

Bradford Reporter.

Towanda, Thursday, August 3, 1865.

RAILROAD PROJECTS.

The question of a railroad between Ithaca and Towanda, considered at a meeting in Ithaca on the 19th ult., deserves further discussion. This is not a new project, but an old one newly revived, and entirely by the Ithaca people, though some of our prominent men attended the meeting. That Towanda should take a lively interest in the matter is but natural and proper. Should she urge forward the road with her money and energy it would only be an effort on her part to open up to her very large trade a rail avenue to the north, and (with further effort when that is completed) to the south. That the vast coal interests centering at or passing through Towanda should feel a deep interest in any railway communication north to a market is self-evident. That the Ithaca people should make a bold effort to get a direct rail connection with the coal fields of Bradford and Sullivan is to them self-protection, as they cannot now get this coal except by way of Elmira and Cayuga lake. The people between Ithaca and Towanda are all largely interested in this road, as they never can have a rail communication except by this route, hence its construction becomes a question of the utmost importance to them.

Important as it is to the people along the proposed line, we may safely risk the opinion that the road must have their active co-operation to secure its completion within any reasonable time. They must not only assist it by giving the right of way, but it will be necessary to aid it promptly with money. The real estate owners along the road will be more benefited than any other class by its construction, and unless they promptly render all the aid they can, the project will drag. To the Bradford Coal interest the enterprise must look for the largest amount of its aid to build the road to the State line at or near Waverly, and that interest in giving such aid will secure the completion of the Pennsylvania portion of the road, should urge the New York interests to extend the rail to Lake Ontario. The market at Ithaca alone will be very small, and what our Coal Companies need is to load their cars at the mines and dump them on Lake Ontario. Very little would be gained over the canal route if the coal must be dumped into canal boats at Ithaca, unless they have a ship canal from Cayuga to Ontario, where they would meet the vessels from Chicago, all the Canadas, the St. Lawrence and Lake Superior, where an enormous quantity of coal must soon be used. Our Ithaca friends may not relish this so well, but they must remember we now have a canal route to all points east and west of Montezuma on the Erie Canal, and that we cannot sacrifice our present route to secure one no better.

The capacity of the canal north from Towanda, we are assured by its managers, is half a million tons in seven months' navigation, and this is a much larger amount than can be sent forward for the next few years. Though more may be mined, a market at compensating prices must be created. There is no such market now and will not be for some years unless the coal is sent to New York city in large quantities. The expediency of doing this, in competition with other coals, is a doubtful problem yet to be solved. We can all readily see that the construction of the proposed road would work disastrously to the canal interests. It is right to sacrifice those interests at all until it is certain that a far cheaper route can be secured? It is said that the managers of the canal will not oppose the road, but they do not feel that it is prudent for all parties to consider the present necessity for its construction.

Is there and will there be sufficient tonnage to justify building the road? Certainly not unless a much wider market is created and demand for the coal found. About sixty thousand tons is the largest quantity ever shipped from Towanda, and certainly the Barclay Company did all they could in 1864. To say they did not, when they probably made a net profit of over two dollars per ton, would be saying but little for their business capacity; for they could sell all they could get to market. To say that the four companies operating in that region can ship, in 1866, half a million tons does not say that they can sell it; and unless they can sell it they will not ship it.

Our object in throwing out these ideas is to place the question of the road fairly before the people. With the active aid of all the people along the line, and a reasonable certainty of a sufficient market for coal to justify the expense, we are strongly of the opinion that the road will be built.

