

THE COLUMBIAN AND DEMOCRAT, BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA.

**The Columbian
AND
Bloomsburg Democrat**

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1870.

AS THE COLUMBIAN has the largest circulation of any paper published in Northern Pennsylvania, and is also a much larger sheet than any of its contemporaries and is therefore the best medium for advertising in this section of the State.

The Poor House Question.

We desire to call general attention to the statement of the Directors in another column. Although it embraces a period of only nine months it is an exceedingly gratifying exhibit to the taxpayers, and will command itself to such townships as have not adopted the system.

The value of the Farm, Buildings, Stock, etc., is \$20,218.72. The debts are \$14,481.30 showing a net result in favor of the District of \$5,726.82. Heretofore the entire amount of tax was not sufficient to maintain the poor; but now not only is that done, but a large share of the farm paid.

The expenses for the support of our poor have not been over \$1600, while the products of the farm amount to \$1800.10.

Heretofore the average number of paupers was about 50; now it is 43.

It must be remembered also that the system did not go into operation until May when an important part of the year had gone by, and that the Directors and steward had to encounter many difficulties incident to new enterprises of such a character. The steward had a family of eight children, while the present one has only one child, and both himself and wife, have much experience in such matters. The Directors have also adopted some new regulations, which cannot fail to be of benefit. We confidently expect in the year the profits of the farm will obviate the necessity of a poor tax.

State Temperance Convention.

A STATE Temperance Convention will assemble at Harrisburg on the 8th of February at 11 o'clock A. M. Full delegations are expected to be present from different organizations. State Temperance organizations are to be represented by delegates not exceeding five in each; County Temperance organizations, by not more than three delegates each; Temperance Societies, Divisions of S. of T., Tempairs of H. and T. and Lodges of Good Templars, Churches, wards of cities and boroughs, and townships, by one delegate each. Credentials will be required from those desiring to take part in the proceedings.

Preparations are being made to insure that this convention shall be a formidable demonstration of the friends of total abstinence.

A LATE dispatch from France says: —M. Emile Olivier, the chief of the newly formed Ministry, on the occasion of his formal installation as Minister of Justice said that he should always in the duties of his office, seek to maintain the dignity and supremacy of law, and make it a principal object to impress on the judges present, that the first and chief object in the execution of their duties was to keep separate matters of politics from all matters of justice, so that their decisions might never have even the appearance of being dictated or inspired by the government of the State.

What a contrast in this respect does "despotic France" present to "free America!" There, Justice bears sway, and the laws are religiously enforced. Here, our Judges are appointed because of political services, and for the purpose of making partisan decisions; while Constitution and laws are daily violated by those whose sworn duty it is to enforce them. In a word Imperial France deals more justly by her citizens than Republican America.

THERE is trouble in Mississippi. All, though chosen Governor by the Radicals, has a will of his own. He is a native of Mississippi and seems to have some self respect. He has refused to be sworn in by General Ames as a mere provisional Governor, claiming that he was elected Governor by the people of his State, and that he is entitled to the executive chair by reason of that election. Thus do the Radicals meet with checks in their reconstruction schemes at every turn.

THE Public Ledger Almanac for 1870 has just reached us and is an eminently creditable little volume. It is hand somely bound and printed, and contains a variety of useful information. Its statistics relating to the early government of the city of Philadelphia are especially valuable and such as we have never seen in a convenient shape for reference. Eighty thousand copies of this Almanac have been printed for gratuitous distribution among the subscribers to the Ledger, at a cost of over \$5000. Mr. Childs has reason to congratulate himself on the success of his new enterprise. The work will hereafter be published yearly.

"Hon. U. Mercer spent the recent vacation of Congress at his home in Tewanda."

This wonderful event is recorded in the Tunkhannock Republican. If Mercer can't make a sensation in Congress he can at least in Tunkhannock. It reminds us of an enthusiastic Bradfordian who asked an eastern Radical Congressman what he thought of Mercer. "Insomuch as we seldom see him, and never hear from him, I can't give you much of an opinion, but I believe there is such a man in Congress, from one of the wild districts of Pennsylvania" was the reply.

We have received a most capital little work entitled "The Talisman of Business Success" by W. H. Bixler of the Eastern Daily Express. The book is full of plain common sense advice to business men and most worthy of attention. We propose to give extracts from time to time for the benefit of our mercantile friends and others.

For a fine collection of non-original matter, see the REPUBLICAN of this week. There are no local unless the Dr. miscalls the flat platiutes in the first column of the third page by that name.

Internal Revenue Items.

