

Evening Telegraph

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THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1869.

The Tenure-of-Office Bill.

The Senate yesterday passed, by the decisive vote of 37 to 15, a substitute for the Tenure-of-Office bill, which is said to be acceptable to the President, and which commanded the support of nearly all the Republican members. It gives to General Grant ample power to remove all objectionable officers, without assigning cause, during the sessions of the Senate, provided that body consents to such removals, or confirms the appointment of new officials.

During the recess of the Senate it authorizes the President to suspend civil officers at his discretion, and to designate persons to fill the vacancies created, but he is to make new nominations within thirty days after the commencement of the next session, and if the Senate refuses to ratify these nominations, and to assent to the contemplated suspensions, the deposed officials will regain their positions.

The principal change effected by this substitute is, that it relieves the President from obligation to assign a cause for removals, and in doing this it destroys the feature of the present law which General Grant has most strongly condemned. In the conversations which he is alleged to have held with various parties, he has dwelt mainly upon the embarrassment he felt in finding appropriate accusations against persons whom he thought should be removed, for the good of the public service, but who could not be convicted of any serious offense. The proposed law entirely abrogates this necessity, but at the same time it gives the Senate a check upon the abuse of Presidential power which is, we think, fully authorized by the Constitution, and which may often be found essential to the protection of the national interests.

This plan of removing the existing difficulty in some respects decidedly better than a temporary suspension of the present law, for it establishes a rule of action applicable at all times to all administrations, and cannot be assailed by the opposition as a mere transient expedient.

It is reported, however, that the substitute will encounter bitter hostility in the House, and that that body will be content with nothing less than the unconditional repeal of the existing restrictions. To-day's proceedings will probably serve to verify or contradict these rumors, and they will therefore attract great interest among the immense mass of politicians who are awaiting with intense anxiety the dismissal of the obnoxious adherents of Andrew Johnson.

If it is true that General Grant is satisfied with the Senate substitute, we see no good reason why it should not command the approval of the House. The underlying principle of the Tenure-of-Office bill has gained a deep hold upon the confidence of the country, and it is desirable that it should be maintained, in a modified form, even under an administration which has irresistible claims to public confidence.

The Cattle and Sheep Bills.

Our remarks a few days ago on the Cattle bill have caused pain to members, or at least to a member, of the Legislature. All cuticles are not as impervious as that of the rhinoceros, and it is rather gratifying than otherwise to find that some of the men "whose occupy the position as legislators" have not yet reached that pschydermatous condition when they are alike insensible to praise or blame. A "legislature" has had his sensibilities touched by our comments on the Cattle and Sheep bills, and under the supposition that we have confounded the guilty Cattle bill with the innocent Sheep bill, he has sent us an official copy of the latter, with a touching note which would do credit to Artemus Ward, assuring us that "Their are no snaks in this." This precious, but unfortunately anonymous, epistle is too good to be lost, so we give it as it was "writ," without dotting an i or crossing a t.

"It is very painful for men whose occupy the position as Legislators, the Honorable members, to see you men do make in your paper, now I enclose you the Sheep Bill which you would make the people believe was the Cattle bill. I feel you to point to one object word or mean in this bill, the persons asking for this have there sheds erected and are doing business and only ask to be incorporated. All is contained in the last section which please read."

The difference between the Cattle and Sheep bills appears to be that the first is a Senate and the last a House measure. The two conflict in some degree, as the Cattle bill provides that all cattle, calves, sheep, and hogs offered for sale or slaughter in Philadelphia shall be weighed and inspected at the yard of Messrs. Gohl, McGrath, Hunt & Ridgway, while the last section of the Sheep bill, to which our attention has been specially called by the above quoted "legislature," is as follows:—

"That the said Sheep Breeders' Association shall have power to send and may receive in their yards and pens directly, by consignment or otherwise, any number of sheep, and upon request of the owner or owners, such sheep may be weighed and examined, and a certificate furnished of the same, which certificate shall protect such sheep from any further examination or weighing while in the city and county of Philadelphia."

