

Spirit of Jefferson.

BENJAMIN F. BEALL, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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January 23, 1867.

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April 17, 1867-73.

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CHARLESTOWN, VIRGINIA, TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1867.

NO. 47.

Spirit of Jefferson.

BENJAMIN F. BEALL, Editor.

CHARLESTOWN, VA.

Tuesday Morning, July 23, 1867.

To the People of the United States.

AND THE REST OF MANKIND IN GENERAL, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF COLOR.

To the Editor of the "Spirit of Jefferson."

I wish to tell you the secret of the extensive circulation of the La Crosse Democrat;

the mass of mankind speak (in a measure) a different language from the scientific or educated class of mankind; every profession speaks in a language somewhat peculiar to that profession, although apparently speaking the same language. Words are but the signs of things, and every word when originally introduced had an original and specific signification. In the course of time other significations are added. The original signification is not known or becomes lost to a great many, and hence arises disputes, the one having the original signification in his mind, the other the added signification. If you talk in an unknown tongue or language you do not edify or instruct, and your language is nothing more than sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. The editor of the Democrat has the faculty of telling plain truths in the plain language used by the mass of those who speak the English language; hence his success.

I was talking with a Radical Union man the other day, and I asked him if he believed in a God. He said yes. I asked him what sort of a God did he believe in, could he talk? He said he did not know whether he could talk or not, he had never heard him. Then I said unto him, you are but little better than the heathen; they believe in a God; eyes had they and they saw not, ears had they and they heard not, mouths had they and they spoke not, and all they are like unto them. Now I believe in no such God as that. The God that I believe in has eyes and ears, and can hear, has a mouth and can speak, for I called upon Him, and He saw me, heard me and answered me, for I heard His voice.

With that preliminary statement, I propose to take a retrospect of the past, and also a glimpse at the future, and to view it from the standpoint and by the light of God's counsel. His word, for in His counsels alone there is wisdom, and by His counsels alone are we enabled to measure right or wrong, and in His word there is both encouragement and warning.

In the history of the Jewish nation it is written that there was a generation in the course of time grew up that knew not Moses and his laws, and the nation split in two parts, and there would have been fighting if God had not forbid it, and it is just such ignorance that produces separation in all countries. One portion grows up in ignorance of the original laws, or becomes dissatisfied with the original laws, and wishes to change them, and in our country it is the same. There has always been a party in this country opposed to things as they were originally formed, (it was so in the garden of Eden, and we know which party that was,) and that party, though small at first, by their zeal in teaching, and by frequently changing its name, never calling itself by its right name, but always trying to steal some name that had been rendered illustrious and good, and thus deluding and indoctrinating the people in error, until they have overthrown the government, and they are what you truly call the real rebels.

God counsels the people to keep their agreements, and our own reason tells us that it is best that we should do so, and we have no right to change them without consent.—The North agreed to deliver up fugitives from the South, and yet a large portion of the Northern people not only refused to comply with their agreement, but threw every obstacle in the way of the Southern people's recovering their property.

Every State has its Constitution, and one called the Constitution of the United States, the other called the State Constitution. Both of these Constitutions were adopted by each State or each people, (the two words State and people being synonymous or having the same meaning,) and was so understood by every one, or nearly every one, until President Lincoln and his party undertook to teach that a State meant a county, and thus to delude and mislead the people of the North, and get them to make war on the South.

The Convention of the Colonies of the Colonies that put forth the Bill of Rights or the Declaration of Independence, in which they state that each or every State or people have the right to abolish or alter their form of government or constitution whenever they see fit.

The South violated no moral law when they left the Union; I mean in the simple act of leaving the Union. They agreed to come into the Union, but did not agree to stay in the Union forever. The original thirteen States once formed a Union, and declared it perpetual; they broke that up by mutual consent and formed another Union, or agreement, or constitution, or government, (all these words in reality have one meaning,) in which each State could come in or stay out, or go out. If it was not so our fathers did not establish a free government.

This Rad party, they allow free government but their acts deny what they say; it is an old saying that "actions speak louder than words." And that is what God says about this party, "they confess me with their mouth, but they deny me in their acts."

In 1862, when General Banks was about to move up the valley, I spoke unto my servants and told them that the devil would be along here after a while, and that he would come in the form and appearance of a man, and that he would be called "Freedom! Freedom!" But said, I will not tell you what the Freedom consists in. I will tell you what it consists in; it consists in serving God. God says you must be honest. I repeat what God says and tell you to be honest; God says you must be industrious. I repeat what God says and tell you to be industrious; he says you must be careful and truthful. I repeat what he says and tell you to be careful and truthful; and I tell you farther, if you are not honest, industrious, careful and truthful, I will do what God tells me farther to do, to, to, to, you, and I will do it. Now, if you prefer living with anybody else to liv-

ing with me, you are at perfect liberty to go.

