

The Democrat.



HARVEY SICKLER, Editor.
TUNKHANNOCK, PA.

Wednesday, Mar. 10, 1869.

DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE.

In obedience to the desire of a majority thereof, the Democratic State Committee are requested to meet at Bolton's Hotel, Harrisburg, on Tuesday, the 30th day of March, 1869, at 7 1/2 o'clock, P. M., to fix the time of holding the Democratic State Convention.

WILLIAM A. WALLACE,
Chairman.

DAVID CALDWELL, Secretary,
Feb. 12, 1869.

The wards of the Nation, (niggers) who were thought to be so deserving of its "gratitude and protection," have suddenly become its masters.

Now that the question of the political equality of the white and black races is being settled by the representatives of the people in our state and federal Legislatures; how many of the radicals who professed to be opposed to this degradation of the white man, will protest against it?

Ulysses G. who it was thought by many, had some white tendencies on the nigger question, in his inaugural, not only swallows the colored "pussun," body and breeches, but proposes to use all his power to cram that sweet scented "gemmen" down the throats of all "white trash," everywhere. What has become of that plank of Ulysses' platform which declared, that "the question of suffrage in the loyal states properly belongs to the people of those States."

In connection with the Common place and perie inaugural of President Grant, we this week, give a stirring address from the retiring President. The most careless observer cannot but see a striking difference in the style of these two addresses. The one is made up of odd scraps of hackneyed commonplace partisan platitudes, among which we search in vain for a single original idea, or suggestion of any practical importance. Johnson deals in facts, which he enforces with the most rigid logic, and shows that there is a large amount of fight left in him yet. It is said that he has no notion of retiring to the dignified obscurity of former ex-Presidents, but will go to work and redeem Tennessee from the condition of anarchy and mongrelism into which he—by his loath military Government—and Brownlow since have dragged that State.

Of course everybody will read these documents.

The very first step taken by Grant in the discharge of the duties of an office, for which he seems to be utterly unfitted both by nature and education, is a most egregious blunder. In attempting to remedy this, he has made another, which almost amounts to a crime.

The law, which is as old as the government itself, creating the office of Secretary of the Treasury, provides that "no persons engaged in importations dealing in bonds, &c., shall hold any office under it." Grant in defiance of this wise provision, has chosen for the head of that department, the largest importer in the country, A. T. Stewart; and asks Congress to repeal this salutary law which throws around the collector of the nation's money and the keepers of its treasures, the usual guards against fraud, peculation and plunder.

We shall see whether even this subversive lick-spittle Congress is base enough to yield to the demand of the dictator.

The Cabinet.

General Grant has appointed the following persons members of his Cabinet.—Their names were sent to the Senate on Friday last, and they were immediately confirmed:

Secretary of State—Elihu B. Washburne, of Illinois.
Secretary of the Treasury—Alex. T. Stewart, of New York.
Secretary of the Navy—Adolph E. Borie, of Philadelphia.
Secretary of the Interior—J. D. Cox, of Ohio.

Postmaster General—John A. J. Creswell, of Baltimore.
Attorney General—E. B. Hoar, of Massachusetts.

General Schofield, Secretary of War, in the cabinet of President Johnson, retains his position.

The Constitutional Amendment.

After a great deal of backing-and-filling and floundering, the negro suffrage amendment has at last passed both Houses in the following form:

Be it enacted, etc., two-thirds of both Houses concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States be submitted to the Legislatures of the several States, and when ratified by three-fourths thereof, it shall be a part of said Constitution.

ARTICLE 15. The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriation.

IN HASTE.—Just after the passage of the joint resolution recommending the States to ratify the amendment to the Constitution so as to allow negroes to vote, Clark, of Kansas, telegraphed its passage to the Legislature of that State, and received as answer the same day in return, that the amendment had already been ratified.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

Review of Political Events for the Past Four Years.

Catalogue of the Wrongs Inflicted upon the Nation by the Party in Power.

To the People of the United States:

The robe of office, by constitutional limitation, this day falls from my shoulders, to be immediately assumed by my successor. For him the forbearance and co-operation of the American people, in all his efforts to administer the government within the pale of the Federal Constitution, are sincerely invoked. Without ambition to gratify, party ends to subvert, or personal quarrels to avenge, at the sacrifice of the peace and welfare of the country, my earnest desire is to see the Constitution of the republic again recognized and obeyed as the supreme law of the land, and the whole people, North, South, East, and West prosperous and happy under its wise provisions.

