

The Columbian.

GEORGE H. MOORE, EDITOR.

BLOOMSBURG, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1866.

"THAT LETTER."

Blountsburg, March 2, 1866.
I have been addressed a copy of your issue this week. I have likewise addressed a copy to the President.

The above letter appears in the last number of the Republican. It was, the reader will observe by its date, written to the Secretary of the Treasury long after the veto of the Freedman's Bureau Bill, and subsequent to the President's celebrated speech of the twenty-second of February.

We confess this letter took us by surprise, and we are sorry that in this we were alone. We were a stranger in this community, and the character of the writer unknown to us. We did not then for a moment suspect that the love of filthy lucre had eaten out and consumed whatever of manliness and decency nature had originally bestowed upon him.

We have to say, upon the most complete authority, that the statement in the Republican that Mr. Clark has at Washington or elsewhere disavowed all connection with the COLUMBIAN is false. The charge made to Radical members was that he had set up a newspaper "to abuse Congress" to which the reply, perfectly conforming to truth, was that he had never written a line about Congress, and was not even a stockholder in this journal, although its proprietors were his friends.

A VALUABLE DISINFECTANT.

A COMMUNICATION has been received at the Department of State from our Legation at London, enclosing two pamphlets relating to certain experiments by Dr. James Dewar, of Kilmacarty, for testing the efficacy of sulphurous acid gas as a disinfectant. Results are cited which lead to the conviction that rinderpest, pleuro-pneumonia, and cholera, and some other ills by which the human family are afflicted, may be not only very much modified, but even wholly prevented by this means.

All Garibaldians who were at Congress had followed their commander to Iowa.

NATIONAL UNION CONVENTION.

A NATIONAL UNION CONVENTION, of at least two delegates from each Congressional district of all the States, two from each Territory, two from the District of Columbia, and four delegates at large from each State, will be held at the City of Philadelphia, on the second Tuesday (fourteenth) of August next.

Such delegates will be chosen by the electors of the several States who sustain the Administration in maintaining unbroken the Union of the States, under the Constitution which our fathers established, and who agree in the following propositions, viz:

The Union of States is, in every case, indissoluble, and is perpetual; and the Constitution of the United States, and the laws passed by Congress in pursuance thereof, supreme, and constant, and universal in their obligation;

The rights, the dignity, and the equality of the States in the Union, including the right of representation in Congress, are solemnly guaranteed by that Constitution, to save which from overthrow so much blood and treasure were expended in the late civil war;

There is no right, anywhere, to dissolve the Union, or to separate States from the Union, either by voluntary withdrawal, by force of arms, or by Congressional action; neither by the secession of the States, nor by the exclusion of their loyal and qualified representatives, nor by the National Government in any other form;

Slavery is abolished, and neither can, nor ought to be, re-established in any State or Territory within our jurisdiction;

Each State has the undoubted right to prescribe the qualifications of its own electors, and no external power rightfully can, or ought to, dictate, control, or influence the free and voluntary action of the States in the exercise of that right;

The maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially of the right of each State to order and control its own domestic concerns, according to its own judgment exclusively, subject only to the Constitution of the United States, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend, and the overthrow of that system by the usurpation and centralization of power in Congress would be a revolution, dangerous to republican government and destructive of liberty;

Each House of Congress is made, by the Constitution, the sole judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its members; but the exclusion of loyal Senators and Representatives, properly chosen and qualified, under the Constitution and laws, is unjust and revolutionary;

Every patriot should frown upon all those acts and proceedings, everywhere, which can serve no other purpose than to rekindle the animosities of war, and to the effect of which upon our moral, social, and material interests at home, and upon our standing abroad, differing only in degree, is injurious like war itself;

The purpose of the war having been to preserve the Union and the Constitution by putting down the Rebellion, and the Rebellion having been suppressed, all resistance to the authority of the General Government being at an end, and the war having ceased, war measures should also cease, and should be followed by measures of peaceful administration, so that union, harmony, and concord may be encouraged, and industry, commerce, and the arts of peace revived and promoted; and the early restoration of all the States to the exercise of their constitutional powers in the National Government is indispensably necessary to the strength and the defence of the Republic, and to the maintenance of the public credit;

All such electors in the thirty-six States and nine Territories of the United States, and in the District of Columbia, who, in a spirit of patriotism and love for the Union, can rise above personal and sectional considerations, and who desire to see a truly National Union Convention, which shall represent all the States and Territories of the Union, assemble, as friends and brothers, under the national flag, to hold counsel together upon the state of the Union, and to take measures to avert possible danger from the same, are specially requested to take part in the choice of such delegates.