The Yankees came along after a while and the devil with them, and I heard one of my servants say, "The Lord have mercy on me; what sort of people are these, they done stole the blanket from my baby in the cradle; I would rather live with a thousand Southern masters than to live free with such people." I asked one man that I have, who is still with me, if he was not going with his friends; he said yes, he was going with his friends, he had done enough of them people.

God says, "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you, for as you do unto others so shall it be done unto you."—Now let us examine President Lincoln by that rule. President Lincoln by his own confession, confessed that he had no authority to do what he was doing to the Southern people, but he goes to a Congress of the Northern States, which is certainly not a Congress of the United States, though called so, to ask the United States to give him authority. He deceived in thinking that Congress had the authority to give him authority; but if he had gone to the Constitution, where the authority or law for both is laid down, and examined it carefully, he would have found that Congress had no authority to give him authority to coerce or punish a State. Well, as President Lincoln pushed without lawful authority, so he was punished without lawful authority; he was killed or assassinated by Booth, and of course, it was done without authority or warrant of law. I speak of these things in sorrow, not in rejoicing and anger, and my object is to warn the people—the Summers, the Wilsons, the Wades, the Stevens, the Hollis, the Stanton, to receive profit and instruction by the above counsel of God, and put their house in order.

And how is it with regard to what is called the national debt? This Radical party compelled the Southern people to repudiate their debt, so their own debt will be repudiated in turn. Ye bond-holders, you had better be getting your house in order. A debt contracted without proper authority is no debt at all, (as against the principal,) it may be against the agent, and the people are under no moral obligation to pay such a debt, and of course there is no immorality in repudiating it.

I see from the papers that the Union League has been pitching into Mr. Greeley, and Mr. Greeley into the Union League. When Peter was doing what we call giving advice to the Lord and Master, what did the Lord say?—Did he say, Peter get behind me, you know nothing about it? No; but he said, "Satan, get thee behind me, thou art an offence unto me." Christ who could see, and who knew everything, knew that Satan had entered into Peter's body, and was making use of the organs of speech of Peter, without the knowledge of Peter, for the purpose of tempting him. If I were to speak correctly, I would say that Satan speaking through the mouth of the Union League, pitched into Mr. Greeley, and Satan speaking through the mouth of Mr. Greeley, pitched into the Union League. To use a common expression, pot calling the kettle black; or, Beelzebub pitching into Beelzebub; a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. God works man works, and the devil works. God made the white man, the yellow man, the red man, and the black man; God did not make the horse and the ass, and many other things, but it was left to the cunning of the devil and the lust of man to make the mule and the mulatto.

No man can educate himself; every idea or every suggestion that enters the mind of man is put there by the Almighty or by the devil. God teaches man; the devil teaches man; God, truth; the devil, error; God puts good ideas in the mind of man, and the devil comes along and perverts them or takes them away—see the parable of the sower.

God says one of you man saying, "My God says a debt is a blessing; the devil working on the desires or lust of Jay Cooke, put that suggestion in his mind, and I ask the people whom will they believe, God or Jay Cooke and the devil?"

All the instincts, the desires, which we call innate, are placed in us by God for our good, and when used in accordance with the counsels of God, produce good results. The desire for progress, the desire for knowledge—and it was this that drove Adam and Eve, through which, Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, were tempted by the devil to walk contrary to the counsels of God,—it is in the similar way that the devil works now. Some will tell you that they don't believe in the existence of a devil; so also, some tell you they don't believe there is a God. Now it does not follow because a man does not believe in the existence of a thing, that there is no such thing. It only shows that he has no knowledge of the thing. Now, I do not believe, but I know that both exist, for I have talked with them in the same way that I have talked with them when he was upon their pulpits, and said white men into the worst servitude of the substitute and then swindled your manhood out of the price of his blood and liberty.

But why prolong this rehearsal of the exploits of "loyalty." Everybody knows that in this State it has corrupted all grades of society till its presence, and it has filled our public places with the worst wretches that ever escaped the hand of God, and made law-givers of thieves, and rulers of perjured cowards.

Equally clear is its record in national politics. It has destroyed our form of government, and given us the bayonet for the ballot, and the sword for the judicial tribunal. It has wiped out ten States, and is now compassing the destruction of more. It has thrust representatives from the Congressional halls because of their politics, and it has made the only condition of representation. It has made the nation bankrupt, piled up a debt that mortgages the entire possessions of the people, and is now increasing that debt rapidly and fearfully in furtherance of its madness and its folly. It has clad the land in mourning, robbed every household of its pride, and made widowhood and orphanage universal.

