

THE DEMOCRAT.

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THE INFAMOUS AMENDMENT.

The following is the infamous, damnable and degrading amendment to the constitution of the United States, adopted by the lower house of congress, and which will probably shortly be submitted to the legislatures of the various states, for their adoption or rejection:

Art.—See 1. The right of any citizen of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state by reason of race or color, or previous condition of slavery, of any citizen or any class of citizens of the United States.

Sec. 2. Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

It will be seen that the first section enfranchises all negroes and everything else that the fanatics call citizens of the United States, and by the second section, that congress will enforce the provisions of the first section. So the submitting of the amendment to the legislatures of the various states is only a matter of form, and whether adopted or rejected by them, will be enforced by congress.

The question is not to be submitted to the people, but is to be adopted and forced upon the citizens of the states by the corrupt and brainless fanatics, who disgrace and degrade the halls of legislation.

From Schuyler Colfax down to the most illiterate squirt that ever found his way into a state legislature, they have first lied to and then misrepresented their constituents; by denying when addressing them on political questions that they were in favor of negro suffrage, and then by their votes making it the law of the nation and the states. We have, however, but little sympathy for a people who will be deceived by that old lie, because abolition speeches for the last ten years have only been a repetition of it in different forms, and it is questionable whether the dupe that can be fooled by it at this day is capable of exercising the elective franchise, and whether he has spirit enough to think himself better than a low, dirty brutal nigger.

Good bye to a white man's government, and the rights of the states under the constitution adopted by our fathers.

Democrats, ask your republican neighbor if he is now in favor of negro suffrage, and see what kind of lie he will fix up for an answer; and, if he says he is not, then ask him if he would not again vote for every abolition candidate from Colfax down to Jap Packard and Amasa Johnson.

If the senate shall conclude to repeal the civil-tenure law, and wishes to punish Grant for compelling it to eat its own dirt, it may get satisfaction out of him by passing Mr. Jencks' civil-service bill or one embodying its chief idea. The democrats will vote for it, because it is right; and, were any other reason needed to influence the action of democratic congressmen, it might be found in the facts that in the present political situation, the democracy would lose nothing by the passage of the civil-service bill. Down with the civil-tenure and up with the civil-service bill!—Chicago Times.

In case the senate will not consent to the repeal of the civil tenure act, why should not Gen. Grant assume it to be unconstitutional, and proceed in disregard of it? In this way the question can be brought before the supreme court.

Who doubts but that the majority of officers in the civil service are rascals, and in league with various rings to plunder the treasury? Is Grant to enter upon his administration hampered by a law which forbids them to remove this gang of criminals without the consent of the senate, or even suspend them, unless he can bring home to them specific acts of "misconduct in office or crime," or can show that they have for any reason "become incompetent or legally disqualified" to perform the duties of their respective offices?

To do the work properly, and occupy the necessary time to inquire into the qualifications of applicants for office before making removals, will require several months. Will the senate remain in session to act on removals and appointments?

Every president—including Johnson—has been free, when commencing his term, to place the civil service in the control of such men as he might choose to intrust with its duties.—Chicago Times.

WHO WILL SURRENDER?

Although General Grant's speech, on Saturday, was an avowal that he had not consulted, and would not consult, politicians of the party in power with regard to the selection of his cabinet, and in this was less respectful than presidents elect have generally been in speaking of the party to which they owed their elevation, it would be extreme simplicity and innocence that would assume from this that he intends to seek a quarrel with the majority in congress.

While this is true, it is also true that his speech is a direct intimation that he will not be bullied, and that he regards the civil-tenure act as a lash in the hands of the senate. So far as that act is concerned, there is now an open controversy between the senate and Grant. The house rushed through the bill for its repeal several weeks ago, on a minute's notice, and under the operation of the previous question. Grant's friends in the senate, headed by Mr. Grimes, have persistently tried to bring the bill before the senate and have a vote on it. The committee to whom it was referred have not even reported on it. The radical senators say the bill for repeal shall not pass. In this they are supported by the New York Tribune and other leading republican newspapers.

The action, or rather non-action, of the senate on the bill, considering the circumstances under which it came before that body, says, as plainly as words could say it, that the majority in the senate do not want to repeat the civil tenure law. If they do repeat it, they will do so only under a pressure which will wound their pride and overthrow personal interests which each one of them possesses by such control over the appointing power and public patronage as the civil-tenure act gives him. Grant says he wants the law repealed before he begins his administration. The senate has virtually said, up to this time, that it will not consent to repeal the law. So stand the parties to the controversy now. One of them must yield, or there must be a collision.

It is not true that Grant, in demanding repeal, was the assaulting party. The avowed purpose of congress in passing the law was to curtail the power of a president whom it alleged to be a traitor to the party which elected him, and a bad and dangerous man. Up to the time of the passage of the law, all of our presidents had exercised the authority to remove, which the law wrested from Mr. Johnson. This fact ought to be conclusive proof that, if congress was actuated by honest and patriotic motives in the passage of the law, its provision, were designed specially to affect Andrew Johnson, and were not based on principles for a policy which justify their application to a chief magistrate worthy of trust and respect.

