

The disaffection and resignation of so many Southern officers and men from the Army and Navy, since the breaking out of the slave rebellion, has taught the North a lesson from which they should derive much counsel, and station guides posts along the road of government preference, whose hands, pointing out a different course from that pursued by Pierce and Buchanan misrule, would avoid the difficulties under which the government now labors.

This has been caused in a great measure by their fealty to slavery—the curse to themselves and their country, the great miasma that has floated over their States preventing their advancement in civilization and internal improvement, clogging the wheels of emigration, laying waste the most fertile soils, and for which they are now attempting to dismember their country.

But, let us look at the causes which have produced this great majority of Southern officers. Wherever slavery exists, labor is considered disgraceful; hence, young men, especially of the middle classes, who have not the means to establish themselves in a business or profession, seek offices under the government, and for that end their education is of the particular kind best suited for such positions.

From their childhood up they are made to understand that such is to be their life and that the better the preparation the greater the probability of being promoted. Acting upon this principle the South has become one great nest of office seekers, and we are sorry to say it is a very successful one; and as slavery is ever suspicious, and of late years been much alarmed by the progress of free principles in the North, she has been putting into the hands of her children the very best positions,—and we have the result.

The Northern youth whose life is labor and who delights in the excitement of carving for himself a name, has heretofore looked with somewhat of contempt upon the "blue coat and brass button" positions, choosing rather those positions which will best qualify him for benefiting his fellowmen and gain for himself an honorable position in the civil world.

By these means the South have heretofore held the majority of offices, although not equal to the North in population. The question now is, shall this state of things continue? Will not the North endeavor hereafter to occupy those positions which in justice belongs to her, and for which her sons can easily qualify themselves.

Thus, the North, not from inability, but for lack of desire for such pursuits, has been giving into the hands of the enemies of her country the very advantages she should improve and use for the preservation of her liberties.

As the Fall Election is approaching and heretofore, there has been some trouble in regard to the men nominated, would it not be well to adopt the system of nominating by ballot, and at the time of voting for candidates vote also for or against the system, and see which system best suited the great mass of people in the country.

appoint officers to hold the election, and they go to the polls and vote the same as they would at any other election.

This system has many features that commend it to the consideration of the people. By this system the feeling of the whole country is known as to who would be most popular at the election; there is no jugglery practised whereby men who are eminently unpopular can be nominated, there is no nominating of men from one particular faction only, there is no forcing of men into voting for those they think were nominated unfairly, as it is scarcely probable that any unfairness could be exercised, there is no knowing of how or for whom men cast their influence, and one who is defeated can not run as an independent candidate upon the plea that it was by unfair means that he was deprived of the nomination.

It might be well for the people of the county to try this system and see whether it has not virtues that should commend it to the consideration of every one who desires to avoid much of the strife and trouble that follow in the wake of County Conventions. It has been tried in many counties of the State and where a fair trial has been given it the people are in no haste to get back to the politician's mode of nominating. It prevents, in a great measure the necessity for "electioneering" for the reason that when it is the expressed wish of a majority of the party that a certain man have the office it would naturally follow that the whole party would seek his success.

Most of the offices are not worth the trouble of seeking for, and if they can only be obtained by a large expenditure of time and money they had better not be sought after. Of course none but Republicans would be expected or permitted to vote.

We merely suggest this and would like to have the opinions of those who influence such matters.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.—Very little business has been done this week, most cases having been continued. Some 18 or 20 parties have taken the benefit of the new Stay Law, covering some 75 judgments, amounting to several thousand dollars. But one civil action will reach the Jury and that was not called at this writing. The criminal business is about as follows:

Com. vs. John W. Mason—Action for forcible entry and detainer. The prosecutor not appearing, the Def. was discharged and the Jury directed the prosecutor, John B. Forgas, to pay the costs.

Nolle prosequi were entered in the following cases: Com. vs. Mich. McElhiney et al, assault and battery; Com. vs. McQuire et al, assault and battery; Com. vs. Darius Brown, assault and battery; Com. vs. Geo. Edwards, obtaining goods under false pretences.

Com. vs. Gottlieb Lehman—Jno Schmidt prosecutor. Jury trial; action, malicious obstruction of highway. Verdict—Def. found guilty and fined \$1 and costs.

