

ST. MARY'S BEACON

LEONARDTOWN, MD.

THURSDAY MORNING, January 27, 1870.

LEGISLATIVE.—Since the election of a Treasurer, a week ago, little or nothing has been done in either branch of our State Legislature. All ideas, however, now being exhausted, it is expected that serious work will commence at the close of the session. In view of the certainty of the adoption of the 15th Amendment, would it not be well for the Legislature to forestall some of the probable consequences, and provide, as best it can, for the preservation of order and the security of the tax-paying interest of the State?

Virginia has been admitted, with the Senate Amendments, of course, and the signature of the President to the bill is now only wanting to make her a State of the Union—on probation. When the bill, with the Senate amendments, came up for action in the House, Mr. [Name] and his followers voted, as we have elsewhere pointed they would, "without battle and without blushing." There is no denying it, the ultimate men with the red rag of the day are Sumner and Butler.

ADMISSION OF VIRGINIA.—Although the bill for the admission of Virginia has passed the Senate and is likely to be passed by the House with slight, if any, modifications, nevertheless an intelligent exposure of the violations of law and good faith on the part of Congress in this matter may be useful in other times as a record, we print in another part of our paper to-day, the forcible and pertinent protest of our immediate representative, Hon. F. Stone, against the illegal conditions with which it was sought to encumber the bill when it was on its passage in the House. It will be recollected, that the House passed the bill without conditions, but when it was called up in the Senate, the ultra radicals of that body, oblivious of, or indifferent to the obligations alike of faith, law and honor, tacked to it numerous proscriptive amendments and, after a fierce and protracted contest, were successful in passing it with these amendments attached. The bill now goes back to the House, and though it is plainly asked of this body that it shall stultify itself by voting for amendments which it voted against a few days ago, there is little doubt that it will do as it has been bid and simmer down to Sumner's easy without battle and probably without blushing.

OLD STYLE AND NEW.—We were asked the other day in conversation to explain the mystery of the "Old and New Style" of computing time, and ventured upon an effort in that direction, but unfortunately broke down before we had proceeded many paces. We knew, however, there was a solution, and so we set to work to find it and have discovered the following facts: The Julian Calendar assumed 8645 days to constitute a year. The year really contains 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 50 seconds. Thus the calendar went astray 11 minutes and 10 seconds per year, and by A. D. 1582 the error amounted to ten whole days. To correct this error Pope Gregory XIII. ordained that ten days should be deducted from the year 1582, by calling what, according to the old calendar, would have been the 5th of October, the 15th. Hence the 5th of October "old style" was in 1582, the 15th of October "new style." It was not until 1751 that Great Britain accepted this correction, and by that time the error amounted to eleven days. It was then ordained that eleven days should be omitted after the 2nd of September, 1751, and the next day called the 14th of September, 1751.

DIRECTION OF A TREASURER.—Mr. John Morryman has been elected Treasurer, but whether we ought to throw up our hands in consequence or pull it over our eyes, we have tried to make out and can't. The truth is, we have never been able to determine whether Fowler or Morryman was our man in this matter or what Treasurer party we belonged to. We believed Fowler to have been a good officer and were satisfied with him. We believe, also, Morryman will prove himself "equal to the situation," and we now hope that the fun and fury of the late contest will be confined to subsides.

EX-GOVERNOR SWANN'S SORROW.—We are indebted to an unknown friend for a pamphlet copy of ex-Gov. Swann's speech. We have read nothing upon the subject of reconstruction, in or out of Congress, that exposes in a clearer light the high-handed realities of radicalism than this able effort of the ex-governor. In his whole and we are pleased to see that it has been put into permanent form for circulation.

Hon. F. Stone, House of Representatives, Washington, will accept our thanks for a copy of the Memorial Address on the Life and Character of the late Thaddeus Stevens.

