Civilian & Telegraph.

CUMBERLAND, MD.

JACOB WICKARD Publisher.

Thursday Morning::March 31, 1864.

TO ADVERTISERS!

The Civilian and Telegraph having a much LARGER CIRCULATION in the County than any other paper published here, while out of the County its circulation is four times larger, it affords a good medium for advertising It numbers among its readers those who are able to buy liberally and pay promptly, and whose custom would be valuable to business men.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1864,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

of Illinois.

Subject to the Decision of a National Union Convention.

For a Convention.

For Delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

A. C. GREENE,
HOPEWELL HEBB,
GEO. A. THRUSTON,
JASPER ROBINETTE,
JACOB WICKARD.

Election, Wednesday, April 6th.

WORK! WORK!!

In less than a week the voters of this county will have it in their power to discharge a duty to their State of far greater importance than has yet transpired at any former election. It is therefore, important that every true and loyal voter should be at the polls. From this time until the sixth day of April, much can be done, and it behoves us to labor incessantly. Let each and every one see the importance of the impending struggle, and with vigor apply himself to the work, and old Allegany will roll up such a majority for the Convention and the Delegates, that will for the future teach our adversary that his systematic plan of falsehoods will avail him nothing.

PUBLIC SPEAKING!

Col. R. Stocket Matthews will address the public at Belvidere Hall, in this city on Thursday evening next, the 31st inst. The Col. is said to be one of the best speakers in the State, and it is expected there will be a general turn out to hear him.

THE Hon. Ex-Governor Francis Thomas and others will address the people of this county at the Court House, on Saturday next, the 2d day of April. It is expected there will be a general turn out to hear him.

The Copperhead Convention.

WE have received the "circular" purporting to give the proceedings of a Convention of the "*Union*" men of Allegany county, held at the Court House on Wednesday last, and propose to make it the text of a few remarks upon the preamble and resolutions adopted at that Convention.

The "*Union*" men pronounce the act of the Legislature providing for taking the sense of the people upon the question of a Convention: "*clearly unconstitutional.*" In this opinion, we are happy to state, that they are unsupported by the great majority of all the constituted authorities of the State: the Governor, the Legislature, and our most distinguished public men uniting in the contrary view of the question. As, however, they "do not intend to remain passive spectators to the radical tendencies," (whatever that may mean), "of the Abolition faction, and suffer the coming election to go by default;" we may conclude that their "constitutional" scruples are not insuperable. But what do the "*Union*" men mean by "claiming that it is our right to elect men of *undoubted loyalty* to the Government of the United States, to represent us in said Convention?" Has this right been denied? Did the "Abolition faction" aforesaid seek to impose upon us the obligation to elect *disloyal* men, or men of doubtful fidelity to the Government of the United States? Or do they mean to insinuate that the unconditional Union ticket at the head of our columns is composed of men who are *not* undoubtedly loyal to the Government of the United States?

We fully agree with the doctrine of the first resolution: "that it is the duty of all good citizens to stand by the Constitution and Laws of the land." We also believe "that they have no right to preach or practice treason, nor to aid and abet rebels in arms." We go further, and assert, that in time of a wicked and monstrous rebellion, no *truly* good and *loyal* citizen will enter into any political conclave on pretence of considering "subjects which affect the welfare of the people;" the result of which political action, if successful, will be to afford, at least, *moral* aid and comfort to rebels in arms, and to weaken and impair the efforts of his Government to suppress that rebellion.

The "*Union*" men are true patterns of the "Knasvvutivs," described in the "New Gospel of Peace," who "remained in hot water lest they might be scalded," for they Resolve, "That while our National troubles exist, we would prefer to let well enough alone." Whether they really mean that our "National troubles" are in themselves "well enough," and should be let alone, is hard to say. It is certain, however, that they have no word of condemnation of the infamous rebels who have plunged the nation into a cruel war, nor of encouragement and support to the Government, which, amid many trials and some natural errors of judgment, has never ceased its efforts to subdue them. A gigantic and accursed rebellion, which has nearly struck a death blow to all the interests of our county; which has twice invaded our State, bringing ruin and devastation in its train; which has crimsoned our soil with the blood of our brothers and our sons; poured out like water in defence of our hearths and homes; is only described as "our National troubles!"