MR. EDITOR.—Is there going to be any "Fourth of July" in Coudersport? If so, it is high time that a committee were sent out after it? We are invariably eleventh-hour folks in this matter and under ordinary circumstances, I would not at this late day urge a celebration upon our citizens; but now, when the principles founded with that day are being severely tried, and patriotism is so valued whatever may be the form of its expression, I think the least the people of this place, and vicinity can do is to celebrate the anniversary of their nationality. I would therefore suggest a meeting at the Court room next Monday evening at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of making preparations for a celebration. Let ladies and gentlemen both come out to the meeting and there will be no need for extra committees or future meetings—the business can all be done at once. We have plenty of native oratorical talent equal to a plain, old-fashioned Independence Day.

In the Congressional Election in Maryland, the Union men had no formidable opposition in three districts. In Baltimore, Henry May is reported at 2,044 maj. over Winter Davis—both represented as Union men, but May was preferred by the Secessionists. Preston, Secessionist, reported elected in the other Baltimore district.

The President's Message to Congress, now soon to meet, is approaching completion. It will take strong ground in favor of the most energetic measures in order that the war may be concluded by the next Winter. Half a million men, and two hundred millions of money are spoken of as likely to be raised.

The following is a certified copy of "An Act Supplementary to an Act to consolidate, revise and amend the Penal Laws of Pennsylvania," and read by Judge White in his charge to the Jury at the late session of Court:

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That if any person or persons belonging to or residing within this State, and under the protection of its laws, shall take a commission or commissions from any person, State or States, or other the enemies of this State, or of the United States of America, or who shall levy war against this State or Government thereof, or knowingly and willingly shall aid or assist any enemies in open war against this State or the United States, by joining their armies, or by enlisting, or procuring, or persuading others to enlist for that purpose, or by furnishing such enemies with arms or ammunition, or any other articles for their aid and comfort, or by carrying on a traitorous correspondence with them, or shall form, or be in anywise concerned in forming any combination or plot or conspiracy, for betraying this State or the United States of America into the hands or power of any foreign enemy, or any organized or pretended government engaged in resisting the laws of the United States, or shall give or send any intelligence to the enemies of this State or of the United States of America, or shall, with intent to oppose, prevent or subvert the government of this State or of the United States; endeavor to persuade any person or persons from entering the service of this State or of the United States, or from joining any volunteer company or association of this State about being mustered into service, or shall use any threats or persuasions or offer any bribe, or hold out any hope of reward, with like intent to induce any person or persons to abandon said service, or withdraw from any volunteer company or association already organized under the laws of this Commonwealth, for that purpose; every person so offending and being legally convicted thereof, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be sentenced to undergo solitary imprisonment in the penitentiary, at hard labor, for a term not exceeding ten years, and be fined in a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, or both, at the discretion of the court: Provided, That this act shall not prohibit any citizen from taking or receiving civil commissions for the acknowledgment of deeds and other instruments of writing.

SECTION 2. That if any person or persons within this Commonwealth, shall sell, build, furnish, construct, alter or fit out, or shall aid or assist in selling, building, constructing, altering or fitting out any vessel or vessels, for the purpose of making war or privateering, or other purpose, to be used in the service of any person or persons whatever, to make war on the United States of America, or to resist by force or otherwise, the execution of the laws of the United States; such person or persons shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be sentenced to undergo solitary imprisonment, in the penitentiary, at hard labor, not exceeding ten years, and be fined in a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SECTION 3. That every person holding a commission as an officer in the volunteer or militia forces of this Commonwealth, shall within thirty days after the passage of this act, be required to take the oath of allegiance to the State and to this United States; and in case any person holding such commission, shall refuse to take such oath, the Governor shall have authority to revoke and annul the commission of such person, and supply his place by appointment, until the vacancy thus created shall be supplied, as provided for vacancies in other cases by existing laws of this Commonwealth; the said oath of allegiance shall be administered by the Adjutant General, or any Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and may be transmitted to the several brigade inspectors of this Commonwealth, who shall in turn administer the same to the officers embraced within the bounds of their respective brigades.

SECTION 4. No civil process shall issue, or be enforced against any person mustered into the service of this State or of the United States, during the term for which he shall be engaged in such service, nor until thirty days after he shall have been discharged therefrom: Provided, That the operation of all statutes of limitations shall be suspended upon all claims against such persons during such term.

