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The Bedford Inquirer.

A Local and General Newspaper, Devoted to Politics, Education, Literature and Morals. JOHN LUTZ, Editor and Proprietor. BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY, DEC. 24, 1899. VOL. 42: NO. 50.

Inquirer Column.

TO ADVERTISERS:

THE BEDFORD INQUIRER.

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

BY JOHN LUTZ.

OFFICE ON JULIANA STREET, BEDFORD, PA.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

HOME AND FOREIGN ADVERTISEMENTS INSERTED ON REASONABLE TERMS.

A FIRST CLASS NEWSPAPER.

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ITEMS.

There are in Iowa, 216 newspapers, of which 147 are Republican, 39 Democratic, 22 neutral or unknown, and eight others variously classed.

Iowa paid last year, to school teachers, \$1,440,000, males receiving weekly, on an average, \$9.24, and females, \$6.79. There are in the State 6,407 school houses, attended by 295,820 scholars.

The United States Treasury now holds \$75,478,800 in Government securities, for which \$89,282,137 were paid. The accrued interest on these bonds will amount at the end of the year to \$4,828,728. The Treasurer's books show the amount of coupons paid during the month of November to be \$12,364,265.50.

On the 30th of November the Government works at Harper's Ferry were sold at auction. For the market factory \$176,000 was received, and for the rifle factory \$30,000. The sale includes the buildings, grounds, and the magnificent water power attached to them. The purchasers will use the buildings for manufactures.

A STUDENT of Ann Arbor, Michigan, having remarked that men had more endurance than women, a lady present answered that she would like to see thirteen hundred young men in the University heed up in steel ribbed corsets, with hoops, many skirts, trails, high heels, panniers, chignons, and dozens of hair pins sticking in their scalps, cooped up in the house year after year, with no exhilarating exercise, no hopes, aims or ambitions in life, and see if they could stand it as well as the girls. Nothing, said she, but the fact that women, like cats, have nine lives, enables them to survive the present regime to which custom dooms the sex.

SAMANA BAY.—The Consul General of San Domingo, stationed in England, writes to the London Times asserting that a treaty for the cession of the Bay of Samana to the United States has been negotiated with the Government of the Republic of San Domingo by Gen. Babcock and Senator Cornelius Cole, of California, the United States Commissioners. This treaty is now awaiting the approval of the United States Senate, and the negotiations had originally in view the annexation of the entire Republic of San Domingo to the United States, and not merely the cession of the Bay of Samana. The letter of the Consul General is elicited in consequence of the publication in the Times of a statement that the Bay of Samana had been sold to the United States by the Haytian Government, and that a United States fleet had been sent to those regions in order to protect the purchase from the revolutionary armies of Hayti. The Consul General says there are no revolutionary disturbances in San Domingo, and that Samana Bay belongs to San Domingo, and not to Hayti.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—The Pittsburgh Dispatch says: The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has decided (Judge Shartweg delivering the opinion) that a mortgagee or purchaser at sheriff's sale, is not bound to look beyond the judgment docket to ascertain whether the entries thereon are properly made by authority, and that where there is a defective entry of a judgment, or an authorized entry of satisfaction, the prothonotary is liable for damages to the party injured. Hence, where the prothonotary, without the authority of the court, entered on his docket against a judgment, "satisfied on *h. fa.*," it was held that the entry was perfectly regular and conclusive as to third persons to whom the judgment itself regularly docketed was constructive notice, and that it was not necessary to search further and ascertain whether there was any record of an order of the court directing such satisfaction.

