina! 2. *The people by forming and ratifying the Constitution of the United States, conferred upon the general government every power of a national character, leaving to the States, however, the regulation of their internal police, but, at the same time, declaring that all laws contrary to those of the union should be null and void.*

From the Minutes of the Convention which formed the Constitution we derive the following facts. The Convention proceeded to pass a series of Resolutions expressive of what they thought a national government ought to be. Mr. Edm. Randolph, of Va., had offered a series of Resolutions, upon which the Convention resolved themselves into a committee of the whole. The first resolution passed, was offered by Mr. Butler, of S. C., and seconded by Mr. Randolph of Va., as follows: 1. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this committee, that a national government ought to be established, consisting of a SUPREME legislature, judiciary, and executive. Mass., Penna., Del., Va., N. C., S. C. voted for it. Ct. against it.

2. *Resolved*, That the national legislature ought to be empowered to enjoy the legislative rights vested in Congress by the confederation; and moreover to legislate in all cases to which the separate States are incompetent, or in which the harmony of the United States may be interrupted by the exercise of individual legislation, to negative all laws passed by the several States, contravening, in the opinion of the national legislature, the articles of union, or any treaties subsisting under the authority of the union.

These resolutions, with others, were reported to the house by the committee of the whole. The first resolution was passed unanimously. The 6th after being committed, amended, &c., was changed and passed unanimously in the affirmative, as follows: *Resolved*, That the legislative acts of the United States, made by virtue, and in pursuance of the articles of union, and all treaties made and ratified under the authority of the U. S., shall be the supreme law of the respective States, as far as those acts or treaties shall relate to the said States, or their citizens or inhabitants; and that the judiciaries of the several States shall be bound thereby in their decisions, anything in the respective laws of the individual States to the contrary notwithstanding.

These resolutions together with 21 others in harmony therewith, were referred to a committee of five, viz: Mr. Rutledge, of S. C., Mr. Randolph, of Va., Mr. Gorham, of Mass., Judge Ellsworth, of Ct., and Mr. Wilson, of Pa., from which the constitution of the U. S. was reported. The committee reported this as the VIIIth art.

of the Constitution, which, after some verbal changes, was passed unanimously, as follows: It is now Sec. 2 and 3, of Art. VI.

"This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding."

The next section requires all state and national officers to take the oath to support the Constitution. Vide.

3. *The Government thus formed was a consolidated one.*

In the address of the convention, written by the men who framed the Constitution to the Continental Congress we find the following language: "It is obviously impracticable, in the federal government of these States, to secure all rights of independent sovereignty, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all. In all our deliberations on this subject, we kept steadily in our view that which appeared to us the greatest interest of every true American—THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE UNION—in which is involved our prosperity, felicity, safety, perhaps our NATIONAL EXISTENCE."

Those who drafted the constitution certainly knew what it was. To multiply extracts were superfluous. It differs from the confederation, since it acts directly on the people.

4. *The Government has the constitutional right and power to coerce.*

In the address of the convention, written by the men who framed the Constitution to the Continental Congress we find the following language: "It is obviously impracticable, in the federal government of these States, to secure all rights of independent sovereignty, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all. In all our deliberations on this subject, we kept steadily in our view that which appeared to us the greatest interest of every true American—THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE UNION—in which is involved our prosperity, felicity, safety, perhaps our NATIONAL EXISTENCE."

Those who drafted the constitution certainly knew what it was. To multiply extracts were superfluous. It differs from the confederation, since it acts directly on the people.

"Whenever the laws of the United States shall be opposed, or the execution thereof obstructed, in any State, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the marshals, then it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to call forth the militia of such State, or of any other State or States, as may be necessary to suppress such combinations, and cause the laws to be duly executed." &c.

But, says the advocate of secessionism, when a State secedes it withdraws its assent to the constitution, and consequently the laws made in pursuance thereof are no more in force in said State.— We will briefly consider this objection.

Some of its advocates found this right on the sovereignty of the States; but the facts developed in this article are an ample refutation of such a heresy.