Approved, the 18th day of April, 1861. Philadelphia (the old City) elects a Member of Congress on the 2nd of July, to take the place of Edward J. Morris, who has resigned. The names of many good many men are suggested in connection with the post. We beg leave to add that of HENRY C. CAREY to the list.

A desperate effort is to be made to break down the new tariff, and Pennsylvania should send her strongest men to resist it. Need we say that Henry C. Carey is one of them.—Tribune.

A propeller which, with a detachment from the 6th Regiment, went from Annapolis the other day with stores for Washington, was, while returning, fired into on the Potomac, by rebel batteries. Several shots were fired, none of which took effect. The attack was promptly, and probably effectively returned, with a result not known.

COMMUNICATED. Extremes Dangerous. The American Peace Society recently held its thirty-third annual meeting in Park Street church, Boston, Hon. A. Walker in the chair.

The Directors say that they stand in an unexpected position—face to face with a rebellion. They are asked what course should be pursued? The answer is, "Under the peace system such evils could never have occurred." They would have every peace man stand by the Government, in every way consistent with his peace principles. A series of resolutions were then presented, of which the following is the substance:

That the course of affairs in Europe and America shows how necessary it is that the Society should make renewed exertions; that the rebellion in this country and the attempt to suppress it, calls for the Society's most earnest attention; that had the principles of the Peace Society been heeded, much of this distraction might have been prevented; that the adoption of the war policy will entail upon us evils beyond mortal imagination; that more confidence than ever is held in peace principles; that until such principles are adopted there can be no security; that true peace principles are sure to settle the existing difficulties.

The above is the milk-and-water position of the American Peace Society—a society that has always taken the ultra ground that all war is sinful, and that has required its members to pledge themselves not to bear arms in any war "for whatever purpose, declared, waged or maintained." The time has come when the Society must either abandon its articles of faith, or the Government which has protected it. It does the latter. Its language is "Every peace man should stand by the Government in every way consistent with his peace principles." These are, that all war, for whatever purpose, is sinful; hence the present war for the defence of the Government is sinful; consequently no peace man is allowed to stand by the Government without abandoning the Society.

If the patriotic sense of public sentiment detests an avowed neutrality, what ought to be the feeling of abhorrence toward a society claiming the principles of peace as its basis, and yet would quietly acquiesce in the foul plots and deeds of treason, surrender the Federal Government to traitors, and yet stolidly regret that the principles it advocates could not have been heeded!

News Items from other Counties

NORTHUMBERLAND.—The militia started for Harrisburg, on last Saturday. They are making extensive preparations for the celebration of the coming Fourth. The weather is warm; and the crops are doing well. Farmers have great hopes for large and good crops. The Shamokin Register appears under the control of DANIEL BOWEN, formerly of the Williamsport Daily Times. Success attend you Dan.—The Milton Band is to furnish music for the 11th Regiment.

UNION.—G. Ide McGarty, aged 21, was drowned in the river near Muncy Dam, on the 11th inst. His body was taken to Lewisburg for burial. There were but four graduates from the Female Department of Union Seminary. Thos. Hayes, of Lewisburg has been appointed Register in the Surveyor's Office in Philadelphia.—Chas. M. Hall, of Lewisburg, has been appointed Deputy Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia.

MCKEAN.—Capt. McCoy has organized a Rifle Company in Farmer's Valley. The ladies have presented the Company with a flag.—There was a meeting held at the Court House in Smethport for the purpose of raising a Military Company.—Court there next week.

LYCOMING.—A lad named Meyer had his fingers cut off in a sawmill near Williamsport.—A man named Wm. Counsel, of Bush Creek, was accidentally shot by his brother-in-law James Clark, while out hunting.—Several attempts have been made to fire the house of Dr. Lyon in Williamsport, and a young girl has been arrested on suspicion.—The Williamsport Legion has been accepted and started for Harrisburg.

LUZERNE.—Enthusiastic Union Flag meetings throughout the county.—A special election for member of Congress (in place of Soranot, dec'd.) on the 22nd day of June.—Keilchom is spoken of as a candidate.—There has been damaging frosts in the county during the past week.

