MEMPHIS APPEAL.

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THURSDAY, : : : : JANUARY 11, 1866.

OUR FILES.—Any one having copies of the APPEAL of the eleventh of November, will confer a great favor by sending them to us, as that number is needed to fill out our files.

THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE IN TENNESSEE.

Nearly everybody knows that a large majority of the real people of Tennessee are disfranchised, now and for years to come. But very few of them understand how this has been done, or realize any very clearly defined idea of the precise extent to which it has been accomplished. In view of the fact that there are still some elections left to the people, and that there are yet a few votes in the State, we deem it not inappropriate to set forth the statute made and provided in the premises. Here is

The Way It Was Done:

WHEREAS, The first article and the first section of the Declaration of Rights in the Constitution of the State of Tennessee declares—"That power is inherent in the people; and all free Governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their peace, safety and happiness; for the advancement of these ends they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform or abolish the Government in such manner as they may think proper; *and whereas*, a large and respectable convention of the free and loyal people of the State of Tennessee met in the city of Nashville, on the ninth day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and proposed certain alterations and amendments to the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, for rejection or ratification by the loyal people on the twenty-second of February following; *and whereas* said amendment and schedule were solemnly ratified with great unanimity by the authoritative voice of the people; *and whereas* the eighth section of said schedule provided for the election of a Governor and members of the Legislature on the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and who, in accordance therewith, were elected by the ballots of the loyal people; *and whereas*, the same authoritative voice in section ninth of the schedule, delegated to the General Assembly, meeting *first* under this amended Constitution the right to fix the qualification of voters and the limitations of the elective franchise; therefore acting faithfully under and in accordance with this delegation of supreme power:

Thus it will be seen that, in the hackneyed phrase of the old party times, "a large and respectable convention" of the so-called people of Tennessee "met in the City of Nashville," and "set this ball in motion." It does not appear that there was any previous call for such Convention, in any of the usual modes prescribed for so grave and important a matter as the change of the Organic Law; but that it "met," and after meeting, did various and sundry things, and empowered the Legislature which should *first* assemble thereafter to do a good many other things. Among the things thus empowered to be done by this perennial Legislature, this is

What Was Done:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee*, That the following persons, to-wit: First, Every white man twenty-one years of age, a citizen of the United States, and a citizen of the county wherein he may offer his vote, six months next preceding the day of election, and publicly known to have entertained unconditional Union sentiments, from the outbreak of the rebellion until the present time; and second, Every soldier in the armies of the United States, and a citizen of the county wherein he may offer his vote, six months next preceding the day of election, having arrived at the age of twenty-one years, since March fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, provided that he has not been engaged in armed rebellion against the authority of the United States, voluntarily; and third, Every white man of lawful age coming from another State, and being a citizen of the United States, and being loyalty to the United States, and being a citizen of the county wherein he may offer his vote six months next preceding the day of election; and fourth, Every white man, a citizen of the United States, a citizen of this State, who has served as a soldier in the army of the United States, and has been, or may hereafter be honorably discharged therefrom; and fifth, Every white man, of lawful age, a citizen of the United States, and a citizen of the county wherein he may offer his vote, six months next preceding the day of election, who was conscripted by force into the so-called Confederate army, and was known to be a Union man, on proof of loyalty to the United States, established by the testimony of two voters under the previous clauses of this section; and sixth, Every white man who voted in this State at the Presidential election in November, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, or voted on the twenty-second of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or voted on the fourth of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, in this State, and all others who had taken the "oath of allegiance" to the United States, and may be known by the Judges of Elections to have been true friends to the Government of the United States, and would have voted in said previously mentioned elections, if the same had been holden within their reach, shall be entitled to the privilege of the elective franchise.

That is to say, as the Legislature had determined to disfranchise about four-fifths of the real voting population of Tennessee, they thus, in the sweep of one section, *manufactured* thousands of voters, previously unknown to the old Constitution of the State. Having thus *created* out of soldiers, sojourners, and reluctant or renegade Confederates, the material to fill the vacuum, they proceeded to sweep out of existence the political rights of the old population. Here is a schedule of those—

Who are Disfranchised:

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That all persons who are or shall have been civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the so-called Confederate States of America, or who have left judicial stations under the United States in the State of Tennessee, to aid in any way in the existing or recent rebellion against the authority of the United States, or who are or shall have been military or naval officers of these so-called Confederate States above the rank of Captain in the army or Lieutenant in the navy, or who have left seats in the United States Congress, or seats in the Legislature of the State of Tennessee to aid said rebellion, or have resigned commissions in the army or navy of the United States and afterwards have voluntarily given aid to said rebellion, or persons who have engaged in any way in treating otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of war persons found in the United States service as officers, soldiers, seamen, or in other capacities, or persons who have been or are absentees from the United States for the purpose of aiding the rebellion, or persons who held political offices under the Government of States in insurrection against the United States, or persons who left their homes within the jurisdiction and protection of the United States, and fled before the approach of the National forces and passed beyond the Federal military lines into the so-called Confederate States for the purpose of aiding the rebellion, shall be denied and refused the privilege of the elective franchise in this State, for the term of fifteen years, from and after the passage of this act.