Others, among the number Jeff. Davis, (see Message published in the Bedford Gazette), say that it is one of the reserved rights of the States. Art. 10 of amendments to the Constitution, says— "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

All powers of a national character are conferred on the General Government by the constitution, and the States are prohibited from exercising the same. See Art. 1. sec 7. & sec. 10. The States which seceded exercised the powers prohibited to them, and set at defiance the laws of the Union. They seized forts and arsenals, mints, navy yards, and arms, made war on the United States, &c. To permit them to do the least of these acts, the constitution would have to be amended. This requires a two-third vote of congress, and a three-fourth vote of the people of the States. But no such amendment was even so much as broached. If the act of secession and those resulting from it were in harmony with those of the Union, it would be Constitutional. But these acts are in direct opposition to those of the Union, and since "the laws of the union are paramount," supreme, and since the Constitution gives the President all the military force of the land to execute these laws, making it a sworn duty for him "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed," it is evident that the Government has the clear Constitutional right to annihilate the Southern Confederacy, and to restore the supremacy of the laws of the Union in the seceded States. COMMON SENSE.

The Battle Near Martinsburg. GEN. PATTERSON'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The following despatch was received at quarter after 2 o'clock this morning: "HOCK RIVER, } near Martinsburg, July 24. } To Col. E. D. Townsend, Asst. Adj. General."

"Left Williamsport at 6 o'clock, A. M., today, for this place. We drove and routed the rebels, about 10,000 strong, with four guns, and now occupy his camp, with the loss, I regret to say, of three killed and ten wounded. [Signed] R. PATTERSON, } 'Maj. Gen. Commanding.'"

It is said that Gen. Scott was so much gratified with this news that the President was roused from his sleep to receive it. The Cabinet met to-day with more than usual good spirits in consequence.

The Twenty-fourth New York Regiment has arrived, and are temporarily quartered on the Avenue. No more are expected for the next forty-eight hours.

A thirty pounder rifle cannon, just mounted here, is at the Railroad station labelled Captain Doubleday, Williamsport. It will soon be forwarded.

The Killed and Wounded.

HAGERSTOWN, July 3.—The following is an official list of the killed and wounded as far as known at the skirmish of yesterday opposite Williamsport. Killed—George Drake, of Milwaukee, attached to Company A, Capt. Bingham, of the Wisconsin Regiment.

The name of the second man is unknown; but he belonged to Company B, Capt. Mitchell, of the same regiment.

Wounded.

James Morgan, severely; W. F. Hamaker, both of Company B, Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment, Colonel Jarrett. Fred Huething, of Company E, color sergeant, of Captain Bryant, and Fred Bonner, of Company G, Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment, not severely. There are others wounded that have not yet arrived.

When Benedict Arnold's treason was developed, it was not thought wrong to show "the sins of his youth" as proof that "the child is father of the man." When Judah P. Benjamin advocated theft on a large scale as U. S. Senator from Louisiana, the author of the following did not think it wrong to show that he exhibited the same crime when a pupil in Yale College. A respectable citizen of New Haven (or New York) gives in the *New York Mercury* the following telling account of the previous career of the head rebel—

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

There are some facts, in the history of this person, which have not yet been made known to the American public, and which seem to me to be worth communicating through the newspaper press. They are instructive, especially at the present time, as illustrating and demonstrating his character, and consequently, to some extent, the characters of those who, well knowing him, selected him as the Nona Sahib of the Southern Sepoy mutiny.

I do not think it worth while to go into the details of his threatened duel with Col. Bissell, of Illinois (since deceased in the Governorship of that State.) though a general reference to it is proper to show the unadorned fact, that—having appeared, in public, to provoke and seek a mortal combat—his private correspondence he was availing himself of every paltry quibble to evade the impending consequences of his rash repetition of the very same trick of a Southerner bullying a Northerner in Congress, on the presumption that the man of the North will not fight a duel, knowing that a duelist is more infamous here than a coward is in the South.

