Bedford Inquirer.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, NOV. 23, 1866

REDUCTION OF INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES.

At the coming session of Congress, in pursuance of the principles laid down in their report last winter, the Revenue Commission will urge an additional modification of the Internal Revenue laws and a reduction of the taxes. Notwithstanding the reductions made last session at the suggestion of the Revenue Commission, the rapid increase of the revenue returns fully justifies their recommendation of a still further reduction. The history of the seeming anomaly of an increase of revenue from reduced taxation is worthy of a careful consideration in view of the proposed further reduction. When the plan of reduction was submitted at the last session of Congress, it met with bitter opposition from the free-traders, because while reducing the rate of taxation on home manufactures, agricultural produce and incomes, it did not reduce the import duties on foreign manufactures and imported luxuries but in some instances even increased them. At the time of the first enactment of the Internal Revenue laws, the friends of protection, absorbed in the prosecution of the war and anxious only to provide the means of paying current expenses, lost sight of the great civil interests at stake in the framing of an Internal Revenue law, and permitted the free-traders to so manipulate the law as to completely neutralize all protective duties and indeed in some instances to put a premium on foreign goods competing with our home manufactures in our own markets. This suicidal tendency of the law was at first comparatively harmless, by reason of the extraordinary high premium on gold, but with the decline of the gold premium at the close of the war, its fatal effect was soon seen in the stoppage of many of our most important manufacturing enterprises. The friends of protection were aroused to the necessity, not only of reducing the oppressive internal taxes, but at the same time of securing some fair degree of protection to our home industry. The result of their labors, with this two-fold object in view, was the recommendation and passage of the amended law submitted by the Commissioners at the last session of Congress. The working of the revised law has been so satisfactory and its results so gratifying to the country at large that a more thorough revision is to be recommended at the next session having the same objects in view, viz.: a still further reduction of those oppressive Internal taxes, which have so enormously increased the cost of living throughout the country, and a more efficient protection to such of our industrial interests as still need the fostering care of the government, and which are the great sources of our national prosperity and independence. It is a well known fact that the greater portion of the Internal Revenue has been obtained from taxes on manufactures. The result of the reduction of the last year was to give such an impetus to our internal industries, that the increased production more than made up the loss from a reduced rate of taxation. A similar result it is believed will follow from a still further reduction of the rate of taxation, provided the protection hitherto given our industrial interests from the competition of foreign pauper labor be not reduced. This is the one great danger that now threatens our financial interests and consequently the prosperity of the whole country. Free-traders and their foreign allies will strive vigorously to break down our present protective system and once more inaugurate the suicidal free-trade policy that so long kept us at the mercy of foreign manufacturers and capitalists. To avert any such misfortune and to continue and improve if possible the present system, under which our national debt is being so rapidly reduced, our taxes yearly lightened and the general prosperity of the country promoted, should be the aim of every one who wishes to see our national debt speedily paid and our whole country raised to a degree of prosperity that it never knew under the suicidal policy dictated to mercenary politicians by British manufacturers. If the necessities imposed upon us by an immense national debt shall wean our statesmen from the visionary theory of free-trade and lead them to deal with facts as they are, in the adjustment of our national customs duties, we shall console ourselves with the reflection that under the pressure of a great burthen we have been led to the realization and adoption of the true national policy, of fostering and developing every branch of industry capable of being profitably prosecuted within our borders. Such a policy will induce the artizan and farmer, the producer and consumer to settle side by side, throughout the length and breadth of our land, saving to themselves and the world the useless and destructive expense of the transportation of food and raw material three or four thousand miles to the consumer and manufacturer, and returning the manufactured product over the same distance to the consumer, by placing them side by side to exchange the products of their industry free of cost. We will have learned from a bitter experience what we should have been taught long ago by the dictates of common sense.

☞ The Pittsburgh *Post* is unmercifully down on papers of the Chicago *Times* and Bedford *Gazette* stripe. It attributes all the misfortunes of the Democrats to that class of papers who were opposed to the prosecution of the war and were "in fact pro-slavery in everything." Truth will out some times.

