

THE CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN
Published weekly, except on Sundays and public holidays, at the office of the publisher, in Clearfield, Pa., by W. W. MOORE.
TERMS:
One copy one year, in advance, \$1.00
Not paid within three months, 1.25
Not paid within six months, 1.50
Not paid within nine months, 1.75
Not paid within twelve months, 2.00
The subscription price is for the paper in advance, and will be sent by mail, postage paid. The paper is published for the proprietor by W. W. Moore, at the office of the publisher, in Clearfield, Pa.

Clearfield Republican.

A WEEKLY PAPER: DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, MORALITY, AND FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.
Volume 4, Clearfield, Pa., Sept. 2, 1853. Number 34.

Prices of Advertising.
A liberal reduction will be made to Merchants and others who advertise by the year.
Our paper is published every week, and is read by nearly every family in the county, and therefore affords an excellent and cheap means for the business men of our county to advertise their goods and services. We should like to insert "A Card" for every business man, and we will do so for a small charge. We have plenty of space for advertisements, and we will do our best to get the most for the least. For a circular, the more extensively, a card advertising the greater will be the benefit.
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OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, PRINTED IN THE VERY BEST STYLE, AND ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE, AT THE OFFICE OF THE "CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN."

THE SPECKLED AXE.

Dr. Franklin, in his autobiography, tells a story of a man who went one day to buy an axe; and, having bought one he expressed a wish that it had been bright instead of black; on which the smith who had made the axe replied: "Oh! if you will turn the grindstone we'll soon make it bright." No sooner said than done, and they set to work; but presently the purchaser felt tired, for the smith pressed so heavily on the stone, that the labor of turning made him sweat again, and he wanted to leave off. "Keep on, keep on," said the smith, "it isn't bright yet, it's only speckled." "Well, never mind," said the buyer, "I think I like a speckled axe best."
In this incident we have an example, on a small scale, of what takes place all over the world on a large scale. And it struck me one day, as I was thinking about it, that the demand for the speckled axes is one that is always active; as though people could no more grow tired of buying those useful instruments, than they can of eating bread. It was curious I thought, that speckles should be preferred to perfect brightness.
While I was cogitating thereupon, it came to my mind that perhaps some good might be done by setting down a few instances of buyers having been content to take the inferior article, when, by proper care and judgment, they might have had the best. And here is the list.
Whenever I see a man striving for more vanity to make a name, and fancying that he is made of different material to his fellow creatures, and that he does them a favor by living among them, and who does not care by what means he rises so that he does rise; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see a man in business intent on making money, as though that were the only thing worth living for, and not caring what wrong may be carried on in his establishment, nor how his customers may be tricked, so that he makes a profit; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see, as I do nearly every day, a young man swaggering along the street, with a cigar in his mouth, as though the pavement were hardly good enough for him to tread upon, fancying himself the admiration of everybody, when all the time sensible people are laughing at him; and while I wonder if he will ever know better I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see a young man in want of a wife, choosing a partner for life merely because she has a pretty face, or dances well, or sings a nice song, or plays nimbly on the piano, and never asking whether she can make a shirt, or roast a leg of mutton, or whether she is one likely to make him happy; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see a man frequenting the tap-room, or the tavern parlor night after night, as so many are in the habit of doing while his wife sits at home, perhaps darning his stockings, or mending a frock for the little one bent on his own selfish gratification, as though he had any more right to be wasting his time or money than his wife has; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see a boy at school looking upon learning and knowledge as something invented for their torment, and forgetting that youth is their only seed-time, when their parents frequently have to make great sacrifices to give them an education, and thinking it all fair to deceive their master provided they be not found out, although ignorance may be the consequence; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see a man trying to make himself believe that he can indulge in secret sins and vices, if the world does not know of them—that, so long as he can make people believe that he is good and virtuous, he may hug private wickedness to his heart; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I go to a house where I see the servants with a kept down look, hear them whispering things of their master and mistress—when I see them stunted for food or recreation—when I see the children looking timid and unhappy, never laughing the merry laugh of childhood—where the sunshine seems less bright than elsewhere; then I say—Some one in this house likes a speckled axe best.
Whenever I see a man refuse to do a good turn when the opportunity comes in his way—not speaking a good word for his friend when his friend needs it, thinking very much more about his own convenience, and what the world will say, than of what conscience commands; then I say—He likes a speckled axe best.
I might extend the list to many pages were it necessary; but here is enough to show that the demand for speckled axes still exists. It is not a pleasing list; but it is full of things as they are, and I cannot help hoping that I may not have lost my time in writing it. I am fully aware that the speckled axe is not always a bad thing; but it is to be feared that long habit will render it very difficult or impossible for them to change

