

# AMERICAN CITIZEN.

"Let us have Faith that Right makes Might; and in that Faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it!"—A. LINCOLN.

VOLUME 3.

BUTLER, BUTLER COUNTY, PA., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1866.

NUMBER 41.

## AMERICAN CITIZEN Job Printing Office.

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AND

PENSION AND CLAIM AGENT

Office with Chas. W. McCandless, Esq.,  
South West Corner of the Court House.

ARCHIBALD BLAKELEY,

Attorney at Law,

FRANKLIN VENANGO COUNTY, A

RESIDES WITH HIS WIFE IN THE

R. M. MEHLER,

Attorney at Law,

AND

PENSION AND CLAIM AGENT

Office, N. E. Corner of Diamond, Butler, Pa.  
Feb. 8, 1864.

Claim Agent

The undersigned would respectfully notify the public

that he has been appointed as

CLAIM AGENT,

for the purpose of receiving, settling and pay-  
ing claims for soldiers of the late war, and for their legal  
representatives. No charge will be made for prosecuting the  
claims, and all expenses of their legal representatives will be  
paid by the Government.

W. S. HENDERSON, Esq.,  
Butler, Pa., Sept. 27, 1866.

J. B. CLARK,

Attorney at Law,

BUTLER, PENN'A.

Office in the Court House.

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claims, and all expenses of their legal representatives will be  
paid by the Government.

W. S. HENDERSON, Esq.,  
Butler, Pa., Sept. 27, 1866.

THOMPSON & LYON,

ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

BUTLER, PENN'A.

J. B. MEHLER,

Attorney at Law.

Office with Lewis Z. Mitchell, Esq.,  
North East Side of Diamond.

Aug. 15, 1866.

W. S. HENDERSON, Esq.,  
Butler, Pa., Sept. 27, 1866.

## Communications.

ROCKVILLE, WADSWELL ISLAND,  
S. C. August 28, 1866.

MR. EDITOR:—In order to fully appreciate the stereotyped exclamation of Miss Ophelia, in Uncle Tom's Cabin of "How Shiftless," you need only to pay a visit to the Sea Islands and undertake to ride over them and visit each plantation, and I will wager that before you are through with the task you will not only have exclaimed with Miss Ophelia "How Shiftless," but you will, (unless you are a very patient man), have used more emphatic, if not more expressive language.

Where can you find an old settled district in the north, in which the inhabitants have year after year for two centuries ridden twenty four miles to reach a point three or four miles distant, when a bridge of one hundred and fifty feet at a cost of three or four thousand dollars would afford access to the point by the shortest route; or where would you find a farmer with an income of from fifteen to thirty thousand dollars per year that would travel three miles to reach a point of half a mile distant on his own plantation, when one thousand dollars applied in the form of a bridge would overcome the whole inconvenience; yet both of these situations can be found on the Islands frequently.

Altho' the citizens of these Islands are nearly all educated men, many of them having received their education in Northern Colleges, and although they are highly accomplished gentlemen; yet they lack that spirit of public enterprise and improvement that makes a country prosperous.

A gentleman informed me a short time since, that at a Town Meeting held some years since on one of these Islands, a proposition was made to erect a wharf at the village. One of the wisest young men (fresh from college) stood up and proposed that a speech be made on the subject, "Have" as an argument against it. "Then the creation of a wharf would bring steamers to the village, and steamers would bring luxuries, and the use of luxuries would be an innovation upon the time honored customs," that "your fore fathers always traveled to Charleston in row boats, and the present generation can, and ought to do the same, no innovations upon established customs should be a moment tolerated."

One can readily believe that some such principle governed the major part of the citizens during the last two centuries. But almost within the last five years have been forced upon them with vengeance, and they have just been aroused from a Rip Van Winkle's sleep to find themselves a hundred years behind the age, and utterly helpless from inefficiency.

I will however say, to the credit of many of the younger citizens, that they are taking hold of the new order of things with an energy that makes the future of the State look hopeful.

Young men who never before did anything useful, have thrown off their coats and gloves, leased plantations, hired laborers, and taken personal supervision of their labor and give their personal attention to all the details of the plantation business.

