BELLEFONTE, PA. Thursday Morning, Aug. 29

J. J. BRISBIN. EDITOR & PUBLISHER.

W. W. BROWN, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

PEOPLE'S COUNTY TICKET.

ASSEMBLY. SAMUEL McWILLIAMS, OF FERGUSON.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES. PETER WILSON, OF GREGG. JACOB BAKER. OF HOWARD.

C. G. RYMAN, OF MILESBURG

THOMAS HUTCHINSON. OF POTTER.

> J. H. McCLURE. OF BELLEFONTE.

> > Court Week.

This has been a busy and exciting week 'in Bellefonte. Our streets have been thronged by crowds of our triends from the country, and our hotels and business places have been a "perfect jam." On Monday after-'noon everybody went to hear Judge Lion's "charge to the Grand Jury. The Judge delivered it and every union loving man presand in a few hours afterward it sold readily in our streets at five cents a copy. 'On Monday night a Union meeting was held in the Court House, at which Wm. H. Blair presided. Speeches were made by Messrs. Hale, McAilister, Brown, Blair and Stover. Resolutions, favorable to a union county ticket were adopted On Tuesday night the Democratic Convention assembled and nominated their county ticket; their proceedings will be found in another column,-It was reported through many parts of our county that the much talked of murder trial would come off on Wednesday, and consehowever, did not cime off; but was postpon ed until next Session. On Wednesday evening the Republicans held their Convention all teelings of mere passion or resentment, and nominated their county ticket. Proceedings in another column. On Thursday whole country, that this war is not waged morning the disappointed office seekers of both parties, left town and consequently our streets were "elmost deserted. The Grand with the rights or established institutions Jury was discharged on Thursday.

Our paper is behind time this weeck. One of our hands has been sick a portion of the week, and our subscribers gave us so little encouragement, by way of paying up, that ed the war ought to cease.

2nd. Résolved, that it is the duty of all we cared but little whether the paper came with this number of the paper, like we do

Real War about to Commence.

No one can read the accounts of the masterly reforms introduced by Gen, McClellan in the army, the thorough re-organization, the correction of abuses, the close attention to the comfort of the individual soldier, with-

dertaken by the rebels obliged them to see that Committee :to the efficiency of every officer in whose 'quer'under any circumetances; at least such is the only possible explanation for the appointment of many irresponsible hangerson, to responsible commands.

Now all is changed Politicians are humhave had our probation, and may now ex. nect our triumph. It must not be forgotten, however, that the enemy has thrown his whole strength into Virginia and Missouri, and that we must collect an army dent feels the necessity of acting with the large enough to ensure victory.

A National Army

We heartily hail the new movement of Gen. McClellan in forming a National Army -not an army d'mposed of State Regiment but an army in each regiment of which every loyal State may perhaps be represented We hail it as a step 'in advance in every respect, and more especially as tending to make ne less a Confederation tohd more a Nation. The founders of our Government Secretary Cameron and Cabinet. did not make our national name indicative of a federation, but of a Union, and every thing that tends to make us more Americans and less citizens of 'petty' Commonwealths, is a step in a direction which dire experience has shown to be the right one.

Our State Gevernments were intended for the administration of local affairs, and such purposes the answer, more or less, wel! .-But the obnexious dogma of superior State alleg ance strikes at 'the' vitals of our nationality, and we see with the greatest satisfaction every step that tends to make us one great nation, rather than an assemblage of insignificant nation.

Judge Linn's Charge.

· charge to the Grand Jury, empanelled at the stated that from fifty to seventy five tens of dogma that the freedom of speech and of the press entitles editors and civizens to the right two hundred tens were sent. of assailing the Government, because they tore order in times of public and private inson, in Tunkhannock also made a speach, Secretary's office is a notice, "no visitors of any act of treason, or misprision of treason peril. Judge Linn understands, thoroughly which among other production is worthy of the man who con- the peace maker," and quick as thought the would seem to indicate that the work was fully by every citizen of Centre County.

The Union Meeting.

In accordance to previous notice published in all the papers of this place, a Union Meeting was held in the Court Room on Monday calling Wm. H. Blair of Bellefonte to preside, after which Daniel Koons, Jno. Thompson, Jacob Struble, Capt. J. B. Mitchell, Maj. James Armor, Hon. John Hasson, Jas. G. Lucas, G. H. Weaver, Esq., W. Vanvalin, Christain Derr. and J. Keller were elected Vice Presidents. J. V. Foster and M. T. Milliken, Secrétaries.