should the time come when they wish to do so. It will be very melancholy to look back and say, I might have had it bright but I wouldn't.
From all of which I am led to conclude that some day, when the great account is made up, the number of speckled axes will be very much greater than people in those days are willing to believe.

At a short distance from the city of Boston, there is now living a white haired veteran, a soldier of the revolutionary war who is 99 years of age, one in whom the fire of patriotism still burns brightly as if burned of yore—and whose eyes still sparkle with the vivacity of youth, when he relates the events of "those days that tried men's souls." Among the names of those he delighted to honor, was the name of Gen. Jackson. That man he greatly revered—he admired the man for his heroism, and honored him for his devotion to his country. About the time that Jackson was elected to the Presidency, a party of men belonging to the town in which he resided, (they were Whigs, of course) made an effigy of Gen. Jackson, and to gratify the malice they felt in their hearts towards him and the party by whom he had been elected, they hung the effigy in a public place, called the "green." A guard of eight men were stationed near to protect the image and the men who were then endeavoring to dishonor the name of Gen. Jackson.

The old soldier, at this time more than seventy years of age, was informed of what was going on, and of the threats that were made to shoot any man that should attempt to cut down the image. Fired with indignation at the insult offered to Jackson, he shouldered his axe, and went, notwithstanding the remonstrance of his family, who trembled for his safety, accompanied only by his youngest son, who would not let his father go alone on such a dangerous expedition. The firmness of his step—the determination which his whole demeanor expressed—his well-known attachment to his country and to its noble defenders, conspired to speak out his purpose, and the axe on his shoulder needed no comment as he marched boldly up to the mock gallows.

"Halt!" shouted the guard—"advance another step, and you are a dead man!" they leveled their weapons, pointing them directly at the old veteran.
"Fire if you will," said he, "I'll cut it down, if I die for it!"
And down it went—not only down, but heaved up into fragments by the hand of the old soldier. The guard were perfectly astonished—they were awed by the boldness of that aged man, with his white hair streaming in the wind as he bent him to the task, and they could not hurt him—but they quailed before the fire of his eye, and he marched off in triumph before them—they had not expected an attack from such a quarter, and it took them by surprise.
They would as soon have looked for a ghost among them as that venerable man whose head was white as snow. They said it was nothing but his white hairs that saved him from personal violence—he was an old soldier and they could not lay hold of him.

To such men, under God, we are indebted for liberty! Long may their noble deeds be imitated by their sons, and themselves honored by a nation that reaps the benefit of their labors.

INFORMATION WANTED.—William Not left his home in Mt. Solon, Augusta Co., Va., in July last, and when last seen was in Chambersburg, Pa., on his way toward Canada. He was for the last twenty-five years previous a useful minister of the gospel. He is a man of about 50 or 60 years of age and probably a little over six feet high; stoop-shouldered; hair very gray; shabbily dressed, and apparently much broken down in body by age and mental affliction. He imagines himself pursued by enemies seeking his life for his heretofore fearless opposition to Slavery, and said he would only be safe in Canada.—He left a respectable family and connection of relatives who are totally unacquainted with his whereabouts. If the above person is taken and confined, he will be sent for and all necessary expenses paid upon receipt of the intelligence of his whereabouts. Address, Daniel Funkhouser, Chambersburg, Franklin co., Pa.