And lest there might be some loophole through which some old citizen, who was too manly and honest to play the hypocrite, might gain access to the ballot box, they drove this section, like a stake, into

Non-Combatants and Non-Refugees Also:

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That all other persons except those mentioned in section one of this act, are hereby and henceforth excluded and denied the exercise of the privilege of the elective franchise in this State for the term of five years from and after the passage of this act.

Having thus proscribed the mass of the real citizens of the State, and condemned them to a political degradation for fifteen years, with rare clemency they provided a way to be

Whitewashed in Five Years:

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That all persons embraced in section third of this act, after the expiration of said five years, may be readmitted to the privilege of the elective franchise, by petition to the Circuit or Chancery Court, on proof of loyalty to the United States, in open Court, upon the testimony of two or more loyal citizens of the United States.

While, however, they thus made it for the old citizen a very "hard road to travel," the way of the new-made Tennessean was rendered so easy that he might

Vote Almost Anywhere:

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That so long as any of the white citizens of the State of Tennessee, who, by this act, are entitled to exercise the elective franchise, shall be connected with the army of the United States, or with the militia force of this State in actual service, the Governor shall issue writs of election to the commanding officer of such brigades, regiments or detachments of Tennessee soldiers, wherever located, who shall open and hold the election, and receive the votes of the respective commands, and return the same to the Secretary of State, and which shall be counted in the same way and manner as if said votes had been cast in any of the counties of the State to which the soldiers belonged.

As all truly "loyal" people take, or *ought* to take the APPEAL, we will show them

How to Get to Vote:

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the County Court Clerk in each county to open and keep a registration of voters, and before whom proof, under oath, that the voter falls within the provisions of Article one of this Act, shall be made: *Provided*, No man of publicly known Union sentiments shall be required to make oath in doing the same; and said Clerk shall receive for compensation as the County Court in each county may deem proper; and also said Clerk shall issue to all said persons a certificate of registration, and no one shall be permitted by the Judges of Elections to vote unless so registered.

That's the gate through which water the elect, the chosen, the true-blue, out-and-out, unsullied holders of "publicly known Union sentiments." We could enter there, doubtless, if we were to try, being regenerate through the amnesty oath, and a "man of publicly known Union sentiments;" but there is rather a wide margin of "loyalty" in what follows, touching "*all the acts*" of this General Assembly. If one of the faithful, jealous of your participation in the right of suffrage, should bring you down to the book, here is

What You Have to Swear:

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That any voter may be challenged by an admitted voter of section one of this Act, on offering his vote, and thereupon the Judges of Elections shall peremptorily administer to the person so challenged, before permitting him to vote, the following oath, said oath also to be taken by all Judges of Elections and candidates for office:

"I solemnly swear that I will henceforth support the Constitution of the United States, and defend it against the assaults of all its enemies; that I am an active friend of the Government of the United States; that I will heartily aid and assist the loyal people in whatever measures may be adopted under the Constitution of the United States, and under all laws and proclamations made in pursuance thereof, to establish the National authority over all the people of every State and Territory embraced in the National Union; and that I will faithfully and mostheartily support and defend the Constitution of Tennessee, and the amendments and schedule thereunto appended and adopted by the people on the twenty-second day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and also all acts of the General Assembly assembled in accordance therewith; and that I take this oath freely, voluntarily and without mental reservation. So help me God."

We don't think we could go that, though we suppose it *has* been taken by a good many whose "publicly known Union sentiments" are not more unimpeachable than ours. Such had better look sharp how they swear, lest they incur the

Penalty of False Swearing:

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That any person taking this oath falsely shall be guilty of perjury, and shall suffer all the pains and penalties attached to that crime.

But there is some comfort in the reflection that our benign legislators preserved to *themselves* the power of relenting and being merciful. Luckily they did not tie themselves into such a hard knot, but that *they* may, in their sovereign will and pleasure

Alter, Change or Amend:

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That this act may be repealed, altered, amended, or change the provisions of this Act at any time when in the opinion of *this* General Assembly of the State it is right and proper so to do.

We submit to the General Assembly that "it is right and proper so to do" *now*. There are thousands of the very best and truest supporters of the Government of the United States—*tried* men whose fealty to any cause they may espouse has been proven as by fire—men who are *recognized citizens of the United States*—who are being kept out of citizenship in their native State, and who, many of them, will be lost to Tennessee, if they are required, as the price of their staying here, to wear this badge of degradation for

Fourteen Years. Five Months, Five Days:

SEC. 10. *Be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Passed June 5th, 1865.
WILLIAM HEISKELL,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
S. R. RODGERS,
Speaker of the Senate.