But there is another element here that will undoubtedly exert a great influence upon the destinies of the State, either for good or evil as it may be properly or improperly directed. I mean the Freedmen; the men who possess the bone and muscle to hoe the cotton, hew the timber, build the bridges, and construct the Railroads, the class by whom the labor must be performed, but a class that must be educated, and elevated to the scale of being before they can be really profitable as citizens. And notwithstanding all the boasted care and kindness of the former owners for, and to their negroes, I entertain grave doubts whether they will ever take any active steps toward their education unless compelled to do so by the force of circumstances. I have yet to see the first instance of a colored school taught by a Southern teacher, or supported by a Southern community, but I frequently hear leading Southern gentlemen argue, that to educate the negro is to ruin them as laborers.

Many of the freedmen have learned to read and write since they became free, and all are very anxious to have their children educated, and if proper facilities for schools are only furnished them, a few years will give the South an intelligent class of laborers, and until this is done, the free labor system will not be satisfactory. No great improvement can be made on those who have passed middle age, for the reason that their habits of thriftlessness and improvidence from

long training have become so fixed that nothing can change them, having earned the money they never think of denying themselves a coveted luxury, or pleasure, for the sake of saving it, but spend it at once for whatever trifle may happen to strike their fancy. There are, however, instances of quite aged negroes who are making and saving money rapidly.

Just so long as they remain in their present ignorance they will be a dangerous element in the community as they may easily be made the dupes of unprincipled men, and wielded to effect any purpose whatever.

Notwithstanding the many vices that have been entailed upon them, it is a remarkable fact that very few violent crimes are ever committed by them. During the past eight months, but one case of assault and battery, has come to the notice of the officer in charge of the District of Edisto, which contain a population of ten thousand free people, and no offence of a more serious character has been committed in that time.

Of course, there are many petty thefts committed by them—one of the natural results of the system under which they were bred is, also, the light esteem in which they hold the marriage relation, and the ease with which they can tell a falsehood without blushing.

They are a very pious people, nearly all the adults belonging to some church which they attend regularly every Sabbath, and are edified, by the teachings of a preacher of their own color who either from superior piety, or superior intelligence, has been promoted to that post. I listened to one of them a few Sabbaths since, who undertook to enlighten his audience on history, but got King Pharaoh's Red Sea, and Gen. Banks Red River, expeditious, most fearfully mixed, but as none of his flock knew any more about it than he, it passed as sound doctrine.

Although ignorant, they are very exact in an argument on any subject, they can understand, and when they believe in it, they will argue the wrongs that have been inflicted on them, and the rights that are yet withheld, they employ logic and eloquence that a Statesman need not be ashamed of.

The feeling between the freedmen and whites in this section has greatly improved during the past six months, and if the planters will only show a disposition to treat the freedmen with justice after the "Bureau" is discontinued, there will be no difficulty whatever in the management of the labor and that many of the planters are disposed to do so, there can be no doubt, but it is just as plain on the other hand that many will take every possible advantage of them. The remark "as soon as the d—d Bureau is removed we will show the niggers that they might as well be slaves still," is frequently heard, and it is evident to any observer that were it not for the presence of the Bureau and military the freedmen would, as a general rule have but a slight chance of receiving justice.

As for loyalty to the U. S. Government there is not an iota more of it here now than there was in 1861, and the majority of the whites are just as fit to be isolated for the loyal American people now as they were in '63 and '64, when arrayed in arms against the Government, and no more fit. Their power in the field is conquered, but their hatred to the Government is as strong as ever. Such are the facts. But as to what is the best policy for the government to pursue towards them is for wiser heads than mine to determine.

MR. EDITOR:—Thinking that it would be interesting to your readers, to know what is transpiring in this end of our county, I would inform you that the great event of a Sabbath school celebration, an event so pleasing to all lovers of good society, came off on the 12th inst. at the Rev. Shafer's church. There were six schools in attendance. They were promptly on the ground at the hour appointed. They came with bands of music, and the flag of our country waving over them. On arriving on the ground they marched into the church, and heard an address from a Sabbath school agent. They then proceeded to the grove where a table spread with the good things of this life awaited them. There was about six hundred children at the table. After the children had done with the eating process, all others were invited to the table, and helped themselves to a bountiful dinner. At this time there was not less than two thousand persons on the ground. A meeting was then organized by electing John Magill, of West Deer Township, President, with a number of Vice Presidents.