It is likely that we don't fully understand the nature of the controversy now progressing between the State on the one part and the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company on the other. It is not yet clearly settled. The State contends that the company owns one-fifth of the gross passenger earnings of the Washington Branch of the road for the past eighteen months. The Company repudiates that it has an offset against this claim for advances made to the State. The State acknowledges the justice only of a part of this offset and claims, in addition, that as no part of it has yet been audited or adjudicated, it cannot properly be brought in as an offset at all. If this approximation to a fair statement of the merits of the controversy, one would think that Legislative action is altogether out of place in the matter. The Courts are fully and only competent to settle the dispute. Nor can we see where in the Company is criminal in forcing the State to take action in the Courts. The case strikes us as analogous to a dispute between any two citizens. At least, that the Company has not deserved to have its charter forfeited for any thing it has done thus far, seems to us too clear for contest. Thus interpreting the "situation," we cannot help thinking that the action of Judge Merrick, so far as at least as it contemplates the forfeiture of the charter of the Company, is ill advised and unjustly aggressive.

We are profoundly afflicted to notice that Trumbull, the cute, and Sumner, the magniloquent, now paddle different canoes. They split in the Virginia debate, during which, they belabored each other so savagely that both had to be called to order. Alas! for our once Happy Family! Logan and Kelly, also, have had a bout about free trade. The mud flew—gentlemen, the mud flew! The contestants were well matched, each being in his native element. The contest was short and sharp and both came out equally dirty. Alas! alas! Nor is this all. About the same time, Scofield bounced Garfield and tackled Daves. Daves poked back with point and Garfield hit venomously. Both these gentlemen at latest accounts were threatened with hydrophobia. Alas! alas! We have fallen, indeed, upon evil days and now is the time, if ever, for patriots to be sorrowful as well as sober. Let us all to meditation.

From present indications, one would think there is but a sorry prospect of filling our ice houses this season, but it is the opinion of some, notwithstanding, that the coming Spring will be unusually backward and icy beyond precedent. Certainly, the mildness and dampness of the present spell have been extraordinary for January. How long this spell may last and what may follow it, we are not weather-wise enough to decipher.—Prof. Thatcher, of New York, advises us to prepare for storms and earthquakes, but as there is no way of dodging these when they come, we don't clearly see what good his advice can do us. Precautions against pleurisy and pneumonia we can take, however, and these we advise our readers to cultivate for the present, come what may hereafter.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson has given an opinion as to the legality of enforcing the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company to pay into our State Treasury the one-fifth of the gross proceeds from the passenger travel over the Washington Branch of the road. Mr. Johnson says that this tax is not a tax upon the earnings of the road, but a specific tax on passengers; therefore, as the right to levy a tax of one-fifth (or thirty cents) on each traveler involves the right to impose a heavier tax, the tax is in the nature of a burden on transit and conflicts with the right of a citizen of any one State to pass into or over another. The law taxing passengers is, therefore, in Mr. Johnson's opinion, clearly unconstitutional.

A fierce controversy is progressing. One loyal journal tells its readers that Gen. Grant began life as a tanner.—Another of the same household of faith asserts that he didn't begin with tanning at all but began as an officer of the United States army. True to its disloyal instincts, the copperhead press denies both statements and asserts that Grant began life as a baby, and a booby, we mean a baby, has continued ever since. We demand reconstruction for the copperheads, and among ourselves, "Let us have peace!"

Very Rev. Thomas Foley, D. D., of the Cathedral, Baltimore, has been appointed by Pope Pius IX a Bishop to the Diocese of Chicago. The Catholic Mirror states that he has accepted the appointment, and will be consecrated at the Cathedral, Baltimore, sometime in February.

Wm. P. Maubley, Esq., of Frederick, has been appointed by Gov. Bowie, Chief Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, composed of Frederick and Montgomery counties, vice Judge Madison Nelson, dec'd.

George D. Prentice.—The veteran editor of the old Louisville Journal died at the residence of his son, Clarence D. Prentice, a few miles below Louisville, on Saturday last. He had been weak and feeble for a year or more, and had been confined to his bed for about a week.

