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CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN

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THE REPUBLICAN. CLEARFIELD, PA. WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1871.

RESIGNATION. BY E. W. LANGFELLOW.

There is no such, however sacred and tender, as the heart of a man. There is no such, however sacred and tender, as the heart of a man. There is no such, however sacred and tender, as the heart of a man.

INTERESTING FACTS IN GEN. LEE'S HISTORY.

The Atlanta (Ga.) Index brings us a report of an address delivered recently in Georgia by General Pendleton, who was Chief of Artillery under General Lee, and since the conclusion of the war his pastor and intimate friend.

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THE PROPOSED SYSTEM OF NATIONAL EDUCATION.

The subject of education, at all times of paramount importance, was, at the exciting event of the last days, somewhat overlooked; but of late there seems to be an awakening of the public mind from its apathy in this particular, and with the impulsiveness characteristic of the American people, the reaction bids fair to run to a hasty extreme.

The first manifestation of this awakening was a complaint of the inefficiency of our public school system. Parents, whose whole time and thoughts were engrossed by the pursuit of wealth, left the training of their children to the State, and when they thought them prepared to take positions of usefulness in life, or as ornaments to society, were surprised to find them sadly deficient in both mental and moral culture.

The disappointed and disgusted parent, without reflecting how far his own neglect of obvious duties was responsible for the deplorable defects of the rising generation, at once availed himself of a common remedy. They were never designed to do more.

Those who expect more of them labor under a grave mistake—a mistake fraught with incalculable mischief. The unwise parent who is deluded with the idea that the public schools, common or high, can confer all the education his children need, discovers the error only when it is too late to remedy it.

Unfortunately for the interests of humanity, the troubles of the time have placed in positions of power and influence a class of political economists whose zeal in behalf of universal education far outruns their discretion.

These enthusiasts, by their extravagant assertions, have excited the popular imagination, and have created in the public mind an exaggerated idea of its functions, and when it has become apparent that the great expectations they have encouraged cannot be realized, instead of admitting the fallacy of their views, they have attributed the failure to the depravity of the people, and not to their own error.

Compulsory education, entirely at variance as it is with the spirit of free institutions, and repugnant to all republican feelings, is becoming rapidly familiarized to the popular mind. It has been gravely discussed and found respectable advocacy in the meetings of our teachers' institutes, in official journals have recognized it as being "on the cards for the future," a New England Senator and Radical leader has announced it as the great measure of the dominant party—the objective point to its "new departure," and to crown the whole, it has within a few days been sprung upon Congress, in the shape of a bill for a national system of education.

In view of these facts, it is certainly time that public opinion should be aroused to the investigation of the subject. To raise at once the warning inquiry of "whether we are drifting" in this matter, becomes the special and imperative duty of the press.

That compulsory education is impracticable in this country, with free government, seems to be a susceptible of easy demonstration. The example of Prussia now so admirably cited by its advocates, should really be the strongest argument against it. Only under the most despotic of European governments could the system be enforced, and the fruit it has borne is as opposite to Republicanism as anything that could well be imagined.

It is only necessary to inquire what constitutes education. The mere acquisition of knowledge is not education—still less the smattering of knowledge acquired by the transient attendance, voluntary or compulsive, upon the best of public schools. A reference to the dictionary would evidently be of service to some of the dippant advocates of the compulsory system.

Education comprehends all that series of instruction and discipline which is intended to enlighten the understanding, correct the temper, and form the manners and habits of youth, and fit them for usefulness in their future stations. To give children a good education in manners, arts and science is important; to give them a religious education is indispensable, and an immense responsibility rests on parents and guardians who neglect these duties.

In the light of this definition—and it would be difficult to conceive a more concise and yet comprehensive one—it is apparent that a national and compulsory system of education is utterly impossible without a radical change of our whole theory of government.

