Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1866

"The printing presses shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the legislature, or any branch of government; and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thought and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of men; and every citizen may freely speak, write and print on any subject; being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers, or men in public capacities, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence."

FOR GOVERNOR:

HON. HIESTER CLYMER, of Berks Co.

The Democratic Platform.

The Democracy of Pennsylvania in Convention met, recognizing a crisis in the affairs of the Republic, and esteeming the immediate restoration of the Union paramount to all other issues, do resolve:

1. That the States, whereof the people were lately in rebellion, are integral parts of the Union and are entitled to representation in Congress by men duly elected who bear true faith to the Constitution and laws, and in order to vindicate the maxim that taxation without representation is tyranny, such representatives should be forthwith admitted.

2. That the faith of the Republic is pledged to the payment of the National debt, and Congress should pass all laws necessary for that purpose.

3. That we owe obedience to the Constitution of the United States, including the amendment prohibiting slavery, and under its provisions will accord to those emancipated all their rights of person and property.

4. That each State has the exclusive right to regulate the qualifications of its own electors.

5. That the white race alone is entitled to the control of the Government of the Republic, and we are unwilling to grant the negroes the right to vote.

6. That the bold enunciation of the principles of the Constitution and the policy of restoration contained in the recent Annual Message and Freedmen's Bureau Veto Message of President Johnson entitle him to the confidence and support of all who respect the Constitution and love their country.

7. That the nation owes to the brave men of our armies and navy a debt of lasting gratitude for their heroic services in defence of the Constitution and the Union; and that while we cherish with a tender affection the memories of the fallen, we pledge to their widows and orphans the nations care and protection.

8. That we urge upon Congress the duty of equalizing the bounties of our soldiers and sailors;

More Good News—The Civil Rights Bill Vetoed.

The Civil Rights Bill was vetoed by President Johnson yesterday. Up to the hour of going to press last evening the Veto Message had not come to hand.

THE following telegram was sent from Harrisburg, on Friday evening last, by the agent of the Associated Press. It was excluded, however, from all the Republican papers in Philadelphia. This is a sample of their fairness. When detected in false statements, they meanly decline to make the correction:

President Johnson and the Democracy.

HARRISBURG, March 23.—The Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee authoritatively denies the statement which has appeared in the New York papers, that any committee of the late Democratic Convention, or of the State Central Committee, has waited upon President Johnson.

RIGHT REV. W. B. STEVENS, Bishop of Pennsylvania, has arrived in London *en route* for Rome. His health is much improved.

JOHN VAN BUREN, who has been down at Charleston looking around, returned home on the 20th inst. He says if there are any rebels left in that city, he could not see or hear of them. Everybody was in favor of the President and the President's policy.

MAJ. GEN. Franklin has been appointed the responsible and lucrative position of superintendent of Colt's pistol factory. He has sent in his resignation to the War Department and it has been accepted.

GEN. WARD, recently confirmed by the U. S. Senate as brevet brigadier general, was lately arrested at Cleveland, Ohio, on a charge of forging a check for $550 in gold. It is safe to bet that he was intensely loyal.

EX-PRESIDENT Pierce will build a summer residence at North Hampton this season, and have it completed by July 1. He owns about forty acres of land there, in one of the finest locations on the Atlantic coast.

THE Democracy of Bucks county held a ratification meeting at Doylestown on Thursday evening, the 15th inst. There was a large turn out, and the *Democrat* speaks in the most hopeful terms regarding the present campaign. Look out for a huge majority for Hiester Clymer in old Bucks.

A DISPATCH from Washington reports that the Ways and Means Committee have agreed to continue the exemption of tax on income at six hundred dollars, adding fifty dollars to the exemption for every child in a family, up to fifteen in number.

ONE of the Government Revenue detectives on the Canadian frontier writes to the Commissioner of Customs, that the smugglers have laid pipes across the St. Lawrence river, and are engaged in pumping whisky from Canada into the United States.

THE hotel proprietors of New York are to hold a meeting this week to consider the expediency of reducing the price of board. If the hotel keepers can safely see their way to that conclusion, it is probable that many other interests will follow their example.—The restaurants also are thinking of the same kind.

MAJOR-GENERAL THOMAS has, in accordance with the request of the late Commitee on the Conduct of the War, prepared a narrative of all the operations of the Army of the Cumberland. This will finish the history of the war under the auspices of that Committee. The narrative makes sixteen hundred foolscap pages, and was on Tuesday placed in possession of the Chairman.

IN THE country about Vicksburg, both in Mississippi and Louisiana, eight Union Generals, between fifty and sixty late Colonels and Majors, and several hundred privates and non-commissioned officers, discharged at the close of the war from the Union army, are now living in that region, engaged in various occupations, many of them in partnership with officers and soldiers of the rebel army.