Persons engaged in the manufacture of wines from grapes, berries, or fruit, not of their own growth, should pay a special tax as manufacturers, and as liquor dealers, when selling the same, whether their sales are made at the place of manufacture, or otherwise.

Postage stamps cannot be used in payment of the duty chargeable on instruments.

The law does not designate which of the parties to an instrument shall furnish the necessary stamps, nor does the Commissioner of Internal Revenue assume to determine that it shall be supplied by one party rather than another, but if an instrument subject to stamp duty is issued without having the necessary stamps affixed thereto, it cannot be recorded or admitted, or used as evidence in any court, until a legal stamp or stamps denoting the amount of tax, the covering was turned down from the face, it was pale and thin, its lines of suffering deeply traced, its womanly look touching to behold. The frosts of near sixty winters had passed over her, straining her locks with silver. Her physician spoke of her patience and gentleness during the lengthened dying of two tarry years, of her thankfulness, that one of her sex could be her physician, sympathizing with and soothing the overworn spirit, whilst ministering to the wasting body and palliating the tortures of disease, of her wish that as women could make a post mortem, they should do so, for the benefit of others of her sex. And how at the last visit when the spirit was about departing, being in great anguish she had wrung the hand of her physician and looked uttermost gratitude. With my mind interested and softened by the recital I looked on as the preparations proceeded. There were the white attenuated hands crossed on the still breast, and on the third finger of the left one was a gold ring worn almost through. Her physician resumed "that was her wedding ring, and she has been a widow these many years."

A check, draft or order, for the payment of a sum of money drawn otherwise than at sight, or on demand, is liable to stamp tax at the rate of five cents for each one hundred dollars, or fractional parts thereof.

Every memorandum, check, receipt, or other written or printed evidence of an amount of money to be paid upon demand, or at a time designated, is subject to stamp duty as "provisory notes."

There is no stamp tax on a provisory note until it is issued. A stamp is to be cancelled when it is "attached or used," and although a stamp may be affixed when a note is signed, it cannot be said to be used until the note is issued.

A negotiable promissory note made, signed and issued in a foreign country, and made payable there, may be negotiated by endorsement in this country without liability to any United States stamp tax.

The acceptor or acceptors of any bill of exchange, or order for the payment of any sum of money, drawn in any foreign country, but payable in the United States, must before paying or accepting the same, place thereon a stamp indicating the date.

When a conveyance of realty is made upon an actual valuable consideration which is manifested and intimatedly inadequate, the deed should be stamped according to the amount of valuable consideration, and a succession tax (unless the successor, be the wife of the predecessor) should be assessed upon the value of the land conveyed, less such consideration.

When a receipt for an installation of rent is written upon the part of a lease held by the tenant, and issued by me a two cent stamp should be affixed to it, if the amount exceeds \$20.

Letter from Jos. Billings,

NEW YORK, January 7th, 1870.

Belle my Dear Gazette:

The time for me to fill my engagement with you, at Bloomsburg is fast hurrying on, and I intend to fill it if I don't spring a leak. Sickness is one of them kind or leaks you can't avoid, nor can't stop. You will see me at Bloomsburg on the night of Jan. 28th, without the aid of a spyglass, if I don't get to leaking. The title on my lekter is "M.R.", the lekter is easy to take, and easy to digest. I warrant this lekter for 90 days, without any extra charge, I reserve the privilege of watering the lekter from time to time, if it shows signs of getting dry. Next year I think some of you dropping the lekter bizzness, and going into the Life & Fire Insurance Speculation. The only doubt I have about the new bizzness, would be the risk on insuring some folks, I know, against loss by fire. There is a grate many folks whom no amount of premium will save from burning.

In advertising me, doant fail to mention my grata personal beauty, my moral capacity, and the unduleing heart I have for Gia and Sugar. You may also say I adore women, and kant help it. My wife travels with me, to see that the kack drivers dont cheat me. She is a lovely woman on some 25 summers.

The examination was completed, as far as possible all traces of it effaced, the body readjusted, the hands softly crossed over the quiet heart, and they and their golden circle forever hidden from my eyes. I had seen how extensive and terrible might be the ravages of disease and yet life linger, had learned how awful the agony to which woman is the only possible heir, but also, I had learned nothing as to the cause, prevention, nor cure of the frightful malady. Such the humiliating limitation of this benevolent science, such the baffling boundary of human ken. I went from the presence of a dead a sadder, and a kinder, if not a wiser woman.

Often, when fatigued with the duties of the day I sit lonely in my silent chamber, that subduing memory comes up, and I see again that pale patient face, and those folded hands, and that well worn time-abraded marriage ring.

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