



RIGHT OR WRONG. WHEN RIGHT, TO BE KEPT RIGHT, WHEN WRONG, TO BE PUT RIGHT.

EBENSBURG: THURSDAY, APRIL 2.

His of the Viper No. 2.

In accordance with arrangement, that class of our fellow-citizens who delight to rail under the euphonious but lack-lustre title of "Democracy" met at the Court-House, on Saturday evening, to perfect their organization known as "Democratic Club." But few persons were present; indeed, had it not been for the array of Unionists who attended to see what they would see and hear what they could hear, the meeting would have been limited to a very "beggarly account of empty boxes." As it was, it proved a farce—a fizzle in the strictest sense of the word. The good, honest, hard-fisted yeomanry of little Cambria cannot be inveigled into any such entanglement as the one here proposed—there's no use coaxing them, and they will not be driven.

MICHAEL HASSON, Esq., took the chair, which he filled, as he is able to fill, with neatness, perspicuity and to advantage. He stated the object of the meeting in some happy and well chosen remarks, and sat down.

The first thing on the programme was the report of the Committee on Constitution, etc. Gen. JOE M'DONALD acted as chairman of the Committee, and read the documents. To the best of our recollection, they were voluminous, positive, dissatisfied, high-sounding and radically ridiculous—to the effect that the objects of the Club to be formed were, the dissemination and inculcation of true Democratic doctrine, and the promotion of the election of Democratic candidates. All of which was agreed to as eminently advisable in the present juncture by a unanimous voice.

The preliminaries over, an opportunity was afforded some of the politicians "as could speak" to unburden themselves. The name of P. S. NOON, Esq., was suggested as that of a gentleman whose eloquence should first burst upon the ears of the assembled auditory, and break the silence which was fast beginning to hang as a heavy spell around. So Mr. Noon it was.

The speaker contended that the Conscription Law lately passed by Congress is unconstitutional—that it conflicts with that darling hobby of the Democracy and the Traitors of the South, State Rights. This was his opinion, and so believing, he was ferocious a draft; but, should the Supreme Court decide otherwise, he for one was willing to submit. Manly and honorable, so far. He touched briefly on *The Alleghenian*, and asserted that the main object of that journal at present was to stir up old feuds between the friends respectively of DOUGLAS and BRECKINRIDGE—feuds which should never have existed! What are we to understand from this? That the Douglas men were wrong in dissolving partnership with the Lecompton members of the firm? or that the Breckinridgers monopolized the infancy of that undertaking? If this feud which resulted in a split of the Democratic party should never have existed, then must either the Douglas or else the Breckinridge faction come down from the high perch it has been so long occupying, and humble itself in the dust for forgiveness. Which shall it be? Mr. N. made use of one expression which we could not quite understand. We forget the connection, but it was to the effect that "the South had taken up arms too soon!" Too soon for what? Is this a covert threat that, had the South only waited a short time, it would have found friends enough in the North to have protected it from violence and seen it through in its struggle for ideal greatness?—or does it mean that they should have waited until after the next Presidential election before seceding, so as to have voted for the Democratic nominee?—or was it all a *lapsus linguae*?—or what? We ask for information.

R. L. JOHNSTON, Esq., next beamed forth in his usual good-natured style, dividing his attention pretty equally between the Constitution of the United States and *The Alleghenian*. He seemed to think we did him injustice in our report of his speech of Friday, 20th ult., and persistently denied ever having used the language attributed to him in connection with the Wide-Awakes. If he imagines we have misconstrued his remarks, and feels aggrieved thereat, Mr. J. is at perfect liberty to refute the charges made against him, over his own signature, through the columns of this paper. The fact is, friend JOHNSTON becomes extremely excited when speaking to Democratic Clubs, and talks about snakes, and niggers, and Abolitionists, and lumbermen from the New England States, and monstrosities in general, to such an extent that he may not possibly remember exactly what he does say. If our recollection of his wiper at the Wide-Awakes serves us aright—and we think it does—that circumstance was about as follows: Mr. J., in the course of his speech, and as usual, became jocular, and remarked that HARRISON had been sung into the Presidential chair in '40, while LINCOLN was lighted into it in '60 by the Wide-Awakes, with their capes and caps—the only description of uniform he ever knew them to be guilty of wearing, &c. These may not be the exact words, but they are the pith and essence. Does not Mr. J. remember this delicate little *mot* of his now? The speaker had a great deal to say about Rhode Island, that diminutive little State which is only about large enough for a decent-sized garden, and around the circumference of which a patient was once advised by his doctor to walk three times, by way of exercise, before breakfast; yet a State equally represented in the Senate of the United States with the great and flourishing State of Pennsylvania. But he forgot to tell his audience that this little State of Rhode Island has a larger white population than the slaveholding States of Delaware and Florida taken together! While talking about the State of Massachusetts, Mr. J. also forgot to mention the fact that she has a white population larger than that of the slaveholding States of Florida, Delaware, South Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana taken collectively! Mr. J. certainly iterated and reiterated the statement that Pennsylvania is larger than the entire New England States.—Now, what are the facts? Area of Pennsylvania in square miles, 46,000; area of the New England States in square miles, 64,678—a very material difference in favor of the latter, truly! But we have neither time nor inclination to follow Mr. JOHNSTON further in his meanderings.—One thing, however: He observed that BARKER might bark and bark until he got tired; for his part, he reserved the right to *bite* occasionally, should he see fit. So so—and, as we entertain no ambition of dying just at present speaking, we will tread lightly in the future, for the bite of a Copperhead is said to be sudden death to a Yankee—or any other man!—We are not aware that this last speech has conducted materially toward Mr. JOHNSTON'S aspirations for gubernatorial honors the coming fall, but that is a matter foreign to the subject as yet.

