

AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor. CARLISLE, PA., MARCH 13, 1862.

OUR FLAG.



Forever float that standard sheet! Where breaks the foe but falls before us! With Freedom's soil beneath our feet, And Freedom's banner waving o'er us!

Borough Election.

The Democrats of the West Ward, Carlisle, are requested to meet at Gill's Hotel, on Saturday Evening, next, March 15, at early candle light, to make arrangements for placing in nomination Ward and Borough tickets.

The Democrats of the East Ward will meet at Herman's Hotel, at the same hour and for the same purpose. MANY.

Manassas in our Possession!

By telegraph we learn that the rebels have vacated Manassas and Centerville, and have retreated to Richmond. We learn also that the Union troops are now in possession of Manassas.

BLUE BIRDS.—We heard the mellow song of a blue bird in our garden a few mornings since. An indication of early Spring.

BADLY FRIGHTENED.—The apprehension of a restoration of the old Union seems to fill the Abolitionists with a dread more complete and overwhelming than that of the rebels who ran with FLOYD. The Tribune of New York, makes the air resound with its howls. (It promised, after Bull Run, to hold its tongue.) And so of the whole gang of Disunion editors from Garrison down to the half-starved Carlisle Herald.

These frightened abolitionists may yet see the Union as strong as it ever was, terribly though it may grieve them.

In anticipation of a general movement of our forces along the Potomac and the surgical attendance which will be necessary when the Union forces attack Manassas, the Government has called for volunteer surgeons. Among the number who have rendered their services is our Senator, Dr. OSWALD. If any of the surgeons in this county wish to do likewise, a dispatch or a note to Dr. C. will be promptly attended to. It might be well to mention also, in view of the severe battle expected, that all contributions of lint, muslin for bandages, sponges, &c., will be thankfully received by the Surgical Department. The bandages should be made three or three and a half inches in width, and seven, ten and fifteen yards in length, tightly rolled, with the ravelings removed. The ladies of many places are moving in the matter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

In another column we publish a strange Message from President LINCOLN. As will be seen, the President recommends that Congress adopt the following resolution: Resolved, That the United States ought to cooperate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolition of slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State in its discretion to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system.

The President, if we understand him, favors the purchase of all slaves in the border States, by the Government. How many hundreds of millions of dollars will be required to make the purchases, we are not informed. Should the President's resolution pass Congress, we hope to see some member offer another resolution, to read something like this: Resolved, also, That those who voted for ABRAHAM LINCOLN for President, be required to find the money that will be necessary for the purchase of the slaves of the border States; also, that they be compelled to enter into bonds in the sum of millions of dollars as security for the care and safe-keeping of said slaves.

If the above or something similar can be adopted and incorporated with the President's plan, then we are for it—not otherwise. If the Republicans are so anxious for the freedom of the slaves, let them show their sincerity by appropriating their own means for this object. We protest, however, against the Government being involved in any such business, and if the Republicans desire to adopt such a measure, and the border slave States should accept it, and another enormous tax be levied upon the people to pay for this gigantic slave purchase; a rebellion will ensue in the North just as certain as that the sun will set this evening. The people will pay taxes to carry on the war, but they cannot and will not pay for the purchase of negroes, who, after their purchase, would be thrown upon the North to fill our prisons and almshouses. We repeat, if the Republicans desire to become purchasers of slaves, they can do so, but the people at large cannot be dragged into such a business.

A HOME TALKER.—Hon. John Hickman, the other day, was availing his patriotism in the House of Representatives, by assailing the purpose of emancipation, and he here desired to denounce them as traitors to the government, and they ought to be put under arrest and executed as they deserved.

To this the gallant Hickman and his set made no reply, but still kept dashing away at the obnoxious member from Ohio.

ABOLITIONISM—SECESSIONISM.