To correct the temper and form the manners and habits of youth belongs to the parent. It is his highest duty

and his dearest right. The government which, by a compulsory system of education, abstracts him from his duty and deprives him of this right would be simply the worst of despots, which the lexographer declares to be impossible, unless he can impart the religious education which, according to the same authority, is indispensable. When Catholics, Protestants, Jews and Pagans can agree upon a universal religion, it will perhaps be practicable for a government, of which religious freedom is a fundamental principle, to undertake a national compulsory system of education.

We appreciate the importance and desirability of universal education. The greatest obstacle to it—as society is constructed now, and will continue to be until the millennium—is in the circumstances of the poorer classes.

With them the time-consuming struggle with want commences at the very age when the mind first becomes susceptible of intellectual culture, and the necessity for incessant physical exertion leaves them no leisure for the exercises of the school-room. If their daily toil is remitted the penalty is starvation. How can government make their education compulsory without providing for their subsistence?

If the head of a family, either through misfortune, disease, or the indulgence of vicious habits, is reduced to such poverty that the children must beg from the streets, or that they are unable to be educated, how are such children to be embraced in the national scheme of education, except by setting aside the guardianship of the parent, and adopting them as the wards of the nation? In such case very extensive national nurseries and boarding houses would be the inevitable adjuncts of the national schools. The children, thus adopted, would have to be maintained and instructed at the public expense, until their understandings were enlightened, their tempers corrected, and their manners and habits formed—in fine, during the whole period of their adolescence; for nothing less, in the language of the great champion of the scheme, would insure their "progress towards that completeness of culture which American citizenship requires."

It is, therefore, plain that the compulsory system could be but partial in its operations. The very class it is desired to benefit is beyond its reach, while the classes that could be brought within its operations would only be injuriously affected, by its interference with their natural and inalienable rights and most sacred duties.

We have sketched but a few of the repulsive features of this utopian radical scheme of compulsory education. Its establishment would contribute nothing to the existing means for the enlightenment of the people, but would assuredly add to the oppressive burden of their taxation, while greatly increasing the power and patronage of the Federal Government, already dangerous to our liberties. It would be the culmination of that anti-republican policy, which having by fraud and violence usurped the rights of the States, now seeks to abolish the most sacred of personal rights in the furtherance of its iniquitous plan of consolidation.—The Paper.

A OUBT ILLUSTRATED.—One of the prominent ornaments of the Bar, celebrated for his genial disposition, found himself, about the close of the war, washed ashore, high and dry, pecuniarily, in the city of Richmond, where he was forced to hang out his shingle and commence practice in the Hastings Court. One of his clients was a youth who had been arrested at the instance of a respectable negro man of family for having "rocked" his house and severely injured his daughter with a stone thrown through the window.

At the examination old Pompey was put upon the stand, and proved he had charged the stone with a curse that would have gone hard with our friend's client, had it not been for the following cross-examination:

Lawyer.—You say that one stone came into the room where you were sitting with your family, and struck your daughter?

Pompey.—Yes, boss.

L.—Where did it strike her?

P.—Silent for a while—I don't like to tell, boss.

L.—But you must tell. I demand again, where did it strike her?

P.—Dat all foolishness, boss. I tell you it hit her, I don't like to tell "fore all dese ladies in court.

L.—But you must answer. Where did it hit her?

P.—(Slowly)—Over the buzzum, boss.

L.—Well, how severely did it injure her?

P.—Fide, quit dis foolishness. I ain't gwine to tell.

L.—Again I must insist upon my question being answered. Did it injure her?

P.—(In despair)—No, sah! it did not injure her, but it broke three fingers of a gentleman what was paying 'tention to her.

The case was dismissed immediately for the want of jurisdiction.

DON'T LEAN UPON OTHERS.—Half, at least, of the disappointed men one meets with are victims of ill-grounded hopes and expectations—persons who have tried to lean upon others instead of relying upon themselves.

Want of prudence is too frequently the cause of this error; nor is there a more powerful advocate of vice than poverty.

Actions, looks, words, steps, form the alphabet by which you may spell characters.