Our "jails and alms-houses" are not capacious enough to hold the "evil-doers and paupers" which "immediate emancipation would throw in our midst." Indeed! Do you still require those jails and alms-houses for the reception and maintenance of the runaway slaves of rebel Virginians, at the expense of the people of this County? How long since have these "*Union*" men been prophets to foresee such an influx of vice and pauperism upon us, as the consequence of emancipation? From whence comes the inspiration which solemnly predicts such calamities as these? But not, content with prophecy, they go on to falsehoods, and with a malignity worthy of Jeff. Davis himself, they say: "Nor are we "quite prepared to bestow upon free negroes the privilege of holding office, "sitting upon juries, and testing against "white persons in courts of justice, as "was engrafted in the manumission bill "which was passed in the late House of "Delegates by Abolition votes." It will be noticed by all careful readers that the authors of this "circular" use the terms "Abolition" and "Abolitionists" with quite as much gusto as Beauregard himself, who first gave the order that the loyal soldiers and citizens of the United States should thus be characterized. But what are the facts? The Senate manumission bill contained the following proviso: "But no slave manumitted, or hereafter to be manumitted, shall be entitled to vote at any election, or be capable of holding any office of profit or trust, or of giving evidence against any white person." In the House of Delegates it was pointed out that the Constitution of the State declared the qualifications of voters; described who should be eligible to offices of profit or trust; and that the Code of Public General Laws already provided that no negro or mulatto shall be admitted as evidence where any white person is concerned, in any Court or before any Magistrate. By the Constitution and Laws, therefore, of the State, the prohibition already existed, and, in consequence, was mere surplusage in the bill. It was stricken out without a division. In that House there were several as keen lawyers, and as devoted proslavery men, as any in the "*Union*" Convention, but they made no opposition to striking out the above clause, or if they did, they did not divide the House upon the question. The bill went back to the Senate with that amendment; they refused to concur, and a committee of conference of the two Houses was appointed. The majority of that committee recommended the House to recede from its amendment, on the grounds above stated; that it was of no effect whatever, accomplished nothing, and was but mere surplusage. That report was adopted, and the Senate bill with its prohibitions passed the House of Delegates. Mr. Stockbridge, however, the Chairman of the Judiciary, and one of the ablest and purest members of that Legislature, had other objections to the prohibition, and thus expressed them in a written report from the minority of the committee, from which we quote the following paragraph, and challenge any lawyer in the State to deny the correctness of its conclusions:

"The House amendment simply strikes "out of the bill a clause wholly foreign "to the subject matter of the bill, which "is not specified or alluded to in the title "of the bill, and which belongs, *and is* "*contained*, in an entirely different ar-"ticle of the code. Its incorporation "into the bill make it embrace two en-"tirely distinct subjects, while its title "refers to but one, and is thus a viola-"tion of the provisions of the Constitu-"tion."

So much for "Abolition" votes, seeking to engraft upon the laws of the State provisions for making negro office holders, negro jurors, and negro witnesses.

It is characteristic of a certain kind of "*Union*" men to laud, even at this late day, Gen. McClellan. We are not surprised to find a specimen of it in the paper we are reviewing. What cause is Gen. McClellan still ready and willing to do battle for? The rioters in New York last summer, hanged, burned, and destroyed, hurrahing for McClellan. *Their* cause was to prevent the government from getting soldiers to put down the rebellion by means or the draft. They must have *supposed*, at laest, if they did not *know*, that the General sympathized with them. But he himself, so far as we know, has only permitted the public to get a glimpse of his political sentiments, in one only utterance, and that was his letter last fall in favor of the election of Judge Woodward in Pennsylvania—a man who had publicly declared that if separation was to come, he wanted the line drawn *north* of that State.

The ticket nominated by this "*Union*" Convention is appropriately headed "Against a Convention." Every rebel in the State, every sympathizer with secession, every man who loves slavery more than he loves his country, every man who hates the Administration of the General Government, and who in his heart wishes it to fail in its efforts to subdue the rebellion, will vote just such a ticket as this. The lower counties of the State, those which have sent off their sons and kindred to fight in the rebel ranks against their State and country, in consequence of which, notwithstanding the generous and loyal devotion with which our country has poured out her citizens to swell the ranks of the armies of the Union—a draft is now impending over us, to make good their deficit—will vote solid "Against a Convention." But the loyal people of Allegany county are not to be deceived. They know full well, that the news of the defeat of an Emancipation Convention in Maryland will be received with sullen joy in Richmond, and with sorrow and sadness in every loyal State in the Union. They will not yield that triumph to the baffled and beaten traitors of the Southern Confederacy, nor inflict that pang upon the confident and exulting hosts that are now gathering in their might to finish the great work of suppressing the most causeless, wicked and monstrous rebellion the world ever saw. They have a ticket whose loyality and devotion to the Union no man presumes to doubt. They believe and know that a Convention to pronounce the eternal abolishment of the institution which caused, maintains, and protracts the war, will strike a deadlier blow at rebellion and at rebels in Maryland, than has ever yet been dealt in the bloody field. Looking to this glorious consummation, and acting in full sympathy with every loyal county in the State, and with the generous and noble and devoted city of Baltimore, they will vote FOR a Convention and for the men they have named to carry out their will in it. For the change in sentiment of the people of Maryland on the subject of Emancipation is a revolution; and revolutions never go backward. They may transcend the limits, men may attempt to set to their progress, but they never stop short of them History but repeats itself in the experience of men and nations, and human nature is the same in all ages. The men who now seek to stem the swelling tide which is sweeping us on to the removal from our Constitution and Laws, of every trace of that institution which connects us, even in sympathy with the States and people in rebellion, and obstructs our perfect loyality to our government in its struggle to suppress it; nay, more, those who do not cordially and heartily join in the movement to remove those obstacles, and to perfect and complete our assimilation with the loyal States and the Government—will find a parallel to to their political fature, in the shame and ignominy which befel the Tories of the Revolution, and the Hartford Conventionists of 1812.