M. D. MAGEHAN, Esquire, followed. The opinions and estimates of this gentleman are of so little worth or moral bearing that we almost refrain from burdening our space with them at all. Of course he denounced the Conscription Law as unconstitutional; counseled resistance thereto even to the death; maligned the Administration; condemned the war; and made an ass of himself generally. We see that he delivered a similar speech at Johnstown the other evening, and was "loudly cheered." Is this a fact? Is this the appreciation of a Johnstown audience? We think not. For the credit of the boasted intelligence of this nineteenth century, we hope not. The cheers, if given, must certainly have been intended as a compliment to the "rave and roar" style of expression in which he invariably indulges.—

"He looks with such a look, you know, And speaks with such a tone!"—rather than as an endorsement of his intensely stupid tenets. The valiant and valorous M. D. M. resist the draft conscriptive, or any other draft!—ye who know the individual, bear us out in the assertion that this effectually "knocks the persimmons" in the superlatively ridiculous line! Resist the draft!—why, the draft would strenuously resist having anything to do with him!

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Mr. JOHNSTON and Mr. NOON and Mr. MAGEHAN had a great deal to say in the course of their speeches against the Administration and against the loyal men

who are sustaining it, but we do not remember that they uttered one syllable of dis-praise toward JEFFERSON DAVIS, or FLOYD, or COBB, or the Great Unhung, BRECKINRIDGE. They could talk by the hour of the baseless iniquities of Mr. LINCOLN, but they totally lost sight of the infernal wickedness of those traitorous squaddies in the South who are now and have for years been plotting the destruction of the country. Why is this? A thing is either right or wrong, Messieurs orators. If the cause of the Traitors, then, be right, why not say so at once, without beating around the bush—an open enemy is more to be respected than a concealed one; if wrong, let not your deeds belie your protestations. In either event, too the mark fairly and squarely.

ANDREW JOHNSTON is a Southerner, a Democrat, and a loyal man. He says: "The North is in no way responsible for the war—it has been brought about by the disunionists of the South, and they, and they alone, are responsible for the blood which has been shed." He further adds: "This wicked rebellion must be put down. Support the Administration in its efforts to quell it!" These, we may add, are not the sentiments usually retailed at Clubs of the Democratic persuasion, and especially does the Ebensburg Club fall behind in this particular. Honest men should ask themselves, Why is this?—and can we afford to ally ourselves to an organization the professed object of which is opposition to the legally constituted authorities in the prosecution of the war? If the latter interrogatory be answered in the negative, and as ye value the liberties for which, perchance, your father, son or brother is nobly battling, then give these so-called Democratic Clubs a wide berth. You have nothing in common with them no more than you have with the blood-stained and treason-dyed Oligarchy of the South.

The Right Sort of Talk.

Herewith we print a brief letter—not intended for publication, but written to a friend—from ANDREW CALLAGHAN, a member of Co. K, 125th Penna. Vols. Mr. C. is a native of Chess Springs, this county, and is and always has been a true blue Democrat. Now that he is braving the perils and privations of the tented field in behalf of the Government, his utterances should certainly be entitled to some consideration at the hands of his political brethren. Read:

CAMP NEAR STAFFORD C. H., VA., March 3, 1863. Dear Sir:—I, old Andy Callaghan, received your note this day, which I assure you has caused me much pleasure, in finding by it that we have yet some true patriots in our loved homes. The last month has been pregnant with treason. We knew it well, altho' we were far from you. We are not altogether fools here in the army. No, my friend. This is a place, I confess, where there is much sin committed, but it is also a place where you may find patriotism and intelligence splendidly developed in the lovers of Liberty from all the civilized nations, each and all aiming at the one great object—the preservation of the great American Union as handed down from the heroes of '76. We have seen the reasonable speeches of the copperheads in our legislative halls, and heard with indignation the responses from the deeper-lambred traitors at home. O, God! I cannot express unto you in my simple language how we feel, knowing full well that a bold and daring foe menaces us in front whilst these sneaking cowards fire in our rear. But could we be near you, patriots, at this time, we would relieve you of your anxiety by giving the demons their just deserts. The day of reckoning, however, will soon be at hand. Keep an eye on them, for they will not yet be satisfied.

Thank God, our beloved country has once more passed through the fiery ordeal; the skies are brightening. Treason has been rebuked, and the patriot soldier breathes free. In a short time, by the divine will of the Omnipotent, our army will advance against the Southern traitors, and crush to atoms the hydra-headed monster, Treason. We will yet be an united people, with the stains of Slavery and Treason wiped from our flag. Then we must call some of our trans-Atlantic neighbors to an account for the deeds done causing us so much embarrassment in our National affairs. There will be no need of conscription in this event, my friend. Since the hands of our President have been strengthened, and confidence once more restored, you can daily see the effect it has produced in the brightened countenances of our gallant men. We, all of us, feel and see that the masses at home are true to Liberty, their Country, and their God. This stimulates and strengthens the soldier to nobler deeds. The roads are now in an awful condition—it would be useless to try to move artillery. So we may rest awhile; then, after this momentous calm, will be heard the thundering peals of Liberty, shaking the earth almost to its centre, and causing the leaders of this great conspiracy to wish they were buried under their native mountains that they might thus be hidden from the very gaze of our Nation's defenders.

ANDREW CALLAGHAN

A Plea for the Government.

To the Editor of The Alleghenian:

On the 4th July, 1776, the then thirteen Colonies of Great Britain—New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia—in Convention assembled, all declared their independence of Great Britain. These Colonies, by their representatives, in contention declared and said, "We hold these truths to be self-evident;—that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The representatives in this convention from South Carolina were Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., and Arthur Middleton. South Carolina was the first State to rise up in rebellion against the authority of the United States, whose Government was intended to be founded upon the principles of the above Declaration recited. The Revolution of '76" continued and ended in the latter part of the year "81." The confederation of these 13 States had been made for special and not for permanent purposes. But after the war was over, the States did not deem themselves safe against England and other Powers; and they sought to strengthen themselves by uniting permanently for all time to come. In the discussion upon the Constitution, the institution of Slavery was not mentioned. Some of the States were for continuing Slavery, while others contended that it ought to be abolished, and believed it to be inconsistent with the declaration "that all mankind have a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."—This, for a long time, was a barrier to a Union of the States. Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia, refused to unite, unless the constitution should be so framed that they could retain Slavery, if they chose to do so. Many of the best men of these States contended for the abolition of Slavery, but being the minority, they had to submit to the majority. Every State at this time was independent of all the rest; and to form a Union of all the States, for the sake of expediency, the majority of all the States had to submit to the minority in the matter of Slavery; and the constitution was formed as we find it, permitting all the then existing States to retain Slavery that desired to have it.

It was plain to be seen then, as now, by all men of wisdom and good sense, that the Constitution permitting Slavery under its sanction, could not be reconciled with the Declaration of Independence, which declared "that all mankind had an equal right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Every one knows that the bondage of the negro is not liberty. We all know that by the laws of the Slave States neither life, liberty nor the pursuit of happiness is secured to the negro. The Slaveholder, or any white person, may maltreat the negro in the most brutish manner possible, in the presence of any number of negroes, and their testimony will not be taken as evidence against any acts of a white person. Democracy or Republicanism means that the majority, and not the minority, shall govern a Nation. Their names mean more,—they mean that the laws should be made so as to do justice to every one; to punish and prevent crime, and to encourage virtue and goodness. Is it not crime to take from a man what belongs to him, without his consent? Is it not wrong to enslave the negro, and to force him to labor for you, without his consent? Is not the strength of the negro given him for his own individual benefit,—as much so for the strength of the white man is given him for his benefit? We have no proof to the contrary. If our Fathers of the Revolution fought for liberty, for the principles of justice, and made their Declaration of Independence on the principles of justice—and formed a Government as near as they had the power, to the principles of the Declaration, the Constitution and Government ought to stand, until altered or revised by the majority of the people.