The fourteenth section of the Cattle bill, which we fully discussed a few days ago, is as follows:— "Immediately after the said Inspector shall have entered upon his duties, he shall cause the lawful to appear for sale, in the said city, any and every animal that has not been inspected, weighed, and marked in conformity with this act, and any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not less than \$50 for each animal slaughtered or exposed for sale, or in default of the payment thereof, to undergo an imprisonment in the county jail for a term not exceeding thirty days, one-half the fine so collected to be paid to the Guardians of the Poor, and one-half to the informer, and any person offering for sale an animal unfit for slaughter and consumption shall be liable to like penalty. Provided, that nothing in this act shall be construed to apply to animals raised and slaughtered by farmers of Pennsylvania, and brought by them for retail sale into Philadelphia."

when he was laboring under such an unusual load of "incapacity," had he not desired to assure the people of Greenville that he had received their support as, step by step, he had mounted the ladder of fame. In this connection he might have taken another poetical flight, by quoting these lines:— "Ab, who can tell how hard it is to climb The steep where Fame's proud temple shines afar!" But he did not choose to quote them, and therefore there is, perhaps, no good reason why we should do it. But, although Andrew Johnson did not again avail himself of his miraculous escape from bondage to banter with the masses, he did something far more indiscreet. He "challenged any and all calculators to place their finger upon a single stain upon his official character." Permit us to respond to this challenge by a Shakespearian quotation:—

"Doberry—if you meet a thief, you may suspect him, by virtue of your office, to be no true man; and, for such kind of men, the less you meddle or make with them, why, the more is for your honesty."

"Second Water—If we know him to be a thief, should we not lay hands on him?" "Doberry—Truly, by your office, you may; but I think, they that touch him will be defiled."

"At whose hands have I ever received a bribe? Whom have I betrayed? Whom have I defrauded?" Verily, there is so much pitch in the stings, O Andrew! that we prefer to take Doberry's advice, and not run the risk of defilement.

But we can pursue this interesting analysis no further, and must pass in silence the lamentations of the Great Emancipated over the unhappy fate of his countrymen, who pass into bondage as he passes out. The Union, the Constitution, the flag, the thirty-seven stars, liberty, justice, mercy, humanity, and all that sort of thing, are in danger, as we have been told before, and as we are quite willing to believe. Not until the world is utterly and entirely rid of such men as Andrew Johnson will their emancipation be complete, their safety insured.

Andrew Johnson at Home.

"THERE is no place like home!" sings Andrew Johnson. Then why did you tear yourself away from it? responds the rest of the world. But having so sacrificed his yearnings, and put to the rack his heart-strings, he may well rejoice that the long agony is over; and as he lifts up his voice in thanks for the great emancipation, he has the profound consolation of knowing that the country joins in the strain, "There is no place like home"—for Andrew Johnson.

The speech delivered by the Great Emancipated on his return to Greenville was published by us yesterday. Doubtless all our readers have read it. If any of them have neglected to do so, let them delay the task no longer. It is equal to Nasby's best, with this advantage—the orthography is beyond reproach. But then, you know, Andrew Johnson did not have anything to do with the orthography. He said "he had no intention to make a speech." Of course not! Such an intention—the circumstance is remarkable, but it is, nevertheless, well established—such an intention never was indulged in by the Great Emancipated, either on that or on any other occasion. Of course, he had no intention of making a speech. Who said he had? But on this momentous occasion especially he did not intend to make a speech. And for the best of reasons. He was "incapacitated" from making a speech. So he was on the memorable 4th of March, 1865. The cause, however, was slightly different. On that occasion he was drunk—not dead drunk, as he might have been if there was enough whisky in the wide world to make him dead drunk, and he had taken the trouble to imbibe the whole of it; but manifestly, in the eyes of the whole world, too drunk to make a speech. On the day of his arrival at Greenville, however, the "incapacity" arose from a different cause. "The reception and cordial welcome I have received incapacitate me from giving proper expression to my emotions." All of which means that he could not make a speech. Yet he did make a speech, both on the 4th of March, 1865, and on the day of his return to Greenville. The world can never say of Andrew Johnson that he neglected doing a thing, or at least attempting to do a thing, simply because he was "incapacitated" from doing it. With all his weaknesses, he can never be accused of this weakness.

So the Great Emancipated made a speech. The eagle orator of Tennessee, the Hon. Theodor Adolphus Roderigo Nelson, introduced him. We do not know whether the eagle orator soared on the occasion, the report simply stating that the ex-President was introduced by the Hon. T. A. R. N. In all probability he did soar a little, as in his nature to soar more or less, whenever he has an opportunity for soaring. But Andrew Johnson did soar a great deal, notwithstanding his inability to soar in general, and his special "incapacity" for soaring on this particular occasion. "There is no place like home!" he exclaimed, and we have already expressed our perfect accord with him on this individual point. His first flight was directed towards the Aonian mount. But he did not ride his own Pegasus, finding somebody else's ready at hand.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, Who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land?'" Such was the first flight. Why Andrew Johnson permitted himself to ask this question we do not know. Perhaps he has never been able to satisfy his mind on the point, and desires enlightenment. We will venture to respond, at any rate; and in doing so we are obliged to respond affirmatively. There can be no question that the Almighty has actually permitted such a wretch to breathe; but as the wretch in question is not that other wretch who has so recently been emancipated from a large proportion of his wretchedness, it is not necessary to divulge his name at present.

