

Spirit of Jefferson

BENJAMIN F. BEALL, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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THE undersigned wishes to inform the public of Jefferson and surrounding counties that I will sell all my FALL and WINTER GOODS at Baltimore, Md., at a great sacrifice.

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POLITICAL.

President's Message.

The President returned to the House of Representatives the Supplementary Reconstruction Bill, accompanied by the following message, giving his reasons for not signing it:

To the House of Representatives: I have considered the bill entitled "an act supplementary to an act entitled 'an act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States,' passed March 2, 1867, and to facilitate restoration," and now return it to the House of Representatives, with my objections.

This bill provides for elections in the ten States brought under the operation of the original act to which it is supplementary. Its details are principally directed to the elections for the formation of the State Conventions; but by the sixth section of the bill "all elections" in these States, occurring while the original act remains in force, are brought within its purview.

Referring to the details it will be found that, first of all, there is to be a registration of the voters. No one whose name has not been admitted on the list is to vote at any of these elections.

To ascertain who are to be registered, references is made necessarily to the express language of the supplement, to the original act and to the pending bill. The fifth section of the original act provides, as to voters, that they shall be "male citizens of the State, twenty-one years old and upward, of whatever race, color, or previous condition, who have been residents of said State for one year."

This is the general qualification followed, however, by many exceptions. No one can be registered, according to the original act, "who may be disfranchised for participation in the rebellion," a provision which left undetermined the question as to what amounted to disfranchisement, and whether, without a judicial sentence, the act itself produced that effect.

This supplemental bill supersedes an act passed by the same Congress, and in its name can be admitted that the registration, that he has "not been disfranchised for participation in any rebellion or civil war against the United States." It thus imposes upon every person the necessity and responsibility of deciding for himself, under the peril of punishment by a military commission, if he makes a mistake, what works disfranchisement by participation in rebellion, and what amounts to such participation.

Almost every man—the negro as well as the white—above twenty-one years of age, who was resident in these ten States during the rebellion, voluntarily or involuntarily, at some time and in some way did participate in resistance to the lawful authority of the General Government.

The question with the citizen to whom this oath is to be proposed is, what a registration for which the bill does not declare that perjury may be assigned for such false swearing, nor fix any penalty for the offence, we must not forget that martial law prevails, that every person is answerable to a military commission, without previous presentment by a grand jury for any charge that may be made against him; and that the supreme authority of the military commander determines the question as to what is an offence, and what is to be the measure of punishment.

The fourth section of the bill provides "that the commanding general of each district shall appoint as many boards of registration as may be necessary, consisting of three loyal officers or persons." The only qualification stated for these officers is that they must be "loyal." They may be persons in the military service or civilians, residents of the State or strangers. Yet these persons are to exercise most important duties, and are vested with unlimited discretion. They are to decide what names shall be placed upon the register, and from their decision there is to be no appeal. They are to superintend the elections and to decide all questions which may arise. They are to have the custody of the ballots, and to make return of the persons elected. Whatever frauds or errors they may commit must pass without redress. All that is left to the commanding general is to receive the returns of the elections, open the same, and ascertain who are chosen "according to the returns of the officers who conducted said elections." By such means, and with this sort of agency, the conventions of delegates to be constituted.

As the delegates are to speak for the people, common-sense would seem to require that they should have authority from the people themselves. No convention so constituted will in any sense represent the wishes of the inhabitants of these States; for, under the all-embracing exceptions of these laws, by a construction which the uncertainty of the clauses as to disfranchisement leaves open to the board of officers, the great body of the people may be excluded from the polls, and from all opportunity of expressing their own wishes, or voting for delegates who will faithfully reflect their sentiments.

I do not deem it necessary further to investigate the details of this bill. No consideration could induce me to give my approval to such an election law for any purpose, and especially for the great purpose of framing the constitution of a State. If ever the American citizen should be left to the free exercise of his own judgment, it is when he is engaged in the work of forming the fundamental law under which he is to live. That work is his work, and it cannot properly be taken out of his hands. All this legislation proceeds upon the contrary assumption, that the people of each of these States shall have no constitution, except such as may be arbitrarily dictated by Congress, and formed under the restraint of military rule. A plain statement of facts makes this evident.

In all these States there are existing constitutions formed in the accustomed way by the people. Congress, however, declares that these constitutions are not "loyal and republican," and requires the people to form them anew. What, then, in the opinion of Congress, is necessary to make the Constitution of a State "loyal and republican"? The original act answers the question: "It is universal negro suffrage—a question which the Federal Constitution leaves to the States themselves. All this legislative machinery of martial law, military coercion, and political disfranchisement is avowedly for that purpose, and none other. The existing Constitution of the ten States conform to the acknowledged standards of loyalty and republicanism. Indeed, if there are degrees in republican forms of government, their constitutions are more republican now than when these States—four of

which were members of the original thirteen States—were members of the Union.

Congress does not now demand that a single provision of their Constitutions be changed, except such as confine suffrage to the white population. It is apparent, therefore, that these provisions do not conform to the standard of republicanism which Congress seeks to establish. That there may be no mistake it is only necessary that I should also have made to the original act, which declares "such Constitution shall provide that the elective franchise shall be enjoyed by all such persons as have the qualifications herein stated for electors of delegates." What class of persons is here meant clearly appears in the same section. That is to say: "the male citizens of said State twenty-one years old and upward, of whatever race, color, or previous condition, who have been resident in said State for one year previous to the day of such election."

Without these provisions no Constitution which can be framed in any one of the ten States will be of any avail with Congress—This, then, is the test of what the Constitution of a State of this Union must contain to make it republican. Measured by such a standard, the Constitution of the United States, as it now stands, is not republican. It is not a Constitution which can be exercised by the people of every State a republican form of government, universal suffrage for blacks as well as whites is a sine qua non, the work of reconstruction may as well begin in Ohio as in Virginia, in Pennsylvania as in North Carolina.

