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SATURDAY, - - - MAY 3, 1890.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

We had occasion to refer to the far reaching effect of the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States relative to the NEAGIE case.

This settled the right of United States officials to have protection afforded them in the discharge of their duties, as well as gave them immunity from trial or punishment by state courts for any breach of a state law in discharging said duty.

President HARRISON has caught the inspiration and proceeds at once to call the attention of the Attorney General to the necessity of upholding the laws. Here is his letter.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Apr. 24, 90.
To the Attorney General.

Sir,—I have had frequent occasions during the last six months to confer with you in reference to obstructions offered in the counties of Leon, Gadsden, Madison and Jefferson, in the state of Florida, to the execution of processes of the courts of the United States. It is not necessary to say more of the situation than that the officers of the United States are not suffered freely to exercise their lawful functions. This condition of things cannot be longer tolerated. You will therefore instruct United States Marshal Weeks, as soon as he has qualified, to proceed at once to execute such writs of arrests as may be placed in his hand. If he apprehends resistance he will employ such civil force as may seem adequate to discharge the resistance or overcome it. He should proceed with the calmness and moderation which should always attend a public officer in the execution of his duty and at the same time with the firmness and courage that will impress the lawless with a wholesome sense of danger and the futility of resistance. You will assure the officers of the law and those who have foolishly and wickedly thought to set the law at defiance that every resource lodged with the Executive by the Constitution and laws will be necessarily and promptly employed to make it safe and feasible to hold a Federal commission and to execute the duty it imposes.

Very respectfully,
BENJAMIN HARRISON.

That language cannot be mis-taken. He has before intimated that in the event of a failure to respect the authority of the United States, martial law would be proclaimed.

In this position the President is ably seconded by the Attorney General. He writes:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Apr. 26.
Robert J. Weeks, United States Marshal, Jacksonville, Fla.:

Sir,—You have doubtless ere this received your commission as United States Marshal for the Northern district of Florida. For several months past it has been reported that in certain counties in your district warrants of arrest issued by United States courts have not been executed because of resistance, actual and threatened, by those sought to be arrested and their partisans. This state of things cannot and will not be longer tolerated. A letter from the President, of which I enclose a copy, speaks for itself. You will at once proceed upon the lines indicated in that letter and will report promptly any attempt to interfere with you in the discharge of your duties. I am informed that recently in some places a Marshal seeking to serve warrants in ordinary civil cases has been refused ordinary accommodations such as horse hire, hotel entertainment, etc., to enable such services to be performed. By such means officers of the Government can be put to great inconvenience, but they cannot and will not be prevented from executing process of court. Means can and will be found for transporting and sustaining Government officers wherever it is necessary for them to go in order to arrest and bring into court offenders against the law.

Very respectfully,
W. H. MILLER,
Attorney General.

That letter has the right ring. Let them ferret out and punish the murderers of ex-Marshall Mizell's deputy. Let them be tried, convicted and hanged dead by their necks and lynch-law will go.

But the same law that allows the Government to protect its officials clothes it with power to protect its citizens. The outrages practiced upon colored men can be stopped and the perpetrators punished. We are pleased to note the fact that the country is awakening. Let President HARRISON carry out the laws with a firm hand and Lynch-law will go and the ascendancy of the Democratic Party in this country with it.

SPEAKER REED'S REMARKS.

The speech of Speaker REED at a banquet in Pittsburgh on the 26th inst. which we publish in another column is a masterly presentation of the situation. His plea for a National Registration and Election law is convincing, his language forcible. His references to the murders and outrages are timely. He is the man for the occasion and boldly announces that he stands ready to give the mighty influence of his office to the accomplishment of this result.

His defining of the rights and privileges of the colored man is fine, and will be read with interest by our people. We thank God that the North is awakening. The law must be respected, bloodshed and murder must cease and Lynch-law must go.

We have received "Clarence and Corinne, or God's Way," an attractive cloth-bound volume of 187 pages by Mrs. A. E. JOHNSON. This story although religious throughout is intensely interesting. We have perused page after page and pronounce it one of the finest works of the kind it has ever been our pleasure to read. It is the first book of the kind published from the pen of a colored writer.

Mrs. JOHNSON, the wife of Rev. HARVEY JOHNSON, the able Baltimore divine.

