SPEECH OF HON. WM. BIGLER,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

Seymour & Blair Club of Clearfield,

On Saturday Evening, Sept. 12, 1868.

GENTLEMEN: We are on the eve of a Presidential election, and it is the duty of every good citizen to consider well the effect, upon the future of the country, of the ballot which he is about to deposit.

The Radical or Congressional party are asking a continuance in power, and it must answer to the people for its stewardship. It has possessed unrestrained authority since 1861, and must show us what good things it has done for the country, before we can trust it longer. As heretofore, it is profuse in its promises of good things, but practical and thoughtful men will prefer to look into its works, and on the result of such examination stake their votes for or against it.

I do not, on this occasion, intend to stop to arraign it for the early errors and vicious teachings of its prominent members in inciting sectional strife amongst the States and the people—nor for its criminal neglect to avert our late calamities, when its leading men could have done this, without the sacrifice of any principal or interest peculiar to the North; nor shall I notice the abuses and eccentricities of Mr. Lincoln's administration during the war. So long as necessity is held to beget lawful authority, we must expect the Constitution to be trampled in the dust. Of the many vicious dogmas, of the times of Mr. Lincoln that which held that whatever was necessary to the accomplishment of a given end, was therefore lawful, most imperilled civil liberty. It has been the plea of despotism for ages. It is the plea of the autocrat of Russia for his grinding oppression of the Poles. The plea of Great Britain for its humiliation of the Irish, as it also was, largely, the ground upon which Austria usurped the rights and liberties of Hungary. And many of you will remember that emphatic denunciation of this political heresy and its application to conditions of peace and Union, in 1864, came well nigh costing your humble servant the control of his whereabouts.

But it is to the errors and wrongs of the Congressional party, since the war, that I wish to call your special attention. I say the Congressional party, because the avowed objects of the original Republican party have been so perverted and falsified that many of its best members have left it in disgust, and it has acquired in turn, the worst men who ever disgraced the name of Democrat. The truth is, it troubles the unwary of the original organization to identify the concern which now claims their adhesion. They thought they belonged to a boasted Union party, but now they discover, that since the downfall of Davis, theirs is the only party standing in the way of a perfect Union. They thought they belonged to a party of rigid economy; but they find themselves acting with the most reckless set of spendthrifts ever turned loose upon the substance of an honest people. They imagined they belonged to a party of purity, whereas they have discovered, even by the testimony of their own men, that their leaders in official place, are the most greedy set of pilferers that ever assailed the coffers of any country. Why John P. Hale, one of their lights in the Senate, went so far as to charge that the horse and mule contractors had stolen more money than had been required to sustain Mr. Buchanan's entire administration.

But, gentlemen, amongst the many bad practices of the Congressional party, I consider the shameless disregard of public faith and honor and the reckless assumptions of power, which have marked their proceedings from time to time, as the most harmful and alarming. To these may be attributed the present disordered condition of feeling between the State and the people and the consequent prostration of the energies of the nation. Congress, in July, 1861, by an almost unanimous vote, in the following emphatic language, pledge the war not only to the preservation of the Union and the Constitution, but to maintain the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired, to wit: "That this war is not waged, upon our part, in any spirit of oppression nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation nor purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of the States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired; that as soon as these objects are accomplished the war ought to cease." This pledge, thus solemnly given to the country and the world was accepted and endorsed by all parties in the North. Its just sentiments drew thousands and tens of thousands of brave and patriotic men to the National flag, who intended to fight for the Union and for nothing else. The war progressed—the army filled up from time to time with brave men. Victory followed victory until Lee's surrender to Grant terminated the unnatural conflict. Whereupon the whole North was lit up with thanksgivings and rejoicings, because the Union had been saved—because the "supremacy of the Constitution" had been vindicated; and what a prompt cause of joy and blessing to our common country the result would have been, had the existence of the Union, the supremacy of the Constitution and the equality of the States been accepted as the only legitimate fruits of the war. It makes ones heart bleed to think of what has been lost by bad faith. What would have been saved in the nature of individual suffering, amongst both races, within the lately revolted States, no one can even imagine. But it is clear that instead of the present disordered condition of public and private affairs, North and South, the whole country, abounding as it is in wranglings and strivings, and evil sayings, one of another, with the industrial interests depressed and the people burthened to pay the expenses of an army that should not exist, and expensive bureaus to maintain idle negroes, we should have years, since, been living in a Union of 37 equal States, participating alike in the blessings and burthens of government; each with its proper representation in Congress and living in the enjoyment of the unquestioned right to regulate its domestic affairs, in its own way, including the matter of suffrage to the white as well as the colored race; with confidence, good will, and fraternal affection abounding amongst the people, and with the industrial departments in the full tide of prosperity.

