

THE MONTROSE DEMOCRAT.

A. J. GERRITSON, Proprietor.

MONTROSE, PA., TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1867.

VOLUME XXIV, NUMBER 14.

For the Democrat.

A History of the Great Struggle in America between Liberty and Despotism.

"The parliament of Great Britain," says Bancroft, "allured by a phantom of absolute authority, made war on human freedom. If it shall succeed in establishing, by force of arms, its boundless authority over America, where shall humanity find an asylum? As the fleets and armies of England went forth to consolidate arbitrary power, the sound of war everywhere else on earth died away. Kings sat still in awe, and nations turned to watch the issue."

Such an issue, after a century of years has passed away, is again unfolding to the view of the nations of the earth; not, indeed, of England again attempting to establish by force of arms her absolute authority over the American colonies, but of Americans "making war on human freedom," and reducing by force of arms, not three millions but ten millions of free born Americans to a state of slavery.

"The bill entitled 'an act for the better regulating the government of Massachusetts Bay,'" says Goodrich, "was a tyrannical act, intending to subvert the whole Constitution and charter of this province, and to take all share of government out of the hands of the people, and vest it in the crown. This war at one stroke undermined the ancient Constitution of the colony, and left the people no share in their own government."

"If parliament was omnipotent," says John Adams in his letters to Dr. Morse, "as a contribution to his 'Annals of the American Revolution,' 'could enact what statutes they pleased, and employ armies and navies to carry them into execution, of what use could our house of representatives be, and what were our religion, liberties and properties worth? If parliament is thus omnipotent we are undone forever in soul, body and estate. They can give us what religion they please, what government they please, and do what they will with our property, persons and consciences. Resistance to the last extremity, at whatever risk, must be made. Each man said, 'I will never live to see such acts of parliament executed in this country.'"

"Standing armies in time of peace to be placed over us! Hutchinson declared that he had no authority over the King's troops—that the military had a separate command. Good God! said the people, is this our situation? Is a military authority already erected over the civil authority? or independent of it? Is a lieutenant-colonel of a regiment commander-in-chief of this province? Is the whole civil authority of the province now to be placed under the command of a lieutenant-colonel of a British regiment? To talk or think of liberty or privileges under a military government, is as idle and absurd as under an ecclesiastical government. Not the battle of Lexington or Bunker's Hill were more important events in American history than the battle in King's street. The town of Boston instituted annual orations upon 'the danger of standing armies in time of peace.' These orations were read by everybody that could read, and scarcely ever with dry eyes. They have now been continued for forty-five years, and I wish they could be collected and printed in volumes for the rising generation."

Have pity and humanity fled from the earth, and left no hearts to feel for, and no eyes to weep over the wrongs of the victims of the same arbitrary power?—And can the people not see what our ancestors saw, that if this arbitrary power can take away one of their rights, it can take away all? That it can give them what religion it pleases? If the bill of Rights, which the South engraven into the Constitution, which has secured to the people "freedom of religion, freedom of speech and of the press, their right to be secure in their persons, houses and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures; their right, when accused of crime, to a speedy and impartial trial by an impartial jury," can be set aside in one of its provisions it can in another, and Congress can make such an establishment of religion as it chooses to make, and uphold it by force of arms.

Members of Parliament declared that "if the people of America oppose the measures of the government that are now sent" after the act was passed "for better regulating the government of Massachusetts Bay," "we will do as was done of old in the time of the ancient Britons. we would burn and set fire to the woods and leave their country open."

The "loyalists" of the North say, "If the people of the South will not submit to the measures we have proposed, we will divide the army into three divisions.—the first to do the killing, the second to carry torches and turpentine to burn down all their houses, and the third to carry line and compass, to divide their lands among their conquerors."