In the Wheeling Convention yesterday, Mr. Carlile, from the Business Committee, reported an ordinance vacating the seats of all State officers who are now in rebellion against the United States, providing for a Provisional Government, and for the election of officers. This ordinance was made the special order for Wednesday. A debate took place on the policy of dividing the State, against which Mr. Carlile took strong ground.

LOUISVILLE Election. LOUISVILLE, June 14, 1861. The Courier says the majority against separation in East Tennessee is estimated at 19,000 to 12,000.

From the Tribune of Saturday.

WASHINGTON, June 14, 1861. The Government has received dispatches which state that Harper's Ferry has been completely evacuated, and the troops stationed at that point, are on the march to Manassas Junction. Some apprehend a speedy attack upon our lines here from the combined force, but others relying upon the well-authenticated reports touching the bad condition of the Harper's Ferry rebels believe that they will disperse in the course of the march from Winchester to Strasburg, or that at all events they will arrive at Manassas in no condition to commence active operations. The last is probably the true state of the case.

The retreat from Harper's Ferry transfers the immediate centre of operations to Manassas Junction. Whether the Rebels will make a desperate assault upon our lines here, as some still seem to believe, or will strengthen their position and await attack at the Junction; whether our columns will advance from the West and North, until the Rebels are outflanked and forced to retreat or fight at a disadvantage, or will wait awhile to enable Beauregard's force to become demoralized, as those at the Ferry have been, are questions on which men may differ. But considering the scarcity of food and the general disaffection, we cannot but think that the Rebels will soon feel obliged to bring on an action or retreat. We shall not be likely to move until thoroughly ready.

The reported evacuation of Harper's Ferry is not, however, altogether credited by military men. They have no doubt that a large portion of the forces there have been withdrawn, but think that a considerable garrison still holds the place. The Government has dispatches which say that there is still some doubt of the fact to day.

Gen. Scott expressed his belief last night in the evacuation.

HARRISBURG, June 12, 1861.—A Union man from Virginia, fleeing from the Southern reign of terror, who arrived in this city this morning, gives the gloomiest account of the affairs in the Old Dominion.

He left Lynchburg on the 7th, his plantation being three miles east of that place. Lynchburg was completely surrounded by camps, and looked like a place besieged. There is the camp of instruction. Among the ranks are to be seen headless boys side by side with the gray-headed. As a general thing they were well equipped, and provisions were plenty. It is true the latter command exorbitant prices, as for instance, beef 20 cents per pound, ham 23 cents, flour \$19 to \$25 per barrel—other articles in proportion. In every direction the planters were much discouraged at the ruin before them.

Our informant passed within fifteen miles of Manassas Junction, and says that there were at that point not more than 15,000 troops, who daily expected an attack by the Federal forces. Gen. Beauregard was to have taken the command there, but it was thought he would be sent to Norfolk, and Gen. Lane left in charge. The Virginians have every confidence in the military skill and judgment of the latter officer, but Jeff. Davis, influenced by the South Carolinians, prefers Beauregard to the troops on Monday last. He had given it as his advice to evacuate Harper's Ferry and hold the Junction. The reinforcement would enable them to withstand any attack the invaders might make.

There were about 1,000 men at Leesburg. Passing through Frederick, Md., he found the Secession element, to his surprise quite strong, as it was currently reported in Virginia that Maryland had been completely Abolitionized.

Many of the wealthiest planters of the Old Dominion are anxiously awaiting the approach of the Federal troops, that they may renew their allegiance to the Government of their fathers. As it is now, such a thought expressed would be their death sentence. All who can, have left for the North, yet very many are compelled through necessity to remain with their property to prevent confiscation to the State, which is being carried out in numerous instances where the owners of property, to avoid conscription, have fled the State.

The Secretary of the Treasury has telegraphed to Harrisburg that the Federal Government is ready to pay the troops mustered into the service of the country. Pennsylvania is able to pay her own troops, and will do so if the Administration will detail the pay-masters. Our Governor is willing to second any effort on the part of the Federal Government for this purpose. Not a single State has thus far been able to pay, or at least has not paid, her volunteers. At any time Pennsylvania could have liquidated this indebtedness, and all she now asks is for the proper authority and legal officers, to make the payment.

Gov. Curtin has appointed H. D. Maxwell, of Easton, Paymaster-General of this State. Mr. M. is one of the most trustworthy men in this Commonwealth, and his appointment will be a deservedly popular one.