It has inaugurated a perfect jubilee and carnival of crime. It offers its daily sacrifices on the shrine of murder. It robs its victims hourly. It swindles, it forges, it burns at every opportunity. It has made seduction fashionable, rape a popular custom, and to a worse and nameless crime it has added the sanction of the pulpit and Sereno Howe.

Such in brief is American "loyalty," a sentiment that reeks in infamy, rots in prostitution, and riots in all filth and impurity. It is to be wondered that this nation runs so rapidly to its ruin?—*Wheeling Register.*

Senator Wilson on Confiscation.

Senator Henry Wilson, of Massachusetts, in a letter to Mr. Wm. T. Early, of Charlottesville, Virginia, in reply to a question as to what is necessary on the part of the people of the South to avert confiscation from themselves, says:

"Nothing will be done for revenge, but everything for the enduring peace of the country. Nothing can bring confiscation upon the people of the rebel States (but the persistent folly and madness of masses of their people, and I cannot believe that the body of their people will, by their future action, bring confiscation upon themselves. I will suggest, my dear sir, a sure way for your people to avert from themselves confiscation, remove disabilities, restore law, order, peace and individual and national prosperity and happiness. Let them abandon at once and forever the ideas, principles and policies of their 'lost cause'; strive to conquer the prejudices and passions engendered by their rebellion and the conflict they inaugurated.— Let them accept the results of the nation's victory—the unity of the States; the perpetuity of the Republic; the emancipation, enfranchisement and citizenship of their bondmen, their equality of rights and privileges. Let them do this in spirit as well as in form. Let them establish schools for the education of both races. Let them encourage the freedmen to be thrifty and temperate, to get home-steads and to engage in industries in varied forms."

"Is Thy Servant a Dog," &c.

We fully agree with the Richmond Examiner, that the "basest and most disreputable of all the foul acts of the Radicals is the effort which they have recently made to disgrace, and forever dishonor, the members of that proud and great political organization, the Whig Party of the South.

In the open and insulting overtures which they have made to that party, there is an implied doubt that it is less true to the South, and less inclined to resent the wrongs inflicted upon us by the Radicals, than is consistent with honor and duty.

This indignity to the members of a party which always contained many of the ablest and most chivalric gentlemen of the South, has been indignantly resented, except in a few instances, which we deplore from the reproach which they will bring upon Virginia and her people.

The Radical tempters, who are seeking to dishonor the late Whig party, are artfully appealing to old and forgotten prejudices.— They are tearing open wounds which had healed, and weakening the South by endeavoring to alienate men who were for four years united in the defence of the State from an invasion to which the radical influences at Washington gave, as far as they were able, universal severity and harshness."

In the name of all that is sacred and worthy of being preserved in the record of the past, we forbid the bans! We bid the two-colored harlot!—*Fredricksburg Herald.*

Triumphs of "Loyalty."

Byron, in describing the death of one of his robber heroes, finishes him with a declaration to the effect that he left "a single virtue linked with a thousand crimes." Barring the "virtue," the same phrase would aptly describe the operations of that pestiferous condensation of all infamies, latter-day "loyalty."

Of all the cheating, swindling subterfuges behind which villainy ever skulked or corruption ever rotted, that same word "loyalty" is the greatest, the meanest and the worst. There is not an act in the catalogue of crime which its votaries have not committed, or over which its protection has not been thrown. There is not a vice which it has not fed, pampered and concealed. There is not a passion which it has not fostered, developed, and guarded. It has destroyed the sanctity of law, by affording immunity to the lawless. It has brought morality into contempt, by its encouragement of all immorality and impurity. It has degraded religion, by making all virtue, and all righteousness dependent upon its decrees—decrees that have cast out goodness from the communion table, and consecrated the worst of wickedness, depravity and infamy. There is no corruption and no villainy but has its "loyalty" representative and exponent. Butler has made that a truly "loyal" virtue; his inferiors of the class of Ferguson and Farnsworth are familiar illustrations of the "loyalty" that crops out in midnight knavery and grand larceny.— Blasted bigotry, barbarity and corruption are the surface indications of Brownlow's "loyalty"; his brazen imitator, Boreman, is a prodigious success in the character of a "loyal" sneak, skulking by stealth to the pillage of the treasury—a puppet instrument in the hands of designing knaves; breaking down the liberties of the people that partisan interests may thrive, and sowing seeds of universal discontent and desolation, that "loyalty" may prosper.— A "loyal" forger went from Berkeley county to the penitentiary three weeks ago; another from Kanawha awaits the same proud destiny. Visions of the whipping post and the county jail are nightly flitting before the gaze of a "loyal" goose tithed in Wetzel county; and a distinguished politician of Marshall exercises the ghosts of villainy more than a quarter of a century old, by the potent spell of "loyalty."