But no delegate will take a seat in such Convention who does not loyally accept the national situation, and cordially endorse the principles above set forth, and who is not attached, in true allegiance, to the Constitution, the Union, and the Government of the United States.

- A. W. REXFALL, Pres't.
J. R. DOOLITTLE.
O. H. BROWNING,
EDGAR COWAN,
CHARLES KNAP,
SAMUEL FOWLER,
Executive Committee National Union Club.

We recommend the holding of the above Convention, and endorse the call therefor:

- DANIEL S. NORDON,
J. W. NISBETH,
JAMES DIXON,
T. A. HUBBARD.

ADDRESS OF DEMOCRATIC SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

To the People of the United States:

Dangers threaten the Constitution. The citadel of our liberties is directly assailed. The future is dark unless the people will come to the rescue. In this hour of peril "National Union" should be the watch-word of every true man.

This unfortunate episode, which somehow found its way to Senators, put the finishing stroke to poor John. "So the stroke came, stretched upon the plain, No more through rolling clouds to see the main, Viewed his own feather on the fatal dart, That winged the shaft that quivered in his heart; Keen were his pangs, but heavier far to feel He nursed the pain which impelled the steel." A. M.

WASHINGTON, July 4, 1866. DEAR CAPTAIN.—The glorious Fourth has come once more with its suspension of business, celebrations, parties, and above all, firing of crackers, torpedoes, and fireworks generally by the youngsters of the city. The public offices are closed, and every one turns from the ordinary occupations and annoyances of life to the enjoyment of a holiday.

But all this is aside from my purpose, which is to conclude the story of the nomination mentioned in my former letter, which you may desire to have in full, as it relates to a matter of local interest in your section.

After Mr. Clark's confirmation last week Mr. Mercer, accompanied by a fellow-member of the House from your State named Kelly, made a foray upon the Senate to get the subject reconsidered. In consequence of their efforts a motion was made and adopted requesting the President to return the confirmation to the Senate. I am told that such motions are agreed to as a matter of course, whenever a member desires to move a reconsideration.

WASHINGTON LETTERS.

The Associated—Merer lately whipt—John John numbers—Clark confirmed!

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 27, 1866. DEAR CAPTAIN.—The Senate of the United States, composed of thirty-nine Republicans and ten Democratic members, on yesterday confirmed the nomination of Robert F. Clark, Esq., as Assessor for the Thirteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, by a unanimous vote. This honorable testimonial of confidence in the nominee, and of indifference to the views of Ulysses Mercer, and to the interests of his friend Palemon John, ought to be instructive in your section. Mercer has followed this case with his hostility from the Bureau of Internal Revenue to the Secretary of the Treasury, from the Secretary to the President, and from the President to the Senate. His labors have been very arduous as well as unworthy, but he has received a rebuff at every point.

Although the proceedings of the Senate on nominations are secret, some things connected with them always transpire. Mercer has stated that he appeared before the Senate Committee on Finance, and made a speech against the nomination; which was, no doubt, a bitter one; and he also solicited members to oppose it. The inglorious result of all his operations is a unanimous confirmation by the Senate. He might have got a few members of very Radical proclivities to vote against Mr. Clark, by impudently and misrepresentation, if it had not been for a letter of P. John to the Secretary of the Treasury. John seems to have thought the Secretary as great a rascal as himself, and wrote to him that he would sustain the Administration if he were continued in office. This was in March, after the President's veto of the Freedman's Bureau Bill, his speech of the twenty-second of February, etc., and when the issue was fully made up between him and the majority in Congress. John thought it was a good time to sell himself, and like a prudent man, stated his terms, in very plain language,

in the proper quarter. But he was very much mistaken in the Secretary, who, instead of being delighted with making a valuable purchase on easy terms, became somewhat disgusted, and has never thought of Palemon John since without a lively emotion of contempt. And this feeling was not at all decreased by the extravagant puff of the Secretary which John put in his paper about the same time.