The meeting being ready for business, the President stated the object of the meeting by reading the call from one of the papers, with appropriate remarks. H. N. McAllister moved for a committee on resolutions, to which Way. A. O. Furst, Adam Hoy, Wm. Allison, Jr., Jas. Gordan, Jos. Sehnell, Sr., R. H. Foster, Austin Brew.

While the Committee was engaged in the performance of their duty, Hon. J. T. Hale, was, on motion, called on to address the meeting. It is not necessary that we enter into any details as to the import of the speak ers address further than to say that, as usual, he took a desided stand in support of the Government, and the vigorous prosecution of the war against the rebels and enemies of our common country and the Union. The Committee on resolutions having returned in the meantime read a series of resolutions which were subsequently, unanimously a lopted. H. N. McAllister, as Chairman of the Committee on resolutions, supported the same in one of those speeches peculiar to that gentleman. He spoke with vigor, with a feeling of determination on his part to crush the rebellion at once, and took particular pains that men occupying prominent positions before the public, and whose every act ent was highly pleased with the production and sympathy was in the interest of the seceders, should be made known to the friends of the Union.

Judge Linn was called on to speak, but that gentleman thinking the hour sufficiently late already declined to speaking further sentiments than those expressed by the former speakers, and endorsed the resolutions heart-

Col. Brown and Capt. Stover also made short speeches owing to the lateness of the

The following resolutions were adopted : 1s. Resolved that the present deplorable civil war has been forced upon the quently the crowd was immense. The trial by the disunionists of the Southern States now in arms against the Constitutional Gov ernment, and in arms around the capital; that in this national emergency, banishing on our part in any spirit of op-for any purpose of conquest of or purpose of overthrowing or interfering those States, but to maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States un that as soon as these objects are accomplish-

out or not. "Our friends" will have to do profit, without regard to their former party connection, such men as will co-operate with when we ask them for money-wait until the gov roment in the vigorous prosecution of the WAR, in the successful issue of which rests our hope for the integ ity of the Union and the restoration of an hon orable peace. 3rd Resolved, that a Committee be appoint ed to conter with the delegates of the Demperatic and Republican conventions to sedure, if possible, the numination of a Union Ticket worth of the support of every uncon. Attempt to take Gov. Thomas ditional Union man.

A Committee was appointed to confer with out feeling that the real war has yet to begin. the two party Conventions on the expediency 'The desperate nature of the enterprise un- of a Union County ticket. The following is

Dr. J. M. McCoy, Bart Galbraith, R. H. charge they put their men, we with a sort Foster, R. H. Duncan, S. Haupt, Jr., E. C. of blind confidence, thought we must con- Humes, James H. Mann, Constance Curtin, The meetiong then adjourned.

The Presidents Proclamation. bled, and military merit recognized. We and declaring the forfeiture of all property which is attempted to be passed, and of all ous and timely exertion of executive authorthe officers on whom the President relies to without doing any damage. The design of going of a patriotic heart, but needs the unenforce-the non-intercourse commanded in the secessio the proclamation, will prove, by their vigi- prisoner. lance, activity and determination, that they are fit for their places. And it is further to be hoped that no more property such as the President denounces will be chartered or purchased by the officers of the government as has been done for some time past here against the earnest protest of loval citizens.

> Mr. Cameron's labors in the cabinet are necessant. His duties are continual, and include a greater number of important details than those of any other member of the cabinet. The attacks upon him by certain thoughtless or malevolent journals are best refuted by his own action. To him the will fellow in a few hours. The vessels carcountry is largely indebted for the reorganization of the army. There is no probability of his dismissal from a position in which he is so valuable; and, indeed, notwithstanding the clamors of a part of the press, no changes will be made in the cabinet at present.

