resembled the "court-martial or military commission" of Mr. Lincoln's proclamation, in not being governed by the common law or immemorial customs and acts of Parliament, but admitting for law the proclamations of the Executive and grounding their judgment upon them. The English nation, however, repelled the attempt with indignation; and by the celebrated Petition of Rights arbitrary imprisonments and the exercise of martial law were abolished, and the obnoxious courts suppressed.

[*Conclusion next week.*]

The Compiler.

OUR FLAG!

H. J. STAHLE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

GETTYSBURG, PA:

MONDAY MORNING, MAR. 14, 1864.

THE LEGISLATURE.

THE ABOLITION SENATORS RECEDE!

The House, on Wednesday, passed finally an act relative to the payment of bounties to volunteers. In the Senate, on the same day, the bill allowing soldiers to vote came up on final passage. The yeas and nays, as required by the Constitution, were called, and resulted—yeas 18, nays 7. The Democrats, on the ground that the Senate was not legally organized, either did not vote or voted "no."

Mr. Penney then rose, and after some remarks, resigned the usurped Speakership, to which he had up to that time so tenaciously clung, and was elected Speaker by a party vote—Penney 17, Clymer 13. Thus at last, after a protracted and stubborn struggle, have the Abolition Senators receded from their false and revolutionary position, and recognized the correctness of the views and action of the Democratic minority. We invite attention to the Address of the Democratic Senators to the Democracy of Pennsylvania, in which they most triumphantly vindicate themselves.

On Thursday, a number of Democratic Senators who had declined to vote, before the election of Mr. Penney, on the bill extending franchise privileges to soldiers, asked leave to vote.

The Abolition Senators refused to let them do so. Magnanimous majority!

Hon. John L. Dawson's Speech.—We devote our first page to-day to the publication of the first half of Hon. J. L. Dawson's great speech in Congress on the 24th ult.—the balance will be given in our next. The speech is marked throughout with high-toned and lofty patriotism—with a comprehensive judgment of the causes of our national difficulties and the means of restoring the nation to its former tranquility.—It carries us back to the days of pure and undefiled devotion to the whole country; and its eloquent denunciations of sectional narrow-mindedness and its appeals to legislators to come up to the full stature of the manhood of the statesmen of the olden time, remind us that yet the Constitution has a defender worthy of a nation's gratitude, and the people a representative whom they can trust as a guide; one to whom they can look for words of true wisdom and safe counsel. The speech is replete with warnings drawn from intimate acquaintance with the historical causes which led to the dissolution of other Governments, and it calls with prophetic voice to those who revere the institutions of our fathers to shun the same roads to ruin. In its delivery Mr. Dawson commanded the undivided attention of the House; inspired his friends with new faith and courage, and his political enemies with wholesome fear.

The Age.—We publish, in another column, the prospectus of the Philadelphia *Age* for 1864. The *Age* has been in existence about one year, during which time, we are happy to learn, it has met with success beyond the most sanguine anticipations of its friends. It is the only Democratic daily published in Philadelphia, and is conducted on the most enlarged and liberal principles. It is in every respect a first class daily newspaper. It gives the latest and most reliable news of the day, both domestic and foreign, together with such a variety of solid and substantial reading matter as to make it useful to the farmer, mechanic, merchant and professional men, as well as a welcome visitor to the family circle. In its politics it is thoroughly Democratic, and advocates with marked ability those great and fundamental political truths which underlie our republican form of government. It is worthy the support of every true Democrat in the State, and we trust it may continue to receive that patronage from the party which its merits deserve.

WASHINGTON, March 9.

The Retreat at Gettysburg.—General Warren was to-day before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, and examined at length in regard to the battle of Gettysburg. He gave a full and explicit statement of that affair, and is understood to have vindicated the conduct of General Meade.

A Bolt Threatened.—The Missouri *Democrat*, the leading Republican organ west of the Mississippi, gives the following emphatic warning to the Lincoln wire-pullers:

"If a high handed attempt is to be made to force Mr. Lincoln's nomination upon that convention, the attempt will necessarily beget a revolt, for which, and for whatever disastrous consequences flow from it, these desperate schemers will be held responsible.

☞The returns received by telegraph from New Hampshire indicate the success of the Abolition ticket by a majority of five thousand. No other result could have been anticipated. Thousands of soldiers of the Abolition stamp had been sent there to vote, while the Democrats were kept in the field.

Murderer Arrested.—The negro suspected of the murder of the soldier near Chambersburg, was arrested one day last week in Martinsburg, Va. He was taken to Chambersburg and lodged in jail, to await his trial at the next term of court.

☞Chase has withdrawn from the Presidential race. This will strengthen Fremont.

☞Major White has been exchanged.

THE DAMAGE BILL.

In the fall of 1862, the rebel General Stuart made a raid through Franklin and Adams counties, and carried off a large number of horses, greatly to the inconvenience and loss of farmers and others. Mr. McSherry, in the Senate, and Messrs. Myers, Horton, and others, in the House, at the following session of the Legislature, made earnest efforts to have the sufferers paid the amounts of their damages out of the State Treasury, the State to settle with the National Government. It was found, however, that Gov. Curtin was hostile to the measure, and, as a consequence, a *practical* bill, one which would have given prompt and effectual relief, was smothered, and another passed in its stead, the only effect of which has been to delay indemnification.

