

Bradford Reporter.

Towanda, Thursday, May 31, 1866.

NEUTRALITY ON RECONSTRUCTION.

Two articles on reconstruction recently met our eyes, in both of which an argument is attempted in favor of the immediate admission of the rebel States, and a full restoration of all civil rights to the people thereof. These are leading editorials in papers professing to be neutral in politics, or perhaps, as they would rather have it, independent of partisan organizations; and as both are moderate in tone, and generally correct in sentiment on the main issues of the day, we propose to point out some of the errors they have fallen into in the production referred to.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 25. The House of Representatives passed today (two votes only dissenting), the "Bill to equalize the bounties of soldiers, sailors, and marines, who served in the late war for the Union," as reported by General Schenck, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs. This is a subject of much interest, I give you a synopsis of the bill as it passed the House:

THE CONSERVATIVES ARE FUSING.

The Conservatives are fusing because Chief Justice Chase will not go down to Richmond and call on the trial of Jefferson Davis for treason, until the President shall restore the Civil Law to its proper supremacy in Virginia. How does the case stand? The President, some weeks ago, formally proclaimed Peace as existing in all the rebel States, except Texas. Upon what plea, then, does he maintain martial law outside of Texas? Was his Proclamation a sham, for some low party end? Is martial law still rightfully supreme in Virginia, why does not the President order Mr. Davis before a military commission? If Peace actually exists, then Chief Justice Chase is right in refusing to hold his Court under a canopy of bayonets.

WHAT STARVATION MR. DAVIS ENDURES.

The dispatch from Fortress Monroe, giving the regular bill of fare furnished for Jefferson Davis, is perhaps the best possible answer to the nonsense of the Copperhead Press about his dreadful sufferings. Here, for instance, is his Sunday "starvation": Breakfast—Veal cutlets, poached eggs, (two) wheat and corn bread, butter, sugar, milk, and coffee. Dinner—Breaded chickens, stewed oysters, potatoes, onions, bread, butter, coffee, sugar and milk.

REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT CHATTANOOGA.

Reports have been received at Chattanooga of the murder at Resaca, Ga., of a Union man named Willis, on his way home from church with his wife. Six men, armed with guns, suddenly appeared on the roadside and ordered him to halt. One villain leveled his gun, when Mrs. Willis caught the assassin's hand and the ball passed over Mr. Willis' head. The rest immediately fired, all the shots taking effect, killing Willis at once. After cursing and abusing his wife, the murderers fled.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 24, 1866. SENATE. The Senate directed a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of National Banks throughout the country. The West Point bill was discussed, but not reached. The Reconstruction resolution was taken up. Senator Stewart of Nevada made a speech, reciting his objections to the President's plan, and contending that universal amnesty and universal suffrage formed the only plan of reconstruction. The people should be trusted. The ballot was necessary to the self-protection of the blacks. He would chain the disloyal whites to the ballots of the loyal blacks. Mr. Johnson moved to strike out the third section, disfranchising the Rebels, when the further consideration was postponed. Mr. Sherman offered an amendment to the Reconstruction Committee's report. Mr. Wilson's resolution, appointing a historian of the War, was considered, and referred to the Military Committee, when the Senate adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA AND ERIE RAILROAD.

This great line traverses the Northern and Northwest counties of Pennsylvania to the city of Philadelphia. It has been leased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and is operated by them. Time of Passenger trains as follows: Erie Mail Train, 6:55 P. M. Erie Express Train, 12:15 P. M. Erie Mail Train, 6:15 A. M. Erie Express Train, 12:15 P. M. Erie Mail Train, 6:15 A. M. Erie Express Train, 12:15 P. M.

IMPORTANT TO BUTTER MAKERS.

The undersigned are now fully prepared to furnish a superior quality and pattern at the following rates: Machine suitable for dairies of from 3 to 10 cows, \$125.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 10 to 25 cows, \$175.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 25 to 50 cows, \$225.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 50 to 100 cows, \$275.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 100 to 200 cows, \$325.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 200 to 300 cows, \$375.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 300 to 400 cows, \$425.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 400 to 500 cows, \$475.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 500 to 600 cows, \$525.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 600 to 700 cows, \$575.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 700 to 800 cows, \$625.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 800 to 900 cows, \$675.00. Machine suitable for dairies of from 900 to 1000 cows, \$725.00.