Mr. Prentice was born in Preston, Conn., December 2, 1803, and was consequently sixty-six years and nearly two months old. He graduated at Brown University at an early age, and at nineteen became principal of a high school in Hartford. Soon after becoming of age he took charge of and edited, with John G. Whittier, the New England Review, published in Hartford. Gideon Welles was editor of another paper in the same city at the time, and a bitter warfare of personalities raged between the two. He soon tired of this life, however, and removed to Louisville, Ky., when in 1831 he established the Louisville Journal, of which he was chief proprietor and editor until about two years ago. At that time his wife died, and as in previous days of insolvency he had made over all his property in the paper to her, she had her share left to it to her son Clarence.—He in his turn sold it out to Walter W. Haldeman, who merged it with his own paper under the title of the Louisville Courier-Journal. Mr. Prentice was thus deprived of his proprietorship, but was retained on the new paper as a writer.—He was an old line whig from the first, and was an intimate friend of Henry Clay, at whose residence, Ashland, near Lexington, he resided for some time preparing a biography of the great statesman. He espoused Know Nothingism at its inception and continued to advocate it until the defeat of Bell and Everett and the election of Lincoln to the Presidency. When the secession movement came on he strongly opposed it, although his two sons—his only children—went to the southern army. One of them was killed while with a storming party at Augusta, Ky. The other—Clarence J. Prentice—is still living.—At the close of the war, and up to his death, Mr. Prentice followed the lead of President Johnson and advocated the unconditional re-admission of all the States and the pardon of all the rebels.

As an editor he was famous for his witty paragraphs and for his sarcasm and invective. He was strongly partisan, and would advocate his partisan measures by sharp and piercing onslaughts on opposing leaders. He has frequently been involved in personal rencounters with the objects of his wrath, and has often come out of them with dangerous wounds. With rival editors in the same city he was continually at odds.

His poetry was of a high order. His "Closing Year" and "Lines at My Mother's Grave" were probably his best, but he wrote lines up to within the last six months. His books were not very successful, and he wrote but few. He was always highly respected by the citizens of Louisville, and had troops of friends, as well as that which should accompany old age—honor, love, obedience.

In person, Mr. Prentice was short but stout, with a round face and well cut features. His right arm was paralyzed and he was compelled to employ an amanuensis. He married a Miss Henrietta Benham, sister of the Calhoun Lenham who figured as a second in the Terry-Broderick duel, and had two sons, of whom we have spoken above.

We call the attention of our friends to the card of the proprietor of the United States Hotel in another column. This well known house is warmed throughout with steam, besides coal fires, the dining hall large and convenient and the cuisine stocked with the finest fish, tarrains, oysters, &c. His servants are attentive and obliging. His bar is supplied with the choicest liquors. His house is open all night, and his night-club a *Jewel*—a true son of the "Emerald Isle"—a *real Irish Tullaghan* of the "first water." The landlord has reduced his rates and is determined no one shall go away dissatisfied. Call and give him a trial.

Colonel Levin Woolford, elected Comptroller at the election last November, assumed the duties of the office on Monday, 17th inst. He has appointed as his Chief Clerk, Charles A. Wallis, Esq., a faithful and competent officer, who has occupied the office under Col. W. J. Leonard, the late Comptroller, for the last two years.

James E. Carr, Wm. H. B. Fusselbaugh and Lefevre Jarrett, Esqs., have been re-elected by the Legislature. Police Commissioners for Baltimore city.—The vote stood: James E. Carr, 104; Wm. H. B. Fusselbaugh, 89; Lefevre Jarrett, 102.

The Townspeople Union.—Charles A. Conner, Esq., has abandoned his connection with the Union, the Messrs. Langnecker going it alone. The Union is the ablest newspaper defender of a bad cause published outside of Baltimore city. We wish its conductors every business prosperity.

Census of Criminal Statistics.—The annual report of the metropolitan police commission for the year 1869, has just been made a subject of public interest and has attracted much attention. It shows a total number of arrests was 73,984, of whom 51,346 were males and 22,638 females. The decade of age from twenty to thirty furnished the largest number of offenders; but the most numerous arrests of females were above thirty. Matrimony would seem to breed less crime than celibacy, from the fact that while only 29,249 persons arrested were married, 43,735 were single. Nearly six-sevenths of all the arrests were of individuals that could read and write, and as nearly every day reads and writes at this age, and there is much vicious reading and writing, we do not consider that there is anything advanced in this to the idea that education tends generally to promote the well-being of mankind. Moreover, the widespread popularization of the day is fearfully indicated by the statement that among the arrested were one hundred and thirty-three physicians, twenty-three United States officers, twenty-one city officers, fifty druggists, thirty policemen, nineteen clerks, forty-three notaries, (be it remarked, in parenthesis, that it is not an infrequent practice of involuntary visitors at the station-house to declare themselves in some way mysteriously connected with the press,) twenty-three telegraph operators, two hundred and twenty-eight brokers, (also for Wall street) and, in fine, representatives of almost all "the respectable classes" in society. The most astounding figures of the report are those which reveal that during the last ten years 270,461 natives of the United States, 465,185 natives of Ireland, 91,988 natives of Germany, and 70,867 natives of other countries—making a grand total of 898,489 persons—have been arrested in New York.—Baltimore.