But instead of accepting the legitimate fruits of the war, in the shape of a restored Union of the States and a vindicated Constitution, Congress commenced a perversion of those fruits, for the manifest purpose of securing partisan ascendancy.

You will remember that all parties in the North denied the right of a State to secede by its own act, whether by the consent of a majority or all its people. Republicans as well as Democrats so maintained, and it followed, logically, that the attempt to practice secession in the South became insurrection against the Constitution and the authority of the Federal Government. It followed, also, that the suppression of that insurrection by arms, could in no way terminate the existence of the States; and further, that the penalties for the insurrection must fall upon its individual leaders and abettors, and not upon the States. The precise theory under which George Washington suppressed the whiskey insurrection in Pennsylvania. When, therefore, the war terminated; when the insurrectionists or revolutionists threw down their arms and acknowledged the authority of the Federal Government, the States remained intact in the Union and the ordinances of secession being only a means to the insurrection, were thereupon null and void forever. Was it not reasonable then that everybody should conclude that the Union had been saved because all the States had been kept within it. No one, prior to the end of the war, pretended that the States, whose people had joined in insurrection, had escaped from the fold of the Union. The rebels did not so pretend. They confessed to the contrary, to wit: That they had been kept in the Union and must live in the Union. And had the States so restrained been permitted, after abolishing slavery, to act the part of States, the Union would have long since been perfect and the country saved from present disorders and burthens.

It will not do for a Republican to say that the rebel States had no right to act as States, nor question the wisdom of permitting them so to do, for Mr. Lincoln had not only recognized this right, but he had conceded it to one-tenth of the electors within any one of them (Louisiana and Arkansas, to use Mr. Lincoln's own language, had placed themselves in "practical relations to the Federal Government" under this theory. It is a matter of history that Mr. Lincoln at the time of his death left an unsigned proclamation applying this ten per cent. theory to North Carolina. It is also true that President Johnson issued that proclamation as applicable, not only to North Carolina, but to the other States whose people had engaged in insurrection. Under these auspices the revolted States proceed to organize local governments and to abolish slavery, to discard secession, to repudiate the Confederate debt, &c. It is also true, that all these doings were endorsed by the Republican party, especially in New York and Pennsylvania. Is it not strange then that the same Republicans who in 1865 conceded to one-tenth of the white electors in a rebel State the right to organize a State government, elect Senators and send members to the lower house of Congress, should now deny these prerogatives to the entire white population, and support a policy which attempts to devolve these rights and privileges upon a mass of ignorant negroes. One can stand a case of ordinary discrepancy or inconsistency in politics; but here is a vascillation too disgraceful to be excused. I know that many of our Republican friends are ashamed of it, and many of them intend to wash their hands of this gross deception. But this was not all. About the beginning of the year 1866, some evil spirit instigated that Congress that had been pledged to a war for the Union to discover that the Union had actually been dissolved. That the leading rebels were greater men than even they themselves supposed and had done greater things—that they had taken the States out of the Union, so far out, according to Mr. Stevens, that the Constitution could not reach them—also that these great rebel leaders need not be punished—that it would be far better to punish the States—to reduce them to the condition of subjugated provinces, notwithstanding the Congressional pledge to sustain the existence of the States "with all their dignity, equality and rights unimpaired."

Power and money became the common desire and these could be best secured by practically dissolving the Union and lessening the representation in Congress, until the negroes of the South could be clothed with political supremacy. To this end all sorts of vicious dogmas were enunciated and the Southern people were accused of the vilest crimes, even of a latent purpose to renew the war. Mr. Stevens, the leader in this new order of things, scorned the restraints of the Constitution, alleging that it did not apply to the rebel States, and boldly confessing his intention of legislating for them outside of the Constitution. And now followed the means to the bad end.

Everybody will remember how the country was shocked with the absurd position of Congress in 1866; that the rebel States which had participated in the amendment of the Constitution, abolishing slavery, were nevertheless not entitled to representation in Congress. Thoughtful men regarded this as the signal for coming usurpations. The most dull could perceive that a State having the right to amend the Constitution must be a State for all other purposes. Akin to this, was the absurd idea, developed about the same time, that a local Legislature might be recognized in the abolition of slavery, and the extension of civil rights to the negroes, but be incompetent to elect Senators to Congress. It must also be remembered that to freedom and civil rights for the negro, the South gave a prompt assent. But this was not enough. Mr. Stevens and his followers were thirsting for vengeance on the South, and still far more did they thirst for the political power of that section. Stevens felt himself master of the situation, and when he was asked for bread he usually gave a stone. When the States lately in insurrection asked for relations with the Federal Government, they were met with a programme of conditions, all to be accepted together or rejected by popular vote. One was to repudiate the Confederate bonds, which did not come due till one year after Confederate independence should be recognized by the United States. You can see how pressing was the necessity for such a measure as that. Another was the abandonment of the right of secession, which had been previously settled in the field. Another was the alternative of negro suffrage or the loss of representation in Congress for the whole negro population. But next came the machinery to let down this dead-fall, in the shape of another condition, disfranchising and punishing all the leaders in the South, and to be imposed by the voters of the rank and file. A silly deception! No man in Congress believed that such a measure could be adopted. The Southern people were poor and needy and helpless; but the Radicals knew their character too well to suppose, that even under severe trials, they would voluntarily disgrace themselves. Even Horace Greeley foresaw that they would scorn such a humiliation. I myself heard certain of them express themselves in about this wise: "If Congress imposes penalties on our leaders, they must be borne, but when Congress submits to us the option of punishing our leaders for doing what we wished them to do, it simply insults us. We should be lower than dogs and thieves were we to comply." But still, could these propositions have been voted on separately, doubtless all but one or two would have been adopted. But it was all or nothing.