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GENERAL PRESS DESPATESHES.

From Washington.

THE Postmaster-General sent a communication to Congress calling attention to abuses of the franking privilege, in the use of frank of members by claim agents, patent agents, etc. The Postmaster-General says this abuse has become a serious evil, lessening considerably the postal revenues, and bringing reproach upon the Department. The Postmaster-General is powerless to arrest this evil while members of Congress permit their clerks or other persons to write their names upon envelopes, and use or permit the use of frank stamps, neither of which has the sanction of law. Cases are cited where a Senator intrusts all his franking to a niece, where patent agents send their circulars under frank of a member of Congress, and a case where a clerk in one of the departments farms out the franks of three several members of Congress. Outside of this report we hear of an instance where it is charged that a member of Congress sells his frank. The report was referred to the House Committee on Post-offices and Post Roads.

A circular has been issued by General Spinner, United States Treasurer, embodying the opinion of Solicitor of the Treasury Jordan, from which the former says it will be seen that no authority is invested in the Treasurer's Office or in the Department to refund to any National Bank the amount of duty claimed to have been erroneously exacted from it, either by direct return of the amount paid, or by allowing it as a credit to the bank on the payment in July next. The only remedy then left to the banks effected by this opinion of the Solicitor is in the provision by Congress for repayment of the amounts claimed. In the endeavor to procure such action by Congress I will cheerfully co-operate by a representation of the facts, and in any other proper way. Circular No. 11,891, issued under date of February twenty, 1866, in which it was proposed to refund by allowing to be applied as payment on the July return any amount which a bank should show to be due to it by reason of the modified regulations respecting surplus, and cannot, therefore, under the construction given by the Solicitor of the Treasury to the powers and duties of this office, be carried out.

The President on Thursday sent a message to the House in reply to a resolution requesting information as to whether any of the civil or military employes of the Government have assisted in the rendition of public honors to the Rebel living or dead. He incloses communications from the heads of departments in substance as follows: The Secretary of State says he has no knowledge of information on the subject of the resolution. The Attorney-General remarks that his department has no knowledge of such disloyal demonstration on the part of any officer subject to his jurisdiction, and he believes that none such has taken place. The Postmaster-General says he has no information upon any branch of the inquiry so far as it may relate to the officers and employes of his department. The Secretary of the Interior says: "None of the employes of this department, so far as I am advised and believe, within the State of

Georgia or any other of the Rebel States have in any way countenanced or assisted in the rendition of public honors to traitors, either living or dead, or concurred in the obstruction or denial by the Rebel authorities of the privilege of doing like honors to loyalty at the graves of Union soldiers who have perished for their homes and kindred." The Secretary of the Treasury makes a similar reply. The Secretary of War says his department is not in possession of any official information upon the subject.

Mr. Brown's resolution about the reorganization of the departmental service will not be acted upon this session.

It is understood that an address to the people of the United States has been agreed upon by the Democratic and Conservative members of Congress, and is proposed National Convention, to be held in Philadelphia on the fourteenth of August, and urges participation in its proceedings. It is headed with the names of Senator Guthrie and Representative Niblack.

The Miscellaneous Appropriation Bill, reported to the House on Friday, contains an item of fifty thousand dollars to establish National Cemeteries, and to purchase sites for the same at such points as the President may deem proper, and for the care of the same; and two hundred dollars for erecting, in connection with the Treasury Department, a brick fireproof building for the Currency Printing Bureau and for storage.