cellent address on the duties of Parents to their children. He was followed by the Rev. Barnes in an address on the state of the country. The speaker took the ground that our country was in a perilous state, from the fact that we had failed to do justice to the oppressed Unionists in the South, and also failed in punishing traitors for their crimes. After he was through speaking, three rousing cheers were given by the meeting for the speaker, showing that the hearts of the people responded to the sentiments of the speaker. The Rev. Hutchison followed in an eloquent address on the subject of Education, after which the meeting adjourned, satisfied that they had spent a day in advancing the interests of Sabbath schools, and also the interests of the great principles that are dear to every loyal man.—The schools were about equally divided between Allegheny and our own county. Middlesex tp. Sept. 14.

MR. EDITOR:—The meeting at School House No. 2, Middlesex tp., was attended by a large crowd of the ladies and citizens of the district. Francis Anderson, Esq., was elected President, Johnson Williams, Vice President, and Dr. Matheson, Secretary.

Clark, Flegler and Nixon addressed the crowd, but I was surprised to find they needed nothing to awaken them.—I had not seen the crowd since 1860, but the same determined spirit prevailed which then brought us victory. I missed some from the crowd whose bones bleach in the land of "My Policy," but their friends stand ready to take up their arms. Very Republican in Middlesex will answer to roll call on the 24 Tuesday of October, at 7 o'clock A. M.

Arrangements were made for a grand meeting at Steward's Store on the 24 of October, and then the most enthusiastic meeting I ever saw adjourned with three cheers for Gen. Geary and our loyal Congress.

Sabbath-School Celebration, Sunbury

MR. EDITOR:—The Sabbath school celebration with the M. E. Churches of Sunbury and North Washington met at the M. E. Church in Sunbury, on Thursday the 18th inst., and marched in procession to the grove near the U. P. Church where they, with a large number of spectators, partook of an excellent dinner, provided by the citizens of Sunbury and vicinity. After dinner, all assembled in the Church and, on motion, Hon. James Kerr was called to the chair, and R. A. Millin appointed Secretary. After the singing of an appropriate anthem, the meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Bennett. Reports of the schools were then read by Wm. M. Graham, Esq., and A. B. Rhodes, (Superintendents) giving an interesting and gratifying account of the progress of the schools. Prizes were awarded for five members of the Sunbury school for meritorious conduct, each gift being accompanied by appropriate remarks by Rev. William P. Breaden and others.

able and interesting addresses were delivered by Revs. Merchant and Bingham to the children, and by Rev. Thomas Graham to the people. The exercises were interspersed with vocal music, and after some concluding remarks by Rev. Doner, all marched back to the M. E. Church, and were dismissed with the benediction by Rev. Thomas Graham.

The day was pleasant, and the exercises exceedingly interesting, and all returned home well pleased, and feeling deeply impressed with the importance of Sabbath school instruction.

JAS. KERR, Pres't.

R. A. MILLIN, Sec'y.

NICKNAMES—Somebody has collected together the following list of nick names given to the citizens of the different States:

Maine, foxes; New Hampshire, granite boys; Vermont, green mountain boys; Massachusetts, bay state boys; Rhode Island, gauffians; Connecticut, wooden names; New York, knickerbockers; New Jersey, blues or clam catchers; Delaware, muskrats; Pennsylvania, Poaniamites or leather heads; Maryland, clam humpers; Virginia, beagles; North Carolina, tuckers; South Carolina, weasels; Georgia, buzzards; Alabama, buzzards; Mississippi, tadpoles; Florida, fly up the creek; Louisiana, crocodiles; Texas, beef heads; Arkansas, tooth-picks; Kentucky, corn crackers; Ohio, hank-eyes; Indiana, boosters; Illinois, suckers; Wisconsin, badgers; Michigan, waterwrens; Minnesota, gophers; Iowa, hawk-eyes; California, gold hunters; Nevada, sage hens; Oregon, hard cases; California, bug-eaters; Kansas, jayhawkers; Colorado, rovers; Dakota, squatters; Utah, Brighamites; New Mexico, Spanish Indians; Idaho, fortune seekers, or cutthroats; Nova Scotia, blue noses; New Brunswick, fish heads; Canada, canucks.

