

RECONSTRUCTION.

As before the rebellion, men differed—many justifying the act; and as during these years of strife, men differed—many denying the right to coerce a state, so now in regard to the reconstruction of the government, men differ—many believing that at once the right of suffrage should be conferred upon the sable millions of the South.

In regard to the abstract right of the negroes to vote, there is but little opposition from any quarter.

No one, whose opinion is of much account, stands boldly forth now in the face of events, to maintain that their claim to franchise is unsound. The edict "that the negro has no rights which a white man is bound to respect," is like its author dead.

And a government powerful in arms to overcome the most relentless of foes, great in whatever commands the respect of the world, is to-day the friend and protector of a race that but a few years ago was the downtrodden of the earth.

The political cry that this government was made exclusively for white men, and that others had not even the right of protection for person and property vouchsafed to them, is not heard but from a few who are so far gone as to be irremediable, and so much imbedded in fossil as to be worthy a place in some curiosity cabinet.

The question then is not about the principle of the thing. The discussion now is whether President Johnson has the power to enfranchise the colored population of the rebellious states, and whether if he has the power, it would be expedient to exercise it?

The President being a believer in the doctrine that no state can secede, maintains that no one of the states has ever been out of the Union, but that its operations have been merely suspended during the last four years, and that in "coming home" as Lincoln said, they are to act under the same laws and regulations as were in operation when they went "abroad."

Those who oppose the President's views contend that the states having rebelled, and passed the ordinance of secession, were out of the Union, and as being conquered must apply for re-admission, and be subject to, and comply with the terms which the representatives of the loyal states may propose. They contend, too, that they may of right impose any terms that in their wisdom they may think best. They would not only have the negro free, but would also at once invest him with the right of suffrage.

President Johnson would have him free and defend in his rights of person and property, but would have the question of suffrage to the loyal whites of each state.

The President's view seems to be this, that in the work of reconstruction he is not of necessity called upon to fix the political standing of the negro.

But that he believes that he has not the power to do so, can hardly be, for we find him exacting conditions of voters, such as we have not found in the constitution in force in 1861, and even disfranchising some legally qualified to vote under the old constitution, and if he has not the right and power to do this, has he not the same right and power to declare who shall take part in the reconstruction (this he is doing) and if it be necessary enfranchise some legally unqualified to vote under the constitution of 1861.

And though we have no declaration to that effect still we doubt not that if the President had deemed it vitally important in the reconstruction of the states, he would have given the right of suffrage to at least some of the negroes of the South as he has taken it away from some of the whites.

The negroes then are doubtless excluded from the polls on the ground of expediency.

No one doubts but that the time is coming and will soon come, when no mere sense of respect for feeling, through loyal—no mere grounds of expediency will prevent the enfranchisement of the colored men, who helped to preserve the republic. And in this the President leads the way, for he has urged the colored population of the District of Columbia, to petition the next Congress to acknowledge their right to the franchise, by giving them the power to exercise it.

From this fact we infer that he believes they have a right to it, and that the charge of ignorance, and the danger of being led by designing men is no more applicable to the negro than to the white.

The arguments drawn from expediency are two, one the fear of doing violence to the feelings of the loyal whites, the other the fear that because of the ignorance of the negro he will abuse the right.

the feelings even of defeated rebels; but yet only so far as it does no injury to other men who are free and have rights. This cry of expediency is but the argument of men who fear to meet the living issues of the day.

Had Lincoln listened to it, the noble Proclamation of Freedom had never been given to the world; Congress, influenced by it, would not have repealed the Fugitive Slave Law, lest some brave son of the South might be exasperated; the War Department stayed by it, and no colored troops would have ever entered the fire gir: city of Richmond. Had President Johnson been influenced by expediency he would doubtless not have talked so plainly to the delegates from Charleston and Richmond; informing the one that slavery must be abolished; and the other that as the rich supported the war, so they must abide by the consequences, and the \$20,000 clause cannot be repealed; neither would he have returned the writ of Habeas Corpus issued by Judge Wiley, and in a few plain words, rebuked the presumption of Judge Thompson, declaring that the war was ended, by giving the powers to know that the Habeas Corpus had been and was now suspended.

The second argument drawn from the ignorance of the blacks is much more plausible; and if it were not, that by a parity of reasoning thousands of others, though loyal, would be excluded from the polls, it would have much weight. All know that the rebellion was the fruit of ignorance. The leaders were able to do what they have done because the masses are ignorant, and to avoid trouble in the future we believe in excluding all from the polls who are unable to read, and in a measure at least, act intelligently for themselves.

