

# The Democratic Watchman.

VOL. 7.

BELLEFONTE, THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 13, 1862.

NO. 6.

## Miscellaneous.

### Explanatory Remarks of Mr. Hopkins, OF WASHINGTON COUNTY.

On the resolution for the appointment of a Committee to Investigate the means used to repeal the Tonnage Tax, made in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, January 29th.

MR. SPEAKER.—We had at last reached the point in the discussion of this resolution, to which I have been looking forward, with some solicitude, for several days, and that is the voting point. But, before the vote is taken, I desire to make a very brief explanation in reply to what has been said in reference to the motives which prompted this resolution.

It will, perhaps, be recollected that, when I had the honor of addressing the House a few days since, I disavowed, in the most unqualified manner, any other motive than that set forth in the preamble, that is, in order that the truth may be vindicated, and justice done to all. Notwithstanding this, it has been intimated, both here and elsewhere, that "it might have been offered with a view of throwing embarrassments in the way of the Administration" in its efforts to suppress the rebellion that is seeking the overthrow of the Government. I say that this has been "intimated" for those who made the suggestion had not the manliness to avow it openly—but did so by insinuation.

MR. SPEAKER.—When such insinuations are thrown out, I have a right to speak, and I wish to tell these gentlemen that I hold my seat upon this floor by the free and unqualified suffrages of a constituency composed of as respectable, as intelligent, yes, and as loyal men as can be found anywhere. And for the information of the gentlemen, I will add that hundreds of those who voted for me are among the very best men of the same political organization with themselves.

MR. SPEAKER.—I am not in the habit of boasting of the position I occupy before the people of my native county, and I trust that I may not be so understood now, but I must even at the hazard of such an imputation, be permitted to tell those who are disposed to impugn my motives that, beside the united vote of my own party, as well as hundreds of the best men of the Republican party at home, I also received a decided majority of the votes of the brave and patriotic men who went out from my county at the call of the President. In one company, that went from my own town, I received the unanimous vote; in another more than two thirds, and in others that went from other parts of the county, about the same proportion. I may state too, that in all these companies, with perhaps a single exception, a majority were opposed to me politically, according to the common acceptance of that term. In the face of such an expression of confidence in my fidelity to the Union, on the part of those who know me best, shall it be insinuated here that I was actuated by improper motives in offering this resolution? Sir—I should deem myself unworthy of a seat here, if I were capable of introducing any proposition with a view of "throwing difficulties in the way of the Administration," in its laudable efforts to crush out this wicked rebellion. No, sir, I am here for no such ignominious purpose, and the people of Washington county, without distinction of party, would laugh to scorn the man who would insult their intelligence by making such an insinuation in their presence.

MR. SPEAKER.—Why should I desire to embarrass the Administration? I do not desire to declare in my place, that I believe the President is in the main endeavoring to discharge his duty faithfully, in the conduct of this most unhappy conflict. I believe that he desires to prosecute this war with an eye to the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union as they were handed down to us by our Fathers, and thus believing, I would regard myself as recreant to the high trust reposed in me by a confiding constituency, did I attempt to throw the slightest embarrassment in his way. In saying thus much, however, in reference to the President, I must not be understood as endorsing all that has been done under his administration. What I wish to convey is that, in his many stand against the vagaries of fanaticism—which is seeking to betray him into the madness of violating the Constitution, in attempting to proclaim liberty to the slaves, the President has my cordial approval.

MR. SPEAKER.—I regard that man the most loyal who will by his voice and votes give all the aid and means that may be required to aid the Government in preserving itself from overthrow, and who will, at the same time, denounce fraud and speculation wherever and whenever found; and I will add that I consider that man who will take advantage of our domestic troubles to speculate on the liberality and patriotism of the people, is no less a traitor to his country, than he who will take up arms against it. But, Mr. Speaker, some gentlemen seem to possess the peculiar faculty of discovering dis-