IMPORT.—The relative importance of the several customs districts in the United States is shown by the recent report of the Bureau of Statistics. The total importations were \$437,209,308. New York received more than half of the whole amount—\$295,117,682. The next heaviest business was done at the combined cities of Boston and Charleston, constituting one port, and amounting to \$44,636,967. Much of this is Canadian trade. San Francisco, with the whole Pacific tributary to her, received but \$18,088,901, and next in rank and amount was the exclusively manufacturing city of Philadelphia, reporting \$19,957,556. Baltimore pressed close upon her with \$15,863,032, and New Orleans follows with \$11,414,893. Portland reaches nearly three millions. Brazeau exports twelve hundred thousand, but no other port exceeds a million. The northern frontier, however, has a third place, when aggregated. Its collective amounts reach \$18,062,641 from the extreme west to the extreme east, and show what our business with the Dominion may some time become. A noticeable feature, says the Washington Chronicle, is the insignificance of the amounts imported at some of the best ports of the Southern States. Savannah imports only \$748,977, Charleston \$401,244, Mobile \$413,439, and Norfolk, which has perhaps, the best harbor on the Atlantic coast, and is near the site of the first English colony in America, only \$205,591.

HOW TO MAKE A FORTUNE.—Take earnestly hold of life, as capacitated for, and destined to, a high and noble purpose. Study closely the mind's best for labor or a profession. Adopt it early, and pursue it steadily, never looking back to the turning furrow, but forward, to the new ground that ever remains to be broken. Means and ways are abundant to every man's success, if will and actions are rightly adapted to them. Our rich men and our great men have carved their paths to fortune, and by this internal principle—a principle that cannot fail to reward its votary, if it is resolutely pursued. To sigh or repine over the lack of inheritance is unmanly. Every man should strive to be a creator instead of an inheritor. He should bequest instead of borrow. The human race, in this respect, want dignity and discipline. They prefer to wield the sword of valorous freedom, to forging their own weapons. This is a mean and ignoble spirit. Let every man be conscious of the power in him and the Providence over him, and fight his own battles with his own good lance. Let him feel that it is better to earn a crust than to inherit it offensively. This spirit of self nobility once learned, and every man will discover within himself, under God, the elements and capacities of wealth. He will be rich, inestimably rich in self-resources, and can lift his face proudly and meet the noblest among men.

Poetry.

HAVE COURAGE TO SAY NO.

You're starting to-day on life's journey, Alone on the highway of life;

You'll meet with a thousand temptations Each city with evil is rife.

The world is a stage of temptation— There's a danger wherever you go—

But if you are tempted in weakness, Have courage, my boy, to say No.

The siren's sweet song may allure you, Beware of her cunning and art;

Whenever you see her approaching, Be guarded and haste to depart.

The billiard saloons are inviting, Decked out in their tinsel and show;

You may be invited to enter— Have courage, my boy, to say No.

The bright ruby wine may be offered; No matter how tempting it be,

From poison that stings like an adder, My boy, have the courage to flee.

The gambling halls are before you, Their lights, how they dance to and fro;

If you should be tempted to enter, Think twice, even thrice, ere you go.

On cups alone lies your journey, When you the long journey begin,

And trust that a Heavenly Father, Will keep you unspotted from sin.

Temptations will go on increasing, As streams from a rivulet flow,

But if you are true to your manhood, Have the courage, my boy, to say No.

Miscellaneous.

OFFICIAL REPORTS.

Reports of the Comptroller of the Currency, of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, of the Secretary of War, and of the Secretary of Internal Revenue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1899.

REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.

The annual report of the Comptroller of the currency shows 1629 Banks in active operation. Their condition is more gratifying than formerly. The opportunity afforded speculators to inflate the money market is almost entirely done away with, and the banks have more complete control of their affairs.

The Comptroller recommends the passage of an act requiring all banks that go into liquidation to deposit legal tender notes on their outstanding circulation, and to take up their bonds deposited with the Treasurer of the United States as security for their circulation within sixty days from the date of the vote of the stockholders to wind up. He also recommends that all taxes on banks be made returnable and payable to the Treasurer of the United States, including the special tax and dividend tax now payable to the District Collectors; that the compensation of Bank Examiners be increased, and provision be made for its assessment upon the banks examined, and an increase to a fair compensation of persons employed under him in the Currency Bureau.