MR. WHEELWRIGHT, of Newburyport, Mass., is still at work upon his great enterprise, the construction of a railway from the River Platte across the Andes to the Pacific, and is confident that it will be completed within the next ten years. Already two hundred and forty miles of the route are in the course of rapid construction from the Port of Rosario to the interior city of Cordova.

QUITE a panic prevails at the present time along some portions of the north shore of Staten Island, N. Y., in consequence of the possibility of Hydrophobia. Six or seven dogs, said to be rabid, are at large; and during the last week fifty-seven dogs that had been bitten have been killed. There is talk of a self-appointed Vigilance Committee, whose business it shall be to commence a vigorous crusade against all canines on that portion of the Island.

THE Department of State has received authentic information that the three colored children of Rose Elyrea, of New Orleans, who were taken to Havana without the consent of their parents, have been sent back to her by the United States Consul at the latter city. General Canby gave the information concerning the abduction or removal of the children, when the State Department instituted the measures which led to their recovery.

A CLERK in the Paymaster General's Department was threatened with dismissal for refusing to pay an assessment for (Republican) election purposes in New Hampshire; he appealed to the President and the President not only forbade his dismissal, but ordered the Paymaster General to give him the earliest possible promotion for his independence.

The President.

Day by day, with the march of events, the future grows clearer to the eyes of the people of this nation, and the path of duty more plain before them. With new and ever increasing responsibilities, the ability to meet them properly seems to be given.

In such a crisis as is upon this nation what is most needed is the right kind of a leader; one in whom the masses can put their trust, and whose guidance wise men can safely follow. He who would aspire to such a position should be wise, bold and honest. He must be able to see the right, and willing to follow it fearlessly, unawed by danger, and uninfluenced by any selfish motive. Happy are the people, who in a great crisis like that upon us in the present, find themselves under the guidance of such a man as him who now presides over the destinies of this nation.

The best minds of the country, wherever they are to be found, whether in the North or the South, the East or the West, all approve of the wise and statesmanlike policy of President Johnson. When the work of the warrior was done the labors of the statesman had but begun. A nation lay in ruins. Andrew Johnson by the removal of Mr. Lincoln was in the providence of God called to stand face to face with duties and responsibilities of the greatest possible magnitude. Any ordinary man would have found himself unequal to the task. Any but the purest of men would have found himself bound hand and foot by the ties of party. The occasion demanded superior abilities and the most exalted patriotism. This was found combined in the person of Andrew Johnson.

Regarding the war as a contest waged for the maintenance of the Union, and not for the sake of conferring especial privileges upon the negro, President Johnson acted in accordance with his honest convictions. No sooner had he laid down his policy for the speedy restoration of the seceded States to the Union than he was bitterly assailed by two classes of men in the party which had elected him. That some of the leading fanatics are honest in their efforts to elevate the negro to an equality with the white race we believe, but the mass of those who oppose the policy of the President are influenced by selfish motives. Over and again they have given expression to the real cause of their alarm. They see in a restored Union the extinction of their rule.—Thaddeus Stevens never makes a speech without giving expression to this idea. With them party is the first great consideration, before country itself.

President Johnson knows these men thoroughly, and he has no patience with them. When he denounced them publicly the whole country rejoiced. His speech on the 22d of February met with a hearty response from the masses throughout the nation. Every new step he takes in the path of restoration elicits new plaudits from the multitude. They are with him, ready to march under the banner which he has raised. His late announcement that he regards those only as Union men who support his policy will be the watchword of all who love their country more than party.

The Union Party.

The Republican party, when the war broke out, stole the livery of Heaven to serve the devil in. They announced themselves as the Union party, and denounced all who differed with them as disunionists. This was a strange party name to be adopted by those who were the real leaders of that organization.—They had been original and avowed disunionists. The only men in the North who desired or advocated the dissolution of the Union were high in its ranks, Yet they held to this title in order that they might lead the honest masses blindfolded to the accomplishment of their base designs. Being adepts in deception, they succeeded while the war raged in deceiving many.

On the 22d of February Andrew Johnson stripped the cloak from the leaders of certain prominent radicals. The people rejoiced. He has now laid down a test by which every man may try his Unionism. The Union men of the country are those who stand ready to aid the President in restoring the Union. There are none others. The Union party is the party which stands opposed to the infamous designs of the radicals in Congress. The line of distinction has been plainly drawn by the President. Read Mr. Ingersoll's report of the interview he had with him in regard to the Connecticut election.

Andrew J. Steinman, Esq.

The unanimous vote by which Andrew J. Steinman Esq, was continued as chairman of the County Committee was no empty compliment. It was a fitting expression of the confidence which the Democracy of this county have in his ability and integrity. We only speak that which we well know when we say that he is eminently fitted for the position. He will prove to be a most efficient leader in the present all-important campaign. We were glad to see so many members present on Saturday. It is a good omen. Under the control of Mr. Steinman, the different members of the Committee will find work enough to do. That it will be well and effectually done we cannot doubt.

