

## DAVIS—CAMERON.

To THE EDITOR OF THE MONTROSE DEMOCRAT.—Sir:—Having sent a communication to the Independent Republican, signed "People," with a request to the Editor to publish it, if he thought proper, and he thinking proper, published it over my signature, as I believe against all rules, observed by editors; and by such use of my name subjected me to violent, low, and abusive attacks, by F. T. Cameron, through the Republican, I caused and he, (the editor,) promised me the right to reply through his paper, which he now refuses; and obliging to disburse the public with regard to the matter, I would be gratified if you would give this communication publicity through your paper.

To THE EDITOR OF THE REPUBLICAN.—Sir:—Never having any desire for notoriety, I must ask you to explain in a note to this communication, why the former article I sent you was published over my signature; and in justice to me, I think you will do so.

In that article, speaking of increased salaries, I said "our Member," (meaning Cameron,) "used his influence to procure the increase." This, Cameron pronounced unqualifiedly false; well, if that should prove to be false, it will be bad for me; but if it should appear to be the truth, then it will not look quite so well for the E. R. Co.'s agent, as if he had been a little more modest. I am somewhat like the Englishman who used to attend the French debating club. A friend asked him what satisfaction it was to him to attend the club, when he could not understand a word of French. Oh, said he, I can easily tell who gets beat. How? said his friend. Why, says he, the one that gets mad first is the one that's beaten. Now I think if the Hon. Member had not shown his temper quite so quick, it would probably have been quite as well. But whatever course the gentleman may take, I shall try to control my temper, for I believe that "he that controlleth his spirit," is at least equal to the person who aided in the passage of Senate Bill No. 57, of the session of 1866.

But, to the point in controversy. It is well known to Cameron that I introduced into our nominating convention of 1865, the resolution condemning the action of the legislature of 1865, increasing their compensation as members, and also the increase of Judges' salaries, &c. Last January I was in Harrisburg, and Cameron had a long talk with me in regard to continuing the increase for another year; he using every argument that I supposed him capable of using, to persuade me that the increase was just, and failing to satisfy me either of the justice or propriety of the act. He said "do you suppose the people of Susquehanna county are so d—d penurious as to ask their Representative not to vote himself a reasonable compensation for his services?" I replied, we might think four hundred dollars a month a little unreasonable. A few weeks after this I wrote to him saying that I had talked with several persons who had some prominence in the Republican party, and that if he favored the increase of salaries, it would probably be made a test in the next nominating convention. Soon after this, being in Montrose, J. H. McCain, Register and Recorder, said to me, "you have changed your ground, I hear, and now favor an increase of salaries." I replied, "that's not so;" and inquired for his authority. Why, said he, "I saw the statement over Cameron's signature." Under date of March 9th, '66, I received a letter from Cameron, from which I quote: After referring to your (Davis') letter, he says: "said letter advised the raising of salaries, and fees of officers, &c.; since then I have received petitions, and letters from leading citizens, advising the same thing. This has been done—a law having passed this House this week, a supplement to the law of '65, extending the time for one year. Susquehanna having been left out last year, comes in this. Hoping that it may prove satisfactory to all of the people of Susquehanna county, I remain, &c. Now I challenge Cameron to produce any letter from me advising any such thing; and if any person or persons in the county have so advised him, he should let their names be known, so that the people may pass upon them if they ever have an opportunity. Now, without making any argument here, let me examine his vote. When the general appropriation bill was under consideration and it became apparent that the increase of compensation of members would be continued at some rate more or less, the 27th section then providing that the extra allowance be five hundred dollars, Mr. Pershing moved to strike out \$500 and insert \$300, (Leg. Rec., page 636,) and on this motion, Cameron boasts that he was second among the nays! Is not this in perfect keeping with his conversation and letters? Now don't let him dodge; he did not vote on this motion not to insert \$300, but he voted not to strike out \$500. That was already in the bill! When Mr. Pennypacker's name was called he said, "I vote aye, because I am opposed to the increase of salaries above the sum of \$700. Cannot the people see by this, (Cameron's own showing,) that he not only voted for \$500 extra pay, but that he voted against making it \$300 instead of \$500. Then on the final passage of the bill, (page 695,) where is Cameron then? Then again, on the report of the conference committee on the disagreement between the two houses, on the same bill,

where is Cameron then "voting and using his influence?" Not a voice raised, or a vote recorded against it, although it could not probably be called anything but a bundle of iniquities; one beautiful feature fixing the salaries of judges at \$3,500 per year, or about \$900 per month for what time they devote on the bench.

