

The Beaver Argus.

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TOBACCO has been paying the bulk of the national revenue tax. At no time since tobacco was taxed did it contribute a larger proportion of the total revenue than for the past two months. Eighty per cent of the gain for the first quarter of the present fiscal year is on tobacco. Some of the Virginia districts show an increase over last year of 400 per cent.

SOME witty editor—we think he must be the man who runs the Chicago Post—re-marking upon Dr. Pomroy's boast that he worked in a printing office by the side of a black man, observes: "Drick may be proud of it, but we are willing to do something that the 'nigger' ain't."

By virtue of authority continued in the 5th section of the act of Congress, entitled an act to authorize the printing of five cent pieces, approved May 16th, 1864, the Treasurer and the several Assistant Treasurers of the United States will hereafter redeem, in National currency, the five cent pieces coined under the provisions of said act, when presented in sums of not less than \$1.00 at their respective offices.

EX-MINISTER McMAHON gives directly opposite accounts of the difficulties between the Paraguays and Brazilians from that given by Minister Washburne. General McMahon says the Brazilians prevented communications reaching him, and that the object of the present Government is to absorb various South American republics, etc.

THE ANNUAL REPORT of the Postmaster General will recommend the abolition of the franking privilege and of the letter box delivery. He will ask for the delivery of all matter through carriers or general delivery at the offices; also, for a reduction of rates on registered letters. The deficiency of the year will be small, showing a desirable improvement in the finances of the Department. The total value of stamps sold during the year was \$17,075,000.

WE have the authority of a western exchange for stating that at the recent election in Kosciusko county, Iowa, the Republican candidate for Governor received every vote in the county. His vote was 25. The change referred to alleges, that there is not a Democrat left for seen even. The Republican majority in Iowa, on the 12th inst., runs up to 50,000 Iowa is *not* a *put*. So much for long continuous Republican rule.

THE investigation in regard to the charges against Gen. Butterfield, Assistant U. S. Treasurer at New York, has been concluded. Gen. Butterfield was cleared. The report of the Treasury, Mr. Buffield, was closed with Judge Pierpont, and facts disclosed which Mr. Buffield said he had known for some time. Butterfield resigned the Treasury, so it is known that his resignation, which has been accepted, will be accepted. Mr. Buffield left for Washington on Wednesday night.

WEST VIRGINIA has chosen another Republican Legislature, but with majorities somewhat reduced from last year, when we had 19 of the 22 senators, and 41 of the 56 Representatives. Among the Representatives now chosen is ex-Governor Pierpont from Marion. Mr. J. S. Corlie has probably been beaten in Harrison. Our majority in the new Legislature will contain a liberal sprinkling of Republicans who favor the removal of existing restrictions upon disfranchisement, but probably not enough to ensure the absolute control of legislation.

THE correspondence published elsewhere in the Argus on the Attorney Generalship of this State does not reflect credit upon all of the parties interested. We had heretofore looked upon Governor Geary as the very embodiment of truth, honor and courage, but we confess that this correspondence somewhat changes our opinion of the man. As there are, however, always two sides to questions, we await anxiously for something from the Governor in reply, and hope when we do get it, that it will be seen that the "corresponding" editor which this correspondence makes him. If, after all, it transpires that Governor Geary has acted "hypocritically" towards his Attorney General, and makes no answer to the latter's publication, the public will more than likely conclude that Governor Geary has been entrapped and fallen into a snare set for him, by some unscrupulous politician in his own party, who are, for some time past have been, his disguised enemies. These men broke around with the Governor last spring and prior to our State Convention attempted to organize an opposition to him in that body. Failing to make any headway, they resorted to the usual artifice of being acquiescent in his nomination, but all the while earnestly hoped for his defeat at the October election. In the meantime, having a bitter feeling toward Attorney General Brewster, who had thwarted some of their rashly political schemes, they denominated the Governor his removal, to conclude their efforts in preventing their opposing his election against their demand, but fearful of the effect of removing the Attorney General while his own election was pending the axe was not permitted to fall until that was secured. How much Gov. Geary will make by becoming an attorney hereafter remains to be seen.