If the Canal Managers could be induced to allow a rail track to be laid along their line south to Wilkes Barre—for which purpose they obtained a most favorable charter last winter, and which, we learn, could be done at small cost, and very little or no injury to their canal navigation—it would form a direct rail route to Philadelphia via the Lehigh and North Penna. roads which are now in use up to Wilkes Barre. This would complete the great chain of road, from Philadelphia along the valleys of the Lehigh and Susquehanna to the Lakes, long since conceived by the bold mind of one of the best and most far-sighted railway men in the State, THOS. S. FERNES, Esq., who planned the North Penna. Road and pushed his Engineer corps into our valley, and after locating the road, by some management was supplanted by less bold directing minds who were content to stop when they reached the Lehigh. Then the building of the road to Lake Ontario from Towanda, would be only a question of time and that not long. The southern route would also give us a direct rail route to New York by the Lehigh Valley and Jersey Central Roads which would give us a much shorter route than in any other direction. No better or more valuable unoccupied rail route exists

in the States than is the one from New York and Philadelphia up the Lehigh and Susquehanna via Ithaca to Lake Ontario. With this line of road the Lehigh coal would go east without opposing grades; the Wyoming coal north to the Lake with no opposing grade of over thirty feet, and that only about twelve miles long. But we suppose the canal men would not consent at present to such an arrangement, therefore let us turn our whole attention to the road from this point north to Ithaca, and thence to Lake Ontario.

THE PRESIDENT'S RE-CONSTRUCTION POLICY AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE WASHINGTON CHRONICLE.

The Washington Chronicle (in article which we published in our issue of 29th June) has undertaken an exposition of the President's re-construction policy, which, in our way of thinking, is not calculated to give a very exalted idea of the theory upon which the re-construction measures are based. That we may not misunderstand, or misrepresent what the Chronicle says on this subject, we give entire the second paragraph, which, among a multitude of words, sets forth in full the President's position on this subject. It runs as follows:

As we understand his (the President's) theory on this subject, it is simply this: He holds that the treason and rebellion of a portion of the citizens of a State, even though constituting a large majority, cannot destroy the political rights, under the Constitution, of those who remain loyal. He holds that the rights of those who remain loyal are not to be destroyed, and that the rights of those who remain loyal are not to be destroyed, and that the rights of those who remain loyal are not to be destroyed.

The plain English of this, divested of verbosity, is that President Johnson believes that the treason of a rebel does not destroy a loyal man's political rights, nor that secession ordinances can effect this, and that a State cannot commit treason, but its citizens may. That Jeff Davis' treason does not destroy Andrew Johnson's political rights, it was hardly necessary to tell, and people may wonder how the President can believe anything else. But the reason why the secession ordinance of the rebellious States do not affect the rights of those in them who were loyal to the Union, is because the rebellion was a failure. For no other reason. Whilst the power which the ordinances of secession called into being was in force, it did affect seriously the rights of those living under them, as many can but too well attest, and so it would have continued had that power remained. The singular part however, of this exposition, is in the assertion that a State cannot commit treason, but its citizens may. What does a State consist of? It is made up of the people. There can be no State without them. And to assume that a State in its corporate capacity can not be punished for treason, is calling up a dead spirit of legal fiction, to prove an absurdity. It is the old exploded theory that the "King can do no wrong." We know that the king has done wrong, and the American people will not believe any thing else on that score. So of the rebel States. No one has assumed that these States in their corporate capacity could, or should be punished, and why imply such an absurdity? Nor has any one urged the general punishment of the people of the rebel States, except the disfranchisement of those who bore arms against the government. Let us illustrate. Suppose the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad had conveyed Lee and his army from Harper's Ferry to Baltimore in one of that General's rebels northward. This would have been clear treason, for which the managers could have been punished, and the road with its entire assets confiscated. This is a corporation, but can have no being without stockholders and officers; and in bar of judgment suppose this company should plead that in its corporate capacity it can do no wrong and can not be punished. If this be true, the legal consequence must be that the individuals who make up this company, can do no wrong, and can not be punished. And how would such a theory and such logic be received by the American people?

Now, we take President Johnson to be a man of good common sense, who cannot be led astray by such vagaries as the Chronicle sets up for him, and is the last man to offer them as an apology for any public measure he may see proper to adopt. We are inclined to the opinion that the President started out on the re-construction measures without any speculative theory on the subject. It was forced on him from outside pressure, and he yielded to this more from necessity than any theoretical convictions. He was the President, the chief officer of the government, and to him appeals were made by interested men, who were seeking places and notoriety, from the subdued, revolted and now distracted States. These appeals, and the surrounding circumstances, combined to persuade the President that it was his duty to do some thing to lead the rebel States back to their places in the Union. Upon this conviction he acted, doing that which he believes to be best and right; and here it is where he was led into error in his re-construction policy. We have the utmost confidence in his integrity to the Constitution, and believe he will do only that which he conceives to be right. But he may err for all that, and we think he has in this instance, not from any volition of his own, but as already indicated, from outside influence.