## JURORS.

GRAND JURORS, DRAWN FOR SEPTEMBER TERM, 1866.

Robert Hays, Lancaster; John Cheseman, Middlesex; Wm. G. Miller, Penn; Forcus Shirs, Washington; Alexander Brown (of A.) Mercer; John M. Duns, Franklin; David Hoover, Buffalo; Chas. Dieffenbacher, Beronch Butler; Bryson Black, Franklin; H. Young, Fairview; Andrew Crookshanks, Winfield; Wm. Thomson, Concord; James Kirkpatrick, Centre; John Mahan, Middlesex; R. P. Anderson, Allegheny; Matthew Brown Slipperryrock; Jacob Choup, Butler; G. Christy, Cherry; Malcolm Graham, Forward; John Humphrey, Worth; Frank Bellas, Jackson; Joseph Ekas, Jefferson; James Grossman, Brady; Dan Lardin, Clinton.

TRAVELERS JURORS, SEPT. TERM—FIRST WEEK, 1866.

Samuel Belfour, Adams; John R. Allen, Allegheny; Matthew Grant, Buffalo; H. J. Berg, Butler; Thos. McClynnols, Brady; Joseph Coulter, Centre; James Book, Cherry; William Beighley, Clay; Isaac Shaffer, Clearfield; George Maizland, Clinton; William Byers, Concord; Robert Bolton, Connoquessing; Wm. Gilheand, Cranberry; Wm. Wolford, Donegal; Washington Campbell, Fairview; William J. Graham, Forward; James J. English, Franklin; Joseph Covert, Jackson; Joseph Logan, Jefferson; George Kowles, Lancaster; Charles Rhodes Marion; William M. Bell, Mercer; Jacob Snyder, Middlesex; David Frazer, Middlesex; John H. Neyman, Oakland; William T. Sedwick, Porter; Jas. McCandless, Penn; Sylvanus Cooker, Slipperryrock; Francis Rion, Sunbury; William Sutton, Venango; Samuel Sey, Washington; Wm. Hottelssger, Winfield; Newton J. Glou, Worth; Peter Duffy, Borough Butler; John A. Shaler, Borough Centreville; Dr. Joseph Leuk, Borough Harmony; William P. Brown, Borough Harrisville; George Boston, Borough Portersville; A. P. Bryson, Borough Prospect; H. T. Markle, Borough Saxony; Edward Ranolph, Borough Zelienople; John Wagners, Borough Milerstown; Abram McCandless, Borough Butler; Thomas Anderson, Adams; John R. Sperry, Allegheny; Augustus Caldwell, Butler; John Bap, Connoquessing; Nicholas Banger, Middlesex; John Bigham, Slipperryrock; Matthew Graham (of W.) Centre.

TRAVELERS JURORS FOR SEPT. TERM—SECOND WEEK.

John Haslet, Buffalo; Robert Graham, Butler; David Medokan Brady; John T. Graemer, Centre; Andrew M. Christy, Cherry; J. W. Allen, Clay; H. Slater, Clearfield; Archibald Montgomery, Clinton; Henry Blinn, Concord; Henry Brannan, Connoquessing; J. D. Donnelly, Cranberry; John Black, Donegal; Matthew Banks, Fairview; Alex. Hunter, Forward; Samuel Dav's, Franklin; John Parks, Jackson; David Logan, Jefferson; Frederick Bapp, Lancaster; George R. Y. Marion; Jonathan Mc Millan, Middlesex; James Barnes, Mercer; Isaac Covert, Adams; Christian Rider, Oakland; Hamilton H. Say, Parker; James List, Penn; Johnston Bovart, Esq., Slipperryrock; Michael Tobin, Sunbury; Samuel Sloan (of Sand), Venango; James Stoops, Washington; Wm. Denay, Winfield; Robert Hampson, Worth; George Eba, John Frazer, Borough Butler; Wm. McCarnes, Borough Centreville; Philip Noss, Borough Harmony; Robert Barr, Borough Harrisville; Wm. Humphrey, Borough Portersville; P. L. Passavant, Borough Zelienople.