loyalty in every move that is made either to check the prodigal expenditure of the public money, or for the detection of plundering speculators. Yes, sir, it seems to matter but little how gross the frauds upon the Treasury may be alleged to be, there are those whose keen perceptions appear to enable them to scent out a latent sympathy with the rebellion on the part of those who seek to protect the Treasury against the rapacity of the vultures who hover about it. On the one hand we are told that the "motive which prompted the resolution may have been to embarrass the Administration," and on the other, "it may be designed to make political capital" for somebody. Now, sir, I wish to say to all, both here and elsewhere, that that "dodge" is a little too transparent to deceive anybody. I trust that we shall have no more of that kind of argument. Let us, in the truly patriotic language of the gentleman from Huntington or Cambria, I am not certain which, rise to the dignity of the circumstances that surround us. Let us, when a proposition is submitted for our consideration, meet it upon its merits, and not stultify ourselves by impugning the motives of the mover. Let us not stop to inquire whether it is likely to "make political capital" for this or that party. All we should desire to know is, has it merit? And sir, whenever a measure is proposed which has for its object the holding up of the President's hands, in order that he may be enabled to maintain the Constitution and the Union inviolate against the infamous attempt that is being made to overthrow both, let but one voice go out from this Hall, and that voice in favor of standing by the Government at every cost, and at every hazard. Here, sir, is where I have long since taken my stand, and there is no human power that can drive me from it—and I submit whether it would not hurt our country's history, to pursue this course, than to drag in, on every occasion, the miserable party appeals to which the mere politician resorts.

[From the Doylstown Democrat.]

### Pens;

Not for pigs—nor such as when a boy, I helped to build to catch wild turkeys in; I mean those to write with. A man who handles an axe, a saw or a plane, daily, from one month to another, likes the tool with which he can work the easiest. Many persons, as myself, write the greater part of several days in each week. The implement of our toil is not a small matter. As in *Metallic Pens* I ought not to get up a crusade, for I use them every day; I only wish to put myself right on the *Goose Question*. After several hours' nervous irritation of a hard, stiff handle and still point, what a relief to take up the pliant curve of the screeching Gander! Quill pens have fallen some, what into disuse, for two reasons: The one, that they so soon wear blunt; the other, by no means every one who handles a pen can skillfully make or mend. Then to obtain and retain a good quill pen:

1. Select a quill out of the right wing. A quill of the left wing is ever inclined to turn in the right hand, and must be held to its place. One from the right wing exactly fits the curve of the forefinger. Try it, you will see.

2. To make a pen: If you cut a quill off square, the end represents the letter O. In planing the split, do not make it, as commonly done, at the top of the oval; your pen will be constantly in need of mending, for the two points will not wear alike—make the split 12 or 15 degrees to the right; this adapts the split to the inclination of the letters.

3. Make the split and the tapering points much longer than you commonly see—your pen will last better, and will more uniformly let down the ink.

4. In mending, do not cut away so that you must make a new split. Take the thinnest parting off each side, then a nib off the extreme point, and it is a better pen than when new. You may mend thus a dozen of times on the same split.

5. When done writing, leave your pen in the ink—it is then always pliant and ready for use. "O, but it will get so soft there can be nothing done with it!" Facts are stubborn things: The pen I had before the one now in use, staid in the ink more than two years, and would have lasted me two years longer, had not a house cleaning accident befallen it. My quill pens, like umbrellas, never wear out, or die of old age—some catastrophe overtakes the valued feather, and then trouble comes. How can I get another, which will exactly fit the hand. Briefly.

RELEASED BY.

An old lady once lived in the country who had a habit of always saying when any misfortune would happen, "I know'd it." Her husband one day came in appearing to be in trouble, and said, "The boys forgot the iron wedge in the field, and it is melted with the sun." "I know'd it," said the old woman.

### The Permission to Land British Troops in Maine.

A letter is published from Mr. Seward to the Governor of the State of Maine, explaining the reason why he directed the United States Marshal and other Federal officers throughout that State to permit the landing at Portland of British troops, and their safe conduct through the State to Canada. Mr. Seward says that the State Department having been informed by telegraph on the 4th of January that the mail steamer *Bohemian*, bound for Portland, was telegraphed off Cape Race, and that she had on board a number of British troops bound for Canada, the dispatch inquired whether the troops should be dealt with by the Federal authorities like ordinary passengers, and the Secretary intimated that they should be permitted to pass on to their destination. He was influenced in the matter by the consideration that much suffering and risk through the snow and ice of a northern voyage might be spared to troops by allowing them to travel over the Grand Trunk Railroad, conceiving that when humanity or even convenience renders it desirable that the troops of a friendly nation should have a passage through the territory of another nation, it is a customary act of comity to grant permission and he cites as an evidence of this principle, the privilege which the United States enjoy of transporting troops across the Panama Railroad through New Grenada, and it is thus deemed only right by our Government to accord the same privilege to Great Britain, France, and all other friendly nations.