During the war, "loyalty" stole horses in the Greenbrier Valley, smuggled whisky and defrauded the Government in Jefferson, and robbed the ruins of houses that it had burned over the heads of women and children, upon the banks of the South Branch. A reverend "loyalist" preached against African slavery from our pulpits, said white men into the worst servitude of the substitute and then swindled your manhood out of the price of his blood and liberty.

But why prolong this rehearsal of the exploits of "loyalty." Everybody knows that in this State it has corrupted all grades of society till its presence, and it has filled our public places with the worst wretches that ever escaped the hand of God, and made law-givers of thieves, and rulers of perjured cowards.

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BENJAMIN F. BEALL, Editor.

CHARLESTOWN, VA.

Tuesday Morning, July 23, 1867.

See the RED MARK. It means your time is up, and you are liable to have your paper stopped at any time. Do not subject yourselves to such a calamity.

WISDOM OF THE RUMP.

Its Doings, with Brief Comments.

—Mr. Charles Sumner is consistent. His devotion to the negro is unselfish, and springs from a deep conviction of the negro's worth, and his capacity for elevation. Mr. Sumner did not marry a negro, because it is probable he did not find a lassie of that color upon whom he could fasten his affections, but still we have abundant reason for believing that Mr. Sumner loves the negro. He is not, like Artemus Ward, disposed to deny that the negro is his brother, for he owns the relationship whenever opportunity is afforded. He has recently given an unqualified evidence of his fondness for the oppressed race. When the bill supplementary to the reconstruction act was before the Senate, this modern Athenian attempted to introduce an amendment providing for universal manhood suffrage in the North as well as in the South. He claimed that it would give a large increase in the radical vote in Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Connecticut, and in fact, was needed in every State. The Senate, however, did not agree with Mr. Sumner, and declared his amendment out of order by a vote of 22 to 12. This action of the radical Senate proves that, with the exception of Mr. Sumner, the negro has few useful friends in the North, and that instead of Mr. Sumner's amendment being out of order, the American Senate is terribly disordered.

—In the House on the 11th, an obscure representative named Broomall, hailing from the State which boasts a Thaddeus Stevens, introduced a bill to guarantee to the several States a republican form of government. The meaning of which is that universal negro suffrage shall be extended to the North as well as to the South. The bill was referred to the committee on reconstruction. Consulting the "logic of events," we have reason to conclude that this effort of Mr. Broomall has hit the nail in a sure place, and that it is likely to rescue his name from that obscurity in which it has been buried.

—A resolution was introduced and passed in Congress on the 13th, appointing a committee to investigate the treatment of Northern prisoners in Southern prisons. Mr. Munger, of Ohio, wished to amend by appointing a committee to examine into the treatment of Southern prisoners in Northern prisons. This was voted down, of course, Congress asserting that they did not wish to go abroad even a suspicion that prisoners in the hands of the Union forces were mistreated. Of course not. Such an investigation would send abroad facts exceedingly unpalatable to the dominant party, and decidedly damaging to the reputation for humanity, of the "best government the world ever saw."

—On the 15th, among numerous resolutions introduced, was one directing the judiciary committee of the House to enquire whether the States of Maryland, Kentucky and Delaware have State governments republican in form, and to report to the House. After including the States of New Hampshire and Missouri in the inquiry, the resolution was adopted by a vote 76 to 38. Thank Heaven, a breach has been made in the New England fortress, and New Hampshire has been brought under the law of Congressional investigation. Why didn't the House include Massachusetts in their inquiries?

—On the 17th the following resolution was introduced, and passed under a suspension of the rules by a strict party vote:

"That the doctrine avowed by the President that the abolition of the rebel States binds the nation to pay their debts incurred prior to the rebellion is at war with the principles of international law, and stabs at the national credit, which the Congressional patriots are upholding by the reckless and unnecessary expenditure of hundreds of millions of the people's money. In the language of Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, it is "impertinent and uncalled for." The doctrine of the hour is that the President has nothing to do with the question of reconstruction. That is a matter solely within the jurisdiction of Congress—or the "rump" so-called.

—The most sensible resolution of the whole session is that of Mr. Washburne, of Indiana, which declares that taxation in this government should be borne equitably by all; that for purposes of taxation all property should be liable; that the exemption from taxation of any portion of the material of the country is wrongful and unjust, and that to carry out these views the right to tax any government bonds now exempt in any future funding of the public debt shall be allowed. Referred to the committee on ways and means. The passage of this resolution would again breach the New England fortress, and knock the props from under "Shoddy."

RADICAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

The unstinted extravagance of the radical Congress is exciting the alarm and waking the apprehensions of many of the adherents of the party in the Northern States. Greeley does not know what Congress means by its action "unless it is to exterminate, if not absolutely repudiate, the public debt."