"HE HAS NOT AN ENEMY!"—He hasn't! well, we are sorry for him! For he has a mighty little character who has no enemies. He is nobody, who has not got pluck enough to get an enemy. Gives us rather an ideal of virtue and manliness, one who has many enemies—who has made them by his manhood, and down right sincerity, candor and fearless love of the things he sets to fight. The man of earnest purposes, strong will, and love of principle for its own sake, must have enemies. But this, so far from being ill, is to him a good. The strong tree is more deeply rooted and fastened in the soil by the blast than the summer breeze. A man never knows how much there is of him till he has confronted and braved bitter opposition.
Bath, Tribune.
Cary H. Boardman, of Indianapolis, recently married his tenth wife.

THE CHINESE REBELS AND THEIR RELIGION.

The following communication from the Rev. James Collier, one of our missionaries in China, gives the most authentic statement of the religious aspect of the present movement in China that has come under our notice:
HONG KONG, China, June 4th, 1853.
Recent developments of the revolution now progressing in the Chinese empire, have brought to light a feature of that movement which has arrested the attention and secured the sympathy of the entire foreign community. I allude to its religious aspect.
At various times since the commencement of the revolution reports have been circulated, stating that those engaged in it were worshippers of the one true God—believers in Christ as the Saviour of the world—and that they were uncompromising opponents to idolatry in every form. For the most part these rumors were discredited, but recent investigation has shown that, strange as they may appear, they have their foundation in truth.

The British steamer "Hermes" conveying Sir Geo. Bonham and suite, last month forced her way to Nankin, which is now held by the patriots, and while there her officers witnessed facts, and were able, through the great kindness of the revolutionists, to collect documents which forbid any further doubts as to the religious character of the new movement.
One of the works issued by the Government, called "The Book of Religious Precepts of the Thae-Ping Dynasty," has been translated by Rev. Dr. Medhurst, of Shanghai, and has occasioned, as indeed it will, an agreeable surprise to all who desire the salvation of the millions of China. It commences with the declaration that all men are sinners, and that it is the duty of all, subjects, as well as sovereigns, to worship and serve God. It enjoins, to worship and serve God, and next presents an argument showing that anciently the Chinese had a knowledge of the true God, and, subsequently, that in worshipping him they will not be imitating foreigners, but their own ancestors. It next presents "A form to be observed in seeking the Forgiveness of Sins," after which is the following:

PRAYER FOR A PENITENT SINNER.
I, thine unworthy son or daughter, kneeling down upon the ground, with a true heart, repent of my sins, and pray Thee, O great God, our heavenly Father, of thine infinite goodness and mercy, to forgive my former ignorance and frequent transgressions of the divine commands.—I earnestly beseech thee, of thy great favor, to pardon all my former sins, and enable me to repent and lead a new life, so that my soul may ascend to heaven: may I from henceforth, sincerely repent and forsake my evil ways, not worshipping corrupt spirits, [gods,] nor practising perverse things, but obey the divine commands. I also earnestly pray thee, O great God, our heavenly Father, constantly to bestow on me thy Holy Spirit, and change my wicked heart; never more allow me to be deceived by malignant demons, but perpetually regard me with favor, forever deliver me from the evil one; and every day bestowing on me food and clothing, exempt me from calamity and woe, granting me tranquillity in the present world and enjoyment of endless happiness in heaven, through the merits of thy Saviour and heavenly Brother, the Lord Jesus, who redeemed us from sin.—I also pray the great God, our Father, who is in heaven, that his will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. That thou wouldst look down and grant this request is my heart's sincere desire.
This book also contains a "Prayer to God, for Morning and Evening;" a thanksgiving to be offered at Meals; "A Prayer for Times of Sickness and Affliction," and directions for conducting religious exercises on various occasions. The following is given as the—

FORM TO BE USED IN PRAISING GOD.
We praise God, our Holy and heavenly Father.
We praise Jesus, the Holy Lord and Saviour of the world.
We praise the Holy Spirit, the Sacred Intelligence.
We praise the three Persons who, united, constitute one true Spirit, [God.]
But perhaps, the portion of the work in which your readers will be most interested, is that containing the "Ten Celestial Commands," the resemblance of which to the commandments as given to Moses, is very evident. These I will subjoin, omitting, however, the hymns which, in the original, follow the "commands," and which are but a repetition in verse of the sentiment of the text:
THE TEN CELESTIAL COMMANDS, WHICH ARE TO BE CONSTANTLY OBSERVED.
The first command.—Thou shalt honor and worship the Great God.
The Great God is the universal Father of all men, in every nation under Heaven. Every man is produced and nourished by him; every man ought, therefore, morning and evening, to honor and worship him, with acknowledgments of his goodness. It is a common saying that Heaven produces, nourishes and protects men.