Like Napoleon on his death-bed at St. Helena, the Great Emancipated then fought his battles o'er again. He actually "mentioned all the successive offices through which he had passed, up to the Presidency!" As Andrew Johnson has frequently "mentioned" the same things, there would have been no use in mentioning them on this occasion,

individual, who can do this? The enormous increase of offices is already tolling on public spirit and morals, and it seems likely that Rev. Sidney Smith will be held a prophet, for forty years ago he said of America, speaking of her future:—"The habit of dealing in large sums will make the Government careless and profuse, and the system itself will infallibly engender the base vermin of spies and reformers, and a still more pestilent race of political tools and retainers of the meanest and most odious description; while the prodigious patronage which the collecting of the splendid revenue will throw into the hands of the Government will invest it with so vast an influence, and hold out such means and temptations to corruption, as all the virtues and public spirit even of republicans will be unable to resist." This was written in 1820, and 1869 seems to be verifying the prediction.

THE BELGIAN RAILWAYS.—In Belgium the experiment of a low railroad tariff has been tried, and the result is thus spoken of:—"The principle of the reduction for the carriage of goods in Belgium has been to carry at the utmost cheapness over the longest distances. The lowering of the rate per ton over 100 miles was as much as from 14 9/10 to 12 3/4, and over 150 miles from 10s. 10d. to 10s. 7d., or from 14 to 9 1/2 per cent. This was on first class goods. For second, third, and fourth class goods the reductions were still greater. Those remissions commenced in 1856, when the weight carried was 2,540,000 tons, and the receipts £468,244. In 1868 5,251,000 tons were carried, and the receipts had risen to £695,232. The increase of tonnage was 106 per cent. at the end of eight years. Allowing for interest on money raised to provide station and other accommodations, and machinery to work the increased traffic, the State found itself a gainer of £231,540 by those reductions. The Belgian passenger fares were reduced in 1865 25 per cent. first class up to 30 miles, 50 per cent. up to 60 miles, and 75 per cent. above 60 miles. The second and third class fares were lessened in about the same proportions. The entire reduction on the fares for 155 miles was, in the first class, from 18s. to 6s.; in the second, from 12s. to 4s. 2d.; in the third, from 8s. to 3s.—a very considerable boon to the population, and a large temptation to trading activity. Another measure at the same time adopted was to allow third class passengers to travel by express trains, and to fix the express fares at 20 per cent. instead of 25, over ordinary charges. The number of passengers increased from 11,100,000 in 1865 to 12,600,000 in 1867-68, or nearly 17 per cent. The result was a balance of increase of receipts on the line of two years of £57,301 to justify the policy of those who reduced the rates of the railways of the country to compensate for the lessening of the charge."

There is no doubt whatever but that similar results would follow the payment of a similar policy here. When rates of travel are reduced, such figures as to tempt the masses to travel, then will they generally indulge in what is now regarded by them as a luxury.

"One Moment, Mr Secretary!" It is asserted as a fact, and one which a disinterested witness testified to, that it took Secretary Borie just thirty-five minutes to get, from the desk of Willard's Hotel to the foot of the stairway, a distance of about sixty feet. This delay was not caused by any absence of anxiety on the part of the Secretary of the Navy to reach the goal, for the witness farther testifies that he battled most manfully against the tide of button-holders. But "just one moment, Mr Secretary," was an appeal which could not be resisted, especially if the applicant for attention saw fit to throw himself in your way and barricade the passage. The experience of Secretary Borie is the same as that suffered by every public man, and is suggestive of the desperation of the patriots who are seeking to get at the public "pap."

"It is pleasant to die for one's country, or is more pleasant to live for one's country?" but, oh! how truly it is proved that it is "most pleasant to live on one's country!" Simple-hearted people who dwell in contentment at home and have no political ambition cannot realize the process of "making points" as attempted at the capital. "To make a point" is the chief end of the office-seeker. He is a cruiser sailing idly down the avenue, waiting to attack any rich political merchantman who has not another cruiser for a convoy—which, however, is generally the case. He is a shark seeking to devour the loaves and fishes of office, and is not to be scared off by the frowns of the captains or the discharge of the batteries of a passing vessel.