During last summer, a stupendous rebel invasion of the border counties occurred—an invasion which resulted, here, in one of the most severe and destructive battles of the war. The losses and sufferings of our people in consequence can only be imagined by those who visited the bloody scene soon after. Not only were horses and cattle without number carried off, but houses and barns were given to the flames, the ripened grain was trampled into the earth, fences disappeared as before a whirlwind; the families of many theretofore prosperous and comfortable farmers were driven to seek shelter beneath other roofs, beggars for the commonest necessaries of life. On their return to their once plentiful and happy homes, their saddened hearts were given only that welcome which ruin and desolation can give.

Thus stricken, they appeal to their less unfortunate fellow citizens of a great and affluent Commonwealth to lighten their burdens—not in the light of charity, but of justice, because they do not see that they should be expected to bear all the losses which the rebels may be able to inflict upon the State, whilst those less dangerously situated escape altogether. There is right in the matter, and there should be philanthropy enough everywhere to see it.

That the relief asked for should be granted by the Legislature, we think is clear. Not only so, it should come *promptly*. It is needed *now*. Houses, barns and fences, must be re-built, and at least a portion of the sufferers must depend upon the payment of these damages to enable them to go on with the necessary repairs. Hence this measure of relief, to be well passed, should be passed quickly.

But will it be? is anxiously asked by many of our people. We have had our fears from the beginning, aroused by the shape given to the "Stuart raid" bill; and the proceedings of the House, on Thursday week, tend to confirm them more strongly than anything that has yet transpired.

Mr. Smith, of Chester, is the Republican leader of the House, and it has for some time been understood that he is opposed to the State paying these damages. He is also chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations, which committee is made up of a majority of his party. On Thursday week, Mr. McMurtrie, of Blair, moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Federal Relations. This Mr. Sharpe, of Franklin, promptly resisted. Why, he asked, should it be referred? By order of the House, the bill had been referred to a select committee. That committee, after several meetings, after having well matured the bill, reported it to the House. It was discussed during several sessions, and nothing whatever was said directly against the bill—nothing to convince anybody that it should not pass in the shape in which it was reported to the House. He therefore hoped that it would not be handed over to the tender mercies of the Committee on Federal Relations.

Mr. Smith, of Chester, then took the floor, and advocated the reference, declaring that he desired the bill to be first put *into a different shape*, and giving as a reason, that "the transactions out of which these claims arise, are matters within the jurisdiction of the National Government; and *if any* Government is bound to pay these claims, it is the Government of the United States." Mr. Sharpe again got the floor, and, in a very able speech, further resisted the motion to refer. He said:

"I do not like this dodge of killing a bill in committee. I want gentlemen to stand upon this floor and say upon the record whether they are in favor of paying the citizens of Pennsylvania for the losses which they have sustained not by the rebels alone, but also by the United States troops who came here in defence of the Government, and to preserve the integrity of the Commonwealth. If it is to be defeated, I want the people to know who has defeated it. I desire that members who are opposed to it shall have the moral courage to stand up on this floor and declare by their votes that they are unwilling that the people of Pennsylvania shall be indemnified for their losses. Therefore I hope that the House will not refer this bill to the Committee on Federal Relations. If it is to be defeated, let it be defeated in a fair and honest way, and let every man who votes against it take the consequences of his vote."

Mr. Smith replied, insisting on the reference. Finally, the yeas and nays were called by Mr. Barger and Mr. Sharpe, and the motion to refer to the Committee on Federal Relations prevailed—the Republicans voting for it:

Yeas—Messrs. Alleman, Balsbach, Barnett, Bigham, Billingfelt, Bowman, (Lancaster), Brown, Burgwin, Cochran, (Philadelphia), Coleman, Denniston, Etnier, Glass, Guernsey, Haslett, Henry, Herron, Hill, Huston, Kaiser, Kelley, Koonce, Lee, Lilly, M'Kee, McMurtrie, Mayer, Marsh, Miller, Musselman, Negley, O'Harra, Olmsted, Orwig, Pancoast, Price, Reed, Slack, Smith, (Chester), Smith, (Lancaster), Stanberger, Sutphin, Watt, Watson, Wells, White, Windle and Johnson, *Speaker*—47.

Nays—Messrs. Alexander, (Centre), Barger, Beck, Boileau, Boyer, Ellis, Gilbert, Graber, Hakes, Hargnett, Hopkins, Hoover, Horton, Jackson, Kerns, (Schuylkill), Kline, Labar, Long, McManus, Marshall, Missimer, Meyers, Nelson, Noyes, Patton, Pershing, Potteiger, Purdy, Quigley, Reiff, Rex, Rice, Schofield, Sharpe, Shimer, Spangler, Walsh, Weaver, Weiser and Wimley—41.