PROVISIONS FOR GEN. ROWNERANZ'S ARMY- dition. - We are conducting a large war in Western Virginia, and the extent of our military op-We publish, to-day. Hon. Samuel Linu's crations may be easily estimated when it present term of our Court of Quarter Ses- provisions are shipped daily from Cincinnati sions. The Judge defines the law in regard to to the army in Virginia. A week or two treason in a manner which sets to rest the since the amount was four bundred and fifty

object to its policy when it is seeking to res- the reception and speech of Daniel S' Dick- we have noted before. On the door of the This court cannot, therefore, take cognizance the present condition of affairs, and discuss- reply to some compressed man to the orowd old Ass, and the epaulets of General Mees them like a patriot and statesman. This who cried out: The Bodge says Blessed is Clellan, seen slipping in past the notice and not against the State of Pennsylvania. ceived it, appropriate to the place in which speaker replied, it says too, "resist the Devil being arranged, and the calm we now feel is it was delivered, and should be read care- and he will flee from you," which brought but the lull that precedes a storm, the like treason or misprision of treason, be of down the crowd.

Excitement in Connecticut.

BRIDGEPORT, August 24. A secession flag, under the name of 'peace.' Grand Jury, August Term, 1861. was hoisted at Stepney ten miles north of GENTLEMLEN OF THE GRAND JURY:-Evening. The meeting was organized by Bridgeport, Conn., this afternoon at 2 o'clock According to previous announcement a meeting was to have been addressed by Pennsylvania; also by exiPostmaster Goodrate lawyer from Newtown, Conn ; but bes fore one of these secessionists had time to

> A Union meeting was then organized, of which Elias Howe, Jr., was appointed president, and P. T. Barnum, secretary. Some glorious Union resolutions, denouncing peace ssion meetings, were passed.

Farmer office at Bridgeport to night, but our citizens are endeavoring to have them wait the action of the proper authorities.

81 o'clock P The secession Farmer office has just been gutted by the volunteers, in presence of 3,000 5,000 citizens. The windows were smashed, the type all thrown into the streets, and the presses destroyed.

BRIDGEPORT, August 25. In cleaning out of the Farmer and Advitiser office last night,-a United States mail bag seem was found filled with papers addressed to leading secessionists in Alabamy Georgia and other Southern States, also some two burdred wooden billies, turned and furnished with strings for the rists. These clubs were made from shovel handles, and were probably furnished by a secession shovel tters were also discovered, exposing the treason of politicians in Hartford and elsewhere. One of the editors of the Farmer has paper from the Register office to-motrow.

Grand Jury's Presentment of the Democratic Watchman.

August Session, A. D., 1861. CENTRE COUNTY, SS:

ing facts to the Court : There is a certain newspaper, the Democratic Watchman, edited by Cyrus T. Alexander and P. G. Meek, of this county, which is in the practice bellion, but those also who boldly and pubment with them, the duty of exceeding to their Such persons, whilst ment of force to overcome them. Said newspaper is published in the Borough of Bellefonte; in this

The Grand Jury do not deem it necessary un der the instruction of the Court to go into a long dictates of conscience and the duty they owe to their country, they beg leave, respectfully, to make this presentment.

Prisoner.

the train bound west which had Gov Phomas aboard, when about eight miles this side of idly descending a neighboring bill. The engine. Some federal scouts then fired into utmost energy and decision. We trust that the train, it is supposed by mistake, but ists was to take Gov. Thomas

> LATER FROM FORTRESS MONROE. SAILING OF THE EXPEDITION.

Brilliant Achievement Expected.

FORTRES MONROE, Aug. 27. The much talked of expedition from Old Butler. It consisted of the frigates Minne sota and Wabash, sloop of war Pawnee, gun boats Monticello and Harriet Lane, steamers' Adelaide and George Peabody, propellors ry over 100 guns and about 4,000 men .-Point and Newport News. 'A brilliant punish of death, achievement is expected from Gen. Butler

A Calm in Washington.

WASHINGTON August 27. There is a perfect dearth of news to day; crouching of the tigress before she leaps.

JUDGE LINN'S CHARGE

TO THE

We exter upon the discharge of our official duties to-day under very solemu and impressive circumstances. Since the last term of Schnable, a broken down politician from ry of our National Government of the most this court, events have occurred in the histoserious and startling character. I need not sell, of Bridgeport, and one Belden, a sixth- refer to these events in detail as they form a conspicuous part of the history of the rebellion against which this nation is now struggling, with which every intelligent citopen his mouth a procession of carriages ap- izen is presumed to be familiar. We have peared, containing one hundred of the first fallen upon strange times and are experiencitizens of Bridgeport, and twenty five of the returned volunteers. In less than forty seconds the secession flag was trailing in the dust, and in twenty seconds more it was torn and the compact of these States were formed the chair appointed H. N. McAllister, John in five hundred pieces. Several pitols and and under which, until recently, remaine one gun were taken from the secessionists, bond of union, there are no provissions which contemplate either an amicable separation or an attempt on the part of any one or more of the States to forcibly withdraw from the Union, and, consequently, those public func-tionaries whose duty it is to provide for the public safety and protection have been oceasionally embarrassed by constitution The volunteers are determined to sack the resirictions, apparent or real, or want of