Some of our Republican contemporaries affect to believe that because we feel disposed to expose the villains who have been filling their pockets at the public expense, at a time when Gen. McClellan and our brave troops are straining every nerve to preserve our institutions and the Union of the States, that we are not as hostile to the rebels as we should be. Nothing is farther from the truth. We have ever opposed secessionism, as we have ever opposed its twin-brother, abolitionism. They are both political heresies, of a character sufficient to damn to eternal and everlasting oblivion their advocates. One seeks to disunite the States and create two confederacies, Northern and Southern; the other, if it cannot obtain the freedom of four millions of ignorant slaves, desires to obtain the same end. Who dare deny this? They are both aiming at the same purpose, but by different and seemingly adverse ways. And they have both contributed the only contributions which were made to this unholy and wicked rebellion. The most fruitful means in the accomplishment of the present state of affairs, was the inauguration of that most abominable and wicked of all parties, the Know-Nothing party. This organization, from a miserable and intolerant religious zeal on the part of men with whom religion was the least of their thoughts, frightened many a good Democrat from his property, and induced him, from a fear of the Pope's power, to join those against whose principles he had so often and so valiantly fought; besides, it gained the favor and esteem of other Democrats, with whom the religious view of the subject had no avail, but who had a far less the foreigners, Protestant as well as Catholic, would "rule this country," and consequently ruin it!

It is well known that this organization effected the election of Gov. POLLOCK, and for a time bid fair to become one of the most powerful parties in the Union. The proscription character, however, of the organization, together with the thieving propensities of many of its leaders, induced the masses of the people to reflect, and the next election witnessed their overwhelming defeat. To retrieve their lost fortunes—to avoid the consequences of so signal a defeat, they wheeled about, took into their bosom all the foreigners who could be prevailed upon to join them, and then to give the party some show of character, they named it the "Republican party." Thus were we compelled to witness the proscription Know-Nothing and the foreigner joining hands, and calmly sleeping in the same bed together, and also the organization of a party established upon geographical distinction—the very party against whose pernicious objects and intentions the "Father of his Country" so strenuously warned the people. But, what will not the desire to obtain Government spoils induce some men to do? We were told there would be no war—the Southern people would not fight, and if they did the war would be over in sixty days!—EVAN STAFFORD, the great light of every thing that is devilish and hellish—the rag-tag and-bone-lash—asserted that the long bridge, after Mr. LINCOLN's election, would be thronged with Southerners asking office at the hands of the Administration." Now, this Lancaster county financier keeps on floundering and plunging in Congressional legislation, not knowing half the time what is doing, and the other half entailing any amount of indebtedness on the people, without even raising his voice against the corruption which have crept into the affairs of the Government.

Let any man look at the exhibitions which have been made of the frauds committed upon the Government! Examining the testimony elicited by the VAN WYCK investigating committee, and then say if it is not high time for the editor of every paper in the country to enter his solemn protest against the further prosecution of such a system. We do not write this, because of any love for the miserable traitors now in arms against the Government. Not at all. We condemn secessionism as a heresy, and shall, to its end and overthrow, denounce the rebellion as a stupendous folly, as well as a crime. Its authors, aiders and abettors should, and we hope will, receive the condign punishment their treasonable conduct merits. But we deem it our duty to tell the people how they have been robbed and by whom. If the time has come in the history of this country when men dare no longer tell the people of the frauds committed upon them, and how the public money has been stolen, to enrich a set of public plunderers who care for the war only in proportion to how much they can make out of it, then indeed are the liberties of this country in great danger.

LINCOLN AND DAWES.—Two or three days before the ball at the White House, Mr. LINCOLN sent word to Mr. DAWES, through a broker, that he (Dawes) had done more to break down the administration than any other man in the country, by his speech exposing the corruption of contractors and others. Mr. Dawes sent back a message in reply to the President. "Tell him," said Mr. D., "that nothing that I can do will break down his administration, so rapidly as this dancing party, given at a time when the nation is in the agonies of civil war. With equal propriety might a man make a ball with a corpse in his house."

MARTIAL LAW AT RICHMOND.—JEFF. DAVIS has placed Richmond under martial law. All distillation and sale of spirituous liquors is prohibited, and Gen. WINNER is charged with the due execution of the proclamation. On last Saturday night, the Hon. JOHN MORRIS BOWEN was arrested near Richmond, by order of the Rebel Government, and lodged in McDONNELL's negro jail, on the charge of being a Union man. Several additional arrests have been made of those suspected of disloyalty to the abortive Rebel Government, which class of persons seems to be daily increasing.

Hon. ANDREW JOHNSON has formally been appointed Military Governor of Tennessee, with all the powers, duties and functions pertaining to that office, during the pleasure of the President, or until the loyal inhabitants of that State shall organize a civil Government, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States. In order to the exercise of those duties, it became necessary to first give him a military position, and hence the President nominated him as a Brigadier General. This appointment the Senate has unhesitatingly confirmed.

