

THE COUNTRY PAPER

Amid the pile of papers, That swam my desk each day...

HARPER'S NEW YEAR RESOLVE.

Harper Benedict had a pleasant home; indeed, as far back as he could remember...

"Don't know!" Harper answered without any interest. "Don't know!" repeated Uncle Paul...

"Well, there is a committee to attend to such matters," said Harper, "I hope they do their duty."

"No," said Harper, "I don't suppose I know anyone, do you?" he said laughing.

"Six dollars I'd take him for, and he can have the pretty front room over the parlor."

"Then six it is, and when he comes around here, Mrs. Brown, and asks you the price, you must say, 'Pay me four dollars, and the room is yours.'"

fellow did not have a better room, when the latter said: "I'd like more room. I feel sometimes as if I were laid out here, but I can't afford it—now now anyway, while Dorothy is so sick."

"Who is Dorothy?" "My little sister; she's all I've got in the world."

"Where is she?" with much interest. "She's at Carmen, three miles out, you know, she's boarding in such a pretty little cottage. All summer long the flowers bloomed and the birds sang in the garden there, and Dorothy was so happy. But since winter came she isn't so contented, and I'm all the time trying to think of something to make her happy."

"What do you have them here, do you?" "What good things to eat? No never."

"What good things to eat? No never." "Before Harper went away he had arranged to call for Arthur on Tuesday evening on his way to the League meeting."

"I will, the Lord helping me, make a Christian endeavor in behalf of Arthur Stone. I will do for him what I'd like to have him do for me if I were in his place and he in mine."

"None of your barney, Harper," she said. "But you will!" he persisted. "Please say you will."

"Let me see, thoughtfully. 'I'd like to please you and him, poor child! But he can't pay me any more than he pays Mrs. Grimes.'"

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"Then six it is, and when he comes around here, Mrs. Brown, and asks you the price, you must say, 'Pay me four dollars, and the room is yours.'"

The Whisky Insurrection

How it Began and How it Ended—An Important Episode in the History of Pennsylvania.

In 1794 southwestern Pennsylvania was the theater of stirring events. The "Whisky Insurrection," which the state authorities had been trying to quell grew so formidable and aggressive that it was deemed necessary to invoke the military aid of the federal government.

The next legislation on this subject was the memorable act of Congress, passed March 3rd, 1791, which imposed a duty on spirits distilled within the United States. This measure produced much excitement both in and out of Congress.

The importation of foreign spirits having ceased altogether during the war of the Revolution, the farmers in the grain-growing districts turned their attention to the manufacture of whisky and rum.

The act of 1791, having been found defective in some respects, was brought for revision in the congress which assembled in the ensuing month of October, but no decisive action seems to have been taken on it before the 8th of May, 1792.

In order to correctly understand the situation of affairs, it is necessary to take into consideration the kind and character of the population that dwelt in the counties west of the mountains.

While revenue officers and good citizens were being subjected to this kind of intimidation, another means of resistance, previously resorted to, was again put in operation.

Inasmuch as some of the states manufactured a comparatively small quantity of spirits, and others none at all, the burden of the excise rested most heavily on Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia; and it could therefore scarcely be expected that their citizens, especially those of western Pennsylvania, where distilling was carried on most extensively, would permit a statute which so materially affected their interests to pass quietly into operation.

In June, 1791, the law was to be put in operation. The officers were in most instances accepted, and the excise was paid by some of the well-disposed distillers. In proportion as this was the case, and the disaffected realized that determined efforts would be made to enforce the law, the disposition to resistance became more turbulent, revenue officers were subjected to marks of contempt and insult, and after some time the threats made against them ripened into acts of ill-treatment and outrage.

danger to both their lives and their properties," and he therefore reported the proceedings, as soon as known to President Washington. The latter, under date of Sept. 15th, 1792, issued a proclamation admonishing all persons to refrain from unlawful combinations and proceedings tending to obstruct the operations of the law.

In April, 1793, a party of disguised men went to the house of Collector Wells, in Fayette county, but finding him absent, they entered the house that night, they contended themselves with forcing their way into the dwelling, and threatening, terrifying and abusing his family. Warrants were issued for the arrest of some of the rioters, but the sheriff refused to serve them, for which matter he was afterwards indicted, and so the matter fell to the ground.

On the 6th of September, 1791, the day preceding the last mentioned meeting, the first act of open violence occurred. Robert Johnson, a collector of revenue for the counties of Allegheny and Washington, three of the persons arrested by a body of armed men, who cut off his hair, stripped, tarred and feathered him, and withholding his horse, compelled him to travel on foot a considerable distance in that humiliating condition.

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request for a parley. Their leader, Major James McFarlane, evidently thinking so, stepped from behind a tree which served as a protection and was ordering his men to cease firing when a musket ball hit and instantly killed him. This incensed his followers, who recommenced firing, and while some were talking about storming the house others set fire to the barn and outbuildings, and soon the intensity of the heat was so great as to threaten a speedy destruction of the house also.

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