This restriction however is not advocated by those who seem to fear most from the ignorance of the race in question. But that any more consequences should possibly result from the voting of benighted blacks, than has resulted from the voting of benighted whites we cannot conceive. After all, disguise it as they may, the reason why many are now opposing the enfranchising of the negro, is not because it is wrong in principle, nor because it is inexpedient, nor because he is ignorant, but because he is black.

But the march of events is ever onward, and the time comes when the right of suffrage will be if not universal, at least impartial, when men of all colors having the necessary qualifications shall have a voice in the affairs of the nation. For years the "negro question," was the question of our political contests, and all parties are wont to pay homage to the "divine institution of slavery."

The few that believed slavery to be the "sum of all villainies," and labored to circumscribe the limits of the system, were treated with contempt, and even denied sometimes the privilege of advocating their views, by those who of late years have manifested an undue regard for freedom of speech. And as men endeavored to retard the cause of progress and freedom, now some will oppose, and may prevent for a time the granting of impartial suffrage, but they cannot in the end defeat it.

And this is the question of the hour, and must and will be met. We may deplore agitation, but so long as there is any hope of removing institutions, repealing enactments that are contrary to the spirit of progress and freedom so long will there be agitations. The only way then to prevent "sectional feeling" "sectional parties" is to do away with every "sectional institution," and make our government in fact, what it is in name—truly democratic. There is now an opportunity to do this and may our rulers meet the expectations of the great popular heart of freedom, and have in them the same mind that was in the late good President.

TIMOTHY TOPIC.

Brownlow on Reconstruction.

Gov. Brownlow has issued a lengthy address to the people of Tennessee, explaining the validity and constitutionality of the present Constitution and Government of the State, and stating that the Constitution was the work of President Johnson, and that he (Johnson) will sustain his model scheme of reconstruction in the rebel States, with just so much force applied, and just such manner as may be necessary.

Gov. Brownlow announces that the act passed by the Legislature to limit the elective franchise to loyal men will be enforced on the day of the election by the civil and military, and all elections effected by illegal votes will be annulled, and, if necessary, the officers so elected will be arrested.

The civil and military authorities will act in harmony. Brownlow strikes to the arrangements of expiring politicians, denouncing the extermination of slavery, as showing the spirit of rebellion still existing, and must be defeated.

Two Books.

Two remarkable works are said to be in preparation for the press, by two remarkable men. One is to be published by James Buchanan, who once declared his belief that he was "the last President which the United States would ever have," while the other is by General Robert E. Lee, who will endeavor to explain how it was that he was the last Commander-in-Chief of the rebel army. Buchanan will explain how he permitted the rebellion to begin, whilst Lee will relate how he brought it to its end. As a literary speculation, we should prefer to be interested in the copywright of Lee's book. Nobody cares particularly what excuses Mr. Buchanan may offer for his official derelictions. We know what the effect of his vacillation was, and we have paid very dearly for the information. As a literary venture, Buchanan's "last dying speech and confession" would not command as wide a sale as the recollections of the hero of the last sensational murder.

But Lee has many admirers in unmixt society, "and there will be anxiety to read this varnished account of his failure." A rebel paper says that he is "the greatest general that the world ever saw;" to which we may append without going into a fuller enumeration, except twelve, viz: Washington, Jackson, Grant, Sherman, Meade, Thomas, Sheridan, Napoleon, Marlborough, Wellington, Julius Caesar, and Gengis Khan. We might name many more great generals who never were beaten, and who never surrendered to an enemy, but it is not necessary to elaborate history in order to refute this silly secessary flattery. General Lee has been a rebel idol, because they had no better material to worship. He was beaten in West Virginia by General Reynolds; in Maryland by McClellan; in Pennsylvania by Meade, and in Virginia by Grant and Meade. He had at one time the command of a splendid army, but he did nothing with it.

After defeating McClellan in the six days battles, he was badly defeated himself on the seventh, at Malvern Hill. He won at Fredericksburg because he was behind intrenchments. Chancellorsville was his only real victory, and Stone-wall Jackson won it for him. At the Second Bull Run and Groveton he would have been defeated had Fitz John Porter done his duty and reinforced Pope. He was beaten at Chantilly by Kearney and Stevens, and he was driven from the Rapidan by Grant and Meade in a series of battles in which he acted mainly on the defensive. At the Wilderness he tried the virtues of an attack, but got enough of it, and he intrenched and was defeated; he was flanked and retreated fighting behind intrenchments all the way to Petersburg and Richmond.