NOT IN FAVOR OF A RESTORATION OF THE UNION.

It is now evident to every one that the Republican leaders are opposed to a reconstruction of the Union. They can no longer deny this, for the record of their treason is before the country. In the House of Representatives, at Washington, a few days since, Mr. HOLMAN (Dem.) of Indiana, offered a resolution declaring that, in the judgment of this House, the unfortunate civil war into which the Government of the United States has been forced by the treasonable attempt of Southern Secessionists to destroy the Union, should not be prosecuted for any other purpose than the restoration of the authority of the Constitution and welfare of the whole people of the United States, who are permanently involved in the preservation of our present form of government without modification or change. Mr. LOVOY (Rep.) of Illinois, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Carried—yeas 69, nays 58, as follows: Yeas—Messrs. Aldrich, Alley, Arnold, Ashley, Babbitt, Baker, Baxter, Beaman, Bingham, Blair of Pennsylvania, Buffinton, Blake, Burnham, Campbell, Chamberlain, Clark, Colfax, Frederick A. Conner, Boscoe Conkling, Conway, Craven, Cutler, Delano, Davis, Duffell, Ely, Fessenden, Frank, Franchot, Hooper, Hutchesin, Kellogg of Michigan, Lansing, Lucas, Lovjoy, McKnight, McPherson, Mitchell, Morrill, Morrill of Vermont, Norton of Maine, Patton, Pike, Pennington, Rice of Maine, Riddle, Sargeant, Seligwick, Shanks, Stevens, Trowbridge, Van Wyck, Verree, Wallace, Wallon of Maine, Wheeler, White of Indiana, Wilson, Windom and Worcester. Nays—All the Republicans, except Craven, (Dem.) of Indiana.

MAJESTY. Maynard, (U.) Mezzies, (U.) Nixon, (R. I.) Noble, (D.) North, (D.) Norton, (D.) Nugen, (D.) Odell, (D.) Penleton, (D.) Perry, (D.) Richardson, (D.) Robinson, (D.) Rollins, (U. Mo.) Sheffield, (U.) Shellbarger, (R.) Smith, (D.) Steele, (D. N. Y.) Stratton, (U.) Thomas (R.) Mans. Thomas, (U.) M. D. Wilbur, (D.) Wadsworth, (U.) Webster, (U.) Whaley, (U.) Wickliffe, (U.) Wright, (U.)

Congressional Apportionment. Congress having passed an act which gives to this State an additional member of the House of Representatives, the question of re-arranging the districts will devolve upon the Legislature at the present session. The Senate yesterday resolved to appoint a committee of three to revise the apportionment of last session. In the House of Representatives Mr. ARMSTRONG, and an amendment offered by Mr. CESSNA, providing for the appointment of a committee of seven to report a bill apportioning the State into Congressional districts for the next year. Action was postponed on the resolution and on the amendment. The amendment of Mr. CESSNA indicates the proper course for the Legislature to pursue. The apportionment of last year was made by a committee of five, consisting of a Republican and four Democrats. It was a grossly unjust and a disgraceful gerrymander of the State that no amount of tinkering can put it into a decent or respectable shape. The Legislature seems to have been influenced by but one idea in arranging this apportionment, and that was to make a few Democratic districts and as many Republican districts as the nature of the material would warrant. No sort of respect was paid to the ratio. This ratio for twenty-three members of Congress was 15,000 for each member. One district contained a population of 158,218—exceeding the required ratio by 21,218; while another district has a population of but 101,425—or 24,535 less than the ratio. The aggregate population of the State is 708,552; and five other districts a population of 151,481, or more than sufficient population to form another district, and more than any district contained in this State. The whole of the State is divided into three parts; one part attached to Bucks county and certain wards in Philadelphia, another part to Berks, and the third part to the counties of Chester and Delaware. A single township is divided and attached to York and Dauphin, and other territorial and numerical deformities characterize this mishapen thing called an apportionment. The Legislature cannot carve out an additional district without commencing de novo and making another apportionment. Nothing can remedy the radical injustice and inequality of the act as it stands, but an entire re-arrangement of the districts, and we trust this the House of Representatives will not permit this occasion to pass without tearing to pieces the abominable work of the last Legislature.—Lutrit & Union.