The failure of this absurd programme was the pretext for another storm of passion, and for new execrations of the South. Every obstacle in the way of tyranny must now give way. The Constitution must be overridden. The solemn pledge of Congress to preserve the States "equal and unimpaired" must be falsified, to gratify mere lust for power. Even the testimony of General Grant, previously presented to Congress, declaring his belief that "the citizens of the Southern States are anxious to return to self-government within the Union as soon as possible."—"that they are in earnest in wishing to do what is required by the government, not humiliating to them as citizens, and that if such a course were pointed out to them they would pursue it in good faith," was powerless to avert the vengeance of Congress, but it came well nigh costing its author a Presidential nomination. Military rule and negro supremacy were the least that would satisfy Radical vengeance; and of these measures I need not speak in detail, for they are fresh in the minds of all. Their purpose and practical effect was to establish a military despotism, and maintain negro supremacy, and that has been the result in many of the States. And because Gen. Blair says these outrages upon our free institutions must be wiped out, he is charged with inciting revolution and civil war. Why, gentlemen, it crimes of this kind, against the country, cannot be corrected, then elections are scarce worth holding. And besides, it is a mistake to suppose that any kind of violence would be necessary to correct these wrongs. If the people decide against them at the polls, the Supreme Court will be permitted to pass upon them also, and they will pass away in less time than it took to perpetrate them.

To these vicious measures, which have kept the States apart, must be attributed the political disorders of the present, as also the languishing condition of commerce, manufactures, and the other branches of productive industry.

I shall not deal at length with the matter of negro suffrage. Its regulation belongs to the States, and there it should be permitted to rest. If any of the Radical States wish to enjoy that blessing, it is their right to do so; but it is scarcely decent, much less consistent in them, to reject it for themselves and then force it upon others. Michigan, Kansas, Iowa and other Republican States have rejected negro suffrage, and yet their representatives in Congress persist in forcing it upon Virginia and other States in the South.

There is one phase of this question, however, which I would not have escape your attention. That is, that the influence of negro rule is not confined to the South alone. So far from it, it is intended that the negroes shall select a President at the coming election. They can also elect members of Congress. Fifty thousand negroes in Florida, through their legislature, can elect two Senators, and that is all 700,000 white electors can do in Pennsylvania, or 800,000 in New York. Eight hundred thousand negroes in the South, under the auspices of the negro bureaus, can select twenty Senators in Congress, thereby placing themselves upon an equality with ten of the largest States of the North, containing 20,000,000 of a white population. For myself, though moderate in my views, I must protest against so much negro. I never thought negro suffrage a good panacea for political diseases; but if the people of any State choose to enjoy it, let them do so, for it is the right of each State to decide the question for itself, and the right of no other power on the face of the earth. But I do object to a congressional usurpation that makes one negro voter equal to five or six white ones, and I say further, that those who go this length, for the negro, will soon find themselves the advocates of equality between the whites and blacks, political, social and domestic.

The President, to his honor be it said, resisted the usurpations, frauds and deceptions of which I have spoken, and thereby drew upon himself and his high functions, the full force of Radical fury. The struggle that has followed between Congress and the Executive has shaken the Government to its very foundations. The frightful strides made by the former in the way of usurping the functions of the latter, must excite the deepest alarm in the mind of every lover of our free Government. This is not mere talk. It is practical fact. The just powers of the Executive have been usurped. Andrew Johnson is now denied prerogatives exercised by all his predecessors. He is held accountable for the workings of the Executive machinery, and yet if some scamp were robbing the Treasury, and the President knew the fact, he would be liable to impeachment if he interfered by removal. To state the case still stronger, what would have been the duty of Adams or Jackson in many cases, would subject Andrew Johnson to impeachment.