Now, how does this look? He argues with me for hours in favor of the increase of salaries, failed to convince me of its justice, or that the people would sanction it. He wonders if I "think they are so d—d penurious?" Then he writes that I am in favor of the increase, (which is not true); then that the bill has passed, and "hoping that it may prove satisfactory to all," &c. Then his vote not to strike out \$500 on Pershing's motion; his silence on the final passage of the bill; and his silence on the conference committee's report. Altogether, does it not prove the truth of the declaration "that he used his influence to procure the increase," say more, that he also voted for it, notwithstanding his bombastic charges of falsehood.

And here I would leave this matter, if Cameron had not thought proper to introduce himself as the private legislator of John Tewksbury. He says "the reason for this false attack on me, is because I would not lend myself to Davis and defeat the Auburn township bill, defrauding John Tewksbury of the money he had paid," &c.; "and aid him in repudiating the bonds for bounty purposes," &c. I am not sorry that Cameron thought best to throw the rotten mantle of John Tewksbury over his shoulders to hide his nakedness, for I think it very becoming, and if his carcass does not smoke with corruption before he gets from under it, I shall be mistaken.

In March '64, the School Directors of Auburn township, (John Tewksbury being chief fugleman,) levied a bounty tax of ten cents on the dollar of valuation, of all property assessed in said township, and in June of the same year, I think they levied four per cent. more, making fourteen per cent., or within a fraction of one-seventh of the entire valuation of the property in the township, in one year.—This seeming oppressive, or rather not deeming ourselves rebels, and rather questioning the authority of the directors to confiscate our property, a number of citizens applied to the court for an injunction, filed a bill in equity, and an examiner was appointed, and some evidence has been taken—some of which I shall refer to. Before the bill in equity was filed, Tewksbury claimed to have paid, (in township bonds, or otherwise,) forty-two volunteers—\$350 each—and thirty-five volunteers, \$450 each, making a total of—29,579.—In affidavit, in answer to the bill, he says: "any amount paid, or agreed to be paid to such volunteers in excess of \$300, was raised, or to be raised, by subscriptions by the citizens of said township; that they, (the school directors,) have not raised by tax, and do not propose to raise by tax, a sum exceeding \$300 for each volunteer," &c., and that they, "have not issued bonds to the amount of \$15,075, as charged," &c.; but, that they did issue bonds to the amount of about \$8,000. Tewksbury swore to this, and I want you to stick a pin here. The bounty law provides that the money so borrowed, shall be paid over to the township treasurers, if there be such a person, (P. L. Sessions '64, page 89,) and we had such an officer; but in violation of the law in this case, the money went into the hands of John Tewksbury, he being one of the school directors. So you see they had the game all in their own hands, and when the township Auditors settled with him, August 22, '65, they report in his hands \$17,287 30. As to the amount of bonds issued, the Secretary of the School Board, (S. A. Clink,) swears before the Examiner, that the bonds were made out blank as to amount, and name to whom issued, signed by the Directors and placed in the hands of Tewksbury, and that he never saw them since, and don't know for what amount, or to whom they were issued.—Tewksbury, when inquired of by the Auditors about the amount, declared that he did not know, and that he had no means of knowing the amount of the bonds issued, or the amount of the township indebtedness. This same Tewksbury had a son in the army as a Commissioned Surgeon—went I think in '64. We had him before the Examiner; he said he went in the army as a Commissioned Surgeon, and after he had been there about a month his father wrote him to send up his muster-roll and he would get him a bounty. He sent it, and in about a month he received a township bond for \$425. Was not this pretty cool? when the law says the bounty shall be paid only to privates who are enlisted and accredited, &c.