From this action, it is not difficult to infer what the final result will be. A bill may be passed, but we fear it will be no better than the "Stuart raid" bill. It will no doubt merely provide for the appointment of commissioners, at a good fat per diem, whose report will amount to nothing after it is made.

In this county, previous to the fall election, prominent Republicans said, "elect Curtin and he will have all the damages paid." In Franklin county a similar promise was made. The Chambersburg *Spirit and Times* says:

"The Republican leaders in this county, last fall, and elsewhere upon the stump, pledged their party to this measure, and we now call upon them to make that pledge good. If they were sincere, let them bring such a pressure to bear upon their Republican assemblymen as will insure the passage of the bill. Otherwise they must stand accused of 'keeping the word of promise to the ear, and breaking it to the hope.'"

We cannot better conclude this article than by the following extract from the Chambersburg *Repository*—Col. McClure's paper:

"It is urged by some, who may be friendly to the measure, but who do not fully understand the circumstances surrounding these claims, that the present Legislature should only provide for their adjudication and leave it for a future legislature to provide for payment. This would be a cruel trifling with the rights of the devastated counties. Two previous legislatures have *exhausted our people by like words of promise to the ear and breaking them to the hope*; and our citizens have borne heavy expenses to have their accounts adjusted under various tribunals, during the *last two years, and not one of the claims so* adjudicated has been paid. The losses sustained by the occupation of our lands by the three months' men have all been ascertained nearly two years ago. Appraisers were appointed by our courts, in accordance with an act of the legislature, and the claimants had to employ counsel and pay the costs of the proceedings. The court confirmed the claims as adjudicated, and to this day they remain unpaid. The sufferers by the militia in 1862 were notified to appear before commissioners and establish their losses, and another commission adjudicated the losses by reason of the impressment of horses the same year. All this was done at a considerable expense to the already plundered people, and their claims have never been paid. During the last year, in pursuance of another act of the legislature, commissioners were appointed to ascertain the losses growing out of the rebel raid of 1862, and again our people have been in court, as required by the law, and borne the expense of establishing their claims. We submit, therefore, whether it would not be a mockery to again, for the third time, propose adjudication without payment?"

The Draft to Take Place.—There is authority for stating that the draft has not been postponed indefinitely as published. It will certainly take place on April 1, when the bounties cease, subject to all deductions of enlisted men for the present month. Many Congressmen assert that another call for troops in April or May is certain to be made.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, in his letter of the 3d inst., says:

"The Provost Marshal General to-day announced that it would be well for each district to secure all the men that they could, to the credit of their districts; that a new draft would be necessary as soon as this one is filled."

THE WAR NEWS.

Advices from Vicksburg, via Memphis, to the 3d inst., state that Gen. Sherman's army had returned to the former place, with a number of slaves, a large lot of mules, horses, hogs, cattle, and other spoils taken during the expedition. Later Richmond papers confirm this report. According to their statements, Gen. Sherman was at Canton, Miss., on the 2d inst., on his return to Jackson, after leaving the country through which he passed perfectly impoverished, having destroyed an immense amount of public and private property at Meridian, Marion, Enterprise, Lockport and Lauderdale. Gen. Sherman's loss in killed, wounded and missing is said to be about five hundred. The enemy followed him closely, and he marched as fast as possible—over fifteen miles a day. He left Meridian on February 22d. On the 27th the enemy caught up to him seven miles east of Canton, and on the 28th the skirmishing was very brisk. He was pursued all the way to Vicksburg, which he reached on March 3d. Gen. Sherman is said to have left Vicksburg, on a visit to Gen. Banks in reference to future movements.

Col. Dahlgren, who accompanied Gen. Kilpatrick *on his late raid to Richmond*, was, it appears, not taken prisoner, but was killed in a skirmish with a body of Confederates under Lieut. Pollard, of the 9th Virginia regiment. Some seventy or *eighty of his men are said to have been* taken prisoners. Col. D. was a son of Admiral Dahlgren, of the fleet operating off Charleston. He was a young and brave cavalry officer, and lost a leg in an engagement near Hagerstown, Maryland, last summer.

The Richmond *Despatch* says that Col. Dahlgren was killed while leading a charge, two balls entering his head, two his body, one his leg, which caused him to fall from his horse, when he instantly expired. The *Despatch* reports that about 650 prisoners were taken.

The same paper says that Bradley Johnston's troops followed, hammering at Kilpatrick's columns until the force sent from below were met, when he suddenly found Dahlgren's party in his rear, when he turned upon them; but that Dahlgren's men succeeded in cutting their way through with the loss of twenty men. The rebel troops had been ordered back to Richmond, and an order of thanks for their conduct issued by General Hampton.

The Richmond papers assert that important papers were found upon the person of Col. Dahlgren. One of them, in commenting upon the fact, remarks:

"These documents (discovered on the body of Col. Dahlgren) furnish unmistakable evidence of the objects, purposes and designs of the enemy. To liberate the prisoners was legitimate and proper, but 'to destroy and burn the hateful city, and 'not allow the rebel leader Davis and his traitorous crew to escape,' was as infamous in design as it was contemptible in execution. * * Soldiers! read these papers, and weigh well their purpose and design. Will not these documents take off the rose water sentimental mode of making Pennsylvania campaigns? Should our army again go into the enemy's country, will not these papers relieve them from the restraints of a chivalry that would be proper with a civilized enemy, but which only brings upon them the contempt of our savage foe? Decidedly, we think, that these Dahlgren papers will destroy, during the rest of this war, all rose water chivalry: and that confederate armies will make war after and upon the rules selected by their enemy."