At present, our government is in a transition state, and it behooves the administration to be especially circumspect. There is no past experience to which we can look, no light to illumine the path of duty in our present political condition; and that which is done now is not only of great moment on account of becoming precedents for the future, but because the safety and permanency of the government may depend upon this action. All men of experience have seen times when it would have been wiser to have done nothing, to have made no visible landmarks for coming time, because duty and action were not plain. This we apprehend, is the executive's present situation with regard to the rebel States. It is not contended that the constitution has made any provision for the contingencies which now surround us, and we contend that it is not necessary it should. Suppose some other Providential calamity, had depopulated the South as at present, and along with it had taken all their officers of the State governments, and then our Congress and all the officers of the Federal administration, what, in such an emergency, would the remaining people do for a government. According to the Chronicle's theory,

There must be some recognized authority to order elections, to appoint suitable persons to conduct them, to decide who are elected, to issue commissions, and to perform many other similar duties. There must be men temporarily clothed with authority to conserve the peace, and protect the persons and property of the people against violence and crime, until a regular government can be re-organized. Some persons having authority must take initiative of these matters. Who shall it be? No citizen or number of citizens of the State have the necessary authority. The old State Government is in abeyance, because every office under it has become vacant. The Constitution has made no express provision on the subject.

And yet where did this recognized authority come from in the first place? Where did the colonies get it after breaking away from England? Where do the people of the western wilds get authority for initiating territorial authority? Come, Mr. Chronicle, think. Is this power not inherent in the people? And is not that where the constitution leaves it? That is where the constitution means our administration shall leave it, and that is where it ought to leave it. What is to hinder the citizens of Georgia, South Carolina, and indeed all the rebel States, from calling township meetings and appointing delegates to county conventions, and from these delegates to State Conventions where candidates for State offices may be put up and voted in by the people? If the people of the Southern States are anxious for regular government, this is the way to get it. It is the right, and it is the duty of the people of the States that went out of the Union, and thereby lost their State governments, thus to restore order, initiate a new government, and then make application for restoration to the Union. This application then comes with delegated authority, in which a majority of the whole people have a voice, and not from a few interested aspirants for office, who slip to Washington to magnify the penitence and the anxiety of the rebels for the past, and for restoration to the Federal Union. This too, would obviate the necessity of exercising questionable power in appointing Provisional Governors; and more than all, the interference with the elective franchise in the States, which the President clearly has no right to meddle with, would be avoided. If this course was pursued, when the rebel States made application for admission to the Union, Congress, in its enabling act could declare that no man who had borne arms against the government, could hereafter enjoy the franchise of voting and holding office, just what all the loyal people of the country desire. Besides, while the rebel States were thus re-organizing themselves, the federal authorities could be learning the temper and intentions of its late enemies, and act in accordance. While all this would be in strict conformity with our system of civil polity, which holds that all governmental power emanates from the people, it would save the administration much perplexity, and avoid much censure for the exercise of doubtful authority.

A GROSS INJUSTICE REMOVED.—The Secretary of War has ordered that "to secure equal justice and the same personal liberty to the freedmen as to other citizens and inhabitants, all orders issued by post, district, or other commanders, adopting any system of passes for, or subjecting them to any restraints or punishments not imposed on other classes, are declared void. "Neither whites nor blacks will be restrained from seeking employment elsewhere, when they cannot obtain it at a just compensation at their homes, and when not bound by voluntary agreements; nor will they be hindered from traveling from place to place on proper and legitimate business."