When I contemplate the millions of our fellow-citizens of the South, with no alternative left but to impose upon themselves this fearful and untried experiment of complete negro enfranchisement and white disfranchisement, it may be almost as complete, or submit indefinitely to the rigor of martial law, without a single attribute of freedom, deprived of all the sacred guarantees of our Federal Constitution, and threatened with even worse wrongs, if any worse can possibly be inflicted upon a race of men, the most deplorable to which any people can be reduced. It is true that they have been engaged in rebellion, and that their object being a separation of the States and a dissolution of the Union, there was an obligation resting upon every loyal citizen to treat them as enemies, and to wage war against their cause.

Inflexibly opposed to any movement impeding the integrity of the Government, I do not hesitate to urge the adoption of all measures necessary for the suppression of the rebellion. After a long and terrible struggle the efforts of the Government were triumphantly successful, and the people of the South, submitting to the stern arbitration, yielded forever the issues of the contest.—Hostilities terminated soon after the receipt of the report of the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer of the Republic, and I at once endeavored to repress and control the passions which our civil strife had engendered, and, no longer regarding these erring millions as enemies, again acknowledged them as our friends and countrymen. The war had accomplished its objects. The nation was saved, and the fundamental principle of self-government, the right of the people to govern themselves, had gradually but inevitably brought on the rebellion, was totally eradicated.—Then, it seemed to me, was the auspicious time to commence the work of reconciliation; then, when the people sought more our friendship and protection, I considered it my duty generously to meet them in the spirit of charity and forgiveness, and to conquer them not by force, but by reason, by truth and by compromise. They are to have the custody of the ballots, and to make return of the persons elected. Whatever frauds or errors they may commit must pass without redress. All that is left to the commanding general is to receive the returns of the elections, open the same, and ascertain who are chosen "according to the returns of the officers who conducted said elections." By such means, and with this sort of agency, the conventions of delegates to be constituted.

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As the delegates are to speak for

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BENJAMIN F. BEALL, Editor.

CHARLESTOWN, VA.

Tuesday Morning, April 2, 1867.

A LEADER WANTED.

The conservatism of the country needs a party leader. It has had none during the existence of the 39th Congress, and so far the same want is felt in the 40th Congress. President Johnson has come nearer to the character of leader than any other man holding official position; but he lacks nerve—backbone. He has planted himself, in all of his vetoes of Congressional bills at least, upon the Constitution—the basis of conservatism; and for this he has won the regard of all lovers of that grand old government charter. But he has not won either respect or fear from the Congressional majorities who have traitorously set aside nearly all the essential provisions of that instrument. The reason of this is obvious: Mr. Johnson, while basing all of his vetoes upon the unassailable grounds of the unconstitutionality of the bills which called them forth, has even before those vetoes were superseded by Congress, announced his determination to enforce the laws notwithstanding their unconstitutionality. This shows one of the two things: Either a want of nerve, or a want of honesty.—We believe the President to be honest—though at the same time we believe him to be influenced materially by men in high places about him who are utterly depraved in all political sense. It is, therefore, want of nerve that has caused failure in Mr. Johnson as a political leader; and this same want was, and is, existing in every man of the present conservative Congressional minority, who have brains enough to supply the intellectual needs of a party leader. Mr. Johnson had the opportunity of putting himself at the very head of all living American statesmen, but his want of pluck has allowed that opportunity to pass away from his grasp. It was his duty to say to Congress what he has in his various veto messages, but it was no less his duty, as a true and brave patriot, to say to it that he would never enforce any law which he believed to be in violation of the Constitution. If he had done this, his opposition to the madness of the day would have been effective, the country saved from the destructive policy which is now governing it, and the Constitution secured from the violating hands of the base and bad men who are now daily tearing it to pieces—although it might have been at the cost of another war. To save the Constitution, and genuine republican liberty, now, most necessarily involve war, and the great need now is, that the North shall furnish a man bold enough to say so, and to lead the hosts of lovers of true liberty who are ready to rally around his standard.—The Constitution and the Union were worth fighting for six years ago, and they should be no less worth fighting for now; but if they are not saved speedily they can never be saved at all; and the country must be, then, either governed by negro-republicanism, or by a monarchy of some sort or other.

WHAT THE RADICALS INTEND.

The aim of the radicals is the perpetuation of the government of the country, both federal and State, in their hands. To effect this object they set aside all constitutional law, all justice and all honor. No party ever had bolder leaders nor more unscrupulous; and from this boldness and unscrupulousness, and the utter timidity of their political opponents, we account for their success. Maryland has a large majority of her people in favor of a conservative policy of government, and as this large majority will have the State somewhat under control, and has taken steps towards framing a new constitution, which stands in the way of the minority, of miserable fanatics of the New England school, which has been ruling the State for the last five years. This minority lost to all sense of personal honor and State pride, has called upon Congress to interfere in its behalf, by preventing the assembling of the proposed constitutional convention by the strong arm of the military. This appeal has not been unheeded by the extra loyalists of that body; and we predict that before another year rolls round, Maryland will be wiped out of the list of States and made into "Military District, No. 6."

Connecticut, too, seems in a fair way of exciting the radical wrath. About a year since the people of that State, by a majority of about ten thousand, refused to extend the right of suffrage to the negro. At the same election the radical candidate for governor was elected by only about six hundred majority. On yesterday another election was held for Governor and members of Congress; and as the indications favored the success of the conservative candidate for the former, and of two or three of the candidates of the same party for Congress, the present officials have taken the bit in their own teeth, and have registered the negroes as voters, and have announced their purpose to admit them to the polls in spite of the edict of the people.—There may be enough negroes in the State to give the election to the radicals. No contest by the conservatives of any such election returns would be effectual—certainly not before Congress; and the radicals thus elected in defiance of the laws of the State would be permitted to hold on their fraudulently gotten places. If the negroes should not be allowed to vote, and the conservative candidates for Congress should be elected, our word for it, they would never be admitted to their seats by the present majority of the House of Representatives.

If the people of this country, outside of the five military districts, stand any congressional interference in the purely State affairs of either Maryland or Connecticut, they will stand anything. And if success attends radical interference in either State, this party of disunionists will go on step by step until all State lines shall have been ignored, as has been done in the South, until all constitutions, Federal and State, have been outraged,

and the whole character of our government has been changed, and a despotism of the worst sort has been set up over the whole land. To avert this, all that is needed is conservative organization—concentration of conservative strength; and a bold, honest, leader—one who will neither flinch nor denounce the schemes of the radicals and to tell them plainly that the constitution shall be preserved at all hazards. He would soon rally to his side sufficient men of influence to effect such organization.—When this is done there will be no want of brave and good men to battle against for "the Constitution and the Union."