Gilmore has sent orders to Florida, that in future only Jacksonville shall be held by the Union troops and no effort must be made whatever to occupy other towns.

The Federal army of Chattanooga has withdrawn its advance to Ringgold. The original lines are now held.

The Federal campaign in Texas is again given up. Matagorda bay has been abandoned, and the troops recalled. Brownsville is now the only place in Texas occupied in any force by the Federal troops. Strong reinforcements are being sent to the out-posts in the Teche country, Louisiana, as a confederate raid is feared.

A dispatch from Nashville states that a brigade of Confederate cavalry dashed into the Federal lines on the 4th inst., at Mossy Creek, but were repulsed with the loss of a few prisoners. The Confederate forces at Dalton, Ga., are said to number from 20,000 to 40,000.

Later advices from the Gulf Coast state that the bombardment of Fort Powell, below Mobile, was vigorously progressing. Admiral Farragut was endeavoring to silence the fort so as to send his mosquito fleet into Mobile bay, and thus cut off Forts Morgan and Gaines.

ADDRESS OF THE DEMOCRATIC SENATORS.

To the Democrats of Pennsylvania:

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—At this juncture in the proceedings of the Senate of Pennsylvania, the undersigned deem it their right and duty to address you.

For more than two months we have unitedly and determinedly withstood an effort on the part of the Republican members of that body to subvert the organic law, to ignore the precedents of seventy years of our history, and to trample under foot the rights of their equals and peers. In so doing we have been actuated by the high resolve, that by no act of the representatives of the only law-abiding political organization in this Commonwealth should the rights and constitutional privileges of the people be subverted. We have relied with unshaken faith upon that people for our support and vindication, and to the end that their verdict may be rendered with a full knowledge of the facts, we beg leave to present a brief history of our position during the protracted and exciting contest which has just closed.

The members of the Senate assembled in the Senate Chamber at Harrisburg on Tuesday, January 5th, A. D. 1864, at 3 P. M. Of the twenty-two Senators holding over, all were present save Major White, who was a prisoner in the hands of the rebels; of those present, twelve were Democrats, and nine Republicans. The Senate was called to order by the Hon. J. P. Penney, the Speaker elected at the close of the session of 1863. The Secretary of the Commonwealth was then introduced and presented the returns from the districts which had elected Senators in October, 1863. The returns were opened and read, by which it appeared that four Democrats and seven Republicans had been elected, all of whom were present, thereby causing a tie in the vote between the two great political organizations of the country as represented on that floor.

Upon the reading of the certificates of election, it would have been the duty of the Senator elected Speaker at the close of the session of 1863, to have vacated the chair, had he *been governed in his action* by the express terms of the Constitution, which, by section X, Article 1, prescribes that the General Assembly shall meet on the 1st Tuesday of January in every year, and by section XI, of the same Article, that "each House" (i. e., when they meet on that day) shall elect its Speaker and other officers. It appears to the undersigned that the words *"each House shall elect its Speaker"* are sufficiently certain to determine the question that no one elected Speaker by the Senate of 1863 could exercise the duties of that office over the Senate of 1864—*the latter being a new and distinct* body, made up of other members, who had never participated in an election for Speaker, and as by the express terms of the Constitution, "each House shall (when they meet on the first Tuesday in January in each year) *elect its Speaker and other officers,"* it is *manifest and clear that the Senator* from Allegheny had no shadow of right to exercise the duties of Speaker over this new Senate which had never elected him its Speaker, and we have never recognized him as such. But admitting, for the sake of argument, that the words of the Constitution are ambiguous and uncertain, then precedent and usage, if they exist, must determine their meaning, and by this test the undersigned desire that their position may be tried.

During a period of seventy years, from 1794 until this day, there is but one other instance where a Speaker elected by a former Senate attempted to exercise the duties of his office over a succeeding and new Senate, and that was during the "BUCK SHOT WAR," when the late Charles B. Penrose, the Speaker holding over, entertained two motions relative to contested seats; but when these were determined, *even he* vacated the chair, and did not dare to resume it, until by the vote of the *new Senate*, he was elected Speaker. If the Republican members of the Senate of 1864 can gather comfort from this one solitary exception in the unbroken line of precedents, they are welcome to it. The boldness and magnitude of their act of usurpation has destroyed its significance as a deed of revolution.

The Senator from Allegheny, notwithstanding the express words of the Constitution, with their meaning illustrated by the action of all former Speakers, save one, for a period of seventy years, after the reading of the certificates of election which created the new Senate, failed to vacate the chair, which he occupied by courtesy and for the sake of convenience. He requested the new Senators to come forward to be sworn. This the Republican Senators did, and also the Democratic Senators;—the latter, however, under a protest, in which, in brief and emphatic terms, they denied his right to administer the oath of office to them, they having been elected members of a body of which he had never been elected Speaker. It is here to be observed that this course was necessary on their part, for the reason that it was the evident intention of the Republicans, should the Democrats refuse to take the oath, to leave their names off the roll, whereby our opponents would have secured a clear majority of those voting.