From Missouri we learn that 2,000 State (Rebel) troops are at Boonville, that others are arriving, and that they are preparing for a determined resistance. A rumor of a skirmish at Independence, in which the National forces were defeated, prevailed at St. Louis, but as the telegraph was in the hands of the Secessionists, authentic information cannot be gained.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

Col. Anderson is to be appointed a Brigadier-General.

The Government proposes to establish a sub-marine telegraph between Cape Lookout and Fortress Monroe.

Gov. Hicks, of Maryland, having been called on by the Legislature to furnish them with copies of all papers showing clearly his relations with the general Government, he replies in a sharp message, stating that he has already sent copies of all necessary documents, and that this call is in the nature of an insult.

A strange and unfortunate affair occurred at St. Louis yesterday. A regiment of troops was passing through the city, when one company suddenly fired at the windows of a Court-room, killing four men and wounding two others. The cause of the firing is not clear. One account says that a shot was fired from the Court-room upon the troops, but the truth is not known.

The preparations for an advance upon Richmond seem to be going on steadily. The concentration of troops in and about Washington continues, and army officers are confident that the grand movement of the campaign will be made within a fortnight. There are said to be not more than 4,500 rebel troops at Richmond, and 22,000 at Manassas Junction. The rear guard from Harper's Ferry had reached Winchester. A number of the retreating rebels are said to be at Fairfax Court-House where reinforcements from Manassas Junction have arrived, prepared to make a stand. They feared to retreat further lest all their men should desert. A trap has been set in the woods between Fairfax Court House and Alexandria, according to information furnished to the Government. It appears that a number of small batteries have been concealed; the purpose of the Rebels is to make a feigned attack upon Alexandria, draw out the National troops, lead them into an ambush, and there slaughter them.

Col. Stone is in possession of Leesburg, recently evacuated by the Rebels. Gen. Patterson is moving with his column of 22,000 men to Washington. It is thought more probable than ever that the Rebels will continue to retreat; and, indeed, we have a rumor that they have really fled from Leesburg. After Patterson reaches the Capitol there will be not less than 75,000 National troops, and if Gen. McClellan, with his forces, also comes to Washington, we shall have 100,000. The plain policy of the Government is to concentrate there a great army, probably for an advance on Richmond. It is said that the rebels at Manassas Junction number 25,000, including the Harper's Ferry body, the last of whom have left that place. At Richmond, as the same authority states, there are 40,000. They are represented as being tolerably well armed, but badly clad, provisioned and drilled, and as much dissatisfied with the appearance of things. Jeff. Davis is at Richmond, personally superintending the operations of his army.

Last evening it was known at Washington that a forward movement of our pickets was made on the Virginia side of the river, but toward what point and for what purpose our correspondent was not at liberty to state. It appears, however, that the movement was important.

A slight skirmish occurred yesterday at Seneca Mills, a point on the Maryland side of the Potomac, above Washington. 200 of the District volunteers, under Lieut.-Col. Everett, were attacked by a company of Virginia cavalry. Shots were exchanged for some time. No one of our men was hurt, but the commander of the cavalry, supposed to be a Capt. Shroves, was killed, and the rebels retreated.

From Fortress Monroe we learn that preparations are making for an advance on Richmond; but no particulars are communicated.

Forty Counties are represented in the Virginia Union Convention now in session at Wheeling. Loss of the Steamer Canadian. ST. JOHN'S, N. F., June 14. The Montreal Steamship Company's screw-steam-ship Canadian, Captain Graham, which sailed from Quebec on Saturday morning, June 1, for Londonderry, and Liverpool, struck on a field of sunken ice, eight miles south of Belle Isle, on the 4th inst., and sunk in thirty-five minutes. One hundred and eighty-one persons were saved in boats, and landed on Cape Bauld, from which they were brought in to this port, this morning, by a French bark.

From twenty to thirty lives were lost, including six cabin passengers, but as the ship's papers went down in the sinking ship, it is impossible to tell the exact number drowned. A portion of the mails were saved. Among those drowned were the mail officer and the second officer of the steamer. The Canadian struck the ice under her foremast, and her three compartments were all broken in at once, whereupon she filled rapidly and soon went down. The ice field did not attract much attention when first discovered, as it looked small and was scarcely above water. The steamer was going at slow speed at the time she struck.