We have also proved that two of the volunteers received only \$300 each, while the smallest sum he now claims to have paid any one is \$350, and persistently refuses to inform us of the residence or name of any of the volunteers that we do not know; and this taken in connection with the fact, that in the office, at Scranton, the men were credited by number and not by name, and you will see the impossibility of following up his track in this matter. Besides this, the first thirty-one men were offered to be furnished for \$300 each, and could easily have been furnished for that sum. Of the six directors

who engaged in this business, four were liable to a draft, one had two sons liable, and the other, (Tewksbury,) had three sons and one son-in-law liable, and when one of his sons wanted to enlist, he said he would give him \$1,000 rather than let him go. Who have doubts but what they were moved to raise bounties by purely patriotic motives?

Men whose sons were in the army, and that too without bounties, and men who paid commutation are taxed to the verge of ruin, to secure the directors' and their sons from a duty they owed to their government, and men who only ask that the monies shall be properly guarded, and legally expended and accounted for, are charged with disloyalty, and every coarse epithet, that dishonesty and malice can invent, is heaped upon them. We ask that the money be paid as the law provides, "into the hands of the township treasurer," and be drawn therefrom by proper orders, and settled for, with the proper officers, and that will avoid the probability of fraud; that the taxes shall be levied and collected according to the law as it existed at the time said debts were created; and we protest against any amendment, called law, which allows an irresponsible body of men, like school-directors, who are not even required to act under the restraints of an official oath, to create a debt of the magnitude of \$30,000 or \$40,000 in one township, levy and collect the same, disburse it as they please, having one of their number for treasurer, settling their own accounts, and that settlement to be evidence of its own correctness. And here I give the words of the act passed last winter through the agency of this beautiful Representative, Cameron.

"That all county taxes levied by the school directors of Auburn township, in Susquehanna county, to pay volunteers, a sum not exceeding \$425 each, and to repay money loaned to pay any volunteers who have heretofore enlisted and been credited in the quota of said township, are hereby legalized, and the settlement by said directors of the account of the treasurer of said fund shall be prima facie evidence of its correctness in all settlements of the same before auditors or otherwise."

Now, if that is not the "most odious of all the unlicked cubs that ever issued from any legislative kennel," then I am no judge. It places in the hands of interested persons an immense power, and removes every barrier to corruption, and invites frauds upon the people. And this act was passed at the solicitation of Mr. Wm. H. Jessup, the paid Attorney of the school directors, without a single petitioner from our township, asking for such a law. And I will here say to John Tewksbury's private Representative:—meet this with something besides a charge of falsehood, (for any blackguard can make that,) and produce the petition it was based upon, or a copy of it, and if you have not got it, ask me for it, and I will furnish you with one you exhibited to me, and that petition asks for no such law. And here let me say that the three first names on that petition are men commonly known as copper-heads, and the name of the sixth, was one who claimed to be an alien, to avoid being enrolled, and swore he was a native in order to vote for McClellan. Two others had been soldiers, and one of them signed a remonstrance as soon as he saw a copy of the act as it passed. I received a copy of the act as it passed the Senate, on the 22d of March, at noon, (not through Cameron's agency,) and the next day I started for Harrisburg, to arrest, if possible, such corrupt legislation. The next day I laid these facts all before Cameron, (Osterhout not being there,) and he promised me that he would on Monday object that bill off the files, and also Senate Bill No. 576, against which he had already received several remonstrances, and wait until I had time to go home and send a remonstrance to him, and that a remonstrance against bill No. 577, would be considered as a remonstrance against bill No. 576 also, they being so nearly allied together. Now mark the candor of the man. On the next day he wrote me that he was in receipt of documents that satisfied him that both the bills in question ought to pass, and he should consequently let them pass without objection.

Now there is one thing I would like very much, but I do not expect to be gratified, and that is this: I would like to see the back of those documents, for I have a strong suspicion that they are shaded green.