In surrendering the high office to which I was called four years ago, at a memorable and terrible crisis, it is my privilege, I trust, to say to the people of the United States a few parting words in vindication of an official course so ceaselessly assailed and asspersed by political leaders, to whose plans and wishes my policy to restore the Union has been amoxious. In a period of difficulty and turmoil almost without precedent in the history of any people, consequent upon the closing scenes of a great rebellion and the assassination of the then President, it was, perhaps, too much on my part to expect of devoted partisans, who rode on the waves of excitement, which at that time swept all before them, that degree of toleration and magnanimity which I sought to recommend and enforce, and which I believe in good time would have advanced us infinitely further on the road to permanent peace and prosperity than we have thus far attained. Doubtless, had I at the commencement of my term of office unhesitatingly lent its powers or perverted them to purposes and plans outside of the Constitution, and become an instrument to a scheme of confiscation and of general and oppressive disqualification, I would have been hailed as all that was true, loyal, and discerning; as the reliable head of a party, whatever I might have been as the Executive of a nation. Unwilling, however, to accede to propositions of extremists, and bound to obey at every personal hazard my oath to defend the Constitution, I need not, perhaps, be surprised at having met the fate of others, whose only reward for upholding constitutional rights and laws has been the consciousness of having attempted to do their duty, and the calm judgment of history. At the time that a mysterious providence assigned to me the office of President, I was, by the terms of the Constitution, the commander-in-chief of nearly a million of men under arms. One of my first acts was to disband and restore to the vocations of civil life this immense host, and to divest myself, so far as I could, of the unparalleled powers then incident to the office and the times. Whether, or not, in this step I was right, and how far deserving of the approbation of all the people, all can now, on reflection, judge, when reminded of the ruinous condition of public affairs that must have resulted from the continuance in the military service of such a vast number of men. The close of our domestic conflict found the army eager to distinguish itself in a new field by an effort to punish European intervention in Mexico. By many it was believed and urged that, aside from the assumed justice of the proceedings, a foreign war, in which both sides would cheerfully unite to vindicate the honor of the national flag, and further illustrate the national prowess, would be the surest and speediest way of awakening national enthusiasm, renewing devotion to the Union, and occupying a force concerning which grave doubts existed as to its willingness, after four years of active campaigning, at once to return to the pursuits of peace. Whether these speculations were true or false, it will be conceded that they existed, and that the predictions of the army were for the time being in the direction indicated. Taking advantage of that feeling, it would have been easy, as the Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, and with all the power and patronage of the Presidential office at my disposal, to turn the concentrated strength of the nation against French interference in Mexico, and to inaugurate a movement which would have been received with favor by the military and a large portion of the people. It is proper in this connection that I should refer to the almost unlimited additional powers tendered to the Executive by the measures relating to Civil Rights and the Freedmen's Bureau. Contrary to most precedents in the experiences of public men, the powers thus placed within my grasp were declined as being in violation of the Constitution, dangerous to the liberties of the people, and tending to aggravate rather than lessen the disorders naturally resulting from our civil war. With a large army and augmented authority, it would have been no difficult task to direct at pleasure the destinies of the Republic, and to make secure my continuance in the highest office known to our laws. Let the people, whom I am addressing from the Presidential chair during the closing hours of a laborious term, consider how different would have been their present condition had I yielded to the dazzling temptation of foreign conquest, of personal aggrandizement and the desire to wield additional power. Let them, with justice, consider that if I have not unduly magnified mine office, the public burdens have not been increased by my acts, and perhaps thousands or tens of thousands of lives sacrificed to visions of false glory. It cannot, therefore, be charged that my ambition has been of that ordinary or criminal kind which to the detriment of the people's rights and liberties ever seeks to grasp more and unwarranted power, and, to accomplish its purposes,

panders too often to popular prejudices and party aims. What then have been the aspirations which guided me in my official acts?