The Radical Fire Slackening.

Within the past few days the radical newspapers of the country have greatly modified their assaults upon President Johnson. They see how the tide is running in Connecticut and elsewhere, and are alarmed, as they well may be. Even the New York *Tribune* and the Philadelphia *Press* have grown very mild. Greeley is deprecating the wrath of Andrew Johnson and trying to prove that he is not opposed to the election of Hawley, the Disunion candidate for governor in Connecticut. Meantime the President pursues the even tenor of his way, and insists upon it that he cannot be expected to aid those who oppose his policy. Hawley has been compelled to beg for favors, but has not succeeded in securing any promise of support from President Johnson. The friends of the Union, all conservative men of both parties in the State of Connecticut, are rallying to the support of Mr. English, the Democratic candidate. It looks now as if he would certainly be elected. Not long ago, no one would have dared even to hope for such a result in one of the New England States. The skies are brightening.

THE House of Representatives of the United States has adopted a resolution that it will adjourn on Thursday, the——day of May, if the Senate agrees. The blanks is to be filled up, and the time may be in the beginning, middle, or towards the end of the month.—*Exchange.*

If the Senate, says the Philadelphia *Daily News*, will fill up the blank with the first Thursday in May, and pass the resolution at once, it will be doing more service to the country than it is likely to do by the passage of any measure which has been before it during the session. The people would feel greatly relieved if Congress would adjourn, and give them the opportunity which they will have next autumn to express their views with regard to public measures. It is probable that after the next election many of the members of the present Congress will entertain more sober opinions of national affairs than they now have.

John Cessna.

It is seldom that a political renegade has met his deserts so suddenly as has the man whose name stands at the head of this article. For years John Cessna strove to secure some position of honor and profit from the Democratic party of Pennsylvania. He clung to it until the last hope of political promotion in its ranks had been wrenched from his grasp. Then, being tempted by the rewards which had been conferred upon others who had gone from its ranks into the Republican party, he left it. He did not do this, however, until he had made a most desperate effort to secure the Democratic nomination for Governor three years ago. Finding when he came to the Convention that he could only muster *nine* votes, he left our ranks in disgust. No one regretted his going.

He was received by his new found friends with some marks of distinction. Last year they made him Chairman of their State Central Committee, and he did their dirty work, well and faithfully. This little promotion led him to aspire again to the nomination for Governor. After using every appliance at his command he managed to secure one vote for certain—that of Bedford county. He got that by using the most unscrupulous means to defeat Frank Jordan, who also had some similar aspirations of much longer standing than those of Cessna.

The Republican Convention assembled. Poor Cessna found that he had not votes enough to make even a decent show for a complimentary vote on the first ballot. So, making a virtue of necessity, he concluded to withdraw his name. Before doing this he got Col. A. K. McClure to make a strong effort to have him reappointed Chairman of the State Central Committee. That was a flash in the pan. Cessna must have seen from what was said and done in the Convention that his new friends had precious little respect for him; but we do not suppose he imagined that any such indignity would be put upon him as the appointment of Frank Jordan to the position to which he aspired, after abandoning the contest for a nomination as candidate for Governor.

A greater insult was never offered to any political aspirant. The appointment of any other man in the State would not so have outraged Cessna.—He must pocket the insult however.—He cannot abandon the party with which he is now acting. There is no other place for him to go. He can never aspire to any position of importance in the ranks of the organization to which he carried all the little political influence and importance he had. He is dead and buried politically forever.—His public life has been a fitful fever bringing him no honor and no great profit. *Requiescat in pace!*

The Pittsburg Meeting.

In another column we give a full account of the great Johnson Mass Meeting held in Pittsburg on Tuesday evening. Mr. Carnahan, whose resolutions endorsing the President were so unceremoniously put down in the Disunion State Convention has been heard from. He has taken the Radical political bull squarely by the horns, and the beast is in as much danger as was that of the obstinate Quaker who thought the father of his herd a match for a full grown elephant. If Mr. Carnahan and other friends of the President make a vigorous fight against old Tom Williams and James K. Morehead, they can easily prevent them from being returned to Congress. In such a contest they would have the hearty support of all truly loyal men.

The bold and manly speech of Mr. Carnahan shows how thousands of honorable and intelligent Republicans feel and think. They know that the policy of President Johnson is wise and eminently well calculated to restore the Union, while it preserves the Constitution from the assaults constantly being made upon it by the followers of Stevens and Sumner. We regard this meeting at Pittsburg as a proper effort of the Conservative Republicans to break loose from the Disunionists who now have control of that organization. It will be followed by moderate men throughout Pennsylvania.