The official report from General Carval, Governor of Tamaulipas, dated the eighteenth ultimo, has been received by Minister Romero, which states that he had just been placed in possession of intelligence from General Escobedo, dated on the sixteenth, giving him details of his important victory over the Imperialists near Camargo on the same day. The wagons captured are over two hundred and seventy in number, and the value of the merchandise nearly two million dollars. The merchandise captured belonged to French and Austrian houses in Matamoros, and is therefore lawful prize. General Escobedo also captured twelve hundred prisoners, of whom four hundred were Austrians. Only a part of the enemy's cavalry escaped; all the artillery and ammunition was captured. A consignment of two millions of dollars left Monterey for Matamoros on the sixteenth, with two thousand French soldiers as a guard, under General Jeonigros. General Escobedo (Escobedo?) marched to attack him. General Carval expresses his inability to capture Matamoros without reinforcements from Escobedo.

The June report of the Agricultural Department gives a comparison between the amount of raw cotton imported from the United States into Great Britain during four months of last year, and the four corresponding months of the present year. It exceeds the quantity imported from India by almost one hundred per cent, and almost exactly equals the totals from all other localities. It is equivalent to five hundred and eight thousand seven hundred and twenty-six bales of four hundred pounds each. The report says half a million of bales in four months and seventy millions of dollars are respectable figures in the trade with one foreign nation, even for the palmy days of cotton-shipping from the ports of the United States. The report also shows that Great Britain buys this season ten times as much wheat from Russia as from us, and from France nearly six times as much. Only a little more than four per cent, of her seven millions of hundred weight are brought from the United States.

Generals Steedman and Fullerton having completed their investigations in Missouri, arrived in New Orleans on Sunday, from whence they will make up and forward their report on Alabama and Mississippi. They conclude their investigations with Louisiana and Texas. During the past week the Senate has rejected an unusual number of the President's nominations, most of them men of unexceptional military record. Among the rejections of last Saturday were Colonel Rufus Cheney, of Wisconsin, nominated as Assessor of the First Collection District of that State, and Colonel George Ginty, of the same State, nominated as Assessor for the Fifth District. Colonel Ginty served gallantly in the late war. His father served as a private during the war. Colonel Cheney served with credit as a paymaster. The Senate also rejected Colonel A. J. Fulton, nominated as Assessor of the Fifteenth District of Pennsylvania, who was also a soldier of good record. William Edwards, also a faithful soldier, was rejected as Postmaster at Keokuk, Iowa. Peter L. Fry, nominated as Postmaster at St. Louis, Missouri, was the second time rejected.

It is considered certain that the Finance Committee's amendments to the Indian Appropriation Bill, attaching the Indian Bureau to the War Department, will be adopted. It is claimed that this would save a great deal of money to the Government, in enabling Indian affairs to be under the control of army officers on the frontier, who would otherwise be idle and paid as much as if employed. Mr. Clarence A. Seward, nephew of the Secretary of State, and at one time Assistant Secretary of State, left this city on Sunday for New York, where he will take the next steamer for Europe, as bearer of despatches from the United States to the Emperor of France.

The Freedman's Bureau Bill having finally passed both Houses of Congress, will at once be presented to the President for his action. It extends the operation of the Bureau for two years from this time, and the supervision is to be over all loyal refugees and freedmen, so far as the same shall be necessary, to enable them, as speedily as practicable, to become self-supporting citizens. A letter has been received here from the Rebel General Magruder, now in Mexico, who writes to a friend asking him to intercede with our Government that he may not be arrested. "I want permission," he said, "to return to the United States. The Imperial Govern-

ment has gone to destruction, and has no money, and we have to get away from here. Many have already left. Price and myself and some others are still here, but we are compelled to look out for some other place to go to. There is no hope for anything more here."

The House Judiciary Committee have agreed to report favorably upon Senator Harris's bill to reorganize the judiciary of the United States.

WHO ARE THE DISORGANIZERS?