☞ The Copperheads used to rejoice quietly over rebel victories, latterly they rejoice openly. Formerly they secretly aided and abetted rebels now they do it boldly. How things change. During the rebellion they denied their sympathy most stoutly, now they boast of it. They are obliged to do this to convince the rebels of their sincerity.

☞ The worst feature that we behold in the animated canvas for United States Senator is that the Philadelphia *Daily News* advocates the claims of Governor Curtin. This enough to swamp the best man living.

FREE RAILROAD LAW.

The people of Pennsylvania declared their preference for a Free Railroad Law, at the polls and during the late canvass, with a degree of unanimity almost unparalleled. The measure was evidently so popular that those who have heretofore been known as the most unscrupulous opponents of the system, were obliged to give in their adherence and fall in with the irresistible current of public opinion. But we are not willing to believe that the conversion of many of those heretofore in the employ of the monopolies, interested in resisting this measure, is sincere and radical. Many things are done now-a-days from policy, and we opine that there is policy at the bottom of this sudden conversion to a system which they have resisted with all the means at their command. Let the people of Pennsylvania therefore be fully on their guard.

The friends of this measure in the approaching session of the Legislature, are expected to introduce a bill for this purpose immediately upon its convening in January. We expect those who have lately given in their support to a Free Railroad Law to be on hand to fight it to the bitter end, but woe unto the Senator or Representative from the country, who can be *induced* to oppose the wishes of the people. The shrewd tacticians who are interested in monopolies, did not show fight and thus we did not get as decided an expression of public sentiment on the subject, as might have been desired, although it was positive enough for all practical purposes. A few legislators may take advantage of this, and assume that they were not instructed, which would have been the case had there been a contest. Both parties stood mutually pledged to the measure, and the people, as usual, took it for granted that there was no formidable opposition, and consequently did not pledge their candidates for legislative honors to stand firm in support of this truly righteous law.

There is not a man to-day in the State, who is not directly concerned in some one or more of the monopolies, but is directly interested in a Free Railroad Law. As it now stands, it is the few monopolists against the many burdened producers. It is the strong and monied against the unprotected and feeble. The sooner our people comprehend that their safety from huge monopolies lies in a measure of this kind, the sooner will the interests of the State be protected, and the hope of the people is centered in the legislature, let it come up to the work and all will be well.

SCHOOL CONVENTION.

A convention of the County Superintendents of the Common Schools of the State, is called to meet at Harrisburg, on the 4th of December. As this convention seems to be called for the purpose of proposing changes in the school law, we hope the present oppressive and unjust system of taxation will receive the attention of the friends of our common schools. If the changes proposed by the Hon. G. W. Householder last winter cannot be approved by the convention, we hope to see it suggest some other method of equalizing taxation and placing the poorer districts of the State in such position as to enable them to secure the benefits of the common schools without being oppressed with taxes. Under the intelligent supervision of Prof. Wickersham we expect to see important changes made in the school laws and increased progress in our schools. We expect also to see the school law administered in the spirit in which it was adopted and not in the interest of old fogyism.

THE ENABLING ACT.

In view of the contemptuous rejection of the Constitutional Amendment by the lately rebellious States, it has become evident that additional legislation will be necessary as soon as Congress meets in order to hasten to a speedy conclusion the vexed question of reconstruction. Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, during the last session of Congress drew up and submitted to the House an Enabling Act, remanding the rebel States to a territorial condition and providing for the reconstruction of their State constitutions and their restoration to the rights and privileges of States in such a manner as would forever settle the status of conquered rebel States. This act failed to pass at the time because the country hoped to conciliate the beaten but unrepenting chivalry by excessive leniency. Now that the most magnanimous terms ever offered to conquered rebels have been rejected with scorn and contempt, we hope to see the Honorable member, from Lancaster, promptly fulfil his promise made in his speech made at this place in September last, to introduce the act again at the coming session and press it to a speedy passage. The act reads as follows:

WHEREAS the eleven States which lately formed the government called the confederate States of America have forfeited all their rights under the Constitution, and can be reinstated in the same only through the action of Congress: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled That the eleven States lately in rebellion may form valid State governments in the following manner:

