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CAMPAIGN OF 1869.

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How to Kill the Legislative Ring.

A Radical paper calls attention to the fact that out of 1596 bills passed by the last Legislature of this State *only seventy-one* were general laws. All else was special legislation, conferring privileges upon individuals and corporations, privileges which in very many cases could never have been procured except through the agency of bribery and corruption. It is safe to say that the great bulk of the acts of Assembly, which will fill the huge volume of pamphlet laws shortly to be issued, will be found to be contrary to public policy and the general good.

In view of this state of affairs the Republican journal to which we have alluded, insists that it is high time to check the constantly swelling tide of corruption, and asks whether there is no way in which it can be done. We reply that there are two ways, and two only. Either we must have a Democratic Legislature, or a Democratic Governor—or, better still, both.

Give us a Democratic Legislature next winter and we will ensure honest legislation. With the honor of the party at stake no Democrat would dare to be guilty of the rascality into which a few were drawn last winter. It would not be safe for any of them to imperil the prospects of our future success by acting the part of "roosters" or "pinchers." They could not then find a refuge for their villiany within the circle of a ring of corrupt Radicals. If any corrupt men should be elected by the Democracy they would be compelled to put on at least a semblance of honesty. They would be closely watched, and any attempt to plunder the public treasury or to pluck corporations or individuals would be promptly exposed. We have sufficient confidence in the Democratic press of the State to believe that this would be freely and fearlessly done.

But, if the infamous gerrymander of this State is to insure our being cursed with another Radical Legislature, it is of the highest importance that a Democratic Governor and a Democratic Judge of the Supreme Court should be elected. In New York Governor Hoffman applied the pruning knife of the veto to the acts of the Radical Legislature very freely, and by so doing he saved the people of that State from many barbarous and grievous impositions. The acts which he so judiciously vetoed would have been followed by many of the same class which were suffered to die in the Committee rooms, because it was certain that they would be speedily killed by a veto if they were permitted to see the light. The value of the veto power in the hands of an honest Governor can scarcely be too highly estimated. It is a bulwark against such rascally legislation as has cursed Pennsylvania. And it is equally important that some high-toned man of ability should be placed on the bench of the Supreme Court.

If Geary should be re-elected it is absolutely certain that we can hope for nothing else. The outrageous scenes which have disgraced this once proud old Commonwealth will be repeated year after year; and at the close of each session of a legislature we shall see the "roosters" and "pinchers" marching up to the masters of the "ring" and openly clutching in their greedy hands the base bribes for which they were ever ready to do any piece of disreputable work, no odds how dirty it might be. There was no attempt at concealment on the last day of the late session of our Legislature. The rooms of the paymasters were open, and the scoundrels who had sold their votes were seen sneaking in with empty wallets and marching out with well-filled purses.

If this thing is to be stopped—if we are not to go on from bad to worse there must be a change made at the coming election. The election of another Radical Legislature and the choice of another Radical Governor, whether it be that prince of humbugs Geary, or some one else, will be very properly regarded as a verdict in favor of the rascality which has disgraced Pennsylvania.—The people can only inaugurate a reform by taking the power out of the hands of that party which has so shamefully abused it. There is no other way in which it can possibly be done; and none but those who are willfully and stupidly blind can fail to see the truth of what we assert.

The Sumner Policy.

Grant, we are told from Washington, is not Sumner, which is so far gratifying; nor is Secretary Fish, Sumner, which is also gratifying. Whether Sumner is the whole U. S. Senate, which he claims to be, since the nearly unanimous rejection of the Alabama treaty, remains to be seen. The self-conceit of the Senator from Massachusetts, with his many idiosyncracies, and peculiar temperament, make him a very unsafe counsellor. At the Capital, those who know him charge him with adopting the foreign policy of Russia. He is bent on a system of propagandism, with mixing up the United States in the complicated craft and cunning systems of the Governments of Europe, and with certain ideas, whereby all the despotisms of Europe may be suddenly metamorphosed into a full blown democracy. In a few years, "not a monarchy shall be left to tell the tale,"—he has argued, it is said,—and we can believe this or any other mental or physical policy from Sumner. In this view of the case, it is pleasant to learn that Grant is not Sumner, and all the more so, when we read that "Grant must surrender immediately to Sumner, or they must part altogether." Let them part. The interest of the country requires an absence of all tom-foolery in our foreign policy. We have had enough of foolishness at home, without practicing it abroad.

THE Chief of the Thugs thanks us for our notice of his qualifications as a lawyer and his peculiar fitness for the office of District Attorney. He sent us by the bearer of the message of thanks a nickle cent. Let no one be surprised at the smallness of the gift. His fortunes are in a waning condition, as was abundantly proven by the overwhelming defeat of the delegates he ran for the State Convention. The little fat printer, who was the especial representative of his father-in-law, scarcely made a show in the fight. He holds the position of Notary Public under Geary, and was therefore an ardent supporter of the "*humbuggedest Governor.*" Geary, and "Pap," and his chubby son-in-law all got a hard fall together on Saturday. It is said the shock shook the foundation of "the soldiers' monument." We are informed, however, that Jack Copland has had extra stays and props put up; so the hungry and thirsty public need not fear to visit his restaurant, as they have been accustomed to do. It is only the upper part of the structure which is in danger, and that is said to have been rendered very shaky indeed.