The New York Commercial, a republican journal, follows this up by intimating that the measures persisted in by the rump Congress will bankrupt the government and the country. The government, or the legislative portion at least, is already bankrupt in principle, and there is little doubt that it will be in purse, if the dominant party is much longer continued in power.

OUR BIG SHOW.

Until after the 10th of August next, the time appointed for the meeting of the Senatorial and Legislative Conventions, at Shepherdstown, we shall devote the greater portion of our exhibition to the arrangement of a delegation from Charlestown township, and to the suggestion of distinguished names upon whom the high honors of radicalism may be conferred. We, of course, feel some anxiety upon this subject, and are prompted by an earnest desire to have the best foot foremost.

In looking more carefully over the list of the "loyal" of this township, we have found an associate for Burton and Anderson, and one more voter to sustain our admirable ticket—so that the full radical strength of the township will now stand three, instead of two, as heretofore reported, and the delegation to the Convention, as revised, will stand:—

1. Warren Burton,
2. George Anderson,
3. William Johnson,
4. Barton, Silversmith,
5. Anderson, Blacksmith.

To those who have seen this new delegate, it is unnecessary to say much, as his character is legibly inscribed upon his countenance; like our friend Anderson his face is his record, to be seen and read of all men. But to those who have not seen him, we would suggest that he is one of the misfortunes which war has entailed upon us, and like the Canada thistle upon our lands, and the glanders among the horses, and the cholera among the hogs—Johnson constitutes a part and parcel of the effects of invasion, and our impression is that he is not the least evil which afflicts the community. This thistle may be dug up and destroyed, the glanders may run its course and disappear, Stonebraker professes to have found a cure for the hog distemper which will arrest its career, but for the cancer which such men as Johnson inflict, no specific has been found. He avows himself an out and out Thad. Stevens' man, confiscation and all, notwithstanding his support is derived from an interest in a tinning establishment in this town which is dependent upon the patronage of the very parties whose property he wishes to see confiscated. This is a fact worthy to be remembered.

As a change has been made in the delegation, so also we find it necessary to make a slight alteration in our legislative ticket, and although we do it reluctantly, we this week withdraw, in obedience to the public sentiment of Averill township, the name of Mr. Anthony Turner, which we hoisted to the mast last week, and in his stead we present the name of Averill's favorite steed, Capt. John F. Smith. This horse is somewhat familiar with the course, having run two unsuccessful heats under the old order of things. In appearance he is still in his prime, and with good radical training, and the support of the Charlestown vote, he will doubtless make an excellent race, if he does not distance all competitors. It is true he is not now a resident of the county, although he exercises the functions of a justice, but this matters very little when the radicals want a candidate. They went out of the district to get a judge, and they can as easily go to Berkeley for a delegate to the Legislature. Besides, we are credibly informed that the Captain has made abundant preparation for a winter's residence in Wheeling, having rigged himself out with a new suit for the purpose. The Captain's loyalty has already been vouched for by Mr. A. Turner in a letter, the authorship of which uncharitable people ascribe to the captain himself. Be this as it may, the Captain is a voter, a magistrate, and wants to be a legislator. Bully for Smith! Smith and Anderson against the field! They will receive the full radical vote of Charlestown township, consisting of three—Burton, Anderson and Johnson will support them, and so will Anderson, Burton and Johnson. With this ticket we can rally the full radical strength of the county, from the pine hills on the west to the summit of the Blue Ridge on the east. We therefore call upon the forthcoming convention to ratify the nominations which we have made, and give to the people—the loyal people—the names of Smith and Anderson.

"FALLEN FROM VIRTUE."

In the House of Representatives, on Wednesday last, Butler, the notorious and abandoned creature who luxuriates in the contempt and detestation of the civilized world, and whose existence is a continual reminder of human depravity, rose to a privileged question, and made some irrelevant allegations in regard to Union prisoners. "The greatest misfortune of the recent war was that said Butler never placed himself in a position where there was the slightest probability of his being made a prisoner." The allegations referred to, led to a colloquy, in which Baldwin, a colleague of Butler, asked Mr. Eldridge of Wisconsin, whether he expected the House to take Col. Ould's statements against the testimony and statements of Union officers. Mr. Eldridge, in reply to this question, said he believed General Butler himself would not deny that Col. Ould was an honorable and conscientious man. Butler then remarked that before the war he had thought Colonel Ould a highly conscientious and honorable man, but when a man committed treason he was ready like a woman fallen from virtue, for any crime, and from that hour no one knew where to find him.