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the State governments now existing *de facto* are hereby acknowledged as valid governments for municipal purposes until the same shall be duly altered, and their legislative and executive officers are hereby recognized as such.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States shall within six months, and as often thereafter as he shall deem proper, issue his proclamation directing conventions to be called to form legitimate constitutions for the respective States. He shall direct an election to be held on a certain day to choose delegates to a convention, which shall meet at the time fixed by him at the capital of the State and form a State constitution, which shall be submitted to a vote of the people, and if ratified by a majority of the legal voters shall be declared to be the constitution of the State.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the persons who shall be entitled to vote at both of said elections shall be as follows: all male citizens above the age of twenty-one years, who have resided one year in said State, and ten days within the election district.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the word citizen as used in this act, shall be construed to mean all persons (except Indians not taxed) born or duly naturalized in the United States. Any male citizen above the age of twenty-one years shall be eligible as delegates to said convention.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That all persons who held office, either civil or military, under the government called the "confederate States of America," and who voluntarily gave more allegiance to said government, are hereby declared to have forfeited their citizenship and to have renounced allegiance to the United States, and shall not be entitled to exercise the elective franchise or hold office until three years after they shall have filed their intention or desire to be reinvested with the rights of citizenship, and shall swear allegiance to all other governments or pretended governments: the said application to be filed and oath taken in the same courts that by law are authorized to naturalize foreigners.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That no constitution shall be presented to or acted on by Congress which denies to any citizen any rights, privileges, or immunities which are granted to any other citizen in the State. All laws shall be impartial, without regard to language, race, or former condition. If the provisions of this section should ever be altered, repealed, expunged or in any way abrogated or disregarded by any State, this act shall become void as to said State, and the State shall lose its right to be represented in Congress. There shall be three officers of the election at each of the polls; two of them shall be called inspectors, who shall receive and deposit the votes in the box when undisputed. If any vote shall be challenged the other officer, to be called judge, shall decide the question if the inspectors disagree. The officers shall be chosen as follows: on the morning of the election, at the hour of nine o'clock, the legal voters present at the polls shall nominate three or more candidates, and proceed to elect by dividing into two or more bodies, according to the number of contesting parties. The majority shall elect. The officers thus chosen shall appoint two clerks, who shall truly record the voters when the votes are received, and the votes when counted by the officers aforesaid. Any fraud in conducting the election shall be deemed a misdemeanor, punishable by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever the foregoing conditions shall be complied with the citizens of said State may present said constitution to Congress, and if the same shall be approved by Congress said State shall be declared entitled to the rights, privileges, and immunities, and be subject to all the obligations and liabilities of a State within the Union. No Senator or Representative shall be admitted into either House of Congress until Congress shall have declared the State entitled thereto.

THE NEW CABINET.

We clip the following muddle in regard to the Cabinet of the incoming Governor, from a correspondent of the Pittsburgh *Gazette*, which appears to be about as intelligible as any thing we have received on the subject:

"The *quid nunes* are sorely exercised upon the subject of the incoming administration. The amount of guessing which this subject has developed, would do credit to Connecticut, and is totally at variance with the stolidity of Pennsylvania's character. One day these "learned pigs" have Cochran, of York county, as the coming man for Secretary of State, F. Carroll Brewster for Attorney General, Frank Jordan for Adjutant General. Next day comes a new deal of the cards, and Purviance, of Allegheny, is the Attorney General, Johnson, of crawford county, is the Secretary of State and some hero the Adjutant. Again, Slifer and Meredith are to retain their positions, or, if Slifer goes out, Jordan of Bedford, goes in, and so on, until ordinary heads like that of your correspondent, ache like unto Mr. Traemlow's, and I have as much difficulty as that very amiable nobody, and from the same prolific cause. Oh! that political trickery and Mr. Veneering were safely at the Devil with all their Tribe."

INCIDENTS OF THE LATE CANVAS.

LETTER FROM PILGRIM.

The incidents in an excited political canvas, are so numerous, and developed in such quick succession, that many rich and humorous scenes, for the want of a faithful chronicler, are lost to the great mass of the community or only partially preserved by oral tradition. As a finale to the desecration of Hannibal's grave, narrated in last week's INQUIRER, permit Pilgrim to relate the following facts as derived from an antiquarian whose veracity cannot be doubted.