It follows, inevitably, that that retention of the law in the statutes is, in fact, a plain charge that General Grant is not a man who will be likely to make such a chief magistrate. The law was intended to put yokes on one whom its authors declared to be a bold and wicked man, placed high in authority and wielding vast powers. Must his successor in office be so shackled? Is not a declaration to this effect a declaration that he is no better than the man whom he succeeds as president? From these facts and inquiries, men disposed to judge fairly may see who is the aggressing party in this matter.

On Saturday, Grant gave notice that he would kick against the law. Will the senate, in consequence, recede from its present position and repeal the law? Will it back down at the bidding of the president elect? He has given it a snub. It is not his fashion to back down; and congress has so long and so successfully played the hullabaloo that it will be very humiliating for either branch of it to acknowledge it has found a master.—Chicago Times.

COLFAX is improving. The drubbing which Butler lately gave him in the house has taken a great deal of wind and egotism out of him. A few more such punishments might bring him down to the regions of common sense, and clip the spread-eagle wings with which he delights to soar in the domains of blather. His speech in reply to the committee which notified him of his election as vice president, was only four or five lines in length. How intense and agreeable must have been the surprise of the committee!

The remains of John Wilkes Booth were, this afternoon, quietly removed from the arsenal grounds, where they were buried in April, 1865, and delivered to his friends for transmission to Baltimore, where they are again to be reinterred by his brother. The president ordered the remains to be given up on the application of Edwin Booth and others of his family.

Maine.

Feb. 10.—The state senate to-day refused, by a vote of 23 to 6, to concur with the house on the interest question and passed a bill to allow parties to legally fix the rate of interest.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 15, 1869.

Ed. Democrat:

The house of representatives has accomplished very little the past week beyond introducing bills and referring them to appropriate committees. The discussion on the Colma school bill took an animated turn and resulted in the passage of the bill—the republicans voting for it and the democrats against it. When the constitutional amendment adopted by congress on the negro suffrage question, comes before the house it will, I think, pass, as there are not more than five or six republicans who are known to oppose it. This will be the greatest outrage ever forced upon an unwilling people. Had the issue last fall been made on the negro suffrage question, there is no doubt but the legislature of Indiana and all the states with few exceptions, would be largely democratic. If the amendment could be submitted to the people instead of the general assembly, Indiana would go against it by 50,000 majority.

A bill providing for teaching the German language in our common schools where there are 25 German children in a school district, passed the house on Wednesday.

The contested election case of Crane vs Bradley in the senate resulted on Friday in favor of Mr. Bradley, the sitting member.

The bill cutting down the fees of county officers, is set for consideration on Thursday next. If it passes it will create considerable of a flutter among those who have "fattened off the people."

The friends of temperance are considerably demoralized. So many propositions have been presented that it is impossible to tell what will come out of all of them.

The railroad question is in the same fix. This week, however, will undoubtedly bring all these mooted questions into shape. D.

Michigan Legislature.

Feb. 11.—The senate has devoted most of its session to-day to the consideration of the general railroad aid law.

In the house, bill granting \$15,000 annually to the state university, and repealing the old proviso which caused the regents to place a homoeopathic professor in the existing alioopathic faculty, was discussed.

Mr. Ingersoll offered a substitute,

giving the university \$25,000 annually,

of which \$10,000 are to be applied to

the support of the homoeopathic de-

partment, to be established at Ann Arbor, or elsewhere, at the discretion

of the regents. This was defeated and the bill passed by a vote of 60 to 53.

Indiana.

SENATE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 15.—Fifteen new bills were introduced, making 255 in all.

The bill to enable cities to aid in the construction of railroads leading into the main roads passing through a city, was laid upon the table. The bill to allow legal advertisements to be inserted in a daily paper, once a week, instead of a weekly paper, as now provided, was indefinitely postponed.

The concurrent resolution to attend the remains of Gen. Wagner to the union depot, to-morrow, at 10:30 o'clock, was adopted.

HOUSE.

The senate resolutions to promote the repeal of the national tenure-of-office law, and to oppose a reduction of the national currency, were read a first time.

The bill to legalize city assessments for 1868, received 44 votes, and failed, for want of a constitutional majority.

The bill to increase jurors' fees and mileage to \$2 50 a day, and 50 cents mileage, was rejected, by yeas 36, nays 3.

SUICIDES.

FT. WAYNE, Ind., Feb. 5.—Anthony Roan, determined to end his existence, re-opened the wound this afternoon that he made a few days since, in attempting to cut his throat. He died shortly afterward.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 11.—On Tuesday night last, a young man took a room in the Galt house, but did not make his appearance at the table. A servant was sent to the room, and finding it locked, made a forcible entrance last night, and found the man lying on the bed dead. A paper that had contained morphine was found lying on the floor and written with a pencil; on a white envelope, were found a few directions to two doctors to come and find M. R. Harris. These gentlemen were sent for, stated that Harris came here from Burdolph, McDonough county, Ill., last October, to study medicine; that he was 29 years old, and had a wife and two children living at that place. Also, that he was a nervous, unhappy being, and was somewhat addicted to drink, and that during his fits of mental depression always spoke of suicide as a release.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 11.—Lewis R. Haslin, an estimable citizen, hanged himself last night, in a stable attached to his residence. The deceased was 63 years old.

Siamese Twins.

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