With the author of the above sentence, there has never been any falling from virtue. He was born a beast, was reared a beast, has continued to live a beast, and the chances certainly are less than one, that he will die a beast. The difference between him and Col. Ould is wide and manifest. There need never be any difficulty in knowing where to find Butler. He will ever be found where infamy and indecency predominate; where vice holds her highest carnival; where iniquity abounds without resistance; where immorality holds her favorite court; where licentiousness stalks openly, and "spoons" are in greatest abundance.

—Chief Justice Chase presides at the term of the Court to be held in October at Richmond, and there is little doubt that it will be in pursu, if the dominant party is much longer continued in power.

THE VETO.

Whatever else may be denied him, it will always be accorded to President Johnson, that he has clearly perceived every step of the process by which the Congress of the United States has destroyed the Constitution and subverted every principle of good government established by it; that he has observed the downfall of the public liberties and knows the wicked hands that wrought the deed; and that he has, in apt and forcible words, placed on enduring record warnings of the ruin to which the reign of faction was hastening the nation.

In the use of the various vetoes he has from time to time employed to arrest the baleful legislation to which our sad condition is now attributable, he has pointed out, with admirable precision, not only the purposes of the monstrous measures of usurpation adopted by the party in power, but the sure destruction that must attend their execution.

In his recent message to Congress disapproving the acts supplementary to the reconstruction act of March last, he foresees consequences with the eye of a true statesman. Of the nature of the government provided by this bill for the South he observes that "over all these ten States this military government is now declared to have unlimited authority. It is no longer confined to the preservation of the public peace, the administration of criminal law, the registration of voters, and the superintending of elections; but in all respects it is asserted to be paramount to the existing civil governments."

Of the legitimate effect of such a government he truly says: "It is impossible to conceive any state of society more intolerable than this, and yet it is to this condition that twelve millions of American citizens are reduced by the Congress of the United States. Over every foot of the immense territory occupied by these American citizens, the Constitution of the United States is theoretically in full operation. It binds all the people there, and should protect them, yet they are denied every one of its sacred guarantees. 'Of what avail will it be to any one of these Southern people when seized by a file of soldiers to ask for the cause of arrest, or for the production of the warrant? Of what avail to ask for the privilege of bail when in military custody, which knows no such thing as bail? Of what avail to demand a trial by jury, process for witnesses, a copy of the indictment, the privilege of counsel, or that greater privilege the writ of habeas corpus?'"

President Johnson then discerns the despotism prepared for the people of the States by this act of Congress. He knows that more than one-third of the nation are about to pass under the yoke and become serfs and slaves, although fully entitled to all the privileges and "sacred guarantees" of the Constitution. Not only so, but with an equally clear perception of consequences, he sees the powers of the high office which he occupies, and which were intended as guards against the very outrages he so much deprecates, are stricken down, and without even the forms of law, he has been reduced to a mere cipher in the government. Without impeachment, and without trial of any description, all has been effected which conviction and removal could have accomplished; and to-day, although under the Constitution, he is declared to be the commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the country, he has no more power as such in ten States than the chief butler—such, than the meanest scullion of the White House he occupies nominally as the President of the United States.

Says Mr. Johnson: "The Constitution and the oath provided in it devolve upon the President the power and the duty to see that the laws are faithfully executed. The Constitution, in order to carry out this power, gives him the choice of the agent and makes them subject to his control and supervision. But in the execution of these laws the Constitutional obligation upon the President remains, but the power to execute that Constitutional duty is effectually taken away." He has then, by his own acknowledgment been virtually deposed from the office of President of the United States, and deprived of his authority as Commander-in-Chief of its forces—the agents necessary to an execution of the duties of his high position.

By a process that could not legally strip a lieutenant of the army or navy, of the prerogatives of his official rank. The President then, as we have before intimated, is not ignorant of the appalling situation of the nation. He tells us that the constitution has been overthrown; that he has been an intelligent spectator of its overthrow, and that he has been cognizant of the means employed to that end. He informs us, too, that he has permitted himself to be deprived of powers entrusted to him, as he very well knows, for the purpose of preserving the government from the very assault to which it has succumbed. He has stood by and witnessed the cruel blows dealt at the life of the nation without the interposition of the shield which the law places in his hands for its protection. He has solemnly sworn "to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States"; and that is but a poor apology for a dereliction of duty which urges that he has not the means for the task required of him, because he has quietly and without a struggle surrendered the power necessary for the purpose. As well might the soldier exclaim his surrender upon the plea that he was unarmed and unprotected because he had, when armed, delivered his musket to the enemy.—It was his duty to fight for his weapon of defence. He knew that his country had entrusted him with it for the protection of her honor and interest, and that when deprived of it he would be powerless; and his conduct partakes of the character of treachery when he yields it without a conflict, and pleads its loss in explanation of his capture.