But worse still, when it was apparent that the Supreme Court must decide against the constitutionality of military rule in the South, in the case of McArdle, Congress passed a law forbidding action in the case, thereby evincing a deliberate determination to wield all the powers of the government. Was ever usurpation so flagrant? And did ever any people so quietly submit to the subversion of their institutions? Gentlemen, it is a fact that our Government, originally so beautifully balanced, in three departments, the Executive, the Judicial and the Legislative, has been virtually changed and all its powers concentrated into one, whenever that one may choose to have it so concentrated; and unless the people promptly rebake these usurpations of Congress our institutions will be entirely overthrown.

In support of this apprehension I may remind you of repeated encroachments by the same Congress upon the integrity of the ballot. Take for instance the case of Morgan, of Ohio, who, with a clear majority of a thousand or more of legal votes, was denied seat, as were also Brown and McKee, of Kentucky, who had received three-fourths of the legal votes in their respective districts, and others were admitted in their stead. In point of law and justice, Congress might as well go out amongst the mass of people and select whom it may to fill seats in that body. Outrages upon the rights of private citizens are too well known to need discussion on this occasion. Butler's recent capture of private papers, as the head of a mousing committed, in point of law and honor, stands on a par with his manner of getting spoons at New Orleans.

But other evils are upon us. The waste of the public money is without a precedent. The Radicals have always talked economy, but they are practising the wildest prodigality. Well we all remember their reproaches upon the Buchanan administration for its current expenditures, and yet, in three years of peace, from July, 1865, to July, 1868, they have drawn from the people the enormous sum of fifteen hundred and ninety-four millions ($1,594,000,000) of dollars, and when you deduct from that the interest on the new debt, say four hundred millions in the same time, and the increase of pensions, &c., you still have nine hundred millions for the ordinary expenses of the Government, for three years, against two hundred and fifty-six millions under the Buchanan administration for its full term of four years; or an increase of four hundred per cent. If they say we have a larger army and a Freedmen's Bureau, our answer is that that is just what we allege, and that you should have neither. I am sure that neither will be retained when the Democracy come into power.

I would not encourage the mere croaker about taxation, but really, gentlemen, we are becoming the worst tax-ridden people on the face of the earth. I am led to this strong remark by certain facts presented by Mr. Pendleton, in his recent great speech, at Bangor, Maine. He shows that the total valuation of taxable property in the United States amounts to $14,282,726,088 and that the taxes collected from the people for the last three years exceeds ten per cent. on this total valuation—whilst the taxation in Great Britain for the same period amounted to less than the one-thirtieth part of the valuation. That the taxation for the last three years, in the United States, amounted to $54 25 on each individual, man, woman and child, whilst in France, for the same period, it amounted to about $22, and in Austria, to less than $16. The public debt of our country amounts to about $74 to each inhabitant and in France to about $53 and in Prussia to $12. The recollection of the final payment of the old public debt, by General Jackson, is fresh in my mind, and the debt when I left the Senate, in 1861, was a mere *bagatelle*—not enough to make pocket money for this spendthrift of a Congress, and now it counts $2,700,000,000, and, according to Secretary McCullough, is on the increase. The evils of oppressive taxation are rarely appreciated. Each feels the inconvenience of payment; but the general restraint upon productive industry is seldom duly appreciated. The Radical press and orators are assiduous in their efforts to make the laborers, operatives and mechanics believe that they pay none of the taxes because they have little property on which to assess them. This is a silly and transparent deception. These are the very men who pay taxes, and onerous taxes, for theirs is a tax upon existence. They pay not according to their possessions; but according to their consumptions The poor man's taxables are composed of his big family. He is taxed 25 cents in gold for every pound of tea; five cents in gold on every pound of coffee. He also pays on sugar and cloths and other articles of consumption. The laborer and mechanic, not taxpayers!! Why, gentlemen, if the indirect taxes were called for by a tax-gatherer, they would not long be endured. We should have open resistance from one end of the land to the other.