THE *Express* is in raptures. It professes to have found one Democratic newspaper which is in favor of negro suffrage. It copies an article on that subject from a New York weekly which, we venture to say, not three men in Lancaster ever saw, and not a dozen ever heard of. The endorsement there given to the doctrine of negro suffrage is not such as is being accorded by the radical Disunion newspaper press, but, feeble as it is, the *Express* is wonderfully elated thereat. It professes to see in this a sure sign that the day is not far distant when every ignorant and degraded negro in the land shall have a vote. We would advise the *Express* to moderate its joy. The millenial day of negro equality is not yet at hand.

It will be compelled yet awhile to submit to live in a community where the white man is regarded as superior to the negro. Grievous as such an affliction may be to the editor of the *Express* it must be borne. The Irish and the Germans will continue to vote, while the negroes will be refused any such privilege. It may denounce the idea of this being a white man's government, but white men will still maintain it as such, in spite of obscure and wrong-headed newspapers like the Lancaster *Express* and the New York *Leader*.

THE *Express* seems to be growing atrabillious on the result of the Spring elections in this State. The universal gains and the many significant triumphs of the Democratic party are decidedly significant. *They show which way the soldiers are voting.* This has alarmed and angered the *Express*. It not only loses its temper, but forgets to observe a proper regard for the truth. It accuses the *Intelligencer* of speaking disrespectfully of the brave men who went forth to battle, not for the sake of negro suffrage and negro equality which the *Express* advocates, but for the Constitution and the Union. We have heretofore corrected that paper when it made similar assertions. It knows they are false.

We defy the *Express* to quote a single passage from the *Intelligencer*, either Daily or Weekly, in which the gallant soldiers are spoken of in any terms other than that of praise and admiration. It is true, we have not puffed up General Geary, and some other men of similar character, whose military reputation have been made by newspaper correspondents and not by fighting. But we have never refused to award to the true soldier, either officer or private, his full meed of praise. If the *Express* would maintain a reputation worth having, we advise it to cease lying.

WE are informed, says the Bedford *Gazette*, that Col. Frank Jordan has been appointed Chairman of the Disunion Geary State Committee, vice John Cessna kicked out. This is "the unkindest cut of all."—The "Governor" will now have to take[illegible] his place as a private in the ranks, and "forward, march," "right dress," "left wheel," "mark time," "company, halt," according to the command of Col. Jordan.

Jordan is de massa, Cessna is de servant,
Try him how he like it for a spell;
So dey crank de butternuts, so dey keep de kernels,
So de Darkies trow away de shell!

Repeating their Stories.

It is very early in the campaign for our opponents to be forced to repeat a story yet they are already reduced to that result. Not daring to go before the people in open advocacy of the principles they have laid down in their platform their little ground is rendered very narrow and contracted. All they can do is to parade certain votes of Mr. Clymer which were cast when there was a dead lock in the Senate, and to republish his speech made against granting the use of the hall of the House for the purpose of holding therein a partizan political meeting. The *Express* has had that speech in twice already. How often it proposes to republish it during the campaign we do not know, but we suppose once a week.

The people have not yet forgotten the disgraceful attempt of the Republicans to force such an organization of the Senate in 1864 as would have been unconstitutional and revolutionary. That body then stood 16 Democrats to 16 Republicans. The Republicans introduced resolutions of every conceivable character in order to force the Democratic members to record their votes against them. Among others was one in regard to allowing the soldiers to vote in the army. If the Democrats had voted for that, or for any other of the resolutions offered, they would have recognized the revolutionary claims of the Republicans. Of course Mr. Clymer voted *nay* persistently upon every motion that came up. He could not have done otherwise without yielding a great and well settled principle of political action. When these votes of Mr. Clymer are paraded before the people, they should remember how they were cast. Before that, when there was no compulsion upon him, Mr. Clymer had voluntarily and cheerfully voted to confer the right of suffrage on the soldiers in the army. He never at any time opposed the amendment to the Constitution which was passed for that purpose. Such is the plain honest truth in regard to the matter.

That vote and the speech to which we have referred are to be the main dependence of the Disunion party in the pending campaign. They have already paraded these things in all their newspapers, and, though only two weeks have elapsed since the nomination of their paper General, Geary, they are forced to repeat them. How can any party succeed which goes into a great fight like the present with their ammunition completely exhausted before the battle is fairly begun? They must inevitably be beaten. The Democracy are just getting their batteries fairly planted. When they open upon the Disunionists who follow the lead of Stevens, as Geary says he does, there will be warm work.

Wilson's Army Bill.

This bill, which passed the Senate on the 14th by a vote of ayes, 27, nays 5—absent or not voting, 18—provides for five regiments of artillery, twelve regiments of cavalry (two of which are to be made up of negroes), and fifty regiments of infantry, (thirteen of which are to be made up of negroes). Promotions in negro regiments are not to be confined to the negro corps! No provision is made for the Veteran Reserves they were entirely counted out. Fessenden, Republican, of Maine, said: "The request of the Reserve Corps for retention in service he considered selfish and impudent!" (The Invalids will make a note of this.) In all, the bill provides for a standing army of about seventy-five thousand men and niggers. What earthly use this army is to be to the country, except to roll up taxation, we cannot see. God knows the public burthens are heavy enough already. Should the bill pass the House, we hope it will get a prompt application of the veto.