constitutional authority to meet fully and promptly the exigencies of the times. When we consider the magnitude of the rebellion, the years which have been occupied in diligent and systematic preparation for this attempt to overthrow the government —the number and the character of the individuals concerned in it -the object and purhave long been secretly meditated and are now being openly and defiantly avowed--the acts which they have already done in furtherance of their plans, and the further outrages and atrocities which they would we cannot but consider it the most alarming event that has ever occurred in our history. There is enough in this to fill the stoutest eart with dismay and terror.

When our country is in the midst of such perils, every citizen has duties which flow nity be thwarted and rendered abortive, then from the allegiance that he owes to the government and which as a loyal freeman he is lound to perform. The sum of these duties nufacturer in Bridgeport. Some curious is that he shall do all that in him lies to aid in protecting and defending the existence and the honor of the nation. This is a demand to which a patriot is always ready to yield a cheerful obedience. Next to his gone to New Haven, threatening to issue his Maker, he acknowledges that his country

has the highest claims upon him.
We as a constituent branch of the State Government have duties devolving upon us, which relate to the present condition of affairs-duties which we should perform, promptly, faithfully, and without fear, favor To the Honorable, the Judges of the Court of Ses.

sions of the peace in and for the County of Centre.

To the Honorable, the Judges of the County of Ses.

sions of the peace in and for the County of Centre.

to sreak. I am compelled, though with deep regret, The Grand Inquest of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania inquiring in time amongst the inhabitants of the loyal and for the County of Centre, upon their respec- States, an entirely unanimous and hearty tive oatks and affirmations, do present the follow- co-operation with the national government in the attempt now making to suppress the rebellion, nay, more, I am credibly informed that there are amongst us not only persons of encouraging the rebels now in arms against the licly avow sentiments which are in opposi-Government, by expressing sympathy and agree- tion to the authority of the government:demands, and dissatisfaction with the employ-ment of force to overcome them. Said newspaper civilized nation on earth, and are bringing civilized nation on earth, and are bringing of the nation for aid to put down a rebellion disgrace upon themselves and their posterity. which the law assigns to them.

This leads us to consider and define the offences which may be committed directly ent may be made to understand something of the nature and extent of the obligations plish that purpose. Cumberland, some secessionist raised a dis-turbance which resulted in their being driven therefore lead to take a charitable view of the ment, uses the following language: bome, and the destruction of the Alleghanian conduct of those who may have seemed to Still it is better then open rebellion. in its fullest integrity, may

acts defied by statute which would render the perpetrator guilty of treason, but by our National Constitution it is directed that treason against the United States shall consist the constitution of the United States Congress is forbidden to make any law abridge. Point has sailed under command of General Butler. It consisted of the frigates Minne comfort. That the inhabitants of those the printing presses shall be free to every States of this Union which have assumed to person who undertakes to examine the pro-to withdraw therefrom, and form a new and ceedings of the legislature or any branch of independent government, have levied war upon the United states within the meaning made to restrain the right thereof. The Fanny and Adriatic, with a large number of of the Constitution will not admit of a coubt. schooners, barges, etc. The Quaker City Giving and comfort to such persons, by such is or e of the valuable rights of man; and overt acts as giving them intelligence, sending them provisions, furnishing them with print on any subject being responsible for ry over 100 guns and about 4,000 men.— supplies, or arms, or the like, would be treather the abuse of that liberty. What are we to son, and would render the offender liable to understand from the words "freedom of

of treason, by giving merely passive, for any evidently recognized it as a well defined, pre-assistance given to the traitor makes the parand Commander Stringham. Cols. Max when the public weeper and Hawkens take part in the expediction. This misroison is of a regarding to the control of the color character, but, as has already been stated, paper, forbid the abridgement of a right there are other misprisions affecting the which was without any certain measure or government of a positive nature, which we extent;