Assuming that there was no danger to be apprehended from the passage of the British troops, and assuming farther, that—despite the "popular asperities" manifested in Canada and in the British Isles against this country—Great Britain is still to be regarded as a friendly Power, he saw no reason for withholding permission for the passage of her soldiers and munitions. The Grand Trunk Railroad, which runs through United States Territory, he considers as a monument of the friendly disposition of England, and the reciprocity treaty with Canada regards in the same light. If, however, the State of Maine should have any objection to the instructions of the State Department, Mr. Seward says he is perfectly willing to modify them, as the Federal Government recognizes the respect it owes to the rights and interests of every State. As the troops never landed at Portland, no issue has been raised by the Governor of Maine on the subject; but it will be admitted that the course adopted by Mr. Seward in the matter was magnanimous and sagacious.

THE ERUPTION OF MR. VESUVIUS.—A CITY DESTROYED.—The terrible eruption of Vesuvius continued at last accounts, and two-thirds of the city of Terzo is said to have been destroyed. A letter dated Naples Dec. 28, says:

Covered with snow, vomiting ashes still like a ten thousand horse power factory chimney, with a rumed city lying at its feet, is the spectacle which Vesuvius at this moment presents. The municipal building a fine old historical edifice of the time of the Aragonians had been destroyed. Out of a population of 22,000 15,000 are fugitives. Between fifty and sixty houses have already fallen, and three hundred and fifty are falling; the rest are more or less injured. Out of eleven churches four only are uninjured; but there is another fearful source of danger—the sulphurous exhalations which are emitted in every direction, and which render houses, in other respects comparatively safe, uninhabitable. By these exhalations five or six persons, and all the animals such as cats, dogs, mice, and the fishes in the sea, have already been killed. In fact, two-thirds of the city have been destroyed.

ATHENS.—Byron's words about Greece, but living Greece no more, "one just returned from there says, are 'played out.'" Athens is truly a beautiful city. Its inhabitants are among the most polished, the most enterprising, the most intelligent, in the world. Its population is little over thirty thousand, yet it supports no less than three daily papers, besides several weeklies and a *Panach*. It has a university of six hundred scholars and twenty old professors where lectures in pure Greek than that of the New Testament are delivered, a Museum of fine Arts, an Academy after the model of that of Paris, and a very tolerable Opera.

The "first families" read Xenophon with out a dictionary, and the streets are christened and labeled after the ancient gods and heroes. The Greeks are unrivaled for commercial energy. They have nearly three thousand vessels afloat, and their enterprise and "go aheadness" have become a proverb in the east. Nowhere else is the spirit of material progress more manifest than among this clever but rather unscrupulous people.—*Boston Post*.

What would be pronounced quicker by adding a syllable to it?—*Quick*.

## Select Poetry.

### The Soldier's Tear.

Upon the hill he turned,  
To take a last fond look  
Of the valley and the village church,  
And the cottage by the brook;  
He listened to the sounds  
So familiar to his ear—  
And the soldier leaned upon his sword,  
And brushed away a tear.  
Beside the cottage porch  
A girl was on her knees,  
She held aloft a snowy scarf,  
Which fluttered in the breeze;  
She breathed a prayer for him—  
A prayer he could not hear—  
But he paused to bless her as she knelt,  
And wiped away a tear.  
He turned and left the spot;  
Oh, do not deem him weak!  
For fearless was the soldier's heart,  
Though tears were on his cheek,  
Go, watch the foremost rank,  
In danger's dark career—  
Be sure the hand most daring there  
Has wiped away a tear.

### The New Secretary.

The Washington correspondent of the *N. Y. Times*, thus describes the personal appearance of Mr. Stanton:

The new Secretary of War, Mr. Stanton, is a stout, thick-set man, about five feet eight inches high, and apparently about forty years of age. Hair and beard very black, the latter worn thick and long. His head is very erect upon his shoulders, if anything a little thrown back. His face is round and solid in expression, with blunt features. His address is prompt and practical; his voice full, distinct and unassuming. He has never studied the art of pleasing, and has not the gift of paying compliments in conversation. An exhibition of his thoughtlessness in this regard was manifested on Monday, when the officers of the army called to pay their respects to him on his induction into office. An officer well sprinkled with gray, but yet with quite a vigorous step and clear eye, was presented to Mr. Stanton. The latter recognized him, and shook him warmly by the hand, saying: "I remember you well. I saw you many years ago, when you were in the prime of life, and I was a little boy about so high." And the new Secretary measured with his hand, as he said this, an imaginary lad of not over ten years old. The sturdy old general turned and walked off without a word in reply, evidently not thinking himself so old as Mr. Stanton's remarks would have implied.