Thus it is well for those who contemplate applications for office to calculate the chances of success, and not, like the unfortunate architect in the Scripture, commence to build and then run short of funds, and become a laughing stock. In calculating the probability, let us look at the number of applicants. For the consulate at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, there are one hundred and sixty-seven. This is a type. For every office in the gift of the United States Government there are at least six or seven. There is no spot which gets a single mouthful of "perquisites" which is not sought for with frenzied eagerness. When the expense of going to Washington is considered, the actual loss of time involved, the probabilities of failure, and the slight tenure of the office when secured, it is really amazing that people are willing to do so much for so little. It is like fighting the tiger, the odds being always against you; or engaging in a lottery, where the chances are nine out of ten against your success.

We do not wish to discourage the noble army of martyrs, but from contact with a number of gentlemen eager to enter their country's service, we can deduce certain general principles which may be of use:— First, petitions ain't worth anything. Everybody has petitions. Everybody signs petitions. In Washington every man has his hands full of petitions. The Treasury building will actually prove too small to contain all of these documents. They are filed and never read. Then, personal letters from some parties are good. But as a rule personal letters are given to so many by the same man that the weight which would be otherwise attached to them is light. They are better than petitions, but won't get one an appointment. Again, personal appeals by distinguished men are effective—if you can get them. But as this fact is as well known to every one of the applicants as it is to you, it is highly improbable that you can get them.

"What then can you do?" is the question. We answer at once, "Keep to your own private business; it will pay better; it will give you greater freedom; it will preserve your self-respect more than any public office attainable."

The seeking for office is the curse of our country. It is the blot which will eventually render illegible the best portion of our national history. Success in gaining it is but a surrender of individual opinion, in nine cases out of ten, and is a step in the wrong direction. That it will injure the country, as well as the

individual, who can do this? The enormous increase of offices is already tolling on public spirit and morals, and it seems likely that Rev. Sidney Smith will be held a prophet, for forty years ago he said of America, speaking of her future:—"The habit of dealing in large sums will make the Government careless and profuse, and the system itself will infallibly engender the base vermin of spies and reformers, and a still more pestilent race of political tools and retainers of the meanest and most odious description; while the prodigious patronage which the collecting of the splendid revenue will throw into the hands of the Government will invest it with so vast an influence, and hold out such means and temptations to corruption, as all the virtues and public spirit even of republicans will be unable to resist." This was written in 1820, and 1869 seems to be verifying the prediction.

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SPECIAL NOTICES. THE GREAT EASTERN FIRE INSURANCE CO. WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY, THE 26th. OFFICE FROM 9 A. M. TO 12 P. M. GREAT BARGAINS OFFERED. NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE UNION TRAMWAY COMPANY will be held at their OFFICE, No. 20 SOUTH THIRD STREET, for the election of officers, APRIL 15, 1869, at 12 o'clock P. M. SAMUEL T. SPANG, Sec. pro tem. THE NEW HALL OF THE COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE, SECOND STREET, ABOVE WALNUT will be thrown open to the public on MONDAY AFTER-NOON, MARCH 22, from 2 to 4 o'clock P. M. and every afternoon during the week. A SING-SONG SPRING SONG. Come, friends, let us sing Of the clothes we offer for opening spring. Strong and cheap, strong and cheap; That is the sort of clothes we keep. Cheap and strong, cheap and strong. Are the clothes of which we sing our song. Come to fit; just the thing That the public want for the present spring. Handsome and gay, stout and fine. For the spring of Eighteen Sixty-nine. Elegant gowns, novel styles, In splendid array of magnificent piles. Only a ten dollar greenback note For a beautiful, light spring overcoat. Cheaper than ever can be expressed, The most desirable sort of a vest. Look at the things, if you please, and now, sir, See you ever such wonderful trousers? Coats and trousers and vests and all, Cheap for cash at the GREAT BROWN HALL.

ROCKHILL & WILSON, Nos. 603 and 605 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. MARSHALL'S ELIXIR. HEADACHE. DYSPEPSIA. COSTIVENESS. No medicine ever placed before the people has so suddenly grown into popular favor as MARSHALL'S ELIXIR. It not only cures the diseases named, but so invigorates and strengthens the whole nervous system that these, together with other alarming affections, are prevented. As well might we expect darkness to remain after the rising of the sun, as that these diseases will not disappear after using this ELIXIR. We claim no merit for it beyond the good it has already accomplished; neither do we propose with it to cure all the ills to which flesh is heir, but we do assert that for Headache, Dyspepsia, and Costiveness it is the only radical cure. Bitters and Pills will fail to cure you; their effects are only temporary and delusive; therefore, before your vital powers have become weakened by continued disease, try MARSHALL'S ELIXIR. Price One Dollar per Bottle. Depot, No. 1301 MARKET STREET. M. MARSHALL & CO., Druggists, Proprietors.

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