WHEN AND WHERE.

When is the "Hon." Jos. Chapline to pay our people back the taxes which the excessively generous State of West Virginia has appointed him to do? And where is the payment to be made. Even-handed justice would require the State agent to visit every man either at his home or his place of business for this purpose; but we will be satisfied if the agent appoints certain days to meet his constituents at each of the election districts.—This would be right—even if the tax payers had not had to trudge to Shepherdstown for the purpose of paying up. To take us there now when the roads are in such a terribly muddy condition—for later when the farmers will be pressed by the needs of the spring crop, would be wrong; but as the agent has us in his power, he will doubtless say "come to Shepherdstown, or go without your money," and as everybody wants the money, everybody will have to visit the far away county seat.

SOUTHERN RELIEF.

It affords us peculiar gratification to refer to the promptness and liberality with which our people are responding to the calls of the distressed South. From every portion of the county, supplies are being sent in, and the Executive Committee are energetic in their labors of directing the transmission of contributions Southward. As we stated last week, we felt the only duty devolving upon the press in this matter, was a statement of the facts, which were satisfied would elicit a ready and generous response; and we never entertained the slightest apprehension that any citizen of Jefferson would attempt "to cool his conscience, with the idea that he had done anything for our suffering friends by purchasing a ticket for a concert," and we now suspect that such hide-bound piousness is closely confined to the individual in whose brain the idea first found conception, that such might be the case. People such as ours, are not likely to measure their charity by the "fifty cents worth," or to seek "opportunities to excuse themselves from bestowing any further contributions" for the alleviation of distress in any quarter. "Up" the plea, that they have through this concert done something in aid of this holy charity." Such an intimation in our judgment, amounts to gross misrepresentation. The suggestion thrown out in this paper last week, that the proceeds of the concert of Friday evening be appropriated to the suffering people of the South, was one which met the approval of nine-tenths of our people, and the Association under whose direction it was held, would have suffered nothing by the adoption of the suggestion. But as another concert is to be given, under the auspices of the Ladies of the town for the object specified, we leave the Christian Association in quiet enjoyment of the proceeds of the last, well contented ourselves with the success of the entertainment.

SOUTHERN RELIEF IN CLARKE.

We are glad to see that the people of our neighboring county, Clarke, are moving in the matter of Southern relief. On Monday last, a meeting was held at Berryville, at which five gentlemen from each magisterial district were appointed a committee to wait upon the people of the county to solicit contributions. The following resolution was also adopted:—That Mr. C. O. Porter, of Jefferson, who has exerted himself to the utmost in this glorious cause, be requested to canvass that part of Clarke near which he lives.

The following gentlemen constitute the executive committee:—

At White Post, Dr. O. R. Funken; at Wadesville and Summit Point, John J. Kiley; at Berryville, Edward C. Marshall; at Millwood, William N. Nelson.

Public Meeting.

We hope the people of Jefferson, who have done such honor to themselves in the liberality of their contributions to the Southern Relief Fund, will not forget the meeting to be held in this town on Saturday next.

It is especially desired by the Executive Committee, that the gentlemen who constitute the committees in the several schools districts, of the county should be present, fully prepared to make their final reports.

A Tennessee Radical having called on President Johnson, a few days ago, to beg for an office, that high functionary presented the mendicant with a copy of the following resolution, passed by the Brownlow convention last month, of which he was a prominent member:—

"If that we cover our faces with shame when we contemplate the disgrace brought upon our beloved State by the defection and degeneracy of her unprincipled adopted son, who, by the helms of an assassin, has ascended to the Chief Magistracy of the nation; and we shall cordially endorse any action of Congress which shall legitimately deprive him of continued power to disturb the peace of the country."

Two years ago, in 1865, Mr. Sumner offered in Congress a series of resolutions of which the following was one:—

And be it further resolved, That a government founded on military power, or having its origin in military orders, cannot be a republican form of government according to the requirement of the Constitution; and that its recognition will be contrary, not only to the Constitution, but also to that essential principle of our government, which, in the language of Jefferson, establishes "the supremacy of the civil over the military authority." (11)

A newspaper, The Orange Expositor, is about to be started at Orange Court House, by Mr. Alonzo F. Stoffer, of Culpeper.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

The Late Concert.

The concert under the direction of the Christian Association of this town on Friday evening last, was a success, beyond the anticipation of the most sanguine, and completely attested the superiority of the amateur talent of our community. We exceedingly regret that our limited information on matters pertaining to music, and its soothing charms, disqualifies us from the task of a critical review of the merits of the several pieces, so sweetly sung and so delicately executed; or to present even a general notice of the performances calculated to convey an adequate conception of their admirable taste and appropriateness. When we speak of the concert as a success, we do not allude to the large and appreciative audience attendance, or to the amount of funds realized as the proceeds—but we refer to the concert itself as an entertainment. And here was the chief success. To give entire satisfaction to a large and promiscuous audience is a difficult matter with even professional performers, with whom music is a science, and not merely a recreation; and with those unaccustomed to appearing before the public, the task is unquestionably enhanced. Yet we hazard nothing in saying that the public expectation was more than met in the artistic rendition of the several pieces which constituted the full and well-arranged programme at our concert on Friday evening.

"THE GREETING TO SPRING," with its lively air, was an appropriate opening of an entertainment which seemed to burst the fetters which have weighed us down and snowed with the wand of the enchantress, it raised us from the "slough of despond" to the beatific realization that the dark clouds of winter only gather to be dispersed by the genial approach of spring, and to feel also that

"Spring would be but gloomy weather, if we had nothing else but Spring."