There!—We have given the whole of this Disfranchising Law, in full, from an authentic copy, derived from the County Court Clerk's office—partly that its harsh and repulsive features may be seen and contemplated in all their deformity; but mainly that the attention of such as may have pretensions to being voters may be reminded of what they have to do in the approaching county elections. We believe they come off some time in March.

The representatives of four tribes of Indians, the Sacs, Foxes, Shawnees and Iowas, were received by the President in the lobby room of the Executive Mansion. The Indians, including their interpreters, numbered sixteen. They were severally introduced to Mr. Johnson by Judge Dooley, Commissioner of Indian Affairs. They called upon their Great Father, they said, to pay their respects and give assurances of their loyalty and good feeling. The President informed them that he was glad to see them, and they might take to their people his assurance that the Government would act with them in good faith, and carry out all its obligations to their several nations.

In response, each of the sturdy chiefs gave the President's hand a convulsive jerk, accompanied by a guttural grunt, which, according to the interpreter, means "I am glad."

They were not apparently much affected by the furniture and surroundings of the White House, looking upon the whole thing with evident contempt, until they espied a chair in the library, made up principally of the skin, head and bones of a huge deer, and heretofore presented to the President by Seth Kloman. The Indians took to this curiosity with great satisfaction.

The Tribune's Washington special says Gen. O. Clay Crawford, who is reported to be at Brownsville, Tex., with his chief of staff, Col. A. F. Read, raising an American division for Mexico, is a citizen of Tennessee, who was about a year or eighteen months ago dismissed from the service by court martial, upon charges of stealing money from a bank in Rogersville, Tenn. He was some years ago at West Point as a cadet, was dismissed after two years study. He subsequently went into Nicaragua with Walker, and about the outbreak of the late war, was in the Virginia penitentiary for some offense. He was captain of a battery of artillery in the Union service, fraudulently secured a muster in as Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment, and held the appointment as Colonel of that regiment, and also of a colored regiment to neither of which he was mustered up to the time of his dismissal. His chief of staff was Lieutenant Colonel of a colored regiment, and was dismissed the same time last summer by court martial for a gross offense. It is not believed by those qualified to judge, that Crawford or Read recruited a single man.

The special inspector officer of the Freedmen's Bureau reports that Gen. Foster, the military commander in Florida, has been notified by several of the planters that, unless they are permitted to shoot the negroes whenever they choose, they will leave the State. Quite a number, not having received the required permission, have already migrated to Texas and other States. The inspecting officer also states that, notwithstanding the reports to the contrary, the harvests in the States mentioned, by some aid from the Bureau, will be amply sufficient to the support of colored people during the winter.

The New York *Tribune* indulges in the following insidious flings against the Executive: "The resolutions in the House, calling upon Gen. Howard for information concerning the restoration of confiscated lands to rebels, and the expulsion of the freedmen therefrom, it is stated, will surprise the country at the extent and magnitude of the Executive clemency."

The Countess Dudley, just married to one of the richest noblemen in England, Lord Ward, now Earl Dudley, was the belle at Compiegne. Her beauty, toilette and jewels eclipsed all there, making even the Empress jealous. She is described as tall, fine features, exquisite figure, twenty, amiable. Her husband is an old rake who has dissipated in every capital in Europe, been angled for twenty-five years by ambitious mamas of handsome daughters, and has "protected" more ballet girls and actresses than any man on the continent. He surprised everybody by choosing his bride from a poor but good family, and endowing her with the most liberal gifts. One of the celebrations of his marriage was a free permission to every tenant on his estates to shoot game during the winter on the condition that they should not sell it. The Earl is well preserved considering the life he has led, and is styled handsome yet.

Members of the Cabinet emphatically deny that the President has issued any orders stopping appointments upon the recommendation of Congress, or either he or they have proposed executhing Congressmen who oppose the Executive patronage as to their intended policy; at the same time it is understood that they seem to look forward to a possible contingency, in which they might regard a more asserting influence as proper. The President recently said to a conservative New England Senator, that the only mistake he had thus far made in his administration was in sending Gen. Carl Schurz to investigate matters for him.

John Minor Botts has come out in a card denying that he has sought to prevent the admission of the Virginia members. He says: "I have maintained that every Representative constitutionally elected who has prepared to comply with the requisitions of the Constitution and laws, was so fully entitled to take his seat as any of those now occupying seats in either House. To admit that the States lately in rebellion had been out of the Union, and consequently that secession was lawful and constitutional, a position that nobody will suspect me of occupying."