It has been announced that Davis will command in person in the campaign now commencing. I hope he will. But I doubt whether Mr. Davis has the courage to expose himself to the peculiar risks—*not* of immediate death, but of capture—which he would not incur in that position. Some of "our boys" are "bound" to "have his carcass" alive, if it cost a thousand of their lives.

If he should lead the Secession army, it is to be hoped that his memory (or courage) won't fail him, as it did at the battle of Buena Vista, when he omitted to give the third and essential command to throw his regiment into solid square: "By the right and left of flank battalions—to the color—MARCH!" The consequence of this was, that his regiment were left spread in the form of a V, to receive the charge of 4,000 Mexican cavalry, coming down upon them in full career, on the slopes of Buena Vista. The survivors of that regiment know that at nothing saved them from annihilation, but their long-practiced, deadly marksmanship with rifles.

Perhaps it was well for Davis that Zachary Taylor was his father-in-law, though unwillingly so. A sterner and more Brutus-like commander might have ordered a court-martial on the spot, that would have condemned him to be shot for cowardice or other moral incompetency. When Davis came under the immediate command of his father-in-law in the Mexican war, Gen. Taylor refused to recognize him in any way, except officially, as in giving orders, and in other matters of purely military form and duty.

A friend, to whom I read the foregoing a short time since, gave me the following sketch of Davis' relations to an old Mississippian, renowned for desperate courage:

"I happened to be in constant communication with Col. Alexander K. McClung, of Mississippi, in 1849 and 1850, and had almost daily conversations with him in relation to prominent Mississippians. He said Jeff. Davis was not a man of true courage—that he wished to be regarded as a duelist, but, in giving challenge, would always cast about a non-combatant, and would exercise enough prudence to creep out of accepting one from an antagonist over whom he had not a great advantage. McClung said, on one occasion: 'I am sorry I ever fought a duel. It is not a pleasant business; and yet I would like to fight one more, with one man, and that man is Jefferson Davis, because I think the United States will be better off without him. But he will not fight me; he is too great a coward. In fact, he is not now, never was, and never will be, a brave man, in the true sense of the word. He is a dangerous and wily politician, loaded down with vanity and self conceit, wishing only for his own aggrandizement, and he cares not at what expense, or over how many desolate households. He thinks of himself only; and I should not be surprised to find him, one of these days, taking such a step in public as will place his neck in a halter; for he is a bad man, and a scoundrel, and I have frequently denounced him as such, before the people of Mississippi, and the dirty poltroon and artful villain never had the courage to resent it.'"

These conversations occurred on board the ship *Levine*, B. Gardner, Master, on our passage from New York to Valparaiso. McClung was on his way to Bolivia, as Charge d' Affaires from the United States.

I affix my name to these statements, not merely on the general principle that anonymous charges are entitled to no respect or belief; but because I am particularly desirous to furnish my proofs and authorities to the immediate "parties in interest;" whenever they dare apply to me for them. Of no other person will I take any notice in this connection. D. FRANCIS BACON, M.D.

Thirty-four companies of *bona fide* Kentuckians have been tendered to the government for the war. They will probably be formed into regiments, and mustered into service.

Why is befcats look a locomotive? Because it is not of such account without its tender!

Inaugural Address of Mr. Pierpont, the New Governor of Loyal Virginia.

Gentlemen of the Convention:—I return to you my sincere thanks for this mark of your confidence in placing me in the most critical and trying position in which any man could be placed at the present time.

This day and this event mark a period in the history of Constitutional liberty. They mark a period in American history. For more than three-quarters of a century our Government has proceeded, in all the States and in all the Territories, upon which our fathers erected it—namely: upon the intelligence of the people, and that in the people resides all power, and that from them all power must emanate.

A new doctrine has been introduced by those who are at the head of the revolution in our Southern States—that the people are not the sources of all power. Those promulgating this doctrine have tried to divide the people into two classes; one they call the laboring class, the other the Capital class. They have for several years been industriously propagating the idea that the capital of the country ought to represent the legislation of the country, and guide it and direct it; maintaining that it is dangerous for the labor of the country to enter into the legislation of the country. This, gentlemen, is the principle that has characterized the revolution that has been inaugurated in the South; they maintaining that those who are to have the privilege of voting ought to be of the educated class, and that the legislation ought not to be represented by the laboring classes.