"Curious," indeed, and astounding as well as "curious." One in every twelve of a population a law-breaker and law-breaking still upon the increase! And all this, not in the benighted South where slavery once prevailed and where the Klux still abide, but in the metropolitan city of the North! Heaven save us from the civilization of these self-righteous Pharisees! Nor, it will be seen, is this demoralization confined to the humble and needy. It effects every class and condition of their society in about equal proportions, the higher, if anything, being the worst. Surely, there must be something rotten—yes, rotten—in the social organization of the North. But the cry is still—advance—no backward steps—advance it is—downwards. There is a bottom to every gulf and moving at present pace this will soon be reached.—Here let our struggle be to preserve the old landmarks—political and moral—and by the new ways that lead down to hell.

Literary Notices.—THE AMERICAN STOCK JOURNAL.—The January number of this valuable Agricultural monthly presents the following rich table of contents: New Year's Greeting, Cooked Food for Stock, Poultry Hints for January, The Separation of Butter from Milk, Foot-rot in Calves, Chester White Hogs, Care of Sowing Fowls, Sheep Matters, Gray Dicks During Parturition, Feeding Cattle, Acute Rheumatism, or Bounder in Horses, On Feeding Horses, Improved Farm Stock, The Chinese Hog, Weaning Calves, Buff Cochins Fowls, Keep Sheep, Invasion of the Womb in Cows, Application of Manure to the Surface, Treatment of Milk Cows, Work for January, Lay your Plans for the Year, Breeding and Rearing Cattle, Sheep Raising, On Breeding Farm Animals, Be Careful of Stock in Winter, Inquiries and Answers, Book Notices, Catalogues, &c. As this Journal is published at the low price of \$1.00 a year, with splendid premiums to subscribers and agents, we hope all our farmer friends will send for a specimen copy which will be sent free by sending a stamp to pay postage. Address N. P. Boyer & Co., Publishers, Parkersburg, Pa.

BLACKWOOD.—The January number of Old Moss is before us. The table of contents this month is unusually attractive, and among other good things, "Lord Lytton's Comedy," "Mr. Fraude on Queen Mary" and "Lord Byron and his Calculators" attract special attention. The decapitated queen and the slandering poet are both vindicated in a masterly manner, leaving no little, if anything, to be said in their defense. The price of Blackwood is \$4 per year—except the postage, which is 24 cents. Address, The Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton street, N. Y.

THE DEMOCRATIC ALMANAC.—The publishers have kindly forwarded us "The Democratic Almanac" for 1870. This is one of the best publications extant, and contains an amount of information far surpassing that of any Almanac with which we are acquainted. Published by Van Errie, Horton & Co., New York. Price 20 cents per copy.

THE RURAL GENTLEMAN.—This sterling little periodical has been changed from a monthly to a semi-monthly, and is issued simultaneously in Baltimore, Md., and Harrisburg, Pa. Price \$1.00 a year. J. B. Robinson, editor and proprietor.

PISCATORY PROTECTIONS.—We give below the bill reported by Col. Loker, of this county, in the House of Delegates, in relation to the Potomac river and its tributaries within the limits of St. Mary's county. Such a bill has been long needed, will be approved here, we believe, by every one, and we hope the Legislature will pass it.

