

COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT AND STAR OF THE NORTH.

JACOBY & KELLER, Publishers.

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

Two Dollars per Annum in Advance.

VOL. XXX. OLD SERIES.

BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA CO., PA., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1866.

NEW SERIES. VOL. I. NO. 1.

PUBLIC SALE

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE!

In pursuance of an order of the Orphans' Court of Columbia county, Pa., on Saturday, 15th day of March, 1866, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, Jacob Yeager and Washington Yeager, administrators of John Yeager, late of said county, dec'd., will expose to sale, by public vendue, on the premises, the following described Real Estate, to wit: All that certain Tract of land situated in Lower township, Columbia county, bounded on the North by land of decedent, on the East by land of Mary Mowery and others, on the South by heirs of Samuel Huppert and Samuel Pillington, and on the West by land of Rachel Evans and others.

ONE HUNDRED ACRES.

Tract measure, on which are erected a two story frame DWELLING HOUSE, BANK BARN and other outbuildings, a good Spring near the door, good Apple Orchard.

ALSO: One other tract of land, situated in same township, bounded on the North by land of decedent, on the South and West, by heirs of John Lazarus, Rachel Evans and others, strict measure, about twenty acres of which is cleared land.

ALSO: One other tract of land, situated in same township, bounded on the North by land of decedent, on the East by land of John Lazarus, Rachel Evans and others, on the South by other lands of decedent, and on the West by land of John Lazarus, Rachel Evans and others, strict measure, about twenty acres of which is cleared land.

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SELECT POETRY.

CONTENT AND RICH.

BY ROBERT WOODWELL.

My conscience is my crown;

Contented thoughts, my rest;

My heart is happy in itself,

My bliss is in my breast.

Enough I reckon wealth;

That man, the surest lot,

That lies too high for base contempt,

Too low for envy's shot.

My wishes are but few,

All easy to fulfil;

I make the limits of my power

The bounds unto my will.

I fear no care for gold,

Well-doing is my wealth;

My mind to use an empire is;

White grass an foolish heath.

I clip high-climbing thoughts,

The wings of swelling pride;

Their fall is worst that from the height

Of greatness ever slide.

Sizes sail of large size

The storm doth soonest tear;

I bear so low and small a sail

As I teach me from fear.

I wrestle not with rage,

While fury's daunt me doth burn;

It is in vain to stir the stream

Until the tide doth turn.

But when the flame is out,

And ebbsing wrath doth end,

I turn a late engaged foe

Into a quiet friend.

And taught with well open proof,

A temper'd calm I find

To be most salutary to self,

Best cure for angry mind.

Spare diet is my fare,

My clothes more fit than fine;

I know I need and clothe a few

That pamper'd would repine.

Levy not their hap

Whom favor hath advanced;

I take no pleasure in their pain

That have less happy chances.

To rise by others' fall

I deem a losing gain;

All states with others' ruin built

To ruin run amain.

No change of Fortune's calm

Can cast my comforts down;

When Fortune smiles, I smile to think

How quickly she will frown.

And when in forward mood,

She proved an angry foe,

Small gain, I found, to let her come—

Less loss to let her go.

may be a stranger, entirely ignorant of the laws of the place, and exposed to the errors of judgment to which all men are liable. The exercise of power, over which there is no legal supervision, by so vast a number of agents as is contemplated by the bill, must, by the very nature of man, be attended by acts of caprice, injustice and passion. The trials, having their origin under this bill, are to take place without the intervention of a jury, and without any fixed rules of law or evidence. The rules on which offences are to be heard and determined, by the numerous agents, are such rules and regulations as the President, through the War Department, shall prescribe. No previous presentment is required, nor any indictment, charging the commission of a crime against the laws; but the trial must proceed on charges and specifications. The punishment will be not what the law declares, but such as a Court-martial may think proper. And from these arbitrary tribunals there lies no appeal—no writ of error to any of the Courts, in which the Constitution of the United States vests exclusively the judicial power of the country; while the territory, and the class of actions and offences, that are made subject to this measure, are so extensive that the bill itself, should it become a law, will have no limitation in point of time, but will form a part of the permanent legislation of the country. I cannot reconcile a system of military jurisdiction of this kind with the words of the Constitution, which declare that "no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger;" and that "in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the State or district wherein the crime shall have been committed."