The recommendation looking to the establishment of a central redeeming agency in New York in the last annual report is renewed.

The Comptroller says the legal prohibition to banks to hire deposits is not sufficiently explicit or positive to prevent it, and hints at legislation to that end.

The Comptroller argues in favor of the National Banking System as the cause of the ease in the money market, and lower rate of interest than would otherwise be obtained. He thinks the government circulation which is not convertible, and therefore not elastic, should be withdrawn, and replaced by National Bank notes, which are eminently redeemable, and are certainly amenable to the laws of trade. No check for limitation should be imposed on the latter, other than the law of supply and demand. A self adjusting system of currency is, the only one that is adapted to the exigencies of trade, and to the wants of the country, and it is a vital question at this time, whether this result can be reached before the return of specie payment. It is possible at all it is only through the agency of National Banks. The machinery of the Government is not adapted to such ends; and further, if possible, it is also only upon the adoption of a policy which will tend gradually, but surely to the resumption of specie payments. It must be a gradual development of a process which shall at all times and under all circumstances, be exchangeable for coin, either of paper, legal tenders or gold. A paper currency which shall gradually increase with the legal tenders for its redemption shall gradually decrease in ratio as a healthy demand for banking facilities may determine, while free banking may thus be established with safety anterior to specie payment, conditioned upon the withdrawal and cancellation of a legal tender dollar for every dollar of banking currency issued. Free banking upon a specie basis may also be permitted with safety and without delay. With details properly adjusted, loans will be established with authority to issue and put in circulation gold notes—limiting the amount only by the ability of the banks to comply with the necessary conditions—and redeem their issues. By the establishment of banks on specie basis, the resumption of specie payments is not anticipated, and familiarity with gold values will do much to relieve the subject of the mystery with which it is associated in the minds of many looking forward to the day when uniform values shall again prevail. It may be that by wise legislation now, a banking system can be established truly national in its character and scope, which will furnish a sound currency of uniform value in every State in this Union.

GEN. SHERMAN'S REPORT.

Gen. Sherman, in his report, which will be submitted to Congress on Monday, opposes any further reduction of the army. He says the entire army is on duty, and he has constant calls for more troops, which cannot be granted. He calls for the President's earnest attention to this matter, that Congress may be appealed to not to diminish the military establishment, because of the great extent of country, the unsettled character of a large region measured north, south, east and west, by thousands of miles; the acts of the Indians who inhabit this region, and the growing necessities of affording greater protection to the roads that traverse this region, and the mining and agricultural interest therein. While the nation at large is at peace, a state of quasi war extends to exist over one-half of its extent, and troops therein are exposed to labor,

murders, fights and dangers that amount to war. Withdrawing or largely diminishing the troops in Texas, the Indian country, Arizona, New Mexico, Montana, Idaho, or Alaska, as well as in some parts of the Southern States, would, he believes, result in sustaining things amounting to anarchy.

He refers to the labors and exposures of the officers and men, and hopes that they will receive the assurance to which they are fairly entitled, that their labors are appreciated. Officers have been required to perform the duties of Indian agents, sheriffs, &c. foreign to their military training, and have done this duty without murmur and with marked intelligence. Never, he says, has he known the army officers so poor, but he hopes by the appreciation of country their compensation will soon become more satisfactory. Any diminution of their pay would result in the loss to their service of every good officer, to the extreme damage of the army itself.

General Sherman advises the adoption by Congress of the new army regulations as prepared by the Special Board of officers.

He says there are five hundred and nine unattached officers, of whom one hundred and fifty six are awaiting orders. The number of retired officers is one hundred and seventy seven. He urges that cavalry and artillery regiments be officered alike in regimental and company organizations, and asks for an extra Lieutenant for cavalry companies. He urges that it is unjust that the reduction of the army should fall exclusively upon the infantry arm of the service, and recommends that after Congress has enacted the necessary laws, the President assemble a board of disinterested general officers to whom shall be committed the whole matter of reduction and reorganization.