Those acts need not at this time an elaborate explanation. They have elsewhere been comprehensively stated and fully discussed, and become a part of the nation's history. By them I am ready to be judged, knowing that, however, imperfect, they at least show to the impartial mind, that my sole ambition has been to restore the Union of the States; faithfully to execute the office of President, and to the best of my ability to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution. I cannot be censured if my efforts have been impeded in the interests of party faction, and if a policy which was intended to reassure and conciliate the people of both sections of the country was made the occasion of inflaming and dividing still farther those who only recently were in arms against each other, yet as individuals and citizens were sincerely desirous, as I shall ever believe, of burying all hostile feelings in the grave of the past. The bitter war was waged on the part of the government to vindicate the Constitution and save the Union; and if I have erred in trying to bring about a more speedy and lasting peace, to extinguish heart-burnings and enmities, and to prevent trouble in the South, which, retarding material prosperity in that region, injuriously affected the whole country, I am quite content to rest my case with the more deliberate judgment of the people and, as I have already intimated, with the distant future. The war, all must remember, was a stupendous and deplorable mistake. Neither side understood the other; and had this simple fact and its conclusions been kept in view, all that was needed was accomplished by the acknowledgment of the terrible wrong and the expression of better feeling and earnest endeavor at atonement shown and felt.

In the prompt ratification of constitutional amendments by the Southern States at the close of the war, not accepting of that as a confessed false step on the part of those who inaugurated it, was an error which now only time can cure, and which even at this late date we should endeavor to palliate. Experiencing, moreover, as all have done, the frightful cost of the arbitrament of the sword, let us in the future cling closer than ever to the Constitution as our only safeguard. It is to be hoped that not all the burdens now pressing upon us with such fearful weight are removed will our people forget the lessons of war, and that remembering them, from whatever cause, peace between sections and States may be perpetual.

The history of late events in our country, as well as of the greatest governments of ancient and modern times, teaches that we have everything to fear from a departure from the letter and spirit of the Constitution, and the undue ascendency of men allowed to assume power in what are considered desperate emergencies. Sylla, on becoming master of Rome, at once adopted measures to crush his enemies and to consolidate the power of his party. He established military colonies throughout Italy; deprived of the full Roman franchise the inhabitants of the Italian towns who had opposed his usurpation, confiscated their lands and gave them to his soldiers; and conferred citizenship upon a great number of slaves belonging to those who had proscribed him, thus creating at Rome a kind of body-guard for his protection. After having given Rome over to slaughter and tyrannized beyond all example over those opposed to him and the legions, his terrible instrument of wrong, Sylla could yet feel safe in laying down the onus of power so dreadfully abused, and in mingling freely with the families and friends of his myriad victims. The fear which he had inspired continued after his voluntary abdication, and even in retirement his will was law to a people who had permitted themselves to be enslaved. What but a subtle knowledge and conviction that the Roman people had become changed, disorganized, and utterly broken in spirits could have induced this daring assumption? What but public indifference to consequences so terrible as to leave Rome open to every calamity which subsequently befell her, could have justified the conclusions of the dictator and tyrant in his startling experiment? We find that in the time which has since elapsed human nature and exigencies in governments have not greatly changed. Who, a few years ago, in contemplating our future, could have supposed that, in a brief period of bitter experience, everything demanded in the name of military emergency or dictated by caprice would come to be considered as mere matters of course? That conscription, confiscation, loss of personal liberty, and the subjection of States to military rule and disfranchisement, with the extension of the right of suffrage merely to accomplish party ends, would receive the passive submission, if not acquiescence, of the people of the republic? It has been clearly demonstrated by recent occurrences that encroachment upon the Constitution cannot be prevented by the President, however devoted or determined he may be. That unless the people interpose there is no power under the Constitution to check a dominant majority of two-thirds of the Congress of the United States. An appeal to the nation is attended with too much delay to meet emergency; while, if left free to act, the people would correct, in time, such evils as might follow legislative usurpation.

There is danger that the same power which disregards the Constitution will deprive them of the right to change their rulers, except by revolution. We have already seen the jurisdiction of the judiciary circumscribed when it was apprehended that the courts would decide against laws having for their sole object the supremacy of party; while they veto power lodged in the Executive by the Constitution for the interest and protection of the people, and exercised by

Washington and his successors, has been rendered nugatory by a partisan majority of two-thirds in each branch of the National Legislature.

