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FATHER ABRAHAM



"With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nations wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan, to do it which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."-A. L.

VOL. II. LANCASTER, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1868. No. 1.

Poetry.

CHRISTMAS. BY JEAN BONCZEUL. When snow lies deep upon the ground, And winter winds are blowing, And on the hearth, with crackling blaze, The winter fires are glowing;

Miscellaneous.

WRITTEN FOR FATHER ABRAHAM. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE. PART V.

When we carry our imaginations and predictions forward one hundred years, considering the extraordinary progress we have made during the past forty years, nothing, it seems, is impossible or too extravagant. Taking for granted that our Government will live, strengthen and improve itself for a century to come, it is at least an open and fair question whether or not all peoples and States throughout the world will ultimately become one people, and governed by the one progressive republican system which we now enjoy only in its infancy.

too, that La Boquet is getting to be a formidable candidate—that he will not only be supported by the delegates from the State of France, but also by Hindostan, Nevada, Norway, Sandwich Islands, Ireland and Guinea, which might give him the balance of power. First P.—Well, I think we should unite upon one who is a native of the old, original United States, say Sparks, of Canada; Juanti of Mexico; or A. Lincoln Brownlow, of Tennessee. The fact is, the Greenlanders, Italians, Turks, South Carolinians, Peruvians, Australians and Vermonters are creating a strong feeling in favor of Brownlow. Or, there's another man—Wood, of New York—wouldn't wonder if he would become a strong and safe candidate. Second P.—He wouldn't do. First P.—Why not? Second P.—Because he wouldn't run at all in Africa, Cuba, Bolivia or in Carolina, where the colored people are in the majority. First P.—And why not? Second P.—Don't you remember the speech he made at Liverpool on the 4th of July, last, when he declared himself in favor of taking from the colored people the right of representation in the Supreme Executive Council? First P.—Yes, that was a foolish and very uncalculated speech. Still, I think if John Brown, of Georgia, were run along with him for the Vice Presidency, they would be well satisfied. Second P.—But we have better and stronger men than Wood, and I think he is entirely out of the question, for he is also a descendant of a vile copperhead, who figured in Congress during the democratic Slave-holders' rebellion, in 1861, and if history is to be believed, he did all he could do with safety to himself to help the enemies of the Republic, and that's enough to damn his descendants to the seventh generation. First P.—Talking about the Vice Presidency, I believe the strongest and best candidate would be Anna Martha Dickinson, the present Senator from Pennsylvania. Her admirable administration of the General Police department gave her a most enviable and leading reputation. Second P.—I heard some talk of running Anna for President—the first place on the ticket. First P.—That depends upon circumstances. If the ladies should be able to concentrate their strength, she might become very formidable. Second P.—Oh, by the way, did you hear Mary Sherman's lecture last night. First P.—I did not. What was her subject? Second P.—"The public Record of Thaddeus Stevens." First P.—That's a grand subject, and I have no doubt she spread herself. Second P.—No doubt of that. But, then, the subject is so constantly paraded before the public as to lose its interest. First P.—I don't think so. The name of Stevens cannot be too often paraded before the public. It will live, like the names of Washington and Lincoln, for all time. Second P.—Where is she going to lecture to-night? First P.—To-night—let me see—to-night she lectures in Paris, to-morrow night in Philadelphia, on Friday in London, and Saturday night in San Francisco. Second P.—Well, she's a wonderful woman—I think the most popular lecturer living. Her "Past, Present and Future" is intensely interesting, and I mean to hear it once more the very next time it is announced. First P.—I heard that lecture very highly spoken of—but don't just remember the main points—I suppose you can tell me what they are. Second P.—The lecture presents, as she contends, a true picture of the state of society in the old United States of America about one hundred years ago—then bounded on the north by the St. Lawrence river; on the south by the Gulf of Mexico; on the east by the Atlantic and on the west by the Pacific. First P.—North, nonsense—I'm sure she's wrong about the St. Lawrence ever having been the northern boundary of the Old United States, for the State of Canada, you know, is on the north. Second P.—But, don't you know that Canada used to belong to England, and after the Mexicans demolished the governments of France and England, in 1808, they sold all their acquired and subdued territory, from the St. Lawrence to the North Pole, to the then existing United States Government? First P.—You are right—I was mistaken—I now remember reading all about it. But, go on. Second P.—Well, after going over the political events of the times—a hundred years ago—she presents some very amusing facts in regard to the usages of society, then, and the very small amount of scientific advancement which the people then enjoyed. For instance, a hundred years ago the swiftest traveling known was from thirty to forty miles an hour—moving along by means of cars on wheels running along iron rails, and the trains drawn by steam power. To obtain their fuel people used to dig down into the earth hundreds of feet, through solid rock, until they reached what they called anthracite coal, which was then used as fuel—for all purposes—even for the manufacture of iron. Gas was then made and burned only for light, and electricity was barely powerful enough to send messages from one point to another, over wires. When the first cable was laid across the Atlantic, over a hundred years ago, the people on both sides of the water considered it a wonderful scientific achievement. She also gives a highly interesting account of the follies

Father Abraham's Chaps.

