

A Friendly Bit of Advice.

PREPARING FOR THE ELECTION—SOME VALUABLE HINTS.

From the Clinton Democrat.

The annual State election is coming on apace, and as voters are one of the products of this country either on becoming twenty-one years of age, or by naturalization, too much cannot be said to direct all in the right and legal channel. This is necessary, that all who are entitled to exercise the franchise of a free American citizen should know how to proceed intelligently and legally. Persons who want to vote at the November election must be registered by September 9th, two months (sixty days) before the day of election, which occurs November 8th. More: As all parties must pay a tax within two years, the 9th day of October will be the last day to pay a tax. Don't put it off until the 10th! You may lose your vote. Those who wish to vote the coming fall had better examine the list of voters now in the hands of the Assessor (or the one to be found at the election house,) and see if their names are enrolled. If not on the list, inform the Assessor of the fact, and he will have to register you. Too many, especially young men, rely upon their right and privilege of swearing in their vote on election day. This should not be, as it takes too much time away from the Election Board. There is no sense in the county employing a half dozen men to look after your rights when you can attend to it yourself so cheaply. Look at the registry list now posted up at your election house, and if your name is not on it, "go for the assessor," and don't bother the Election Board with that which you should attend to yourself.

Let us recapitulate. To qualify a man to vote he must possess the following qualifications, to wit:

- 1st. He must be 21 years of age.
- 2d. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.
- 3d. He shall have resided in the State at least one year. The only exception to this is where a qualified voter leaves the State to reside elsewhere, upon his return he will again be entitled to vote after he resides in the State six months.
- 4th. He must have resided in the district where he offers to vote at least two months (sixty days) immediately preceding the election.
- 5th. If 22 years of age or upwards he must have paid a State or county tax that shall have been assessed at least two months and paid at least one month before the election. Courts have repeatedly decided that no difference when the tax was assessed (if even ten or twenty years before) if it was paid within two years of the election this payment qualifies the elector to vote; provided it have been assessed at least sixty days before the election, and paid one month before.
- 6th. The Courts also decide that thirty days are to be counted in all cases as a month—that that is the legal significance of the term "month."
- 7th. The voter should be registered at least two months before the election. This saves all trouble about the right to vote, except upon challenge when want of a qualification may be shown. But an otherwise qualified voter cannot be debarred from voting because not registered. In such case however, he is required to make oath, prove citizenship, even if well known, by another person as witness, and submit to troublesome details.
- 8th. The easy and proper way is to pay whatever State or county tax is due and be registered. Then if the voter has resided sixty days in the district, been a citizen of the United States for one month, of the State for one year and is upwards of 21 years of age he cannot be prevented from voting.
- 9th. A person between 21 and 22 years of age can vote without the payment of taxes, but he must possess all the other qualifications enumerated.

Virginia.

From Fowley's Progress.
The contest for Governor of Virginia places the Democratic party on high ground, and the attempt to consolidate the colored voters on the basis of Republicanism, and to make the Republican party responsible for that dogma, is sure to end in disgrace. The Washington City Evening Star, an independent paper, says:

"The chances are that the straightouts, or a large proportion of them at least, will support the regular Democratic ticket in order to make the Readjuster defeat the more crushing."

And the Washington City Sunday Herald adds:

"This opinion from an expert leaves little or nothing to be added. The regular Conservative-Democratic ticket in Virginia this campaign represents more than ever the cause of honor and civilization against threatened disorganization and a lapse towards barbarism in the grand old Commonwealth. The hordes led by that venal and unscrupulous adventurer, Mahone, are doomed to ignominious overthrow and extinction."

In such a competition the people of the North will take a deep interest. The resolve of Virginia to pay her honest debt in full unless the whole mass of the Democratic party and will arouse the admiration of all the great interests of the country, without party distinction. No friend of the colored man will fail to see that the committal of the liberated race to that dangerous heresy will arouse the worst animosities against them, and will undoubtedly constrain their best men to separate from a scheme so disreputable. If Virginia, by means of the patronage of the General Government, can be forced into a position at once dishonest and corrupt, there is no telling where the example will end; and coming at this time, when not only money capital but emigration is preparing to pour into the South, the new canvass in Virginia must work unspeakable mischief. It proves the excess of demagoguism and the infamy of party patronage, that for no purpose but mischief and loss of honor, the Republican politicians throw themselves boldly on the side of unrestrained dishonesty.

Bradford, is said to be on the down grade. One real estate agent has 400 houses for sale at a very low price.

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