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The Postmaster-General is gradually restoring the postal service all over the South. Friday morning the mails left Washington Post-Office to be conveyed directly through to Richmond and Petersburg. Contracts have just been made for service by railroad from New-Orleans to Canton, Miss., and from Canton to Jackson, Tenn. Other heads of Departments are engaged in restoring the civil machinery, in accordance with the Proclamations of the President appointing Provisional Governors.

An exciting controversy is now pending at Chicago relative to the final disposition of the funds of the recent Sanitary Fair. A strong feeling exists in the community in favor of the appropriation of all the money raised by the Fair to the erection of a permanent Soldier's Home, where all sick, crippled, or otherwise disabled veterans of the war, from the Western States, may be properly taken care of.

The last of the Rebel pirates—the Shenandoah—is reported as engaged in capturing our whalers in the Arctic Ocean. Eight have already been taken and burned, and it was expected that many more would fall her easy prey.

During a tempest at Hartford, Conn., on Wednesday week, the lightning split the yoke of the necks of a pair of oxen without injuring either of the cattle. A man standing near by was knocked down by the shock.

COME TO GRIEF.

A few weeks since, says the Washington Chronicle, nearly every Copperhead journal in the country was busily engaged in extolling President Johnson as a Democrat, who was to unite the discordant fragments of that organization, and with it play havoc on the terrible "radicals," who were determined to rush the country into the jaws of ruin. The infatuated "Chairman of the National Democratic Executive Committee," one Mason, even went so far as to eulogize the President as the divinely-appointed agent of providence who should bring about this political millennium, whereof Mason and his co-conspirators would be, of course, high priests. But Gov. Brownlow, of Tennessee, has been making "arbitrary arrests" again, and is fully determined that both Copperheads and rebels shall obey, if not respect, the laws of the State. Worse than that, President Johnson has endorsed these arrests, and has directed that the whole military force be used, if necessary, to enforce order and obedience to the laws in the approaching State elections. What will Mason say now? How will he bear this rude destruction of his beautiful castle in the air? As for the Copperhead journals, they will howl, singly and in concert, most loudly and dismally for a week to come, over this new evidence of the despotic usurpation which has destroyed free speech. Loyal men everywhere, however, will thank God and take courage.

Gov. Curtin has returned from Saratoga, having been called home by the serious illness of one of his children. It will be pleasing to His Excellency's many friends to know that his short sojourn at the springs materially improved his health, and once more fitted him physically for the arduous duties of his official position.

Hon. David Reese, died at Owego, on the 23d ult., of disease of the heart, aged 50 years. He represented Tioga County in the Legislature of New York, in the winter of 1857.

Wm. M. BERTHEM, Cashier of the Carlisle Deposit Bank, committed suicide last week by hanging himself. No cause is assigned for his self-destruction.

J. R. DREW, General Ticket and Freight Agent of the P. & E. Railroad, at Williamsport, was arrested last week, and held to bail in the sum of \$10,000 for alleged deficiency in his cash account with the company.

Hilton R. Helper, of North Carolina, author of "The Impending Crisis of the South," has been appointed tax collector of the Third District of that State.

Robert E. Lee, late Major-General in the Rebel Army, is sojourning at the Clifton House, Niagara Falls. It is said that C. L. Vallandigham has also gone to the same place, probably to have a conference with the noted chieftain.

Gen. John F. Hartgraft is talked of as likely to receive the Union nomination for Surveyor-General in Pennsylvania.

It is said that Mr. Montgomery Blair proposes to succeed B. G. Harris as a Member of Congress from Maryland.

Gen. Shenck and Senator Sherman are both reported as confident of success in the contest for the United States Senator in Ohio.

Indian Troubles in the Far West.

Fort JARVIS, Thursday, July 27, 1865. One thousand Cheyennes, Sioux, Arapahoes, Blackfeet and a few Comanches attacked Platte Bridge Station, on the telegraph road, on Tuesday. This garrison numbered less than 250. The fight lasted two days and resulted in a heavy loss to the Indians. The loss on our side was Lt. Collins and one enlisted man of the 11th Ohio Cavalry, killed, and 34 men wounded, 25 of whom belong to the 11th Ohio Cavalry, and the 11th Kansas regiment. The Indians retreated to the west, tearing down telegraph poles and destroying the wire.