"ANNETT LYLE," sung by Capt. BROWN, with Guitar accompaniment, fell with soft and tender influence upon the feelings of those who appreciate the pathetic. After listening to the plaintive rendition of this little gem, we could but regret that a voice so tenderly touching, so well calculated to start the sympathetic tear and to arouse all the finer sensibilities of our perverse human nature, should be, by an inexorable necessity, forced through the role of the "Irish Wedding." But then, there was the programme, and we couldn't go behind that, and it had doubtless been arranged with a view to the presence of just such an audience as greeted the two widely dissimilar pieces. Whilst trying to balance the jured equilibrium, Mr. Tupper came to our assistance with the sentiment that

"Learning delighteth to discover the affinity of seeming opposites," and thus we found a satisfactory solution for the appearance of the latter piece in the bill of the evening.

There could hardly be two voices in better accord than those which sang "HEAR ME NORVA," the one—that of the fair representative from South Carolina—being distinguished by its richness and volume, and the other for its tenderness and flexibility.

Old "HARD TRAILS," our friend from childhood, that has adhered to us ever since of life's rugged and thorny path, was as familiar as ever, and although we could heartily respond to the invocation "come again no more," we felt sure we should meet the old reprobate before the expiration of another day.

"ROBIN ADAIR"—what shall we say of Robin, or the melody of the voice which told his touching story. But we forbear—we must not mention names—so we leave Robin in good hands, where ample justice has been done him. He was well introduced. We heard several soft sighs from the fairer portion of the audience, echoing

"What's this dull tone to me, Robin's sad note."

The "SOTO" as rendered by Miss C.—who might justly be styled the majestic "queen of songs"—wring out with asphyxiation that gave it peculiar effect.

The instrumental music was good. We were particularly struck with Mr. Gallaher's execution of "SOUNDS FROM HOME," on the violin, with piano accompaniment. This is one of Gungl's compositions, we believe, expressly for the violin and piano, and Mr. G. played it exquisitely.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" might have been left on the desolate island where he spent so many years of his life, without detracting from the merits of the concert, although those who presented him to the audience did it in character.

Another piece—worthy in our opinion of special commendation—was the "SWISS SONG," as sung by Miss E.—a R.—d. In no piece of the entertainment was the gift of song, coupled with the highest cultivation, more strikingly illustrated.

We regret our inability to refer in detail to each particular piece, but writing, from impressions made upon us in the hall, we cite the above without meaning to be invidious, or without intending unjust discrimination. The concert—in its entirety—was an affair highly creditable to those who actively participated in it, and we are glad that such was the encouragement given to the Association, that its managers were induced to announce another for Friday evening next. Of this coming concert a notice will be found elsewhere.

We are requested to say that the grand piano used at this concert, belonging to Mrs. Douglas, is for sale.

THE VIRGINIA HOTEL AT STAUNTON.—We have neglected heretofore to acknowledge the receipt, from the proprietor, Mr. Geo. L. PERCY, of a special invitation to visit this well known and popular house. Mr. Percy has had many years experience in this business, and the "Virginia"—one of the finest hotels in the State—will, we are assured, preserve its old reputation under his careful management.

Concert for the Suffering South.

The Ladies of Charlestown intend giving a Concert on the evening of Friday, April 5th, the proceeds of which are to be applied to the relief of the people in the South who are suffering for the want of food, and the other necessities of life. There will be an entire change of programme from that of Friday night last, and if possible, the entertainment will be rendered even more attractive; as the number of performers is considerably increased and embraces some of the finest musical talent in the community. As it is well known that the amount of suffering in the South is very great, and that every assistance (however small) is acceptable, it is hoped our citizens will respond heartily, and swell the proceeds to as large an amount as possible. The ladies are satisfied that all who give money for such a purpose will realize that it is indeed "more blessed to give than to receive."

P. S.—Since the above was prepared, we have been permitted to make the following extract from a letter received by Rev. A. C. Hopkins, of this town, from Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, of South Carolina. Dr. W. is a distinguished minister in the Presbyterian Church, and the statements set forth in his letter constitute the strongest appeal in behalf of the suffering people. We need not, we are sure, urge our people in this holy work. The writer, under date of March 27th, says:

"I am glad to know that the community around you have the disposition and the ability, to do anything for the relief of the destitute and suffering people of this region. I have not myself, until very recently known the full extent of these sufferings. I suppose the people of South Carolina and Georgia are the greatest sufferers, and I am afraid these sufferings have not yet reached the worst stage. Rev. Mrs. Arin, a Methodist teacher of great worth, writes to me from Columbia that he is feeding some twelve or fourteen hundred people immediately around him, by the peck of corn, from week to week. A little higher up the country, his daughter writes me, the distress is greater. Immediately around this place, most of the farmers are able to buy corn on credit, but the poorer classes who have no credit are in great distress. What portions of Georgia are in most distress I cannot say. Dr. Jos. R. Wilson, of Augusta, could give you more particular information on that point."

"Whatever is done, should be done with as little delay as possible."

SOMETHING NEW.—Our active and enterprising townsmen, Messrs. WEIRICK & WELZER, have recently added to the business interests of our community, by putting in operation their new foundry, which is of sufficient capacity to supply all the wants of our people in the way of castings. It was our pleasure to be present on Saturday last to see them make their first heat, and afterwards had the privilege of examining some of the castings turned out. By competent judges these were pronounced very superior. They have secured the services of an experienced moulder, and heretofore they will promptly supply any demand made upon them, and we sincerely hope that their new enterprise will be liberally encouraged by our farmers and others. The castings of Saturday last, were principally mould-boards, of which they will keep on hand a supply.

FIRE.—We understand that the residence of Mrs. LINDSEY, on the farm of the late George Isler, came very near destruction from fire on Sunday morning last, and was only saved by the prompt exertions of Mr. George Lindsey, who happened to be at home when the fire was first discovered. As it was, a greater part of the roof of the building was destroyed.

Southern Relief.

The Executive Committee, to whom were entrusted the contributions to the sufferers from famine in the South, beg leave to announce to the citizens of Jefferson county that they have made all necessary arrangements to discharge the duties imposed upon them. They have secured transportation of all donations, free of cost, from the various Railroad Depots in the county to points of destination in the South.

Bags have been procured, and are now ready, at all the railroad depots in the county, for those who have corn to contribute.

The railroad agents at the depots, will receive and forward all contributions promptly. The arrival of all articles in the city of Baltimore will be acknowledged by the public prints of the city, and will be communicated to the Executive Committee.

All articles will be marked as contributions from the county, and will each thus be its own messenger of love and mercy.