It is true, as we have said before, that the President is fully cognizant of the evils that afflict our unhappy country. He does not plead ignorance of them, nor attempt in any way to disguise them. But has he a remedy for them? He has; and it is proposed at the conclusion of the message which we now under consideration. "The remedy," says the President, "is to be found in the ballot."

And, really, did we not know how justly Mr. Johnson merits the reputation which he has of a thoughtful and serious man; and did we not know how earnestly he has heretofore labored in the service of the nation, we would regard such a proposition as an idle and mocking mockery and derision of the hapless and helpless condition of an outraged and downtrodden people! The ballot the means of restoring their constitutional privileges and rights to twelve millions of people who, in this very message of Mr. Johnson, are truly said to be the victims of a despotism and wholly irresponsible military despotism? The ballot to do its ordinary and effective work where all law is suspended, and the only rule of action and government proceeds from the capricious will of an unchallenged autocrat? The ballot the remedy, when the whole aim and design of the series of measures to which the President has opposed the feeble resistance of his veto, has been to deprive the people of ten States of the use, and to assert powers which he has practically acquired in that empire the people of other ten States of the same privilege, if necessary to the maintenance of party ascendancy? Most impotent conclusion!

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

IMPROVEMENTS.—Amid the entire want of sympathy or feeling of our people in the political status of our county, it is gratifying to observe the steady progress of material improvement being manifested. Our farming community were never so energetic and laborious in repairing the desolations committed on their homes, or developing, with the favor of Providence, the utmost yield of the fruits of the earth, which skillful labor and persevering effort can effect. Labor of all kinds finds a ready and remunerative demand, and all things considered, we may congratulate our people that we have once again the busy hum of industry, instead of the clank of arms and the bloody foot-prints of an invading host. Our rich harvest being gathered and labor in the town more at command, we have noticed the progress of several substantial improvements in our midst during the last week or two. The foundation of quite an extensive edifice is nearly completed by Dr. L. C. Cordell, on the lot recently purchased by him, cross-corner to the Presbyterian Church. The excellent taste of the Dr. in the matter of building, gives assurance of an improvement that will be an ornament to the portion of the town in which it is situated, and a credit to the skill and industry of its constructors. The fine brick building of Dr. Lippitt, near the residence of R. T. Brown, Esq., is being rapidly pushed to completion, and will soon be ready for the roof. The brick work has been executed by Mr. George Armentrout, of Page county, and the Carpenter work is under the direction of Mr. T. K. Stary. Mr. S. has also under way an addition to our already spacious Depot, which when completed, will give additional facilities for the storage and transportation of commodities from this point. The extensive reconstruction made necessary to Dr. Mason's house by fire, is now so nearly completed, as to only need the painter's brush to make it better than new. The Dr. has designed some alterations and improvement in the interior plan of the former house, which add greatly to its general arrangement and convenience, and the universal wish of the community is, that he and his estimable family may long live to enjoy his shelter and comfort. The Board of School Commissioners for this township, have contracted with Mr. Wm. P. Hanson for the repair of the School House in District No. 20, to be completed by first of September. We also learn that a School House for the colored people is to be erected this fall on the same lot on which their contemplated church is to be situated. Other improvements, we learn, are being suggested, which we shall take pleasure hereafter in noticing, as they progress.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

The National Intelligencer of Thursday has an article of great seriousness, in which it "deliberately announces" its conscientious belief that a national crisis is at hand, and calls upon all citizens to consider with it "the transcendent issue which appears at last to have arisen in the country from the long and distracting strife of partisanship, and which we are constrained to believe threatens consequences of infinite calamity to all classes of the American people." It then proceeds to an examination of the supplemental reconstruction bill, which is before the President for his action, and says that the marked features of the reconstruction laws are as follows:—

- (1) That the Government is essentially military.
- (2) That all the officers and agents employed in its administration, executive, legislative and judicial—primarily Federal, or so by adoption, under and by virtue of the said statutes—are removable at pleasure.
- (3) That the President of the United States is virtually exonerated by these laws from agency or responsibility in their execution.

A fourth peculiarity of the highest consequence at an earlier day has now fallen somewhat behind the present emergency, as facilitating apprehension, viz: The President was ousted of his magistracy, in a great degree, over these States, in common with the other States of the Union, in as far as their constitutional relations corresponded with the latter, by the passage of the act of 24 March.

But the pleasure of Congress in excluding all their representatives left their condition such to render it expedient in his judgment, rather to waive the question than to prolong the disturbance. This forbearance he had the power, however ineffectually for the end, to exercise, because he was not bound to decide upon the constitutionality of the acts. They were acts which could be executed, and if so, but one Executive existed to perform that duty. But acts of Congress, which purport to exonerate from or forbid the President to execute them, cannot be laws, for making is a law of the United States which the President is not bound to execute.