A BILL. Entitled an Act for the protection of Fish in the tributaries of the Potomac River, lying in Saint Mary's county, and to regulate the time and manner of taking and catching fish, in that portion of the Potomac River between Cobb Point in Charles county and Point Lookout, in Saint Mary's county. Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it shall not be lawful for any person or persons, except bona fide residents of St. Mary's county, to haul a Seine in any of the waters or tributaries of the Potomac River, lying in St. Mary's county.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That no person or persons, shall haul a seine more than eighty fathoms in length, in that portion of the Potomac River between Cobb Point, in Charles county and Point Lookout, in St. Mary's county, except from the fifteenth day of March to the fifteenth day of May inclusive.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That any person violating the provisions of either of the preceding sections of this Act, shall pay a fine of not less than five, nor more than fifty dollars, and forfeit the boat or boats and vessel, in his possession, together with the seine, or seines, and tackle and all things on board at the time the offence may have been committed.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Sheriff or any Constable, on complaint made to him, to arrest any person or persons so violating the foregoing sections of this Act, and to seize the boat or boats, and vessel, together with the seine, tackle, and all things on board, alleged to be forfeited, and give notice to the owner or owners thereof, if the same can be found, to appear before the Justice of the Peace of St. Mary's county, on a certain day, within five days from the time of the seizure, to show cause why the property so seized, should not be condemned, and if the owner or owners of the property so seized, evade the service of this notice, or cannot be found, then the Sheriff or Constable, may set up notice, at three of the most public places in the neighborhood of the seizure, warning the owner or owners thereof, to appear before a Justice of the Peace of St. Mary's county to be therein named, on a certain day, not less than ten days from the time of the seizure, to show cause why the said property should not be condemned.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That if, upon the hearing in case of the seizure, as aforesaid, the Justice of the Peace is satisfied that the owner, person or persons, having charge of the property so seized, is guilty of violating any of the provisions of this Act, which imposes a forfeiture of such property for such violation, then such Justice shall adjudge, in the name of the owner or person having charge thereof, he may describe him in the notice he is required to give as the owner of the property, without naming him, and the Justice, if he does not know the name of the owner, may condemn the property as the property of a person guilty of violating the Law, without naming such person.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That the Sheriff or Constable, making the seizure of property under this Act, shall adjudge, in the name of the owner or person having charge thereof, he may describe him in the notice he is required to give as the owner of the property, without naming him, and the Justice, if he does not know the name of the owner, may condemn the property as the property of a person guilty of violating the Law, without naming such person.

A USEFUL, ENTERTAINING, AND BEAUTIFUL MAGAZINE.—The February number of Demorest's Monthly presents an extraordinary array of literary novelties, useful items of information, and beautiful illustrations, which almost bewilder us with their profusion. Among the gems in the February number of this model Monthly is Schiller's "Song of the Bell," illustrated with seven fine and very characteristic engravings; also the fourth plate in the series of Gode's "Voyage of life," very finely engraved, with much useful and seasonable information on Fashions; also Jenny Juno's splendid "Talks with Woman," and numerous other interesting and useful topics. But we must refer the reader to the book itself, as no mere mention will do justice to this model Magazine. Yearly, \$3.00, with a splendid engraving as a premium to each subscriber. Address Demorest's Monthly, 838 Broadway, New York.

DEMORST'S YOUNG AMERICA is certainly the most beautiful and entertaining juvenile magazine now issued. The fine and elegant chromo pictures of Audubon's birds of America given in each number, are a very attractive feature. The stories, poems, prize pictures, and numerous other novelties given in Young America, render it a welcome visitor in the family circle. Yearly \$1.50, with a bound volume of Robinson Crusoe, in one syllable, illustrated in colors, as a premium to each subscriber. Address, W. Jennings Demorest, 838 Broadway, New York.

But there is another section to the bill (the second) which proposes to legalize a previous election of United States Senators. That is, to declare by an act of Congress, duly passed by both House and approved by the President, that the

Admission of Virginia. SPEECH OF HON. F. STONE, OF MARYLAND, IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 14, 1870.

On the bill (H. R. No. 788) to admit the State of Virginia to representation in the Congress of the United States. Mr. STONE. Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to discuss at this late day the general subject of reconstruction. The dominant party in this House has long ago determined that question. Rightfully or wrongfully, and I think most wrongfully, that party has settled that, and I do not now intend to discuss it further. I propose only to examine the bill as reported from the committee and now before the House, to apply to it the test of some plain principles of constitutional law not involved in the previous acts of Congress upon this subject, some general principles of public faith, and some of expediency merely.

