

The Erie Observer.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1867.

A DEBARTH from California says the Democratic majority in that State exceeds 3,000. The vote is tight.

HOME VICTORIES.

On Wednesday last week an election for municipal officers was held in Baltimore, and resulted, as is usually the case now-a-days, in a magnificent Democratic triumph.

This result possesses more significance from the fact that during the war, when the city was ruled by bayonets, and two-thirds of its voters disfranchised or intimidated, the Democrats held complete and, as they supposed, permanent possession of its government.

Their majority for several years was in the neighborhood of 3,000, in a poll of 8,000, the entire Democratic vote being only about 2,500. Now, the political complexion is thoroughly revolutionized, and out of 23,000 ballots cast, 18,500 are Democratic, and only the comparatively meagre number of 4,500 Radical—a majority for the Union and Constitution of 14,000. This vote indicates a majority of 80,000 in the State of Maryland, and the election in November.

In West Virginia, too, the Democratic ball is rolling on, and sweeping Radicalism down as it goes along. At the election last week the Democratic causes increased their majorities largely, several of the Radical ones were revolutionized, and it is altogether probable that the great Democratic "ground swell" has extended over the State. It only needs that a Legislature shall be chosen that will submit a Constitutional amendment to the people, relieving the disfranchised majority from their disabilities, to render West Virginia one of the most reliable Democratic States in the Union.

THE LITTLE JOKER.

The much disputed question as to what position Gen. Grant occupies politically, is likely soon to be authoritatively settled, judging from the developments of the present week. Since Monday we have had no less than three statements on the subject, each equally "reliable," and each heartily commended to the belief of the public. The first is from the Tribune's Washington correspondent, and is as follows:

NOW YOU SEE IT.

"A Southern editor, who has for some time been advocating a compromise between the President, came to the city last week for the purpose of learning directly from the General his political position. He obtained an interview with Gen. Grant, and it is a matter of fact that many of his friends who were supporting him as the embodiment of patriotism and as the best man for the Presidency, were alarmed at the position in which Mr. Washington had placed him in his Galena speech; that if Mr. Washington were to adopt Gen. Grant's political opinions, he (Grant) was as much a Radical as any of them, and belonged to the Radical party. The editor says that Gen. Grant repeated to him that he was not a party man, never had been any political party, and perhaps should never be; that he voted for Buchanan for President, but he did not do much voting since because of unsettled residence. The editor further says that the impression he derived from the conversation was that Gen. Grant was in favor of a nomination to the Presidency from the Radicals proper, but that he would accept the nomination as the representative of the Conservative men. The editor has taken notes of the conversation, and proposes to print them in his newspaper."

NOW YOU DON'T SEE IT.

"The Southern editor" who proposes to publish his interview with Gen. Grant, is the editor of the Atlanta Era, who, a year ago, nominated Gen. Grant for President, and who has been difficult for him to convince his readers that Grant is not a Radical, he sought this interview and now says that he can show he is not a Democrat, and that he has decided to support his story about his interview with the General. The interview, he says, lasted only two minutes, and no conversation on political topics took place.

NOW IT APPEARS AGAIN.

"During Gen. Grant's absence from the city, some of his friends are emphatically denouncing the correctness of the interview. Mr. Bard, the editor of the Atlanta Era, had with him relatives to political parties and the Presidency, and he had to do with the dispatches. As notes were taken of the conversation, the editor in question proposes to publish his own account of it, all denials to the contrary notwithstanding."

After these reliable versions, there can be no further question as to Grant's present political standing. He is both a Democrat and Radical, and may be relied upon confidently to sustain the principles of each organization.

It is extreme doctrines will win the way to Radical favor, the new daily is determined to secure it.

Our Democratic friends continue to expect more of the late President, who is still in the old, old delirium—the plea of deposits, the bugaboo of hidings—Why, it may be necessary to go quite outside the Constitution for means to preserve the Convention. When we serve Liberty most we best obey the Constitution.

Wonderful, indeed! To talk about the Constitution! The plea of deposits, the bugaboo of hidings! This, we presume, is the genuine, orthodox, "true Republicanism," which our contemporaries have established to advocate. We cannot help but believe that the mind which can advance doctrines like the above knows very little about either the "Constitution" or "Liberty."

The President of the United States has recommended Thursday, November 28, to be observed "throughout the Republic as a day of National Thanksgiving and praise to the Almighty Ruler of nations" for His goodness and loving kindness during the year.

In all parts of the country this day should be religiously kept. We hope the Governors of the several States will recommend the same day, so that from one end of the land to the other we may be enabled to witness the solemn spectacle of a whole nation bowing with one accord in humble thankfulness before the Supreme Ruler of all.