"On the evening of Saturday, as the shades of twilight were thickening into darkness, the terrified Conservatives retired from the place of sepulture and quiet once more reigned around the grave of the renowned Hannibal. Early on Monday morning party zealots were at work removing the stand and pictures lest by any possible contingency the indignity done to the resting place of the honorable dead, might be modified by the tread of loyal feet, or the sound of patriotic voices! A meeting of the *true* Unionists, was to be held next day, in the village near by. A Climber Johnson Club, composed of material which *ought* to climb; had control of a building in the vicinity, sometimes used as a town hall, at other times as a seat of learning. It is whispered, *pretty loudly*, that some political non-descripts, thinking that the patriots would be compelled, for the want of other accommodations, to hold their meeting in the seat of learning, very *kindly* prepared the place for their reception. Not by ornamenting it with wreaths of evergreens and garlands of flowers; but by an act of *gentility* not to be named in refined circles. The true Unionists convened—a very respectable assemblage, comprising the most intellectual and literary portion of the community, of ladies and gentlemen. By permission of the trustees, a church edifice, was opened for the occasion. The speakers were gentlemen of marked ability. The addresses were distinguished *more* by logical power, and patriotic emotion than declamation and party rancour. *Nothing was said or done unbecoming* the sanctity of the place, or the proprieties of the occasion. When persons of cultivation and refinement assemble, *decorum* and *order* will be observed. Alas! the *sanctimonious* Conservatives were horror-stricken! Their pious souls shrank back agast from church desecration! Their moral sensibilities were shocked beyond the power of recuperation. Green Grocer, graduate of Snyder College, and paste-board professor, who practiced the *dubious* art *where he should not*, *Painted Indian*, and political trickster, who went to catch skedaddlers, and *was* caught himself! Mr. Whirl-round-the-circle, who *once* was loyal but had been corrupted by party association, together with the Teaberry *Banner manufacturer*, raised a howl of horror! "The church was ruined!" Their very liberal contributions would be "withheld" and the mission of Christianity would prove a failure!! But after all it is presumable that their pious horror, was *quite* as much assumed as real. It is within the range of possibility, that gentlemen were saved from insult, and the community from reproach.

The conjecture is likewise indulged in by knowing ones, that somebody had the *pleasure* of putting the seat of learning in order for election day. It is needless to name the "musk of Sambo."

Antiquarian having finished his narration, we took our Pilgrim staff and resumed our journey, deeply impressed with the philosophical and moral maxims, "Honesty is the best policy," "Envy will punish itself," "Curses, like chickens, come home to roost," "Nothing is to be feared from error if truth is left free to combat it."

— PILGRIM.

TOWN CREEK, (which is in the "State of Southampton.") Nov. 21st, 1866.

PERSONAL.

ALEXANDER H. Stephens, in a letter to a friend, denies that he is in favor of the Constitutional Amendment.

GEN. SHERMAN is soon to sail for Mexico. His mission is understood to be both military and diplomatic, but the instructions he has received have not been made public.

JOHN SCOTT, Esq., of Huntingdon, is favorably spoken of for the position of Attorney-General in Gov. Geary's Cabinet. No better selection could be made.

RICHARD WATSON, Esq., of Doylestown, is named as a suitable man for the appointment of Supreme Court Reporter, in place of Robert E. Wright, Esq., of Allentown, whose term of service has expired.

GOVERNOR WARD, of New Jersey, has appointed Fredrick Freylinghuysen United States Senator, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Senator Wright. He has filled the office of Attorney General of the State for the last six years.

COL. J. A. LONG, of the regular army, and private Secretary to President Johnson, was married on Thursday evening, the 1st inst., to Miss Lizzie D. Foster, daughter of Hon. Henry D. Foster, of Greensburg.

MAJ. GEN. FRY, late Provost Marshal General, has been assigned to duty in California, and has sailed. So far, well; but it would have been much better had he been sent a good deal farther at least four years ago.

HON. HIRAM V. WILSON, Federal Judge of the North District of Ohio, died at his residence, in Cleaveland, on Sunday evening. He had been an invalid more than a year. Last winter he visited New Orleans and the West Indies, but returned not improved.