Well, I drew up a remonstrance to the Auburn bill, and it was circulated until I sent to Cameron two hundred and eighty names of citizens of Auburn township, remonstrating against the bill. Sixty of them were soldiers, or men who had sons in the army. And at the same time, with the remonstrance was carried, a petition, (so that there could be no misunderstanding,) praying the legislature to pass a law providing "that all bounty debts created and all bonds issued to raise money for bounty purposes shall be paid by taxes levied, assessed, disbursed and settled for in accordance with the law as it existed at the time such bounty debts were created and not authorized." Does this look like repudiating the township bonds?

does this look like defrauding John Tewksbury; out upon such low bar-room slang from a Representative.

And when our remonstrance and petition got to Harrisburg, how are we met? (The petition was sent to Landon, our Senator, and had also 280 names to it.)—Why, says Cameron, you are disloyal!—Now upon the remonstrance and petition that I sent, there was not one man who wanted to get his hand into his neighbors pocket to screen him from any liability he owed his government; not one who offered his son \$1,000 not to enlist in the army; not one who was lending the directors money at thirteen per cent., to screen his sons from the draft; not one who had two sons liable, who did not go and two brothers in the Canadian army; not one who said he was the friend of Jeff Davis till he was caught in petticoats. But there were soldiers who fell wounded at Fredericksburgh, at South Mountain, at Gettysburg, in the Wilderness, and in the trenches before Petersburg; and they are the men whom Cameron calls disloyal. We hurl back, with scorn, the coarse epithet as being the contemptible emanation of a brainless mind. Now look at this whole matter. In '64, the directors levied over \$17,000 of taxes, and they received donations by tens, by fifties, and by hundreds of dollars, from men who were liable to the draft and willing to pay; they have since levied about \$11,000 more, making something over \$28,000, besides the unaccounted donations, which Tewksbury swears was, or was to be, \$6,475—altogether, making in round numbers \$34,500, while he swears the bonds were only about \$8,000, or less than a quarter of the amount already within their control, and about \$5000 more than the whole sum ever claimed to have been paid for volunteers. Where then is the effort to "defraud John Tewksbury," or the "repudiation of the township bonds."

Let me here give the worthy Representative a gentle hint. Ansel Gay and myself were delegates in the nominating convention of '65, and did not vote for the nomination of Cameron, and Gary and myself, headed the remonstrance against the Auburn bill; perhaps that had something to do with the passage of the act.

I understand that Auburn is not the only township that has reason to complain of its unjust legislation. If that be so, now is the time to speak so as to be heard, and heeded. One word more with regard to the wording of the Auburn bill. You will observe that "private" is left out, and "any volunteer," now stands as the law for Auburn. Was this for the purpose of including the pin-feathered Doctor? I only ask the question, Cameron can probably answer.

Now, in conclusion, I will say that the Auburn bill was passed against the remonstrance of as firm, true and active Republicans as there are in Auburn, and that all we ask is an honest, legal accountability for the money drawn from us by taxation, with no special favoritism to any one; and when our request is so reasonable and just, and we are met only by charges of falsehood, disloyalty, attempts to defraud, and repudiation, we say to the author of them, that such charges will recoil on him with ten fold violence; that he has fixed a "great gulph" between us and him, and that he will cry in vain to us for "water to cool his parching tongue."

I am now done with this agent of the E. R. Co., and private Representative of John Tewksbury, until we meet at the polls on the 2d Tuesday in October, when I will try and present him with a silent remonstrance that he may possibly hear and understand. Let us admonish him then and there, that when his hand went into the public treasury to draw forth his ill-gotten gains, it came out red with the blood of the people, and that the mark is as ineffaceable as the marks of Cain, and that no human ingenuity can hide the stain.

Let me say also to Cameron, that I have repeatedly offered to give Tewksbury \$3,000 for what he will make by the operation of the Auburn bill, if the courts will sustain it as law; and it may cost a little more of that sum to elect him than it did to procure his renomination.

When will the people awake! Formerly Representatives served for \$300 per session; now they must have \$1,200. Then judges served for \$2,000 per year, now they have \$3,500. Why should office-holders be relieved from the burdens incident to a great national debt, and all be thrown on the people? How long will the people vote for the men who even wink at such legislation? The legislature of '65, passed general laws covering sixty-five pamphlet pages, fly sheet and all, and for that voted themselves \$180,000, or nearly \$3,000 per page. Last session they voted themselves \$196,000, and gave us six pages less, and eighteen pages of that appropriating the people's money. The balance of their labor was local or private legislation, for which they are supposed to get pay in advance, unless prevented by their modesty, or conscientious scruples.