GRANT'S vindicative attention to everybody who held office under Johnson for that reason merely, is an indication of a small spirit. He has no more reason to assume that everybody who held office under Johnson is corrupt than the next President will have to assume that everybody who held office under Grant was his cousin.

Political Corruption in Lancaster County.

That the Republican party of Lancaster county is completely controlled by a ring of corrupt politicians is openly admitted. To break the power of the few men who from year to year set up their favorites as candidates for office, the Crawford County System was adopted, it proved to be powerless for the purpose designed. The "ring" found no more difficulty in managing matters under the new system than they did under the old order of affairs. In almost every case the candidates selected and supported by the "ring" were successful. A few men in this city are recognized as the heads of the organization which dispenses office, and the township and ward politicians are in league with them. The simple country folks, who roll up the big Radical majorities which this county gives, are mere tools in the hands of a few interested and designing demagogues. When the day for holding a primary election comes round the rank and file are driven up to the polls like a flock of unthinking sheep, and they run where their local leaders run, and jump when they jump, whether it be over a fence or in the empty air where no obstacle is to be seen. The candidates of the "ring" have no more difficulty in securing nominations under the Crawford County System than they had under the old plan of electing delegates. Witness the result last fall, when the whole slate of Brubaker & Co. was put through without a single break in it. In fact the power of the "ring" seems only to have been increased by the means adopted to curtail it. We venture to say that Geo. Brubaker could never have secured the nomination for District Attorney under the old delegate system. The wishes of the members of the Bar would have been respected, and some one not so notoriously unfit would have been selected to fill that important position.

We do not wonder that there are murmurs of discontent in the Republican party of Lancaster county. It is not surprising that numbers of honest men in the organization are disgusted. We hear them complain every day, but we know that their protests will amount to nothing. They lack the courage and the independence of character which is necessary to enable them to inaugurate a reform. Their feeble wills present no obstacle to the tide of corruption which sweeps on unchecked. Now and then we hear a faint note of protest from some one of the Radical newspapers of the county, but the belief prevails generally throughout the party that these spasmodic sputterings about reform are only called forth by discontent in reference to matters in which the editors have a personal or pecuniary interest. The masses of the county have no belief in the honesty of the newspapers to which they subscribe. If they had any confidence in those which profess to be independent, such articles as the following from the Columbia *Spy* would not fall upon unheeding ears. In its last issue that paper says:

> The Republicans of Lancaster county are a patient kind of people, who have submitted for many years past to the most glaring impositions by some of the most corrupt politicians. By fraud and falsehood, unscrupulous men who have made politics a trade, and who have bartered office and patronage for money, have taken from the honest tax payers the control of their own political interests and placed at every avenue to official position a corrupt ring or clique whose continual cry is money! money!! money!!! No man, no matter how popular, competent or deserving, can reach a position unless he precedes his approach with greenbacks, and conciliates the leaders by yielding the required amount to their demand. Every aspirant must run the gauntlet of the rings and cliques, and submit to be fleeced and stripped of more than the emoluments of office if he would be successful. Hence, honest men will not encounter the disgrace of such a conflict, and the field is left to those who will bribe and be bribed. A seat in the Legislature is legally worth $1000 a year, and mileage, and no more; but we know that some realize from ten to twenty thousand dollars. They of course can afford, and do spend thousands of dollars to be elected.
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> That every word of the above article is true thousands of Republicans throughout Lancaster county will at once admit. But their knowledge of the corruption which exists in the party will not change their course of action. They will go on jumping just when their local leaders leap, as foolish sheep instinctively follow the motions of the old bell-wether of the flock no matter how silly they may be. There is no independence of spirit in the Radical masses of Lancaster county. The bulk of them will continue to be made the dupes and tools of a set of corrupt and designing politicians. We have no hope of any reformation. The masters of the "ring" will continue to drive the sheepish masses just where they please. There may be spasmodic mutterings of discontent here and there, and an occasional newspaper article like the one we have copied may create a slight ripple on the lake of profound stupidity in which the Old Guard is ingulfed; but the Rip Van Winkles of Lancaster county will sleep undisturbed as the oxen which repose in quiet on their rich pasture lands. It is not hard to control such a population, and we do not wonder that political corruption stalks abroad among them without being rebuked.

Another of Grant's Blunders.