A NUMBER of Republican journals in Northern Pennsylvania are suggesting Speaker Gath A. Grow as a proper candidate for Vice President.

The Tribune has either been erroneously informed, or attaches a different meaning to the word "number" from what we do. The only paper that we know of, which supports the ex-speaker's pretensions, is the Titusville sheet, and though it is a very sprightly sheet, we are not aware that it comprises "a number of Republican journals in Northern Pennsylvania."

The N. Y. Tribune of a late date, closed an editorial paragraph in this language: "If our party and its nominal antagonist shall stand substantially on the same platform in the next Presidential struggle we foresee that the result will be much like the Scott canvass in 1852, and we are quite resigned to the dispensation."

In other words, if the Radical party does not come out in opposition to negro suffrage, and take up an out-spoken representative of that doctrine, the Tribune is perfectly willing to see it defeated.

As Ohio Democrat got even with a Radical who was feebly crowing over the meagre majority for Governor, by informing him that they could have done an out-spoken representative of that doctrine, the Tribune is perfectly willing to see it defeated.

THE FASCIA IN VIRGINIA AND GEORGIA.

If there is an American citizen who can read the accounts of the elections in Virginia and Georgia without feeling his blood boil in indignation, he must be too far steeped in fanaticism to be deserving of a citizen's privileges. A more complete, fair, or greater outrage upon liberal institutions, has not been perpetrated since the day when Louis Napoleon, by his famous coup d'etat, with the aid of bullets and bayonets, changed the Republican government of France into a monarchy of the most despotie class.

In Virginia, the State had been so distracted that had the Conservative citizens possessed a majority of fifty thousand it would have been nearly impossible for them to have selected their just proportion of delegates to the Constitutional Convention. The negroes, as in Louisiana and Tennessee, all belonged to the Liberal League, and were drilled therein to cast their votes, almost unanimously, for the Radical ticket, while the white citizens who had not been disfranchised were just as unanimous in supporting the Conservative. In Richmond, on the evening of the first and second days, the Conservatives had a majority, when the polls were ordered to be kept open through the night, in order to bring out for miles the negroes who were raked and scraped for miles around, to turn the polls in their favor. Even this plan did not succeed in overbalancing the conservative majority, when the polls were again opened on the third day, and by desperate labor the Radical candidates were elected, with the connivance of the United States army officers and Freedmen's Bureau agents in the city. Of the five thousand or more votes cast in Richmond, the telegraph informs us, only some fifty white men voted the Radical ticket, all the balance of its supporters being negroes.

The contest throughout the State was identical. The negroes everywhere gave their preference to the candidate of their own color, wherever one was running, and in every instance where two of their party tickets were in the field supported the most radical. The third day's opening of the polls in Richmond was a trick, originated for the express purpose of defeating the white men's candidates. Up to the close of the second day's voting, they had contested the field with vigor, and when the result was announced in their favor they retired from the scene, thinking there was no further need of their labors. In the meantime, the Radical leaders, by representations that the whole of their vote had not been cast, induced Gen. Scofield to re-open the polls, in three wards, but subsequently, for causes best known to himself, he closed two of them, leaving the voting to be all done at one. "Here," the telegraph says, "the negroes rushed en masse, and the excitement was at its highest pitch. The streets became blockaded, and nothing but the bayonet maintained order. Disturbances occurred frequently, which were promptly quelled by the application of cold steel, which unpalatable to the new citizens. The whites became terror-stricken, and were driven away from the polls, and at once the scale became turned. At 8 P. M. the voting still continued in the Third Ward, and the part of the negroes exclusively. The whites relinquished all hope, and are entirely crestfallen, and are extremely indignant at what they consider an outrage. It will surprise no one to learn that by means like these, the Radicals succeeded in obtaining a majority of 400 in the city, and the only wonder is that it was not ten times that number. The returns from the State indicate the election of thirty Conservatives and sixty Radicals. Eighteen of the latter are negroes, and as the total vote is 194,183. Of this vote 104,280 were for a convention and 59,180 against it, the majority for a convention being 45,100; 89,583 negroes voted for the convention, and 629 against it; 15,724 whites voted for, and 58,033 against a convention. The most conservative, influential and wealthiest States in the South is thus thrown entirely under the control of the negroes, and her able men, whose reputation is part of the common fame of the country, are thrust aside to the place of the Hammonds, Scofields, and others of the same class, who are a disgrace to their race.

The few scattering reports which we have from Georgia, show that the election there was almost a repetition of the Virginia farce. The Conservative whites, however, refrained from voting, knowing the uselessness of so doing, and left the whole thing to be run by the negroes and their score of debauched white leaders. The Convention, under such circumstances, is of course decided upon, and its result will nearly all be Radicals. In Savannah the votes of many negroes who did not reside in the State were recorded, and a Boston mulatto named Bradley is elected delegate to the Convention. Hosts of negroes cast their ballots whose names were not on the registry lists, and a number had forgotten the names they were registered by.