THE statement of the public debt, published yesterday, shows a decrease of \$7,000,000, making a total decrease of \$62,332,070.65, the first of March, which has increased \$1,839,335.25; the lawful money debt has decreased \$2,295,000; interest has decreased \$3,022,000; principal \$1,912,710; interest \$1,781,285; fractional currency has increased \$1,631,115.88; gold has increased \$4,318,800; coin has increased \$8,190,022.88; currency in Treasury has increased \$682,231,814.90; bonds awaiting action of Congress have increased \$11,391,884; currency balances \$1,235,251.21; coin balance \$11,991,711.03.

THE facts in the Yergar case. An ex-officer of the United States army, named Crane, being Mayor of Jackson, Miss., had, in the pursuance of his official duty, caused an attachment to issue against a piano in Yergar's residence, to liquidate certain overdue taxes. This occurred while the latter was in attendance as a delegate to the Memphis Commercial Convention. On Yergar's return he took the piano as a personal and intentional insult, and attempted to call Crane to account, according to the code of honor. This course was soon after ignored by the Mayor, who, after the receipt of Yergar's note, appeared on the streets in the discharge of an official duty. There he was met by Yergar, who brutally murdered him in open day, in the sight of many witnesses without demanding one word of explanation. It was a crime designed before a military commission, and believed to have been guilty from the fact that the accused has been held in confinement ever since the adjournment of the tribunal. While the military court was in session, an application for a writ of *habeas corpus* was made before the United States Judge whose district included Mississippi, but it was refused on the ground that the writ is not to be granted where a military commission has jurisdiction under the Constitution and Judiciary Act of 1789, and that the act of 1867, repealed by that of 1868, does not operate to take away the jurisdiction of this Court in the matter of *habeas corpus*, which is among our most valuable rights, and is granted both by the Constitution and statute. The opinion does not involve the constitutionality of the reconstruction act, but merely the question of the authority of the court to issue the writ of *habeas corpus* under the appellate jurisdiction. The case on the merits, if the court shall issue the writ, will be heard on Wednesday evening, at a point a little below New Orleans, one hundred and twenty-five miles below St. Louis, from a candle which the deck passengers had near some hay, while playing cards. The steamer was run on a gravel bar, the pilot supposing that the passengers could wade ashore on the bar. Unfortunately at the end of the bar there was a slough; and here it was that the larger number was drowned. The boat was not run on the bar, but she ran on the shallowest part about her head having six feet of water. The boat had so much hay aboard that it was as thick as timber, and all efforts to put it over were unavailing. The Belle Memphis came up at half past seven hours after the accident, and rendered all the assistance possible. Of 22 passengers and crew only 30 are known to be saved. The last seen of Capt. Scott he was floating down stream on a log. The people at Natchez saw the light and hastened to assist. One man rescued sixteen persons with a skiff. Had it not been for their help all would have been lost. A gentleman from Paducah, Ky., swam ashore with a lady, and at her entreaty returned to save her child. In swimming ashore he was grasped by a drowning man, and would have been drowned had he not thrown his child overboard. There were thirty-nine cabin passengers and sixty belonging to the crew. The London Times of October 25th has an article on the demand for Fenian amnesty, says many governments, as well as that of England, formerly regarded rebellion as transcending all other crimes, and as one to be punished beyond them all. The British Government now looks on it as more frequent than ordinary crimes, with various consequences to the interest of the country, as springing from the same intricate web of tempers and self disregard of the welfare that prompt, common litigation and as requiring the same standard of punishment. When it is denominated that the Fenians have harder work, worse food and harsher treatment than other convicts it will not surprise Mr. Gladstone's being less sensitive to injustice, when practiced on his fellow countrymen, than when inflicted on foreigners. While the government refuses to act toward the rebellion as if it were simply virtue misdirected, Mr. Gladstone's attitude toward it with indifference and the imputation that he has turned a blind eye to the exhibition of the Fenian further particulars. Sixteen persons were saved by clinging to a stage plank and another more than a dozen. These are all out of between 250 or 300 souls on board of whose positive many were picked up by the boat and brought ashore, but he died soon after. Rec'd at Franklin, Pa., Char'n. GEO. GEARY TO ATT'Y. BREWSTER. EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 23, 1868. Hon. Benjamin Harris Brewster, Attorney General:

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All of these cases have been concluded, with the exception of the case of Crane, being Mayor of Jackson, Miss., had, in the pursuance of his official duty, caused an attachment to issue against a piano in Yergar's residence, to liquidate certain overdue taxes. This occurred while the latter was in attendance as a delegate to the Memphis Commercial Convention. On Yergar's return he took the piano as a personal and intentional insult, and attempted to call Crane to account, according to the code of honor. This course was soon after ignored by the Mayor, who, after the receipt of Yergar's note, appeared on the streets in the discharge of an official duty. There he was met by Yergar, who brutally murdered him in open day, in the sight of many witnesses without demanding one word of explanation. It was a crime designed before a military commission, and believed to have been guilty from the fact that the accused has been held in confinement ever since the adjournment of the tribunal. While the military court was in session, an application for a writ of *habeas corpus* was made before the United States Judge whose district included Mississippi, but it was refused on the ground that the writ is not to be granted where a military commission has jurisdiction under the Constitution and Judiciary Act of 1789, and that the act of 1867, repealed by that of 1868, does not operate to take away the jurisdiction of this Court in the matter of *habeas corpus*, which is among our most valuable rights, and is granted both by the Constitution and statute. The opinion does not involve the constitutionality of the reconstruction act, but merely the question of the authority of the court to issue the writ of *habeas corpus* under the appellate jurisdiction. The case on the merits, if the court shall issue the writ, will be heard on Wednesday evening, at a point a little below New Orleans, one hundred and twenty-five miles below St. Louis, from a candle which the deck passengers had near some hay, while playing cards. The steamer was run on a gravel bar, the pilot supposing that the passengers could wade ashore on the bar. Unfortunately at the end of the bar there was a slough; and here it was that the larger number was drowned. The boat was not run on the bar, but she ran on the shallowest part about her head having six feet of water. The boat had so much hay aboard that it was as thick as timber, and all efforts to put it over were unavailing. The Belle Memphis came up at half past seven hours after the accident, and rendered all the assistance possible. Of 22 passengers and crew only 30 are known to be saved. The last seen of Capt. Scott he was floating down stream on a log. The people at Natchez saw the light and hastened to assist. One man rescued sixteen persons with a skiff. Had it not been for their help all would have been lost. A gentleman from Paducah, Ky., swam ashore with a lady, and at her entreaty returned to save her child. In swimming ashore he was grasped by a drowning man, and would have been drowned had he not thrown his child overboard. There were thirty-nine cabin passengers and sixty belonging to the crew.

THE REVEREND SPINSTER received on Saturday last, for resignation of office, a letter from the Hon. John W. Geary, Governor of this Commonwealth, in which he was appointed to the position of Attorney General of this Commonwealth, and the information that I had been named for the office, is received. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst., in relation to the publication of your resignation, and in answer to inform you that I have no objection to your so doing. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, BENJAMIN HARRIS BREWSTER, Attorney General.

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Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst., in relation to the publication of your resignation, and in answer to inform you that I have no objection to your so doing. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, BENJAMIN HARRIS BREWSTER, Attorney General.

REPLY OF JUDGE BREWSTER. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 23, 1868. To His Excellency John W. Geary, Governor of Pennsylvania: Sir:—Your favor of the 23rd inst., tendering to me the position of Attorney General of this Commonwealth, and the information that I had been named for the office, is received. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst., in relation to the publication of your resignation, and in answer to inform you that I have no objection to your so doing. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, BENJAMIN HARRIS BREWSTER, Attorney General.

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