Mr. Grant is a very bungling writer. He knows no language except one, and seems to be utterly incapable of expressing himself intelligibly in that. The mistakes which have appeared over his signature since he was inaugurated have excited much ridicule. Now comes another of the same sort. In his Eight Hour Proclamation he says there shall be no reduction of wages "from and after this date, or the date of May 21st, 1869." That leaves the workingmen just as they were under Attorney General Hoar's interpretation of the law, and they can only receive pay for eight hours' work. The President's proclamation does not do away with the order of the Secretary which was issued in March last; it only relates back to May 21st. Mr. Grant will, therefore, be compelled to issue another proclamation supplementary to and amendatory of the original. By the time the American people get through with four years of Mr. Grant we have no doubt they will be convinced that it requires some brains to make a respectable President.

THE Union League of Philadelphia dined and wined the negro Minister to Hayti the other evening. A promiscuous assemblage of whites and blacks sat down to a splendid dinner. The fraternization of the races was complete, and the leaders of the Republican party in Philadelphia could scarcely find words sufficiently strong to express their admiration of their dusky compeers. The poet of the League recited an ode, which fairly glowed with the rich imagery that distinguishes the writings of the advocates of miscegenation. The darkeys were greatly elated and their white associates scarcely less so. Nobody went home until morning.

THE appointment of a number of negroes to offices has turned the heads of half the colored barbers and waiters and whitewashers in the North. The White House is besieged by them, and they are almost as importunate in their demands for office as Mrs. Dr. Walker. It is said that the Steward of the Presidential Mansion has ordered a large supply of deodorizers to purify the atmosphere, while Grant is actually impairing his health seriously by puffing very high flavored segars to keep down the musky smell which pervades the rooms. He intends shortly to seek relief in numerous and varied excursions throughout the country.

Now the Connecticut people are in tribulation. It is officially reported that "the relative number of children" in that State has been decreasing for forty years." The subject of the decrease in the number and size of shad in their river bothers them the most, though.

The Judiciary of Virginia to be Degraded.

Every step taken by Congress in reference to the Southern States has been directed by a desire to ensure the continuance of the Radical party in power. The good of the nation, the material interests of the country, and the well-being of the people of both sections have all been disregarded. One wretched device after another has been tried in the States which engaged in rebellion. The same system has not been applied to all of them, but a set of mercenary scalywags and office-seeking carpet-baggers has been allowed full sway in each of them. Congress has stood ready at all times to back up the most infamous measures which gangs of desperate, disreputable and impecunious adventurers might devise, to establish and maintain themselves in offices which they are utterly unfit to fill. The State Constitution, framed by mixed assemblages of mean whites and ignorant negroes, have differed according to the vagaries of their ignorant framers; but they have all agreed in this, that they have been constructed with especial and almost exclusive reference to the continuance of all political power in the hands of those who are least fit to exercise it.

In some States all officers have been made elective by the people, but in others the most extensive appointing power has been given to the Legislature. In Virginia the Radicals found that Judges were elected by the people, and a purer and more conscientious Judiciary did not exist anywhere than that possessed by this State before the war. No man's cause was delayed and impartial justice was meted out. But now comes up for adoption or rejection the constitution which was framed by the Radicals. Retrograding from the ideas which they have clamored for so loudly at home, the carpet-baggers who controlled the constitutional convention, limited the power of the people and made many offices, which had hitherto been elective, the subjects of legislative appointment.

The new State Constitution, which is now before the people of Virginia for adoption or rejection, provides that all Judges and many other officers shall be appointed by the Legislature. The object of this retrograde movement is seen at once when we look at other provisions of the instrument. It contains a most stringent disfranchisement clause, which its framers fully expected to see adopted and enforced. Should that be done a large proportion of the intelligent property holders of the State will be deprived of all voice in its public affairs, and the control be given up to carpet-baggers, scalywags and the negroes whom they control through the agency of oath-bound Union Leagues. The State has been so cut up in the formation of Legislative Districts as to give undue representation to those sections in which the negroes most abound. This has been done for the express purpose of insuring the election of a Radical majority. The carpet-baggers having learned how to gerrymander States from the Radicals of Pennsylvania and other Northern States have adopted the system in the South, and are prepared to push it to its most repulsive extreme.

The submission of the disfranchisement clause of the new Constitution to a separate vote may save the good people of Virginia from some of the inflictions which the Radicals have prepared for them, but the negroes are already anticipating the new order of affairs which the carpet-baggers and scalywags hope to inaugurate. At the African Republican State Convention, which was held in Richmond the other day, a resolution was unanimously adopted urging Gen. Canby, the present Military Governor, to "*give colored men representation upon the benches of the Courts.*" The ignorant negroes have been flattered into the belief that they are entitled to representation in all official positions, and led to expect the abolition of all distinctions between the two races.