Let not Allegany, then, turn back or pause in the career which she has so nobly begun. With Washington, and Frederick, and Carroll, and Harford, and Cecil, and Baltimore, and our glorious Monumental city—with *all* the free and prosperous counties of the State, let her go on until the incubus which oppresses the rest is forever destroyed. Until St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert, Prince George's, Somerset and Worcester, utterly rid of the burden which now weighs them down, shall share in our prosperity, and rival our progress. Then shall Maryland, the Heart of the Union, free and unfettered—no slave breathing her air or cursing her soil, enter upon a career of prosperity and advancement such as has been the lot of but few of the sisterhood of States, and such as will assuredly realize the wildest dreams of the philanthrophist and the patriot.

Another Copperhead Circular.

We have just seen a circular over the name of the "Central Committee of Allegany county," setting forth some things worthy of contradiction. This circular is a revamp of the circular put out as the proceedings of the "copperhead convention," held here on the 23d inst. As that circular does not even hint at the appointment of a Central Committee, there seems to be a design to have it appear as the production of the Union Central Committee.

We have in another article anticipated the tax story of that circular. The story of creating *five* fat offices to bring emmigration to the State dwindles down to *four* in this *circular*. If the writer of the last circular will write two more circulars and in each one of them decrease the number of offices named in the emigration bill at the same rate as in his last circular, he will have the whole number of offices contemplated in that bill; and instead of four going to Europe, he will tell the truth when he gets down from *four* to *one*. If he desires that the people should have a knowledge of the worth of these fat offices, he should also have said that he who went to Europe was to get at the rate of $2000 per year, out of which he was to pay clerk hire, office rent, printing, postage, &c; that his office ended on the 1st day of June, 1865. The other was to get $1000, and pay all the expenses of his office out of that. Very *fat* that.

Another Slander Refuted.

That detestable sheet the Baltimore Daily Gazette, some time since stated that the new witness Bill that passed the Legislature of this State, permitted negroes to testify against white persons. This falsehood has been industriously circulated in this county by certain Copperheads of "undoubted loyalty." Instead of negroes being allowed to testify against white persons, the Bill actually contains a prohibition as follows:

"SECTION 7. No negro or mulatto, whether free or slave, shall be admitted as evidence in any matter depending in any court, or before any justice of the peace where any white person is concerned either as plaintiff or defendant, but any negro or mulatto, whether slave or free, may be a witness for or against any negro or mulatto, whether slave or free, in any proceeding whatever."

CENTS.—A bill has passed the U. S. Senate, providing for the making of cents of bronze, and also for the coinage of 4-cent pieces.

Compensation.

In our last issue we gave a casual glance at the subject of compensation for slaves in case of Emancipation. Since then we have taken some pains to ascertain what light figures would throw on this *dark* subject and submit the result to the consideration of our readers.

Under the laws of the State, male slaves under twelve years old are assessed at $75, from twelve to twenty years at $250, from twenty to forty-five years at $400 and from forty-five to sixty years at $160 Females under twelve years old are assessed $50, from twelve to twenty-one at $200, from twenty-one to forty at $300 and from forty to sixty at $100 per head, over sixty at nothing.

The census of 1860 show the whole number of slaves in the State to be 87,180, of which number 44,313 were males, and 42,876 were females. Of this number, Allegany county owned 666; of this number 290 were males and 376 were females. The census of 1860 has not been completed far enough to give the ratio of ages by which to fix the average value; but the ratio ascertained by the census of 1850 will give us a sufficient approximation. That ratio shows that thirty-three per cent. were under twelve years; twenty-seven per cent. between twelve and twenty-one years; twenty-six per cent. up to forty-five years and fourteen per cent. above forty-five years.

Now take the law as to the price to be paid by the State to the owner of a male slave, as fixed by the act of the Legislature in the Anne Arundel case this last winter; $1000 as the highest price, and reduce all to a common or average as to age and sex in the same proportion, and the result is, that each negroslave is worth $468 40-100. The whole amount of money required to pay the owners would be $40,839,327. If the property left were then taxed to pay this sum, it would require about $17 out of every $100. If the State were to pay the owners in six per cent. bonds, as has been suggested by some, there would have to be levied and collected an annual tax of $2,450,359. or 3,38 cents on every $100 in addition to the taxes now paid; or thirteen and a half times more than he paid the State last year.