R. S. Davis.  
Auburn, August 30th, 1866.  
—Fred. Douglass is a delegate from New York to the "Loyal Southern" Convention.

## How Goes the Battle.

We are often asked, says the Clinton Democrat, what is the prospect of a Democratic triumph this fall in Pennsylvania? We answer, Clymer's success is sure. In 1864 Gen. McClellan received 276,000 votes. Against all the power, threats, terror and corruption of the National Administration, the Democracy polled two hundred and seventy-six thousand votes. This was certainly a majority of from 40,000 to 50,000 of the legal votes of the State, but the Radicals manufactured an army vote sufficient to make a majority 20,000 for them. Be it remembered, that the Democracy had not the power, even if they had the will, to bribe a considerable number of voters, or to poll an illegal vote. The radicals had the will, the power, the patronage and the people's money to bribe to what extent they could, and also to make up a fictitious vote as large as they wanted or needed. They used their advantages, fair and foul. They have none of these now.

The National Administration is against them now, and so far as its proper influence goes is for us. There have been no desertions from us since then. In our opinion our success is therefore sure—our advice is, work like beavers to make our majority as potential as possible—one that will crush radicalism to the earth; so effectually destroy its life that none will do reverence more.

Conservative Republicans are coming to us every day by hundreds. The government bondholders plainly see that such is the radicals in Congress, that if they are continued in power they will increase the national indebtedness to such an extent that the people will be absolutely unable to pay the interest. In self protection therefore this body is compelled to come to the Democracy.

The agricultural, mechanical and laboring interests are also beginning to see that longer radical power is sure to drive them into bankruptcy if not absolute distress for the very means of life.

Everybody must also see that the results of this very same radical power are filling the land with crime. Hunger and want ever bring murder, arson, robbery, theft and cheating, and all these are inevitably brought on by extraordinary prices of the simple necessities of life; clothing, food and shelter. There is no escape from the most calamities of these except through the success of the Democracy.

In candidates for Governor we have an immense advantage. Clymer, of the firm old Pennsylvania stock of Germans, in whose veins runs the blood of the Melenbergs, the Clymers, and the Hiesters of Berks, is a statesman of rare and acknowledged ability, integrity and experience—accessible to all, obsequious to none, a noble patriot and a true-hearted man.—Geary is a stuttering, vain, pompous upstart, who commenced life in the sink of corruption, the Alleghany Portage railroad, where he held office many years.—We believe he has never had other occupation than a holder of petty office, until he was promoted in the military, not for any brilliant exploits on the field, for he never performed any, but because of his abject sentiments regarding the negro.—He has no experience as a statesman, no marked ability for anything, and there is not a town in the State that does not contain many voters at least as fit as he for Governor. Whatever of personal integrity he may possess, he has no established public reputation regarding it. He was Governor of Kansas a short time and "made a fool of it." So he would (to a greater degree) in Pennsylvania, were he elected Governor.

Thousands of honest Republicans will not sustain the Radicals for other reasons. Among these men are those who want peace since the war is over, who want great and decided retrenchment in national expenditures, the speedy payment of the national debt, and consequent relief from taxation, &c. Most important, perhaps, in point of numbers, are those who are sick and tired of negro issues, of sustaining at the public expense herds of lazy, idle negroes by means of Negro Bureau, &c., with their swarms of officers and attendants—those who are opposed to negro suffrage, negro equality, to negroes having any connection with our government, and to negro companionship in any of the duties and responsibilities of the white man's life. These must all come to the Democracy for relief, and this fact they begin rapidly to appreciate.

We might assign a thousand other reasons why the success of the Democracy this fall is sure. The one at the beginning of this article is amply sufficient. Either of the others, unaided, would be sufficient. All combined most overwhelm every doubt. Every movement the radical leaders make shows their desperation. So completely are their hopes wasted and fled, that were it not for their Congressmen and legislators they would not make a respectable effort.