It is safe to say that there is not a single negro in the whole State of Virginia who is fit to occupy any judicial position. But fitness would never be considered by such men as would compose the Radical majority of a Legislature elected under the proposed system. They would be ready to pander to every demand of the negroes, in order that they might maintain their control over them. Not a single white Radical can be elected in the State except it be done by negro votes. All such will owe their seats entirely to a negro constituency. Is it to be supposed that the base creatures who pander to the blacks for their votes, would for a moment hesitate to accede to every demand which their sable constituents might make upon them? Not they. They would thrust the most ignorant and degraded fieldhand upon the bench of the Supreme Court, if by so doing they could further their own selfish designs. The carpet-baggers and scalywags care for nothing except their own personal interests. Of all the political adventurers with whom the country has been so much cursed of late years, they are the meanest and the most mercenary. Should the Radicals obtain a majority in the Legislature of Virginia we may confidently expect the Judiciary of the State to be degraded, and to see ignorant, thick-headed negroes, who have never heard of Blackstone, occupying the seats made illustrious by the great lawyers of that grand old Commonwealth.

History of the 79th.

We publish to-day the history of the 79th, as it will appear in the second volume of the History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, now being printed. It will be read with great interest by many in this city and county. When complete the work will contain an accurate tabular statement of the date of enlistment, period of service, &c., of every man connected with this gallant regiment.

Our Western Railroad Connections.

All the newspapers of the State approve the recent consolidation of the Pennsylvania Central with the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. The event is unquestionably one of prime importance. It gives to one of our leading railroads control of a vast amount of business which it could not otherwise obtain, and will shortly enable it to make a great reduction in local freights. The people along the line of the road and the whole population of the State will be benefitted by this improvement in our railroad connections with the great West.

THE National Executive Committee of the Union League met in New York City the other day, Hans Geary in the chair. The principal subject discussed was the pending elections in the South, and measures were taken to raise money to bribe negroes to support the Radical candidates. Geary intimated that he would need a great deal of money to enable him to come within thirty thousand votes of being elected this fall. It was admitted that the prospect in the South was very gloomy, and that in Pennsylvania still worse.

MANY Radical newspapers are crying out for the annexation of Cuba, Canada, Mexico, San Domingo and other fragments of real estate on differents part of the continent. In the midst of this confusion a seemingly sensible people have ventured to suggest the propriety of reannexing the Southern section of the United States, but the Radicals "can't see it."

MR. ULYSSES S. GRANT has just received a cask of superior California wine by express over the Pacific Railroad. What will he do with it? He don't drink, you know.

The Alabama Difficulty.

Some of the lawyers in Washington remind the President, in discussing the Alabama Claims, that one of the most difficult points is the fact that the U. S. Supreme Court recognized the belligerency of the South seventeen days before the Queen's proclamation was issued, and so far at least as Spain is concerned, we are on record on our diplomatic correspondence as thanking that country for not having given more substantial aid and countenance to the rebellion

In this connection, some facts need remembrance and restatement, and they are condensed as follows: When Sumpter was bombarded, and Jefferson Davis issued a proclamation speaking of issuing of letters of marque and of reprisals, Mr. Lincoln issued his proclamation declaring that such letters of marque would be considered as piracy. Queen Victoria then issued her proclamation of neutrality, declaring against all who should violate the provisions of the neutrality act, and Lord John Russell announced to Parliament that the Southern States must be treated as belligerents. May 6th, Lord Russell wrote to Lord Lyons calling this state of things "civil war," and this is assumed to be an unfriendly judgment; but the question was not what the United States called "war," but what neutrals should call it. What then is belligerency?—and was Lincoln's blockade a pacific blockade. The declaration of belligerency is a declaration of facts, and more difficult to decide in case of civil war than in other wars. A recognition of belligerency in a civil war may convey moral support and encouragement to one party. The necessity is to so guide the subjects of the neutral issuing a proclamation, that such proclamation may release the parent State from the acts of insurgents. The declaration of belligerency shields foreign subjects, and relieves from a responsibility incident to privateers. Such a declaration also declares to all citizens that war exists, and that the Foreign Enlistment act goes into force.

French and American Despotism.

The Radical assaults upon the military government and despotism of France sound very singular indeed when we look at the military governments and despotisms which they have established in the Southern States. The whole French system is one of popular repression, and the whole Radical system in non-reconstructed States and in States reconstructed, after the fashion of Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana and Alabama, is the same. Radical preaching against French aggressions is like the rebuking of sin by Satan.

If the Radicals were not stone blind, they would contrive somehow to see and feel their own infirmities and deformities. They are gradually establishing an imperial power among us—see an imperialist journal progressing in their midst. They have become the advocates of suicide to the States, as in Sumner's programme; have revived their war upon State currency,—see Boutwell's letter on National Banks; have witnessed the advocates of an American Empire prosperous in our midst; have given minorities of the people more power than majorities, and made one branch of the Government supreme over the other two. All these events are seen in our midst, and they will endure just as long as Radical Government endures, and perhaps too long ever to restore the spirit of the Union established by our fathers.

A Reminiscence of the State Treasurer.