A Chicago barber has been fully satisfied that he cannot share a customer and look at ladies in the street at the same time. The gentleman who lost the tip of his ear while under his management satisfied him of the fact.

The latest dose of sickly sentimentalism is "Glad My String of Pearls is Lost," by a Louisville composer. The same author is at work on "Lead My Chewing Gum to Gurtie."

A gentleman named Brown once observed in company that he had toasted a lady for twelve months, and yet had little hopes of ever making her "brown."

Josh Billings says: "A man who starts on the day of his marriage as first lieutenant in his family, need never expect to be promoted."

Cheerfulness of temper arises half from personal goodness, and half from a belief in the personal goodness of others.

A GRAND OPENING! THIS WEEK!

WILLIAM REED, MARKET STREET, CLEARFIELD, PENNA.

Splendid Dress Plaids, from 20c. to \$2 00. Black Alpaca, from 25c. to \$1 25. Plain Poplins, from 20c. to \$1 75.

Handsome colors in Satens, Espinglins, Express Cloths and Hops, over on display. Elegant colors in Satens, 50c. to \$2 00.

Bargains in Black Silks, \$1 25 to \$4 00. Astrachan Coatings, \$3 50 to \$12 per yard. Frosted and Plain Beavers. Sealish, Dogskin and Curlicus. Velvettes, at 75c. and upwards.

Splendid all wool Shawls. Roman Striped Shawls. Paisley and Broche Shawls, \$20 to \$40. Furs, from \$3 00 to \$75 00.

Bargains are offered in FURS. I lay them direct from the manufacturers, and will warrant them satisfactory in every respect.

Also, new styles in Millinery Goods, together with Ladies' Shoes, Gent's Hats, Caps, &c. Millinery and Coat-making done in the best style.

These Goods are bought at RIGHT PRICES, and will be sold the same.

CALL AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES! Butter, Eggs, and all marketable produce taken in exchange for goods.

November 9, 1870.

MCPHERSON'S RESTAURANT & REFRESHMENT SALOON.

In Leary's New Building, (formerly occupied by Mc. McLaughlin), SECOND ST., CLEARFIELD, PA.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND the selection of CANNED FRUITS, CIGARS, TOBACCO, &c. Also, FRESH OYSTERS received daily, and served up to suit the tastes of customers.

BILLIARD SALOON on second story, next door to W. R. McPHERSON.

Small Profits! Quick Sales!

HARTSWICK & IRWIN, School Books and Stationery—including the Osgood and National Series of Readers.

Also, Tobacco and Cigars of the best quality, at the lowest prices.

CALL AND SEE.

SAWS! SAWS! SAWS! DISTAN'S CROSS-CUT, MILL, DRAG AND CIRCULAR SAWS.

Boynton's Lightning Cross-cut Saw, PATENT PERFORATED & ELECTRIC SAWS.

For sale by H. F. BIGLER & CO.

COOK STOVES: SPEAR'S CALORIFIC, SUPERIOR, REGULATOR, NOBLE COOK, NATIONAL RANGE, TRIUMPH, PARLOR COOKS, SPIRIT REVOLVING LIGHTS, AND DOUBLE HEATERS.

And all kinds of Heating Stoves—for sale by H. F. BIGLER & CO.

EDWARD PERKS & CO., Flower Manufacturers, And Dealers in GRAIN OF ALL KINDS, PHILIPSBURG, PA.

A FULL SUPPLY OF FLOUR, WHEAT, CORN and CHOP constantly on hand, and for sale at rates remarkably low.

STOVES! STOVES! STOVES! FRED. SACKETT, At his Store and Warehouse Establishment, on Market Street, nearly opposite the Jail, has the best and most complete assortment of Cook and Parlor Stoves ever brought to town. Among others he has the justly celebrated

WELMERS' COOKSTOVE, Which is one of the best ever made, and is the best of the kind as respects its economy in fuel, and its durability.

A large assortment of WINE, &c., on hand. Jobbing done to order. FRED. SACKETT, Clearfield, October 26, 1870.

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