



THE COLUMBIAN. BLOOMSBURG, PA. Friday, June 8, 1877.

Brooklyn & Elwell, Editors.

TO THOSE OF OUR COUNTRYMEN WHO ARE SO STRONGLY PROSSING THE CLAIMS OF HON. WILLIAM F. SCHILLER FOR NOMINATION AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, WE WOULD SUGGEST AN EXAMINATION OF HIS RECORD AS SENATOR ON THE SALE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS.

DOES GARFIELD LIE? The New York Sun recently published the following letter from Mr. Hayes to General Garfield on the Ohio Senatorship, which at the time it was written was declared to have led to the retirement of Garfield and the election of Stanley Matthews.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 18, 1877. My Dear General: In accordance with your wish I put in writing what I expressed to you verbally last night. It seems to me that you can serve the country more advantageously by retaining a member of the House of Representatives, where your long experience and great abilities so eminently fit you for leadership.

FAITHFULLY YOUR FRIEND, R. B. HAYES. The publication of this letter drew from Garfield the following sweeping denial of its authenticity: "DEAR SIR: I have just seen in the Cincinnati Commercial of this morning, clipped from the New York Sun, a letter which purports to be a letter from the President to me. It is a forgery in every line and word."

THE LETTERS OF BUTLER AND MACVEAGH. We call the attention of those who delight in spying reading to the letters of Benj. F. Butler and of Mr. Wayne MacVeagh, to be found in another column. Butler's letter addressed to Marshal Pitkin, who is on the point of being kicked out of office to make room for Jack Wharton, is written in the most bitterly sarcastic vein, and is severe upon Civil Service reform, the Louisiana settlement, Mr. Hayes' Southern policy, the reversed Gen. Grant, and Mr. MacVeagh. Benjamin has evidently been nursing his wrath and disgust for some time and now an opportunity as presented itself was not to be lost. It will not surprise anyone who has followed the career of the redoubtable Benjamin. He doesn't believe in compromises nor does he probably take much stock in this man as Hayes, or in the manner of his induction into office. Benjamin F. Butler has many and grievous faults but hypocrisy is not one of them. His opinions have always been frankly and vigorously expressed, without particular regard to the feelings of others and his writings and speeches are not easily answered for he is ready of speech and writes with a caustic pen. There are many thousands of people who believe that there was a bargain in the settlement of the Louisiana difficulty, who know that Garfield is unworthy of credit and who do not doubt that Hayes bargained regarding the speaker-ship. This belief is founded, too, on quite good circumstantial and documentary evidence.

Mr. MacVeagh's reply to Butler is brief and pointed. His remark as to the acquisition of property by military commandants in New Orleans is sharp and his ironical allusion to the surprise of certain gentlemen that a political end can be gained without the use of money is very fine. Benjamin must feel somewhat as he who fondles the gentle mule and is kicked in the ribs thereby.

This laive is working in the Radical party in the State as well as in the West. Hayes & Co. were condemned in that Radical stronghold, Allegheny county, where Hayes had a majority of 9,500 last November, the other day by a square vote in the Radical County Convention in that county. The Pittsburgh Post in alluding to the affair, says: "A significant incident followed the introduction of a set of resolutions by Mayor McCarthy, endorsing Hayes' Southern policy, and especially the removal of troops from South Carolina and Louisiana. But the Convention would have nothing to do with an endorsement of Hayes. The resolutions were greeted with yells, hissing, cat-calls, abuse of Hayes, blackguarding and blasphemy. In many places the mob could hardly be pacified by being given a chance to vote them down which they did with a burrah."

The New York Sun denies the current statement that Mr. Tilden recently had an interview with a Southern gentleman in which he declared that if he had taken a firm stand and insisted on his right to the presidency the radicals would have drenched the country in blood.

We don't believe this Turkish-Russian war can last very long, for by notice by a dispatch from London, of June 4th, that the belligerent forces are conducting operations now at Danilgrade.

OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

We give below a carefully prepared analysis of the condition of the Common Schools of this county, taken from official reports. A mere inspection is sufficient to show that as a whole they are in a miserable condition, and one that reflects upon the intelligence of the people. Out of 152 districts, 80 have sufficient grounds, 73 are badly ventilated, and 65 are without water closets. Only 82 directors out of 166 attend the examinations; 75 accompanied representatives in his visitations, and only 106 patrons out of a population of 394,000 took interest enough to be present.

In this matter there is inexcusable negligence on the part of the State and the local authorities. Large sums of money are spent annually by the State and districts in the cause of education, but the results are almost barren. Parents should remember that there is a weighty responsibility upon them in fitting their children for future usefulness, yet in many instances there is less attention and care than in the rearing of cattle. Once sent to the school a duty is supposed to have been performed. The remedies are, First, the election of thoroughly competent and energetic Directors, and we believe the number should be reduced to three. Second, the employment of competent teachers, to whom good salaries should be paid. If the title to a man's land is endangered, he employs the best legal talent; if his child's health is impaired he consults the best physician; but the training of that child's mind, which is not only to fit him for usefulness here, but influences him in his preparation for the hereafter, the parent is too content to entrust his child to ignorance, and in many cases to immoral teachers. Third, a capable and active superintendent, one who loves his work, and will devote his whole time to it. By the joint action of the people, directors, teachers and superintendents, our schools can be raised from the slough of despond into which they have fallen to the level of the best now flourishing. Here is our analysis:

The estimated value of school property in Columbia county is \$150,355.00. The number of permanent certificates granted up to the last official report was none. Grounds of sufficient size 80; suitably improved 27; number of houses in districts 152; frame 22; log none; brick or stone 22; built during the year 8; unfit for use 51; badly ventilated 73; number without suitable property 65; first class school houses 15. Number of suitable teachers 33 with full and fair certificates during the year 5. Well supplied apparatus, none; with any apparatus, 134; no apparatus, 18; number of graded schools 46; no schools graded during the year; graded schools needed 19. No separate schools needed for colored children; schools well classed 112. The books are not uniform in 106 schools; the bible is read in 88; taught in 8; vocal music was taught in 83; high branches (query) 9. Public examinations held 24; directors present 82; receiving professional certificates 221; permanent certificates 3; applications rejected 7; examined privately 18; certificates renewed, none; average grade of certificates 2.38. Male teachers employed 119; female 94; average age 26; those who have had no experience 24; taught less than one year 30; taught more than five years 78; intend to make teaching a permanent business 129; attended a State Normal School 20; graduated at a State Normal School 13. Teachers who have read books on teaching 109; who hold professional certificates 21; who hold permanent certificates 3; failures in teaching 1. Visits to schools by the County Superintendent 211; average time spent at each, one and a half hours; number of directors accompanying the Superintendent 52; patrons met in the schools 106; no schools regularly visited by the directors or patrons; a district institute was held in one district; one meeting was held by the Superintendent; no district has a library; no catalogue of number of school children not in school 112.

A HOWL FROM THE GRAVE.

Never at any previous recurrence of the event was there observable so general a feeling of brotherly love and sympathy, so obvious a desire for reconciliation, peace and good will as in this Decoration Day just passed. All over the country Unionists and Confederates joined in the ceremonies of the day, and fraternal tributes were strewn lavishly hand on the graves wherein repose alike the Blue and the Gray awaiting the awakening trump of the last Great Day. There was a heartiness, a genuineness, so to speak, connected with the observance of the occasion so marked a nature to be lightly trifled with. Federal troops paid tribute to the gallantry of their former foes and cast fraternal wreaths and sprays upon their graves. Ex-Confederates, officers and men, joined with equal honesty of purpose in testifying to the bravery of those who fell in the heat of battle, with opposing arms in their hands.

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

The latest dispatches state that the Turkish forces have attacked Montenegro and that the fighting is still in progress. The Turks had been repulsed with a loss of 500 killed. Although the Montenegrins are fighting against heavy odds these hardy mountaineers will not be easily conquered. The Russians have at last occupied the chief positions on the Danube but the swollen condition of the river has thus far rendered it impossible to cross. The Czar has taken command of his army and is now at the front.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

There seems to be an ancient desire on the part of a certain party in Germany to precipitate a conflict between that country and France. The Berlin Post, a semi-official organ, has lately contained a number of articles looking to such a result. In the issue of May 30th appeared another article, declaring that no confidence ought to be placed in the professions or intentions of the French Cabinet and that hopes of peace rest chiefly on the prudence and sagacity of German statesmen. The article is full of insinuations against Count Von Bismarck, Austrian Ambassador at London, of whose intrigues it gives a circumstantial account. It says he recently endeavored to cement an Anglo-Austro-French alliance, to be nominally concluded against Russia and Germany, but in reality against Germany alone. France and Austria were to have attacked Germany while England would be left to deal single-handed with Russia in the East. The English Cabinet, however, seeing through this plot, it came to nothing.

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While there may be some doubts concerning the accuracy of these statements there can be none as to the animus which inspired them. France is no longer the helpless nation of 1870-1, and the Germans might, in spite of the Alsatian fortresses, find it difficult a second time to reach the walls of Paris. Nor would they command the sympathies of other nations in another war, there exists no reason strong enough to justify its aggression.

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A SCHEME TO MAINTAIN THE ARMY.

A cabinet meeting was held last Friday at which there was an extended discussion concerning the troubles on the Texas border. As a result the Secretary of War sent a letter to General Sherman, which, after reciting the facts of the raids, reads as follows: General Grant will at once notify the Texas authorities along the Texas border of the great desire of the President to unite with them in efforts to suppress this long continuing lawlessness, and at the same time to inform those authorities that if the government of Mexico shall continue to neglect the duty of suppressing these outrages that duty will devolve upon this government and will be performed, even if its performance shall require the occasional crossing of the border by our troops. You will therefore direct General Grant that in case the lawless companies do not discontinue their operations, he is authorized to use his discretion when in liberty of a band of marauders, and when his troops are either in sight of them or upon a fresh trail, to follow them across the Rio Grande and to overtake and punish them as well as to take any necessary measures for the protection of our citizens and for the safety of the Mexican side of the line.

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THE TEXAS BOUNDARY.

General Benjamin F. Butler has given the following letter, reviewing the policy of the Administration in settling terms, to the press: WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20. MY DEAR PITKIN: I have your note of 15th inst., informing me that when you were in Washington both the President and Mr. Deves, the Attorney General, gave you substantial assurance that the House would be satisfied in your office as United States Marshal, being a native of the State of Louisiana and a good Republican, and against whom no official indictment or removal from office had been shown, and who, therefore came eminently within the provisions of the law. I understand that the House has not yet acted on the matter, and that the President and the Attorney General will not insist upon your resignation of the office of Marshal, as you say they have done, in contravention of their assurance that they would not do so. I am certain that the President and the Attorney General will not insist upon your resignation of the office of Marshal, as you say they have done, in contravention of their assurance that they would not do so. I am certain that the President and the Attorney General will not insist upon your resignation of the office of Marshal, as you say they have done, in contravention of their assurance that they would not do so.

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