The Pittsburg *Commercial*, one of the staunchest Radical papers in the State, has been moved to indignation by the method in which Republican State Treasurers have been managing the revenues of the Commonwealth. It relates the following incident as being illustrative of the matter in issue:

> We have an incident of the State corruption fund—the "unexpended balance" in the hands of the State Treasurer. It occurred some years ago, but whether under Democratic or Republican rule we are not positive, but think it was during the administration of a Republican Treasurer. Among the members was a devoted adherent of the Treasurer, whom it was deemed advisable to pension for services. The State Treasurer placed twenty five thousand dollars of the State funds in the hands of this Assemblyman. This money was simply put in a certain bank, subject to the order of the Harri-burg official, and received from the bank for its use five per cent. or twelve hundred and fifty dollars a year. This was a comfortable retiring allowance around, for the bank, the State Treasurer and the member. It shows the uses to which the funds of the State may be diverted by unscrupulous officials. We do not cite it for the purpose of throwing any reflections upon individuals, but merely as an argument to demonstrate to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund the necessity of keeping the balance down in the State Treasury. The State—the people—the taxpayers should have the benefit of the interest on the "unexpended balance," and not the politicians.

The above furnishes serious subject for comment during the coming campaign, in view of the fact that the late Radical Legislature refused to amend the law under which such iniquities have grown up.

THE Harrisburg *State Guard*, Governor Geary's organ, complains bitterly because the negroes of that city were not invited to join in the procession of those who decorated the graves of the soldiers. This eager desire to break down all distinctions between the two races finds no response in the hearts of the white masses of the North, yet every Radical newspaper keeps up an outcry about it. The leaders of the party see that they must break down the last barrier between blacks and whites, if they are to control the negro vote. Hence the persistent outcry.

THE New York *Tribune* has a letter from a special correspondent who sailed with a filibustering expedition to Cuba. According to the writer four hundred and fifty men, with ten pieces of artillery and small arms and ammunition for five thousand men were successfully landed on the island. The ship sailed from New York. Are we not bound to prevent the departure of such expeditions? Will not our acquiescence close our mouths in reference to the Alabama claims? These are questions which should receive the serious consideration of Mr. Grant and his Cabinet.

THE New York *Tribune* makes the grievous complaint that "some forty freedmen's schools have been closed in Maryland because the teachers could not find homes with the white people. Could not they carry their ideas of social equality so far as to take board with the negroes, or are they so deeply imbued with the prejudice of caste that they would rather leave the poor African uninstructed than to consort with him? Our Radical friends should be consistent on this subject.

THE women are going to Washington with a monster petition at the opening of the next Congress, and mean to invade the House with it, and present it in their own proper persons. The petition will claim for them the right of suffrage. They will make it a strong point that they are better entitled to the ballot than the negro.

THE Springfield *Republican* is slightly disgusted with the rush of negroes for office. It says:

> "There is just now a little tendency at Washington to overdo the negro and give him places because he is black, and not because he is fitted for the work he seeks."

Sensible talk for a Radical newspaper.

WENDELL PHILLIPS wants workingmen to strangle Republicanism with one hand and Democracy with the other. They will have to follow the first part of his advice, or become serfs.

In the Court of Common Pleas Judge Peirce has pronounced an opinion prepared by Judge Allison, sustaining the 27 section of the Registry, which prohibits the assessment of inmates of hotels, taverns and sailor boarding houses.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN TENNESSEE.

Editorial Notes.

There are many poor people in Eastern Tennessee, large numbers of that class of Southern whites who were once described on the floor of Congress as a population which "ekes out a precarious existence by hunting, fishing and doing odd jobs." They live in one-story log houses of rude construction, and seem to enjoy few of the comforts of life. These structures abound throughout Hawkins county. There is scarcely a farm which has not more or less of them located upon it, and we found about a dozen on a single tract which we examined. The proprietor was a liberal gentleman, and it was said of him that he could never refuse the privilege of a home to any poor man who asked for the right to build upon his land. Many of these people have a horse or two with which they put in small crops "on the shares," a cow or two subsisting on the natural pasturage of the woods, and some hogs which live by rooting through the summer and grow fat in the fall on the mast and a little corn. It is so easy a matter to make a bare living in Eastern Tennessee—the mere necessaries of life are provided with so little toil that habits of indolence are readily superinduced. He who owns a log cabin with a roof which will turn the rain, and has an acre or two of ground which he can cultivate in vegetables, is placed in such a position that a few days of extra labor will produce all else which he and his family need to sustain life. There are comparatively few small landholders. The farms are large, and it is not an uncommon thing for one man to own thousands of acres. The mansion house is generally eligibly located, and on out of the way nooks and corners of the estate are found the homes of the squatters. Still the poorest men who lived rent free on the land of another were never mere dependents. There was, and still is, more independence of feeling and character among this class than can be found among the farm hands or Lancaster county. In politics the poor white man held stoutly his own opinions and voted as he pleased. To interfere in any way with his spirit of independence was regarded as ungentlemanly on the part of the land owner, and to submit to it a degradation on the part of the voter. The mass of the poor whites have had comparatively limited opportunities for education in school, but he who would infer that they are either stupid or ignorant would find himself much mistaken. In our conversations with them we found them sagacious, and more than ordinarily thoughtful. Their habits of life seem to develop the reflective faculties, and they evidently think more for themselves than the mass of working men in the rich agricultural sections of Pennsylvania. They are said to be very sharp at a bargain, and able to take good care of their own interests. They are a healthy and vigorous race of people, and it is evident that the crime of infanticide which is depopulating New England, is not practiced by them. We saw many fine specimens of physical manhood among them, and noticed a number of well-formed and bright-eyed maidens planting corn and engaged in other light agricultural labor. Many of the farmers of this section have dispensed with negro labor entirely since the war. Good and reliable white men can be hired at very reasonable rates. The time will come before long when this class of people will become small landholders, and they will yet build up East Tennessee and make it one of the richest agricultural regions of the world.