The Louisville publishers having come to the conclusion that the issue of seven daily papers per week involved a greater amount of both mental and physical labor, and of wear and tear of body and mind than mortals could be expected to stand for more than ten years on a stretch, have wisely determined hereafter to issue only six papers each week. The *Journal* will suspend its Sunday issue; the *Courier* won't begin its Sunday paper, and the *Democrat* will suspend its Monday issue, printing their edition on Sunday morning, as before the war.

Mr. John Pitts, formerly a well known resident of Southwest Missouri, but latterly of Illinois, was shot and killed by a young man named John Hereford. The affair occurred at the house of Capt. Hereford, residing in Chariton county. Pitts went to the house, it is said, called Hereford out and fired first with a revolver, when Hereford fired a shot gun, killing Pitts at the second shot. The cause of the difficulty is said to have grown out of some improper conduct of Hereford toward Pitts' wife.

The tax commissioners now in New York, engaged upon their report, will not be ready, so they inform the Secretary of the Treasury, to submit it unto him for two weeks. It will not be submitted to Congress, therefore, before the first of February. It will be a most voluminous document, covering several hundred pages.

The Vicksburg *Herald* learns that the Freedmen's Bureau has orders from Washington to furnish transportation to Freedmen desiring to go to their plantations to recuse work. There is also an order to furnish labor for repairing the levees, Gen. Humphries, U. S. A., is the Chief Engineer, under the direction of the United States Government.

It is proposed to introduce in the Senate a resolution discharging the Reconstruction Committee from the further consideration of the credentials of the Tennessee Senators, referring them to the Judiciary Committee. The friends of the motion say they count twenty-four votes in its favor out of the forty-eight members who compose the Senate.

A new color, obtained from petroleum, is described as resembling in appearance powdered glass, of a brilliant green color, but upon being moistened and rubbed upon paper a gorgeous magenta color was the result. The specimen examined was lately received from Stuttgard, Germany.

The sword of Boabdil, the last of the Moorish Kings in Spain, has been added to the collection of antiquities presented by the Duke of Luynes to the French nation. This relic of the last Prince of a gallant race bears on its blade inscriptions from Koran in letters of gold.

A French savant thinks he has discovered a complete substitute for rags in the manufacture of paper. The root of the lucern plant, he observes, when dried and beaten, shows thousands of very white fibres, which form an excellent paste for paper makers.

John Hendly was executed at Lawrence, Kansas, on the twenty-ninth ultimo, for the murder of John Sutton, in June last, in Franklin county. Numerous as have been the hangings in Lawrence, this was the first by legal process.

Aaron A. Bradley, the negro preacher convicted by a military commission at Savannah, for seditious language and inciting the freedmen to disorder, and sentenced to a year's hard labor at Fort Pulaski, has been released on parole by order of Secretary Stanton.

California produced in eighteen hundred and sixty, seven million five hundred thousand bushels of wheat. The State produces more barley than all the balance of the Union, and has an annual surplus of about five million bushels.

Dispatches from Washington say that about thirty commanders of vessels destroyed by the Alabama have already been summoned as witnesses for the Government in the approaching trial of Semmes.

No less than fourteen names are already down on the Speaker's list for elaborate House speeches in Committee of the Whole on Reconstruction. Among these are Boutwell, Dawson, Conkling, Scofield, Voorhees and Shellebarger.

The Herald's Washington special telegraphs that the delay in providing for the trial of Jeff. Davis is becoming the general topic of conversation, the feeling becoming general that he should be tried or liberated.

On New Year's morning a party of five drunken men entered a liquor saloon in New York, and being refused more drink, one of them shot the barkeeper through the heart.

Mr. Lindback, the Swedish clergyman, charged with having poisoned five persons, has committed suicide by hanging himself in prison.

Gen. Wm. Hickey, for forty-two years Chief Clerk of the United States Senate, died at Washington a few days since.

They talk of building a big bridge between New York and Brooklyn, three-quarters of a mile long and a hundred feet above high water.

The crew of the wrecked schooner, who for nine days were without food or drink, and exposed to cold, were rescued and brought to Boston.

W. R. Arthur, many years General Superintendent of the Illinois Central Railroad, has resigned on account of failing health, to take effect February first.

The Brazilians, it is said, do not like the proposed immigration of dissatisfied Southerners to that country.

It is emphatically denied that Chief Justice Chase is interesting himself for the pardon of young Ketchum.

Col. John B. Todd, of Mobile, died recently in Paris.

The thermometer at Buffalo, on the eighth inst., stood eleven degrees below zero.

It is stated that Chief Justice Chase is interceding for the forger, Ketchum.

Dundreary says the only parting that ever troubled him was the parting of his back hair.

One who is half man, half dog, will bow to the rich and bow-wow to the poor.