To what happened to him in April last it is scarcely necessary to revert. Suffice it to say, it has given him leisure to "write a book," which Job desired that his enemy should do. He enjoys the reputation of being the third General who, in the United States, surrendered an entire army in the field, his predecessors being Burgoyne and Cornwallis. With events like these in his military, it is supremely ridiculous to assert that he is "the greatest General the world ever saw." His book will sell, no doubt, as he is rather short of funds, owing to the depreciation of the currency of his Government, it will be useful to his pocket, as it is unlikely that he will ever be employed by the United States, to whom he owed everything in life, which debt he repaid with ingratitude and treason.

The two books will be, in their way, of interest, and they might be issued under the same title, "An apology for my failure, by James Buchanan," and "An apology for my failure, by Robert E. Lee." One will relate to the history of a "played out" politician, and the other of a soldier, *Finit coronat opus.*—Inquire.

The Savannah Herald contains an address by Ex Governor Brown to the people of Georgia, in which he urges them to support not only the Government of the United States, but the administration of the Chief Magistrate. He appeals to them to take the amnesty oath and observe it in good faith. He argues that slavery is now dead forever. As to his slaves he will immediately emancipate and treat them as free, giving them a part of the crops or wages for their labor.

To those who cannot support the Constitution of this Government he suggests the emigration from the country.

The New York Daily News, the leading Copperhead paper in the country, is out in favor of negro suffrage. Ben Wood snuffs as he thinks, a chance to get the negro vote for his party. It is not improbable that the Copperhead office seekers in this County will yet become rascally eulogists of the negro to secure their votes. Their prominent principle is, office first, and all the time.

The Allentown (Pa.) Democrat says that in consequence of the want of demand for iron since the cessation of the war, every iron establishment in the Lehigh Valley has blown out one two or more stacks, and pig iron is piled up on the banks of the canal and along the railroad by the acre.

Thompsontown Pic-Nic.

THOMPSONTOWN, July 15th, '65.

Mr. Editor,

Thursday last was a day of pleasure, that will long be remembered by those who were present at the Pic Nic, held in the beautiful grove of Robert Thompson, Esq., near this place.

The number present was very large, and delegations were represented, from Newport, Millerstown, Mexico, Altoona and Harrisburg. A party from the latter place, comprised about seventy ladies and gentlemen, and arrived, in company with those from intermediate points on the road, at Thompsontown Station in a special car, about nine o'clock, accompanied by "Keffers Cotillion Band" from Lancaster City. Upon their arrival at the Grove, they found a platform already erected, and soon the lads and lasses, engaged in dancing to the excellent music, discoursed by the Band. Large numbers began soon to arrive, in carriages from the surrounding country—and before noon, it is estimated, that at least three hundred persons, were upon the ground.

Throughout the day, every one both old and young, seemed to enjoy themselves—and the music, and dancing, did not conclude until after 9 o'clock in the evening.

To Dr. Lucian Thompson, for the use of his "spring house," I feel assured in saying, that the gentlemen, particularly are greatly indebted for the cold milk and other delicacies, deposited therein.

In the event of another celebration taking place here next year, it is hoped that the committee entrusted with its management, will be more liberal in the distribution of their invitations, at least to those in our own neighborhood.

Notwithstanding the small sum of four dollars, as a tax levied, we are pleased to learn that the committee of arrangements, over and above all expenses, have a surplus of at least one hundred dollars, which they intend to appropriate, towards diminishing the expenses of a similar party, to be given here next year.

NELLIE D.

"Well yes, we think there is more picking at pie-nics than discretion calls for—and we think another thing, Nellie, that when Editors are expected to notice these social gatherings they ought always be invited, whether they are likely to attend or not. Hereafter, if we can not get a pick at Nick, we intend to pick at somebody else. And if you want your pie-nic "blowed up," invite us down, provide a box of good cigars, and we will do as much puffing as you want.—Ed.

President Johnson expressed his views as to the punishment of the wealthy leaders of the rebellion very plainly on Saturday week. A Committee from Richmond sought and obtained an interview with the Executive for the purpose of asking him to strike out or alter that portion of his Amnesty Proclamation of the 29th of May known as the "\$20,000 clause." He told the committee that he did not think they desired the removal of the restriction for the purpose of helping the poor, but to enable themselves to make money, and suggested that if—as their memorial asserted—they were so very eager to help the poor they could contribute their surplus over the \$20,000 to their benefit, which at the same time would relieve the poor and bring the donor within the benefits of the proclamation. The President stated that in making the exception under discussion he had acted on the natural supposition that men had aided the rebellion according to their pecuniary means, and that it was the wealthy men of the South who dragged the people into Secession. He himself had lived in the South and knew how the thing had been done, and in Virginia her rich men had used the press to assist in inciting the revolt. He denied that the working of the Amnesty Proclamation was injuring the people, as the committee had stated, by shutting up capital and keeping work from the poor. If that is done at all, it is done in consequence of the violation of law and the commission of treason. The President concluded his remark by stating that he had seen no reasons for removing the restrictions.

