

Bradford Reporter.

Towanda, Thursday, Jan. 17, 1867.

RECONSTRUCTION.

It appears that some of the more intelligent and reasonable of the rebels in the Southern States, are doing their utmost to have their respective states adopt the Constitutional Amendments, urging that if these amendments are not speedily sanctioned, harder conditions will be imposed by Congress; and there is apparent good reason for these fears.

Mr. Durand, and a large number of other loyal citizens of the rebel states, have lately petitioned Congress on this subject, taking strong grounds against reconstruction on the basis of the amendments, alleging, that if the rebel states are so admitted, the loyal union men in them will be entirely powerless, and at the mercy of the rebels, as they are now, and they demonstrate this very clearly.

This memorial has had great influence, as it should have, on the majority in Congress. Besides this, the persecutions of the loyalists in the rebel states, especially the blacks, has a strong tendency the same way.

In a debate lately held in Congress, Mr. Stevens read and extract from the Loyal Georgian newspaper of the 8th of December, showing that at the late Equal Rights Convention held in Macon, the delegate representing fifty counties, reported an hundred and fifty murders within the last two months, and in no instance did the civil authorities attempt to bring the murderers to justice.

And in consequence of the attempted revival of slavery in Maryland, Kentucky and Florida, the lower House of Congress has directed its Judiciary Committee to inquire whether slaves are still sold in the Southern States. The Constitutional Amendment abolishing slavery permits it in cases of conviction for crime, and in the States above named this has been done for trifling acts of misdemeanor, tramped up for the express purpose of selling the adjudged offenders into slavery.

Senator Sherman expresses the belief that Congress will not interfere with the currency law. Every Agricultural society in the United States, with a single exception, has requested the removal of Commissioner Newton.

A man near Whitesville, York county, became angry with his life, last week, and attempted to put her in the fire and burn her. He escaped and has not been arrested.

Miss Marcella Simmons, a young girl, started to go home from a milliner shop, in Hawley, Wayne county, a few evenings ago, and has not been seen or heard from since by her friends.

A betrayed (Rochester, N. Y.) woman attempted to kill her seducer in Meadville, Pa., on Friday last. She shot him three times, and each time missed him.

From Harrisburg.

Special Correspondence of THE BRADFORD REPORTER.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 14, 1867. To fully realize the true state of affairs of the capital, your readers would have to visit our city and keep an eye on events as they transpire. It is not in the power of a correspondent to fully portray the "writings in and wrings out" of the politicians.

This we suppose to be a moderate specimen of the mockery of justice that is taking place every where in the Southern States, in cases in which the negro is a party. This occurred in Virginia, the nearest of the border States; and the further South we go the more likely are we to meet with atrocities upon the negro, sanctioned by public opinion, and not condemned by the courts of law.

The black man is not yet secure in his rights, nor does he receive equal justice with the white man before the constituted tribunals of the Southern States. The Civil Rights Bill is a dead letter, unless Congress shall contrive some judicial machinery by which it may be enforced.

Even in Maryland, blacks have lately been sold into slavery by the sheriff, as a punishment for what the court has pronounced a crime; and in North Carolina they have been whipped by scores under a law, which, whatever be its literal import is never enforced against any but negroes. A military commission, as we all feel, is a dangerous instrument of public justice; but cases like these cannot be tolerated.

Outrages upon the rights of the Freedmen, of whom the nation is the special guardian, must be stopped, even if it be necessary to maintain a district judge and a marshal of the United States in every county of the entire South. If there is anything, whether at home or abroad, to which the whole power of the Government is especially pledged, it is to making effective the abolition of slavery, and establishing everywhere throughout the land the civil rights of the negro.

Since the decision of the Supreme Court the Military Commissions in the Southern States, instituted to protect the loyal whites and blacks, have all been suspended, and the result will be a reign of terror. All the civil authority is in the hands of the rebels, and if a rebel commits an outrage upon a loyalist, he is screened by the authorities; and this will continue so long as loyalty is at a heavy discount in the rebel states.

Up to this time the military occupation of these states, has, in a manner, kept down the resentment of the rebels against the black and white loyalists, because the commanders at the different posts, were ready to order the trial, by Military Commission, of gross offenders who could not be reached in any other way, so that there was a restraint upon those crimes. Now, however, this is all removed, and the fiends of rebellion can glut their vengeance to the full.