FROM the beginning of the war on the President, which the Radicals have waged with malignant bitterness for the greater part of a year past, the effort has been most perseveringly made to convince the people that the friends of the Administration are striving to divide the Union party for the benefit of the Loco-focos. The main argument depended upon to sustain this charge has been that a division of the organization which triumphed at the last election will bring the opposing party again in power. It has been arrogantly assumed that the majority of the leaders of the dominant party have a right to dictate its policy without regard to former declarations, and that it is treachery to the party to leave it, even when its chief principles have been abandoned, and unpopular and unconstitutional measures are engrained upon it. No intelligent man will deny that it is an act of gross injustice to every member of a political organization for its leaders to claim the name, the machinery, and the prestige of the party with a view to accomplishing objects not contemplated when it is formed, and which are seriously objectionable to a very large part of the people who compose it. This is a species of fraud which cunning politicians frequently resort to, but which is condemned by every fair-minded man. We have demonstrated abundantly that the faction which caused the schism in this nefarious work all the time that it has been so vehemently denouncing the President and those who approve his course as traitors to the Union party. The boldness with which they have asserted that the division was commenced by persons in sympathy with the enemies of the Union party has caused many unthinking men to believe that there must be some truth in their statements; and, unfortunately, many who hear what they say do not hear or see the refutations of their slanderous assertions.

There are now indications, which cannot be mistaken, that the Radical leaders are satisfied that their programme cannot be carried through. The speech of Thaddeus Stevens on Wednesday last, so full of bitter chagrin, and the abandonment of the chief feature of the "reconstruction amendment," are sufficient of themselves to show the despair of the chief leaders of the ultra faction; and now that it is practically acknowledged that they cannot force their revolutionary measures through, it is well to ask why the Union party should be divided, when those who control that wing of it believe that the Loco-foco will have all the advantage of the split? Some stupid contemporaries say that "Radicals have made great concessions to secure harmony, and that they should not be expected to concede to everything."

It is not true that the friends of the President ask any concession of Union men who are willing to stand by the Baltimore platform of the Union party of 1864, and the formal declarations of the Union members of Congress with regard to the objects of the war. If new issues are to be introduced, let the rank and file of the party have an opportunity to speak their views, and let it be fairly admitted that those who cannot subscribe to them may without dishonor leave and oppose the party. The whole cause of dispute between members of the Union party may be presented in very brief terms, and may be readily understood.

1. The friends of President Johnson insist that the Constitution, which is the "supreme law," must and shall be respected; that it is the only bond of union between the States, and the creator of Congress, as well as of the other departments of the Government. If it be desirable to alter the Constitution, the alteration should be made legally, decorously, and deliberately.

2. The Radicals insist that negro equality shall be made a dogma of the party, and that to establish it the Constitution may be subverted and supreme power assumed by Congress. There is not a Radical journal in the country which will attempt to deny categorically what we here assert; and any one who will read the authorized declaration of principles of the Union party can easily perceive that the friends of the President have not departed from them.

The Conservatives do not ask any concessions of the Radicals if they really Union men, and if they are not, with what show of propriety can they ask us to yield any principle of the Union party? Can there be any injustice in proposing that we all go back to the point from which we diverged, and there find who has gone astray? Are the Radical leaders willing to do this? Are they willing to go to the platform of the party, and stay there? Or will they undertake to show that we have left it?

With the friends of the Constitution and the Union there is no choice; if they were weak enough to abandon principles for expediency they could accomplish nothing by yielding to the revolutionary faction. It has adopted negro suffrage as the chief plank in its platform; its members of Congress have written the record in their votes upon the bill to compel the people of the District of Columbia to adopt it; and it is everywhere proclaimed by them as the shibboleth of their party. Such a weight no party can carry and live.—Philadelphia Daily News.

The salary of the Governor of California is fourteen thousand dollars.

A CLERGYMAN WHIPS HIS CHILD TO DEATH.

WE learn from the railroad men who came from Medina this morning that there was great excitement in that village arising from a report that a Presbyterian clergyman, named Lindsley, residing a mile south of the village, yesterday whipped his son, three years old, so severely that he died two hours subsequently, because he would not say his prayers. Report adds that the child's fingers were broken by the blows administered. The report seemed so monstrous and unnatural that we telegraphed to Medina to learn if it was true, and received an answer that it was. The telegraph states that the minister was two hours whipping the child with a heavy rod, and it died from its injuries within the time stated above. Lindsley had not been arrested at the time the despatch was sent, but we learn that an officer from Albion has gone to Medina to take him into custody. For the sake of common humanity we hope the story is exaggerated, and it may be possible that it is.

