

ADVERTISING.—The BELLEVILLE REPUBLICAN has a larger circulation than any other Republican paper published in the county. Our merchants and business men will please make a note of this.

BELLEVILLE ACADEMY.—Semi-annual examinations are now daily taking place and parents and friends of the institution are invited to be present as often as suits their convenience.

REGRO SUFFRAGE.

What plant follows the leaders of the Democratic party are. One day they oppose a measure with all the power of money and eloquence, they appeal to the prejudices of the people, they cajole, flatter, plead, expostulate, bribe and as a last resort attempt to coerce their supple tools—the next day, or so soon as they discover that the people cannot be deceived, that the intelligent and loyal people have decided against them, just so soon they change their tactics and principles, and say, "We told you so, we were right all the time."

Every man knows that Hon. George W. Woodward is one of the leaders of the Democratic party. He is not a member of Congress from the XII District. He is worshipped by the smaller lights; yet this same Judge Woodward has been to Florida and made a speech—a speech in which he endorses Negro Suffrage. In response to a sentiment complimentary of himself, he said:

"The Legislature for Pennsylvania ratified negro suffrage before the voice of the people could be heard on the question. I have said if I were a member of Pennsylvania I would vote in favor of the measure I would not object. This year it was substantially decided—we were defeated. I do not believe that they voted intelligently on the subject; yet I believe it was settled, and I shall say nothing more against it. I am willing the negro should vote. The colored people of my own respect no more than they do me, yet I am not a Republican."

Work and Legislation.

Congress assembled on the 6th inst. The members were at their posts, and from the way they have taken hold of matters, we look for earnest work, and good wholesome legislation. The Legislatures of Tennessee, Kentucky, California, Alabama, North Carolina, are in session, and those of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina, will assemble in January.

THE CENSUS.—The draft of the law for taking the census of 1870 has recently been submitted to the Committee on the Census by the sub-committee appointed to prepare the bill. The principal characteristics of the law are the establishment of a Census Bureau under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department; the appointment by the President of a Commissioner of the Census, whose term of office shall expire three years from the date of his commission; and the appointment by the Secretary of the Interior of one Deputy Commissioner of the Census for each Congressional District. The time proposed for taking the census is the month of June, 1870.

The Astor House Scandal.

Richardson the seducer of McFarland's wife is dead. Before he died or while he was dying, he and Mrs. McFarland were married by Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, assisted by Rev. Dr. Field and the Rev. O. B. Frothingham. Rev. Beecher performed the ceremony and Rev. Frothingham did the praying, or rather disgraced his calling by using the following blasphemous language: "Father we thank Thee for what these two have been to each other, and for what they may yet be." It is a wholesome sign to see the press both secular and religious condemn this whole transaction, this murder, this seduction, this profanation of marriage. It is denounced on all hands as immoral, disgusting and outrageous.

But the public expression, says the N. Y. Observer, is inadequate to convey the least idea of the private grief and shame which that religious mood of marriage has caused. One of the daily papers publishes whole columns of brief letters from clergymen, from ladies, and others, giving their names and residence, and protesting in the name of Christianity and decency against the outrage. Another daily paper says that Mr. Beecher's people are so indignant that they are determined to call him to account. This, however, is incredible.

From all quarters there comes up one honest, virtuous cry of shame, shame!—and it would be some faint reparation of the injury done if the ministers of religion, whose presence has been the sanctification of that revolting scandal, would put on sackcloth and ashes and confess their wrong.

Each of the clergymen has publicly stated his views of the case, and we are grieved to say not one of them expresses the slightest doubt of the propriety of his conduct, nor makes any concession to the sense of public decorum outraged by their sanction of this demoralizing and illegal transaction. The N. Y. Evening Post, of Monday, says:

"The public scandal caused by the marriage of Richardson to the wife of McFarland is likely to bring up the question of the responsibility of clergymen in such cases. It is united to perform the marriage ceremony between Richardson and a woman who is certainly, according to those Scriptures which those preachers uphold, and according to the laws of New York, the wife of another man. There can be no question, we think, on the facts admitted by both sides, that the marriage ceremony thus performed is invalid; that it is not only no moral, but no legal force; that no rights have been gained by it, or lost by it. That prominent clergymen should have been misled by those in whom they had confidence to connect themselves with an affair thus scandalous as well as illegal, no doubt annoys them, as it has their friends."

Omitted Passage from the President's Message.

In the copy of the President's message furnished to the newspapers of this city, says the Phila. Press, there was an omission of an important passage. To remedy this omission we republish the paragraph which should have contained the sentences omitted. The part which was left out of the copy as received is enclosed in brackets, thus: [The subject of tariff and internal taxation will necessarily receive your attention. The revenues of the country are greater than the requirements and may with safety be reduced.—But as the funding of the debt in a four or four and a half per cent loan would reduce our current expenses largely, thus after funding yielding a greater reduction of taxation than would now be expedient, I suggest postponement of this question until the next meeting of Congress.]

It may be advisable to modify taxation and tariff in instances where unjust or burdensome discriminations are made by the present law, but a general revision of the laws regulating this subject I recommend the postponement of for the present. I also suggest the renewal of the tax on imports, but at a reduced rate, say of three per cent, and this tax to expire in three years.

With the funding of the national debt, as here suggested, I feel safe in saying that taxes and the revenue from imports may be reduced safely sixty to eighty millions per annum at once, and may be still further reduced from year to year, as the resources of the country are developed.