The safeguards which the wisdom and experience of ages taught our fathers to establish as securities for the protection of the innocent, the punishment of the guilty, and the equal administration of justice, are to be set aside, and for the sake of a more vigorous interposition in behalf of justice, we are to take the rest of the many acts of injustice that would necessarily follow from an almost countless number of agents established in every parish or county in nearly a third of the States of the Union, over whose decision there is to be no supervision or control by the Federal Court. The power that would be thus placed in the hands of the President is such as in time of peace certainly ought never to be entrusted to any one man. If it be asked whether the creation of such a tribunal within a State is warranted as a measure of war, the question immediately presents itself whether we are still engaged in war. Let us not unnecessarily disturb the commerce, and credit, and industry of the country, by declaring to the American people and the world that the United States are still in a condition of civil war. At present there is no part of our country in which the authority of the United States is deprived. Offences that may be committed by individuals should not work a forfeiture of the rights of the same communities. The country has entered, or is returning to a state of peace and industry, and the rebellion is in fact at an end. The measure, therefore, seems to be as inconsistent with the actual condition of the country as it is at variance with the Constitution of the United States.

If, passing from general considerations, we examine the bill in detail, it is open to weighty objections. In time of war it was eminently proper that we should provide for those who were passing suddenly from a condition of bondage to a state of freedom. But this bill proposes to make the Freedmen's Bureau, established by the act of 1865, as one of many great and extraordinary military measures to suppress a formidable rebellion, a permanent branch of the public administration, with its powers greatly enlarged. I have no reason to suppose, and I do not understand it to be alleged, that the act of March 1865, has proved deficient for the purpose for which it was passed; although at that time, and for a considerable period thereafter, the government of the United States remained unacknowledged in most of the States, whose inhabitants had been involved in the rebellion. The institution of slavery, for the military destruction of which the Freedmen's Bureau was called into existence as an auxiliary force, has been already effectually and finally abrogated throughout the whole country by an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, and practically its eradication has received the assent and concurrence of most of those States in which it at any time had existed. I am not, therefore, able to discern in the country anything to justify an apprehension that the powers and agencies of the Freedmen's Bureau, which were effective for the protection of freedmen and refugees during the actual continuation of hostilities and of African servitude, will now, in a time of peace, and after the abolition of slavery prove inadequate to the same proper end. If I am correct in these views, there can be no necessity for the enlargement of the powers of the Bureau, for which provision is made in the bill. The third section of the bill authorizes a general and unlimited grant of support to the destitute and suffering refugees and freedmen and their wives and children. Succeeding sections make provisions for the rent or purchase of landed

estates for freedmen, and for the erection, for their benefit, of suitable buildings for asylums and schools, the expenses to be defrayed from the treasury of the whole people. The Congress of the United States has never heretofore thought itself competent to establish any laws beyond the limits of the District of Columbia, except for the benefit of our disabled soldiers and sailors. It has never founded schools for any class of our own people, not even for the orphans of those who have fallen in the defence of the Union, but has left the care of their education to the much more competent and efficient control of the States, or communities, of private associations and of individuals. It has never deemed itself authorized to expend the public money for the rent or the purchase of houses for the thousands, not to say millions, of the white race who are honestly toiling from day to day for their subsistence. A system for the support of indigent persons in the United States was never contemplated by the authors of the Constitution. Nor can any good reason be advanced why, as a permanent establishment, it should be founded upon a class or color of our people more than for another. Pending the war many refugees and freedmen received support from the Government, but it was never intended that they should henceforth be fed, clothed, educated and sheltered by the United States. The idea on which the slaves were assisted to freedom, was that on becoming free they would be a self-sustaining population. Any legislation that shall imply that they are not expected to sustain a self-sustaining condition, must have a tendency injurious alike to their character and their prosperity. The appointment of an agent for every county and parish will create an immense patronage, and the expense of the numerous officers and the clerks to be appointed by the President will be great in the beginning, with a tendency steadily to increase. The appropriations asked by the Freedmen's Bureau as now established for the year 1866, amount to \$11,745,000. It may be safely estimated the cost to be incurred under the pending bill will require double that amount, more than the entire sum expended in any one year under the administration of the second Adams. If the presence of agents in every parish and county is to be considered as a war measure, opposition or even resistance might be provoked, so that to give effect to their jurisdiction (troops would have to be stationed within reach of every one of them, and thus a large standing force be rendered necessary. Large appropriations would, therefore, be required to sustain and enforce military jurisdiction in every county or parish from the Potomac to the Rio Grande. The condition of our fiscal affairs is encouraging, but in order to sustain the present measure of public confidence, it is necessary that we practice not merely customary economy, but as far as possible severe retrenchment. In addition to the objections already stated, the fifth section of the bill proposes to take away land from its former owners without any legal proceedings being first had, contrary to that provision of the Constitution which declares that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. It does not appear that a part of the lands to which this section refers may not be owned by minors or persons of unsound mind, or by those who have been faithful to all their obligations as citizens of the United States. If any portion of the land is held by such persons, it is not competent for any authority to deprive them of it. If, on the other hand, it be found that the property is liable to confiscation, even then it cannot be appropriated to public purposes, until, by due process of law, it shall have been declared forfeited to the Government.