ONE of the objects of Gen. Geary's visit to Westmoreland county, where he was recently sojourning with his brother-in-law, Col. Wm. Logan, was recreation. He spent a few days in the quest of game, and then visited the friends of his boyhood throughout the county.

MRS. JAKE THOMPSON, of Mississippi, has been importuning the President to allow her husband to come home. It is said she left here with assurances from the President that he might return to his home in Mississippi. It will be remembered that he was one of the alleged Canadian conspirators.

SYLVANUS Cobb, the well known writer of sensation stories for the *New York Ledger*, is dead. He was seventy years of age. He was a Universalist preacher at one period of his life, and among the many works emenating from his pen, is a commentary on the New Testament, which is generally received as a standard authority by Universalists of the present day.

A WASHINGTON letter says: "I know from competent authority that Gen. Howard, just before his Northern trip, becoming entirely disgusted with the annoyances he had to endure and the obstacles placed in his way, made out his resignation as an officer, and submitted it to Gen. Grant, with a declaration of his determination to remain no longer where he was. The General insisted upon returning it to Howard, telling him most emphatically that he must stay; that duty required it, and no matter what the annoyances, there was his post. The result was the reluctant withdrawal of the resignation."

JOHN MITCHELL, the Irish exile, whose career has certainly not been a fortunate one but whose honesty and talents are beyond all question, has again left Europe for America. He left Paris on Thursday evening, October 25, to sail from Brest for New York. He takes with him a large box full of "Bonds of the Irish Republic" which the Moffat Mansion party of the Fenian Brotherhood were so good as to send him for sale in France, but of which it was simply impossible that he could make any use whatever. Reference to these bonds is frequently made by some of the members of the Brotherhood pretty much as if they were matters for which Mr. Mitchell had failed to account. He will account for them by showing the whole lot uninjured and untouched to those who sent them.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Chambersburg *Repository*, after speaking of the merits of the different candidates for United States Senator, now before the people, thus introduces a new candidate: "But above them all, there is a young man whom we all know well; a young man, whose talent, whose energy, whose genial manners, whose consistent adherence to principle, are as familiar to the voters of the old 17th Congressional District, as they are to his nearest kin. His reputation is not by any means bounded by his District. He is known, and loved, I was going to say by everybody. Pennsylvania can find no more worthy representative than EDWARD M'PHERSON. And it were fitting, indeed, that Mr. Cowan should be succeeded by a man of such eminent ability and worth as Mr. M'Pherson. He is young but he has been tried, and has the ring of the right metal.

☞ The Bedford *Gazette* charged that a corruption fund of $400,000 was used in this State to carry Gen. Geary's election, and stigmatized its own party friends in Philadelphia as a mean set of fellows, for refusing to respond to the demand for money made by the Chairman of the Democratic Committee.

To this silly allegation of the *Gazette* we replied that according to its own showing its party was composed of a venal set of scamps who could thus be bought. Whereupon it retorts that the purchaseable commodity belongs to no party, offers to bet fifty dollars that our candidates for Congress and Senator sent large sums of money into that county, and in conclusion intimates that we ourself, are purchasable, because while holding office we had "a singular admiration for President Johnson's policy," which we now oppose since we no longer hold that office.

The effort of Mr. Meyers to thrust himself into the Legislature by rejecting the votes of the soldiers from this district, had taught us how unscrupulous a politician he was, but we hardly expected him to play the thing so low, as to charge the opponent who beat him so handsomely, with bribery, because he furnished a portion of the funds to defray the necessary expenses of the canvass. We confess we are not prepared to think so meanly of Mr. Meyers, or of the opposition candidate for Congress as he would have us do, by his small effort to escape the dilemma his first article placed him in. He would surely not indulge in a bitter fling at his Philadelphia friends for their penuriousness in refusing to contribute to the campaign, if he himself was spunging his expenses for music &c., &c., off his party. Every voter in the district knows—and none better than Mr. Meyers—that the candidates of all parties are expected to contribute towards the expenses of the canvass, and if our candidates were more liberal than himself, he must remember, that they did not have the Federal offices to hawk round as a consideration for votes.