On the Right Track.

Hon. Eli Thayer, formerly a Republican member of Congress, from the Worcester, Massachusetts, District, is stumping Connecticut in behalf of the Democratic State Ticket. On Wednesday evening last he addressed the people of New Haven, in Music Hall, in a speech of great power and eloquence. He maintained that all the members elect from the South ought to be admitted to Congress, and said the object of the Government is to let the people alone, and make them let each other alone. He said the Republicans were entitled to no credit for subduing the rebellion, for it might and ought to have been put down in a year. If an energetic man had been President the war would have been finished in 1862. He denounced the freedmen's bureau bill, advocated free trade and urged that paper money ought not to be issued by the Treasury at Washington. He closed by challenging Mr. Sumner or any other man to debate before the people of Connecticut.

A Connecticut Eye-Opener.

"The endorsement by Mr. Johnson of Cleveland's course in coming out for the President's policy is looked upon here as what is known as an 'eye opener.' General Hawley and his Republican friends had been endeavoring for a long while to get some such act of committal from the President, but all to no purpose."

The above special despatch to the Philadelphia *Ledger* tells the whole story of the Connecticut election. The President emphatically endorsed the Democratic candidate. Whether his late action in the matter will be sufficiently well understood to carry the coming election remains to be seen. If the same action had been taken a week ago the matter would have been placed beyond the possibility of a doubt.

Amendments to the Constitution.

The New York *Post* (Rep.) ridicules the number of amendments proposed by Congress to the Constitution, and very truly says:

"Our constitution is not a thing to be brought into Congress and tossed from hand to hand in a sort of contempt for its imperfections, and finally mended like an old shoe, with a new heel and a new toe-piece, a patch upon one side, and a patch on the other. We fought the rebel States, which had thrown off its authority; we poured out our blood like water in its defense; we mortgaged the revenues of long prosperous years to come that we might reduce the insurgents under its dominion; we eulogized it through the four years of that cruel war as a frame of government which had never been felt by the rebel States and their population, save in the benefits it conferred, and we brought the insurgents back by persevering efforts and immense sacrifices to their allegiance. It does not become us now to treat this venerable instrument as if it were the work of sciolists, a thing yet to be licked into shape, and upon which every man who happens to be returned to Congress is invited to try his ingenuity."

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE don't like President Johnson's polite response to a notification of his election as an honorary member of the Manhattan Club. It growls as follows:

The World publishes what purports to be a genuine correspondence between a Committee of the Manhattan Club and President Johnson. The Manhattans have elected Mr. Johnson an honorary member, and desire "to adorn their walls with a representation of the form and lineaments of a statesman and a patriot who," &c., &c. As Mr. Johnson accepts with sincere thanks, we presume he is unaware that the Manhattan is a Copperhead Club, and that three-fourths of the men who sign the letter to him—Barlow, Balmont, G. T. Curtis, Hiram Cranston, Marble, Schell, Tilden, &c.—were open Secessionists or Peace Democrats through the war,

President Johnson's Record on the Suffrage Question.

In 1858 the territory of Minnesota made application for admission into the Union. Objection was made to her Constitution, because it conferred the right of suffrage upon persons not citizens of the United States—aliens not naturalized. This was the main ground urged by those who opposed her admission, and for this it was contended that her Constitution was not "republican in form." President Johnson was then in the U. S. Senate, and contended *that suffrage was the constitutional prerogative of the States alone*, and that it was the right of Minnesota, as of every other commonwealth, to regulate the qualifications of voters according to her own conviction of right. The following explicit declaration of the Senator from Tennessee, eight years ago, may serve to enlighten his radical opponents at this day on the question of constitutional construction of which they appear to have such need. It will show that one essential feature of the President's reconstruction policy was shadowed four years ago, and that he is now living up to his already announced convictions. Hear him:

"I desire to enter my protest against a doctrine which may be supposed to be advanced here in reference to the qualification of the voters of a State. This Government has no power under the Constitution of the United States to fix the qualification of voters in any sovereign State of the Confederacy. I want to enter my protest against the doctrine being indulged in or cultivated to any other extent, that this Government has power to go inside a sovereign State and prescribe the qualifications of her voters at the ballot-box. It is for the State and not for the Government to do that. If the doctrine be once conceded that the Federal Government has power to fix the qualifications of voters in a State, the idea of State Sovereignty is utopian. There is no such thing as State Sovereignty if this Government can fix the qualification of voters. There are simply two things to be ascertained here: First, have we evidence that a State has been formed? Second, have we evidence that it is Republican in form? These two things being ascertained, everything else is for the State that applies for admission."

The Connecticut Election.

The following correspondence between the Postmaster at Hartford, Connecticut, and the President, speaks for itself—it needs no comment:

"POST OFFICE, HARTFORD, CONN., March 22.