Gen. Sherman comments upon what he called the absurdity of the Staff of Army making their own reports to the Secretary of War. If this be continued, he says, we have the absurdity of the Gen. commanding the army with his chief staff officers reporting to somebody else. He hopes for legislation that will allow officers of the army to call upon the Gen. for troops, instead of the President.

He advocates an increase of pay for the soldiers. He recommends that forts covering the cities of Portland, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, and San Francisco, be completed as soon as possible.

His attention to the earnest recommendation of Gen. Thomas, that Seal Island of Alaska, St. Paul, and St. George be sold to the highest bidder. He is informed that parties in San Francisco are ready to bid several millions of dollars, which, he says, would go far towards indemnifying the Government for the otherwise poor and costly county.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

Treasury Department, Office of Internal Revenue, Washington, Nov. 20, 1899.

I have the honor to transmit herewith the tabular statement made up from the accounts kept in this office with respect to the collection of the revenue from this source, while on the first of July, 1899, there remained in bonded warehouses, and a large quantity claimed to have been destroyed by the burning of revenue bonded warehouses, as well as certain amounts which had been previously withdrawn upon fraudulent bonds, and still unaccounted for. Under the provisions of the act of July 20th, 1868, as amended, all spirits in bonded warehouses at the time of the passage of the act, were required to be withdrawn and the tax paid thereon prior to July 1st, 1899, and by this requirement 24,383,951 gallons of spirits were necessarily forced upon the market during the fiscal year, and served to that extent to increase the returns from this source, while on the first of July, 1899, there remained in bonded warehouses, of the new product, only 16,663,838 gallons. It thus appears that the quantity of spirits in bond to be withdrawn and the tax to be paid during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1899, is less by nearly eight millions of gallons, than the quantity which was compelled to be withdrawn and the tax paid for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1899.

The following statement exhibiting the movements in distilled spirits is made from statistics furnished by the division in charge of the subject in this bureau, and although the figures may not be absolutely accurate, they approximate so nearly as to be deemed reliable. Number of gallons withdrawn from bonded warehouses: From July 1st, 1898, to July 1st, 1899, produced prior to July 1st, 1898, on which tax was paid at \$2 per gallon, 99,961, 68, and 69, respectively. Table F, abstract of reports of the District Attorneys concerning suits and prosecutions under the internal revenue laws. The total receipts from internal revenue sources, exclusive of the direct tax upon lands, and the duty upon the circulation and deposit of National banks, were for the fiscal year 1899, \$160,009,344.29. This includes the sums refunded for taxes illegally assessed and collected, amounting to \$369,233.12, nearly all of which was for taxes assessed and collected in previous years.

For the fiscal year 1898 there were refunded \$1,018,334.81. Drawbacks were also allowed to the amount of \$1,370,680.01. No drawbacks were allowed during the fiscal year 1899 by this Bureau, excepting on general merchandise, under section 171 of the act of March 31st, 1868, to sale and patent medicines, amounting to \$377,411.21. The drawback on rum and alcohol is not allowed by this Bureau.

The receipts for the current year are estimated at \$176,000,000.

A comparative statement is submitted showing the total receipts from the several sources of taxation for the first six months of the fiscal year 1898 and 1899, from July 1st, 1898, to July 1st, 1899, inclusive, \$87,296,388, from July 1st, 1897, to July 1st, 1898, inclusive, \$66,110,039; total gain for the first six months of 1899, \$1,186,358.