But it is objected, that by the plan of the Committee on Reconstruction, the adjustment of the question is virtually postponed until the 4th of July 1870, because by one of the proposed constitutional amendments, those who voluntarily adhered to the late insurrection, giving aid and comfort, shall be excluded from the right to vote for members of Congress and Presidential Electors, until that date, which it is alleged will effect nearly the whole population of the South, thereby preventing, in place of removing, the present trouble. We cannot think so. It is the very way to arrest agitation. In the first place, to allow unpunished rebels to return to their civil rights, will vex into severe censures, if not provoking agitation, two-thirds of the nation; and, in the next place, the restored rebels will be so insolent and overbearing in assumptions and demands, that the country will be driven into new commotion. The present conduct of the rebels places this beyond doubt. While on the other hand, the denial of political rights for a few years, will tend to bring sober reflections to the turbulent spirits of the South, and it will be in conformity with the wishes of the loyal people of the entire country. Then whose fault is it, if by this disfranchisement, many of the southern districts can send no Congressmen? Their people committed the most flagrant crimes, and is it wrong to punish them for this? And is the punishment, in all conscience, not mild enough? Again, is the Examiner not greatly mistaken in the supposition that this denial of franchises for four years, will exasperate and tend to alienate the rebels from the Union? Surely, no people can display more bitter and deep-seated hostility to an enemy than the southern people have exhibited towards us and the Union, ever since the close of the rebellion; and that which is more account in this argument, is the fact, that this feeling, has been intensified since the President's policy of forgiving all, and bringing all back with honors, has been developed. This is inferentially admitted by the Examiner, when it asserts "that the feeling of the South proves that unconditional restoration would be attended with too many risks."

THE RECONSTRUCTION RESOLUTIONS.

The Reconstruction Resolutions, are being discussed by the Senate, but a final vote upon them will hardly be reached within a week. No doubt the responses of the Cabinet officers on Wednesday evening last, to Mr. First Assistant Post-Master General Randall's Serenades, is regarded here as exhibiting a disposition on the part of the President and his special friends to come down from the high position upon which they have been perched. The almost unanimous rejection of "my policy" by the party who elected Andrew Johnson, may gradually bring him to his senses.

SECRETARY STANTON DID NOT, EITHER IN CABINET MEETING OR ANY WHERE ELSE, GIVE HIS ASSENT TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME OF RECONSTRUCTION.

The report to that effect was prepared in the Executive Chamber and sent to 'the Associated Press.' This report was followed by another from the same quarter, stating if the Secretary was not there consenting, it was due to himself and the public to come out and say so. It was simply a trick to draw him into a position where he could be charged with "denouncing the President." It did not succeed. What next?

ON THE NIGHT OF THE 23d, THREE MEN ENTERED THE HOUSE OF MR. LEVI HARBOUR.

about three miles south of New-Berlin, Sangamon County, Ill., and, after binding him, his wife and son, who were asleep at the time of the entrance, robbed the house of \$750 in gold, about \$80 in silver, and \$1,020 in greenbacks and devalued, leaving the occupants of the house bound. They remained in that condition until released by the neighbors next morning.

GOV. BROWN WROTE TO THE NASHVILLE PRESS.

that the people throughout East Tennessee, with the exception of a few localities, are quiet and peaceable. In some cases discharged Union soldiers have been killed by bushwhackers, who are believed to be returned rebel soldiers. Former reports of the persecution of loyal rebels by Union men have been sent to Washington, and persons have been sent by the Government to ascertain the facts. Among these commissioners is Gen. Granger. The Governor says nine-tenths of the people are for the Franchise law, and will see that it is carried out.

A NEW COIN.—MR. KASSON'S BILL.

which has just passed both Houses, provides for a new five-cent coin, which shall weigh five grammes of the metric system. Three of them will weigh about half an ounce, or the weight of one single letter. It will also serve for weights at apothecaries and elsewhere.