A note was picked up on the battle-field, written by a white prisoner recently captured on the South Platte, which says the Indians do not want peace, but are fighting for all time; that they had killed one of their chiefs in fight, and they are going to destroy the telegraph, and that they expect reinforcements.

The body of Lieut. Collins was horribly mutilated. His hands and feet were torn off, his throat was cut, his head was torn out, he was scalped and had over 100 arrows in him.

There seems to be not the slightest disposition on the part of the Indians for peace, which can only be obtained by severely punishing them.

One of the Powder River columns is now moving to join the force from Platte Bridge, which is following the Indians.

It is stated that all the troops intended for the Indian expedition would have been in the field long ago had not the contractors failed to deliver the supplies according to the terms of their contracts.

The Freedmen in Missouri and Arkansas. A report from Gen. Sprague, Assistant Commissioner for the Freedmen for the States of Missouri and Arkansas, accompanied by a number of other reports from officers acting under his supervision, reached Gen. Howard's Bureau Friday. The following extract from Gen. Sprague's report shows the estimation in which he holds the loyalty of a large number of the people of the States mentioned:

I regret to say that even now in Missouri and Arkansas wherever the power of the Government is not felt through the military arm, the negroes are still held and treated as slaves, and it is from these former slave owners, now violators of the law, from whom the cry constantly comes that "the negro won't work." The negro is frightened. He fears in some way he will be cheated out of his liberty, and it is my firm conviction that it is the settled policy of a large majority of former slave owners to accomplish by State legislation and by covert violation of the law what they have failed to accomplish by rebellion.

In conclusion Gen. Sprague strongly urges the policy of leasing or selling the lands in small quantities to the freedmen who have proved themselves capable of the change, by their intelligence and industry. He believes that if this course were pursued almost every freedman in the State would be sustained by his own labor and the Government thereby be rid of the expense it is now incurring by the issue of rations to the destitute. In Missouri up to June 30, 2,747 refugees drew 20,359 Government rations, while the freedmen, numbering 249, drew but 2,379. The monetary value of the rations thus drawn amounted to \$4,871.36.

Reduction of the Army. The reduction of our military forces is going on with a rapidity that would cause some uneasiness were not all the signs of the times so favorable. In the Army of the Potomac, the Provisional Corps, which was formed by the consolidation of the old troops, had only a short-lived existence, from the 28th of June to the 7th of July. That army, therefore, recently so powerful and destined ever to be so memorial, no longer exists. A week or ten days may be consumed in the mustering out. Gen. Auger's troops, employed in defense of the works about Washington, are also being reduced to a mere garrison force. The cavalry in Virginia is to be materially reduced at the discretion of Gen. Terry. Sherman's Army of Georgia is to be cut down to less than 10,000, and Logan's Army of the Tennessee is to be reduced to a few divisions. As organizations, the two great Western armies will substantially disappear within a week. But little more than one hundred thousand men will soon be left in arms throughout the country, nearly three-fourths of whom will be under the command of Gen. Sheridan in the Southwest. The agents of the Quartermaster's Department, during the last week, sold over 10,000 mules and horses, and 2,500 ambulances and army wagons, besides a vast amount of harness and other material. We may add, also, that Secretary Welles is reducing the Navy with corresponding vigor, and will ultimately bring it down from 65,000 men to 12,000 or 15,000.

Merchandise, &c.