After this act of usurpation the new Senate, by a *unanimous vote*, adopted a resolution to proceed to an election for Speaker. If it is not true that the office was vacant, (as the undersigned contend,) why the necessity to elect a Speaker? But under this resolution several ballots were held on that, the first day of our meeting, each resulting in a tie between the Republican candidate, Mr. Penney, and the Democratic candidate, Mr. Clymer. The Senate adjourned until the next day, when, after several ineffectual ballots, the Senator from Berks, Mr. Clymer, on behalf of the undersigned, made the following proposition of compromise, viz: That the Republicans should elect the Speaker of the Senate, the Democrats the clerk, and so alternately until all were filled. This basis of settlement the undersigned considered to be just. It was made, not for the purpose of securing place or position, but to vindicate a principle. It was precisely the basis of compromise adopted in 1855, when the Democrats having an actual majority (although not present) were given the Speaker, the Know-Nothings of that day (at present Republicans) the clerk, and so alternately to the end of the list. But this proposition the Republican Senators of 1864 refused to accept. They had entered upon usurpation and they determined to adhere to it with all its consequences.

During the protracted struggle which followed, this offer of compromise was renewed from time to time; it was always rejected, and not one proposition tending to a solution of the difficulty ever came from the Republican side, save the absurd suggestion of the Senator from Erie, Mr. Lowry, that he would vote for the Democratic candidate for Speaker *provided either he or some one of the undersigned would agree never to vote on any party or test question.*

It is thus a matter of history that the Republican Senators refused a fair and just proposition which, had it been accepted, would have organized the Senate on the second day of its meeting. They attempt to justify their conduct on two grounds.—*First*, that the Senate is ever organized, the Speaker of a former Senate being the Speaker of the subsequent one; and, *Second*, that Major White, if present, would have given them a majority.

We have heretofore exposed the fallacy of the first position by reference to the *words of the Constitution, and to the* unbroken precedents of seventy years. In addition, we will present a test which will so clearly expose the unwarrantable and unconstitutional nature of their claim, that no one, however prejudiced, may mistake or misunderstand it.

By the XXIII section, Article 1st, of the Constitution of this State, it is provided that all bills passed by the Legislature and presented to the Governor for his signature, within ten days of the final adjournment, shall become laws *without his signature* unless sent back (with his objections) *within three days after their next meeting.*

In 1855 the Legislature met on the second day of January. The contest for Speaker was prolonged until the fifth, when the Hon. Wm. M. Heister, of Berks county, was elected. Upon the sixth, the *fourth* day after their meeting, the Governor of the Commonwealth returned, with his objections, several of the most important bills passed by the Legislature of 1854. If the position of the Republican Senators of 1864 is correct, viz: that the Senate is always organized, and that the Speaker of the former Senate is the Speaker of the new Senate, then those bills of 1854, vetoed by Governor Bigler on the *fourth* day of the session of 1855, are laws notwithstanding his vetoes. That this is not so, or at least that none of the eminent lawyers and statesmen who composed that Senate (among whom were Price, Buckalew, Heister and Darsie) so thought, is evinced by the fact that they all voted upon those vetoes as required by the Constitution, which they surely would not have done had they been of opinion they had been sent in too late. The Senators of 1855 did not even claim to have that until they had elected a Speaker, *much less that they were organized.*—Our view of this question is further strengthened by the act of 1804, which obviously contemplates the election of a Speaker of each House at the beginning of each session, and requires him first to be sworn before he can administer the oath to the newly elected members. It has been left for the Republican Senators of 1864 to ignore the Constitution, to defy precedent, and to attempt to destroy the very foundations of law and order.

This disposes of their first ground of defence. We will now *probe* the second reason assigned for their revolutionary conduct.

Who is accountable for the absence of Major White, or rather, who is to blame that his seat was not filled on the first day we met?

It is alleged that Major White resigned his seat in the Senate, that resignation having been received by his father, Judge White, about the middle of November, 1863. It is to be assumed (the undersigned reserving their individual opinions thereon) that the resignation was genuine, since in furtherance and in support of the usurpation inaugurated in January, an election was ordered thereon by the Speaker *de facto* of the Senate, and a new member elected and sworn. Assuming it to be genuine, whose fault is it that an election was not ordered immediately on its reception, which would have given ample time to have put his successor in his place on the first Tuesday of January? Surely neither that of the undersigned, nor of any Democrat in the State; the blame must rest where it rightfully belongs, upon the Republicans of the Senate and upon their abettors.