The Committee would assure the people of the county, through information obtained by one of their own members, who has visited Baltimore in connection with this subject, that their charities will be dispensed according to their wishes; the Baltimore committee having made the most satisfactory arrangements with the Governors of the Southern States for the reception and distribution of all contributions sent them.

C. H. McCURDY,
W. H. TRAVERS,
DAVID HOWELL, Sr.,
ANDREW HUNTER,
J. D. STARRY,
G. W. EICHELBERGER,
Executive Committee.

VALLEY STAGE LINE.—We learn from our Valley exchanges that this old and well conducted line of Stages, run by Messrs. TROTTER & BRO., is now in perfect trim, and the proprietors are prepared to take passengers from Winchester to any point on the Valley Turnpike, in comfortable coaches, at reasonable rates, and in the shortest possible space of time, making close connections with the cars both at Staunton and Winchester. We understand that they run two sets of coaches, by taking one of which travelers may pass over the entire line from Winchester to Staunton in daylight, and thus have an opportunity of beholding the beautiful and varied scenery of this "Garden spot of Virginia," which alone is well worth a trip through our Valley.

The Herald is informed that a force of 50 men were engaged in pushing the repairs of the M. G. R. R. to Woodstock, and that it would be in running order to that point early next summer.

EDITORIAL BRIEFINGS.

The Petersburg Index speaking of Virginia says:—It is rich in talent, in energy, and in muscle, with an expanse of fertile fields possessed by few kingdoms of the old world, with the position to command a trade controlled by but one State in the Union, with every prospect and every germ of manufacturing greatness, containing an unlimited water power, material wealth untouched as yet—coal to run the furnaces of a continent, iron to build the machinery for a world's factories, and has within her borders the elements of every branch of material prosperity. It is this view of the case which makes us hope for the future prosperity of the old Commonwealth. Such a country, with half a chance, must ultimately rise above the evils of the day, and recover from her present condition. The question, how long? we cannot answer. God grant that the time of affliction and distress may soon be over.

The instructions to the Military Committee of Congress to enquire whether Maryland had a Republican form of government, and the action of the Senate in delaying the admittance to his seat in that body of the Hon. Francis Thomas, indicate pretty clearly that Maryland will be made to run the reconstruction gauntlet. There will follow a generous intimation to Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Michigan, New Jersey, and all other States having the word "white" in their constitutions, that their form of government is not "Republican," for universal negro suffrage is the explanation of the term "Republican" as here employed. To be consistent, the gentlemen who have invited the negroes of the South with the high privilege of voting, will have to see to it that their own State constitutions harmonize with the Sherman-Schellenger bill. The ball is in motion and will have to roll out.

A colored mass meeting to ratify the Radical platform recently adopted by the Union League of Charleston, South Carolina, was held in that city last week. Four or five thousand of both sexes and of all ages were present. Addresses were delivered by four white and several colored speakers, among the former being the U. S. Marshal Epping and Solon Robinson of the New York Tribune. A torchlight procession took place in the evening, during which some negroes made an attack upon the street cars and took possession of one of them. The cars were subsequently guarded by policemen. Considerable excitement was reported to prevail throughout the city and grave apprehensions of further trouble.

Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, in answer to a letter of inquiry, from a citizen of Texas, as to the operation of the Military Reconstruction bill, says that the law in question does not disfranchise the rank and file of the soldiers of the Confederate armies who have never taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States. He goes on to state that "the Constitutional Amendment disqualifies from holding office certain persons who have taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and then engaged in the rebellion, or gave aid and comfort to it. This class of persons are disqualified, and all other persons are allowed to vote. These persons are mentioned in the Constitutional Amendment so that all persons will know who they are disqualified and disfranchised."

Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, on the 22d, introduced a resolution in the U. S. Senate regarding Jefferson Davis. It concludes that "moderate justice, sound public policy, and the national honor are united in recommending the speedy trial or release on bail of the prisoner." It was laid over under the rules. Mr. Wilson has of late abated much of his animosity towards the South, and manifested a disposition to conciliate rather than estrange our people. He exhibits some emotions of humanity and christianity.

Gen. Howard, Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, has received a report from Col. Burford, Assistant Commissioner for the State of North Carolina, showing the condition of affairs in that State during the month of February. He states there are at least 6,000 persons in North Carolina suffering from want of food, of which number two-thirds are white. The accounts from Alabama, Mississippi, and some other Southern States, are equally distressing. The misery and suffering are wide-spread. Poverty, in its worst form, prevails.

It is understood that Mr. Bots declares himself "left out in the cold" by the S. S. business. The colored people will not touch him, he says, because he opposed allowing them votes. The whites will not vote for him, because they know him so well. He is reaping the just reward of a trimming, selfish and irritating policy, by being "unanimously rejected" by all classes alike.

Captain William Fitzhugh Harrison, a native of Virginia, and for many years a resident of the Chickasaw nation, was brutally murdered in January last near Boggy Depot. He leaves a family and a large circle of friends to mourn his untimely loss. As a member of the council, he opposed the return of renegades into the nation, and it is supposed was assassinated therefor by some of this class.

The National Intelligencer says that in the first ward of Washington City, 1,450 colored voters have been registered, which will give that ward 8,700 colored population. To 1860 the colored population of the entire city was only 9,209. Recent computation has fixed the present colored population of the city at 32,000. The Intelligencer intimates that persons have been registered who were not entitled to it.

Isham G. Harris, formerly Governor of Tennessee, and now a refugee in Mexico, has found the latter country too uncomformable to live in. In a letter he gives his opinion of the people. There are eight millions of inhabitants in Mexico. If seven millions of these were exterminated, he thinks it would be a good country for civilized people to emigrate to. He estimates the number of educated people at one million. Half of these are in favor of an empire, and half opposed. A large majority of the remaining seven millions are robbers and murderers.

A late number of Harper's Weekly contains a pictorial, intended to represent the riot at N. O., in which the President and Cabinet are represented as witnessing with pleasure the killing of negroes. This is the "Journal of Civilization."

For the Spirit of Jefferson.

A Word Upon the Crisis.