The slave holders of Allegany county last year paid a tax on their slaves to the State amounting to $1,247 on slaves assessed to the value of $124,775, and the non slave holders, according to the rate above ascertained, would have to pay them $311,925, or a tax about forty-five times larger than that which was paid by their owners. Some ten years ago, Allegany county had to pay for a negro convicted of stealing a coat or pair of pantaloons.. This negro had only nine or ten years to serve his master, when he would have been free. The county had to pay $1200 for him and a lot of cost in addition. Are you willing to keep the slaves among you on these terms? Are you willing to be taxed for them on the above terms?

The Manumission Bill

We publish for the benefit of the fifteen Copperheads, who met in Convention in this city on Wednesday last, and perpetrated a few resolutions, which were previously gotton up for electioneering purposes, and which, as manchausen efforts, are hard to beat. It will be seen the act contains no such provisions as that alleged to have been engrafted into it. What is most amusing on the part of these patriots, is their desire that "*harsh epithets* should cease towards those who choose to differ with the Administration." No doubt the Chairman, Vice Presidents and Secretaries, who signed these proceedings, had in view the "epithet" which usually attaches to misrepresentation, and hence their plea against wearing a brand.

Entitled, an act to repeal Sections forty-two and forty-three of Article sixty-six, of the Code of Public General Laws, relating to manumission, and to enact a substitute therefor, providing for the manumission of slaves.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That sections forty-two and forty-three of article sixty-six of the Code of Public General Laws, entitled negroes, be and the same are hereby repealed, and that the following sections be enacted as a substitute therefor.

Section 42. That any person or persons possessed of any slave or slaves within this State, may by writing his, her or their hand and seal, evidenced by at least two good and sufficient witnesses and acknowledged before a Justice of the Peace of the county where the grantor resides, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for said county, within thirty days from the date of said instrument, or by last will and testament executed to pass personal property and duly admitted to probate, grant to such slave or slaves his, her or their freedom, to take effect at the date of said instrument, or at such future time as may be limited by said instrument, and that a copy of such record duly attested under the seal of such office where said deed or last will and testament may be recorded shall be good and sufficient evidence to prove such freedom, and all manumissions made or attempted to be made, by deed or last will and testaments, since the enactments of said sections forty-two and forty-three, prohibiting manumissions, are hereby ratified and made valid with the assent of the parties interested, as if said prohibition had existed.

Section 43. That any executor, administrator or guardian may execute in the manner and form provided in the foregoing section, a deed of manumission to or for any slave or slaves belonging to and the property of their deceased testator or intestate or ward, in all cases where such slave or slaves shall have been enlisted in the military service of the United States, to enable said executor, administrator or guardian to recover compensation for such slave or slaves, and all deeds of manumission so executed shall be valid and effectual to all intents and purposes to confer freedom upon such slave or slaves.

Section 2. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

The above is a true copy of the Manumission Bill, which first passed the House or Delegates, and no other Manumission Bill passed the House, except the above bill, with the following proviso: "but that no slave manumitted, or hereafter to be manumitted, shall be entitled to vote at any election, or be capable of holding any office of profit or trust, or of giving evidence against any white person."

JNO. H. SHAW,
Reading Clerk,
House of Delegates.

March 28, 1864.

To LOYAL owners of slaves.

Let every LOYAL owner of slaves if he expects to be compensated by the General Government, be careful not to vote the "*Copperhead*" ticket. The government will recognize no man as "*loyal*" who votes the Copperhead ticket.

THE 2D MARYLAND REG'T, P. H. B.

They Repudiate the Compliment of the Copperhead Convention—They are Indignant at the audacity of the Fifteen and will rebuke the insult at the polls on the 6th day of April next.

At a meeting of the officers and men of the Second Regiment, P. H. B., Maryland Volunteer Infantry, at New Creek, West Virginia, on the 28th day of March, 1864, for the purpose of condemning the actions of a Convention of self-styled Union men of Allegany county, Maryland, which was held in Cumberland, Maryland, on the 23d day of March, 1864, Surgeon Samuel P. Smith was elected President, Captain George H. Bragonier, Vice President, and Adjutant T. Luman, Secretary.

On motion a Committee of Five was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting. The President appointed the following named officers as said committee:

Captain Jas. C. Lynn, Captain John Wier, Lieutenant Jas. M. Shober, Lieutenant Samuel T. Little, Lieutenant Mark Powell.

The Committee reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were read and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, At a Convention of so-called, by themselves, Union men, held in Cumberland, Maryland, on the 23d day of March, 1864, for the purpose of selecting delegates to the State Convention, to alter the Constitution of Maryland, certain resolutions were read and unanimously adopted,

AND WHEREAS, In one of these was an intended compliment to the Second Maryland Regiment, Potomac Home Brigade, for its courage and endurance.