The excuse offered is that the resignation was not filed, in order that efforts might be made (the incentive being the necessity of Major White's presence to Republican ascendency in this body) for his exchange.—Without stopping to inquire whether this ascendency is likely to be beneficial to the people of Pennsylvania, we will merely remark that if the fate of Major White had been different or more deplorable than that of thousands of other brave and gallant men who are enduring the untold horrors of captivity in order that *the negro may be raised to the level of the white man*, then, indeed, might some such excuse be tolerated. But Major White's condition, much as we deplore it, is no worse than that of those who are a garnered harvest of brave men rotting in prison, victims to the malignant heresies of those who advocate *the social, political and military equality of the black and white races.*

That Major White became a prisoner is his misfortune; that he is not released is the intentional and designed fault of his political friends. In either view, he and they are alone responsible for the "dead lock" caused by his absence.

After the Republicans had secured a clear majority, they still persisted in their course of usurpation. In the earlier days of the session, by a unanimous vote, and by participating in twelve ballots, they admitted that it was their sworn duty to proceed to the election of a Speaker. When they had secured the power to do so, then, in violation of the Constitution, of precedent, of law, and of their own admissions, they for ten days persisted in their revolutionary conduct. But from the 29th of February, the day when Dr. St. Clair was sworn as Senator from the Twenty-first District, until this 9th day of March, the undersigned have resisted as before, by all means in their power, every attempt on the part of the Republicans to legislate. Baffled and defeated, they have on this day yielded the whole question in issue. THE SENATE OF 1864 HAS ELECTED ITS SPEAKER!!!

Thus, fellow-citizens, have the Constitution, precedent and law been sustained, and the course of the undersigned vindicated.

We have thus narrated the facts of this case, and have endeavored, and we trust successfully, to expose the fallacy of the ostensible reasons assigned by the Republican Senators in support of their conduct. We say ostensible, for we do not hesitate to declare that the entire proceeding is but a part and parcel of a programme which proposes to break down and destroy every barrier standing between them and their lust for power and place.

In the past, we have presented a determined and unbroken front. We have done so during the trying times of the present, and sustained by your confidence and support, we will continue to do so in the time to come.

We have presented you the record—by it we are *willing to be judged.*

HARRISBURG, March 9, 1864.

HIESTER CLYMER,	WM. A. WALLACE,
GEO. H. BUCHER,	JNO. LATTA,
C. M. DONOVAN,	GEO. W. STEIN,
A. HIESTAND GLATZ,	J. B. STARK,
WM. HOPKINS,	B. REILLY,
D. B. MONTGOMERY,	J. C. SMITH,
H. B. BEARDSLEE,	C. A. LAMBERTON,
WM. McSHERRY,	WM. KINSEY.

☞Lieut. General Grant, accompanied by his son, and Gen. Rollins and Col. Comstock, members of his staff, arrived in Washington on Tuesday.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

☞We have just printed a large lot of common DEEDS, with clear type, on very superior paper—single and double acknowledgments, also with acknowledgments in blank, suited for any number. Deeds for Administrators, Administrators with the Will annexed, and Executors, with Common and Judgment Bonds, Judgment Notes, Amicable Actions, Summonses, Subpœnas, Executions, Sale Notes, &c., &c., are also to be had at the COMPILER office, at all times.

THE SPRING ELECTIONS.—The spring elections will take place on Friday next, (the 18th of March.) These are important, especially so far as the choice of judges and inspectors of elections is concerned. Our Democratic friends throughout the county should give early attention to this matter. Let all Democrats go to the election, because it becomes them to show on all occasions their hostility to the degrading and destructive doctrines of the Abolitionists—show that they are in favor of truth and right, in favor of the Constitution and the Union of our fathers, and opposed to Abolition despotism and negro equality.

There no doubt are in every township men uniformly with the opposition, who, seeing the way affairs are managed, can stay there no longer. The prospect of crushing debt and taxation, to fill the pockets of lazy and swindling office holders, must, we cannot but think, have opened the eyes of many who have heretofore given the matter but little reflection.—Having due regard to their own interests, they can go with the Abolitionists no farther. Let them commence the good work of change by voting with the Democrats on Friday next.

☞We are under obligations to Hon. Messrs. Dawson and Coffroth, members of Congress, and to Messrs. McSherry and Marshall, of the State Legislature, for favors.

☞In the House, at Harrisburg, on Monday last, Mr. Marshall presented a petition of citizens of Adams county praying that the grant of lands donated by the general government for agricultural colleges be apportioned among the colleges of the State.

Mr. Marshall also presented petitions of citizens of Liberty and Latimore townships, Adams county, asking for the passage of a law to levy a tax to pay bounties to volunteers in said townships.

☞We learn from the New Haven (Conn.) Journal and Courier, that Lieut. Col. Dudley, of the 19th Indiana Volunteers, who was severely wounded in the first day's fight at Gettysburg, (and was carried from the field to the residence of the editor of the "Compiler," where he remained several days,) has been appointed Assistant Provost Marshal General of Indiana. His right leg was amputated, but we are glad to learn that it is nearly healed and that he will soon be "about" on a Palmer leg. Long life and success to him.