The Constitution evidently contemplates that when a bill is returned with the President's objections, it will be calmly reconsidered by Congress. Such, however, has not been the practice under the present party rule. It has become evident that men who pass a bill under partisan influences are not likely through patriotic motives to admit their errors, and thereby weaken their own organizations by solemnly confessing it under the official oath. Pride of opinion, if nothing else, has intervened and prevented a calm and dispassionate reconsideration of a bill disapproved by the Executive. Much as I venerate the Constitution, it must be admitted that this condition of affairs has developed a defect which, under the aggressive tendency of the Legislative department of the government, may readily work its overthrow. It may, however, be remedied without disturbing the harmony of the instrument. The veto power is generally exercised upon constitutional grounds, and whenever it is so applied, and the bill returned with the Executive's reasons for withholding his signature, it ought to be immediately certified to the Supreme Court of the United States for its decision. If its constitutionality shall be declared by that tribunal, it should then become a law. But if the decision is otherwise, it should fail, without power in Congress to re-enact and make it valid. In cases in which the veto rests upon hasty and inconsiderate legislation, and in which no constitutional question is involved, I would not change the fundamental law, for, in such cases no permanent evil can be incorporated into the Federal system. It is obvious that without such an amendment, the government, as it existed under the Constitution prior to the rebellion, may be wholly subverted and overthrown by two-thirds majority in Congress. It is not, therefore, difficult to see how easily and how rapidly the people may lose (shall I not say—have lost?) their liberties by an unchecked and uncontrollable majority in the law-making power; and whenever deprived of their rights, how powerless they are to regain them.

Let us turn for a moment to the history of the majority in Congress, which has acted in such utter disregard of the Constitution, while public attention has been carelessly and constantly turned to the past and expiated signs of the South, and the servants of the people in high places have boldly betrayed their trust, broken their oaths of obedience to the Constitution, and undermined the very foundation of liberty, justice and good government. When the rebellion was being suppressed by the volunteered services of patriot soldiers, amid the dangers of the battlefield, these men crept, without question, into place and power in the national councils. After all danger had passed, when no armed force remained—when a penitent people bowed their heads to the flag, and renewed their allegiance to the Government of the United States, then it was that pretended patriots appeared before the nation and began to prate about the thousands of lives and millions of treasure sacrificed in the suppression of the rebellion. They have since persistently sought to inflame the prejudices engendered between the sections, to retard the restoration of peace and harmony, and by every means to keep open and exposed to the poisonous breath of party passion the terrible wounds of a four years' war. They have prevented the return of peace and the restoration of the Union; in every way rendered delusive the purposes, promises, and pledges by which the army was marshalled, treason rebuked, and rebellion crushed; and made the liberties of the people, and the rights and powers of the President, subjects of constant attack. They have wrested from the President his Constitutional power of supreme command of the army and navy; they have destroyed the strength and efficiency of the Executive Department by making subordinate officers independent of and able to defy their chief; they have attempted to place the President under the power of a bold, defiant, and treacherous Cabinet officer; they have robbed the Executive of the prerogative of pardon, rendered null and void acts of clemency granted to thousands of persons under the provisions of the Constitution, and committed gross usurpation by legislative attempts to exercise this power in favor of party adherents. They have conspired to change the system of our government by preferring charges against the President in the form of articles of impeachment, and contemplating before hearing or trial that he should be placed in arrest, held in durance, and it became their pleasure to pronounce his sentence, driven from place and power in disgrace. They have, in time of peace, increased the national debt by a reckless expenditure of the public moneys, and thus added to the burdens which already weigh upon the people. They have permitted the nation to suffer the evils of a deranged currency; the enhancement in price of all the necessities of life. They have maintained a large standing army for the enforcement of their measures of oppression. They have engaged in class legislation, and built up and encouraged monopolies, that the few might be enriched at the expense of the many.—They have failed to act upon important treaties, thereby endangering our present peaceful relations with foreign powers.—Their course of usurpation has not been limited to inroads upon the Executive Department. By unconstitutional and oppressive enactments the people of ten States of the Union have been reduced to a condition more intolerable than that from which the patriots of the Revolution rebelled. Millions of American citizens can now say of their oppressors with more truth than our fathers did of British tyrants, that they have "forbidden the government to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance unless suspended until their as-

sent should be obtained; that they have refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the Legislature," a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only; that they have "made judges dependent upon their will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries;" that they have erected a multitude of new offices and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and cut out their substance. That they have affected to render the military independent and superior to the civil power; combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution and unacknowledged by our laws; quartered large bodies of armed troops among us; protected them by a mock trial from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States; imposed taxes upon us without our consent; deprived us in many cases of the benefit of trial by jury; taken away our charters; incited domestic insurrection amongst us; abolished our most valuable laws; altered fundamentally the form of our government; suspended our own legislatures and declared themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