The following extract is from a letter written by a young man at college, to his father, who suggested to him the propriety of his going to one of the—what was formerly called "free States," when he left school, and exercise whatever talents he might have in moulding public sentiment.

"Would not the effort of an honest minority to stay the corrupt tendency of the great mass of Northern fanaticism and wickedness, by association with them, be like an attempt to dam up the maddened torrent with a bundle of reeds? It would to my apprehension. Reasoning with a 'tyrant' is like binding a buffalo with a garland of flowers. Fanaticism must be met and combated with fanaticism—'similia similibus curantur'—or in goodaxon, 'like things cure like.' Popery, which was the essence of fanaticism, was resisted, till a fanatic—Martin Luther—grasped the papal bull by the horns and overthrew it. So the zealous, hot-tempered Saracens overran Europe till Charles Martel and his Frankish slaughterers, by myriads at Poitiers. History furnishes many other proofs of this fact."

Adopting this theory and course of reasoning, we are led to conclude, and therefore suggest to the Southern people, to select their most trusty and intelligent colored men to fill all offices from U. S. Senator down to constable.

We have, practically, nothing to say in this matter in this county and State, but we commend this course to our conservative friends of this county; put upon the track some clever, intelligent colored man for the Legislature, and we will see whether West Virginia is a sovereign State, or a creature, to be dictated by Congress, and whether the radicals are in earnest, upon the question of equality of the races.

OBSERVER.

Gen. Longstreet's Views on Reconstruction.

The ex-Confederate General James Longstreet has written the following letter to the New Orleans Times on the political situation:

NEW ORLEANS, March 18, 1867.

In your paper of yesterday you have expressed a desire to hear the views of several gentlemen upon the political condition of the country. I find my name mentioned among the list, and proceed without hesitation to respond. As I have never applied myself to politics, I cannot claim to speak in the wise statements of the country who are devoting their energies to the solution of the problem which agitates the public mind. I can only speak the plain, honest convictions of a soldier. It can hardly be necessary at this late date, to enter into a discussion of matters that are usually brought up in arguing upon the proposed plan for reconstructing the government. Indeed, I think that many of them are not pertinent to the question. The striking feature and the one that our people should keep in view, is that we are a conquered people. Recognizing this fact fairly and squarely, there is but one course left for wise men to pursue, and that is to accept the terms that are now offered us by the conquerors. There can be no discredit to a conquered people for accepting the conditions offered by their conquerors, nor is there any occasion for a feeling of humiliation.—We made an honest, and hope I may say a creditable fight, but we have lost. Let us come forward, then, and accept the ends involved in the struggle. Our people earnestly desire that the constitutional government shall be re-established, and the only means to accomplish this is to comply with the requirements of the recent congressional legislation. It is said by some that Congress will not receive us even after we have complied with their conditions, but I can find no sufficient reason for entertaining this proposition for a moment. I cannot admit that the representative men of a great nation could make such a pledge in faith. Admitting, however, that there is such a mental reservation, can that be any excuse for us in failing to discharge our duty? Let us accept the terms, as we are in duty bound to, and if there is a lack of good faith, let it be upon others.

Very respectfully, your obt' serv't,
JAMES LONGSTREET.

Letter from Senator Sherman.

We notice in the Mason Journal and Messenger of yesterday, the following letter to Col. W. K. DeGraffenreid, of that city. The letter is dated at Washington, the 12th inst:

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER,
WASHINGTON, March 12, 1867.

Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 5th inst., is received. The bill you referred to was passed in the earnest hope that it would tend to the full restoration of all the States to all their rights in the Union. The state section I think too harsh, but it was put in the House as the result of opposition from both extremes. At the request of large numbers from the South, we are passing a supplementary act to provide machinery of reconstruction. The original bill left all this to each State, but there was danger of double organizations and conventions, and therefore to avoid further strife or differences, this new act will be passed. It is merely a scaffolding.

My earnest conviction is, that the South should not forego this opportunity to be restored to representation; and you may rely upon it, that a majority in both Houses will adhere to this offer, and execute it in good faith and to the letter, if your people will do likewise. Neither section can be prosperous while the present condition of military surveillance prevails.

You can do as you please with this.

Very truly yours,
JOHN SHERMAN.
Wm. K. DeGraffenreid.

—Horace Smith, formerly a servant of Judge Daniel Link, of Rockingham, was sold after the death of the Judge, we think, to Dr. Merrill, then of Staunton. Some years afterwards Horace purchased himself and wife. He removed to the New England States, and has now a clerkship in the Freedmen's Bureau, in Washington, at a salary of \$1,200. He recently visited Staunton, to spend a few days with his old friends. He has secured for his brother-in-law, Tom, who can read and write, formerly a servant of Col. M. G. Harris, a situation in the same department. Tom left with Horace a few days since for Washington. The wife of latter was very elegantly dressed. They had with them a bright little boy, who interested himself in reading to the colored children of Staunton almost constantly while in that place.

In this connection we will state that one of the colored speakers at Columbus, S. C., Rev. Mr. Pickett, we think, was raised by Michael Quinlan, dec'd., of Staunton—Rockingham Register.

—John C. Fremont is active in his efforts in New York to procure supplies for the suffering at the South.

A Colored Man's Speech.

We make the following extract from the speech of Beverly Nash, a colored man, which was delivered at a recent public meeting in Columbia, S. C.:

"I saw in Washington, a few days ago, men more violently opposed to our advancement than any gentleman here, and we know that the States of New Hampshire, Ohio, and perhaps some others, have refused that political equality which exists and has been accorded in South Carolina. It is our duty, therefore, to identify ourselves with this soil. Here we have grown from childhood to manhood. Many of us white and black, have been brought up together; we love the people; we respect their honor; we know their worth; and I ask whether, under these circumstances, having the power to do so, we ought not to petition Congress to remove the disability which shuts out that portion of our people from the elective franchise in whom we have such long-tryed confidence?"

"If we are to have a convention in the State for the purpose of changing the constitution, let it be a convention of all intellect and power. If the black man is to cast a vote, let him rest that vote upon a standard of ability, and not be contented to see a body of men who are not competent to discharge the high duties that will be required of them. We know the old saying, that 'fools rush in where angels fear to tread.' If, therefore, you elect ignorant men, you will have a bad constitution. Give us, then, the good men of the State."