CALL ACCEPTED.—We learn that Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, for several years pastor of the Grindstone Hill charge, in this county, has received and accepted a call from the German Reformed congregation of Gettysburg. Mr. Deatrich will leave behind him many warm friends and admirers, whose prayers and well-wishes will follow him to his new field of labor. We congratulate the Gettysburg congregation on their securing the services of so worthy a minister and estimable a christian gentleman.—*Spirit & Times.*

☞The East Baltimore Conference of the M. E. Church, which was in session at Altoona, Pa., adjourned on Monday. We find the following among the list of appointments:

Emmetsburg—Pesin C. Hallop and T. T. S. Roberts; Clearspring—J. Benson Akers; Chambersburg—Thos. Barnhard; York Springs—W. G. Ferguson; Hanover—J. Collins Stevens; Gettysburg—S. L. M. Conser and J. M. Lantz; York—J. H. C. Dosh; Shrewsbury—Geo. Warren and J. G. Moore; Petersburg—James Brads.

Mr. Berkstresser goes to Bainsburg, Mr. Isenberg to Bloomfield, Wm. Guynn to McVeytown, Henry G. Dill to Northumberland, L. M. Gardner to Clearfield, and M. L. Drumm to New Washington.

T. Mitchell, President, and W. H. Dill, Professor, Williamsport Dickinson Seminary. J. S. McMurray is the Presiding Elder of this District.

THE OLD FOLKS' CONCERT.—We have been requested to announce that the Old Folks Concert will be given on Tuesday evening, 22d inst., in the Court House, in this place. The singers composing the company are from our town and their musical abilities are too well known to require any extended remarks from us. We, therefore, will endeavor to possess our souls in patience until the Concert comes off, feeling assured that it will be of a high order of musical merit and a most interesting and recherche entertainment.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.—Col. Wynkoop's 20th, Col. Boyd's 21st, and Col. Higgins' 22d Cavalry regiments are now full—numbering about 1200 men each, and their organizations will be completed this week, and their officers commissioned. All of them are in camp a few miles west of town, excepting some companies of the 22d, which are in West Virginia. Maj. Gen. Stahl, chief of cavalry in this Department, arrived here on Monday, and took immediate command. It is expected that the troops will be moved toward Dixie in a few days.—*Franklin Repository.*

☞We understand that Butler, Cumberland, Huntington, Hamiltonban, Latimore, Reading, Straban, Union, Germany, Conowago, Franklin and Oxford townships, have filled their quotas, and that active efforts are made to fill other districts. The large Government bounties will cease with the present month, and therefore all the work towards making up the respective quotas should be done before it expires.

☞At last accounts, J. C. Guinn, Alexander Harper, George Codori, Sr., and a young Warner, of this county, a part of those who were carried off by the rebels last summer, were at Salisbury, N. C.

☞We understand that Dr. R. S. Seiss has tendered his resignation as Surgeon of the Board of Enrollment for this district. It is *probable that Dr. S. G. Lane, of Chambersburg*, now Surgeon of the 6th Pa. Reserves, will be appointed in his place.

The Expenses of the War.—It is now well ascertained that the expenses of the war and the wants of the Government will require, in addition to means from other sources, that the internal taxes shall yield fully $200,000,000 for the next fiscal year.

It is also said that there is to be another call for troops. Thus under Abolition rule it is nothing but more troops—more taxes! Will not honest Republican tax-payers, who do not hold office and do not want any, reflect upon this state of things?—Surely they will not blindly follow their party leaders, until ruin fairly overtakes them. Their own and the country's interests and welfare demand that they at once cut loose from these Abolition cormorants, and never vote for or with them again.—Radical rule leads only to destruction. As Henry Clay said: "A single idea has taken possession of the minds of the Abolitionists, and onward they pursue it, overlooking all barriers, reckless and regardless of all consequences."

THE FLORIDA EXPEDITION.

THE ORDER SENT FROM WASHINGTON.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE WORLD.]

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., February 24.

The most important thing talked about here is our humiliating defeat in Florida.—When all the facts of that expedition shall be known the country will not retain its indignation at the authors. General Gilmore is not responsible for it. *The movement was made by orders from Washington and was for political purposes wholly.* For months, Mr. Stickney, one of the commissioners of the department, has been urging the administration to send a military expedition into the interior of Florida so as to reclaim the state for political purposes. They wished to get hold of the archives, to be able to organize a pretended state government, and give political office to him and a few of the same kidney. Some were to be benefitted politically, and others have a chance to speculate in lands. On his recent return from Washington Mr. Stickney stated that he had accomplished his object; and shortly afterward General Gilmore received an order to send a force into the interior of the State.

See the result. We have sustained a Bull Run defeat; our loss of men will not be much short of a thousand, with twelve pieces of cannon. Some of our best officers have been killed and wounded. Our small force was enticed into the interior many miles away from their base, and then fallen upon by an overwhelming force and slaughtered. The enemy *had timely* notice of the expedition, and concentrated to meet us. The result is just as many men here predicted. It was the worst time of all others to attempt an offensive movement, when our forces all along the line were resting upon their arms, giving the enemy ample opportunity to draw away troops from any point. This is the result of permitting political adventurers to interfere with military movements. These are the facts of the case, in spite of what interested parties may say or do to cover up the truth. As you may well imagine there is great indignation in military circles. I hope you will assist the country to ventilate this disgraceful proceeding on the part of the political managers.