AND WHEREAS, By our silence in this matter, we would appear to endorse the sentiments in the series of resolutions above alluded to; therefore be it

Resolved, That the rebellious commenced to build their Confederacy upon the two great foundations of Foreign Intervention and Home Discord—the former has long since crumbled away, the latter is only prevented from doing so by the strenuous efforts and constant labors of a class of men in the loyal States, whose bold effrontry and consummate hypocricy are not the least remarkable of their characteristics. In this class both the secret and avowed leading spirits of the Cumberland Convention may be ranked as master workmen.

Resolved, That a compliment of such a nature, as the one above alluded to, paid to a loyal man by the enemy of the Government, should be looked upon by the former with suspicion and disgust. A compliment from such a source to soldiers in the Army of the Union, we consider the *ne plus ultra* of insults.

Resolved, That even were we an organization of "*American citizens of African descent*," in the military service of the United States, we would not allow such men as those, whose names appear with their knowledge and consent upon the circular put forth by this self-styled Union Convention, to associate with us in any capacity whatever; neither would we consider the moral standard of the regiment elevated, or its patriotism increased, by the addition of recruits from these would-be Unionists.

Resolved, That an open foe is more desirable than a treacherous friend; an armed rebel infinitely more honorable than a fireside traitor.

Resolved, That were we in civil life we would take care that none such, by our suffrage, should hold office as a gift of the people.

Resolved, That we are most decidedly in favor of calling a State Convention, and we will vote for no man, or set of men, who are not pledged to do all in their power for *immediate* and *unconditional emancipation* in the State of Maryland; and if allowed an opportunity of attending the coming election, we will vote for and do all in our power to elect the ticket nominated by the Unconditional Union men of Allegany county, to attend said State Convention.

Resolved, That if we held the faith of the party, whose representatives and chosen agents these gentlemen of the Convention are, we would desert in a body and go down to *Dixie, Davis and the Devil.*

Resolved, That we send a copy of the above preamble and resolutions to be published in the Cumberland *Civilian*, Cumberland *Union*, and Baltimore *American*.

On motion it was further resolved, that the foregoing resolutions be signed by all the officers present.

Lieut. Col. G. E. PORTER,
Major JOHN H. HUNTLY,
Surgeon SAM'L P. SMITH,
Asst. Surgeon P. A. HEALY,
Capt. B. B. SHAW,
Capt. JAS. C. LYNN,
Capt. JOHN WIER,
Capt. J. F. McCULLOH,
Capt. R. COWAN,
Capt. GEO. H. BRAGONIER,
Capt. P. B. PETRIE,
Capt. JAS. A. MORROW,
Lieut. T. LUMAN,
Lieut. S. T. LITTLE,
Lieut. JAS. M. SHOBER,
Lieut. R. C. SANSOM,
Lieut. LLOYD MAHANEY,
Lieut. ANDREW SPEIR,
Lieut. GEO. COUTER,
Lieut. A. S. GALLION,
Lieut. J. G SAWYER,
Lieut. JAS. THOMPSON,
Lieut. H. BRINKMAN,
Lieut. J. W. JORDAN,
Lieut. MARK POWELL,
Lieut. GEO. WIGLEY,
Lieut. THOS. IRVINE,
Lieut. M. BICKFORD.

[Communicated.]

FROSTBURG, March 25, 1864.

Messrs. A. Chamberlain, Thos. G. McCullough, Alexander King, George Robinette, Horace Resley.

GENTLEMEN:—I see by a *Civilian* handed me this day, that I have been nominated a delegate on the anti-Convention ticket. Had I been present at the County Convention, or had I consented either verbally or tacitly to serve in that capacity, I would not now decline, but I expressly stated to several prominent men in Cumberland, at the time the organization of this party was proposed, that I would not serve as a candidate. You will therefore, as you are empowered, have the goodness to place some other name on the ticket instead of mine.

Very respectfully,
your obedient servant,
HENRY R. ATKINSON.

OHIO DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION—*Defeat of the Vallandigham Wing.*—The Democratic Convention of Ohio adjourned on Friday last, after a sharp contest between the friends of McClellan and Vallandigham, the latter coming out second best. George E. Pugh and Thomas W. Bartley were elected delegates at large to the Chicago Convention, and Hon. Wm. Allen, Judge Thurman, George H. Pendleton and Judge Ranney were elected Senatorial delegates. Vallandigham was a candidate for Senatorial delegate, but was beaten by Judge Ranney. The Vallandighammers were very noisy and overbearing after the defeat of their candidate. The Cincinnati *Gazette* says:

The Ohio Democratic Convention resolved against prosecuting the war, and appointed delegates in favor of McClellan. There is a fitness in this which is not often seen in the work of Democratic Conventions. Generally, they concede the platform to one faction, and the candidate to the other. This time both are in unison.

Base Slander Refuted.

