THE REPUBLICAN

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Clearfield Republican.

A WEEKLY PAPER: DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, MORALITY, AND FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

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First and Last Night in London.

It was in the fall of 18—, that the ship to which I belonged, after a voyage of four months in the northern Atlantic, hove in sight of the Scilly Islands, and, as we were bound for London, shaped our course up the channel and in a few days were anchored in the Downs. Having been short of provisions for some time back, we were obliged to stop to replenish. The next day, however, we were towed up the river, and entered the Commercial Dock on the 28th of October, 18—. It was a grand sight to me, for I had never been in London, and the city seemed like the world in comparison with my humble village in the west of England. We were to be paid off on the morrow; and I determined, as soon as I was at liberty to take a stroll and see some of the sights about which I had so often heard. At twelve the next day all hands proceeded to the office in Leander Hall street, and received, severally, the amounts due them. There were just ten pounds coming to me, and I started off to see how I could best make it conducive to my pleasure. I had been strolling around for some time, looking at the Tower and other places of note, and finally walked into one of the parks to see there what I could of London fashions. I was leaning against a tree watching a party which attracted my attention, when I was suddenly accosted by a female, apparently about eighteen or twenty, neatly dressed, and with an expression which, though pleasing, seemed some what sad.

"What is it you wish, my good lady?" said I.

She looked at me a moment, and said:

"You are a sailor, I suppose?"

"Yes."

"How long have you been in London?"

"I arrived yesterday."

"Have you been here before?"

"Never."

"Well, then, perhaps I can be of some assistance to you. Suppose we take a cab and drive out to Vauxhall this evening?"

I hesitated a moment; for I thought to myself, she no doubt thinks I have plenty of money, and wishes to obtain a share.—But then, again, I thought, it makes no difference; I'll spend it anyhow; and consented.

She called a cab, and in a short time we were at Vauxhall. I pulled out my purse to pay the driver, when she anticipated me, and said—

"Never mind, sir, I have plenty. Besides, I invited you here; therefore, I bear all expense."

I was astonished, for I had never doubted but that my money was the principal attraction; and I was puzzled to think what could be her object.

After ordering some refreshments, of which she ate and drank very little, but which she insisted upon paying for, we strolled round the garden, listening to the music, until towards evening, when I remarked it would be best to return.

"Yes, it will soon be dark, and we had better go. But," said she, "you are a stranger in London, and it would be folly for you to look for a hotel to-night—and, besides, it would be ungenerous in me to allow you too.—I reside in———street, and if you will accept a room in my house you will be perfectly welcome; and my husband, who is fond of company, will be glad to see you."

While hesitating, she called a cab and half forced me in.

When the cab stopped we got out, and I found myself in a narrow street dimly lighted, and before a large brick house, with iron railings in front.

She opened the door, and asked me to sit down a moment, when she went into a room close by, and returned almost immediately and said:

"My husband has retired, I'll introduce you to him in the morning. Here is a light, take the room at the head of the stairs. Good night."

I went up stairs to the room she had pointed out, opened the door and went in. It was furnished, you might say, richly; the bed stood in the further corner, with blue damask curtains in front. I undressed quickly, as I was somewhat tired by my day's adventures, walked to the bed and drew aside the curtains, and there lay a man weltering in his blood, with his throat cut from ear to ear! It would be vain to attempt to describe my feelings. I immediately dressed myself, with a presence of mind I have never been able to account for. I then tried to open the door, which, to my horror, I found was locked. Glancing around the room, my eye fell upon the irons in the fire-place; I snatched up one, and with one stroke, broke the lock and opened the door. Running down the stairs, I found the front door fastened too! Having nothing to break the lock with, I darted into the first room I came to, and jumped from the window into an alley on the side of the house, and I had merely time to conceal myself when I heard the people round crying murder, and I saw the very woman that I came with, followed by several of the police, enter the house, thinking, I suppose, of course she could find me. I left as soon as the crowd gathered round, and passed unnoticed.