This catalogue of crime, long as it is, is not yet complete. The Constitution vests the judicial power of the United States in one Supreme Court, whose jurisdiction shall extend to all cases arising under the Constitution and laws of the United States. Encouraged by this promise of a refuge from tyranny, a citizen of the United States, who by the order of a military commander given under the sanction of a cruel and deliberate edict of Congress, has been denied the Constitutional rights of liberty of conscience, freedom of the press, and of speech, personal freedom from military arrest, of being held to answer for crime only upon presentment of an indictment, of trial by jury, of the writ of habeas corpus, and the protection of a civil and constitutional government—a citizen thus deeply wronged, appeals to the Supreme Court for the protection guaranteed him by the organic law of the land. At once a fierce and excited majority, by the ruthless hand of legislative power, stripped the cradle from the judges, transferred the sword of justice to the General, and remanded the oppressed citizen to a degradation and bondage worse than death.

It will also be recorded as one of the marvels of the times that a party claiming for itself a monopoly of consistency and patriotism, and boasting of its unlimited sway, endeavored by a costly and deliberate trial to impeach one who defended the Constitution and the Union, not only throughout the whole term of office as chief magistrate; but at the same time could find no warrant or means at their command to bring to trial even the chief of the rebellion. Indeed, the remarkable failures in this case were so often repeated that, for propriety's sake, if for no other reason, it became at last necessary to extend to him an unconditional pardon. What more plainly than this illustrates the extremity of party management and inconsistency on the one hand, and of faction, vindictiveness, and intolerance on the other. Patriotism will hardly be encouraged when, in such a record, it sees that its instant reward may be most virulent party abuse and obloquy, if not at least disgrace. Instead of seeking to make treason odious, it would in truth seem to have been their purpose rather to make the defence of the Constitution and Union a crime, and to punish fidelity to an oath of office, if counter to party dictation, by all the means at their command.

Happily for peace of the country, the war has determined against the assumed power of the State to withdraw at pleasure from the Union. The institution of slavery also found its destruction in a rebellion commenced in its interest. It should be borne in mind, however, that the war neither Napoleon destroyed the Constitution, but on the contrary, preserved its existence, and made apparently red power and enduring strength. All the rights granted to the States or reserved to the people are, therefore, intact. Among those rights is that of the people of each State to declare the qualifications of their own State electors. It is now assumed that Congress can control this vital right, which can never be taken away from the States without impairing the fundamental principles of the government itself. It is necessary to the existence of States as well as to the protection of the liberties of the people; for the right to elect the elector in whom the political power of the State shall be lodged involves the right of the State to govern itself. When deprived of this prerogative, the States will have no power worth retaining. All will be gone, and they will be subjected to the arbitrary will of Congress. The government will then be centralized if, not by the passage of laws, then by the adoption, through partisan influence, of an amendment directly in conflict with the original design of the Constitution. This proves how necessary it is the people should require the administration of the three great departments of the government to be strictly within the limits of the Constitution. Their boundaries have been accurately defined, and neither should be allowed to trespass on the other, nor, above all, to encroach upon the reserved rights of the people and the State. The troubles of the past four years will prove to the nation blessings, if they produce so desirable a result. Upon those who became young men amid the sound of cannon and the din of arms, and who quietly returned to the farms, the factories, and the school of the land, will principally devolve the solemn duty of perpetuating the Union of the State in defence of which hundreds of thousands of their comrades expired and hundreds of millions of national obligations were incurred. A many people will not neglect the training necessary to resist aggression, but they should be zealous lest the civil be made subordinate

to the military element. We need to encourage in every legitimate way a study of the constitution for which the war was waged, a knowledge of, and reverence for, whose wise checks, by those so soon to occupy the place filled by their seniors, will be the only hope of preserving the Republic. The young men of the nation not yet under the control of party must resist the tendency to centralization, an outgrowth of the great rebellion, and be familiar with the fact that the country consists of the "United States," and that when the States surrendered certain great rights for the sake of a more perfect Union, they retained rights as valuable and important as those they relinquished for the common weal.—This sound old doctrine, far different from the teachings that led to the attempt to secede, and a kindred theory that the States were taken out of the Union by the rash acts of conspirators that happened to dwell within their borders, must be received and advocated with the enthusiasm of early manhood, or the People will be ruled by corrupt combinations at the commercial centres, which pliehoire from wealth, annually migrate to the capitol of the nation to purchase special legislation. Until the Representatives of the people in Congress more fully exhibit the diverse views and the interests of the whole nation, and laws cease to be made without full discussion at the behest of some party leader, there will never be a proper respect shown by the law-making power either to the judicial or executive branch of the government. The generation just beginning to use the ballot box, it is believed, only need that their attention should be called to these considerations to indicate by their votes that they wish their representatives to observe all the restraints which the people, in adopting the Constitution, intended to impose on party excess.