There are no manufactories of any importance in the rural districts of East Tennessee. There is but one woolen mill in Hawkins county. That is a good one, however, and with a flour mill is owned by a gentleman named David Kirkpatrick. He was a strong Union man throughout the war, lost heavily, and gave away great quantities of flour to poor Union people, women and children, whose natural protectors were either serving as unwilling conscripts in the rebel army, as volunteers in the Federal army, or hiding in the mountains. Yet Mr. Kirkpatrick is now a strong Conservative, and a bitter hater of the Radical faction which is ruining and disgracing his native State. In a ride through his neighborhood, we found the original and well-tried Union people of substance, those who had suffered and lost by the war, of a similar way of thinking. We only saw or heard of a single white man, of any means or character, in all that part of Hawkins county, who was a Radical.

There were comparatively few original secessionists in East Tennessee. Both political parties were led by men who were strongly attached to the Union, and bitterly opposed to the movements of the "fire-eaters" of the Cotton States. Andrew Johnson was recognized as a leader by the Democrats, and Col. John Netherland, of Rogersville, who ran for Governor against Isham G. Harris, was a leading representative of the Whig party. With them stood "Old Tom. Nelson," as he is familiarly called, and other prominent men of both political parties. The coming of the war consequently found the people of East Tennessee much divided in sentiment. It is safe to say that a very large majority were at first strongly opposed to the programme of the secession leaders. Many eventually took the side of the South, who could not have been induced to do so, if the action of Mr. Lincoln's administration had been so conducted as to foster and encourage the strong attachment to the Union which originally existed. That the war might have been ended in one-half the time, and at a cost of less than half the blood and treasure which was expended, is the opinion of the most sagacious and reliable men of the South. The rebel armies derived much of their best material from the ranks of the original Union men, and they proved to be the staunchest and most enduring soldiers. Of the original Union men of East Tennessee a large majority served steadfastly to their principles throughout the war, but there are very few among them who are not now bitterly hostile to the Radical party.

When Andrew Johnson returned home, after the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln and the adjournment of Congress, he at once took the stump and at the peril of his life exhorted the masses of East Tennessee to stand firmly by the Union. A gentleman who witnessed the scene described to us a meeting which was held in Rogersville at that time. The announcement that Andrew Johnson and Thomas Nelson would speak for the Union had gone abroad, and the hardy mountaineers turned out by thousands to hear these champions of a cause which they regarded as sacred. The young bloods of Rogersville and vicinity were busy forming a company for the rebel army, and threats had been made that neither Johnson nor Nelson should speak there. The hour for the meeting came, and the Court House was crowded, while multitudes were unable to obtain admission. The meeting was organized amidst much confusion, the young men who had formed themselves into a confederate company creating considerable disturbance. Old Tom Nelson, who was announced to speak first, commenced by saying that he was always ready to defer to public opinion, and he proposed to take the sense of the audience as to whether he should address them. The question was decided by the Union men present withdrawing to one side of the hall, leaving the rebels on the other. The audience was shown to be overwhelmingly with the speakers, and there was no further disturbance, though a son of Judge Nelson stood behind his father while he was speaking with a revolver in his hand. Mr. Nelson was attentively listened to, but it was not until Johnson took the stand that the audience was fully aroused. After arguing the questions presented, in the forcible manner of his great speech in the U. S. Senate, Mr. Johnson proceeded to address himself to the feelings of his audience. The effect of his words upon that assemblage is said to have been a thing long to be remembered. He painted the horrors of the war, upon which the country was then just entering, in such colors of truthful terror as to make the stoutest hearts quail and the most resolute shrink from the bloody picture. He estimated the magnitude of the struggle aright, and did not indulge in any silly predictions such as Seward and other foolish people in the North made. He told his hearers that it would be a long, fierce and unrelenting contest, which would involve all present in its whirlpool of blood and passion. He prophesied that Union men would be roused from their slumbers at midnight, by the rude battering of the butt ends of hostile muskets against the doors of their hitherto peaceful homes, that they would be dragged as unwilling conscripts into the rebel army, or be forced to flee to the caverns of the mountains for concealment. His audience listened in wonder to his utterances and they could scarcely credit his predictions. Yet when he urged them, in that resistlessly strong language which he knows well how to employ, to stand firmly by the old flag and the Union at the risk of life itself, the answering cheers told how deeply his words had sunk into their hearts. To Andrew Johnson and the men who acted in concert with him was due that division of sentiment which sent more than thirty thousand hardy soldiers from East Tennessee into the Union armies, and many more from the same class of population in Western North Carolina. Had Andrew Johnson, and Judge Nelson, and Col. John Netherland, and a few such men, sided with secession, the people of this section would have become a unit, as they were in many other parts of the South, and the task of conquering the rebellion would have been rendered infinitely more difficult, if it had not been made impossible. This division of sentiment was a great source of weakness to the confederacy. It gave to the Federal armies victories in the Southwest which they could never otherwise have achieved, enabled them to hold the country and eventually opened the way for Sherman's march to the sea. When an impartial history of the rebellion comes to be written, the value of the services rendered to the Union cause by the class of men we have mentioned will be properly estimated.