REPORT OF THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS.

In reference to the recent "Strike on the Allegheny Portage Railroad."
The undersigned met at the Mountain House, on the 8th of August, for the purpose of enquiring into the causes which led to the recent strike among the operatives on the Allegheny Portage railroad. A committee which had been appointed by the parties aggrieved, were in attendance and ready to afford every facility in their power to a full investigation.
That the matter might assume a tangible form the Board addressed the following note to the committee:
MOUNTAIN HOUSE, July 8th, 1853.
GENTLEMEN: The board are now in session at this place, and are prepared to receive (and invite) any communication which your committee may have to make in reference to the recent difficulties between the operatives and officers of the State on the Allegheny Portage railroad. Whatever charges you may have to prefer against any of the said officers, you will please submit in writing, and name the witnesses by whom the charges are expected to be sustained. The Board will afford every opportunity for a full investigation; and if the result shall show that any agent of the state has been faithless to his trust, he will be dealt with accordingly.
Respectfully, yours,
WM. T. MORISON, President.
THOMAS COLLINS, Esq., and others, committee on part of operatives on the Allegheny Portage railroad.

To this they received an answer as follows:
MOUNTAIN HOUSE, July 8th, 1853.
W. T. MORISON Esq.,—President of the Board Canal Commissioners:
SIR:—In reply to yours of this date, we make the following charges, and sustain them in the following manner:
Our first charge as set forth in the address of the operatives of the Allegheny Portage railroad is: That many of us have been in the employ of the commonwealth for months, without receiving any pay.—This charge we will prove by the following persons: By Daniel Brophy, we will prove that at the time of the strike there was between fifteen and sixteen months wages due him, and that every time he knew there was money paying out by the superintendent he tried to get it, but did not succeed. That William Shields, do, eleven months. Harkins Ott, between eight and nine months. Terrence Hudson, do, between ten and eleven months; William Kerns had fourteen months due him. We can give any number of names, if necessary, for similar charges.
The second charge is: That hands have been compelled to sell their time at a discount.
We will prove by Richard Trotter, engineer at the head of plane No. 4: That he had to sell three months of his time at a discount of ten per cent, at a broker's office in Hollidaysburg, after the passage of the appropriation bill. That Henry Downey and O. H. Kelly sold at the same place, at the same rate. That Daniel McManey sold six months' time amounting to 342 dollars, and had to pay ten per cent discount; part of this time was sold to A. M. & R. White and the rest to Bell, Johnston, Jack & Co. Those persons are now present, and any amount of names can be had of persons who were compelled to sell. But these we consider sufficient.
The third charge is: That the check rolls sold to the brokers, &c., first find their way into the treasury. That M. M. Adams a member of this board, audited in the Auditor General's books, a bill of his, which from the time he sold two months. That it was for materials over eleven hundred dollars. That he sold the bill to Bell, Johnston, Jack & Co., and paid ten per cent discount on it.
The fourth charge is: That there was 800,000 of bills and check rolls which had not passed through the superintendents hands. This charge was not made by Mr. Men on the strike. But was told by Mr. Crawford, and also Gen. Ross.

By a statement of Mr. C. Connor, auditing clerk, to two of this committee: That immediately after the passage of the appropriation bill, one of the clerks of the Treasury office carried in two bundles of check rolls and bills, amounting to between 775,000 and 800,000, which were received to F. R. West, Esq., late Superintendent Allegheny Portage railroad. He said that some of them were audited, and the balance were sent back to the Superintendent's office in Hollidaysburg, as they had to be received to Gen. Ross before they could be audited. They were sent back and propounded also, and was not killed. Do, then got out a warrant against the Frenchman and his two associates for perjury, in swearing B. had killed the dog. They were frightened, and made peace with B. more for his trouble, and not for his last, but the dog was dead.