To show that this party have no more authority for their acts than a band of robbers who can murder, plunder and devastate, merely because they have arms in their hands, and can bid defiance to law, we copy an extract from the speaker of

James Wilson, a signer of the declaration of Independence, who was a member of the provincial Convention of Pennsylvania in 1774 and 1775, a member of the Continental Congress, a member of the Convention that framed the Federal Constitution, and of the Pennsylvania Convention that adopted it. He was appointed by President Washington one of the first Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, and was one of the ablest lawyers of his day. These facts are here given that it may be understood from what high authority the principles enunciated in the following speech, entitled "A vindication of the American Colonies," emanated. It was made in the Convention for the province of Pennsylvania, Jan. 1775. He commences by quoting a passage from a speech of the king of Great Britain to Parliament, Nov. 1774. Says the king:

"A most daring spirit of resistance and disobedience still prevails in Massachusetts, and has broken forth in fresh violence of a criminal nature. The most proper and effectual methods have been taken to prevent this mischief; and the parliament may depend upon a firm resolution to withstand every attempt to weaken or impair the supreme authority of parliament over all the dominions of the crown."

"Mr. Chairman, with the greatest deference I submit the following resolution to the mature consideration of this assembly: That the act of the British parliament for altering the charter and constitution of Massachusetts Bay, and therefore the impartial administration of justice in that colony, and for shutting the port of Boston, and for quartering soldiers in the colony, are unconstitutional and void; and can confer no authority upon those who act under color of them.—That the crown cannot, by its prerogative, alter the charter or constitution of the colony; that all attempts to alter the authority of the legislature of that colony, are manifest violations of the rights of that colony, and illegal; that all force employed to carry such unjust and illegal attempts into execution, is force without authority; that it is the right of the British subject to resist such force; that this right is founded both upon the letter and the spirit of the British Constitution."

"To prove at this time that these acts are unconstitutional and void, is I apprehend not necessary; the doctrine has been fully proved on other occasions and has received the concurrent assent of British America. It rests upon plain and indubitable truths. We do not send members to and are not represented in the British parliament. We have parliaments (it is immaterial what name they go by) of our own."

"The government of Great Britain, sir, was never an arbitrary government. Our ancestors were never inconsiderate enough to trust these rights, which God and Nature had given him, unreservedly into the hands of their princes. The Constitution binds the king as much as the meanest subject. The measure of his power, and the limits beyond which he cannot extend it, are circumscribed and regulated by the same authority, and with the same precision, as the measure of the subject's obedience. The law is the common standard of both. The king cannot, by his prerogative, alter the constitution of Massachusetts Bay. It is contrary to express law. The charter and constitution we speak of are confirmed by the only legislative power capable of confirming them, and no other power but that which can ratify, can destroy. All attempts to alter the charter or constitution of that colony, unless by the authority of its own legislature, are violations of its rights, and are illegal. If these attempts are illegal, all force employed to carry them into execution is force employed against law and without authority. Have not British subjects, then, the right to resist such force—force acting without authority—force employed contrary to law—force employed to destroy the very existence of law and of liberty? They have, sir, and this right is secured to them both by the letter and spirit of the British constitution. Such force, instead of being employed to support the constitution and his majesty's government, is employed for the support of oppression and tyranny. Our loyalty consists in obeying our Sovereign according to law. Let those who would require it in any other form know that we call the persons who execute his commands, when contrary to law, disloyal and traitors."

The author of the above speech helped to frame the Constitution, which every Republican holding an office under the government of the United States has sworn to support. That Constitution forbids the carrying out of the Military Reconstruction bill, and the very arguments which this American patriot used against the acts of Parliament which he quoted above, are arguments against obeying that arbitrary act of Congress. He says all the American colonies pronounced these acts of Parliament unconstitutional and void. The acts of Congress, which are an exact copy of the same, are therefore unconstitutional and void. No man is under the least obligation to obey them.

The Boys in Blue.