The war did not end in Tennessee with the surrender of the rebel armies. The bitterest feuds had been excited during its progress, and in numerous instances the vengeful feelings of parties who had real or fancied grievances to redress, led to scenes of a revolting character. The rebel portion of the population of East Tennessee were left in an almost completely defenceless condition, and numbers of them were shot down at their homes and elsewhere. In Rogersville, there flourished for some time after the close of the war a desperado named Bill Sizemore, who killed no less than eighteen men in cold blood. One morning he shot three ex-rebels down in the open street in front of the Post Office door. He had voluntarily joined the rebel army at the breaking out of the rebellion, but afterward deserted and became a sort of Federal scout, with a roving commission and the rank of Captain. He was a thief and a coward, but, as such characters often are, was a bully when there was no danger. For months there was a virtual suspension of law in East Tennessee, and this fellow Sizemore, and others like him, glutted their vengeful passions without restraint. Sizemore at last met the fate he deserved, having his brains blown out in front of the Court House door by a Federal soldier named Willis, a man who had really seen hard service in the army. Willis had a personal quarrel to settle with Sizemore, and he pretended to be very drunk until he was almost in contact with his intended victim, when he suddenly presented a pistol and blew his brains out. Not satisfied with this, he fired several balls into his body after he fell, and then, perfectly sober and completely self-possessed, he walked about the public square with several pistols on his body. No one attempted to molest him. The Sheriff of the county did call upon some of the bystanders to help him arrest Willis, and among others on the gentleman who gave us the facts we have related, a perfectly reliable man, who had served honorably as an officer in the Union army. He told the Sheriff to go ahead and he would follow him, but the officer of the law considered the chances of getting off unhurt very doubtful, and quietly subsided. The body of Sizemore lay where it fell for several hours before any one attempted to remove it, and the hogs rooted it about and ate the blood and brains of the murderous wretch. Willis and his brother, who had also been in the Federal army, afterwards tied up a couple of fellows who were stealing promiscuously and flogged them, having stripped them to the bare back. They also served a sister of the parties in the same way. The two men whom the Willis brothers thus punished had been in the Federal army. One of them afterward shot the Willis who killed Sizemore and fled to parts unknown. These are only samples of the lawlessness which prevailed in East Tennessee for months after the war ended, but the bloody deeds which were thus committed were perpetrated by a few villains who warred among themselves until they killed one another. The peaceable people of property were not involved in these feuds, and for more than two years there has been no more orderly community than is to be found in the very districts where the scenes which we have mentioned occurred.

With the ending of the war the property-holders of East Tennessee forgot their differences, and old ties of friendship and new bonds of interest speedily eradicated the animosities which civil strife had engendered. The result is that there is a marked agreement in sentiment among the intelligent men and the property holders of East Tennessee. They are almost a unit against the Radical faction which is ruining the State.

The present political situation in Tennessee would be an interesting study did not the details excite so much indignation and disgust. The present form of government was organized under a special act of Congress, and laws were passed which enfranchised the negroes and disfranchised all the whites who had in any way given aid or comfort to the rebellion. Under this system the voting population of the State was divided about as follows: Enfranchised whites, 60,000; enfranchised negroes, 30,000; disfranchised whites, 110,000. The enfranchised 90,000 are now divided about as follows: Radical whites, 25,000; Radical negroes, 30,000; Conservative Union men, 35,000. That we were assured by a prominent Union man is the actual numerical status of parties at present. As we have said, it is a very rare thing to find a man of respectability and intelligence in Eastern Tennessee who sides with the Radicals. Here and there one can be found who is an exception. We met but a single man of any property or character in Hawkins county who was a Radical, and we conversed with many who had been substantial Union men throughout the war, and who had not scrupled to risk property and life for the principles. It is safe to say that a large majority of the real soldiers who went from East Tennessee into the Union army are strongly Conservative. We met numbers of them who occupied that position, and they were most bitter in their denunciation of Brownlow, Stokes, Senter and the whole crew of mercenary wretches who are preying upon the State. The ex-rebels showed a spirit of greater patience than the Conservative Union men. They seemed to regard the wretched condition of the State as the legitimate result of Radical rule, and as something for which they were not responsible. The Union men felt disgraced by the reflection that the wretched condition of affairs which exists should have been inaugurated and sustained by that party, to aid which, they had made so many and such great sacrifices.