After quoting from the Constitution and other authorities, it declares that "an act passed by Congress to be executed without the responsibility of the sole Executive of the United States is not a law; as well might the City Councils of Washington pass such an act." It asks, "What then is the President's duty?" It says:

If enactments purporting to be in force in the United States as laws of the land, yet which cannot be, because not executable by the only executive which can execute a law, are put into practical operation by persons pretending to be their executives, and the operations of these persons contravene or hinder in any degree other laws really in force, nobody can pretend to doubt that the case is, what the President's duty is, and what are the consequences of any hesitation or faltering on his part.

When a collision, between the laws and the unwarranted acts of Congress, or revolutionists, (or what are the same things, executive officers, not agents of the only executive) actually arises, he the abstract merits of the controversy which they may, and be the motives of the parties good or evil, it is certain that public order is brought to the fearful extremity of a dependence for a time on the courage, prudence and fidelity of one man—the general magistrate of the Union.

Whether this imports anything more than a purpose to bring the public mind to a realization of the departures which have been made from the old order of the government, we cannot say, but in any case, it seems the practical result must be the continued prevalence of the will of Congress, whatever that may be.

As a matter of wonderment, a Pennsylvania paper states that old Thaddeus Stevens has purchased a lot in "Shirner's Cemetery," near Lancaster, for his own burial—in which cemetery there is no exclusion on account of race or color. We pity the poor negro who is found in such company, when the devil comes to claim his own. In the case of this old reprobate, however, whose rotten carcass it is to be hoped will soon occupy the spot he has selected with "his kit and kin," a dispensation should be awarded on the ground of consistency in wrong-doing—conspiring in life—equally debased in death.

The Shepherdstown Register and the Valley Virginian came to us this week, greatly enlarged in size and improved in appearance. These indications of success are no less encouraging to the profession, than they are indicative of the growing wealth and importance of our Valley. We shall endeavor to keep pace with the progress of the times, and the banner of the "Spiriter" as in the past, so shall be in the future, always to be found on the "outer wall." Onward is our motto, and excelsior our aim.

John Grey, of Hiramsville, Ohio, who is in his one hundred and fourth year, and for whom the honor of being the last surviving soldier of the Revolution is claimed, it is said was born at Fairfax Court-house, Va., January 6, 1764. During the Revolution he worked on the Mount Vernon estate for Washington along with the slaves of the General. Mr. Grey's father fell at White Plains in 1780, and soon after the son enlisted till the close of the war, and was mustered out at Richmond, Va. He says he was engaged in several battles, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. He says he was "mighty tough" when a boy, and out-marched big heavy men. For seventy-eight years he has been a consistent member of the Methodist Church. Congress last winter gave him a pension of \$500 per annum.

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Baltimore Markets.

FRIDAY, July 20, 1867.
FLOUR.—We notice a further reduction to-day of 50 cts per bush on Baltimore Family and high grade Extra. Stock of Flour still small, and sales restricted for the want of breadstuffs for local trade, and street receipts, however, be looked for the coming week. We review quotations as follows:—Howland Street Super and Cut Extra, 9 3/4 @ \$10.50. Do Extra shipping 11 @ \$12.50. Do high grade 13 1/2 @ \$13.25. Do Family 15 @ \$15.00. Do Super and Cut Extra none, do Family 14 1/2 @ \$16.00. North Western Super none, do Extra 11 1/2 @ \$11.50. City Mill Super none, do standard Extra none, do shipping brands Extra 13 @ \$14.00. Do high grade and falling Extra 15 @ \$15.50. Baltimore, Welch's, Greenfield and Westons, do Super and Cut Extra, new at \$8.50 per bush. Corn Meal—City Mills \$5.60 per bush.

GRAIN.—Wheat—advances to-day were comprised of 1700 bush white and 330 bush red; receipts all sold, and at a further decline of 34 1/2 cts per bush; included in the sale 1000 bush white, fair to prime, at 2 3/4 @ \$3; some inferior lots still lower; 400 bush good to choice red at 2 1/2 @ \$2.67; 2000 bush common to fair at \$2.40. Corn—Oats—ferings were composed of 4000 bush white and 725 bush yellow; the white sold at 1 1/4 @ \$1.15 for good and prime, and at \$1.14 for mixed—no yellow sold except a small lot at \$1.14. Rye—2500 bush received, and all sold at 49 cts @ \$1.49 for good prime old crop; a lot 100 bush new at 95 cts. Rye—375 bush offered, and all a small parcel sold at \$1.40 per bush. Gold, 1 3/8.

Baltimore Cattle Market.

THURSDAY, July 18, 1867.
BEEF CATTLE.—The offerings at the Sales during the past week amounted to 730 head, against 550 last week. Of the number offered, 475 head came from Ohio, 235