JUSTICE.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., March 3.

Our repulse in Florida turns out even worse than I stated in my last dispatch.—Our total loss will not fall much short of 1,500, over 400 of which were left killed and wounded in the hands of the enemy.—The affair was done up very much after the style of the French and Indian defeat of Braddock in 1755. The rebels, not less than 10,000 strong, were posted behind the railroad embankment, which there curves in the shape of a horse-shoe, near the station of Olustee, some fifty miles in the interior. A few skirmishers had been sent out by the enemy to draw our people into the snare, and they were followed as they desired to be. Our men had marched several miles, and had their knapsacks on when the enemy opened on them.

I fear an effort will be made to cover up the reality of this humiliating affair, but the country should know the truth, and hold those responsible who are the authors of the expedition. Fortunately for the reputation of General Gillmore the movement was not of his planning. The order came from Washington, and it is said none other than the President is the responsible party, and that he ordered the movement without consulting any of his military advisers. [illegible] may be to some [illegible] hundreds of men needlessly slain. [illegible] reality, [illegible] the rebels they will make a hard fight for it, and if not, why should we dissipate our force and have our men killed without reason?

Special Notices.

The Singer Sewing Machines.—Our LETTER A FAMILY SEWING MACHINE is fast gaining a world-wide reputation. It is beyond doubt the best and cheapest and most beautiful of all Family Sewing Machines yet offered to the public. No other Family Sewing Machine has so many useful appliances for Hemming, Binding, Felling, Tucking, Gathering, Gauging, Braiding, Embroidering, Cording, and so forth. No other Family Sewing Machine has so much capacity for a great variety of work. It will sew all kinds of cloth, and with all kinds of thread. Great and recent improvements make our Family Sewing Machine most reliable and most durable, and most certain in action at all rates of speed. It makes the interlocked stitch, which is the best stitch known. Any one, even of the most ordinary capacity, can see, at a glance, how to use the Letter A Family Sewing Machine. Our Family Sewing Machines are finished in chaste and exquisite style.

The folding Case of the Family Machine is a piece of cunning workmanship of the most useful kind. It protects the machine when not in use, and when about to be operated may be opened as a spacious and substantial table to sustain the work. While some of the Cases, made out of the choicest woods, are finished in the simplest and chastest manner possible, others are adorned and embellished in the most costly and superb manner.

It is absolutely necessary to see the Family Machine in operation, so as to judge of its great capacity and beauty. It is fast becoming as popular for family sewing as our Manufacturing Machines are for manufacturing purposes.

The Branch Offices are well supplied with silk twist, thread, needles, oil, &c., of the very best quality. Send for a Pamphlet.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
458 Broadway, New York.

☞PHILADELPHIA, 810 Chestnut St.
☞G. JACOBS & BRO., Local Agents at Gettysburg. [Aug. 17, 1863.

MARRIED.

On Tuesday morning last, by Rev. Jacob Ziegler, Mr. GEORGE C. STRICKHOUSER to Mrs. ANNA C. WISOTZKEY, all of this borough.

☞Accompanying the above notice was a bran new "greenback" dollar. For this handsome and kindly remembrance, characteristic of the generous heart of George C., we return our thanks. We offer our congratulations to the happy couple, and wish them all the happiness and joys of congenial wedded life.

On the 10th inst., by Rev. M. Bushman, Mr. EDWARD SHEFFER to Miss MARY BOSSERMAN, all of Adams county.

On the 23d ult., by Rev. Jacob Sechler, Mr. PETER BAKER to Miss MARTHA WILL, both of Littlestown, Adams county.

On the 28th ult., by the same, Mr. ALFRED STALEY to Miss LYDIA ANN HARNER, both of Adams county.

DIED.

At Abbottstown, on the 24th ult., Mr. DANIEL GEISELMAN, aged 72 years and 7 mos.

On the 9th inst., Mrs. MARGARET LITTLE, of Butler township, aged 52 years and 4 mos.

On the 27th ult., in Huntington township, CLARENCE MARTIN, son of Washington Meals, aged 27 days.

On the 3d inst., in Littlestown, Mrs. ELIZABETH STONESIFER, aged about 58 years.

In Baltimore county, Md., near Catonsville, on the 6th inst., Mrs. SARAH EICHELBERGER, aged 35 years 1 month and 28 days.

On Tuesday last, in Cumberland township, LENAH MILTENBERGER, aged about 65 years.

Died recently, JOHN CHARLES, aged 15 days; JAMES LINCOLN, aged 2 years 9 mos. and 19 days; and ELMER ELLSWORTH, aged 3 months and 2 days—all children of J. E. and Frances Flaharty, of Freedom township. They all died of brain fever.

Communicated.

Died, in Franklin township, on the 29th of February, Mrs. MARY CATHARINE, wife of Mrs. Charles Starner, aged 23 years and 14 days.

Peaceful be thy silent slumber,
Peaceful in the grave so low,
Thou no more wilt join our number,
Thou no more our sorrows know.