RADICAL LOVE FOR THE "BRAVE SOLDIERS." The following correspondence of the National Intelligencer explains itself: In a recent issue of the Intelligencer there was a very damaging exposure of the hypocritical love which radicals assume to entertain for "brave soldiers." Quite a large number of soldiers who had served with credit in the army—many of them bearing honorable wounds, had been nominated for various offices in the State of New York. Among them General Curtis was eminently distinguished for gallant services. Every one of these "boys in blue" was rejected by the Senate.

I have no occasion to call your attention to a similar case of radical love for soldiers in connection with the recent Missouri appointments. Of the eight nominations sent to the Senate five had been soldiers. Colonel John M. Glover was one of the first men who sprang to the call in 1861, and remained in the service throughout the war. He was eminently distinguished for bravery and devotion to the Union. Colonel Thomas S. Crittenden, a most meritorious officer, was among the first to gird on the sword. General R. C. Vaughn, an old republican—when republicanism was dangerous in Missouri—rendered good service. Colonel James A. Grierson and Captain G. C. Broadhead were also promptly in arms, and performed good and telling services.

All of these gentlemen—old and tried soldiers, eminently fitted for the positions to which they are nominated—were rejected by the Senate. Add to them the rejection last spring of General Blair, the first man in the valley of the Mississippi who buckled on the sword, and what a pitiful and hypocritical contrast we have between professions and the actions of these "boys in blue" loving radicals! Perhaps "brave soldiers" is a term only applicable to radical soldiers like Butler.

In Missouri, unfortunately, the crop of radical soldiers was very small while the fighting lasted, but since the suppression of the rebellion and the inauguration of plundering and murdering peaceable citizens in Missouri by the present Governor the yield of "gallant radical heroes" has been immense. The claims of similar worthies elsewhere seem now, for the first time, to be recognized.

A MISSOURIAN.

MEMPHIS, TENN., March 25, 1867. With a hope to correct the false impression prevailing at the North that those who had served in the national army were not welcome in the south, the leading citizens and lawyers of this city, irrespective of party, requested and secured the appointment, as United States District Attorney, of Colonel Marland L. Perkins, of the ninth Illinois cavalry, with which regiment he had served for three years with such distinction as to merit and receive the highest encomiums from his commanding officers.

At the expiration of their term of service the regiment, through the active personal influence of Colonel Perkins, were induced to re-enlist as veterans.

This gallant officer was promptly rejected by the Senate, though it was known to the body, or the committee—having it in charge that he was not appointed till the Judge or the District court telegraphed, "Court in session two weeks and no district attorney," and though the former district attorney wrote a letter to the Senate urging his confirmation, and giving, among other reasons that "I think he is a good man and a faithful officer," and "he was a soldier in the army of the Union, and a true one."

The Senate were also informed by the clerk of the court that on the docket of the court, which was to meet in a few days, there were over four hundred cases in which the government was plaintiff, and which had been prepared for trial by Colonel Perkins, and consequently could not be so successfully prosecuted by any one else.

The President then appointed in his stead Major S. L. Warren, who had aided in recruiting the sixth Tennessee cavalry literally under the enemies' guns, and served with it through the most laborious and dangerous scouting duty to the end of the war, and he too, we see, was also temporarily rejected.

The President also appointed Captain Wm. C. Webb, who served with equal distinction in the same regiment, as internal revenue collector of the sixth district of Tennessee, and the telegraph informs us to day that he too is rejected by the Senate which has virtually taken the appointing power from the President, ostensibly for fear he would ignore the claims of the gallant defenders of our flag in the days when it needed defenders.

We are at a loss to know, at this remote point from Washington, what class would be acceptable to the soldier loving Senate.

We have a few radicals or southern loyalists in Tennessee from which an acceptable selection might be made, but unfortunately most of them were so identified with the rebellion that they are unable to take the oath requisite to holding a Federal office.

Old—A stitch in time saves nine.
New—A sewing machine in time will save itself.

Lake Geneva.