IN A NEW SHELL.—An exchange thus disposes of the Richardson McFarland tragedy in New York, in three sentences: "Mr. A. D. Richardson, the brilliant journalist, who was shot by Mr. McFarland in New York, died on Thursday morning of last week. He destroyed the peace of a comparatively happy family by tampering with the affection of his wife and mother, and was avenged by the riddled husband, who so the last dot on his misguided and heartless wife. That is the whole story in a paragraph, and when Reynolds' Beecher, Frothingham and Field assist in the marriage of such a woman to such a man, though the latter be on his death-bed, they do more to sap the foundations of public morality than all their preaching to maintain it."

Free Schools and an Open Bible.

The action of the Cincinnati Board of Education in excluding the Bible from the public schools, and the attending discussions, have become matters of such importance that as a faithful chronicler of passing events we cannot pass them by. The action of the Board is thus stated by the daily Press:

"The Cincinnati Board of Education has decided, by a vote of twenty-one to fifteen, to exclude from the public schools not only the Bible, but also all religious books, and the singing of religious songs. Of the votes in favor of excluding the Bible, there were: Protestants, three; Catholics, ten; Free-thinkers, eight."

This action at once raised a cry of alarm, and roused a spirit of resistance. Protestants at once charged that it was not only an attack upon the Bible, but also upon our American system of free schools. The Catholics promptly and frankly acknowledged the charge and proceeded to defend their action.

The Tablet of New York City—the highest secular authority of the hierarchy of Rome in America—says bluntly, that permitting the Bible to be excluded, will not modify the anti-pathy of the church to our mode of secular education. Not only is the church opposed, it avers, to the exclusion of the Bible from the schools, but if that translation were supplanted by the Douay Bible, their hostility would not be cooled. No, not if Catholics from the Popish Bible were chosen, and the most learned theologians of the Catholic Church, were made the only Christian education in our schools, the Catholics would yet oppose the continuance of the schools with a determination which nothing but their total suppression could, or can, under any circumstances, weaken or alter.

The Roman Catholic Telegraph, remarking upon the successes gained in the Cincinnati Board of Education, says: "It was a blind worship of expediency to sustain a school system that transgresses the rights of Catholics. The blindness has driven these defenders of the common schools to a second defeat, which, by a skillful manoeuvre, they imagined they had escaped. The first chapter in this school controversy is now closed; it ends with the triumph of the law. The second chapter will open with agitation and litigation in the name of Justice and the right that both Protestants and Catholics have to positive religious instruction in separate schools. If the school law be modified to secure denominational education for all, Catholics will cheerfully pay the cost of the school fund. If this amendment cannot be made, taxation for school purposes must cease. Now that the Bible has been excluded from the schools, if the professor Protestants have been sincere in all they have said in its favor, they must agree with the Catholics in the second issue of this question. Consistency will make them our friends in the future."

The Freeman's Journal, their mouth-piece in New York city, says: "If the Catholic translation of the Books of Holy Writ, which is to be found in the homes of all our better educated Catholics, were to be disseminated by the ablest Catholic theologian in the land, and merely lessons to be taken from it—such as Catholic mothers read to their children; and with all the notes and comments, in the popular edition, and others added, with the highest Catholic endorsement, and if these admirable Bible lessons, and these lessons to be read to be read in all the public schools this would not diminish, in any substantial degree, the objection we Catholics have to letting Catholic children attend the public schools."

Such evidence at this must convince all unprejudiced minds that the movement is a preconcerted and systematic one. In Cincinnati the work is in its first stage, in New York City it has advanced to the second. There it has succeeded in getting \$214,928, 40 appropriated to sectarian schools and of this they have obtained the appropriation of \$171,633, 40 to Catholic schools. It will be remembered that a few years ago the Pope in his encyclical letter not only condemned our free schools, but our free government. All these things point to a systematic, though insidious warfare against not only an open Bible, but against free schools and free institutions. We cannot believe that the more liberal and intelligent Catholics of our own and other communities, approve of these proceedings. On the contrary we believe that every one who loves our free institutions, be he Protestant, Catholic or even free thinker, will and must unequivocally condemn every movement that looks to the destruction of our free schools or in any way attacks our institution. It is true that Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley and the editor of the Independent have declared themselves ready to yield this first position, if the Catholics will compromise there and cease their attacks upon the free schools, but they are contemptuously told that the schools are the main object of attack and that they will make no compromise. In all charity, kindness, and Christian love and forbearance we would come to the discussion of this question. At the same time we would most positively and distinctly declare that we cannot for one moment think of surrendering either our open Bible or our Free Schools. There is no one of ordinary intelligence, not even the merest tyro in history, but knows that to attack an open Bible, and that the Protestant Bible, the world is indebted for all its other Civil or Religious liberty that it today enjoys. Fore-warned is fore-armed. The friends of our free institutions are here plainly and clearly notified that the foundations of our civil and religious liberties are deliberately attacked with a view to their ultimate destruction. Let it be as distinctly announced that we regard an open Bible and Free Schools as constituting the chief bulwarks of our liberties, but know that to attack an open Bible, and that the Protestant Bible, the world is indebted for all its other Civil or Religious liberty that it today enjoys. Fore-warned is fore-armed. The friends of our free institutions are here plainly and clearly notified that the foundations of our civil and religious liberties are deliberately attacked with a view to their ultimate destruction. 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