### The Importance of Currying Animals.

It is well known that every hair, whether long or short, is covered with numerous little barb or fish-hooks, and therefore, when a number of hairs are brought in contact with each other, and moved back and forth, they form a mass so tangled—like the mane of a colt, which our ancestors have often taught us to believe were the stirrups of witches, which were accustomed to ride them in the dark nights—that it is difficult to entangle them. The only means which cattle have of scratching themselves many times is to apply their tongues; and when the hair comes off, as it many times does, by the hand, more or less of it will adhere to their tongues, and many times finds its way into their stomachs; and the reciprocating motion of the stomachs of animals which chew the cud would soon form a bunch of hair into a pellet, and as more hair was taken into the stomach from day to day, it would be very sure to all collect in one mass. Now, when an animal begins to shed its coat, hair there appears more or less irritation of the skin, and the card or curry comb is not used pretty freely the tongue must be applied; and if an animal is well curried every day, when it is shedding its coat, it will be far less liable to collect hair in its stomach. A ball of hair—being indigestible—in the stomach would be likely to injure its energies so as to produce disease, and eventually, premature death.

ORIGINAL ANECDOTE OF BURNS.—As Lord Crawford and Lord Boyd were one day walking over the lands in Ayrshire, they saw Burns ploughing in a field hard by. Lord Crawford said to Lord Boyd, "Do you see that rough looking fellow across there with the plow? I'll lay you a wager you can not make a rhyme to him that he will not say a thing of it."

"Done," said the other; and immediately going up to the hedge, Lord Boyd cried out— "Bang!" Burns stopped at once, leaned against the plow, and, surveying his assailant from head to foot, he quietly answered—

"It's not Lord Crawford, but Lord Boyd of Greece and manners he is void— Just like a ball among the eyes. O'er 'Bang!' at folks as he goes by." The wager was of course won.

WOMEN should set good examples, for the men are always following after the women.

### To Unmarried Ladies.

The following items of advice to the ladies remaining in a state of single blessedness are extracted from the manuscript of an old dowager:

If you have blue eyes, languish.  
If black eyes, affect spirit.  
If you have pretty feet, wear short petticoats.  
If you are at least doubtful as to that point, wear them long.  
If you have good teeth don't forget to laugh now and then.  
If you have bad ones, you must only smile.  
While you are young, sit with your face to the light.  
When you are a little advanced, sit with your back to the window.  
If you have a bad voice, always speak in a low tone.  
If it is acknowledged that you have a fine voice, never speak in a high tone.  
If you dance well, dance seldom.  
If you dance ill, never dance at all.  
If you sing well, make no puerile excuses.

If you sing indifferently, hesitate not a moment when you asked, for few persons are competent judges of singing, but every one is sensible of the desire to please.

If in conversation you think a person wrong rather hint a difference of opinion than offer a contradiction.

It is always in your power to make a friend by smiles; what folly to make enemies by frowns.

When you have an opportunity to praise do it with all your heart.

When you are forced to blame, do it with reluctance.

If you are envious of an other woman never show it but by allowing her every good quality and perfection except those which she really possesses.

If you wish to let the world know you are in love with a particular man, treat him formally, and every one else with ease and freedom.

### From New York—An Impudent Demand from Jeff Davis.

New York, Feb. 5.  
The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* says, the flag of truce from rebellion covered an impudent demand, such as should not be countenanced in honorable warfare. The message is said to have been from Jeff Davis to President Lincoln, announcing that if the Federal Government permit the rebel bridge burners to be hung under the orders of General Halleck, that the Federal prisoners, Colonels Corcoran, Lee, Wilcox and others, held as hostages for the safety of the pirates, shall be immediately hung in retaliation. A cabinet meeting was called to consider the subject, but I am requested not to announce the result. Jeff Davis will learn it soon enough.

It is probable that the news of the recent order of the War Department, directing the privateersmen to be regarded as prisoners of war had not reached rebellion when this last message was sent from Richmond. The sentiment expressed by those who know the purport of the message is, that the officer who brought it, thereby disgracing the flag of truce, should have been retained and hung with the bridge burners.

The dispatch in a *New York paper* to day that Gen. Scott is about to proceed to Mexico as a special agent of this Government, is nothing but speculation. I am authorized to say that Mr. Curwin will continue in Mexico with full and exclusive power to act for this Government. Gen. Scott's movements point in another direction.

NEVER HURRY AN APOTHECARY.—When I was a boy some sixty-five years ago, perhaps, I was sent with a medical prescription to that excellent old gentleman and eminent apothecary, Dr. Ephraim Elliot. I delivered the paper—the doctor very deliberately wiped his spectacles, and having slowly and carefully perused it, proceeded to take down two or three bottles and place them before him on the counter. He then with great care, wiped and adjusted a pair of scales.—Once more he took up and read over the prescription. I became very restless, for when dispatched upon this errand, I had well nigh finished a paper kite, that I had set my heart upon raising that very afternoon. There was a glorious wind, and I had only half finished the job—and when the doctor took up the prescription to read it for the third time, I could hold in no longer. "Will you be so good sir," said I, "as to be as quick as you can?" He put his scales down upon the counter, and taking his spectacles from his nose, gave me a look which I shall never forget. "Boy," said he, with an uplifted finger, "never hurry an apothecary."