As to ourself, we know it is the commonest thing in the world for knaves—moral and political—to measure other persons, integrity by their own standard, and in relinquishing office for the sake of principle, we expected to be assailed only, by the class whose highest idea of integrity is guaged by their pocket. And in this expectation we have not been deceived. When Mr. Meyers can produce a single paragraph from the columns of the *Herald & Whig* expressive of "admiration of President Johnson's policy," he can draw on us for "fifty dollars" to assist in defraying the expenses of his fruitless campaign, which he leaves us to infer he was too scrupulously honest to pay himself.—*Somerset Herald.*

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

It is said the New York Legislature will be called upon to make the excise law for New York still more stringent than it is.

THE Monongahela *Republican* urges the selection of the Hon. M. S. Quay, of Beaver county, as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In the Third District of Vermont, at the regular elections, there was no choice for Congressmen. Now, Worthington C. Smith, Radical has been chosen.

ROGERS, of New Jersey, and Hogan of Missouri, the leaders of Johnsonism in Congress, have both been defeated—the former by Halsey, the latter by Pyle, both Republicans.

THE defeat of Longyear in the Third District, Michigan, and the election of a Republican, is virtually a gain. The defeated candidate though elected two years ago as a Republican went off with Johnson—and there he is!

ONE thing—a fact not likely to be reversed—gives the loyal people great security and confidence; and that is, there will be in both branches of Congress a working Republican two-thirds—a power greater than the veto—the master of the President.

IN Massachusetts the Republican majority is sixty-four thousand. As an indication of popular sentiment it may be stated that about as many negroes have been elected to the Legislature as copperheads. Freedom of opinion works some peculiar results.

THE Erie *Dispatch* says that the first choice of the members for United States Senator will undoubtedly be as follows: Curtin 40; Cameron 12; Forney 10; Stevens 7; Grow 7. The Union Republican caucus will consist of 83 members, which by the above vote, will leave 7 uncounted for. Place them as you will it will not effect the election of Curtin.

THE debt of the State of Pennsylvania has been reduced $1,158,009 62 during the year ending September 30, 1866. The indebtedness of the State on the 1st of December, 1865, was 37,476,258 06, the assets in the Treasury being $13,623,668 14, leaving the liabilities of the State over assets $23,852,589 92.

GOOD hay has been selling during the last week or two in the city of Philadelphia, at from $2 to $2.25 per hundred. This is the highest price that has been reached for several years. The hay crop last summer, was as a general thing, rather light, and our farmers have not much to sell.

THE result in Maryland is as follows: Col. Leonard, conservative, is chosen Comptroller by several thousand majority; four of the five members of Congress are conservative, and the Legislature stands Senate 16 conservatives and 8 Radicals. House 60 conservative and 20 radical. Conservative majority on joint ballot 48.

THE Franklin county Republican Convention met and instructed for Governor Curtin for United States Senator. The vote was 73 for Curtin, 2 for Stevens, and 1 for Cameron. The Convention was largely attended and harmonious.

THE *Times* intimates that the sole object of General Sherman's mission to Mexico is to aid General Castelnau sent out by the Emperor of France, to superintend the evacuation, by acting as the representative of this government possessed of authority to discuss questions at issue, and to speak for American interests.

GEORGE S. BOUTWELL delivered a lecture in Boston on Wednesday evening on political affairs. He strongly advocated universal suffrage, and said that it was probably the intention of Congress to establish Territorial governments in the lately rebellious States, and to declare who of the citizens shall and who shall not vote. The President, he said ought to be impeached for his guilty of unconstitutional acts.

THE Springfield *Republican*, conservative has come out for Universal suffrage. It says: "Let all the people vote freely and fairly; this is the only right and safe way in a Republic. If any man is a rebel in act, let him be punished legally, with disfranchisement among the penalties; but disfranchisement for opinion will not answer.

REMARKABLE CHANGE OF FRONT.

The Chicago Times Repudiates Andrew Johnson and Comes out for Universal Suffrage.

SHALL THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY DIE OR LIVE?