Calmly reviewing my administration of the government, I feel that (with a sense of accountability to God—having conscientiously endeavored to discharge my whole duty), I have nothing to regret. Events have proved the correctness of the policy set forth in my first and subsequent messages. The woes which have followed the rejection of forbearance, magnanimity and constitutional rule are known and deplored by the nation. It is a matter of pride and gratification, in retiring from the most exalted position in the gift of a free people, to feel and know that in a long, arduous, and eventful public life my action has never been influenced by desire for gain, and that I can, in all sincerity, inquire, whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or at whose hand have I received any bribe to blind my eyes therewith? No responsibility for wars that have been waged, or blood that has been shed, rests upon me. My thoughts have been those of peace, and my effort has ever been to allay contentions among my countrymen.

Forgetting the past, let us return to the first principles of the government, and unfurling the banner of our country, inscribe upon it in indeleble characters, "The Constitution and the Union, one and inseparable."

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Washington, D. C., March 4, 1869.

The President's Inaugural Address.

CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES: YOUR suffrages having elected me to the office of President of the United States, I have in conformity with the Constitution of our country, taken the oath of office prescribed therein. I have taken this oath without mental reservation, and with the determination to do to the best of my ability all that it requires of me. The responsibilities of the position I feel, but accept them without fear. The office has come to me unthought; I commence its duties untrammelled. I bring to it a conscientious desire and determination to fill it to the best of my ability to the satisfaction of the people. On all leading questions agitating the public mind I will always express my views to Congress and urge them according to my judgment, and when I think it advisable will exercise the constitutional privilege of interposing a veto to defeat measures which I oppose. But all laws will be faithfully executed, whether they meet my approval or not. I shall on all subjects have a policy to recommend, none to enforce against the will of the people.—Laws are to govern all alike, those opposed to as well as those in favor of them. I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution. The country having just emerged from a great rebellion, many questions will come before it for settlement in the next four years, which preceding administrations have never had to deal with. In meeting these it is desirable that they should be appreciated calmly, without prejudice, hate, or sectional pride, remembering that the greatest good to the greatest number is the object to be attained. This requires security of person, property, and for religious and political opinion in every part of our common country, without regard to local prejudice. All laws to secure this end will receive my best efforts for their enforcement.

A great debt has been contracted in securing to us and our posterity the Union. The payment of this, principal and interest, as well as the return to a specie basis as soon as it can be accomplished without material detriment to the debtor class or to the country at large, must be provided for. To protect the national honor every dollar of the government indebtedness should be paid in gold, unless otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract. Let it be understood that no repudiation of one farthing of our public debt will be trusted in public places, and it will go far towards strengthening a credit which ought to be the best in the world, and will ultimately enable us to replace the debt with bonds bearing less interest than we now pay. To this should be added a faithful collection of the revenue; a strict accountability to the

Treasury for every dollar collected, and the greatest practical retrenchment, in expenditures in every department of government. When we compare the paying capacity of the country now, with ten States still in poverty from the effects of the war, but soon to emerge, I trust, into greater prosperity than ever before, with its paying capacity twenty-five years ago, and calculate what it probably will be twenty-five years hence, who can doubt the feasibility of paying every dollar then with more ease than we now pay for useless luxuries?—Why, it looks as though Providence had bestowed upon us a strong box, the precious metals locked up in the sterile mountains of the far West, which we are now forging; the key, unless we use it, and not the very contingency that is now upon us.—Ultimately it may be necessary to increase the facilities to reach these riches, and it may be necessary also that the general government should give its aid to secure this dollar. But this should only be when a dollar of obligation is secured precisely in the same ratio as the use of gold and not before. While the question of specie payments is in abeyance, the prudent business man is careful about contracting debts payable in the distant future; a prostrate commerce is to be rebuilt, and all industries encouraged. The young men of the country—the who form this age and must be rulers twenty-five years hence—have a peculiar interest in maintaining the national honor. A moment's reflection upon what will be our commanding influence among the nations of the earth in their day, if they are only true to themselves, should inspire them with national pride. All divisions, geographical, political, and religious, can join in the common sentiment. How the public debt is to be paid, or specie payments resumed, is not so important as that a plan should be adopted and acquiesced in. A united determination to do is worth more than divided counsels upon the method of doing. Legislation on this subject may not be necessary now, nor even advisable; but it will be when the civil war is more fully restored in all parts of the country and trade resumes its wonted channels. It will be my endeavor to execute all laws in good faith, to collect all revenues assessed, and to have them properly accounted for, and economically disbursed.—I will, to the best of my ability, appoint to office only those who will carry out this design.