But this is not the worst of it. Now that Military Commissions have been declared illegal, a fearful onslaught will be made on the officers who have been identified with them, and especially those who have composed the commissions. These will now be liable to prosecution, and every rebel rascal who has suffered at their hands, will, in all probability, institute proceedings; and especially will this be the case in localities where rebels and rebel sentiments are in the ascendant.

In these places these officers will likely suffer much. And will not rebellion be a nice place for a while, where they can prosecute—and perhaps punish—those who have punished them for outrages upon the loyalists? They can now burn negro meeting houses, school houses, and private houses to their hearts content. They can force yellow girls to submit to their lusts, then kill, or sell them into slavery.

And will Congress suffer this wickedness to go on. We trust not. The loyal men and women of the South, whether white or black, must not be deserted, for one hour, if it is possible to help it. The necessity which forced the military occupation of the rebel states, for the protection of loyalists, is now more urgent than ever, and we trust Congress will immediately provide other means for their aid and security. The District Judges and U. S. Marshals, or some other effective instrumentality, should be instantly called into requisition.

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PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

Thursday, Jan. 10, 1867.

The United States Senate, after the receipt of petitions, took up the bill to fix the time for the regular meetings of Congress. A discussion ensued between Messrs. Williams, Poland, Hendricks and Edmunds. The bill was then passed. The act to amend the organic acts of the territories of the United States and political rights on account of color, was next called up. A substitute, varying somewhat from the House bill, was adopted—yeas 24, nays 9.

The next bill taken up was one to regulate the tenure of office, and it was debated by Messrs. Howe, Edmunds, Beckalew, Williams, Fessenden and Johnson. A motion to strike out the Cabinet officers was disagreed to. Final action on the bill was not reached. Adjourned.

The House of Representatives passed a bill authorizing the Postmaster General to pay the route agents not less than \$900 nor more than \$1200 per annum. The Senate amendments to the bill to fix the time for the regular meeting of Congress, and the bill to regulate the franchise in the territories of the United States, were concurred in. A joint resolution appropriating \$15,000 to pay the expenses of the Retrenchment Committee caused considerable discussion, and was then passed.

The Senate bill for the admission of Nebraska was then called up. After some discussion between Messrs. Garfield, Ashley, Wilson and Dawes, a motion to lay on the table was disagreed to. A call for the previous question was not seconded. A vote on the bill was not taken. Adjourned.

The United States Senate, received a petition from the loyal citizens of Arkansas for the overthrow of the present State government, and the organization of a new one by Congress. The bill to regulate the mode of appointing Pension Agents was called up. An amendment that the term of office of all pension agents shall expire when their successors shall be duly appointed was disagreed to.

Other amendments were offered, but were not acted upon. The bill to regulate the tenure of office next came up. An amendment imposing severe penalties for a violation of the act was adopted. An amendment that all civil officers shall be appointed for four years was disagreed to.

The consideration of the bill was not concluded. The Committee on Naval Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of temporarily closing the Norfolk Navy-yard. The Finance Committee reported a substitute for the House tariff bill. Adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, the Committee on Territories reported a substitute for the North Carolina Reconstruction bill. The private calendar was taken up, and a number of bills were passed. The Agricultural Appropriation bill was considered in Committee of the Whole, but was not finally acted upon.

Several petitions for changes in the duties on various articles were presented. Adjourned. Monday, Jan. 11. The Senate—Many petitions and memorials were presented in reference to the tariff question; for increase of pay of the officers; of the army and of certain Government employees; against the contraction of the currency; for the repeal of the law abolishing regimental bands.

The bill to set aside internal revenue proceeds of the Territories for the erection of penitentiaries therein was passed. A bill to extend Government aid by grants of land, for the construction of a railroad in Iowa and Minnesota, was referred. The bill to change the mode of appointing pension agents was disagreed to.

PERSONAL.

John Bell, of Tennessee, is in very precarious health.

Ex-Gov. Pollock has resumed the practice of law in Philadelphia. It is said that George H. Pendleton has declared for the universal suffrage platform of the Chicago Times.

Gen. S. R. Curtis, a commissioner to examine the Union Pacific Railroad, and a distinguished soldier of the war is dead.

Gov. A. J. Hamilton, of Texas, has settled in Harrisburg, and will shortly commence the practice of law.

Edward W. Blackman, of The Scranton (Penn.) Register has accepted the position of associate editor of The Bridgeport (Conn.) Farmer.

The Hon. James Black, of Lancaster, Pa., has undertaken to raise a fund of \$100,000 for the use of the National Temperance Society, and the Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, of New York has subscribed \$10,000 therefor.