There are still further objections to the bill, on grounds seriously affecting the class of persons to whom it is designed to bring relief. It will tend to keep the mind of the freedmen in a state of uncertain expectation and restlessness; while to those among whom he lives it will be a source of constant and vague apprehension. Undoubtedly the freedmen should be protected, but he should be protected by the civil authorities, especially by the exercise of all the constitutional powers of the courts of the United States and of the States. His condition is not so much exposed as may at first be imagined. He is in a portion of the country where his labor can not well be spared. Competition for his services from planters, from those who are constructing or repairing railroads, or from capitalists in his vicinity, or from other States, will enable him to command almost his own terms. He also possesses a perfect right to change his place of abode, and if, therefore, he does not find in one community or State, a mode of life suited to his desires, or proper remuneration for his labor, he can move to another, where labor is more esteemed and better rewarded. In truth, however, each State, induced by its own wants and interests, will do what is necessary and proper to retain within its borders all the labor that is needed for the development of its resources. The laws that regulate supply and demand will maintain their force, and the wages of the laborer will be regulated thereby. There is no danger that the great demand for labor will not operate in favor of the laborer. Neither is sufficient consideration given to the ability of the freedmen to protect and take care of themselves. It is no more than justice to them to believe that, as they have received their freedom with moderation and forbearance, so they will distinguish themselves by their industry and thrift, and soon show the world that in a condition of freedom they are self-sustaining and capable of selecting their own employment and their own places of abode; and of establishing and maintaining their own asylums and schools. It is earnestly hoped that instead of wasting away they will, by their own efforts, establish for themselves a condition of respectability and prosperity. It is certain that they can attain to that condition only through their own merits and exertions. In this connection the query presents itself whether the system proposed by the bill will not, when put into complete operation, practically transfer the entire care, support and control of four millions of emancipated slaves to agents overseers or taskmasters, who, appointed at Washington, are to be located in every county and parish throughout the United States containing freedmen and refugees. Such a system would inevitably tend to such a concentration of power in the Executive which would enable him, if so disposed, to control the action of a numerous class and use them for the attainment of his own political ends.

I cannot add another very grave objection to this bill. The constitution imperatively declares in connection with taxation that each State shall have at least one Representative, and fixes the rule for the number to which in future times each State shall be entitled. It also provides that the Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, and adds with peculiar force that no State without its consent shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate. The original act was necessarily passed in the absence of the States chiefly to be affected, because their people were then contumaciously engaged in the rebellion. Now the case is changed, and some at least of the States are attending Congress by loyal representatives, soliciting the allowance of the constitutional right of representation. At the time, however, of the consideration and the passage of the bill there was no Senator or Representative in Congress from the eleven States which are to be mainly affected by the provisions. The very fact that reports were and are made against the good disposition of the country is an additional reason why they need and should have representatives of their own in Congress to explain their condition, reply to accusations and assist by their local knowledge in the perfecting of measures immediately affecting themselves while the liberty of deliberation would then be free, and Congress would then have full power to decide according to its judgment. There could be no objection urged that the States most interested had not been permitted to be heard. The principle is firmly fixed in the minds of the American people that there should be no taxation without representation. Great burdens are now to be borne by all the country, and we may best demand that they shall be borne without murmur when they are voted by a majority of the representatives of all the people. I would not interfere with the unquestionable right of Congress to judge, each House for itself, of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members. But that authority cannot be construed as including the right to shut out in time of peace any State from the representation to which it is entitled by the Constitution. At present all the people of the eleven States are excluded. Those who were most faithful during the war are thus excluded. The State of Tennessee, for instance, whose authorities engaged in rebellion, was restored to all her constitutional relations to the Union by the patriotism and energy of her brave and betrayed people. Before the war was brought to a termination they had placed themselves in relation with the General Government, had established a State Government of their own, and, as they were not included in the emancipation proclamation, they, by their own act, had amended their Constitution so as to abolish slavery within the limits of their State. I know no reason why the State of Tennessee, for example, should not fully enjoy all her constitutional relations to the United States.

The President of the United States stands towards the country in a somewhat different attitude from that of any member of Congress, chosen from a single district or State. The President is chosen by the people of all the States. Eleven States are not, at this time, represented in either branch of Congress. It would seem to be his duty on all proper occasions to present their just claims to Congress. There always will be differences of opinion in the community, and individuals may be guilty of transgressions of the law. But these do not constitute valid objections against the right of a State to representation. It would in no wise interfere with the discretion of Congress with regard to the qualification of members; but I hold it my duty to recommend to you in the interests of peace, and in the interests of the Union, the admission of every State to its share of public legislation, when, however, insubordinate, insurgent or rebellious its people may have been, it presents itself not only in an attitude of loyalty and harmony, but in the persons of representatives whose loyalty cannot be questioned under existing constitutional or legal tests. It is plain that an indefinite or permanent exclusion of any part of the country from representations must be attended by a spirit of discontent and complaint. The bill under consideration refers to certain of the States as though they had not "been fully restored in all their constitutional relations to the United States." If they have not let us at once act together