We in Western Virginia, and I suppose in the whole of Virginia, adopted the great doctrine of the fathers of the Republic, that in the people resides all power, and that embraced all people. This revolution has been inaugurated with a view of making a distinction upon the principles that I have indicated. We of Western Virginia have not been consulted upon that subject. The large body of your citizens in the Eastern part of the State have not been consulted upon that subject.

American institutions lie near to the heart of the masses of the people all over this country, from one end of it to the other, though not so nearly perhaps in Louisiana, Georgia, and Texas as in some of the Western and Northern States.

This idea has been covertly advanced only in portions of Virginia. She has stood firm by the doctrine of the fathers of the revolution up to within a very short period. Its propagators have attempted to force it upon us by terror and at the point of the bayonet. We have been driven into the position we occupy to-day by the usurpers of the South, who have inaugurated this war upon the soil of Virginia and have made it the great theatre of the contest. We, representing the loyal citizens of Virginia, have been bound to assume the position we have assumed to-day, for the protection of ourselves, our wives, our children and our property. We, I repeat, have been driven to assume this position; and now we are but recurring to the great fundamental principles of our fathers, that to the local people of a State belongs the law making power of that State. The loyal people are entitled to the Government and Governmental authority of the State. And, fellow-citizens, it is the assumption of that authority upon which we are now about to enter.

It will be for us by firmness and by prudence, by wisdom, by discretion in all our acts to inaugurate every step we take for the purpose of restoring law and order to this ancient Commonwealth; to mark well our steps, and to implore the divine wisdom and direction of Him that ruleth above, who has every hair of our heads numbered, and who suffereth not a sparrow to fall unnoticed to the ground, and His guidance and discretion in enabling us to carry out the great work we have undertaken here, in humility, but with decision and determination.

With these remarks I thank you again for the honor you have conferred upon me, and promise you that I will do the best I can in administering your wishes, and in trying to carry out the great object we have been working for here, and for which we expect to work for some time to come. I thank you, gentlemen. (Great applause.)

The oath was then administered by Andrew Wilson, Esq., Justice of the Peace, and Mr. Pierpont became *de facto* the Governor of Virginia.

DESIRE FOR WATER.—A participant in the fight at Great Bethel, gives the following idea of the risk a soldier will run to obtain water upon the battle field.—"Some of us have had very narrow chances for life. In the course of the fight several of us ran across a road along which the cannon of the enemy were constantly playing, in order to get water. (I find, by the way, that on the battle field a man will risk his life, without hesitation, for water.) Having got it, we were waiting to rush back again dodging the balls in order to do so. Our First Lieutenant sang out, 'Don't so many of you come at once.' I, with some others, stopped to allow the next lot to pass. They made a rush, and when nearly across, a cannon ball came whizzing along and killed four men, mowing them down instantly."

St. Louis, June 28.—The Cairo correspondent of the *Democrat* says that hundreds of Missourians, from different parts of the State, are concentrating on the Arkansas border, where they receive arms, furnished from the South, and where they expect to be joined by troops from Arkansas, Tennessee, and Missouri, to overrun the State.

Bird's Point is now strongly guarded by two regiments, and a battalion of flying artillery, and it is fully capable of resisting any attack from the rebels.

Educational.

EDITED BY C. W. GREENE.

All communications for this department may be addressed to the Editor, at Bedford, Bedford county, Pa.

287. QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE.

This form of certificate exempts the holder from all future examination in the branches specified, within the county in which it is issued. It is therefore to be granted only on the clearest proof of personal worth, literary proficiency, and professional merit.

Moral Character is the first qualification of the Teacher; and admission to the highest rank of the profession in the county, is not to be based on the mere absence of open objection, in this respect. Positive knowledge of propriety of conduct is to be possessed, or sought and obtained, as a pre-requisite. In the absence of satisfactory knowledge on this point, the certificate should be withheld till reliable information is procured; and in case of ascertained delinquency, the certificate is to be refused entirely, no matter what the other qualifications.