I have little to say on the greenback and bond question. I regard the legal tender act itself as the greatest financial blunder of modern times, and the recollection that I did what I could to prevent its passage, is a source of some gratification. It has added at least one thousand millions to the public debt, and for this blunder the party in power must answer to the people. The exorbitant nominal values which prevailed during the war were largely the result of this measure. Men were captivated by what they termed a rise in prices; but the rise was in truth nothing but a great decline in the standard by which prices were ascertained, and the Government paid all this margin on subsistence and material for the war. The iniquity of its operation, upon private contracts, wherein it substituted tangible evidence of the indebtedness of the Government, for the constitutional legal tender of gold and silver, will tarnish the character of the government to the end of time. Of the public debt thus enlarged about sixteen millions—known as 5-20 bonds—is clearly payable in legal tender notes, and should be so paid, and the remainder in gold. The Republican platform on this point is equivocal, but its press and orators in the Atlantic States are advocating gold payment throughout, which, at the present price of gold, gives a gratuity to the bondholders of many millions. What it would be years in the future, no one can foresee Certainly we should not seek speculation in this way; for the higher the credit of the Government can be placed, the less will become the margin between greenbacks and gold. The tendency of Democratic policy and measures would be to elevate the value of bonds and greenbacks and lessen the premium on gold. But we have the right to pay the 5-20 bonds in legal tender notes, the medium which the holders gave the Government, and it is full justice so to pay them, whether the margin between legal tenders and gold be great or small. So long as the suspension of specie payments continues, and the pensioners and other creditors are paid in legal tenders, the bondholder should ask nothing better. We should have one currency for all. But the payment of the public debt will be a remote question if the Radicals are continued in power, for they will exhaust the country with current expenses without paying one dollar of the debt. They ought to have paid five hundred millions since the close of the war, instead of which it seems latterly, to be on the increase. I heard of a Radical orator, the other day, who expressed his contempt for the debt and tax question as a mere side issue, which had nothing to do with the approaching election. Akin to the great folly of legal tenders, comes the blunder and greater wrong of attempting to exempt bonds from taxation—to afford capital the opportunity to escape the burthens of Government, general or local, from time to time. Nothing could tend more to build up a favored class and to beget discontent against the Government.

It is with much pleasure I speak to you about our candidates. I have known Horatio Seymour long and well. We have been contemporary. He entered the legislature in 1841—the same year I became a member of the Senate of this State. I became Governor in 1851, and he in 1852. I have been a close observer of his brilliant career, and I can say, in all sincerity, that had I been clothed with unrestrained authority to select a man for the difficult duties of the Presidency, I should have felt required to select Horatio Seymour. His remarkable forcast and wisdom about men and measures, give him peculiar ability to deal with our national troubles. He is rated, even by his enemies, a man of superior talents, fine scholarly accomplishments, of pure moral and Christion character; and no one has ever charged him with corruption or bad faith in the discharge of public duty. But I think incessant devotion to public duty his most remarkable characteristic. In the Presidential chair, the higher duties of the place would command his ceaseless consideration. I am not disappointed that he is assailed with unjust imputations and bitter reproaches. I expected this. It is one of the evils of the times that the best men are abused most. Horace Greeley is especially venomous in his attacks. This, though very unjust on his part, is is not entirely unnatural. Seymour and Greeley have long differed. When Greeley was a Socialist, or Fourierite, Seymour was a man of sense and good morals. When Greeley was a sectional agitator, inciting hate between the States, Seymour was teaching obedience to the Constitution and laws. When, in the fall of 1860 and the spring of 1861, Greeley was encouraging the Southern States to secede, and pleading the principles of the Declaration of Independence in support of the disastrous step, Seymour was resisting secession and endeavoring to save the peace of the country by reasonable adjustment. It is also idle for the lesser lights of the Republican party to impeach the loyalty of Gov. Seymour during the war, in the face of the testimony of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Stanton, expressed in the darkest hours of the struggle—not only endorsing his devotion to the cause, but thanking him for the effective and timely aid which he had extended it from time to time. The Radical who would not accept such testimony as this would not believe, though one rose from the dead. And surely every Pennsylvanian should be grateful to him for his timely aid when the State was invaded. His forces preceded our own. General Blair is both a soldier and a statesman. He served with great distinction in the late war, and yet he is the special object of Radical malignity. The truth is that all this talk of loyalty on the part of the Radicals is a shallow pretence. They embrace Joe. Brown, of Georgia, one of the wickedest secessionists I ever knew, the founder of the Andersonville prisons, and slander Blair, who acted the part of a true soldier throughout the war. General Grant is a soldier and a soldier only, and his worst enemies are those who seek to drag him out of the line of his profession and involve him in the mire of politics, where he must inevitably fail. The most discreditable thing I know of him is his declaration that if elected President he should have no policy of his own. It is singular that some friend of Grant did not save him this humiliation. No policy of his own. The sentiment is an insult to those whose votes he seeks. Whilst political parties usually enunciate general views to guide their future, they despise a candidate who has no views of his own. But this only shows that General Grant is unschooled in civil affairs.

The remedies for the evils of which I have been complaining are set forth in the Democratic platform, and were the Democracy in power in all the departments of government, these would be promptly applied. We should soon have a perfect union of all the States, and good will amongst the people. The South would then share with the North the heavy expenses of the Government. The military would be rendered subordinate to the civil authority in every State in the Union, and the supremacy of the Constitution be acknowledged by all. Economy and purity would prevail in the use of the public money. The army and navy would be reduced and the negro bureaus disbanded. With these reforms there would be no difficulty, whatever, in meeting the annual interest on the public debt and the expenses of the Government, without the aid of the present onerous and inquisitorial system of internal taxation; which system, with its horde of agents and corrupting influences, should be wiped out of official existence. The country under Democratic auspices would have rest and settled business and political policy, when we might reasonably hope for a degree of that progress and prosperity which marked the earlier days of the Republic.