INTERESTING TO ALL. The subscriber would most respectfully announce to the citizens of Bradford County, and to all who have been recently purchased and sold by the standard formerly owned by T. H. B. and more recently by S. N. Brown, and who have an entire stock of new goods, purchased by the subscriber, that he is prepared to sell the same at a price which will be a fair return for the cost of the goods, and will be found a well selected assortment of the following: GROCERIES, READY MADE CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS & SHOES, CLOTHING, &c. The motto will be "Small profits, quick sales." A suitable sixpence letter, than the slow shilling. TERMS—Payment to be made on delivering the goods. Please remember the price, which will be found known as the "Live Hive." Orwell, June 15, 1865. L. H. BROSSE

BLACK SILK SHAWLS. At the Bee Hive. BROCHE LONG AND SING. At the Bee Hive. SUMMER SHAWLS. Beautiful styles, at the Bee Hive. MOURNING SHAWLS. Finest qualities, at the Bee Hive. ELEGANT SHAWLS. All seasons of the year at the Bee Hive. PARASOLS AND SUN UMBRELLS. At the Bee Hive. LADIES' DRESS GOODS. Splendid Styles, at the Bee Hive. LADIES' CLOTH. At the Bee Hive. LADIES' WATERPROOF. REPELLENT CLOTH, at the Bee Hive. LADIES' CORSETS. Best quality, at the Bee Hive. CHILDREN'S SHOES, GLOVES AND HOSIERY, at the Bee Hive. HATS OF THE LATEST STYLES. At the Bee Hive. BOOTS AND SHOES. Large assortment, at the Bee Hive. CROCKERY & GLASSWARE. Latest Patterns, at the Bee Hive.

TEAS. TEA. TEA. TEA. TEA. All kinds, Oolong, Japan, Young Hyson, Gunpowder and Imperial Teas of all the finest flavors, and the best quality, at the lowest prices, and warranted pure. At the Bee Hive.

DAIRY SALT. At the Bee Hive. A GREAT MANY GOODS THAT WANTED IN EVERY FAMILY, at the Bee Hive. COATS, VESTS AND PANTS. At the Bee Hive, Orwell, Pa. Please call and see. L. H. BROSSE

THE EMPORIUM OF FASHIONS. J. W. TAYLOR. Is now receiving one of the finest assortments of Hosiery and Fancy Goods ever brought in the market, consisting of all the newest styles of Bonnets, Hats, Caps, the new Fauchon Bonnet, the Fauchon, Shawl and Coburg Hats. Misses and Infants Hats and Caps. All the new colors of Bonnet Ribbons, Shawl Ribbons, the new shades of Green, Purple and Blue. A large stock of Ribbons, Trimmings and Dress Trimmings. All styles of Hoop Skirts, Duplex, Malins and Corset Skirt. Silk Umbrellas, Parasols, Linen, Hem Stitched and Embroidered Handkerchiefs, Chenille Head Dresses and Silk Nets. A Fine assortment of Kid Gloves, French Corsets, Plain Linen Brodered and Valencia Collars, Linen Thread Smirna Edging, Dainty Bands and Ruffing, Embroidering and Tucked Edgings. A good assortment of Gown and Hosiery. Black Silk Mitts, Yankee Notions, Belts and Belt Buckles, Hair and Clothes Brushes and Fancy Combs. All colors Zephyrs. Bonnets and Hats trimmed in the ivory latest New York styles. Millinery Work done on short notice, warranted to please. Bonnets and Hats shaped in New Style, &c.

N. B.—I have added to my stock a nice line of Goods. Prints, Delaines, Challis, Black and Colored Alpaccas. All Wool Delaines, Gingham, Bleached Linen, Plain and Plaid Nansook, Jaconets. A full line Swiss, Mull, Bobinet Laces, Black and White Lace, Lace, Black and White Dolled Lace, and a large many other things too numerous to mention, see north of Cowles & Co.'s Book Store, and opposite Court House, Towanda, May 1, 1865.

SPINNING WHEELS. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. To the citizens and farmers of Bradford and adjacent counties: The subscriber would respectfully announce that he is prepared to furnish them with the following: WOOL-WHEELS, FLAX-WHEELS, WHEEL-HEADS, SNAP-REELS, SWIVES, FILERS, &c. &c.

In short everything connected with the Home Manufacture of Woolen and Linen Goods. Merchants wishing to purchase to sell again, will find all goods packed in shipping order. N. B. Particular attention is called to the "Grand Wheel Head," an article far superior to any now in use. All articles warranted to give entire satisfaction. C. M. GRANDALL, Montrose, Pa., June 10, 1865.