Treason may be committed against either against the government of a State, or of the everything seems quiet upon the surface; United States. When the offence is against there are no sensation rumors affoat, no gos- the sovereign authority of a single State, it sip worth noting, or no facts to record; on falls within the jurisdiction of the courts of the streets are the customary throng at the the State wherein it was committed, but War Department, the usual audience in the waged against the federal government, the where, as in the present instance, war is Senator, Landon, who was present at aisles, and a larger portion of officers than federal courts have exclusive jurisdiction. was one in received until one P. M." The tall form of growing out of this rebellion inasmuch as the war levied by the confederate States, as they But, as has already been intimated, ther

which are grave misdemeanors, and may fences against State or federal authority as the case may be. I have heretofore neglected to explain to you that the term "mispris-ion" is of French derivation, and means in legal parlance contempt or neglect. misprision of treason, consists in the neglect to give information of the commission of an act of treason and is what is termed a nega-

tive misprision.

The positive misprisions which cencern our present inquiry and of which we shall now proceed to speak, are such as involve an attempt to weaken the strong arm of civil power, or a contempt of lawful authority.— Thus, for example, to dissuade a witness from giving evidence, or from obeying the process of subpœna, to persuade or assist a prisone in custody to escape; to refuse obedience to the call of a police officer for assistance to quell a riot or apprehend an offender or en deavor to pursuade others to disobey such call, are all misdemeanors of this sort, based upon the principle that it is unlawful to offer resistance to lawfully constituted author ple, that any wilful attempt to resist the auhinder the success of its plans or designs in the prosecution of a war offensive or defensive, or to induce or pursuade others to do the like, is unlawful and punishable as a high misdemeanor. Now apply this genera principle to the present condition of our national affairs. A state of war actually exists. The President of the United States by virtue of the power reposed in him, has sued his proclamation calling upon the Governors of the several States to furnish their quota of troops for the organization of a mil tary force sufficient to protect the government and suppress a formidable rebellion .-The Government of Pennsylvania in response to this demand has issued a proclamation calling upon all able bodied citizens within the Commonwealth, subject to military duty to form themselves into military companies, and regiments, to be called and mustered into the public service. Now it must be perfectly apparent to the most ordinary uncarrying out of the design would be a gross insult to the government and a daring contempt of the author ty vested in it and therefore a high misdemeanor. For if the designs and plans of the government can with impu all our high sounding theories respecting the supremacy of the government, and allegiance and sovereignty are but beautiful figment of the imagination. Such teleration could spring from no principle other than assert that the citizen is only bound by his allegiance to the government so long as its measures may be in accordance vi h h rown views, and is obliged to obey only such laws

as meet his entire approval. Suppose a riot to occur in one of our streets. It is the duty of the officers of the law to suppress it, and it is the duty of all good citiz ns to aid and assist, for without such regu-lation the public peace could not be main tained, and we would constantly be in the midst of disgraceful scenes of tumult and dissideration. Of these I shall come presently order. Now, suppose that on such an occa sion some indivivual would take it upon him self to assembled multitude, denouncing the riot act and the administration under which was passed, and assailing and condeming e political views of the officers who are endeavoring to preserve the peace, and advis-ing and persuading the bystanders to withhold any assistance for these or any similar reasons. How should a court and jury deal with such an offender? The question need only be asked. And is not that man a thousand times more culpable who, by words or actions, persuasions or threats, would attempt to prevent or persuade our citizens from re sponding to the call of the cheif magistrate

throw of the government?

There is great misapprehension abroad on this subject. Many persons erroneously sup pose, that so long as individuals will refrain recital of facts, said publication being well known against the government. Although some of to this community, but in accordance with the the federal courts, it may not be out of place ment, with perfect impunity. It is time to notice them here in order that you and the that such dangerous misapprehensions should cople of the country who happen to be pres | be corrected, and in our remarks on this oc easion we are doing what we can to accom-There are other offences which they owe as citizens. The present beside treason and misprision, of treason generation of Americans know but little ex-GRAFTON, Va., August 24.