A literary gentleman in Boston, of surpising taste and enterprise, has just begun to publish a "synopsis of the Waverly Novels."

Gov. Worth, of North Carolina, has called a special session of the Legislature of that State, to meet on the eighteenth instant.

The Times' Washington special says the last order for mustering out troops, relieves Virginia of all white volunteer troops.

Gen. Grant sends three inspecting officers on tours in different military departments this week, to see if further reduction of the forces and expenses can be made.

A number of medical officers were mustered out on Saturday. The volunteer medical staff has been reduced since May last from two hundred and fifty to fifty.

The War Department has just issued an order assigning a number of officers of the veteran reserve corps to duty as assistants of Gen. Baird, assistant commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for the State of Louisiana.

The following persons have been appointed Postmasters in Tishomingo county, Miss.: J. J. Gibson, Corinth; Mrs. Frances C. Gray, Jacinto; W. S. Parks, Blenzi; T. W. Rice, Burnsville; Geo. P. Hamerly, Iuka.

The Washington Literary Society of Washington College, Lexington, the oldest college in Virginia, is lamenting the loss of a letter from Gen. Washington to the Trustees of the college, taken away during the war and never returned.

Mrs. C. C. Clay, having returned from a visit to her husband at Fortress Monroe, called at the White House and obtained an interview with the President. She is indefatigable in her efforts to secure a parole for her husband, with reasonable prospect of success.

The Herald's Washington special says that it now appears that R. B. Winder, a Captain in the late Confederate army, recently confined in Old Capitol prison, is a nephew of the Confederate Gen. Winder, and not his son, the real culprit. The man now in custody was Chief Quartermaster of all Confederate prisoners, and not responsible for the discipline of any particular prison. W. S. Winder, who superintended the affairs of Libby prison, has fled to Canada.

Maj. Gee, the commandant of the rebel prison at Salisbury, N. C., who was sent from the Old Capitol Prison about a month ago, to Raleigh, for trial, is still under confinement in the latter city, and ignorant when the court will be convened. His counsel is upon his way to Washington to ascertain the course the prosecution will take in the case, and to ask for a speedy hearing. Gee writes to his friends in Washington City that he is very hopeful of the result, and only anxious that the trial may go on.

The appointment of a sub committee by the Joint Committee on Reconstruction, consisting of two members of the Senate and one of the House of Representatives, to wait upon the President of the United States, is regarded as very significant of the intention of that committee with reference to the admission of the Tennessee delegation. The fact is receiving general comment, and it is not doubted but that early in the coming week the Representatives from Tennessee, at least, will be admitted to their seats in Congress.

A meeting has recently been held at Iuka, the object of which was to inaugurate a movement to secure the building of a "branch" from the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, at Iuka, to the Tennessee river, at or near Eastport. The proposed road will cost from one hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand dollars, and will undoubtedly, says the Cairo *Democrat*, be of great benefit to Cairo and the other cities on the Tennessee and Ohio rivers, as it will bring nearly all the cotton of the Tennessee valley in this direction, whereas it now goes to Memphis.

A NOBLE ACT OF THE PRESIDENT.

A correspondent records an act of President Johnson which presents a strange contrast to the conduct of these Radicals who are for crucifying the Southern leaders for a mere difference of political opinion. The writer says:

The humble origin of our President is familiar to every school boy in the land. From the experience of his early days he has drawn those friendly feelings for the humbler classes, which he takes every pains to manifest, and they are sincere, too, as all who know him will insist. While living in Greenville, East Tennessee, and when he began his career as a public man, he came in competition with a high toned gentleman of Irish parentage, who entertained those aristocratic notions so peculiar to many in the South. When Andrew Johnson first aspired to the Tennessee Legislature, he met the most persistent opposition from this man—then of some influence and ability as a lawyer—it marveled greatly that one of such birth should seek to become a lawmaker for the intelligent, high bred gentleman, who boasted of noble lineage, as did he and others of his neighbors.

But our President became a legislator, and made laws not only for the rich alone, but for those who, like himself, were of "the poor white trash." He succeeded in his labor, twice for Tennessee and then had the audacity to accept the nomination for Congress. Now, indeed, his lordly constituents felt called upon to interpose a barrier against what they seemed suffered to represent them in the State Legislature was tolerable, but that he should speak for them at Washington, where such men as Hammond and Mason were accustomed to represent the first families of the Southland, was not to be endured. Such an imposition could not be tolerated. But the people of that portion of Tennessee then thought, as we, and Andrew Johnson became a Congressman, and then a Senator, etc.