He that is truly polite knows how to contradict with respect, and to please without adulation; and is equally remote from an insipid complaisance, and a low familiarity.

TRASON is soon suppressed when loyal men get the hare of it.

### The Adventures of an Editor with Funds to Invest.

The following items of advice to the ladies remaining in a state of single blessedness are extracted from the manuscript of an old dowager:

Jones, the "gay and incomparable" local of the *Harrisburg Patriot and Union*, gives the following thrilling account of the trials and tribulations that beset him on a recent trip to Philadelphia, to invest his spare funds in the 7-10ths National Loan: Having withdrawn our deposits from the various banks in this city, we prepared to leave by the 9:45 train on Thursday morning; but owing to an accident on the road, that train did not arrive until late in the afternoon. We did not like this much, no how, as the danger of going into the city after night-fall with a large sum of money is imminent, so many pickpockets usually being congregated about the depot. To avoid them, we got off at West Philadelphia, and took the horse car. No sooner had we entered than we were surprised to see a big whiskered fellow also enter. This man was evidently a pickpocket. At Downingtown he asked us for the loan of a dime, under the pretext that he had no change—an unsuccessful ruse to see where we kept our pile.— We had about a square to walk to the hotel, and in that distance quite a number of respectable looking men jostled against us—all pickpockets, of course—but we had our overcoat buttoned closely over our money, which was principally in \$1,000 bills, and didn't make much talk. Arrived at the Washington House, we handed our money to put in the safe. Some chap who stood behind us said in an undertone: "Going to fight the tiger—pay his bill for fear he'll get broke!"

We did not relish this impudence and ignorance both, but young Glass soon discovered that he had a big thing on deposit in his safe and he placed his most confidential porter in charge. After a feverish night's sleep in which we dreamed all sorts of dreams of big whiskered brigands, killing the porter and robbing the safe, we made our way down stairs to find much to our joy that everything was right. By the time we had taken breakfast, the fact that a solid man had arrived was pretty much known, but how it leaked out we could not tell.— Men in brass buttoned coats bowed deferentially, the waiters brushed and stared, and even the newsboys must have got an inkling of our standing and position in the world, for three of them formed a conspiracy, and refused to sell us *Forney's Press* for less than five cents, when the printed retail price on it is only two cents.

After getting rid of all these little annoyances, we relieved Glass of any further responsibility by taking our package, and starting for the office of Jay Cooke, the Government agent. A number of persons followed in our wake but it was broad daylight, and a large number of detectives prepping up the house corners in Chestnut street so that we really felt no fear, except in passing the State House, where the pavement, as usual, was filled by ballot-box stall-ers and plug-ugly plunderers. We reached Cooke's in safety. In anticipation of our visit, the office was full, but they parted like the waves in the Red Sea, when the children of Israel made a pass over, and we marched up to the counter in triumph.— Cooke stood behind the counter with a pen behind his ear, and bowing so low that his head almost touched the marble top of the counter he commended our patriotism in coming to the rescue of the Government, as well as our foresight, in taking care of Number one by investing at 7.30, at a time when a phrethoric money market has reduced the current rates to six.

On our return to the hotel we found the card of Dr. Jayne, who no doubt wanted to first of his Chestnut street real estate upon us, but our spare cash, all that we could spare out of our business, was invested, and—we are on hand again.

SCOTTISH HERO.—The following amusing anecdote is from an article in *Blackwood's Magazine*, on "Scottish National Character":

"A minister of Orail had been long annoyed by the drowsy propensities in church of a farmer, one of his parishioners"—one David Cowan in Tronstric"—and remonstrating on the subject had his patience conciliated by two cart loads of coal which the offender engaged to drive to the manse door. Nevertheless, a few Sundays afterwards, Mr. Cowan, soon after the commencement of the sermon, fell into a sound sleep as formerly; and not only so but made so much noise as to disturb the sisters near him and the minister. Mr. Glass fore with it for a while; but at last being able to stand it no longer, desired the people in the north loft—"Anglican gallery"—to "waken David Cowan." David, awakening suddenly, and forgetting where he was, asked the minister "if he didn't drive two earloads of coal to the manse last week, to let him sleep?" "True," replied the minister, "but I did not agree to let you *sure*!"

Why is money like the letter p? Because it makes an ass pass.