WE SAY TO THE DEMOCRACY  
ALL IS SAFE, BUT BE NOT IDLE.  
It is in the very moment of stupendous and overwhelming triumph that the victorious general is most vigilant, and strikes his most rapid and powerful blows, in order that it may be impossible for his enemy to rally or recover, or thereafter to muster again to battle. So should you do.

Every interest of your country and every interest of patriotism demands it. On to the battle and the triumph.

## Elections of 1866, Past and to Come.

Those who have paid much attention, says the Cincinnati Enquirer, to the ebb and flow of public sentiment, as exhibited in popular elections, have always remarked the affinity between the different States and observed that the first results in the beginning of a year are generally indications of those that are to come.—Ever since 1840 this peculiarity has been the distinguishing feature of our political campaigns. In fact, the elections that commence badly for a party keep growing worse and progress in that direction to the end of the year, in a sort of geometrical progression.

It is in view of this fact that we have everything to encourage us in the aspect of the times. The first important election was in Connecticut. The Radicals there, from having a majority of 10,000, were cut down to 600, and it was only by the most tremendous exertion that they were saved from utter defeat.

Then came Oregon and Nebraska, where there were the closest contests, and in each of which the Radical majority was reduced almost to zero. Kentucky was next on the list. In 1865 she was about a tie between the parties, but this year she goes 40,000 Democratic. This glorious result was responded to by a Democratic triumph in the distant territory of Colorado, and Idaho whose settlers have recently met there from all the States.

Democrats may rest assured that it is no accident that causes these series of Democratic victories and gains. Neither is it owing to local causes, for they would not be likely to happen in so many and different parts of the country. They are caused by a wide-spread disaffection with the course of the Radical majority in Congress. This disaffection will be more strongly marked and developed in the elections yet to come off. In all the great States the Radicals will lose in the same, if not greater ratio, than they have in Connecticut, Oregon, Nebraska, Colorado and Kentucky. In all of them they will be beaten. The hand-writing is on the wall. The people of Kentucky and Colorado have changed no more than will the men of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania and New York. The Democratic columns, assisted by its conservative allies in other parties, is marching relentlessly to victory.

## "Beware of the Dog."

During the past month or two, one of two gift enterprises in Chicago have burst up and swindled the people out of all the money that had been invested in them, whereupon the Chicago papers came out and warned the people not to have anything to do with any of these concerns. Since then another similar "enterprise" has cheated its ticket-holders out of a clean seventy-five thousand dollars.—There is another "enterprise" in Chicago, called the Crosby Art Union Scheme, at some other high sounding name, which promises to give away hundreds of thousands of dollars in presents and do various other big things, which is got up for the express benefit, it is said, of a man who has already failed once during the past year. This grand scheme may do all it promises, but we advise people to keep their money in their pockets and not spend it for any such visionary schemes as that.

GEN. GANTZ.—The Radical papers have made a great splurge over Gantz, a "distinguished Southern Unionist" who signed the call for the bogus Philadelphia Convention of "Southern Loyalists."—This same Gantz was arrested the other day in Baltimore and held to bail on a charge of attempted outrage upon a little girl twelve years old, in that city. The child, it appears, is a sister-in-law of the brute, and was under his protection. She has been sent to her home in Arkansas, under proper protection. This Gantz was a Radical hanger-on at the Capitol and Washington, and stood high with the Radical members of Congress. He is strong for punishing rebels, and is a humanitarian of high moral ideas. As his bail was fixed at only one thousand dollars, it is not likely that the penitentiary will reclaim its own in his person. Washington, Baltimore and Arkansas, will however, in the future, be rid of his disgusting presence.

Of the seven New York dailies five supported the re-election of Lincoln. Six of these now support the restoration policy of President Johnson. If this fact is any indication of public opinion, it is like the handle of a pitcher—all on one side. The Tribune alone, supports Congress, and it supports it for what it means but did not dare to do, rather than for what it did.

A firm in Chicago advertises a grand gift distribution, there being, among other prizes 40 pianos, 20 melodions, 400 gold and silver watches, 1,000 sets of spoons and other portable ware, and places Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, of Lowell Mass, at the head of its list of references. Beware!