No Faith to be Reposed in Congress.

The Louisville Journal, of the 14th ult., thus discourses about Congress, and its discourse is unfortunately made up of facts:

Congress passed a military law under which the States lately in rebellion were to be restored upon distinctly specified conditions.—But before the States in question have had time to act upon the subject or to consider it, a supplementary law is about to be enacted imposing further conditions. How many more supplementary laws are to be enacted upon the original law, none can guess. Probably they will sprout out like limbs and twigs from the trunk of a tree. In case of a supposed radical necessity, the last supplementary will probably be that, in any event, no matter how full and entire Southern compliance may be, the date of restoration shall be subsequent to the Presidential election of next year. If Virginia or any other Southern State hopes to get in before that time without radicalizing herself, she is as green as her own grass. The South is a victim.—Let her not be a dupe also.

No faith is to be reposed in Congress. It is the embodiment of official perfidy. It is selfish, unscrupulous, fanatical, treacherous and cruel. It is the worst calamity ever visited upon this country. A Southern organ says that Congress has all power. No, it has not the power to avert from itself the swift coming scorn and contempt of a nation.

Bots Instructs General Schofield—He is Badly Slandered.

We copy the following from the Richmond correspondence of the New York Herald:

RICHMOND, March 22.—When General Schofield had issued his General Order No. 1, assuming the command of this district he was called upon by that erratic individual John Minor Bots, who was then in this city, and who, in a lengthy tirade against all parties, classes, and sects differing in views with himself, undertook to instruct that officer in the course he should pursue and the manner in which he should apply his new powers. Certain parties. If this unskilled for advice Bots never once afforded an opportunity to be told, or for a moment thought, he was intruding upon an officer who because of his ability to administer justice and effectively enforce the law was appointed here. The General listened to the ranting of this egotistical, indelicately to the ravings of this man attentively all the time, but without even vouchsafing him a reply, not even a nod. When that person had exhausted himself, he suddenly found his presence was not at all acceptable; he commenced to feel decidedly uncomfortable; saw he had overstepped his mark by a long shot, and taking his leave, sneaked out like a badly shamed gamester, which Bots was quite a badly shamed gamester, turned to one of his officers present and remarked:—"If Sherman was here, that man would have been sent to prison." This is stated on good authority, and is an evidence that General Schofield intends to discharge his duty faithfully and impartially, without regard whatever to politicians of any order.

Gen. Butler has accused Mr. Brigham and the Court Martial, of hanging an innocent woman. The New York Times relates on Gen. Butler in the following. It is evident that a great deal more hanging will have to be done before justice gets her due:

Gen. Butler is a man who stands in the dark. In the war he hung one man, who was unarmed, defenceless, and wholly in his power, without a trial or the semblance of one. He imprisoned and tortured under false pretences, an army chaplain for not inventing, or asserting when he had invented it for him, a false statement about a brother officer. And he now seeks to infuse into the public mind, by cowardly insinuations, an infamous calumny against the President of the United States. The country will treat it and him as both deserve.

The National Intelligencer says:—"Want of nerve is the curse of the hour. Our public men of moderate views have not the pluck to stand by what they believe to be right.—They are overcome by the violence and the energy and bold threats of the ultraists, and we state but a fact when we say that half a dozen uncompromising, determined men have coerced the action of the United States Senate against the deliberate judgment of a

The Bingham and Butler Debate.

The full report of this debate is very dull reading. Butler evidently wished chiefly to set himself right with the military, while Bingham discussed the legal point as to whether declarations made after the fact by an accused person were admissible in court as testimony.

The Baltimore Gazette's correspondent, who seems to have heard the speeches, notices them as follows: A very amusing passage at arms occurred this morning between Major General Butler and Assistant Judge-Advocate General Bingham. The personal appearance of the doughty combatants was extremely hostile and threatening.

Butler commenced the attack with infinitely more spirit and strategic effect than he exhibited at Herndon's trial, and charged the enemy upon the right flank, pouring a volley into him in the shape of a charge of suppressing important testimony in the "conspiracy case," by which an innocent woman was murdered by a parcel of ignorant judges and a couple of adroit and unscrupulous limbs of the law.

It is a great pity that this debate (which lasted only about an hour) was cut short by the almost unanimous voice of the Radicals. Butler seemed to be during the latter part of it upon a hot gridiron, and made desperate efforts to rise and get in a few last words.

The Sea's contention says:—Mr. Butler interrupted Mr. Bingham several times, but the latter invariably refused to hear him, and treated him with the utmost scorn and contempt. "The hero of Fort Fisher" moved uneasily in his seat, and looked anxiously about to catch a sympathetic glance among his ultra Radical brethren.

Free to everybody. A large 6p. Circular, giving information of the new and improved method of curing the skin disease known as Eczema, and which it teaches how the humely may become beautiful and healthy, and how the physician may cure the most obstinate cases.

DR. J. V. SIMMONS. Having permanently located here, tenders his PROFESSIONAL SERVICES to the citizens of this city, and in particular to those who are afflicted with DENTAL SURGERY.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

EVERY BODY SHOULD USE ROBER'S EXPECTORANT Wild Cherry Tonic.

FOR Diseases of the Chest, Liver, Kidney, Lungs, Spleen, Bowels, Dyspepsia, Diarrhoea, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Catarrh of the Bladder, and As a Blood Purifier it has no Equal.

As a Sore Throat and Croup Remedy, and Interment and Bilious Fevers, No Family should be without it. Sold by Druggists, Dealers and Hotel-keepers everywhere.

Know Thy Destiny. MADAME E. F. THORNTON, the great English Astrologist, Clairvoyant, and Psychometrist, who has astonished the scientific classes of the Old World.

Wonderful but True. MADAME REMINGTON, the world-renowned Astrologist and Somnambulist Clairvoyant, who in a clairvoyant state, delineates the very features of the person you are to marry, and by the aid of an Alchemical Chart, shows the exact position of the planet Uranus, and the life-like picture of the future husband or wife.

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PUBLIC SALES.