Since writing the above we have received by special telegraph the statement of Mr. Lindsley, the father of the child, made to a jury summoned by Coroner Chamberlain: "On the eighteenth of June the child disobeyed his stepmother, and I commenced correcting him, using a single for the purpose, and continued to chastise him for more than two hours, when the child began to show signs of debility, and I ceased to punish him and laid him on a couch and called my wife. When she saw the child she said he was dying, and before twelve o'clock he was dead." The coroner's jury returned a verdict yesterday "that death resulted from chastisement by the father." It will be seen that the whipping was given on the eighteenth instant, instead of yesterday, and that common report did not in this instance overstate the facts in the case. A child three years old whipped to death by its father because it could not or would not say its prayers! Is it possible, and of all other persons, that a clergyman should be guilty of such a piece of inhumanity? What should be his punishment? The condemnation of the public is not enough. The law should take firm hold of him and deal out justice to him with an unsparring hand. A cold-blooded murderer—it can be called nothing less—should not go unpunished. No wonder the people of Medina are indignant and excited.—Rochester Union, June 21.

SUCH CONSISTENCY.

WHEN Mr. Stevens denounced the President as an alien enemy, a usurper, and a tyrant, his Radical friends in Congress applauded the "veteran" to the echo; but when the President in a speech declared that Stevens and Sumner were disunionists because they favored keeping eleven States out of the Union, he was roundly abused for his indecorum and lack of good taste. When Senator Sumner characterized a communication of President Johnson as a "white-washing" proceeding, he was looked up to by the Radicals as a model of propriety; but when Andrew Johnson named the Massachusetts magistrate as one not desirous of a restoration of the States to their former places in the Union, he was denounced as a coarse villifier. Thad. Stevens recently styled those who sustain the President "yelling Secessionists and hissing Copperheads," and the Radicals manifested their approbation of his purity of speech; but when a New York Congressman styled the opponents of the President "wicked, revolutionary, malignant, and mischievous," the great consistency party honored him with a vote of censure, by a strict party vote. This party were recently about to thrust Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, from his seat in the Senate because of his alleged treasonable conduct, and had about concluded to send Senator McDougall home to California because of his horror at his indecorous language; but when Mr. Ingersoll, a member of Congress from Illinois, bitterly spoke of Andrew Johnson as a "liar, traitor, and a consummate donkey," the Radicals applauded him intensely, and begged him to continue in his vilification. Major-General Blair was denounced as a rowdy for desiring to reply to Governor Stone, in St. Joseph, and every opportunity to do so of the Radical meeting was denied; but the same fanatics went on their knees to beg the privilege of dividing the time with General Blair, in one of his meetings, and the privilege was granted them, and an attempted reply was made by one of their short-ranged howlers. By grouping these facts together we think our readers will perceive how much consistency and how much patriotism and loyalty these Pharisees possess.—St. Joseph (Missouri) Herald.

TO DIRECTORS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

By the act of 1865, as found on page ninety-five of "School Law and Decisions," section seventy-five, the affidavit or certificate and the annual report are to be forwarded to this department at the same time. They should be made out and sent to the County Superintendent immediately after the school operations for the school year, for which they are made, have closed, and they cannot be made before. The warrant for the State appropriation cannot be issued until both these documents are on file in this department. If Directors send the affidavit to the County Superintendent without the report, it should be retained until the report has been received. This course will be much less troublesome to the Superintendent, as well as to the clerks in this department, who have charge of these documents. It should be remembered by Directors and Superintendents that the law positively requires "the certificate and report to be transmitted to the Superintendent of Common Schools on or before the fifteenth day of July, of the school year succeeding the one for which they were made."—Pennsylvania School Journal, June, 1866.