I know not if there exists a place richer in souvenirs than Lake Geneva. I am aware that the lovers of antiquity fall into ecstasies over the remains of certain old Greek or Egyptian temples; that sight of the Parthenon or of the Capitol causes great and salutary thoughts to arise; but tell me if the most profound disgust for humanity does not exceed them? The history of the Grecian people recalls a multitude of great actors, but what crimes have soiled the pages! Rome has had her Titus and her Trajans, I know; but, also, how many Neros and Calligulas! Besides, into what places must one go to see these souvenirs of ancient times! The Campagna of Rome has its Pontine marsh, and more of uncultivated than of cultivated fields; Greece, deprived of her flowers and forests, is covered with burning sands; while Egypt, whose history is scarcely known, has her monuments, but not souvenirs. One will perhaps reproach those who are attached to Lake Geneva with being too modern; but they at least recall ideas of patriotism and liberty, and these ideas have also their poetry and their grandeur. These fields are covered with rich harvests; these hillocks with vines and orchards; the villages, situated near each other, are peopled with free and happy citizens; the air which one breathes here, is that which William Tell breathed; these mountains are those of Helvetia, who broke the yoke of Austria; this boat which conveys you is itself under the protection of a great name, that of Winkelried, who plunged the spear of the stranger within his side to make an opening into the enemy's ranks, and to give his own a great example.

The country which you coast along is Vaud, whose motto is "liberty and country," that which is before you is Geneva, who sapped the power of Popes, and knew how to resist all kinds of oppression; happy if in these glorious annals, one often saw tolerance in action than preached in words. Here are Clarendon and Vevay, who owe their celebrity to the most eloquent of writers, (J. J. Rousseau,) Lausanne, whose presses immortalized a multitude of generous thoughts which France adopted, in blaming the rigors of which the great men who produced them were victims. There rises Coppet, where an illustrious family (that of Necker) became extinct; Diodati, where dwelt a philhellenic poet (Lord Byron) before going to seek in Greece a death, which alone would have been sufficient for his renown. Here is the castle which recalls the name of Tronchin, (a celebrated physician); and there is the one in which De Saussure lived. What, then, is wanting to these places to excite the most powerful interest? Do they not present a multitude of contrasts, sources of thoughts that are grave and profound? Feudal remains still rise far in the distance upon this land of liberty; witness Chillon, which was for six years the prison of Francis Bonivard, the defender of Genevaan liberty; Chateaufort, Nyon, and the town of Hermance, which have successively served oppressors and the oppressed. To this contrast drawn from monuments in ruin, is to be added that which results from the difference in the forms of government, and this striking contrast is neither less curious nor less instructive.

What great names these famous shores recall to memory! How many illustrious men have come hither to seek peace! Necker, who, after having been minister, bore up so worthily under his disgrace; Voltaire, the universal genius, who was the friend of a great King without ceasing to preserve his independence and his liberty; John James Rousseau, who immortalized all the places where he was pleased to locate his heroes, those imaginary beings whose calamities draw from us such true tears; Madame de Staël, who wrote with all the force of thought of a man of genius and all the delicacy of a woman of sense; Byron, the sublime poet, and the first of his age; Gibbon, Kemble, and so many others who found upon his hospitable shores that sweet tranquility which fortune refuses to merit or to grandeur! No, the beautiful Lake Geneva has nothing to envy in Lake Como, in the shores of the Minico, in smiling Tivoli; has it not as grand souvenirs, a nature more strong and vigorous, the Jura with its rounded tops, and the Alps, whose brow is covered with eternal snows.

General Mansfield, Adjutant General of Indiana, in his report to the Legislature on the condition of the State militia, says it consists at present of a major general, lieutenant general, quartermaster general, and no private; and he recommends the passage of a militia law that will add some privates to the force.

A crowd broke into a house at Blackstone, Massachusetts, on Friday night, where an alarm of fire had been given, and found the man and woman who occupied it drunk and insensible; and a girl named Catharine Gerraty dead on the bed, her head, arms, and body having been burned to a crisp.

A freedman, from Kentucky, shot Fergus, near Lebanon, Illinois, to obtain possession of a rabbit the boy had killed. The farmers wanted to lynch the negro, but the father of the boy insisted that he should be surrendered to the authorities.