Scholarship, to secure this certificate, must be full in all the branches enumerated, otherwise it will not be sufficient to meet the probable wants of the school in which they are to be taught. The standard is, at the least, not to fall below the following degrees of proficiency:

In Orthography, any ordinary word of the language is to be spelled with readiness, and the principles and rules which govern English orthography are to be understood.

In Reading, passages of different styles, in prose and verse, are to be read without hesitation, in a full voice, with correct pronunciation and due attention to the pauses, and with such command of tone, inflection, emphasis, &c., as to give the true sentiment of the author. The general principles and rules of elocutionary pronunciation and reading, are also to be understood and explained.

In Writing, a plain, clear hand is, in all cases, indispensable; but to this should be added, if possible, facility of execution, and beauty and grace in the formation of each letter. The power to represent rapidly and accurately, letters, diagrams and figures of objects, on the slate and blackboard, is also invaluable in the Teacher.

In Arithmetic, questions in the Mental department of the science, are to be comprehended and re-produced with readiness, and solved with accuracy and promptness; in the Written department, problems in any of the ordinary rules short of Algebra, are to be solved with facility, clearness and accuracy, and the principles involved in every rule and the reason for every operation employed, are to be explained. Book-keeping should also be understood.

In Geography, the relation of our globe to the solar system, the causes of night and day, and of the seasons, the general nature, facts and laws of Descriptive and Physical geography, and the definition of the terms used in the science, are to be understood. A sound general knowledge of the geography of the whole world, and an accurate acquaintance with that of the United States, are also to be possessed,—without, however, exacting such minute details as the length of the smaller streams, or the population of unimportant towns.

In Grammar,—in addition to the ability to parse any sentence etymologically and syntactically,—the nature and methods of oral Grammar, as the beginning, and of logical Analysis, as the highest department, of the science, should be understood. No Teacher should receive this certificate who habitually speaks ungrammatically; and, as a further test of his knowledge of the language and aptness to teach, he should be able to define or explain any ordinary word proposed to him.

OTHER BRANCHES.—The foregoing are the branches enjoined by the School law; but the progressive Teacher will not rest content with the certificate of even these respectable attainments. The County Superintendent will often be requested to designate other studies proper to be pursued; and it will be his pleasure as well as his duty to do so. More than two or three, at the same time, should not be recommended to the Teacher who will gradually add the following branches to his previous store of knowledge, will thereby vastly increase his professional efficiency, and add to his own individual enjoyment and influence—Algebra and Geometry; History and Physiology; Natural Philosophy and Astronomy; Chemistry and Geology; Mental and Moral Philosophy; and, if possible, one or more of the Ancient or Modern Languages.

It is true, that the mastery of even the one half of this list, will require years of study; but it is equally true that the practical Teacher has better opportunities and more hours for study, than the member of any other profession, and that study is, with him, professional preparation.

PROFESSIONAL SKILL is theoretical and practical. To ascertain theoretical knowledge, the candidate should be examined on the science of Teaching, embracing some knowledge of human mind and its means of culture, and the principles that govern the methods of teaching, school management, and school government. This will cause a more general reading of works on education than heretofore, to the advantage of both teacher and school. But as methods of instruction and government are very various, and as all may be successful, practical skill can only be known by seeing the Teacher in school, and there witnessing results. A general knowledge of the science of Teaching and the successful practice of any of its approved methods, are, therefore, to be the standard of professional skill; and no lower qualification should be recognized in granting this certificate.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE.—When No. 1, in all the branches has been attained, full satisfaction in the school room given, and moral character found exemplary, the Professional Certificate is to be presented, and not till then. If several candidates thus become qualified, the same year, it may be proper and productive of good effects on the other Teachers of the county, to distinguish the delivery of the certificates with some formality. The close of the Annual County Institute, or some other general meeting of Teachers, would be a proper occasion for this ceremony, when a written thesis on some educational topic might be read by each of the successful candidates, and an address be delivered by the County Superintendent, suitable to the occasion.