To President Johnson:

SIR: I am now engaged in publicly advocating the election of James E. English as candidate for Governor of Connecticut, a gentleman who is openly committed to the support of your veto, to the defense of your 22d of February speech, and of your policy of restoration in opposition to the Disunionists of Connecticut. I am opposing the election of General Joseph R. Hawley, who openly disapproved of your veto and of your 22d of February speech, and declines to support your policy as opposed to the Radical majority in Congress. If my political action is not satisfactory to you, I beg you to receive my resignation as Postmaster of this city. I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) E. S. CLEVELAND."

The President returned this to Mr. Cleveland, endorsed as follows:

"Your political action in upholding my measures and policy is approved. Your resignation is, therefore, not accepted, but is herewith returned. (Signed)

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Executive Mansion, March 23."

A Party Without Principles.

The astounding impudence of the Radical Disunion party is equalled by its talent for lying. One after another of the recent State Conventions of that organization have endorsed President Johnson and the bitter opponents of his policy in the same string of resolutions.—We are glad to see that in Rhode Island they had too much decency to resort to any such miserable lying subterfuge.—The New York *Herald* thus announces the result of their deliberations in that State:

The Republican Convention of Rhode Island yesterday nominated General Ambrose E. Burnside for Governor by acclamation, and William Greene for Lieutenant Governor. In view of the dissensions existing in the party no platform resolutions were adopted.

That was infinitely better than to pass such a string of wordy inconsistencies as is dignified by the name of the Republican platform in Pennsylvania. As they have no decent principles they might as well admit the fact at once, just by way of making a show of honesty.

The Harrisburg Election.

The importance of the Democratic victory gained on Friday last is so well shown by the figures, and has fallen so like a dead weight upon the mule contractor party, that we cannot refrain from reproducing the vote, as follows:

MAYOR—Edwards, Democrat, over	Kepner Ind. Democrat	147
TREASURER—Wilson, Democrat, over	Dunn, Republican	242
AUDITORS—Haller, Democrat, over	Stroh, Republican	260
	Fager, Democrat, over	
	Shell, Republican	261
	Osler, Democrat, over	
	Bostic, Republican	268

Three years ago Mayor Roumfort was elected by only 47, and last fall Hartranft, Republican, had 3 majority! The result on Friday certainly exceeded our most sanguine expectations.

Democratic Victory in Erie.

William L. Scott, one of the Vice Presidents of the Convention which nominated Hiester Clymer, and an unflinching Democrat, has been elected Mayor of Erie. This is a most decided triumph over the radical Republicans, and shows a Democratic gain of *over three hundred*. Everywhere throughout the State the tide runs with sweeping force in our favor, showing what will be the result next October. The people of Pennsylvania will crush the radical Disunion party.

"Tweedledum and Tweedledee."

The radical journals, such as the New York *Tribune* and Forney's *Press*, delight to refer to Senator Stewart, of Nevada, as a son-in-law of the late rebel Henry S. Foote. This, now that the Senator has introduced resolutions which please them, is designed as complimentary. But a few weeks ago the same journals were for anathematizing the Senator because he had married the daughter of one who afterwards turned rebel.

"Strange, all this difference should be
'Twixt tweedledum and tweedledee!"

An Odious Comparison.

Senator Wade has always made ugly comparisons relative to white and black troops. This man Wade says: "Experience had shown that *colored troops were as good as white*, and it was a noted fact that while the *white regiments* along the frontier were being reduced by *desertion*, there were *no desertions from colored regiments.*"

This is a dose for men who fought four and five years to restore the country to its original high position, and if they can swallow this, with other nauseous pills emanating from the same party, we will be compelled to believe the truth of their sayings. At Harrisburg and other places the "boys in blue" have been settling with those who make such assertions at the election polls.

The Cincinnati Enquirer.

It affords us pleasure to state that arrangements have already been completed for the immediate resumption of the publication of this excellent journal, whose office was totally destroyed by the disastrous conflagration on the 22d instant. The *Enquirer* is one of the best newspapers in the great West, and we trust that it will speedily rise from its ashes.

THE Berwick *Gazette* says, that a breach of 260 feet was made in the centre of the Towanda dam by the late ice freshet. This will probably have an important bearing on the coal trade north for a portion of the coming season.

The President's Policy.

Mass Meeting in Pittsburg of the Friends of President Johnson—The Use of City Hall Denied It—Market Street Used for the Occasion—Speech of Robert B. Carnahan, Esq.—Resolutions Sustaining the Policy of President Johnson Adopted.

A meeting of citizens of Pittsburg was announced to be held in City Hall on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of endorsing the policy of President Johnson in the matter of Reconstruction. At the hour announced for the opening of the meeting, a large concourse of people assembled on Market street, in front of the Hall, but to their astonishment they found it closed. It was then announced that arrangements had been made for the use of the Hall, but the Market Committee of the City Councils had decided that they could not occupy it. A meeting was then improvised on the sidewalk, under a gas lamp, a bench procured for a rostrum, when an organization was effected by the selection of Col. Samuel McKelvy as President, assisted by a numerous corps of Vice Presidents and Secretaries.