Information is wanted of John Lehman, who with his two children are missing from Carlisle. He is insane.

REPORT OF THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS.

know nothing of the strike. This is not true, as one of this committee, Cornelius Collins, had a conversation with Jess R. Crawford, two or three weeks previous to the strike, and told him that the strike would come off. Crawford said that the men on the road had not nerve enough to strike. These are all that I have been appointed to answer. Some of the other members of this committee have some charges to make, which will form a separate communication. Truly yours,
THO. COLLINS, Chairman, &c.

Without attempting to review the testimony which was taken by the Board, in detail, it may be remarked generally, that it was abundantly established that at the time of the "strike" there had been money due some of the hands for three, six, nine, twelve, and some even fifteen months.
The effect of this was that many of them were obliged to sell their claims at a discount of ten per cent. The Board cannot too strongly condemn a policy which would lead to such a result. Most of these claims were in the hands of meritorious men who had served the State faithfully by night and by day, and it was a humiliating admission that a great State like Pennsylvania should permit her honest creditors to sacrifice a portion of their claims in such a manner; and the Board earnestly hope that there may never be a recurrence of this kind from any cause or combination of causes, whatever.
This brings us to the inquiry—"How was this state of things brought about?"—In answer, it may be stated, in the first place, that the appropriation for repairs and motive power expenses, on the Portage road, for 1852, fell far, very far, below the actual amount expended. By reference to the late report of the Canal Commissioners, it will be seen that the expenditures exceeded the appropriation the sum of one hundred and forty three thousand nine hundred and seventy six dollars. In other words, there was at the end of the last fiscal year, 1st of December, 1852, an actual reported debt of the above amount. A portion of this debt was caused by the road being kept open day and night, during the winter of 1851-'52. A double set of hands the whole time was indispensable, yet the measure seemed to be demanded, as well by public sentiment, as a due regard to the accommodations of the travel and trade. To this enormous deficit, it is apprehended, may be added a large sum which had not been reported by the late superintendent at all. Should the apprehensions of the Board, in this respect, be realized, they cannot conjecture how it happened. The most charitable way that it can be accounted for, is to say that it was the result of inexcusable negligence.—Should any officer hereafter be guilty of similar conduct, and it be discovered while he is within the reach of the Board, he will be made a public example of at once.

The appropriations to pay the debt on this road and the current expenses of the present year, were not made until the 19th day of April last. Thus it is apparent that the disbursing officer on the road had no means within his reach to pay this debt, from the time of its creation in 1852, until after the 19th of April, 1853, nor had he the means of paying the current expenses of the present year. Under the act of assembly, the Superintendent can only draw thirty thousand dollars at one time. He must then disburse that sum, return his vouchers to the Auditor General's office, and have them audited before he can draw any more.
It appears from the books of the State Treasurer, that the superintendent had drawn between the 10th of April, 1853, the day on which the appropriation bill passed, and the 19th of June, the sum of \$101,880 \$8 all of which had been disbursed. This was a much larger sum than had been disbursed in the corresponding period of last year, if indeed it is not more than has ever before been paid out on that road in the same length of time. Of the above sum, about 892,000 had been purchased by sundry persons from laborers, and others, at a discount. In the opinion of the Board, these claims should not have been paid at the time.

They had been purchased on speculation, and should not have been paid until all the claims in first hands had been discharged.
The propriety of this course is now the more obvious, since it is known that the appropriation will be exhausted before the whole debt will be liquidated, and that the parties who purchased these stocks at a discount, will have been reimbursed, while many of those meritorious men who have served the State faithfully, (and some of them too, in limited circumstances) will have to wait, perhaps another year.
It is due the disbursing officer, however, to say that at the time these claims were paid, it was believed the appropriation would cover the entire indebtedness of the road. The views of the Board in regard to the future course of all superintendents as well as supervisors, in this respect, are sufficiently indicated in the resolutions which were informally considered at Pittsburgh in June, and afterwards adopted by the board at Johnstown, on the 12th inst. They are in these words:
It is asserted that the officers of the road