The next morning I was reading the paper, and almost the first thing which attracted my attention was a notice of a bloody murder in———street, with the reward of fifty pounds for the apprehension of the murderer. It went further, and, in the description of the supposed person, described me better than I could have done myself, even to the manner in which I wore my beard. The first barber's shop received that gratis; and changing my clothing, which was also minutely described, I went down to the docks, and barque———, being a hand short, I shipped in her for New York, and have never since, nor never wished to, spend another night in London!

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR POOR BOYS.

Among those who formed a part of the settlement during the revolutionary struggle, was a poor widow, who having buried her husband, was left in poverty, with the task upon her bonds of rearing three sons; of these the two oldest ere long, fell in the cause of their country, and she struggled on with the youngest as best she could.—After the fall of Charleston, and the disastrous defeat of Col. Buford of Virginia, by Tarleton, permission was given to some four or five American females to carry necessaries and provisions, and administer some relief to the prisoners confined on board the prison ship and in the jails of Charleston. This widow was one of the volunteers on this errand of mercy. She was admitted within the city, and braving the horrors of pestilence, employed herself to the extent of her humble means, in alleviating the deplorable sufferings of her countrymen.

She knew what she had to encounter before she went; but, notwithstanding, went bravely on. Her message of humanity having been fulfilled, she left Charleston on her return; but, alas! her exposure to the pestilential atmosphere she had been obliged to breathe, had planted in her system the seeds of fatal disease, and ere she reached her home, she sank under an attack of prison fever, a brave martyr to the cause of humanity and patriotism. That dying mother, who now rests in the unknown grave, thus left her only son, the sole survivor of this family, to the world's charity; but little did she dream as death closed her eyes, the future of that orphan boy. That son became the President of this free Republic, for that widow was the mother of Andrew Jackson."

☞ It is stated that the house of delegates of Virginia has before it a bill to provide for the appointment of overseers, who are to be required to hire out, at public auction, all free persons of color, to the highest bidder, and to pay into the State treasury the sums accruing from such hire. These sums are to be devoted in future to sending free persons of color beyond the limits of the State. At the expiration of five years, all free persons of color remaining in the State are to be sold into slavery to the highest bidder, at public auction, the proceeds of such sales to be paid into the public treasury; provided that the said free persons of color shall be allowed the privilege of becoming the slaves of any free white person whom they may select, on the payment by such person of a fair price.

FIGURATIVE.—A Western editor says, if a contemporary makes faces at his sister again, he must make up his mind to wear a slice of court plaster over his nose for the next three months. It strikes us that this is only a roundabout way of saying that "the party of the second part" must look out for what vulgar people would term "a bat over the smeller."

☞ "Barney, where have you been."

"To widow Mulloney's ball, and illigant time we had of it—four fights in fifty minutes, and a knock down with the watchman that left but one whole nose in the house, and that belonged to the tea kettle. Be dad the likes were never seen since we 'waked Donnelly.'"

From these remarks it will appear that some people's ideas of the "illigant" differ somewhat from others.

☞ All a man wants to make him happy in this world, are health, sunshine and contentment. The two former may be had gratis, while the latter may be purchased for less than half the sum that we often spend to make our neighbors envious.

☞ They must have some rich soil in Oregon. A child of a shoemaker, in one of the more fertile counties, hid, a few weeks since, one of his father's boots in a hole dug in the vegetable garden. The next morning the principal attraction in the enclosure was a leather tree loaded with brogans.

☞ Dobbs says he always esteemed sleigh-rides, because of the delightful privileges which the common law allows the driver—such as tucking in the furs about "the dear creature on your left," or keeping the chilling winds away from a pair of light blue eyes, by burying your face every now and then, within the pink silk enclosure of a bewitching little bonnet. What an epicure.

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Penn'a.