The present is a crisis in the Democratic party which has no precedent in its history, as it is a crisis in the progress of the country which is also without precedent. Never before has the Democratic party encountered events so seriously affecting its future vitality as now. Not that it beholds itself diminished in the magnitude of its numbers, —for it is numerically stronger than it has ever been before,—but that having been beaten on a great national issue, as to which it believed itself to be wholly right and the opposition wholly wrong, and still so believes, it must nevertheless abandon that issue—for the decision of it is final—and either sit down in helpless and decaying inactivity, or strike boldly out upon a new line, selected with peculiar reference, not to things as we would have them, but to things as they actually are, and in pursuing which line it shall cease to be a hold-back or "conservative" party, and become, what it was in its palmy days, a progressive and an aggressive party. These are the alternatives.

It will not sit down in helpless and decaying inactivity.

What, then, shall the new line be? In the first place must we not cut loose from the administration of Andrew Johnson, and leave that hybrid concern to float on the sea of public contempt into which it some time since entered, and from which no power can rescue it? Is not the late defeat attributable more largely to this administration than to all other causes combined? What is there in its composition to command popular confidence? Who, belonging to it, is entitled by reason of his antecedents or of his statesmanship, to the confidence or the respect of the Democratic party? Certainly it is not Andrew Johnson, nor William H. Seward, nor Edwin M. Stanton. True, this administration had a right policy, and the Democratic party in overlooking the chief men comprising it and thinking only of the rightfulness of the policy, displayed a patriotism whose purity was never excelled; but the policy having failed,—and having failed, too through the feebleness and folly and offenses against public propriety of the administration,—why should not the Democratic party abandon the dead body, longer adherence to which is death only to itself?

What next? Can the Democratic party succeed until the negro question shall be gotten out of the way? It cannot. What next? Is not negro suffrage inevitable, and is not the quickest way to get the negro question out of the way to at once concede the suffrage, making issue only on the degree to which it shall be conceded? We know that many Democrats have not reached this advanced view of the case, and that such still feel greatly inclined to revolt at the proposition of negro suffrage in any degree; but let us tell them that it is always wise to accept the inevitable comes. Negro suffrage we say, is inevitable, and whether it shall be qualified or universal depends upon the promptness or otherwise with which the Democratic party shall move with reference to it. The South will speedily yield qualified negro suffrage upon the motion of the Democratic party; because, if for no other reason, she will soon see, if she does not already see, that if she do not yield it, she will ultimately be compelled to accept universal negro suffrage.

Qualified negro suffrage yielded by the South—and by this we mean impartial suffrage, or suffrage dependent upon the intelligence of the man, irrespective of color, *as is now the rule in Massachusetts*,—The negro question will have been disposed of, and the occupation of the northern republican radical party will be gone forever. Not one inch of ground will it have to stand upon; and the country can once more turn to those material questions of public policy the right disposition of which is so essential to the public prosperity. It will be upon these questions that the Democratic party will triumph, and it will be by this triumph that constitutional government and our federal system will be preserved.

If the South be wise, it will not wait on this suffrage question, even for the motion of the Democratic party. If it be wise, it will lose no time in putting in motion the necessary machinery by which it will at the same time save itself from humiliation, preserve its own self respect, rid the country of the most vexatious question that ever distracted any country, kill the worst political party that ever existed on the globe and put the Union in the way of speedy restoration. The machinery consists of course, in conventions to revise the State Constitutions.

Governor Brownlow's Message.

The message of Governor Brownlow to the Legislature of Tennessee, deserves some attention beyond the circle to which it is addressed. It is in the main a calm and dignified document, and appears free from those eccentricities of style in which the Governor sometimes indulges.

He begins by praising the action of the Legislature at its extra session in adopting the amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and goes on to express himself, as in a former message, in favor of the enfranchisement of certain classes of colored men, if not of universal suffrage. On this point he says:—

"The admirers and followers of the President cannot, with any show of consistency, oppose the enfranchisement of the negro. In an authorized and approved statement of his opinions, made public by his direction, long since his accession to the Presidency, he declares that if he were 'in Tennessee he would endeavor to introduce negro suffrage'' He declares that he would begin with three classes of negroes to be admitted to vote at once:—Those who had served in the army; those who could read and write, and those having a property qualification of $200 or $250.

