

Raftsmen's Journal.



BY S. J. ROW.

CLEARFIELD, PA., FEB. 8, 1865.

Ratification of the Amendment.

Already a number of State Legislatures have concurred in the amendment to the Constitution of the United States, passed by Congress, abolishing slavery in our national domain.

Including the seceded States, the assent of twenty-seven States is required to ingraft the Emancipation provision into the Constitution. Twenty-five, counting Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana and West Virginia, are certain to ratify the action of Congress, as their Legislatures are at present constituted.

Although the amendment could not have passed the House but for the votes of some half a dozen Democratic members, it does not follow that the party has abandoned its pro-slavery position.

Fire in Savannah.

The steamer Sueso Nada, from Savannah and Hilton Head on the 29th, arrived at New York. On the evening of the 27th, a disastrous conflagration occurred at Savannah, destroying considerable property, but without any loss of life.

Rebel Generals Penitent.

The Paducah correspondent of the Democrat says the rebel General Chalmers, in a speech at Corinth, in the early part of January, accused Hood of selling them out, and expressed the opinion that the Confederacy had gone under, and told his men they could do as they pleased, he should have nothing more to do with them.

Lake Michigan Ship Canal.

The bill for a ship canal from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, after a protracted struggle, lasting nearly all day of 2d instant, was finally pressed to a vote, and passed by ten of a majority.

Peace Rumors and Movements.

During the last week or two many rumors have been current in regard to a speedy declaration of peace. The origin of these anticipations may be attributed to the fact, that it was asserted that Jeff. Davis, and some others of the rebel leaders, had expressed a desire to return to the Union on terms that would be entirely satisfactory to the President and Congress of the United States.

That he received some encouragement looking towards a peace evidenced by the fact, that in a day or two after his return to Washington he started for the rebel capital a second time. What transpired between Mr. Blair and the rebel chieftains, has not been made public—but this much is known, that several days after Mr. Blair's second visit to Richmond, Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell approached and were admitted within our lines, ostensibly on a peace mission.

A Thrilling Scene.

Upon the passage of the Constitutional Amendment the following animated and thrilling scene ensued: There was a momentary hush, when, as by an electric shock, the exultant shouts of the friends of freedom rung through the Hall. It was the sublimest outbreak of popular enthusiasm ever witnessed. Men sprung to their feet, throwing up their arms exultantly, and crying out at the top of their voices.

The Rebellion Dissolving by States.

The States (such as Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina, may repeal their secession ordinances, and come back as States. For this there is a motive which may not influence the Richmond leaders, but will influence the people. If they come back as States they will preserve their individual and municipal property.

The Crawford County Bank Robbery.

Some ten days since the public was startled by the announcement that the Crawford County Bank had been robbed of Bonds, etc., amounting to over \$100,000. Several days after it was announced that all but \$29,000 had been recovered, and now we have the assurance that the balance has also been found, and the thief discovered and arrested.

STATE BANKS CONVERTED INTO NATIONAL BANKS.

In the House, at Harrisburg, on Jan. 25th, the Speaker presented a communication from the State Treasurer, in answer to the inquiry what State Banks had gone into business under the National law, whereof they were fifty eight in number, having a capital of 20,502,388 30.

The Rebel Press on Peace.

Below we publish extracts from the several Richmond papers, of January 30th, which will serve to give our readers some idea of how the rebel leaders feel upon the subject of peace negotiations:

The Southern says: "Let us keep clearly in view our independence, to maintain which, we draw the sword, and listen to no suggestion for its compromise as the price of peace. Such a peace would indeed be but a hollow truce and an uneasy armistice. There can be no permanent peace where honor is compromised, or where vital and important interests are placed in peril. It would be madness. It would be an unnatural cruelty after having fought this battle nearly through to adjourn it over for our children to begin anew."

The Examiner says: "It is not so much to conclude peace that they send Commissioners and open their sham negotiations, as to deceive and distract us from the measures needful for our defense, while they move forward toward the final investment of Richmond. They prefer to enter the city as conquerors rather than to obtain peace by a treaty between Richmond and Washington."

The Whig says: "It is of vital importance we should just now remember that we are dealing with an exceedingly artful and thoroughly unscrupulous foe. It is not merely that this is an honest and sincere endeavor to terminate the war, and that such may be the result, but it is not safe for us to think so. We confess with regret that we have but little evidence, and indulge but the faintest hope that the enemy are prepared to accord us such terms as we could think of accepting."