GENTLEMEN:—Agreeably to the act of 16th of March, 1832, I submit to your honorable bodies this, my annual report, on the finances of the Commonwealth, being for the year ending the 30th day of November 1852. The tables which will be found hereto appended, show, in the usual form the revenue and expenditures, the estimates, the monthly statements, and statements relative to tax on real and personal property, relief notes, balance of appropriation and public debt. From these it will be seen that the whole amount of receipts, for the year, was seven millions seven hundred and sixteen thousand five hundred and fifty-two dollars and seventeen cents, (7,716,552 17,) and that of the payments six millions eight hundred and eighty two thousand six hundred and eleven dollars, (6,882,611.)

As this representation of the facts however might in some degree convey an erroneous impression as to the true state of our finances, it is proper to remark that a large portion both of the receipts and expenditurs, is of an extraordinary character, being loans, premiums on loans, sales of public property, extension and improvements of the public works, &c. Divested of these items, the receipts and expenditures may be stated as follows, viz:

Receipts at the Treasury from permanent sources of revenue during the year ending Nov. 30, 1852.	$4,428,096 23
Payments at the Treasury as applied to objects of a permanent character during the same time.	3,879,673 36
Expenses of permanent revenue over permanent expenditures.	548,422 87

Whilst it thus appears that the ordinary and permanent revenue has been more than adequate to the ordinary support of the government during the past year, the appropriations for extraordinary purposes beyond the loans at the last session of the Legislature, and paid out of the Treasury proper, have fully absorbed this excess.—The gratifying fact nevertheless, is presented that the resources of the Treasury are no longer insufficient to sustain the plighted faith of the Commonwealth, but that, with proper economy and prudent legislation, a few years only will have elapsed till our public debt will be, if not numbered among the things that were, greatly reduced, and our people relieved from the burthen of taxation.

Although an apparent available balance of $1,382,611 was in the treasury at the close of the fiscal year, yet the same is not at all applicable to the payment of the interest on the funded debt, falling due on the 1st day of February next. The sum of $711,573 28 being part of the loan authorized by the act of 4th May, 1852, for the redemption of the over due loans of the Commonwealth, there remained an available balance for interest purposes of but $671,037 72. In my report of last year, I found it necessary to ask for the passage of a law authorizing a special loan to meet the February interest. It became necessary to make the loan thus authorized, and it cost the State seven thousand two hundred and three dollars and thirty-five cts. I am entirely confident that the interest falling due on the 1st day of February next can be paid without resorting to a special loan.

Of the five millions' loan authorized by the act of 4th May, 1852, for the redemption of the over due loans, the sum of three millions five hundred and ten thousand dollars had been negotiated up to the close of the fiscal year. Since then the balance of said loan has been taken, making up the full amount. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars of this loan, bearing 4 per cent. interest, was taken at par, by the bank of Northern Liberties, and the sum of four millions nine hundred thousand dollars, bearing five per cent. interest, at premiums ranging from 103 per centum to five per centum, as follows, viz:

B. C. H. Fisher.	$520,000 at	1,03 prem.
Do.	520,000 at	1,23 "
Do.	520,000 at	1,53 "
Do.	520,000 at	1,77 "
Do.	520,000 at	2,02 "
Do.	520,008 at	2,27 "
Wes. Sav. F. Soc'y.	40,000 at	2,56 "
Ellmen Brothers,	10,000 at	1,50 "
Do.	10,000 at	1,75 "
Do.	10,000 at	2,00 "
Do.	10,000 at	2,25 "
Do.	10,000 at	2,50 "
C. Macallaster,	100,000 at	5,10 "
Pennsylvania Life Insurance Co.,	100,000 at	1,53 "
Simon Draper,	1,000,000 at	5,00 "
Girard Bank,	490,000 at	5,00 "

The premiums on this loan in the aggregate, amount to one hundred and thirty-four thousand five hundred and thirty-four dollars, being at the average rate of about 2,69 per centum on the whole. The loan for the North Branch Canal was taken at par, two hundred thousand dollars of the same bearing 4½ per cent. interest, and six hundred and fifty thousand dollars bearing 5 per cent. interest. As financial measures these cannot be too highly commended; for whilst the former removes from the face of the annual report of the unpaid loans, it proves that it will be a saving to the Commonwealth of more than half a million of dollars. In illustration of this fact I submit the following figures:

Interest on $1,914,923 51 6 per ct. loans for 25 years,	$2,871,035 26
Interest on $2,985,976 at 5 per cent. loans.	3,732,470 61
Interest on 100,000 00 at 5 per ct. for 35 years.	175,000 00
Old loans 5,000,000. In't.	$6,778,505 87
Deduct S. tax from Int'st.	338,925 29
Amount that would have been required for interest on old loans.	$6,439,580 58
Interest on $4,900,000 at 4 per cent for 25 years.	6,125,000 00
Interest on $100,000 at 4 per cent for 35 years.	140,000 00
New loans, 5,000,000. In't.	$6,265,000 00
Deduct premiums on new loans. $134,534 00	
Deduct interest on same for 25 y'rs. 201,801 00	
	336,335 00
Amount required to pay interest on new loans.	$5,928,665 00

RECAPITULATION.

Amount that would have been required to pay interest on old loans.	$6,439,580 58
Amount requred to pay interest on new loans.	5,928,665 00
Defference in favor of new loans, or saving to the Commonwealth.	510,915 58

Or a saving of more than twenty thousand dollars per annum.

Agreeably to the 103d section of the act of 4th May, 1852, notice was duly given to the holders of the loans and domestic creditors' scrip, which have fallen due, to present their certificates for payment, and that the interest on the same, from sixty days thereafter, would cease to be allowed. The amount redeemed up to the closing of the financial year was as follows:

Of 6 per cent loans.	$1,182,855 45
Of 5 per cent loans.	1,000 00
Interest certificates, scrip &c.	149,571 30
	$1,333,426 75

As a very large portion of these loans is held in Europe, some considerable time may elapse before the certificates reach the Treasury for redemption.

The bonds issued in pursuance of the act creating the aforesaid loan, have attached to them coupons, or certificates for interest, and whilst the market price of the ordinary bonds does not exceed their par value, the former commands a handsome premium. This is, in a great measure, there can be no doubt, owing to the facility with which they can be disposed of, requiring no power of attorney or other authority to transfer them, but passing readily from hand to hand. The question may therefore be asked, would it not be wise policy in the government to change the character of other public loans to that of coupon bonds? I do most cordially recommend this question to the consideration of the Legislature, and were the proper provisions made for this change, and the coupons made receivable at the State Treasury in payments of all public dues, it admits of but little doubt that the value of the bonds would be greatly enhanced. I cannot see that any disadvantage in consequence of such change could possibly result to the Commonwealth. The five million loan already negotiated shows to the contrary.

By a resolution of the last Legislature, passed 4th May, 1852, the Governor was authorized "to appoint three commissioners to digest and simplify the general tax laws of the State, and to report the same to the next (present) Legislature." As the commissioners thus appointed, will in the discharge of their duties submit the result of their deliberations to your consideration, I do not deem it proper, under the circumstances, to suggest any amendments to the revenue laws, as they now exist, trusting that matter entirely to them.

The tolls from the public works during the past year have largely exceeded those of any previous year. The receipts at the Treasury from that source, having reached the sum of one million nine hundred and thirty-eight thousand five hundred and seventy-four dollars and forty-three cents, (1,938,574 43.) This truly is the gratifying result of good management, as well as of increase of trade, and shows conclusively, what may be expected when the North Branch extension of canal and the road to avoid the planes over the Allegheny mountains shall have been finished. Sound policy dictates the early completion of these important works, and I cannot too earnestly press the matter upon the attention of the Legislature—a moment's reflection must satisfy any unprejudiced mind that the North Branch canal, opening as it does into the great coal fields and iron beds of the northern counties, to say nothing of the productive soil through which it passes, must become one of the most important links in the chain of our improvements. That it will amply repay for the outlay in its construction, cannot well be denied.