PUBLIC SALE. HAVING sold his farm, the undersigned will offer at Public Sale, his present residence, about one mile from Middleway, on the Westchester road, on

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1867. FARMING IMPLEMENTS, STOCK, &c. CONSISTING IN PART OF THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES:

1 Wheat Fan, 1 Wind Drill, with Seed Sower and Gears attached. 2 Three-horse Breeder Ploughs, 1 two-horse do, 1 single do, 1 Double-shovel Plough, 1 Corn Sower, 2 Harrows.

TERMS OF SALE. A credit will be given until the first day of November, 1867, on all sums above \$10, the purchaser paying bond and approved security.

SALE OF FURNITURE. I will offer for sale on FRIDAY, APRIL 12th, 1867, 11 o'clock on the lot of Mr. Geo. W. Sadler, opposite the Springton Hotel, the following articles of FURNITURE, among others:

TERMS OF SALE. For sums amounting to one hundred Dollars, a credit of six months will be given, with not approved security being required.

PUBLIC SALE. I will sell at the Bulfinch Farm adjoining the Mills, about one mile from Middleway, on the Westchester road, on

PERSONAL PROPERTY. THREE BROOD MARES, Three head of HORSES, Seventy-five head of Sheep and Lambs, and CATTLE.

PUBLIC SALE. HAVING rented my Farm, I will sell at Public Auction, to the highest bidder, at my residence, 11 miles south of Keeneyville, on

MECHANICAL. DAVID H. COCKRILL, ARCHITECT AND BUILDER, CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON CO., Virginia.

FOR the very liberal patronage, extended to me since my removal to this city, I beg to say that I have had an experience of years in the

Business. and will at all times have a competent hand to attend to this branch of the business.

LADIES' SLEEVES, COFFS and COLLARS, very pretty and cheap—just received.

GENTS' and Ladies' Lines Handkerchiefs—plain linen and Hemstitched. Just received.

HANDSOME LAMPS for sale. The latest styles of Ladies', Misses and Children's Hair Skirts, for sale.

DUKE Cider Vinegar, for sale by H. B. Kearsley & Sheerer.

BLEACHED, Unbleached and Blue Knitting Cotton, for sale by H. B. Kearsley & Sheerer.

BLEACHED and Brown Cottons, just received and for sale by H. B. Kearsley & Sheerer.

BUCKWHEAT MEAL, for sale by H. B. Kearsley & Sheerer.

CUCUMBER PICKLES, for sale by H. B. Kearsley & Sheerer.

NOTICES.

STILL ANOTHER CHANCE. I HAVE all the NEGATIVES made in market, and will furnish PHOTOGRAPHS from them at 25 CENTS a piece.

NOTICE. THE Notes given at my sale on the 21st of March 1867, will be due the 1st of this month, March 1867, and will be payable at maturity.

NOTICE. THE undersigned requests all persons having claims against the estate of the DANIEL HENNINGER, to present them at once properly authenticated.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS. NOTICE is hereby given that T. W. Poffenbender, D. S., will be in Charleston on Friday of each week, for the purpose of collecting Taxes, and in his paper's office, or every other day in the week, for the same purpose.

WEST VIRGINIA. At Rules held in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Jefferson county, on the 4th day of March, 1867.

DR. J. A. STRAITH, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, No. 522, WEST PAYETTE STREET (BETWEEN FRANKLIN ST. and SHORWOOD STREET) BALTIMORE CITY.

ATTORNEY AT LAW. JAMES A. L. McCORMICK, No. 40, St. Paul Street, Baltimore, PRACTICES in the State and United States Courts.

LAW CARD. W. A. COOKE & KENNEDY, WILL attend to office business in Jefferson, and will practice regularly in the Courts of Clarke and Berkeley counties, and in any other adjacent counties where the law calls for their services.

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CRISPER COMA.

Oh! she was beautiful and fair, With sunny eyes and radiant hair, Whose curling tendrils so entwined, Explained the very heart and mind.

BY using this article Ladies and Gentlemen can beautify themselves a thousand fold. It is the only article in the world that will curl straight hair, and at the same time give it a beautiful glossy appearance.

REPARATOR CAPPELLI. Remove away your false frizzes, your switches, your destructive curling, and not worth a hair, your Combed, combed, combed, come up and find, and rejoice in your new Good Gaiter, as usual.

REPARATOR CAPPELLI. For restoring hair upon bald heads (from whatever cause it may have fallen out) and forcing a growth thereon, the use of this Preparation will force the hair to grow upon the smoothest face in from five to eight weeks, or hair upon bald heads will grow in from one to two weeks.

WHITE LIQUID ENAMEL. For improving and Beautifying the Complexion. THE most valuable and perfect preparation in use for giving the skin a beautiful pink-like tint, and for removing all the impurities of the skin.

ASTROLOGY. THE WORLD ASTONISHED. BY THE WONDERFUL REVELATIONS MADE BY THE GREAT ASTROLOGIST, MADAME H. A. PERRIGO.

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BEAUTY!

Auburn, Golden, Flaxen & Silken CURLS, PRODUCED by the use of PROF. DE BRUX'S SUPERB CHEMICAL. One application will straighten and curl the most grating results. Does not injure the hair. Price by mail, sealed and postpaid, \$1.00.

GREAT DISTRIBUTION. BY THE MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS' JEWELRY ASSOCIATION, 102 & 103 Broadway, New York City.

THE MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS' JEWELRY ASSOCIATION. Calls your attention to the fact of its being the largest and most popular Jewellery Association in the United States.

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REAL ESTATE.

Valuable Land. Jefferson County, West Va. FOR SALE! OFFER at private sale, my land near Shepherdstown on the road to Charles town, called BEDFORD, in Jefferson County, West Virginia.

THIRTY-FIVE ACRES, is well enclosed and watered, and has some fine fruit upon it. The foundations of the dwelling house and Barn, burned by order of General Hunter, still remain. Also—

VALUABLE BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR SALE. HAVING changed my residence, I will sell at Public Sale, my STORE-HOUSE, AND DWELLING-HOUSE, with LOT and OUT-GRADING, located in the City of Washington, D. C.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS. OFFER their services to the citizens of the Shenandoah Valley, and the Counties of Virginia having jurisdiction of the Shenandoah Valley, and the Counties of Jefferson, and Shenandoah, West Virginia.

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