Should any Teacher of the county attain a knowledge of the additional branches above enumerated, or even a respectable portion of them, they might be encouraged to attend one of the regular examinations at a State Normal School, and thus obtain the State certificate, provided for actual Teachers, by the 9th section of the Normal School law of 1857.

BEAUREGARD'S PROCLAMATION. The following is the text of a proclamation to the people of Virginia by General Beauregard:

A PROCLAMATION.

To the People of the Counties of Loudon, Fairfax and Prince William.

A reckless and unprincipled tyrant has invaded your soil. Abraham Lincoln, regardless of all moral, legal, and constitutional restraints, has thrown his abolition hosts among you, who are murdering and imprisoning your citizens, confiscating and destroying your property, and committing other acts of violence and outrage, too shocking and revolting to humanity to be enumerated.

All rules of civilized warfare are abandoned, and they proclaim by their acts, if not on their banners, that their war is, "Beauty and Booby." All that is dear to man—your honor and that of your wives and daughters—your fortunes and your lives, are involved in this momentous contest.

In the name therefore, of the constituted authorities of the Confederate States—in the sacred cause of constitutional liberty and self-government, for which we are contending in behalf of civilization itself, I, G. T. Beauregard, Brigadier General of the Confederate States, commanding at Camp Pickens, Manassas Junction, do make this my proclamation and invite and enjoin you by every consideration dear to the hearts of freemen and patriots; by the name and memory of your revolutionary fathers, and by the purity and sanctity of your domestic firesides, to rally to the standard of your State and country; and by every means in your power, compatible with honorable warfare, to drive back and expel the invaders from your land.

I conjure you to be true and loyal to your country and her legal and constitutional authority, and especially to be vigilant of the movements and acts of the enemy, so as to enable you to give the earliest authentic information at these headquarters, or to the officers under his command.

I desire to assure you that the utmost protection in my power will be given to you all.

Signed, G. T. BEAUREGARD, Brigadier General Commanding. Official—Thomas Jordan, Acting Assistant Adj't General.

Now, after reading the above, we are bound to say, that whatever Brigadier General Beauregard may regard, clearly he has no regard for truth. This may appear blunt to a "gentleman of refined southern manners," but we cannot help it, and would not if we could. We mean just what we say. The above, as an official document deliberately written and published, will long stand on record to show the else incredulous world that a "chivalrous gentleman and brave soldier," as this man was once called, when he becomes a rebel, is no better than his fellow rebels that is he becomes a mean liar; or, if he is still better, it is only because he is better and meaner at lying. If the great Arch-Rebel and Liar of old was standing over him, when he wrote that proclamation, he must have been well satisfied with the proficiency of his follower.

A WORD FROM EX-PRESIDENT VAN BUREN.—The *Dunbury* (Conn.) *Times* says that very recently two citizens of that village, finding themselves in the neighborhood of Kinderhook, took the opportunity to call on the eighth President of the United States, Martin Van Buren. They found him at home and glad to see them. After the introductory scene one of the visitors explained to the seer of Kinderhook that he had long cherished a desire to see the man for whom he had cast his first vote for President of the United States. The conversation naturally turned in the direction of the present unsettled state of the country. Mr. Van Buren remarked that he had recently an interview with Ex-President Pierce, and that neither could see anything hopeful, or indicating a prospect of an immediate settlement of our national difficulties.

"As for myself," said he, "I do not expect to see it, but our Government must be sustained at whatever cost." Mr. Van Buren is 78 years of age, and although his step indicates that he has considerably passed the zenith of life, his round and well-developed head is frosted where the hair is left, his eye retains the fire and twinkle that has always told of a busy brain.

THE CROPS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The Philadelphia Commercial list report that from every part of Pennsylvania we hear the most cheering prospects of an abundant harvest this season. All kinds of grain look remarkably well, and thus far is free from any evidence of disease or worm. The number of acres of wheat, corn and oats, we understand largely exceeds any former year, and should nothing interpose in the future, our farmers may anticipate the most magnificent reward of their labors ever bestowed upon them.