The avoidance of the inclined planes of the Allegheny Portage railway, may be urged with equal force—whilst the facilities for transportation will be greatly increased, a vast saving to the Commonwelath will be the effect. The expenses now attendant upon the operation of these planes are much more than commensurate with the interests on the cost of avoiding them. The same reasons that operated to the avoidance of the Schuylkill inclined plane, may be applied with equal, if not greater force, to the case in question.—Experience has already tested the wisdom of the former measure, and time will show the wise policy of the latter.

For more specific information in regard to these improvements, reference is made to the annual report of the Canal Commissioners, which will be laid before you.

Our public debt on the 1st of Dec. 1852, although stated in the table at $41,524,875 37, was in realty $711,573 25 less; this sum being in the Treasury at that time and constituting part of the loan of 4th of May, 1852, was subject to the redemption of any of the 6 per cent. certificate of loan then due. Had these certificates been presented for payment before the close of the year the amount of them outstanding would have been reduced equal to the amount of the new loan received. It may be well to remark that this loan does in no wise increase the State debt, as it but takes the place of those loans that have fallen due. On the contrary, it directly reduces it in amount equal to the premiums received, these being vested in the commissioners of the sinking fund for the purchase of State stocks. The only item of increase in the debt since the 1st of Dec. 1851, is the North Branch canal loan, and this was dictated by the soundest principles of policy.

By reference to the tables of estimates for the current year, it will be seen that the revenue is calculated to exceed the expenditures by the sum of nearly six hundred thousand dollars, irrespective of the balance now in the Treasury. But while this favorable aspect of our affairs is presented to our view, we should not too soon lose sight of the unfavorable position in which we stood some years ago, when Pennsylvania, for the first time in her history, failed to meet punctually her honest engagements. Although we have now fairly attained our former high position, prudence and the exercise of sound judgment are necessary to retain it. It was by these, as manifested in our halls of legislation, that we regained it, and it is only in the same way by these that we can expect to retain it.

I am with great respect,
Your obedient servant,
J. M. BICKEL, *S. Trea'r.*

The Plague in Russias

The Boston Traveller is indebted to a mercantile firm of that city for the following extract from a letter just received from St. Petersburgh, and dated the 21st of Dec.

"There is a report that the plague has entered Russia, and is prevalent at another place. The emperor has ordered a military cordon of sixty or seventy thousand men to prevent its advancing further into the interior of the country. Some alarm is felt at St. Petersburg; though in former times, as in the reign of Catherine, it stopped at Moscow."

MEXICO.

The latest advices received from Mexico indicate that the process of disorganization is going on rapidly in that republic. It is said that all the Mexican States but three have joined in the movement against the central authority, and that the augmenting power of the revolutionists has put the whole country in a very unsettled and disturbed condition.

Santa Anna's immediate return to Mexico is regarded as highly probable.

It is obvious that such a state of things in Mexico is of great interest to the United States, especially in view of the opening which it offers for European interference and influence in the affairs of that weak and distracted government.

☞ An Indiana paper says: Amos Worthington, of Cairo, is dead. He was an unpretending man, lived unostentatiously, and supplied the people with fish.—His last words were characteristic. "I say, Pritchard, I am going to 'peg' right off. I've flirted my last fish; but bury my tackle with me—who knows but they bite in Jordan."

☞ There is a hog on exhibiton at Cincinnati, of such size and fatness, that Professor Somerindyke says, that if his tail was lighted and kept properly trimmed, he would burn for a year, and with such brilliancy as to light a large portion of the city. Where's your sperm whale now?

☞ A youth last week, wishing to commit suicide, purchased a percussion cap, placed it upon his head, struck it with an idea, and it exploded and blew the unfortunate youngsters brains in an indigo bag.

ENORMOUS YIELD OF CORN.