If this government is overthrown, whose fault is it? There are two principal parties now, in this country, opposed to each other's policy in regard to its Government. The one party, the rebels against the Government, contend that slavery is right, and that they have a right to extend it into our Territories, independent of Congress. The other party contend that slavery is wrong anywhere; but especially that Congress has a right to prohibit slavery in all our Territories, and they quote the clause of the Constitution, "Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the Territory or other property belonging to the United States." And Republicans ask, "What is more needful, than to make rules and regulations respecting slavery in our Territories?" It is the expressed arguments against the injustice of Slavery that induced the rebels to rise up and try to overthrow the Government. A citizen of the United States, anywhere, has as good right to oppose slavery by argument, as any other citizen has a right to uphold it by argument. But neither of these has a right to rise up in arms against the Government to uphold their opinion. The moment this is done, as the aggressor, by either party, the Constitution is destroyed if their rebellion is suffered to prevail. South Carolina, and all other States joining her rebellion, and all other persons in any of the States aiding, abetting, and comforting them, are all rebels alike against our Government; and in self

defence, the Government is justifiable in using any war measures to the extent of compelling them to lay down their arms, and submit to the Government, if we can possibly devise means to do it. And then, let the lawful citizens of the United States decide upon the settlement of our difficulties, and say who shall suffer according to justice for our great loss of life, wounds and property.

For any one to say, that we have a national or moral right to enslave another, is evincing a spirit of tyranny and oppression; it is a proof that he would do what he would not have others do to him; for no one would be willing that another should dominate and abuse him at his pleasure. It is argued by the friends of the slaveholder that if his slaves are emancipated, and he is not fully paid for them, it will reduce him to poverty, and that he would suffer injustice thereby.—This is looking at a suffering on one side, and paying no regard to justice on the other side. A buys a piece of land of B, in good faith, and pays him \$1,000 for it; but C comes forward, and shows an older and better title than A's, and B is dispossessed by C. B is unfortunate in the purchase, for by some reason he can't recover his \$1,000 from A, back again. So it is with the slaveholder: the slave has a natural and more equitable right to his own labor, than the man who calls himself his master; and if the negro obtains justice, he will have a voice in saying who he will work for, and at what price. And if the man who thought he owned him finds out that he does not, then, he may say I am unfortunate, but I must put up with it, and I guess I must gain my bread by the sweat of my face.

All the States and individuals which have attempted or aided the rebels to try to shake off their allegiance to this Government by Secession, are guilty of the highest point of infringement of the Constitution. And yet, we have among us, in the free States, men claiming to be friends to the Union, who are all the while censuring and calumniating the President, Administration, and the whole Republican party, as violators of the Constitution, without a word of censure of the rebels for their acts which entirely destroy the Constitution should they prove successful in their rebellion. Vallandigham is one of these pretended friends of the Union. And—we have many, not far off, like him. They delight to quote his arguments and speeches.

Vallandigham says, "I quote Chatham, 'My Lords, you can't conquer America.'" And then he adds, "You have not conquered the South yet. And you never will." Thus Vallandigham and his admirers exult at the idea of the rebels' success. What is the difference between the President and his administration's infringement of the Constitution, if guilty of any, and the infringement which the rebels are guilty of? I answer, that the acts of the rebels are intended to destroy the Constitution and Government altogether; but, the infringements, if any, made by the President and his supporters, are intended to counteract the intentions of the rebels, and to preserve the Government. As a general thing, it is not lawful for the Government or citizen of a town to set a house on fire; but, some times when a house is on fire, expediency requires that others should be set on fire, to prevent the spread of the flames. For instance, if a thickly settled town in one location should take fire, and should rage so furiously that there was danger of burning the most or the whole of the town, the authorities would be justifiable in setting fire to some intermediate buildings, if there was a prospect by so doing of saving the balance of the town. And with such an extensive rebellion as we have, and traitors more or less all over the professed loyal States, there is a necessity of suspending the writ of Habeas Corpus, for the purpose of preventing traitors hiding the rebels, in their rebellion.

Treason requires to be more promptly dealt with than can be had by civil process. In many counties in loyal States, the traitor defies the civil law; because he expects the Jury and Court to screen him in his treasonable acts. To deter traitors from committing treasonable acts requires powerful and immediate punishment.—If there is danger of sometimes punishing innocent persons by martial law, there is more danger of greater harm being done by depending on the civil law to punish the persons guilty of treason.

A great cry is made by rebel sympathizers about persons being imprisoned, by martial law, without evidence, or alleged guilt of transgression against law. I have heard of no arrests and imprisonment without their offences being enumerated. General Jackson proclaimed martial law at New Orleans, and arrested suspicious persons, and evidently saved the town, and thousands of lives, and millions of property, and beat the enemy by so doing. All loyal men at that day praised him for the act.