In all his successes he remembered the bitter opposition and chagrin of former years, and when he became Military Governor of Tennessee, he improved the opportunity, and made this man feel his power and influence. The war had nearly ended when the haughty rebel—for such he proved—asked for pardon. Johnson protested, and President Lincoln refused. Too high spirited to sue for the pardon, this rebel despaired, for his life long opponent was in the ascendancy, and his property, and perhaps his person, was at his mercy. His only hope was the justice, or rather mercy, of President Lincoln. But that hope was dispelled when the assassination elevated the Vice-President. No further effort was made, for he despaired of any favorable issue. The humble tailor of Greenville was President of the United States; the lordly gentleman was of high reputation in his profession—as a man, unblemished in character—of large estate, but with the crime of treason overhanging him. Not long since there came to him in the handwriting of Andrew Johnson, the man he had always contemned, with the great seal of the United States, a full, free pardon for all offenses committed in aid of the late rebellion!" Thus did this man from the people teach to his life-long opponent the great lesson—forgive and forget.

On Tuesday, the twenty-sixth ultimo, says the Danville, (Ky.,) *Advocate*, an unfortunate difficulty sprung up at Perryville in which Dr. Lynn and Jerry Watkins, growing out of a misunderstanding in regard to a fox chase, and resulting in the shooting and killing of the former, and very seriously wounding the latter. It appears that Watkins fired five shots, all of which took effect in his opponent, which produced death in about fifteen minutes. Dr. C. leaves a wife and several small children. The wound of Mr. Watkins is of such a serious nature that no examining trial has yet taken place.

Hon. George Davis, formerly Attorney General of the Confederate States, is at present in Fort Lafayette. The citizens of Wilmington, N. C., where he resides, recently formed a memorial to President Johnson in his behalf. Mr. Davis is a man of great ability; firm, faithful and reliable, and it is to be hoped that the prayer of his neighbors and friends will be granted.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE. ....WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.

Mr. Raymond, of New York, introduced a bill for the appointment of a company to purchase a site and erect a post office in the city of New York.

Mr. Stevens, of Georgia, introduced a bill to authorize the building of a military and police railroad between Washington and New York.

Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, introduced a similar bill. Both were referred to a select committee on the subject.

The select committee appointed to devise suitable means to testify the national respect for the late President Lincoln, had a meeting this morning and selected the Hon. Geo. Bancroft to deliver the eulogy in February next, in place of Edwin M. Stanton, declined.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill authorizing the issue of bonds for funding the issues of the United States; authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to issue six per cent. coin bonds, indefinite in amount, to fund all floating debts, and interest payable in Europe, to be five per cent.; also, that interest bearing notes cease as legal tender when due.

Mr. Williams, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution which was passed by ninety-four against thirty-seven, declaring, as a sense of the House of Representatives, that the country should not be withdrawn from the late seceded States until the two Houses of Congress shall have ascertained and declared their presence no longer necessary.

On motion of Mr. Strong, of Kentucky, a resolution was adopted calling on the President for information as to what steps, if any, have been taken to restore Mr. Dubois's child, taken by the usurper of Libby prison, under pretense of making it a prince.

Senate.

The President *pro tem.* laid before the Senate Committee, from the Mayor of Washington, a petition transmitting the result of the late election in the city on the subject of negro suffrage, which was ordered to be laid upon the table.

Mr. Morgan presented the memorial of the New York Chamber of Commerce, asking for legislation to protect Northern creditors from the operation of Southern statutes of limitation, which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Several petitions of soldiers in the late war, asking for the equalization of pay and bounty, were offered.

Mr. Johnson presented the credentials of Randall Hunt, Senator elect from the State of Louisiana, which were ordered to be laid upon the table.

Mr. Dougal offered a resolution, calling on the President for information in regard to the issue of an order from the commanding officers of California, forbidding the exportation of arms over the frontier, and whether such order was not a violation of neutrality toward Mexico, which was adopted.

Mr. Causwell offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling for information as to why the commission authorized to investigate the claims of loyal slave owners to compensation for enlisted colunteers owing service to them had not been appointed.

The Senate at half after twelve adjourned.

HON. CHAS. H. SMITH, (BILL ARP).

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* gives a sketch of the inimitable humorist, whom the confidence of his people recently sent to the State Senate. We copy below, remarking, however, that while "Bill" is a head and shoulders above the majority of mankind in qualities of head and heart, he has stretched marvelously within the last two weeks, if he is to be ranked among the "tall" men physically. The writer says of him:

"Speaking of Senators, one member of the State Senate is so well known, at least by his sobriquet, that I think it will be right and proper to give some account of him. This is C. H. Smith, of Rome, the celebrated Bill Arp! He is small, easily built, with black eyes, hair, and beard, slightly bald, and of rather a grave expression of countenance, the remark is often made by visitors that he is about the last man in his house they would take for the author of that inimitable appeal to the great Artemus. Mr. Smith is a lawyer of fine abilities, and in social intercourse is very humorous, and delights in talking off what seems an habitual reserve. Often, however, when saying least, an arch curve of the lip will betray beyond all the same Sphinxian enigma, the twinkling through the brain of the great Unharmonized father of Chickahominy and Bull Run Arp."