The Radical faction which rules in Tennessee is made up of a conglomeration of the basest materials. The men who lead it are, almost without exception, despicable scalywags and wretched carpet-bag adventurers. Brownlow never had any social or political standing in the State before the war. The Whigs with whom he acted despised him. His scurrilous paper had a very limited circulation, and he was barely able to make a living by it. He owned no property except the small amount of printing material with which he managed to issue his filthy sheet. Decent Whigs would not let the foul thing come into their houses. We talked with a number of prominent gentlemen who had been Old Line Whigs, and who were strong Union men throughout the war, and they all agreed in declaring that Brownlow had always been utterly destitute of character and political influence before the war. They very naturally regarded it as a disgrace that Tennessee should be represented in the Senate of the United States by the foul-mouthed old wretch, who has used his position as Governor to enrich himself and a party of the worst and meanest men now living. Brownlow and his friends have stolen everything they could lay hands on; even the school-fund has been gobbled up by the Radical cormorants. Never were any people cursed with so wretched a government as that under which Tennessee has groaned since the war. Those States which were kept under martial law were very fortunate in comparison, and the bulk of the white Union men of Tennessee, and all the ex-rebels would gladly have accepted military rule as a relief from the despicable system of government to which they have been forced to submit. The indignation and disgust of the Union men is most strongly expressed. They speak out freely, while the rebel element is more quiet.

Brownlow and his gang have exercised absolute domination in Tennessee ever since the war closed, in the spring of 1865. Under the laws passed by the Legislature, he was, to all intents and purposes, invested with the powers of a supreme and irresponsible Dictator. No man could vote or hold office to whom he was opposed. He appointed the Registrars of Election, and they could strike from the list of voters any name they pleased, and there was no redress for citizens who were thus summarily disfranchised. If he conceived that any Registrar was not sufficiently unscrupulous to satisfy his purposes, he at once dismissed him and appointed a more pliant rascal in his place. He could order a new election to be held in any county from which returns came that did not suit him, or could declare the election void and treat it as if it had never occurred. The carpet-bagger Senter inherits this power, and there is no doubt that he will use it in the pending gubernatorial campaign. Stokes and his supporters are likely to feel the hot end of the poker which they heated. Senter is backed up by Brownlow, and he and his faction will not be put down without a desperate struggle. Senter has the great advantage of being able to appoint whom he pleases as Registrars, and they will of course manipulate the vote to suit the purposes of their master. He who wishes to learn the true character of the Radical party in Tennessee, to be assured of its utter baseness, need do nothing more than read the published reports of what was said and done in the State Convention which recently assembled to nominate a candidate for Governor. The crowds which used to gather in Kit Burns' dog pit from the purlieus of New York city were respectable and well-behaved in comparison. Never was such a scene of rowdyism, of drunkenness, and of blasphemy witnessed in this country. The low passions of the scallywags, the carpet-baggers and the negroes who have ruled and plundered Tennessee had full swing in a scene which would have been regarded as a first-class performance in pandemonium. It is not strange that the Convention broke up in a row without making any nomination. The quarrels of the Radicals of Tennessee over the spoils has been growing in intensity for several years, and the disgraceful fight over the Governorship was only a culmination of the contest. The leaders of the different factions are alike destitute of principle. Their only aim is the plunder of the public treasury, and the despoliation of the State. It matters not which may win. The State will be equally cursed under the rule of Senter or Stokes. The Conservative men of the State had resolved not to run a candidate for Governor. What they may conclude to do under existing circumstances remains to be seen.

How long would the people of any Northern State endure the wrongs which have been inflicted upon the whites of Tennessee? Would Pennsylvanians submit for a single year to the outrages which Tennesseeans have so long borne with quiescence? Suppose five-sixths of the white men of this State should be disfranchised, and all political power be given to the negroes and a small minority of carpet-baggers and impecunious and disreputable native whites, would the majority here submit quietly as they have done in Tennessee? Not they. We know the people of this State too well to believe that. The life of any man who should lend in such usurpation would not be safe for an hour. We would have, not another Buckshot war, but such a short, sharp and bloody contest as would set an example for all coming time. The people of Tennessee, the Union men and the ex-rebels have been alike outraged, but they have quiet