The Dispatch has an article showing that "the independence of the Confederacy is necessary for the prosperity and happiness of the middle and lower classes." It declares that "if slavery is removed, the poor whites are ruined."

The Constitutional Amendment.

There was great rejoicing in Washington on the evening of January 31st., among the loyal Missourians over the adoption of the Constitutional amendment. Senator Henderson, the father of the measure, Representative Blair, and other Union Congressmen from Missouri were serenaded, and acknowledged the compliment in very eloquent speeches.

LONG LIVE THE REPUBLIC!

Rebel Project of Arming Slaves. The late debate in the rebel Congress upon the bill authorizing Jeff. Davis to take forty thousand negroes and employ them to dig and dredge for the army, revealed a few facts in reference to the present state of feeling in the South. One of these facts was, that the bill being discovered to be a mere sham, its true object being to procure negroes for soldiers, the leading men from the extreme South opposed, on the ground that the negroes could not be trusted to fight for their masters.

Another fact, brought out by this debate, was that the men conspicuously representing the slave interest, (Miles of South Carolina, for instance,) regarded the project of arming the slaves as certain to work the utter abolition of slavery. Jeff. Davis did not escape the imputation of abolition sentiments, which may throw a little greater air of verity upon the late report that he urged Mr. Blair to hasten the passage of the constitutional amendment, abolishing slavery, so as to remove the chief obstacle to peace and reunion.

Employment for Disabled Soldiers.

Petitions have been put in circulation in nearly all the cities, and are being signed by the leading citizens, irrespective of party, asking Congress to take some action by which honorably discharged soldiers may obtain government employment in preference to those who have for so many years been subsisting on government "pap." There are large numbers of patriotic young men everywhere who have been honorably discharged from the army on account of wounds, sickness, imprisonment, &c. who are unable to work at their trades or any hard labor, have no means of subsistence except that furnished by charity, and who are perfectly competent to fill almost any civil appointment or clerkship.

Lieutenant-Commander Wm. A. Parker.

who was in command of the Monitor Onondaga and showed the white feather when the rebel rans came down the James river last week, has been relieved and ordered before a court martial.

THE GREAT AMENDMENT.

The U. S. Senate having, on the 8th of April last, initiated, by the decisive majority of 38 to 6, the following Amendment to the Federal Constitution:

ART. XIII.—SEC. 1. Neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, of which the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

The House, after debate, proceeded (June 15th) to vote thereon, and it was lost—Yeas 95, Nays 64—the Constitution requiring an affirmative vote of two-thirds in either House to launch a Constitutional Amendment.

NOTE.—The real vote was 95 Yeas to 63 Nays—one Yeas having changed to a Nay on purpose to enable him to move a reconsideration.

Mr. Ashley of Ohio hereupon moved that the above vote be reconsidered; and the issue thus raised, having been passed upon by the People in the late Presidential election, has been debated at the present session at much length by some twenty to thirty members. Finally, after a successful resistance to motions to lay on the table, &c., the House yesterday (January 31st.,) came to a final vote on the above, having listened to forcible speeches in its favor from Messrs. McAllister and Coffroth of Pennsylvania, and Herrick of this city—all Democrats who had voted against it at the last session. Mr. Miller of Pennsylvania (who was run out last fall) spoke against it now. The vote was finally taken, and the amendment affirmed by Yeas 119; Nays 56—three more than were necessary in the affirmative. So the Amendment is fully sanctioned by Congress, and now goes to the Legislatures of the States, three-fourths of which must ratify it by a majority vote to render it a part of the Constitution.

Its ratification at an early day by the Legislatures of the following States is nearly certain: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, California, Oregon, Nevada.

Taxation in Great Britain—Official Report of the Revenue of 1864.

The annual report of the revenue of Great Britain for the year 1864 appears in the latest London Journals. The aggregate amount raised by taxation was £70,125,374, or, in round numbers, \$350,000,000, divided as follows: Customs, £22,535,000; Postoffice, £4,000,000; Excise, 19,343,000; Crown lands, 297,500; Stamps, 9,468,000; Miscellaneous, 3,314,874; Taxes, 3,251,000. Total, £70,125,374.