Col. A. G. Herndon, one of the early pioneers of Illinois, and father of the Hon. Wm. H. Herndon, law partner of President Lincoln, died at Springfield on January 3, aged 70.

The Rebel Gen. Sterling Price has returned from Mexico, and passed through New Orleans the 4th inst., on his way to St. Louis.

Hon. Lewis D. Campbell arrived at New Orleans Sunday evening. Lieut. Gen. Sherman had an interview with Gov. Wells Monday, and left the same evening for St. Louis.

Gen. James Watson Webb, United States Minister to Brazil, was seriously ill at Petropolis near Rio Janeiro, on Nov. 25th.

Hon. Lewis Barker, the Republican orator, has just been elected Speaker of the Maine Assembly.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court of the United States Monday pronounced the test-oath of Missouri, and the test-oath prescribed by Congress for attorneys who, having taken part in the rebellion, ask to be re-admitted to practice, unconstitutional.

As, however, the four judges, including Chief Justice Chase, who dissented from the recent decision in the Indiana case, also dissented from the decision delivered yesterday, it is evident that we are suffering from a new Dred Scott experience, and that partisan views, rather than respect for fundamental principles of law and justice, regulate the action of the court on questions connected with reconstruction.

INAUGURATION OF GOV. GEARY.—Gov. Geary was inaugurated as Governor of this State, on Tuesday last. The display of military, &c., was very large. We have the inaugural of the new Governor, which we shall publish next week. It is long and ably written, and treats upon public questions in a plain and fearless manner.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE.—A valuable and well established Real Estate, on Main St., Towanda, Pa., of G. D. MONTAGNE. For particulars, apply to G. D. MONTAGNE, Jan. 10, 1867.

HARTMAN'S SAFETY BRIDLE AND LINES. Patented November 7, 1865. This most low and valuable invention, for the control of horses, is entirely new, and is a most valuable article for all who drive horses. It is a most valuable article for all who drive horses. It is a most valuable article for all who drive horses.

NEW FISH AND OYSTER DEPOT. BRIDGE STREET TOWANDA, PA. C. M. & O. D. GOODENOUGH, Props. H. Wells, Families, Saloons, &c., supplied with fresh and salt water Fish, including Trout, Oysters, Clams, &c., cheaper than any other place in the country.

ERIE RAILWAY. On and after Monday Nov. 19th, 1866, the Erie Railway, West of and about the following hours, viz: 5:29 a. m., Night Express, Mondays excepted, for Rochester, Buffalo, Salamanca and Dunkirk, making direct connections with trains of the Atlantic and Great Western, Lake Erie and Grand Trunk Railways, for all points West, except Elmira for Canandaigua.

MISCELLANEOUS. SUSQUEHANNA COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE. TOWANDA, BRADFORD CO., PA. JOHN D. HEWITT, A. B., Professor of Mathematics, Mental and Natural Sciences.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS. My Goodrich Seedling Potatoes, grown from the original stock, and hence all true to name, are now ready for delivery to those who have already ordered, or to those who may wish to order. They are guaranteed to be of the best quality, and to produce a large crop.

READING RAIL ROAD.—WIN THE ARRANGEMENT. Dec. 1, 1866. GREAT TRUNK LINE FROM THE NORTH AND NORTH WEST, via Philadelphia, New York, and Reading. Potomac, Annapolis, Alexandria, Baltimore, Washington, New York, and Philadelphia.

MISS GRIFFIN, has returned from New York with a fine assortment of Fall and Winter Millinery Goods, consisting in part of Hats, Bonnets, Shawls, Ribbons, and Frames, Laces, Velvets, and in fact every article required in the Millinery trade. She has also returned with a large quantity of Bonnets ever exhibited in her shop. Call and see.

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers for sale his farm in Wyalusing, Pa., consisting of 73 acres, of which 68 is improved, and has upon it a new house, large barn, with shed, and a well, and 100 young fruit trees, 114 well watered and well fenced, and situated in the midst of a good neighborhood, with churches and schools, and houses convenient. The farm will be sold at a great bargain, and on liberal terms. For particulars, apply to the subscriber, or to G. E. VAUGHAN, Wyalusing, Jan. 1, 1867.—3m

CAUTION.—Whereas my wife Ruth J. Mason has left my bed and board, without my consent, or the consent of my attorney, and subdial all persons harboring or trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting after this date, I hereby certify. T. B. MARRIOTT, LeRoy, Dec. 27, 1866.