But the Radicals seem to be bent on re-kindling sectional prejudice and hate—on fighting the war over again. Their leaders are imperious and intolerant. They seem to be deluded with the idea that because their party made a profuse use of the blood and treasure of the country during the war, that, therefore, they should be quietly indulged in all manner of excesses and outrages—in the subversion of the Government, in the taxation and oppression of the people, and in unlimited duplicity and fraud. What we have said about their dishonorable dealings with the South, is not as the advocates of that section; we stand in no such attitude; but as conservators of the welfare of the whole country, and because the South is part of our common country, and because it must all move in unison if we are ever to have old-time prosperity. Gentlemen, it would do these insolent leaders a great deal of good to make them settle up their accounts and leave for Salt river, for its very rivulets. Their slang about "traitors" and "copperheads", as applied to Democrats, is simply harmless inoceency, which we can afford to treat with contempt. But there are certain great, overshadowing facts well known to them, which furnish a crushing answer to all their scandal. One is, that so long as the Democratic party continued in power the Union existed and the Constitution remained supreme. Another is, that had that noble organization been continued in power we should have had neither secession nor civil war—nor a half million of the best men of the land consigned to premature graves—nor twenty-seven hundred millions of public debt, crushing out the vitals of the nation—no occasion to extort from the people five hundred millions annually. And there is still another, equally well known to the Radical leaders, to wit: That there was not a day nor an hour during the late war when the Democracy of the North were not unqualifiedly for the Union of the States, as framed by out fathers. The truth is they constituted the only unqualified Union party in America at that time. The Radicals sought a Union such as they might dictate and are dictating of unequal States, based largely on negro suffrage; but not the Union of Washington and his compeers; not even with slavery abolished by the States themselves.

In conclusion, gentlemen, permit me to say that the best thing you can do for your country, at this time, is to vote the Democratic ticket and induce your neighbors to do likewise.

UNION & PEACE!

GRAND DEMOCRATIC RALLY.

SEYMOUR, BLAIR AND THE UNION

AGAINST

RADICAL DISUNIONISTS.

The friends of Constitutional government, one currency, and an undivided Union; who are opposed to black and white Radicals, and excessive taxation, propose to hold a Grand Mass Meeting at CLEARFIELD, on

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1868.

The speakers on this occasion will be Ex-GOVERNOR BIGLER, Hon. S. S. COX, of Ohio, Hon. WM. A. WALLACE, Hon. RASSELAS BROWN, our nominee for Congress, and Hon. RICHARD VAUX, of Philadelphia.

The old enemies of the Union are busily engaged at their infamous work. Stevens is dead, but Garrison, who says "the Constitution is a covenant with death and an agreement with hell," and Phillips, who told Lincoln and the world in 1862, that he had labored for nineteen years to dissolve this Union, are both laboring day and night for the election of Grant. Therefore, let the "Old Union Savers" go to work in earnest, and rescue our country from the hands of those men who have demonstrated for eight years that they are unfit to rule and govern a free people, and who in their inordinate desire to perpetuate party power, are jeopardizing "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," besides rendering void the very Constitution they have solemnly sworn to uphold, sustain and defend. Four years more of Butlerism will annihilate the Constitution and bankrupt the nation and sill its citizens.

Friends of Constitutional Government, Free Speech, Free Press, and a Free Country, go to work, and labor until the 13th day of October, in order to transmit the blessings of Liberty and Law to your offsprings.

GEORGE B. GOODLANDER,
Chairman Dem. Co. Com.

New Advertisements.

STRAY HOG.—Came to the premises of the subscriber, in Boggs township, sometime in April last, a white and black spotted barrow. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges, and take him away, or he will be disposed of according to law.

Boggs tp., Sept. 17-3t] JOHN REISH.

Apple-Butter Kettles.

A LOT of copper, turned bottom KETTLES, holding from 12 to 26 gallons, for sale very cheap, at G. S. PLEGAL'S,

sep17-tf Philipsburg, Pa.

CLEARFIELD BAKERY.

Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.

Fresh Bread, Cakes, Rolls, &c.,

DAILY. ALSO,

FULL STOCK OF CANDIES,

And all kinds of Confectioneries.

sep17-tf J. A. STADLER.

Borough Ordinance.

AT a meeting of the Town Council, held Sept. 2d, 1868, the following Ordinance was passed:

Be it enacted by the Burgess and Town Council of the borough of Clearfield, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the right and privilege is hereby given to the Tyrone and Clearfield Railway Company to erect a roof or building, open at each end, and not more than forty feet in width, over that portion of Third street lying in front of lot Number 246, commencing at Reed street, and extending north to the alley at the borough line; the said Railway Company to have the use, occupation and control of said street so may be covered by said roof; Provided, the same shall not be used for any other purpose than as a Railway depot.