A writer in the New York *Times*, from Tallahassee, says:

"Brig.-Gen. Joseph Finnegan, who fought and won the battle of Olustee, is a native of Ireland, but has been a resident of Fernandina for some years, and owns a plantation near that place. He has not received a pardon, neither has his house and lands been turned over to him, which have been turned into a Freedmen's Asylum. He is living with a friend at Fernandina. Before the war Finnegan was engaged in the railroad business with Yulee. Brig.-Gen. W. Miller, who whipped Gen. Newton last winter at Natural Bridge, was born in New England, but had resided at Pensacola, where he run a saw mill for several years before the war. He is at his old business again on the Blackwater. He had the reputation of being one of the bravest men in the army."

REPORTED ATROCIOUS REMARK OF JUDGE ADVOCATE CHIPMAN.—One charge against Wirz, the Andersonville jailor, was that many of the Federal prisoners had died from the effects of impure vaccine matter used at the prison. The defense, to show that no criminal act was premeditated in the use of the impure virus, produced evidence to prove that a great many private citizens of Georgia had been vaccinated with the same matter, and many of them had died. It is said that when the witnesses made the statement Judge Advocate Chipman exclaimed: "I wish that every man, woman and child in the South had been vaccinated with it, and that all had died"—*Lucerne (Pa.) Union.*

The Radicals, who are now clamoring for an amendment to the Constitution changing the representation in Congress from a population to a voting basis, (their object being to compel the South to make the negroes voters,) do not quite realize the effect that measure, were it adopted. True it would largely reduce the representation of the Southern States were the negroes not allowed to vote; but it would also have the following consequence. It would cut down the present and future representation of New England, on account of the excess of females and old people, as compared with the Western States. 2. It would deprive the Atlantic seaboard and manufacturing localities of Congressmen wherever aliens were largely employed. 3. It would add very largely to the representation of the Western States, where the male population is largely in excess of the female; and 4. It would give a disproportionate representation to California and the mining regions, where the males are ten to one to the females. In short, it would make the West all powerful in the Government almost immediately upon the adoption of the amendment. *New York World.*

An extensive fraud upon the Internal Revenue Department, by the issue of a large quantity of segar box stamps, has just been brought to light by the authorities of New York. Three persons, named John Fuch, Charles Meitschlerling, and a printer named Blomeke, have been arrested. The latter admitted that he had printed about two hundred and fifty of the stamps and destroyed the plate; but it was afterwards found, and its engraver has been apprehended. Blomeke and Meitschlerling have been committed to the county jail by United States Commissioner Osborne, and Fuch has been admitted to bail. It transpired that no less than twenty of the plates have been manufactured, and millions of the stamps printed, and that the fraud will amount to one million dollars. The counterfeit stamp is about one-eighth of an inch wider than the genuine, and the paper on which it is printed is half an inch longer.

In the Supreme Court of the United States on the second inst., Judge Clifford delivered the opinion in the case of an appeal from the District Court of Wisconsin, in which the Milwaukee and Chicago Railroad Company was respondent. It appears that certain mortgaged premises were several times offered for sale, but were not sold, and that the appellant claimed possession on the ground that he was the highest bidder; but the Supreme Court holds that biddings at auction are mere offers, and that there is no binding obligation until the consent of both parties is given, or in other words, until there is a mutual understanding to a definite agreement; as the auctioneer may refuse to strike off the property to the highest bidder, so a bid may be withdrawn before the hammer falls. The court said that justice had been done, and all parties are satisfied but the appellant, and that the decree of the District Court is affirmed with costs.

The Joint Reconstruction Committee met on Friday in the room of the Senate Post Office Committee. All of the members were present except Bingham of Ohio and Grider of Kentucky. They passed a resolution that their proceedings should be kept secret, and did nothing more but indulge in a general conversation, which developed decidedly Radical ideas and to adjourn over to Tuesday next. Indications to-day are more hopeful as to the preservation of a firm front by the Unionists in both House and Senate on the subject of treating Tennessee just like the other rebel States.

More than one half the revenues of Great Britain—twenty-six million, five hundred thousand pounds sterling—comes from the duties on tobacco and spirits.

From the London Times, Dec. 16.

THE REDUCTION OF THE NATIONAL DEBT—MORE LESSONS ON POLITICAL ECONOMY.