Mexican Customs.

The Abbe Domenech, the Grand Almoner of the Emperor Maximilian, has recently published a book in German, entitled "Two Years in Mexico," which contains the following interesting anecdotes: On one occasion the Emperor called together his Cabinet. On the table was a silver inkstand. Suddenly it vanished. "Where is it?" said the Emperor. No reply.

"Gentlemen," said Maximilian, "I shall now carefully close the windows and curtains of this room. In five minutes, I shall open them again, and must find my inkstand on the table. If it is not there I will have you all arrested."

The room was darkened, and when at the expiration of the five minutes, the room became light, the missing article was on the table.

At another time Maximilian sat at a table which was furnished with silver knives and forks. When the meal was at an end, his Majesty wrapped up the plate in a napkin, with his own hands, and handed it to a German servant, to whom he said, in French, "take care that the Mexican servants do not lay their fingers on these things; or I shall lose them."

Again: A criminal had been sentenced to be garrotted. A priest accompanied him to the scaffold, and gave to the executioner's assistant his broad brimmed hat to hold for a moment. After the delinquent had kissed the crucifix, the priest turned around, but the assistant and the hat had vanished.

A noble Mexican lady once told at court that the previous night some scamps had broken into her house, bound her to the bed, and taken what money she had. "But," said she, "they were true caballeros, since I asked them not to step on my lap dog, and they did not. Yes, there are still well bred people in Mexico."

Irish Wit.

At a seizure of illicit whisky in Ireland, all the "natives" was destroyed with the exception of a small bottle full which was preserved by the officers to be used in evidence against the parties charged. The day of trial at length arrived; the bottle was produced and handed to a witness whose powers of discriminating between the "parliament" and real "mountain dew" were considered unrivaled. After the oath being duly administered, he was ordered by the attorney for the prosecution to take the bottle, taste the liquor, and say if what it contained was "poten." The bottle was raised to his lips, then again raised, and completely emptied of its contents, thus destroying all evidence against the accused, he remarking as he laid it down "Well, your honors, I won't swear it's poten; but, fair, it's a beautiful imitation."

A native of the land of potteen and potatoes, sojourning in a small town in Yorkshire, England, was one evening enjoying himself, with several Englishmen, over a pot of porter. The conversation turned upon the number of taverns in the place that had up the sign of the Bull. Pat boldly asserted that there were five, while the Englishmen maintained there were but four. Wagers were offered and freely accepted by the Hibernian, who was called on to name the five, which he proceeded to do thus: "The Black Bull is one; the Yellow Bull is two; the Red Bull is three; the Blue Bull is four;" when he stopped, scratched his head, and at length said: "And the Dun Cow." "A bull, a bull," shouted the Englishmen, "an Irish Bull!" "Be gorra, thin," says Pat, "if she be a bull that's the fifth, and I'd thank ye, gentlemen, to be after handing me the stikes."

The Impacher Impaching.

Butler "came to grief" on Thursday last in the House of Representatives. The scene was a lively one. An animated "controversy" sprang up between him and Mr. Bingham, in which the former was roughly handled. Butler exhibited his usual brutality. He infamously suggested that "a little starvation in the South" would do the people good, and then twitted Mr. Bingham for having helped to hang Mrs. Surratt, who, according to Butler, was an innocent woman. This acknowledgment was wrung from him in a moment of temper and shows how utterly debased some of our public servants have become: For nearly two years Butler endorsed the action of that military commission, and belonged to the class of men who charged "disloyalty" upon all who thought that Mrs. Surratt had been unjustly condemned. Now when it apparently suits his purpose to tell the truth, he admits that he helped to deceive the nation, turns "States evidence," and meanly "peaches" on his old associates. Nothing better could be expected from Butler.

A Boston minister has been preaching against "tilting hoops." He says he can't shut his eyes to the abomination any longer.