COMICAL SCENE IN A CHURCH.—On Sabbath last, in one of our prominent Broad street churches, the closeness of the atmosphere produced an almost irresistible feeling of "drowsiness" among many of the congregation. Of the number who found it impossible to deny the drowsy god was one of our most successful business men, whose honest efforts to throw off the somniferous influence he was under were witnessed by several lookers-on. At last he succumbed, his eyes went shut and failed to come open again, and his head began to nod to this and that neighbor quite familiarly. Presently the sleeper's head slowly bent toward its owner's wife, and continued to sag, sag, sag in that direction, until a delicate sprig on my lady's hat pointed directly into the ear of the snoring husband.—One more lurch of the head on "that line" would cause the tapering sprig to enter, and peculiarly affect the sensitive portion of that delicate organ, and several persons in the gallery were giving breathless attention to the scene, fully anticipating an extraordinary phenomenon when the connection between the ear and sprig should be effected. At last it came, the heavy head made another sag, a full inch, the sprig passed into the ear, as nicely as if it had been pointed by roguish hands, and penetrating to the inner and most sensitive portion, tickled the nodding gentleman so intensely that he drew up his head with a jerk, and striking out with his right hand before he was fairly awake, dealt his wife a blow upon her new bonnet, to the utter discomfiture of its flowers and ribbons, and to the infinite amusement of the lookers-on in the gallery.—Newark (N. J.) Courier.

—Mind your own business.

## THE GREAT CRISIS.

Important Address of the National Union Committee.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—The following is the address of the National Union Committee to the American people:

Fellow Citizens: Very grave differences having arisen between your immediate representatives in Congress, and the President, who owes his position to your votes, we are impelled to ask your attention thereon, and to suggest the duties to your country which they render imperative. We shall avoid the use of hard words; of these there have already been too many, and that the matters in issue may be brought within the narrowest compass, let us first eliminate from the controversy all that has already been settled or has been in dispute.

The republic has been desperately assailed from within and its very existence seriously imperiled. Thirteen States were claimed as having withdrawn from the Union, and were represented for years in a hostile Congress meeting at Richmond. Ten of these States were for a time wholly in the power of a hostile Confederacy. The other three, partially so. The undoubtedly loyal States were repeatedly and formally invaded by rebel armies, which were only expelled after obstinate and bloody battles through four years of an arduous, desperate civil war.

The hosts of the rebel Confederacy withstood those of the Union. Agents of the Confederacy traversed the civilized world, seeking allies in their war against the Republic, and inciting the rapacious and unprincipled to fit out armed corsairs to prey upon her commerce by State authority, and in the perverted name of patriotism and loyalty hundreds of thousands of our countrymen were conscripted into the rebel armies, and made to fight desperately for our national disruption and ruin; and, though by the blessing of God, and the valor and constancy of our loyal people, the rebellion was finally and utterly crushed, it did not succeed until it had caused the destruction of more than half a million of precious human lives, not to speak of property, to the value of at least five billions of dollars.

At length the rebel armies surrendered, and the rebel power utterly collapsed and vanished. What then? The claim of the insurgents—that they either now acquired or had never forfeited their constitutional rights in the Union, including that of representation in Congress, stands in pointed antagonism alike to the requirements of Congress, and to those of the acting President. It was the Executive alone who, after the rebellion was no more, appointed Provisional Governors for the now submissive, unarmed Southern States, on the assumption that the rebellion had been revolutionary, and deprived the people under its sway of all civil government, and who required the assembling of a convention composed of delegates who are to be chosen by that portion of the people of said State, who are loyal to the United States, and no others, for the purpose of altering and amending the Constitution of said State.

It was President Johnson, who, so late as last October, when all shadow of overt resistance to the union had long since disappeared, insisted that it was not enough that a State, which had revolted, must recognize her ordinances of secession as null and void from the beginning, and ratify the Constitutional Amendment prohibiting slavery forever, but she must also repudiate every dollar of indebtedness created to aid in carrying on the rebellion. It was he who ordered the dispersion by military force, of any Legislature chosen under the rebellion, which should assume the power to make laws after that rebellion had failed; it was he who referred to Congress all the inquiries as to the probability of representatives from the States lately in revolt, being admitted to seats in either House, and suggested that they should present their credentials, not at the organization of Congress, but afterward; and, finally, it was he, and not Congress, who suggested to his, Gov. Sharkey, of Mississippi, that

"If you could extend the elective franchise to all persons of color who can read the Constitution of the United States in English and write their names, and to all persons of color who own real estate valued at not less than two hundred and fifty dollars, and pay taxes thereon, you would completely disarm the adversary and set an example that other States will follow."