The customs fell off £886,000 from the preceding year, and the property tax decreased £1,807,000; but the excise gained £1,508,000, the postoffice £200,000, and stamps £216,000. The aggregate decrease in all branches was £908,000 for the year. The London Observer says: "The taxes show an increase of £53,000 on the year, which is to be attributed to the increase of houses subject to the inhabited house duty. The property tax shows a decrease of £1,807,000 on the year. It is to be remembered that this tax was reduced from 9d. to 7d. in the pound in 1863, and from 7d. to 6d. in 1864. The next quarter's returns will show a more complete estimate of the difference caused by the latest reduction, which is the proper criterion to go by. It is probable, however, that the decrease will fall a little short of the estimated amount, because the property of the country is constantly on the increase. The postoffice shows the new habitual increase of £100,000 on the quarter, and no less than a quarter of a million on the year, which is on a scale of more than ordinary increase in the receipts."

The total revenue is a marvelous result, when we consider the reductions in the income tax and in the tea and sugar duties, and some smaller remissions of taxation, such as the half of the insurance duties and other little matters. There is every encouragement to proceed in the same direction, with only the difficulty that indirect taxation is now confined to a very few articles, the smaller ones being almost swept away, and the smuggler being almost unheard of. A succession of years of success and prosperity shows that we can almost securely rely upon an income of over seventy millions sterling, while a constantly reduced expenditure proves that we are not likely to need so much.

The New York Tribune has information, which it deems reliable, that a secret league has been formed by the Catholic powers in Europe—France, Spain and Austria—under the guidance and with the express concurrence of the pope, which is pledged to recognize the Rebel Confederacy on or immediately after the 4th of March next, under the pretext that the Union will thereafter consist of those States only which participated in the late Presidential Election and in the choice of members of the approaching Congress. It is added that the league contemplates other than moral support to the slave holding rebels, but not at the outset. We do not place any confidence in this and similar reports. The Catholic Powers of Europe, as well as Protestant England, would like to see the Union broken up, but they will hardly undertake to interfere in behalf of the Confederacy now that its prospects of success are so hopeless.

The commission houses appear to have come to the conclusion that they must moderate their views respecting prices, and are offering their goods at lower figures. The jobbers, however, cannot be tempted to buy anything beyond small parcels, to provide for the immediate demand. The manufacturers of cotton fabrics are pursuing a strictly cautious policy. The difficulty of procuring paying prices for goods discourages production, and the consequence is that, although the receipts of cotton are increasing, there is no corresponding augmentation of the supply of goods, and cotton, being thus kept down in price, is sent abroad, where it will realize relatively higher prices than here.

The Boston Post remarks that it is now plain that the French Emperor, from the beginning intended to despoil Mexico; and then begin the establishment of a series of colonies of France, from which she could gain material wealth; and that the protection of French citizens in the collection of their civil debts was merely a rank pretence and a sheer imposture.

ENGLISH IGNORANCE.—The ignorance of English factory operatives is evidenced by the testimony of a boy in Manchester, aged thirteen, a miler, who last month deposed as follows: "Heard about Jesus Christ at the church school, but its so long since that I've forgot Him. Do not know whether He did miracles or wonderful things, or how he was killed, and have not heard of NOAH and the flood. Jesus made the world in six days. The Queen has a name; it is Prince."

"No more cold feet" is the name of the newest Parisian gallop. Should this dance become prevalent, there will be less galloping consumption, it is natural to infer.

The End at Hand—An English View.

The London Daily News of the 3d, says: "But the facts we have been reviewing not only show us the end of the war, but they open to us a happier prospect of what will be after the war. The theory advanced by some of our contemporaries that the North could never hold the South, even after the Southern armies are beaten from the field, is plainly untenable. The fiery spirits will be gone, and those who were too indifferent to fight will certainly not have energy to resist when the fight is over. It is to be kept in view that there is, after all, no difference of race, or speech, or law, to maintain a feeling of hostility. There is nothing to prevent Northern settlers from amalgamating with Southern residents. The negro question being settled, there will be nothing to maintain a distinction between the two sections. Engaged in the same pursuits, resorting to the same courts, electing members to the same legislature, there will be nothing in this case resembling those of its rights by an alien power. Southerners will recover their rights by permission they will stand on a footing of perfect equality with the victors. We all know how rapidly, when the Highlanders of Scotland had been disarmed, they became among the most loyal of their fellow subjects. Yet their case was one in which there were fundamental distinctions between them and their subjugators not to be found between Federals and Confederates. No doubt there will be an intervening period in which military law must prevail till perfect order is restored. Those who make the pretense of acting as guerrillas after the regular war is over as an excuse for murdering and plundering, must be repressed by the firm rules which in every country, and under every system of law, punish individual crime. This will be an inevitable concomitant of the period of transition from war to legality. But when the fond dream of building up a slave empire is over, there will be nothing left to fight about; and a people who have nothing to maintain in discussion about, and who are in the enjoyment of common rights, common liberties, common privileges, will speedily unite to put down those whose disorders will be only a common bane."