The undersigned, members of the late House of Delegates having had our attention called to a Resolution passed by the Copperhead Convention which met at the Court House on the 23th of March, which Resolution declares that "Abolition votes" in that body engrafted upon the manumission bill, a provision conferring upon negroes the "privilege of holding office, sitting upon "juries, and testifying against white per-"sons in courts of justice," hereby pronounce that statement *false* in every particular, and, worthy only of those from whom it eminated. No such provision was sought to be "engrafted upon the bill" by "Abolitionists" or any body else, nor anything like it. Nor does the bill as passed contain any such provision, but on the contrary, it does contain one, absolutely prohibiting negroes from exercising these privileges in express terms, as follows: "But that no slave manu-"mitted, or hereafter to be manumitted "shall be entitled to vote at any election, "or be capable of holding any office of "profit or trust, or of giving evidence "against any white person." The Constitution and Laws of the State contain similar prohibitions against negroes *now* free. The bill with this proviso passed the House of Delegates and received the votes of the whole Allegany county Delegation as will be seen by the House Journal, page 527—and it is now a law.

A. C. GREENE.
HOPEWELL HEBB,
HENRY BROWN.

Cumberland, March 28th, 1864.

CUMBERLAND, March 28, 1864.

As one of the Clerks of the late House of Delegates, I declare that the charge, that any bill was passed or attempted to be passed, by the House, repealing any of the existing constitutional or legal enactments prohibiting negroes from holding office, sitting on juries, voting or testifying against white persons, or that any attempt was made to incorporate any such provisions in the Manumission Bill, is without the slightest foundation in fact, and the journal of the House will show the charge to be false and scandalous.

JNO. H. SHAW,
Reading Clerk,
House of Delegates.

[Communicated.]

CUMBERLAND, MD.

To the Editor of the Civilian and Telegraph:

SIR:—I differ widely with the politics of your paper, but will take it as a great favor if you will allow me a small space in your columns, to say a word in regard to a combination quite recently made.

I am a democrat, and one of those who have been unjustly denounced and persecuted as a secessionist, traitor and every thing else that is wicked. Certain individuals of this county who are played out with their own party, are now quite busy in trying to get up a new party, or more probably to place themselves at the head of the Democratic party, with a hope of self preservation. In order that we old democrats may have the extreme satisfaction of fighting at the tail end, and being ruled and led by those who have but so recently denounced and abused us.

To be sure the privilege of being a "Conservative Union Man" is extended to us, provided we "steer clear of secessionism on the one hand and abolitionism on the other." I for one, and I think a good many more of the same kind, will steer clear of this selfish movement. Not long since an effort was made to drive us out of the country, now some people want to drive us into a new party. We decline, although bounties are high, and we could go in as veterans.

DEMOCRAT.

[Communicated.]

Review of Trains, &c., at New Creek.

INTERESTING CEREMONIES — CONCLUDED WITH A POLL RAISING, &C.

MR. EDITOR:—Last week rather an unusually interesting affair took place at New Creek, West Virginia, on the occasion of an inspection into the condition of the Quartermaster's trains, &c., at that place, by Captain George W. Harrison, Post Quartermaster, and H. L. Winans, Agent at that Post.

About 10 o'clock, a. m., the trains were brought upon the field, and rapidly moved and packed and unpacked much to the gratification and amusement of all present, and a number of citizens who witnessed the performance of the character mentioned. The trains were under charge of Mr. George Marvill, Master of Transportation. The exactitude in a military point of view, with which the trains were formed and reformed, according to the usual rotine, and the facility with which orders were executed, reflected a considerable degree of credit on all concerned in the care of the property thus brought out to view. One of the peculiar features of the occasion consisted in moving of the trains by "bugle sound." This attracted more than ordinary attention, from both the military gentlemen and citizens present, all of whom conceded the importance attached to moving trains in the manner described on occasions of actual field operations, when commands are often unheeded because they are unheard from causes attributable to extreme excitement or great noise.

After a review and inspection of the trains, Captain Harrison and friends were conducted by Mr. Charles Exley, Superintendent of the Correll, and Wm. Gephart, Vetinary Surgeon of the same, to where the "fiery and untamed steeds" of Government stock were non-quietly kicking each other, in particular, and everything in general, in a manner that indicated that oats could sometimes breed a belligerent spirit even in animals of the brute creation, and particularly those of "*ass-enine*" appearance. In a word the animals were in fine condition. For immediate service, of course, your correspondent is not expected to go into a full description of the animals—the length of their ears or the abbreviated condition of their tails—when so many good horses can be seen in the streets of Cumberland every day in the week. The mules that were in the correll did really look well, and no doubt will do good service, both in the pulling and eating line, when they are placed in position for such Government services.