A comparative statement is submitted showing the total receipts from the same sources for the last six months of the fiscal year 1898 and 1899. From January to June, 1899, inclusive, \$90,542,760, from January to June, 1898, inclusive, \$94,479,948. Total gain for the last six months of 1899 over that of 1898, \$26,062,912, or 18.10 per cent. During this period the amount gained on spirits is \$9,585,322. The amount gained on stamps \$608,335. Amount gained on sales \$1,666,104. The greatest loss from any one source of taxation for this period was on incomes, which amounts to \$8,747,499. In special taxes not including under spirits, tobacco, &c., the loss was \$1,435,719. It is worthy of special notice in regard to receipts from tobacco since January 1st, 1899, and hereafter referred to as being largely increased, the loss of Revenue on this article for the preceding six months amounts to \$63,232, and it should be borne in mind in considering this loss, that the present system of collecting the tax on tobacco had not gone into full operation prior to January 1st, 1899.

Total gain for the above period, \$26,

062,812, or 40 per cent. It will be observed that the gain on distilled spirits during the period of comparison is \$2,678,420, on tobacco, \$4,768,844, on fermented liquors, \$91,174, on incomes, \$2,038,757, on stamps, \$850,515, from gas companies, \$104,687, from banks and bankers, \$135,698. The only articles on which a loss was sustained are legacies, successions and penalties, special taxes not included under spirits, &c. These aggregate only \$802,732. Receipts from same general sources for the six months ending September 30th, 1898 and 1899, from April to September, 1899, inclusive, \$102,861,929. Twenty-six districts for this period not returned are estimated at \$1,516,000. Total amount for this period, \$104,377,950. From April to September, 1899, inclusive, \$90,542,682.

The aggregate receipts for the present year will be increased by returns from the twenty-six districts, amounting, it is estimated, at \$1,516,000. Total gain, not including receipts from those districts, \$22,318,786. If the receipts from the unreported districts equal the above estimates the gain will be \$23,834,569, or 291 per cent. During this period the gain on spirits is \$1,700,115.13; tobacco, \$66,085.30; on sales, \$11,016.01; on incomes, \$27,729.11; on stamps, \$7,048.69; from bank and bankers, \$3,274.34.

The gain on spirits during this six months of comparison is not so large by nearly \$6,000,000 as it was for the six months ending the 30th of June last. This is accounted for by the circumstances that the old spirits in bonded warehouses on the 30th of August, 1898, when the new law went into effect, were all by operation of law to be withdrawn from bond and the tax to be paid prior to July 1st, 1899. It is a fact, however, that the gain on tobacco for this period of comparison exceeded that for the six months ending June 30th, 1898, by \$2,000,000, showing a steady and continuous increase from this source.

The gains on stamps, incomes and sales correspond very nearly with the gains on those articles for the six months of comparison ending June 30th, 1899.

Referring to gains on spirits and tobacco for these periods it seems proper to say there is every cause for congratulation that the law of July 20th, 1868, taxing these articles, was enacted.

SPRINGS.—In considering the increase of revenue from distilled spirits for the last six months of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1899, the subjoined facts should be remembered. There were in the bonded warehouses on the 1st of July, 1898, as shown by the accounts kept in this office, 27,278,420 gallons of spirits. This included all claims for leakage then outstanding, and a large quantity claimed to have been destroyed by the burning of revenue bonded warehouses, as well as certain amounts which had been previously withdrawn upon fraudulent bonds, and still unaccounted for. Under the provisions of the act of July 20th, 1868, as amended, all spirits in bonded warehouses at the time of the passage of the act, were required to be withdrawn and the tax paid thereon prior to July 1st, 1899, and by this requirement 24,383,951 gallons of spirits were necessarily forced upon the market during the fiscal year, and served to that extent to increase the returns from this source, while on the first of July, 1899, there remained in bonded warehouses, of the new product, only 16,663,838 gallons. It thus appears that the quantity of spirits in bond to be withdrawn and the tax to be paid during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1899, is less by nearly eight millions of gallons, than the quantity which was compelled to be withdrawn and the tax paid for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1899.

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