If, then, there be any controversy as to the right of the loyal States to exact conditions and require guarantees of those which plunged madly into secession and rebellion, the supporters respectively of

Andrew Johnson, and of Congress cannot be antagonistic parties to that contest since their record places them on the same side.

It being thus agreed that the conditions of restoration and guarantees against future rebellion, may be exacted of the States lately in revolt, the right of Congress to a voice in prescribing these conditions and in shaping those guarantees, is plainly incontestable. Whether it take the shape of law, or a constitutional amendment, the action of Congress is vital, even if they were to be settled by treaty. The ratification of the Senate by a two-thirds vote would be indispensable. There is nothing in the Federal Constitution, nor in the nature of the case, that countenances the Executive monopoly of his power.

What, then, is the ground of complaint against Congress? It is charged that the action of the two houses was tardy and hesitating? Consider how momentous were the questions involved, the issues depending. Consider how novel and extraordinary was the situation.—Considering how utterly silent and blank is the federal constitution touching the treatment of insurgent States, whether during their flagrant hostility to the Union or after their discomfiture. Consider with how many embarrasments and difficulties the problem is beset, and you will not wonder that months were required to devise, perfect and pass, by a two-thirds vote in either House, a just and safe plan of reconstruction.

Yet that plan has been matured. It has passed the Senate by 33 to 11, and the House by 138 to 36. It is now fairly before the country having already been ratified by the Legislatures of several States and rejected by none. Under it the State of Tennessee has been formally restored to all the privileges she forfeited by rebellion, including representation in either House of Congress, and the door thus passed through still stands invitingly open to all who still linger without.—Are the conditions thus prescribed intolerable, or even humiliating? They are in substance these:

First.—All persons born or naturalized in this country are henceforth citizens of the United States, and shall enjoy all the rights of citizens evermore, and no State shall have power to controvert this most righteous and necessary provision.

Second.—While the States claim and exercise the power of denying the elective franchise to a part of their people, the weight of each State in the Union shall be measured by, and be based upon, its enfranchised population. If any State shall choose, for no crime, to deny political rights to any race or caste, it must no longer count that race or caste as a basis of political power in the Union.

Third.—He who has once held office on the strength of his solemn oath to support the Federal Constitution, and has, nevertheless, forsown himself and treasonably plotted to subvert that Constitution, shall henceforth hold no political office till Congress, by a two-thirds vote, shall remove or modify the disability.

Fourth.—The national debt shall be in no wise repudiated nor invalidated, and no debt incurred in support of the rebellion shall ever be assumed or paid by any State, nor shall payment be made for the loss or emancipation of any slave.

Fifth.—Congress shall have power to enforce these guarantees by appropriate legislation. Such, fellow-citizens, are the conditions of Reconstruction proposed by Congress and already accepted by the loyal Legislatures of Tennessee. Are they harsh or degrading? Do you discern therein a disposition to trample on the prostrate or push an advantage to the uttermost? Do they embody aught of vengeance or any confiscation, but that of slavery? We solicit your candid and impartial judgment. What is intended by the third section is simply to give loyalty a fair start in the reconstructed States. Under the Johnson policy the rebels monopolize power and place—Even in communities where they are decidedly outnumbered their Generals are Governors and members of Congress; their Colonels and Majors fill the Legislatures, and officiate as Sheriffs. Not only are the steadfastly loyal proscribed but even stay at home rebels have little chance in competing with those who fought to subvert the Union. When this rebel monopoly of office shall have been broken up and loyalty to the Union shall have become general and hearty, Congress may remove the disability, and will doubtless make haste to do so.

We do not perceive that the justice or fitness of the fourth section, prescribing that the Union public debt shall be promptly met, but that of the rebel Confederacy never, is seriously contested.—There remains, then; but the second

of the fourth section, prescribing that the right of the loyal States to exact conditions and require guarantees of those which plunged madly into secession and rebellion, the supporters respectively of