The next thing in order comes a patriotic movement, a Pole Raising in the centre of the correll, 100 feet in length. This pole is painted red white and blue, colors somewhat familiar to the people of this section of country. Of course, there were cheers and fine sweet music by the Second Maryland band, Capt. Godfrey Snyder, leader. To the pole, now, all can look and see our colors flying in the breeze, and if any stray rebels happen to get on the mountain tops, over the hills and not very far away, they, too, can look on the starry flag, and sincerely wish they had never deserted its protecting folds. Besides this, if the mules get anywhere near it, it is not at all improbable they will, as usual evince their liking for government property, by carrying away small portions of it between their teeth. The ceremonies of the raising were conducted by Captains Petrie and McDonald, and witnessed by a large crowd, who in a most noisy, patriotic and enthusiastic manner, made evident their heartfelt sincerity in the whole proceeding.

In conclusion the whole party visited the ware houses, which, by the way, were in excellent condition. We finished the day's work of pleasure by giving the friends at New Creek a hearty adieu, and returning to this city.

Before closing, your correspondent must express, in common, with all others who were present on the occasion, a feeling of high gratification of the eminently good manner in which all kinds of government property were found at New Creek.

Capt. Geo. W. Harrison deserves much credit for his enterprise and perseverance in having everything in the good order in which they were found and exhibited.

JUSTICE.

Cumb., March 27th 1864.

A Few More Plain Facts.

In the last number of the *Continental Monthly Magazine* are two articles from the pen of Hon. Robert J. Walker, on American Finances and Resources.—In these articles the writer shows, from the census, the immense disadvantage that slavery has been to the Southern States. He compares Maryland with Massachusetts, taking Maryland because she has greater natural advantages than any other State, and because she has increased more rapidly in population per square mile than any other *slave* State. As figures do not lie, let every one look at the fellowing facts:

Maryland has twice as much arable land as Massachusetts, and the soil is far more fertile and more easily tilled. She has inexhaustible mines of coal and iron, while Massachusetts has no coal and little iron. The rate of mortality is but 1 in 92, while in Massachusetts it is 1 in 57. In 1790 the population of Maryland was 210,728, of Massachusetts 378,717; but in 1860 Maryland had only increased 367,300, while Massachusetts had increased 852,348, or more than twice as much. Now when we remember that Maryland has double the amount of good land, is far more healthy, and has every other natural advantage in her favor, the contrast becomes more striking.

Having seen the effect of slavery on the population of Maryland, let us see what has been its effect on the labor and wealth of the State. *In 1860 the value of products in Maryland was* $66,000,000, $96 per head; in Massachusetts the value was $287,000,000, or $235 per head. That is, the average value of the labor of each person in Massachusetts is much more than double its value in Maryland. The value of all property real and personal, in Maryland, was $376,000,000, in Massachusetts $815,000,000. Comparing this with the value of products in each State, we find that the profit on capital in Maryland was 17 per cent., in Massachusetts 35 per cent., or more than double.

If we take the subject of intelligence, the contrast is still more apparent. The value of printed matter in 1860, was in Maryland $350,155; in Massachusetts it was $2,905,916. In 1860 Maryland had 57 newspapers and periodicals, all but one or two political; while Massachusetts had 222, many of which were literary and religious. Maryland had 906 public schools, Massachusetts had 3679. Maryland had 38,426 adults who could neither read nor write, *exclusive of her slaves;* Massachusetts had only 1,861.

Laboring men, Capitalists, look at these facts, see how slavery has checked the progress of population, wealth and intelligence in Maryland, and say under which system of labor you can live most prosperously, and give your children the best education?

Mr. Walker shows another remarkable fact;—that as you go further South, into States where slavery is more universal than in Maryland, the contrast is still greater Thus in 1860 the product of labor per head was, in Massachusetts $235, in Maryland $96, in South Carolina $56.

"Slavery then, as the census proves, is hostile to the progress of wealth and population, to literature and education. It is hostile to the poor, keeping them in want and ignorance; hostile to labor, reducing it to servitude, and decreasing by two-thirds the value of its products."—"The law extends even to counties," says Mr. Walker, "those having comparatively the fewest slaves being always in advance of the others." In Cecil county the average value of land per acre is $30, while in Montgomery county it is only $12

But while these figures thus clearly show the damaging effect of slavery, they also show what Maryland may become, when rid of the incumbrance. Once settled by free American working men, who carry with them, wherever slavery does not prevent, schools and churches, books and newspapers, machinery and intelligent labor, she must not only soon equal her sister State Massachusetts, but with the immense natural advantages in her favor, the day may not be far in the future when she will even surpass that State in all the elements of substantial prosperity.—*Baltimore County Advocate.*

The Red River Expedition.

THE CAPTURE OF FORT DE RUSSEY—DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK.