An error of the telegraph led us, and our caterpanies generally, to announce last week that the Union State Convention would assemble in Pittsburg on the 15th of July. It will assemble in that city on the 1st day of July, the day fixed upon by the Committee. Take notice.

The Situation.

"Occasional," the well informed correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, writes as follows:

The time will speedily come when the eyes of the country will again be turned to the banks of the Rappahannock. We can see by the rebel newspapers, that the Army of the Potomac is inspiring a spirit of dread that was once attached to its name, but which defeat and mismanagement in afterdays destroyed. In addition to this, every courier from the army, every officer and soldier who passes through Washington on his way to his Northern home, speaks with enthusiasm of his commanding general, of the courage and discipline that pervade the army. It may be safely stated that the Army of the Potomac was never in a better condition than it is at this time. There is more unity of purpose, a better acquaintance with the duties of the soldier's life, and a more reckless disregard of his dangers.—Thanks to the president's forethought and energy of the Administration, the soldiers want for nothing. He is well clothed, well armed, well paid. He is as comfortable as it is possible for a soldier to be.—He has listened to the great uprising in the loyal States with joy, and many a camp circle is made glad when the newspaper from home is read, and the soldier learns that his efforts, and toils, and dangers, are not unappreciated by the nation. He has taken up arms to save General Hooker, during the few weeks in which he has been commanding general, he has effected great reforms. He took the position with the reputation of being one of our best soldiers; he is adding that of a great general. He has rescued the army from demoralization as wretched as defeat, and by his kindness, firmness, and energy he has changed the Army of the Potomac from a mere engine of political mischief into a splendid and capable army. The frosts of winter are over, the days are becoming genial and pleasant, and the weeks of reasonable spring weather will make the roads hard and dry. Everything indicates an early and active campaign.—It is not known whether the rebels will receive battle on the Rappahannock.—The tone of the Richmond papers thought to indicate an evacuation of Fredericksburg, and a retreat to a point near Richmond. The rebels would be delighted to entice us once again into the swamp of the Chickahominy, and for that reason they may fall back to their old line of defence. If General Hooker permits them to do this, he is not the man his friends suppose him to be. You will remember when he gave his evidence before the Senate committee, in reference to the battle of Fredericksburg, he indicated a certain movement, in which he hoped to flank the rebel position at Fredericksburg, and avoid their fortified hill-tops. General Burnside overruled that plan, and perhaps his judgment was better. There were those who differed from Gen. Burnside, and I allude to the circumstance for the purpose of illustrating the great traits of Gen. Hooker's character—caution, energy and boldness. When he moves it will be with experienced officers, a veteran army, and the good will of the country to support him. He has it in his power to do more for his country than has ever before fallen to the lot of a public man. He may be the Savior of his country. It crushes the rebel army and takes Richmond, the rebellion is at an end. In the Southwest it is expiring. Farragut has passed the batteries of Port Hudson in defence, and is now aiding to retake Vicksburg. General Banks is in the field and taking advantage of the warm weather that now prevails in the Southern States is actively engaged in military operations. In the West the rebels are bemoaning a necessity that seems to indicate a retreat to Chattanooga. Such a retreat would be the greatest victory Rosecrans has yet obtained, as it would release the mountain country of East Tennessee with its oppressed Union people from a despotism of death. The affairs about Charleston are not so gratifying—the correspondents find more to say about the quarrels of the commanding generals than their victories or their military efficiency. But my faith in this war has been not so much in the generals as the soldiers, and it is very evident that the Administration will make a short shift of the commanding generals who give so much attention to etiquette, and so little to the real duties of their position. Taking a survey of the whole field, however, I think the loyal man has cause for gratitude and hope. We only need a general advance along the line—a united effort and a mighty blow. The rebellion must fall, and peace will descend upon a country greater and more powerful than any the world has ever seen.

TO LUMBERMEN:—Wanted, at C. ALBRIGHT & CO'S United States Bakery, Nos. 7 and 9 Dock St. Philadelphia, Two Million feet SPRUCE, LINN, POPLAR or BEECH LUMBER, and One Million feet SPRUCE, LINN, POPLAR or BEECH BOARDS, ten inches wide and one inch thick. Also, Two Million LIGHT BOX STRAPS, five feet six inches long, allowed ready for use. Persons proposing for the above or any part of it will state price per cars, and their railroad station, or in care of Dock Street Wharf.

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GRAS, S. HAMBURG. I. C. CALDWELL. March 13, 1863.