First, this bill in my judgment violates in the most inexcusable manner the solemnly pledged faith of the Congress of the United States, a faith that was pledged by the dominant party of this House. After a long and careful examination of the whole subject, a previous Congress declared by a law now upon your statute-book, both to Virginia and to the world, the terms upon which she should be received back again into the family of States. This Government gave its word to Virginia that as soon as certain things were done by her she should be heard in the councils of the nation, and stand among her own children. This Government alone prescribed those conditions. Virginia herself had no voice in them.

But Virginia accepted these conditions, relying upon the pledge of our Government, and she carried out in letter and in spirit the conditions imposed upon her.—The President of the United States has declared in his annual message that she fulfilled promptly and by good faith every condition precedent to her admission, and no man has been able to show her failure so to do in any one single particular. Having undertaken to comply with the act of Congress, that noble old State did it, as she has ever done everything that she has ever determined to do, promptly, faithfully, and thoroughly; and having done so, she respectfully but firmly points Congress to its own laws and asks this House to carry them out by admitting her to her rightful place. But the Reconstruction Committee, to whom this subject was referred, has reported to the House for its action a bill imposing new conditions—a bill which ignores a law of Congress and repudiates the nation's pledged faith; a bill which declares in effect that although Virginia has complied with her part of the compact that we will receive her on our terms; we will ignore our own law and break our own word.

Mr. Speaker, I am one of that small minority in this House that ever opposed this great act of submission, not because it was in no manner repulsive to the law before the people and for the promise this Government gave to Virginia. But I am a member of the House of Representatives, and what is more, I am an American citizen, and as such, I do here protest against a bill which, if passed I believe will be a disgrace to Congress and the country it represents.

But let us test the constitutionality of these conditions and see if Congress really possesses the power to pass such a bill. Virginia is to be admitted provided her State officers take the oath prescribed in the bill, and that the people of Virginia shall never amend that part of her constitution relating to jurors and who is.—The tenth article of the Constitution of the United States says: "No State shall be admitted into the Union until its people have accepted of the proposed form of State government."

Now, unless the Constitution does delegate the power to the United States to regulate the school and jury systems of the several States Congress has certainly no right to interfere with them. I should like to know under what clause of the Constitution such a power could be claimed by any one who can read the instrument. Still further would it be to find any clause prohibiting such powers to the States. If Congress has the power to prescribe what changes a State shall not hereafter make in any portions of her organic law not in conflict with the Constitution of the United States it must equally possess the power to prescribe what changes she shall hereafter make. If Congress has the power to impose negative it must have the power to impose affirmative conditions. Where, then, is necessity for a State constitution at all if an act of Congress can annul or prevent an alteration of it? The whole theory of our State governments has been a mistake and a blunder, left for the Forty-first Congress to discover and correct, if the States only held their constitutions at the will of Congress. The mere statement of the case shows its absurdity.—Again, if Congress has the power to impose these conditions there must be a power somewhere to enforce them. Congress surely does not wish to make a mere idle declaration. It wants anything it wants a law that can be enforced.

Suppose after her admission Virginia should change her organic law in reference to schools and juries, how then will you enforce the conditions? Will you leave the matter to the courts? If so, the question has long ago been decided by our own highest tribunal that Congress has no power to impose a condition on the admission of a State which the State may not disregard. There remains, then, to you but one means to enforce it—the bayonets to change a government of law for one of mere brute force, and thus give the most conspicuous example known in all history that republican government is a failure and rational liberty unattainable.

PHOTOGRAPHS, AMBROTYPES, PEARLTYPES, FERROTYPES, PARLOR PORTRAITS AND PORCELAIN PICTURES. I SHALL be absent in Baltimore for a few days, but expect to return to Leonardtown on THURSDAY next, the 28th inst., and will then be in the city of PATTING. LETTERS in addition to other works in my line of business. Thankful to the public for your favors, I shall continue to merit a continuance of their patronage as long as I remain in the country. Jan. 27, 1870.—E. S. CHAPMAN.

WANTED. I WISH TO EMPLOY FOR ONE YEAR a white man, who will do a small family grocery. An industrious, sober man can get a good home and liberal wages. Immediate application must be made to R. COLTON, near Blacktown. Jan. 20, 1870.—2.