Approved September, 2d, 1868.

W. W. BETTS, Burgess.

Attest—L. G. MORGAN, Secretary. sep17-3t

EYRE & LANDELL,

Fourth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia.

GOOD BLACK SILKS,

GOOD COLORED SILKS.

1868.

Fall Goods Opening—Fancy and Staple.

Lyons Silk Velvets, new style Shawls, new Dress Goods, good Blankets, Table Linens, Sheetings and Shirtings, Cloths and Cassimeres.

N. B.—New Goods received daily in large lots for Jobbing. [sept17-6t.

PHILIP HILL,

MANUFACTURER OF

No. 204 Church Street, Phil'a.

Send for Engraving and Price List.

N. B.—Presidential Campaign Torches, 25, 28, 30, 35 and $40.00 per Hundred. [sept17-4t.

628 HOOP SKIRTS, 628

AND

CORSETS, CORSETS.

WM. T. HOPKINS,

No. 628 Arch Street, Phil'a.

MANUFACTURER OF THE

Celebrated "Champion" Hoop Skirts

FOR LADIES, MISSES AND CHILDREN.

The largest assortment, and best quality and styles in the American Market. Every lady should try them, as they recommend themselves by wearing longer, retaining their shape much better, being lighter and more elastic than others—warranted in every respect, and sold at very low prices. Ask for Hopkin's "CHAMPION" SKIRT

Superior Hand-made Whale-Bone Corsets in fifteen different grades, including the "Imperial" and Thomson A Langdon's "GLOVE FITTING" CORSETS, ranging in prices from $1 cents to $5 50—together with Joseph Rocket's celebrated FRENCH WOVEN CORSETS, superior shapes and quality, ten different grades, from $1 10 to $5 50. They are the finest and best goods for the prices, ever imported. The Trade supplied with Hoop Skirts and Corsets at the lowest rates.

Those visiting the city should not fail to call and examine our goods and prices, as we defy all competition. [Sept. 17, 1868

New Advertisements.

THE CLEARFIELD STORE

RECONSTRUCTED.

George L. Reed ..... William Powell,
John F. Weaver ..... William W. Betts.

GEO. L. REED & CO.,

Two doors north of the Court House,

CLEARFIELD, PA.

HAVING returned to our old business stand, we hereby notify the citizens of Clearfield and the public generally, that we have entered upon, and intend to prosecute, a vigorous campaign against high prices and inferior goods, and have now on hand a full supply of all kinds of goods used in this market. In the line of

Dry Goods,

We claim to have a full assortment, consisting in part of Muslins, bleached and unbleached; Prints of all grades and styles; and

Fall and Winter Dress Goods,

Such as Alpacas of all shades; De Laines, Merinos and Flannels; besides, a full assortment of gentlemen's wear, consisting in part of

Cloths, Cassimeres,

Satinetts and a full assortment of

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

Notions, Hosiery, Trimmings,

BONNETTS, &C.,

Hats and Caps, Boots and Shoes.

GROCERIES.

We have a full supply of Coffee, Tea, Sugar, Rice, Molasses, Tobacco, Fish, Salt, linseed, coal and fish Oils,

FLOUR, BACON, DRIED FRUIT,

Sugar-cured Hams, Mess Pork, and a full supply of Provisions.

Hardware and Queensware,

Wooden & Willow Ware.

All the foregoing articles will be exchanged for CASH, LUMBER, or COUNTRY PRODUCE, and at prices to which there can be no exception. Those in need of Goods in our line, will please

CALL AND SEE US!

GEO. L. REED & CO.

Clearfield, Sept. 17, 1868-tf.

NEW GOODS!

AT

J. P. Kratzer's.

DRY GOODS,	CLOTHING,
DRESS GOODS,	NOTIONS,
HARDWARE,	QUEENSWARE,
GROCERIES,	PROVISIONS,
MUSICAL GOODS,	DRUGS,
BOOTS & SHOES,	HATS & CAPS,
FLOUR, FEED,	FISH, &C., &C.,

Full stock, just received at

sep16-1m J. P. KRATZER'S.

FRUIT JARS, the best in the market, at [sep16] J. P. KRATZER'S.

SALT! SALT!! SALT!!!—Full weight—large sacks—selling cheap—at

sep16-1m J. P. KRATZER'S.

Public Vendue.

THERE will be sold at the residence of the undersigned, in the borough of Clearfield, on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1868, the following named personal property, viz:

Three Good Cows, two Hogs,

Four Stoves, three Clocks, Bedsteads & Bedding, Wardrobe, Dressing Bureau, marble-top Stand, Book Case, Hat Rack, Wash Stands and Looking Glasses; extension, dinner and breakfast Tables; Chairs, Kitchen Cupboard, Tubs, Buckets, Meat Stands, Vinegar in barrels, CARPETS, Wash Sinks, Harness, Shovels, Forks, Hoes, Rakes, and a great variety of other articles.