PHILADELPHIA, February 2.—Yesterday the Evening Bulletin was sold at auction, and bought by Mr. Peacock, in the interest of himself, with Fetherston, Londer and Wallace. The price was \$89,000. The sale created a great excitement in journalistic circles.

The government realizes about \$70,000 a month from the sale of the hides, tallow, hoofs, &c., of the cattle slaughtered for the use of the Army of the Potomac, the number being about one hundred head per day.

It is a fact which ten thousand mothers in the land will not fail to note that the exchange of prisoners has been going on well enough since the President, on the 15th of October last, placed the subject of exchange under the direction of Lieut. Gen. Grant, with full authority to take any steps he might deem proper. The sick have first been exchanged, weekly supplies are furnished to our prisoners, and General Grant's officers, of our army, and General Grant's states, officially, that he believes that a full and complete exchange will be made.

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New Advertisements.

Advertisements set in large type, extra cost of manual style will be charged double price for space occupied.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF UNSEATED LANDS.

Assembly passed the 25th of March, 1855, entitled an Act to amend an Act directing the mode of selling unseated lands for taxes, and for other purposes.

The Commissioners of Clearfield county Pa. will dispose of the following lands, at the Court House, on Tuesday, the 1st day of March, 1865:

Table with columns: Acreage, Per. Warrantee, Township, and names of owners like David Keppart, George Muller, etc.

By order of the Board, WM. S. BRADLEY, Clerk.

LOST LETTERS

unclaimed and remaining in the Post Office at Clearfield, on the 1st day of February, A. D. 1865.

Table listing names of individuals and amounts, such as Brishen, George, \$1.00; Emerson, Miss Molly, \$1.00; Gilbert, James L., \$1.00.

MONTHLY STATEMENT of the Clearfield County Bank, for the month ending on the 31st day of Jan., A. D. 1865.

Financial statement table with columns for Assets and Liabilities, including items like Bills discounted, Pennsylvania State stock, Capital stock, etc.

BANK NOTICE.

TRUSTEES OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY, WASHINGTON, January 30th, 1865.

WHEREAS, BY SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CLEARFIELD," in the Borough of Clearfield, in the county of Clearfield, and State of Pennsylvania, has been duly organized under and according to the requirements of the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act to provide a National Currency, secured by a pledge of United States bonds and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved June 24, 1864, and has complied with all the provisions of said Act, and is prepared to commence the business of banking under said Act.

Now, therefore, I, Hugh McCulloch, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CLEARFIELD," in the Borough of Clearfield, in the county of Clearfield, and State of Pennsylvania, is authorized to commence the business of banking under the Act aforesaid.

In testimony whereof, witness my hand and seal of office, this 30th day of January, A. D. 1865.

HUGH McCULLOCH, Comptroller of the Currency.

RELIEF NOTICE.—The Board of Relief for the county of Clearfield, will meet at the Commissioners' office in Clearfield, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 22d and 23d days of February, 1865.

The Board of Relief have directed that the wife of the soldier must appear before the board, and produce her sworn statement, detailing same of soldier, regiment and company, and when certified, the number of children, with age and sex of each; the township in which they resided at the time of enlistment, and their present residence; and that she is without the means of support for herself and children who are dependent upon her. Two witnesses of credibility from the township in which she resides, must also be produced, whose certificate (sworn to before the Board of Relief) must set forth that the applicant is the person she represents herself to be, that the statement of the number and ages of her family is true, that she is in destitute circumstances and her family in actual want, and that all the facts set forth in her application are correct and true.

FOR SALE.—at cost—a good stock of...

LEATHER—an assortment—for sale by...

BONDS AND NOTES FOR SALE.—The undersigned is prepared to furnish, to those seeking investments, Government and county bonds. Also five per cent Government notes.

TREES! TREES!—The subscriber having been appointed an agent of the "Magic Nursery" in Lancaster county, would respectfully inform the citizens of Clearfield county, that he is prepared at all times to fill orders for every kind of Fruit Trees and Shrubs, at proportionable prices.