DAY after day gives additional evidence of the fact that Southern chivalry is about played out. A writer in a late number of the Richmond Examiner, after referring to the defeat of the confederates at Fort Henry and Roanoke, says: It is high time that these surrenderers should cease—for, considering the character of the war in its consequences to us, they have been truly amazing, commencing with that of the cavalry at Alexandria down through the top of Colomado Pezram, at Rich mountain, that of Commodore Barron, at Hatteras, &c., to the present lamentable instances. As Fort Henry a Brigadier-General, unscathed, having a garrison almost intact, lowers his flag over a dozen guns of the largest calibre, and with a hackneyed compliment yields up his bloodless world. How withering and humiliating to our Southern manhood was the sorrowful reply of the Yankee Commodore. The Roanoke affair is perfectly incomprehensible. The newspapers are filled with extravagant laudations of our valor; the annals of Greece and Rome offer no parallel. The House of Representatives will not permit this occasion to pass without tearing to pieces the abominable work of the last Legislature.—Lutrit & Union.

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RICHARD WASHINGTON, brother of John A. WASHINGTON, who was killed in Western Virginia some months ago, has been taken prisoner and is now confined at Harper's Ferry. He is a relative of the immortal WASHINGTON; but forgetful of his lineage, both these brothers have espoused the cause of the rebels and lent their aid to destroy the government their ancestor has maintained. The whole army had better surrender at once; for it will eventually come to this.

AN ARMY OF TAX COLLECTORS.

We agree with the Boston Post, when it says that one of the most objectional features in the proposed new tax bill is the provision for the appointment of collectors. To have the country covered with these men, as the frogs covered Egypt, will be a most objectional burden. The expense will be enormous and as the necessity for taxation. If the whole duty of collection was left entirely with the States, the assessments would be paid most cheerfully, the exaction seems less onerous, an immense expense saved, and a horde of unpopular office holders avoided. We hope this subject will be carefully considered when the bill comes under discussion, and that some way will be devised to save us from the sight of the ugly countenances of a swarm of unnecessary tax gatherers. Those who may desire this system for the purpose of aiding party machinery, will hardly be sustained by the people who have to foot the bill. Our obligations will be heavy enough when rendered as light as possible, and an effort to increase them beyond what the public interest demands, will be very liable to meet a rebuke significant and resolute. The articles of taxation specified, so far as we can learn, are such as would naturally be suggested; but the manner and degree in which they are "doomed" in many cases, unequal; and, if persisted in, must be considered unjust. We are in favor of adequate taxation—we believe the people will meet the requirement upon them readily, if satisfied their money is used for the benefit of the country—dishonest and economically; but they will not quietly submit to have their property taken to feed an unnecessary multitude of office holders and to enrich thousands of swindling contractors.—Merr's political schemers have had a wide swing for a year past—officials have had both hands in the public treasury while their eyes were turned toward Heaven and their lips were uttering words of purest patriotism. But all this must be reduced to a stern matter of fact. "The people will demand to know for what their money is wanted, for what it is expended, and require in all instances an exact account from their stewards. This is all they want, honest dealing; they are willing to pay, but not willing to be cheated. The importance of this matter may be realized when we reflect that no man alive will see the end of it—the annual demand will be made upon us all as long as we live; hence, too much care cannot be observed in inaugurating the new system of exactions upon principles of rigid justice.

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Message from the President.

WASHINGTON, March 6. The President to-day transmitted to Congress the following message: Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives: I recommend the adoption of a resolution by your honorable bodies, which shall be substantially as follows: Resolved, That the United States ought to cooperate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolition of slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State in its discretion to compensate for the inconveniences, both public and private, produced by such change of system. If the proposition contained in the resolution does not meet the approval of Congress, I do not deem it expedient to recommend it. I deem it of importance that the States and people immediately interested should be at once distinctly notified of the fact, so that they may begin to consider whether to accept or reject it. The Federal Government would find its highest interest in such a measure as one of the most efficient means of self-preservation. The leaders of the existing insurrection entertain the hope that their insurrection will be finally forced into an open declaration of independence of some part of the disaffected North, and that all the slave States north of such parts will then say, the Union for which we have struggled being already gone, we have chosen to join the South. To deprive them of this hope, substantially ends the rebellion, and the initiation of emancipation completely deprives them of it as to all States initiating it. The point is not that all the States favoring slavery, we have chosen to join the South. To deprive them of this hope, substantially ends the rebellion, and the initiation of emancipation completely deprives them of it as to all States initiating it. The point is not that all the States favoring slavery, we have chosen to join the South. 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