Every intelligent and reflecting citizen who reads this record will easily discern what is in the future if the Radical experiment of reconstruction continues to go uncheckered. It will be contrary to the whole history of the Caucasian race if the white men of the South submit to be tamely dominated over by the ignorant, half civilized and brutal beings whom a fanatical Congress has attempted to elevate to the full dignity of "manhood." A war of races is as certain to ensue as the coming of to-morrow's eve, and when it does occur it will be the most cruel and desperate recorded in the world's annals. The picture we are sketching contemplate, but such as it is, it is one of the whole character of the reckless, unprincipled and unconstitutional attempt of the Radical majority in Congress to perpetuate its party power at the expense of the best interests of the nation.

THE RADICALS have suddenly been smitten with an amazing fancy for what is known as the Crawford county system of making nominations. In two or three of their strongest counties it has lately been adopted, and the current seems to be in favor of its general acceptance. The Titusville Herald, in commenting upon the popularity of the system elsewhere, states what we all in this section have felt to be the truth, when it says: "It subjects every candidate to all the hazards and hardships of a double campaign, for the primary meeting is of even greater importance than the general election. The canvass brings several months more of labor, and the people are everywhere 'stirred up' by warring parties, and the contest with the majority is invariably characterized by all the anomalies which usually obtain between the opposing political parties. The prolixity of the candidates seldom passes away with the election. The party becomes 'a house divided against itself.'"

The plan of direct voting by the people was first put in practical operation by the Republicans of Crawford county in 1860, and there have been personal animosities engendered ever since in the operations within the ranks of our own party, which will never pass away. But the system is evidently more popular with the masses than that of conventions, if the voters are everywhere confined exclusively to the fair and honest choice of candidates, without the intervention of that class of persons who are engaged in the primary meetings, and to accomplish this it would be necessary to amend the Constitution, and to involve even greater labors than that incident at a general election."

In thirty-five counties in Indiana the Democracy have made gains on the vote of 1860 aggregating 116,610. Had there been State aid to elect those who can do no doubt but that the Democrats would have been victorious.

Our city contemporaries, especially the Observer, will consider our heaviest touched, for courtesies rendered."—Republican.

We trust our experiences with our contemporary may be like those of a former's who organized themselves into a military company, were parading through the streets of Baltimore, when they deliberately fired a number of shots into the crowd, killing one man and wounding others. No paper in that city, not even the organs of the Liberator and the Impartial Advocate, dared to denounce the act, and they were hailed as heroes, and the commander of the negroes testified at the coroner's inquest that he "heard no noise and witnessed no interference previous to the firing, but that these fellows were there for them, newspapers, such as the New York Tribune and Forney's two dailies, are found scolding the black murderers, and abusing and abusing the white population of Baltimore."

A DEBARTH riot between whites and negroes occurred at Pickens Court House, South Carolina, a few days ago. The negro Union League was holding a meeting, and a white man disturbed the darkeys, who were already adjourned and repaired to another place. A number of young men, some white men were holding a debating society, and attacked the whites with sudden and desperate fury, killing Mr. Hunsberr, and attacking a number of others. A party force was immediately ordered up from Anderson and the negroes were scattered. This is another horrible incident, among the hundreds, which are daily being perpetrated by "reconstruction." Nothing but outrage and bloodshed can be expected for the future from a "policy" which aims at arranging the people against the native whites in deadly hostility.

HORACE GREELY, Thurlow Weed and other sore-heads are attempting to patch up a temporary peace in the Radical ranks, in the name of the Executive Committee.

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JAS. M. SCOVILLE, of New Jersey, one of the leading Radicals of that State, has written in the leading which he relegates the Republican platform to be negro suffrage; and that the party which cannot do so, is no party at all.

A DEMOCRAT of Ohio came all the way from Gall, in South America, to vote at the recent election. That is the height of Democracy. He deserves to be held up as a model, and his patriotic zeal should be imitated by every one of the squalid who allowed themselves to be led away from the polls at the recent elections.

The Rads of Pittsburgh were startled the other morning with the view of a father dancing from a lamp-post, to which was attached the following notice: "The Rads of Pittsburgh are hereby notified that they are to be hanged by the neck from a gallows in front of the Court House on Monday, the 1st of November, at 10 o'clock. They are to be hanged by the neck from a gallows in front of the Court House on Monday, the 1st of November, at 10 o'clock."

CHIEF JUSTICE GRAY, the whole country will gladly hear, has given notice that he will preside at the trial of the Rads of Pittsburgh on Monday, the 1st of November, at 10 o'clock.

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