The Allentown (Pa.) Democrat says that in consequence of the want of demand for iron since the cessation of the war, every iron establishment in the Lehigh Valley has blown out one two or more stacks, and pig iron is piled up on the banks of the canal and along the railroad by the acre.

Judge Asa Packer of Manch Chunk, Penn., formerly a representative in Congress from that State, has made the magnificent donation of five hundred thousand dollars and fifty-seven acres of land, near Bethlehem, for the endowment of an Episcopal College. The location is at the junction of the Lehigh Valley and South Pennsylvania Railroads.

New Advertisements.

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No. 164 FRANKLIN Street,  
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Sold Retail by all GROCERS AND SHOE DEALERS. Orders received by American Agency, 309 Broadway New York, and wholesale at the  
Manufacturer's Depot,  
151 Read street, N. Y.

**PROSPECTUS**  
OF THE DEEP RUN OIL WELL.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The "PORT ROYAL OIL COMPANY," having leased two tracts of very superior Oil lands in Dunkard township, Greene County, Pa., both of which are situated about one and a half miles from the celebrated Maple Farm—the centre of the Dunkard Creek Oil Region, and upon one of which they are sinking a well—have concluded to bore a second well, with which there will be connected thirteen acres of land, about twelve of which can be bored over, in two tracts, one of three acres situated on Deep Run a short distance from its entrance into Dunkard Creek, and about one and a quarter miles from the celebrated Ross well, which yields from twenty to thirty barrels daily. This tract is considered by oil men as a very desirable position for a well, from the fact that it is surrounded on all sides by lofty hills, with numerous deep ravines leading into it. On this tract the company propose to sink a well, to be called

THE "DEEP RUN WELL."

At a distance of a few hundred yards from their well now boring. The Southwestern Company is now boring a well at the mouth of the same run, in which, it is said, they have good indications of oil. The Port Royal Company have just started one, and two others are to be commenced soon further up the stream. The other tract will contain ten acres nearly all of which is bearing territory, and without doubt first class oil land, situated on Crooked Run, about one mile from Dunkard Creek, and the same distance from the Taylor Well, in which they have struck oil, and are now preparing to pump, and about one and a half miles from the Maple Farm. The term of lease in both cases is twenty years, one fourth royalty, with coal privilege. Operations to be commenced and prosecuted at the pleasure of the operators without danger of forfeiture. The company will procure a first class oil engine and good boring tools, and will put up the necessary buildings in a substantial, durable and workmanlike style, prosecute the work with all possible dispatch, and will commence the work as soon as the shares are all taken.

The Number of Shares Will be 125, at \$100 Each.

The Stockholders will have the privilege of selecting their own officers, and taking the well into their own hands as soon as it is bored; and if they wish, by consent of the majority can make further assessments on their stock and bore other wells. An assessment of 40 per cent. will bore two additional wells after the engine, necessary tools, and the territory is once procured.

There is now no longer any doubt of the existence of vast deposits of oil in the Dunkard Creek oil region, from the fact that a number of fine yielding wells have been obtained, such as the

WILLY NOS. 1 AND 2, CRAMER, ST. CLAIR, CONTINENTAL, FULLER, LUCAS, DUNKARD, McCLURE, ROSS, NO. 1, AND OTHERS.

Boring for oil is going on actively along Dunkard Creek for a distance of some 20 to 30 miles. Several hundred thousand dollars of Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio capital has been devoted to the development of oil lands in this section of country, and "oil strikes" are of frequent occurrence. The oil obtained is of a very superior quality, and is used for lubricating purposes. It is without doubt the finest oil found in WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA. Vast beds of bituminous coal underlie the whole country and is easily obtained. The geological structure of the country, the vast beds of superior bituminous coal, and the large quantities of oil already produced, certainly prove the Dunkard region to be very prolific in oil, and the persevering seekers after oleaginous wealth in that quarter, will undoubtedly be crowned with success.

Persons desiring shares in the DEEP RUN OIL WELL, will please forward their names to JOHN M. KIRBY, Treasurer of the Port Royal Oil Company, at Pottsville, or to D. E. ROSS, Port Royal.

By order of the Directors of the Port Royal Oil Company.  
**WALLPAPER**  
The Patrons of the STATESMAN who wish to have their names printed in the Statesman should be sent to the printer of the Statesman, who will be glad to receive the names of the subscribers, and will be glad to receive the names of the subscribers, and will be glad to receive the names of the subscribers.