Sale to commence at ten o'clock on said day, when the terms will be made known.

sep16-2t M. A. FRANK.

Sheriff's Sale.

BY virtue of a writ of *Fieri Facias*, issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield county, and to me directed, there will be exposed to PUBLIC SALE, at the Court House in the borough of Clearfield, on Monday the 28th day of September, 1868, at 2 o'clock, P. M., the following property, to wit:

A certain tract of land situate in Girard township, Clearfield county, Pa., bounded as follows: On the east by lands of Justin Fox, Thomas Leonard and John Spackman, on the west by lands of Nicholas Rossmisel and J. B. Smith, on the north by lands of Anderson Murray, and on the south by the Susquehanna river, containing 167 acres more or less. Seized, taken in execution and to be sold as the property of David L. Smith.

Also, by virtue of a writ of *Levari Facias*, the following real estate, to wit:

A certain bank barn, 30 by 46 feet, with stone wall nine feet high, situate in Lawrence township, Clearfield county, Pa., about one mile west of the borough of Clearfield, on the east side of the Snow Shoe and Paddyville turnpike, and known as the Lewis Cardon place. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Benjamin De Beck.

Also, all that certain two-story frame house, situate in Ferguson township, Clearfield county, Pa., being thirty-two feet front by twenty-six feet deep, having twindows, &c., and being erected on a tract of land bounded on the north and east by land of Alexander Ferguson, on the south by land of John Ferguson and others, and on the west by land of James and William Moore. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Matthew Henry.

Bidders will take notice that 15 per cent. of the purchase money must be paid when the property is knocked down, or it will be put up again for sale. CYRENIUS HOWE,

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Sheriff.

Clearfield, Pa. Sept. 2, 1868.

H. F. NAUGLE,

CLOCK AND WATCH MAKER,

OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE MARKET STREET CLEARFIELD

THE subscriber respectfully informs his old patrons and the public generally, that he has on hand, (and is constantly receiving new additions thereto,) a large stock of

Clocks, Watches and Jewelry.

I keep Jewelry in all its forms and of different values, either by the piece or set.

WATCHES—A full assortment of either Gold or Silver, made by the best American and foreign manufacturers, including a fine lot of gold and silver hunting case, full jeweled, Patent Levers.

CLOCKS—Of all designs, consisting of eight-day and thirty-hour, of either weight, spring or levers, and both strike and alarm.

REPAIRING—All kinds of Watches and Clocks Repaired, and warranted.

In addition to what I have enumerated, I keep a full assortment of SPECTACLES, colored and plain glass. Also, GOLD PENS and PENCILS, SPOONS, FORKS, BUTTER KNIVES, and in fact everything in the Jewelry line. If I fail to have on hand just what a customer may need, I will order per first express, without extra charge.

A liberal share of public patronage is solicited.

May 7, 1868-y H. F. NAUGLE.

New Advertisements.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS of Clearfield county, Pa.

JAMES WINSLOW } Subpœna in Divorce.
vs.
MARGARET WINSLOW.

The undersigned Commissioner, appointed by the Court to take testimony in the above case, gives notice that he will attend to the duties of said appointment, at the office of E. M. Ross, Esq., in the borough of Clearfield, on Monday the 28th day of September, 1868, between the hours of 9 o'clock a. m. and 2 o'clock p. m., and where all parties interested may attend if they think proper.

J. B. WALTERS, Com'r.

September 17, 1868-3t.

NOTICE.—The formation of the copartnership of James B. Graham & Sons does not prejudice the settlement of the notes and book accounts of the late firm of Shivers & Graham or E. S. Graham. Those knowing themselves indebted to either are requested to come forward at once and close their accounts.

JAMES B. GRAHAM & SONS.

Clearfield, September 10-tf.

House and Lots For Sale

THE undersigned offers to sell at private sale THREE LOTS situate in the village of Curwensville, having thereon erected a large TWO STORY FRAME HOUSE, and a well of excellent water, with other necessary improvements. The property is a desirable one, in good repair, and will be sold on easy terms. For full particulars apply to or address MICHAEL HIRTER.

Sept 10-tf. Clearfield, Pa.

General Election Proclamation.

WHEREAS, by an act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "An act to regulate the General Election within this Commonwealth," it is enjoined upon the Sheriffs of the several counties to give public notice of each election, the place where to be held, and the officers to be elected:

THEREFORE, I, CYRENIUS HOWE, High Sheriff of Clearfield county, do hereby give Public Notice to the electors of the county of Clearfield that a general election will be held on the second TUESDAY OF OCTOBER NEXT, (being the 13th day of the month,) at the several election districts in said county, at which time and places the qualified vo