In regard to foreign policy, I will deal with nations as equitable law requires individuals to deal with each other, and I would protect the law-abiding citizen, whether of this land or of foreign birth, wherever his rights are jeopardized, or the flag of our country floats. I would respect the rights of all nations, demanding equal respect for our own. If others depart from this rule in their dealings with us, we may be compelled to follow their precedent.

The proper treatment of the original occupants of this land, the Indians, is one deserving of careful consideration. I will favor any course towards them which tends to their civilization, Christianization and ultimate citizenship. The question of suffrage is one which is likely to agitate the public, so long as a portion of the citizenry of the nation is excluded from its privileges in any State.—It seems to me very desirable that this question should be settled now, and I entertain the hope and express the desire that it may be by the ratification of the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution. In connection with the forbearance one towards another throughout the land, and a determined effort on the part of every citizen to do his share towards cementing a happy Union, and I ask the prayers of the nation to Almighty God in behalf of this happy consummation.

WHAT GOV. GEARY THINKS OF LEADING REPUBLICANS.—GOVERNOR Geary's name having been mentioned in some of the Republican papers, as favoring the appointment of ANDY CURTIN to a position in GRANT'S Cabinet, he telegraphed to Washington as follows:

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
HARRISBURG, Feb. 26, 1869.
To General U. S. Grant, President elect,
Washington, D. C.

By the newspapers of to-day, I observe that certain persons have stated to you that I have written letters to influence your cabinet appointments. I have never written or telegraphed to you or any other person a word in favor or against any one for that position. If you have received any such letters or telegrams, they are forgeries.

Truly yours,
JOHN W. GEARY.
Alex. McClure ex-chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, called on Gen. Grant with letters from Judges, John M. Reed, Agnew and Williams—the great leaders in the election frands in the state, in favor of Andy Curtin for a cabinet appointment, and he said also that letters from Geary were on the way to the same effect; and Geary, learning of the fact, put the General on his guards against forgers!

The last sentence of the telegram is wonderfully significant—"they are forgeries!" Mr. Geary knows his political friends and associates; he knows their honesty, their tricks, and their habits, and he tells them to the public. He tells it to President Grant and the world that Alex. McClure, Andy Curtin & Co. are not to be trusted; that they are unscrupulous, capable of forgery, and any other of the modern "moral ideas."

The inevitable "Alec" replies to Geary's telegram, in a note saying, that all the "evidence he had that Geary would write a letter favoring Curtin's appointment was Geary's word to that effect."

Knowing the hero of "Snickerville" as well as Alec did, he was hardly justified in making any declaration on so slight a foundation.

CREAT INTEREST

Is manifested by the people, on account of the New Railroad along the Susquehanna, but a greater interest is felt in consequence of the NEW STOCK OF

Family Groceries,
Just received at,
"CHARLIES,"
IN MESHOPIEN,
Consisting of the following articles for family use:
FLOUR,
LARD, EGGS,
CHEESE, BUTTER,
EREL, SMOKE D,
HERRING, STICKS, SO,
LASSES, TEA, COFFEE, SOAP,
STARBU, SALT, CRACK,
EREL, CHOCOLATE, BROOMS,
BRUSHES, RAISINS, CURENTS, FIGS,
CANNED PEACHES, LORSTERS, SA,
DINES, PEPPER, SAUCE, TOMATO, CATS,
DESSICATED COCONANT, NUTS, SPICES,
VIMOLAND,
And a variety too numerous to mention, which will be sold as low as the lowest, for cash or runny-pay, at
"CHARLIE BUNNELL,"
Messhopien, Pa., Nov. 30-63.