The following says the Harrisburg *Union*, is the statement of Mr. Geo. Walker, of Susquehanna county, who took a premium of $50 at the annual meeting of the Agricultural Society last week, for the largest crop of corn, being 160 bushels of shelled corn to the acre. We believe this never has been equalled in the U. States. There were several other competitors, but 96¾ bushels to the acre, raised by John B. Bitzer of Lancaster county, was the next highest, and 93 by John A. M'Rea, of White Marsh, Montgomery county, was the next.

GEO. WALKER'S MODE OF CULTIVATION. He ploughed five acres of green sward, for corn, the beginning of May, and hauled one hundred loads of manure on the same. After the manure was spread the ground was well harrowed, and planted the last of May, in rows 3½ feet apart, running north and south, and 3 feet apart in the rows, running east and west; from three to five grains in the hill. Two bushels of lime, mixed with three bushels of plaster, was applied to said five acres very soon after it came up. A plow did not enter the field after the crop was planted. The ground was kept loose and mellow, and the grass and weeds kept down by the use of the cultivator, making but little use of the hand hoe. A specimen of the corn was exhibited at the State fair at Lancaster, in October, being of the white flint species, eight rowed, small cob and long ears, more than one foot in length.

In addition to the enormous yield of *one hundred and sixty bushels to the acre* of shelled corn, the same field, containing five acres, produced twenty tons of superior pumpkins, some of which weighed more than 41 pounds. Said field is situated on one of the highest hills in Susquehanna county, being an Oak, Pine, Beech and Sugar Maple ridge—soil a sandy loom.

GEO. WALKER.

October 20, 1852.

This statement is accompanied with the statement of Hon. Wm. Jessup, Wm. D. Cope, and A. Chamberlin, certifying that they measured the field, counted the rows and the hills in each row, and husked twenty-six hills, being a fair average of the whole field, and that this made a yield equal to 160 bushels of shelled corn to the acre.

Highly Important from Mexico.

A despatch from New Orleans, received last evening, brings the intelligence that the Mexican republic is on the brink of destruction. The revolutionists are successful in every quarter. The utmost consternation pervades all classes of citizens. Arista has resigned the presidency and fled the city; whereupon Cevallos, president of the Supreme Court, organized a sort of provisional government. This brief summary of events in Mexico suggests to the mind a story of social anarchy, disorganized government, and desolating rebellion, which tells us that Mexico no longer exists as a stable and independent government. The edifice is crumbling to the earth in hopeless ruin.—How long can this country remain an idle and indifferent spectator of a neighboring people consumed by all the calamaties of anarchy? How long will it be before the interposition of the United States will be invoked to rescue Mexican society and civilization from total anarchy and barbarism? How long will it be before other powers will assort rights in respect to Mexico? These questions are worthy of the anxious consideration of the statesmen of this country. The United States cannot be indifferent to the condition of Mexico.—*Washington Union.*

THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.—The Boston *Post* publishes the following extract from a letter, received from a gentleman who has just returned to this country from a trip to China, relative to the feelings of the Japanese towards the expedition expected from the United States.

"I was informed by a gentleman a native of Japan, that the Emperor is ready for the American expedition. He exhibited a letter to me, which he had received from one of his countrymen then on the Island of Jeddo. The people kept a strict look out all over the coast; and their fires were already burning on the mountains at night in order to be prepared in case the squadron should appear at night. One million of dollars are ready and on hand. The coast is all set with guns, while in the bay of Jeddo, where the fleet is expected, there are countless war junks, and the whole bay is surrounded with innumerable forts. The expedition will find the Japanese much better soldiers than they anticipated. The presents had better been left at home. A trade will not soon be opened with that country, except by force."

Later from Mexico.

New Orleans, Jan. 28.—The *Picayune* is in possession of later dates from Mexico, which mention the rumor that a Mexican war steamer with troops, having arrived opposite Matamoras, to attack that city.

The *Picayune* also announces the death of Resannon, a prominent Democrat, and an officer in the Mexican war.