to secure that desirable end at the earliest possible moment. It is hardly necessary for me to inform Congress that, in my own judgement, most of those States, so far at least as depends upon their own action, have already been fully restored, and are to be deemed to be entitled to enjoy their constitutional rights as members of the Union. Reasoning from the Constitution itself, and from the actual situation of the country, I feel not only entitled but bound to assume that, with the Federal courts restored in the several States and in the full exercise of their functions, the rights and interests of all classes of the people will, with the aid of the military, in cases of resistance to the law, be essentially protected against unconstitutional infringement and violation.—Should this expectation unhappily fail, which I do not anticipate, then the Executive is already armed with the powers conferred by the Act of March, 1865, establishing the Freedmen's Bureau; and hereafter, as heretofore, he can employ the land and naval forces of the country to suppress insurrection and to overcome obstructions to the laws.

I return the bill to the Senate in the earnest hope that a measure involving questions and interests so important to the country will not become a law unless upon deliberate consideration by the people it shall receive the sanction of an enlightened public judgment. ANDREW JOHNSON.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19, 1866.

A Voice from the Home of Senator Grimes.

The following is an extract from a letter dated Burlington, Feb. 6th, 1866. It was written by a Republican, who voted for Lincoln and Johnson, but who is now an ardent Radical. The election took place on Monday, the 5th inst. It is the first time in eight years that a Democrat has been elected Mayor of that city:

"Glorious result—Radicals cleaned out—Corsi elected Mayor by five or six hundred every ward carried except one—our Treasurer elected—Friday recorder elected (Republican, wounded officer, no opposition)—and a general cleaning out. The *Clarke* (a radical paper) and *postmaster's clique* have not yet heard of the result! It is glory enough for one day. *The Germans* are with us.

"Sales elected by forty majority in his ward—the greatest triumph of all, for he was most bitterly opposed as a Copperhead, &c. We brought out Democrats who had not voted in four years; and there are more of them yet.

"We mean to keep the lead now. May God sustain the President!"

This is one of the evidences of that reaction which has now fairly begun, and which will overwhelm the destructives and all their works. Retributive justice may be slow, but it is always sure.

FIRST USE OF PAPER MONEY IN AMERICA.—The first American colonists used pelting and wampum as substitutes for coin. In 1640, the Council in New Netherland petitioned to raise the value of money in their colony in order to prevent its exportation. Afterward, Gov. Stuyvesant tried to introduce a specie currency and to establish a mint at New Amsterdam. New England already had her mint.

Massachusetts was the first of the colonies to use paper money. In 1690 it issued bills to the amount of seven thousand pounds to pay the soldiers engaged in the expedition against the French in Canada. Twelve years after Carolina issued paper money to pay her soldiers. Three or four years after a paper money act was passed in the Island of Barbadoes. A little after, in 1703, Connecticut and New York passed enactments creating bills of credit.

The law state of the currency at this time in New York was thought to arise from the fact that most of the foreign trade of the country came through Boston and other New England ports, drawing thither money and produce. In 1696 the difference between New York and sterling money was about one-fifth; in 1700 about a quarter. The present legal rate of interest in New York (seven per cent) was established in 1738.

WHY MEN FAIL.—Mrs. Stowe says that people of small incomes, if they deny the palate to please the imagination, can adorn their homes with many gems of art. The following incident may be suggestive to many who find their incomes inadequate to their wants:

A young merchant, who had just failed in business, having spent in four years a legacy of ten thousand dollars, in addition to any profits realized, was met by a thrifty young mechanic, who had formerly been on terms of intimacy with him. During the conversation which ensued, the merchant said to him—"How is it, Harry, that you have been able to live and save money on the small sum you receive for your services, while I found it impossible to live in my business with a good round ten thousand dollars to back me?"

"Oh," said the mechanic, "that is easily understood. I have lived with reference mostly to the comforts and tastes of myself and family, while you lived mostly with reference to opinions and tastes of others.—It costs more to please the eye than to keep the back warm and stomach full!"

A toast at an Irish Society's dinner at Cincinnati: "Here's to the President of the Society, Patrick O'Reilly, and may he live to eat the hen that scratches over his grave."

"More men are hanged in England in one year than in France in seven, because the English have better hearts." So said Chief Justice Fortescue, who presided over the Court of Henry VI., and who lived and learned in the days of that jovial King Hal, whose princely follies and royal deeds are so gaily and graphically told by Shakespeare. In Shakespeare's own day; bluff King Henry the Eighth managed to hang 72,000 in his reign, (twenty on one gibbet at once—so Sir Thomas More, his chancellor and victim