Immediately after the meeting had been organized, a large delegation of citizens, preceded by a brass band, arrived at the ground. Robert B. Carnahan, Esq., in response to repeated calls made his appearance on the stand, and proceeded to address the meeting.

He alluded to the fact that he was an office holder under the General Government, but thought it was neither a dishonor to hold an office nor a reason why any man's honesty should be impeached. He proceeded to explain and defend the policy of the President.

What, said he, is the policy of the President in regard to the States lately in rebellion, which has been the object of so much denunciation in Congress and in certain sections of the country? It may be expressed in a single sentence. It is to bring the States lately in rebellion into practical relations with the National Government as speedily as possible, consistently with the public safety. When I say States lately in rebellion, I mean *the people* of the States. The President does not admit that any of these States were ever out of the Union. In constitutional theory and in fact the Union was never broken. In his opinion secession and rebellion were impotent to dissolve the Union. Nothing but revolution could accomplish such a result. He believes that the State is an integer in our political system; that without States there can be no such thing as our Federal Government; that the eleven States which were lately in rebellion are eleven of the thirty-six columns on which the Federal Union rests. These opinions of the President are not new. I believe they have been entertained by every one of his predecessors in office. They were certainly entertained by Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, the Adamses, Jackson, Webster, Clay, Benton, Wright and the most illustrious statesmen the country has produced. They were never doubted by any one until the pestilent heresy of secession was promulgated by Calhoun and his followers. About four years ago a new doctrine was broached in opposition to the teachings of more than seventy years. The new doctrine was that of State suicide; that a State could kill itself and thus sever its relation to the Federal Government; that because certain citizens of a State rebelled and gave their rebellion an organized form, the sovereignty of the States became forfeited, and degraded into some subordinate political position. Now this doctrine is just four years old. I believe it was originated by Mr. Ashley, of Ohio, but its ablest advocate is Thaddeus Stevens. The President looks upon this new doctrine as a heresy, as pestilent and destructive as that of secession. When the excitement of the day has passed, I think the whole country will agree with him.

Active hostilities ended with the surrender of the rebel armies last spring, but we are still in military possession of the rebel States. The President found them without State Governments, or with rebel governments which could not be recognized, and he appointed military or provisional governors. These appointments were altogether military, and were made in pursuance of our military occupation. The States were required to abolish slavery, adopt the Constitutional Amendment abolishing slavery, to repudiate the rebel debt, and repeal all laws in regard to the blacks which had their origin in the existence of slavery. A discriminating amnesty absolved the masses from the penalties of treason. The State governments here re-organized, and the people of these States were invited by the President to send Senators and Representatives to Congress.—What has been done by the President was done by virtue of his powers as Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the United States. Subdued rebels have been simply restrained, and the same power which authorized the President to prosecute hostilities for the preservation of the Union, authorizes and justifies this military repression, while we are still in military occupation of the hostile territory. The prescribed conditions were accepted by the people of the rebellious States. Their State governments have been organized, and they have elected Senators and Representatives and sent them to Washington. What was done by the President was generally considered well done, until Congress assembled and the whole country approved.

Now this plan of reconstruction was precisely the same originated and inaugurated by President Lincoln, with the approbation of loyal people everywhere. Reconstruction can mean nothing more than reorganization of the State governments, adapting their constitution and legislation to the altered condition of affairs resulting from the war and the destruction of slavery.

Now this work of reconstruction is chiefly the work of the people of the States themselves. Even the President can interfere with them only indirectly, and by means of the war powers with whose execution he is charged. He certainly can prescribe the terms on which the military occupation will be withdrawn, and he has done precisely this very thing. He has told the people of the States lately in rebellion, what were the indispensable pre-requisites to a withdrawal of the military force now in occupation of these States, and his pre-requisites have in great part been complied with.

But when Senators and Representatives from these States come to Washington and ask to be admitted to seats in Congress, no inquiry is made into the personal loyalty of the member, the regularity of his election, and return, but he is told that his State is out of the Union, and not entitled to representation in Congress. Here appears to be the radical difference between the President and Congress. Congress claims absolute power over these States—to say how the State governments shall be formed, what shall be put into their constitutions, who shall be voters and who shall not vote, and there is talk about irreversible guarantees, &c. The President claims that the powers of Congress are limited to inquiries in regard to the regularity and legality of the election of members of Congress, the fitness of the Representative to sit in Congress, and the general nature of the State government, as to whether it be a Republican or not. In all of the Rebel States there are many persons who never took any part in the rebellion—men whose loyalty was tried as if by fire. But these men, many of them elected to Congress, are placed on the same footing with Rebels and denied seats. You are here to say who is right in this controversy. Is it right that loyal men in these States should be treated as Rebels? Andrew Johnson once said if there were but 5,000 loyal men remaining in a State, those ought to have control of the government of the State. If these loyal people are not allowed to control the political affairs of the State, how can a Rebel State ever be re-constructed? Mr. Lincoln's plan was to allow one tenth of the people of the State, being loyal to the Government, to assume and arrange the State government. But Congress now declares that the political sovereignty of these States is shattered and destroyed, and must be reconstructed before the State can be allowed to take her place in the National Government. I subscribe to no such doctrine, and while I have great respect for the character, abilities and integrity of the Republican members of the present Congress, I think the course of the majority is calculated to work irreparable mischief.