perimentally of a state of war, and it therefore should not surprise us that their attention. The late Judge Kane in his charge to the Last evening, while Governor Thomas was addressing a crowd in front of a hotel at Cumberland, some secessionist raised a dis-

home, and the destruction of the Alleghanian conduct of those who may have seemed to "There has been I lear, an erroneous inforget or depart from their allegiance, and to pression on this subject among a portion of attribute most, if not all, such cases of delin-quency, not so much to a disposition openly to violate the law or oppose the known au-ble oppugnation to the provisions of a stat-President Life coln's proclamation, forbiding Cumberland, came suddenly on several cross-time track, and at the same and declaring the forfeiture of all property time a number of armed men were seen rapided to the control of the processive unjust, revolting to the common that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the law so oppressive unjust, revolting to the common than suspect that artful and wicked science and not binding on the actions of the common than the c nen are making it their business to deceive men-to present the constitution of the land vessels belonging to rebel owners, is a vigors gineer increased the speed of the locomo- the people by leading them into the errone- as a compact of iniquity, which it were mer tive, and succeeded in throwing the ties off ous belief that the war is waged for the su | itorious to violate or subvert, the mistake ity. It is a strong evidence that the Presi the track with but little damage to the en- premacy of a party, instead of being a strug- has been a previous one; and they who have ele purely for the life of the nation. True, fallen into it may rejoice if peradventure that kind of loyalty, is not very praise worthy | their appeals and their counsils have been or reliable which is not the spontaneous out- hitherto without effect. He whose conscience isiding last of penal sanction to keep it in right forbid him to support and maintain The ofiences which directly affect or are injurious to the government are Treason. himself of its rights; but while he remains Misprison of treason, and certain positive within our borders, he is to remember that misprison or contempt of its authority or successfully to instigate treason is to commi

By the law of England there were various The views that we have just expressed, do only in terging war against them or in adhes ing the freedom of speech of the press and mish of death.

Misprision of Treason, is the concealment stitution? The framers of that instrument, This misprision is of a negative and experience, would not in so important a cherished rights of the citizen in a maze of confusion and obscurity. At the time of the violence the government has ample power adoption of the constitution, in 1787, when the freedom of the press was spoken of, the press was spoken of, the press was the spoken of the press was spoken of, the press was the spoken occasion required. The right of self preserves the spoken of the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the spoken of the press was spoken of, the preserves the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has any property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times as the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times are the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times are the government has a property to correct such evils, and in such times are the government has a property to correct such as a property to correct such as a property to correct such evils. tinued so to this day.

Justice Blackstone in his commentaries vol. 4, p. 156, says, "Where blaspheme-"ous, immoral, treasonable, schismatical, seditous, or scandalous libels are pun-" ished the liberty of the press, properly · understood, is by no means infringed or "violated. The liberty of the press is indeed essential to a free State: but this consist in laying no previous restraints upon publications, and not in freedom from censure for criminal mat-ter when published. Every freemen has an undoubted right to lay what sen-

forbid this is to destroy the freedom of the press; but if he publish what is im-proper, mischievous or illegal, he must take the consequences of his own timer-"ity. To subject the press to the re-strictive power of a license, as was formally done, is to subject all freedom "of sentiment to the prejudices of one man, and make him the arbitrary and infallible judge of all controverted points in learning, religion and government. But to punish any dangerous or offen-'shall, on a fair and impartial trial be 'adjudged of a pernicious tendency, is 'necessary for the preservation of peace and good order, of government and re-"and good order, or government and re"ligion, the only, solid foundations of
"civil liberty. Thus the will of individ"uals is still left free; the abuse only of
"that free will is the object of legal pun-'ishment. Neither is any restraint hereof and upon freedom of thought or in-quiry; liberty of private sentiment is still left; the disseminating or making public of bad sentiments destructive to the ends of society, is the crime which society corrects. A man may be allowed to keep poisons in his closet, but not publicly to vend them as cordials, and the only plausible argument heretofore " used for restraining the just freedom of "the press, that it was necessary to pre-"vent the daily abuse of it, will entirely loose its force, when it is shown (by a "seasonable execution of the laws) that the press cannot be abused to any bad "purpose, without incurring a suitable punishment; whereas it never can be "used to any good one, when under the control of an inspector. So true will it " he found that to censure the licentious "is to maintain the liberty of the press.