Eighty radical papers in the South are copyrighted by \$500,000 worth of Government advertising.

People are anxious to see if Benjamin was right when he said "the people love to be humbugged."

A Porcine Joke.

A good story is told of a Mr. Sayre, of Lexington, Ky.: Mr. Sayre slips a little, and a good joke is told on him, the better for its truth. Some years since an overseer of one of his farms told him he needed some hogs on his place. Said Mr. Sayre: "Very well, go and buy four or five thouth and pigs right away, and put them on the farm."

The man, accustomed to obey, and that without questioning, asked: "Shall I take the money with me to purchase with?" "No this! They all know me. Tend them here—I'll pay for them, or give you the money to pay when you get them."

The overseer went his way and in two weeks returned, when the following conversation took place: "Well, Mr. Sayre, I can't get that many pigs. I have ridden all over the country, all about, and can buy but between eight and nine hundred."

"Eight or nine hundred what?" "Eight or nine hundred pigs!" "Eight or nine hundred pigth! Who told you to buy that many pigth? Are you a fool!" "You told me to buy them two weeks since. I have tried to do it." "Eight or nine hundred pigth! My God I never told any thuch thing!" "But you did—you told me to go out and buy 4 or 5,000 pigs!" "I didn't do no thuch thing! My God! I told you to go and buy four or five thows and their little pigs, and you have done it I thould say!"

Mr. Sayre had pork to sell next fall.

APPREHEND.—A veteran relates the following.

It happened that a mule driver was engaged in leading an unruly mule for a short distance, which job proved as much as he was able to do, and gave full employment to both of his hands. As he was thus engaged, a newly appointed brigadier rode by near him, in all the consequential radiance of his starlight, when the mule driver halted him as follows: "I say, I wish you would send a couple of men down here to help me manage this mule."

"Do you know what I am, sir?" "Yes," was the reply, "you are General—I believe." "Then why do you not salute me before addressing me?" inquired the brigadier. "I will," replied the worthy M. D., "if you will get off and hold the mule." The brigadier retired in good order.

The First Texas (Federal) cavalry formed a part of the force under General Davidson in his raid to Pascagoula from Baton Rouge. Several orders had been issued against straggling and foraging. One night, after a hard day's march, Colonel Haynes and Major Hoot, of the first Texas, had just got comfortably to bed when a big hog set up a most unearthly squeal in the neighborhood of the camp. The Colonel immediately began to rouse an orderly to send for the officer of the day, when the Major, opening his eyes, yawned out: "Lie down, Colonel, that's none of our men."

"How do you know that's none of our men?" "Well, Colonel, I have campaigned a heap more with this regiment than you, and I have found out that when the first Texas strikes a hog it never squeals but once." That was entirely satisfactory, and the Colonel slept calmly.

A New Orime.

When the municipal election at Georgetown, D. C., was about to come off, Richards, the Radical superintendent of police, issued a long string of orders to his police, among which appears the following:

"No taunts, jests, or mouths will be tolerated for a moment towards any voter, and persons guilty of such conduct must be immediately arrested."

"White trash" will please take notice that henceforward making "mouths" at darkies is a punishable offense; and that a joke cracked at the expense of Coffee's dignity as a voter will be promptly punished. The world moves. Kelly's "coming man" is coming—walk reverently in his presence—don't laugh—make no "mouths."

Sliggins saw a note lying on the ground, but knew that it was counterfeit, and walked on without picking it up. He told Smithers the story, when the latter said, "Do you know, Sliggins, you have committed a very grave offense?" "Why, what have I done?" "You have passed a counterfeit bill, knowing it to be such."

The four rules for making a fortune, as given in an insurance by a millionaire of New Orleans, who died some years since were: 1. Use the poor! 2. Corrupt the rich. 3. Bibble legislators. 4. Ask God to smile upon your efforts.

Brimstone Brownlow is engaged in quarantining bodies of negro State guards in every county in Tennessee to control the "dark" election, and keep himself in power.