What has the President done that the confidence of Congress should be withdrawn from him? He vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau bill, a measure which had its origin in this idea of the absolute power of Congress over these States. The President has shown this measure to be unconstitutional, oppressive and dangerous to the liberties of the citizens. It erected a military tribunal which was in times of peace to decide controversies between different classes of citizens. If this bill had become a law, a steamboatman from Pittsburg, as soon as he touched Tennessee or Mississippi would be liable to be arrested and dragged before a military court on the complaint of a colored fireman, perhaps, that he owed him a dollar, or had not given him full rations, or something of the kind. He might be detained a month in the investigation, his boat tied up, and he could have no appeal or redress of any kind, no matter how unjust, or partial, or oppressive the action of the military court. Institutions of this kind will not be tolerated by the people of this country in time of peace. The bill of 1865 was passed when we were in a state of war. It was altogether a military measure. The operation of the bill was limited to a hostile country, and it was as much a war measure as the conscription act. A pressing public necessity in time of war dictated that measure, but it is ridiculous to say that the same necessity now exists. I believe the country at large approves the veto message, and the reasons assigned for the veto are unanswerable.

Well, the President has pardoned rebels, not half so many, however, as his enemies charge. Well, did anybody expect, even when war raged with its greatest fury, that rebels would not be pardoned. Did anybody expect that any others but the leaders of the rebellion would or could be punished.

But it is said why is not Jefferson Davis tried? Does anybody charge this delay upon the President? You all remember his letter to the Chief Justice on the subject six months ago. But the Chief Justice said no court could be held in Eastern Virginia, because the country was under military occupation and had not been reconstructed, an opinion in which he does not appear to have the concurrence of his colleagues.

Mr. Carnahan referred to the action of the late Republican Convention at Harrisburg. He had offered a modest resolution to the effect that we had confidence in the integrity and patriotism of the President.

He was at once awarded with such a storm of obloquy as had never before greeted his ear. It was not true, however, as stated in the *Press* and Washington *Chronicle*, that he stood alone in favor of the resolution. He had ascertained that there were about twenty members who would have voted for it. He withdrew it, however, because it was manifest that it could not pass, and he was unwilling to see the President defeated in the Convention. He found on the floor of that Convention persons denouncing the President, at least unwilling to say that they had any confidence in him, who three years ago were acting with the Democratic party. When Andrew Johnson was suffering in Tennessee for his loyalty, some who now denounce him as unfaithful, were putting obstacles in the way of Mr. Lincoln's administration. *He predicted that in six months the managers of the late State Convention would find themselves in a miserable minority before the people.*

At the conclusion of Mr. Carnahan's remarks, ex-Mayor Lowry, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, read a series of resolutions which strongly support President Johnson. Among them were the following:

Resolved, That no State can be taken out of the Union—the late rebellion being an ineffectual effort to do so—and the rebellion having been utterly overthrown, it is the duty of Congress without delay, to admit to seats in that body, all loyal men who can present regular credentials, and take the oath prescribed by law.

Resolved, That we sustain the recent veto of President Johnson on the Freedmen's bill in all its parts.

The Manhattan Club and President Johnson.

The Manhattan Democratic Club of New York, have elected President Johnson an honorary member, and addressed him a letter requesting his acceptance, and also requesting him to sit for a full length portrait which they desire to have taken for the use of the Club. The letter is signed by John Van Buren, President; Jas. T. Brady, Augustus Belmont, Manton Marble, and others, and compliments Mr. Johnson on the position he has taken and his rebuke of disunionists.

President Johnson has replied as follows:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12.

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2d inst., informing me of my election as an honorary member of the Manhattan Club of New York city and asking me to allow an artist of your selection to take a full length portrait of myself for your club.

In communicating to you my acceptance of these compliments, I desire to thank you sincerely for them and for the friendly expressions of support and encouragement you tender me in the discharge of my public duties. An honest and clear conviction of duty and consciousness of rectitude of purpose, the unwavering support of the American people and the blessing of an all-wise Providence, will, I believe enable me to meet any emergency. I feel that I have the first two, and it shall be the object of my every endeavor to deserve the remaining requisites.

I am, gentlemen,