Judge Addison, in a charge delivered to the grand juries of the 5th judicial District of Pennsylvania, in 1798, makes use of the following language "Freedom of the press onsists in this, that any man may, with the consent of any other, print any book or writing whatever, being in this as in ail other freedom of action liable to punishment if he injure an individual or the public.— Such is the liberty of the press which the people of the United States of America, for ts greater security, have made part of their In their State constitutions, they provide that their legislatures should not make any law restraining the liberty of the press, that is, should lay no previous restraints on the press; or, as the Pennsylvania Constitution expresses it, that every citizen may freely speak, write and print on any subject being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.' The same princi-ple was afterwards adopted into the federal nstitution, and the section established it there is to be construed in the same manner. So that the liberty of the press is precisely as stated by Justice BLACKSTONE, it being free from all previous restraint, but, as all other rights or liberties are, subject to correc-

On this subject I shall refer to but one more au hority, which may serve to mark out the distinction between those publications respecting the government, which are unauthorized and unlawful. The case of the Commonwealth vs Dennie, reported 4th Yeats 267, was an indictment for libel tried in the Supreme Court of Pennsy'vania in 1805. I quote here so much of the opinion of the Court in that case as is applica-The legislative acts, or of any branch of

the government are open to the public dis-cussion, and every citizen may freely speak, write or print on any subject, but is amendable for the abuse of that privilege. No alteration is made in the law as to private men affected by injurious publications, unless the discussion be proper for public information. It is no infraction of law to publish temperate investigations of the na ture and forms of government. The en-lightened advocates of representive republican governments pride themselves in the reflection, that the more deeply their system is examined, the more fully will the judge-ments of honest men be satisfied that it is the most conducive to the safety and happiness of a free people. But there is a marked and evident distinction between such publications and those which are plainly ccompanied with a criminal intent, deliber. designed to loosen the social l union totally to unhinge the minds of the citizens, and to produce popular discontent with the exercise of power by the constitu-ted authorities. Such writings are subversive of all order and government. The lib-erty of the press consists in publishing the ends, though it reflects on governments and magitrates, Crooswell's Trial, pp. 73, 64. Such publications add to the common stock fect the public mind with a subtle poison alarming consequences, by their tendency to anarchy, sedition and civil war. Such conduct is punishable by the Constitution. It may be difficult to draw the line of demar cation in every instance, but the jury are to idge for themselves on the plain import of very word without any forced or strained. truction of the meaning of the author or ditor, and determine on the correctness of assign its sense, and collect the true inten-

tion from the context."
It is evident from these quotations, which are from highly respectable authority and should be accepted as a sound interpretation of the law, that the government by holding s citizens criminally responsible for every wilful design to interfere with its author or its plans, in no respect infringes upon any personal right. Much excitement pre-vails in many parts of the country because of the apparent sympathy manifested by certain newspapers and public journals with the rebels, and in some places printing presses and the contents of printing offices have been destroyed by a resort to violence and mob rule. This is much to be deplored on account of the encouragement it affords to is exceedingly dangerous in its tendencies and never can be justified on any pretext whatever. Such proceedings deserve the condemnation of all good citizens, and we trust there may be no repetition of them in future. It is sincerely to be hoped that those who have control of the public press, will conduct it so prudently as not to excite there should be any abuses of the liberty of the press, resort will be had to thority, and not to the power of an excited mob. There is no necessity for a resort to undaries were well marked, and have convation by all the means within reach in times of imminent peril, belongs to the government as fully as to an individual, and it is a great mistake to suppose that in time of war a which tends to embarrass or hinder the success of its military defences, or to weaken its power moral or physical. Neglect or hesiation on the part of those who administer the government to resort to such measures whenever exigencies arise that in their opin ion require it, would expose them to the just indignation of their constituents, and would prove them to be unworthy of their high trust. During the revolution, an Act was passed in this State, on the 11th Feb.

1779, the 4th section whereof is in these words: "If any person or persons within this State shall attempt to convey intelli-gence to the enemies of this State, or the United States of America, or by publicity or deliberately speaking or writing against our public defence, or shall maliciously and adpublic defence, or shall maliciously and advisedly endevor to excite the people to resist the government of this Commonwealth, or persude them to return to dependence upon the crown of Great Britain, or shall malicthe crown of dear strain, or shall malic-jously and advisedly terrify or discourage the people from enlisting in the service of the Commonwealth, or shall stir up, excite or raise tumults, disorders or insura in the States, or dispose them to favor the enemy, or oppose and endeavor to prevent the measures carrying on in support of the freedom and independence of the said United States; every such person being thereof legally convicted by the evidence of two or more credible witnesses, in any Court of General Quarter Sessions, shall be adjudged guilty of misprison of Treason, and shall suffer imprisonment during the present war, and forfeit to the Commonwealth one half of his or her lands and tenements, goods and

This act having been passed for a temporary purpose, expired by its own limitation at the close of the war.