United States Senators-elect from Virginia were duly elected. The fifth article of the Constitution says: "Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members." and yet in the face of that plain article the House undertakes to judge of the election of Senators; to declare, in fact, that the Senators-elect are legally elected and the bill seeks to do this by a retroactive law.

We are assuming a power expressly given to the Senate alone; we are judging of the election of Senators; we are usurping one of the plain constitutional privileges of the other House. But, Mr. Speaker, the conditions annexed to this bill are as deeply impugnant as they are unconstitutional. We presuppose that all wisdom now and ever hereafter rests in the Virginia convention that framed their present constitution and in this Forty-first Congress, because the aim of the bill is to make a part of their work perpetual, to take away from succeeding generations the right to improve. Sir, there is but one State in the Union that has not changed her original constitution. The United States herself has made radical changes, and is now seeking to make more radical still. The changes brought about by time cannot be all foreseen by even the wisest. The time I believe is coming, and will soon come, when that class of the present population of Virginia that these school and jury laws were especially supposed to protect will have disappeared from her borders, or at least only a few will be left scattered here and there as monuments of historical misrule; when a new population will fill her territory from the mountains to the sea, and while all else may be changed, this bill seeks to perpetuate the negro jury and the negro school. It continues the wisdom that has been before us and denies that any can come after us.

The monarchies of Europe are liberating their governments and giving in no rights to the people. England is extending the suffrage and establishing the Irish church; France has a responsible ministerial government—all are yielding more or less power to the people. But republican America alone is contracting; day by day the legislative department of the Government is absorbing the power of the executive and judiciary branches, and day by day is trying to absorb into and more all the powers of the States.—This bill goes a step further than they have yet gone, and seeks to establish a Congressional control over State constitutions.

This bill of the committee attempts to disturb and destroy the whole theory of Government in this, that it attempts to make Virginia, admitted and recognized Virginia, unequal to the other States.—It attempts to impose letters on her from actions as a State; it attempts to impose conditions on her imposed on no other State. But it is only an attempt. Should the bill pass as reported, and Virginia be admitted, as soon as she is, she has the right to regulate her own law in her own way, provided it is consistent with the Constitution of the United States. And I hope when ever she may see fit to change her organs to law that she will do so, and that in making such changes she will only take care that they be consistent with the Constitution of the United States.

But I hope the occasion to test the validity of these conditions will never arise, and that the substitute of the [Name] will prevail, and that she will be at once admitted without these odious and disparaging conditions.

DIED. At his residence in the Factory district, on Saturday last, the 22d inst., of Pneumonia, after a short illness, THOMAS W. GARDINER in the 64th year of his age.

DENTISTRY. To the Citizens of St. Mary's and adjoining counties. I RESPECTFULLY offer my services as a practical DENTIST. Teeth inserted in any manner desired and on reasonable terms. Repair and set work up at your residence if desired. Office and residence Leonardtown, St. Mary's county, Md. Respectfully, PAGE EDMUNDS, Jan. 27, 1870.—4.

FOR SALE. ABOUT 30 bushels of PRIME EDWARDS WARE ISLAND BLACK OATS, price \$1.25 per bushel, cost last year \$2.50—also about the same quantity of SUPERIOR WHITE OATS for \$1.00 per bushel. Apply to the subscriber, Great Mills, Md. H. CARROLL, Jan. 27, 1870.—4.

NOTICE. PHOTOGRAPHS, AMBROTYPES, PEARLTYPES, FERROTYPES, PARLOR PORTRAITS AND PORCELAIN PICTURES. I SHALL be absent in Baltimore for a few days, but expect to return to Leonardtown on THURSDAY next, the 28th inst., and will then be in the city of PATTING. LETTERS in addition to other works in my line of business. Thankful to the public for your favors, I shall continue to merit a continuance of their patronage as long as I remain in the country. Jan. 27, 1870.—E. S. CHAPMAN.

WANTED. I WISH TO EMPLOY FOR ONE YEAR a white man, who will do a small family grocery. An industrious, sober man can get a good home and liberal wages. Immediate application must be made to R. COLTON, near Blacktown. Jan. 20, 1870.—2.

Various small advertisements and notices on the right margin, including "United States Senators-elect", "DENTISTRY", "FOR SALE", "NOTICE", and "WANTED".