To read the work is to appreciate it. We not only endorse this production but take pleasure in urging our patrons to secure a copy, and see what one of the race can do.

We concede that we were doubtful as to the authorship and had to look at the title page again to make sure. To begin with let each Sunday School in Richmond place "Clarence and Corinne" in their library. We say read it even without paying any attention to the authorship and you will realize the merit in the production. It is published by the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia Pa. Price in cloth and gold, 90 cts.

The latest report is that Hon. GEORGE D. WISE is still anxious to be a messenger to Congress.

CHARGES:—Ten thousand dollars.

That colored men will be awarded equal political rights so far as National elections are concerned in theory and in fact is evident.

The indiscriminate hanging of colored men without judge or jury must cease. Lynch law must go!

Colored men prove yourselves worthy of citizenship. Send to the rear officious leaders who would bring disrespect and disgrace upon you as a people.

The 52d Congress will be Republican from the present indications.

Hon. JOHN MERCER LANGSTON is confident that he will be awarded the seat to which he has been honestly elected.

Let us stand up and be counted. Cowardice is to be condemned. Mauliness is to be commended.

Speaker REED understands the situation. We have the right man in the right place at last.

There can be no danger of Negro rule even if every colored man is allowed to vote as he sees fit.

We stand ready to grasp hands with liberal minded white men.

Let the people of the Fourth Congressional district rally again and send Langston to Congress.

Let us commend liberal minded white men, be they Democrats or Republicans. Let us condemn the Bourbon Negro hating element upon the same principle.

Slavery was a draw-back to us. Freedom is a blessing. Let us ourselves be worthy of the latter.

To win we must be honest, truthful, industrious. Learn to know the value of an obligation. Dodging and double dealing serves to injure us as a people.

The 7th New York Regiment would not come to the unveiling of the Lee Monument. Some of the members thought that it would be putting a premium upon treason.

Secretary TRACY is charged with not allowing the Marine Band to play at the Lee Monument unveiling.

The Republicans will have to look after the Negro. They must treat him right or even National election laws will do no good. Seat JOHN MERCER LANGSTON.

The Springfield, Ill. State Capital handles Mr. ROBERT G. SCOTT with "gloves off" on account of his recent article, extracts from which were published in the columns of this journal.

Colored men, the outlook is better now than it has been in fifteen years. Justice may sleep, but never dies.

We have received The Southern Sun an attractive 12 page journal issued every Monday morning in this city. Mr. VICTOR HOLSTEN, publisher. We wish it success.

Advise your friends to subscribe to the PLANET.

We have received the A. M. E. Review for April. It is one of the best editions yet published. The following are the contents:

Father Smith. Rev. B. F. Lee, D. D.; Negro Problems—William Hannibal Thomas; The Duties of the Hour.—Theophilus J. Munton; Physiology and Hygiene.—R. K. Potter, 1620-1863, Poem.—Alfred B. Siddum, Prayer.—Rev. W. G. McKinney; Sunday School work. J. H. Murphy; Are the Doctrines of Christianity Self-evident? Rev. R. A. Hall; The Necessity of Liberty in Supporting Churches—Rev. M. W. Travers.

Class A.—The Duty of Parents to be the First Educators of their Children, in Moral and Religion Rev. A. A. Thomas; Aspirations of the Soul.—T. Thomas; Woman's Work; Organization of the First Sunday School, Joseph T. Wilson.

The Evil Effects of Intemperance in the Use of Alcoholic Drinks—Prof. D. B. Williams, A. M. Hammett—A Study in Mental Physiology.—Arnold Morley, M. D.—George Brent A. Forgotten Page in Ohio History, or, Missions and Benevolences of Methodism.—Rev. D. W. Clark.

The Women of our Race Worthy of Imitation.—Mrs. Fannie C. L. Bentley; Domestic Life; or, The Little Things that make Oursers Happy and Home attractive.—Mr. Dr. P. Sampson, A Ray of Light (concluded).—Miss Garrison. Miscellaneous:—Sam Wan, or Ideality and Reality Paper Read before the Conference and Mite Missionary Society, September, 1889.—"Vita qui Prior sum Brevi"; Editorial.—Bernuda and African Methodism; The Itinerant System The Outlook Magazine and Reviews Cur Book List.

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