We noticed that several newspapers pub-lished in New York and elsewhere, which have rendered themselves obnoxiovs to the people because of their alleged secession proclivities, have been brought to the notice of our proper courts, and we may therefore expect before long, we shall be favored with an opinion on this subject from the Circuit Court of the United States. And the newspapers report that the press, type and fix-tures of a printing office in Philadelphia, which was alleged to be advocating the right of secession was seized by the Mashall of the Eastern District a day or two ago.— This looks as though the government had determined to trifle no longer with those who disregard its rights or bid defiance to its authority. We should rejoice at every indica-tion of vigor and strength in our government proceedings from a prudent exercise of its power in the suppression of the rebellion and of anything that affords it aid. We have hitherto been speaking of a class

of offences which lie beyond our jurisdic tion. Each State possesses the right, how-ever, to pass laws regulating the conduct of its own citizens. The Legislature of Pennsylvania, at its last regular session, passed an act to which it is our duty to direct your attention. The first section provides "that if any person or persons belonging to or residing within this State, and under the sion or commissions from any person, State or States, or other the enemies of this State, or of the United States of America, or shall levy war against this State or Government or knowingly or willingly shall aid or assist any enemies in open war against this State or the United States, by joining their armies or by enlisting, or procuring, or persuading others to enlist for that purpose, or by fur nishing such enemies with arms or amunition, or any other articles for their aid and comfort, or by carrying on a traitorous cor-respondence with them, or shall form, or be n anywise concerned in forming any plot or onspiracy or commination for betravia tate or the United States of America into the hands or power of any foreign enemy, or any organized or pretended government engaged in resisting the laws of the United tates, or shall give or send-any intelligence to the enemies of this State or of the United states of America, or shall, with intent to oppose, prevent or subvert the government of this State or the United States, endeavor o persuade any person or persons from en-ering the service of this State or the United States, or from joining any volunteer company or association of this State about being mustered into service, or shall use any threats or persuasions or offer any bribe, or hold out any hope of reward, with like intent to induce any person or persons to abandon said service, or withdraw from ary volunteer company or association already organized under the laws of this Commonwealth, for that purpose; every person so offending and being legally convicted thereof, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be sentenced to undergo solitary imprisonment in the penitentiary, at hard labor, for a term not exceeding ten years, and fined in a sun not exceeding five thousand dollars, or both at the discretion of the court: Provided that this act shall net prohibit any citizen from taking or receiving civil commissions for the acknowledgment of deeds and other nstruments of writing.'

This law is free from obscurity and its neaning and intention cannot be misunder We have brought it to your notice that if any of you know of any of the offences therein mentioned having been comnitted within this county, the offender may be dealt with as the law directs. If any o you know of the commission of such offence, it will be your duty to make it known to your fellows so that the matter may be duly and formally presented to the court. It is your duty to present all violations of this act, as well as all other known offences against the criminal law, but we should be careful that no act that is done in this behalf should spring merely from political preferences from any selfish, sinister or other unworf what is always an unpleasant duty, should authority of the State and the Nation.

Letter from Richmond, Va.

We publish below a letter from one of the Centre County prisoners, now at Richmond, Va. It will give pleasure to their friends to know that they are well cared for.

RICHMOND, July 22d, '61. DEAR PARENTS : - I seat myself this morning, to inform you of my present situation. We are now in Richmond, as prisoners—44 in number out of our Company. I am in good health, as ever, and feel well, and be-side, we are treated here with the utmost of kindness. We get plenty to eat, and it is good at that, and we are all well cared for, as regards our health. We have a physician who attends to all those complaining every morning, and the man who has charge of us, is a perfect gentleman. So you need not apprehend no danger as to our welfare. When I shall see you again I cannot say, but I trust it may not be very long. I think we will all be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will see you all. We were taken on the 22d of Ju-

good health. I ask of you not to be alarmed as to our situation. We are, indeed, well cared for. Nothing more. I remain your son,

I hope this may find you all enjoying

W. P. PALMER. To JOSEPH PALMER, Potters Mills, Centre

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS .- The company about to be organized for the service by Lieut Wm. L. Raphile and Sargeant James Hughes, is fast filling its ranks, and has announced next Tuesday as the time of its departure. These gentlemen, havingserved in the three months service, are known to be qualified to assume command of, and lead to victory all that may enlist under