FORT DE RUSSEY, RED RIVER, LA., March 15—*via* CAIRO, March 24.—This fort was captured to-day by the United States forces under General Smith, which left Vicksburg on the 10th instant and landed at Semmersport, La., on the 12th and marched to Bayon Clace, where Gen. Scarris' Rebel brigade had been encamped, but which fled upon the approach of our transports, leaving considerable camp equipage and commissary stores. General Smith pressed forward to Yellow Bayou, where strong fortifications had been erected; but the Rebels again fled as we came up. The enemy was pressed, and some skirmishing occurred, resulting in the capture of several prisoners and a small wagon train. At daylight yesterday the whole command started for Fort De Russey, twenty-eight miles distant, and at four o'clock P. M., the 3d and 9th Indiana batteries opened on the fort, which replied vigorously with three of its heaviest guns one hour, when General Smith ordered the 1st and 2d Illinois, under General Mower, to charge the enemy's rifle-pits and storm the fortifications. The 58th, 119th and 89th Indiana and 24th Missouri regiments charged over deep ditches and thick abattis, and a galling fire, and within twenty minutes after the order was issued the Color Sergeant of the 58th Illinoise planted the American flag on the enemy's works. The victory was complete, and resulted in the capture of 325 prisoners, including twenty-four commissioned officers; two 9-inch Dahlgren guns, two 4-pounders, a lot of small arms, 2,000 pounds of powder, an immense quantity of assorted ammunition, and several thousand dollars worth commissary stores.

Fort De Russey is a most formidable work, quadrangular make, and bastions bomb-proof covered with railroad iron. A powerful water battery connects it with the fortification, the casemates of which are capable of resisting shot and shell of the heaviest calibre.

The position of the guns was capital for a rapid and effective fire on all boats attempting to pass up or down the river. About eight hundred negroes were employed for a year in constructing the earthworks.

General Smith will superintend the thorough destruction of the fortifications to-morrow. It will take three thousand men two or three days to destroy them.

Glorious news may be expected from Generals Banks and Smith within two weeks. Their design, strength, and position are contraband at present.

Among the artillery captured are two guns belonging to the schooner Morning Light, two rifled guns from the Harriet Lane, one heavy gun from the Indianolo. The Rebels boast that their iron-plated ram Missouri, now in the river, can sink any gunboat in our navy.

The Webb and Mary Jane are also considered impregnable to any in our flotilla. Admiral Porter has been engaed for the past three days in removing the obstructions from the Red river, consisting of rafts and piles driven into the channel.—Transports are now proceeding up the river without interruption.

Important Proclamation of the President.

THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION DEFINED.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas it has become necessary to define the cases in which insurgent enemies are entitled to the benefits of the proclamation of the President of the United States, which was made on the eight day of December 1863, and the manner in which they shall proceed to avail themselves of those benefits;

And whereas the object of that proclamation were to suppress the insurrection and to restore the authority of the United States.

And whereas the amnesty therein provided by the President was offered with reference to these objects alone:

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the said proclamation does not apply to the cases of persons who at the time when they seek to obtain the benefits thereof by taking the oath thereby prescribed, are in military, naval, or civil confinement, or custody, or under bonds or on parole of the civil, military, or naval authorities or agents of the United States, as prisoners of war, or persons detained for offenses of any kind, either before or after conviction, and that, on the contrary, it does apply only to persons who, being yet at large and free from any arrest, confinement or duress, shall voluntarily come forward and take the said oath with the purpose of restoring peace and establishing the national authority. Prisoners excluded from the amnesty offered in the said proclamation may apply to the President for clemency, like all other offenders, and their applications will receive due consideration.

I do further declare and proclaim that the oath prescribed in the aforesaid proclamation of the eighth of December, 1863, may be taken and subscribed before any commissioned officer, civil, military or naval, in the service of the United States, or any civil or military officer of a State or Territory, not in insurrection, who, by the law thereof, may be qualified for administering oaths. All officers who receive such oaths are hereby authorized to give certificates thereon to the persons respectively by whom they are made. And such officers are hereby required to transmit the original records of such oaths at as early a day as may be convenient to the Department of State, where they will be deposited and remain in the archives of the government. The Secretary of State will keep a register thereof, and will, on application in proper cases, issue certificates of such records, in the customary form of such certificates.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done in the city of Washington, the twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:
WM. H. SEWARD, Sec'y of State.

A Word to Loyal Men of all Parties

In the counties, the Democrats are trying to seduce loyal men to their support, by ignoring the true issues before the people. Be not deceived. The Democratic party is still the same Secession faction that have done all they could to plunge our State into revolution, and throw her into the arms of the Southern traitors. These kind of men cannot be loyal.

We advise all Unionist, as well as the Democrats who really are loyal, to have nothing to do with the Democratic ticket It may seriously embarrass their claims for compensation for slaves, or for any other property that the necessities of war may call for. Some of the most ultra Secessionists have already filed claims for compensation for their slaves. "Make a note" of those who support the Secessionists at the Convention election, for in voting for them they are aiding and comforting the enemy, and the Government ought not to pay those who are doing their utmost to break down and destroy her. We learn that the loyalty of a man will have to be established before he can claim anything like compensation from the Government