"Thus, by a system not very gradual, he desired to extend the privilege to the entire race. If what is termed the radical party in the Legislature shall agree with the President and his followers on the question of negro suffrage, it would seem that an excellent opportunity for agreement and conciliation on the vexed question will be presented and that the negro may be enfranchised with unanimity. As for myself, while I have confessed to those prejudices of caste, resulting from education and lifelong habits, I am free to say that I desire to act in harmony with the great body of the loyal people of the Union. I think we should not, without great and controlling reasons, sever ourselves from that great National party whose wisdom and courage saved the life of the nation, and rescued the the loyal people of Tennessee from the hands of the oppressor."

He speaks of the untiriag efforts of disloyal newspapers and unprincipled and designing stump speakers to set on foot a scheme of State revolution, and calling attention to the fact that the arms of the State were taken from the Capitol during the Rebellion, and that there is no military organization, urges prompt and fearless action on the part of the Legislature.

Finally, he says of Mr. Johnson's course: I am happy to announce to you, officially that since your last adjournment, when the President had not only abandoned us, but as I have reason to believe, was contemplating the overthrow of the State Governments, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution, have solemnly recognized it, and declared it to be the lawful government of the State of Tennessee, and have admitted our Representatives and Senators to their seats, and our noble State has resumed all its relations to the American Union. In the struggle which yet awaits us, we can look alone to the great body of the loyal American people to sustain and protect us.

"In this connection I congratulate you and the country on the recent triumph at the ballot-box in the loyal States of sound national principles, as represented by Congress, over the insane policy of the President. The victory was obtained by the Union people over a party consisting of a combination of rebels at the South and traitors at the North, sustained by the power and patronage of the President. As it was decided in the field in the great military struggles, that this nation shall live, so it has been decided at the ballot-box that loyal men alone shall govern it. The great heart of the loyal people is in sympathy with us, and they will require representatives to sustain us against the assaults of Rebels at home or the usurpation of an unscrupulous President."

At last accounts, owing to a misapprehension of the time of the meeting of the Legislature, a quorum had not assembled in either branch.

The Baltimore Police Trouble.

BALTIMORE, Md., November 13.—Judge Bartol has just rendered his decision in the habeas corpus case. He sustains the power of Gov. Swann to remove the Commissioners of Police. There was great cheering in the court room on the announcement of the decision. His decision reviews the whole case. He says that the order of Judge Bond, of the Criminal Court, that the parties be held to bail, and in default to be committed to keep the peace against the Police Commissioners, and not to seek to exercise any of the functions of Police Commissioners until their claim to said office should be established by the courts, was wholly unwarranted, and that the judge of the Criminal Court had no authority to issue such an order. He reviewed the code in regard to the Police Commissioners, and decided that it gave the Governor entire power in the matter; that if, in his judgment, Messrs Woods and Hinds had been guilty of official misconduct, the law gave him power to remove them and appoint successors; that at the time Messrs. Valiant and Young were arrested they had been truly and lawfully appointed Police Commissioners; and that, clothed with the commission of the Governor, they were then truly in office and empowered to rightfully exercise all the functions of the same, in place of Woods and Hinds who had been removed and had been officially notified of the removal. The action of the Governor was final, as much so as if those Commissioners had been removed by the Legislature, and from his action there could be no appeal.

Whilst the decision of Judge Bartol fully sustains the action of the Governor, and condemns that of the Criminal Court, in virtually granting an injunction against Messrs, Young and Valiant, by the order issued and discharged them from the custody in which they were held in virtue of the commitment. In such order the Judge decided that it was competent for the Criminal Court to entertain the charge alleged against Young and Valiant of conspiracy to break the peace, by forcibly taking possession of the police stations, and other property, held by Messrs. Woods and Hinds. Such a charge was an indictable offence, and upon that charge they were properly held to bail. Judge Bartol said he would issue an order for the immediate discharge of Sheriff Thompson, and in the case of Messrs. Young and Valiant he discharged them from custody under the illegal order of Judge Bond, restraining them from seeking to exercise the functions of their office as Police Commissioners, but as to the other charge of conspiracy to break the peace, he would require them to enter their own recognizances to answer the charge before proper court.

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