The temper of Congress depends upon so many circumstances incapable of determination at this distance that it would be hazardous to predict anything with reference to its action. It seems probable, however, that with the feeling of the nation still excited by the struggle through which it has passed, Mr. McCulloch's proposals will be accepted, and a resolution will be passed, pledging the Federation to set aside an annual sum of forty, or, if need be, fifty million, for the payment of interest and the redemption of the debt. But it is impossible to bind future Congresses, and the difficulty will be to maintain a resolution so heroic. There are, indeed, not wanting reasons of much weight for adopting a course entirely different from that recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury. The pressure of a debt may be relieved either by its redemption, or by an increase in the wealth of the people bearing the burden. If the sums remitted in taxation were saved, it would always be politic to abolish or reduce taxes, instead of paying off a portion of the capital of a national debt, for it is certain that individual citizens may make more of their savings than they could gain by the redemption of stock, in consequence of the reduction of debt. The truth is, however, that what is saved by the remission of taxes is generally spent, and it is, therefore, as a rule desirable to attempt something towards reducing the capital of the national debt. This has been theoretically acknowledged by the best men who have filled the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, but opposing influences have been too strong for them. It was probably owing to the fact that Mr. Pitt was strongly impressed with the opinion that the national debt that he was betrayed into accepting the mischievous device of a sinking fund. Mr. Gladstone throughout his career has been struggling to lessen the load of indebtedness which weighs down our energies, little as he has been able to accomplish toward his object. The reduction of taxation is always too popular a cry for a minister to be able to withstand it. If a chancellor of the exchequer asks to be allowed to retain a modest surplus, some member whose seat is insecure, forthwith proposes that some tax—for example, the Attorneys' Certificate Duty—should be abolished instead. The Ministry are beaten or have to give way, and the better course is postponed. We must watch the progress of legislation in the United States before we can venture to affirm that the virtue which the American people have manifested in a great crisis is sufficiently strong to withstand the wear and tear of ordinary life, the small economies and keen calculations of self interest which make up the struggle for existence.

Mr. Williams introduced a joint resolution authorizing the following article as an amendment to the Constitution:

"No power shall exist in Congress to provide for the payment of any person or persons for or on any account of the emancipation of any slave or slaves in the United States; and no appropriation of money shall ever be made by law of Congress for that purpose."

The article was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

An artificial cave has been discovered in Lookout mountain, Ga., and explored for a distance of one hundred and twenty-five feet. Various Indian relics were discovered, and the place is thought to have been a refuge for Indians in former times.

MARRIED.

MATTHEWS—EASTMAND—On the afternoon of the 8th inst., by Rev. Mr. Murphy, at the residence of Mrs. Brown, Dr. J. MATTHEWS, of Arkansas, and Miss MARY F. EASTMAND, of this city.

The happy couple left immediately on the steamer Mollie Dixon for their future home, in St. Francis county, Ark. May their brightest hopes be realized, and the life which they have so auspiciously begun, be a long and happy one, with a bright and prominding future ever before them. W. A. B.

Nashville and Columbia papers please copy.

LAMB—PUGH—At Calvary Church, in this city, January 9th, by Rt. Rev. Bishop Quintard, Mr. E. B. LAMB and Miss ANNA E. PUGH.

DIED.

MAGEVNEY—On Wednesday, the 10th inst., at 2½ o'clock a.m., ELLEN T. MAGEVNEY, aged 22 years and 11 months.

The funeral will take place at 10 o'clock a.m., to-day, Thursday, from the residence of her father, Michael Magevney, on Market street. Carriages in attendance at the house, and at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church.

It was the lot of the writer to be among those who assembled last evening around the remains of our dear departed friend; and as we gazed on that cold form, clothed in the habiliments of death, a train of thoughts gathered in our troubled heart, and caused us to turn from the melancholy scene and give way to our grief in silence. Language possesses no words to pay a fitting tribute to the celestial virtues which adorned that lovely soul. Surrounded, as she was, with everything calculated to make happiness and contentment in this world, there was another, a higher sphere, to fascinate her ambitious nature, and bid her persevere. Having been taught, from early youth, that life on earth was but a pilgrimage to a glorious home after, it was not strange that Faith in her religion should lead her to follow the life of a Christian. Her friendships, always true and lasting, made her a loving object of all her companions. Her generosity knew no bounds, and she was ever ready to lend an assisting hand in every work of Christian charity. When death darkened the door of a friend, there was ELLEN to be found administering consolation and sharing the grief of the afflicted. In the social circle she was a genial and intelligent companion, whose society was always sought for she had the family art of making herself so dear. As a faithful servant of God, she accepted patiently the crosses which He chose to inflict, and bore them with enduring fortitude until she expired. She was also devotedly attached to the Virgin Mother, in whom she placed all her confidence as an advocate before the Divine Throne, and delighted in calling herself an "Enfant de Marie."

To-day we will lay her lifeless body beneath the sod, there to rest until the trumpet shall sound the approach of Him who judgeth the living and the dead.

Requiescat in pace.

NEW ADVERTISEM'TS.

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