A NEW daily paper in Altoona is talked of. IOWA has one thousand six hundred miles of railroad. AFFECTION is a greater enemy to the face than small pox. WHAT is better than a promising young man? A paying one. A "thousand dollar set" of Russia sable furs is offered for sale in New York. THE shipments of Cumberland coal (Bituminous) is the largest ever made. THE church-going people of Westport, N. Y., hold "mush and milk socials." THE damage by the earthquake in California is between \$350,000 and \$400,000. "CONSERVATISM" now means negro-shooting and school house burning in the South. RIFE strawberries were gathered on the James river, Va., as late as the 15th of November. THOUGH men boast of holding the reins, the women generally tell them which way they must drive. A WESTERN farmer has imported and set out thirty-six hundred apple trees, imported from Russia. A NEW ice-boat is being built for facilitating navigation on the Delaware during the coming winter. TRAINS are now running three hundred and twenty-five miles east of Sacramento, on the Pacific Road. IT is stated that General Grant is a Methodist. He evidently believes in the doctrine of "election." A GREAT many Pennsylvania farmers are settling in the Shenandoah Valley, Va.—a prolific region. GRIMES has no hope of being re-elected to the Senate from Iowa. "Old Grimes is dead," and ought to be. JAMES, chief of the Rothschilds, is dead, and is survived by \$120,000,000 of personal and real property. VIGILANTS hanged a man in Iowa the other day for murder before the victim had died, and he is likely to recover. A VIRGINIA farmer has raised two crops of potatoes and one crop of turnips from the same piece of ground this year. THE oldest person who has lived in this country within the memory of man died in Tennessee in 1834, aged 134 years. ALREADY several enterprising Democratic papers have nominated Hon. John T. Hoffman for the Presidency in 1872. PITTSBURG has 80,158 inhabitants, and Alleghany City has 51,292. The population of the county is estimated at 240,000. THE Pennsylvania Central Railroad has 532 locomotives—a larger number than any other railroad corporation in the country. UGLY reports reach Washington, implicating nearly all the U. S. officials at New Orleans in stupendous frauds on the Revenue. WAYNE McVEIGH is not a candidate for U. S. Senator. He prefers E. M. Stanton, Ex-Secretary of War. A good preference. STRUGGLES in life are wont to bring us out, unless, indeed, it be with a policeman, in which case it may take us still further in. A new disease among swine has made its appearance in England, caused, it is said, by eating too freely of acorns and horse-chestnuts. DR. R. SHELTON MACKENZIE will write about the "History and Mystery of an Irish Wedding," for the Christmas number of FORNEY'S WEEKLY PRESS. A LATE decision made by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, throws out the vote cast at the last municipal election by soldiers of the Regular Army. A NEW YORK paper suggests as a means of paying the National debt that every office-seeker pay a dollar a week towards its liquidation until he gets an office. THE Republican tickets for Congressmen and Electors in South Carolina bore the device of an eagle soaring through the clouds with a carpet bag in its talons. IT is said that Gen. Grant is likely, in his first annual message, to advocate such an amendment of the Constitution as shall make the President ineligible to re-election. OAKLEY HALL has been elected mayor of New York city; Tammany HALL governs OAKLEY HALL, and Alco-HOL rules Tammany HALL.—So says the Cleveland Leader. THE Court at Richmond divided on the motion of Davis' counsel to quash the indictment against him. It will go to the Supreme Court, which met at Washington on Monday last. THE Rev. Mr. Nasby intimates that President Johnson would be an acceptable candidate for the Spanish throne, because he has all his life been putting the Bourbon down. A DESTRUCTIVE fire occurred at Lock Haven, Clinton county, on Friday last. Having no fire engine in order for using, the destruction of property was large, amounting to about \$40,000. Fully insured. WINTER has come in real earnest in Canada. The Ottawa river was frozen over on December 2d, and at Montreal the ferry boats have ceased running, and the harbor is deserted. On the Erie Canal a number of boats are ice-bound.

REVOLUTIONARY RELIC.

Among the relics of revolutionary times brought to light by the demolition of the old "Washington House," in Stamford, Ct., is the following letter from Benedict Arnold to General Washington: "NEW YORK, March 7, 1778. SIR: I take this opportunity to inform you. Excellency that I consider myself no longer acting under the commission of Congress, their last (here the words are illegible) being my papers at West Point, you, sir, will make such use as you think proper. At the same time I beg leave to assure your Excellency that my attachment to the true interests of my country is invariable, and that I am actuated by the same principle that has ever been the governing rule of my conduct in this unhappy contest. I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant, B. ARNOLD." "His Excellency George Washington."

Table with columns for TIME (1 week, 2 weeks, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year), and columns for 1 Sq., 2 Sq., 3 Sq., 4 Col., 5 Col., 1 Col. Rates range from \$1.00 to \$11.00.

"DEVIL'S BRIGADE" is the title given those who range themselves in line before church doors Sunday evenings. THE Tobacco inspectors in Lynchburg, Va., from Jan. 1 to Dec. 1, 1868, amounts to \$3,141,800 lbs. Two youths were out gunning in the neighborhood of North East, Md., a few days ago, when one of them, named Lowe, was accidentally shot by the other, and instantly killed. EIGHT thousand buildings have been erected in Chicago this year, at a cost of twenty-five million dollars. Among these were twenty-five churches, costing two million dollars. IN the lunatic asylum, near Toronto, there is a man who has been an inmate for fifteen years, and during all that time he has not been known to speak a word to a living soul. He is not dumb, either. LINCOLN, Nebraska, must be a pleasant place for a State Legislature to meet. It is said that bands of Sioux and Ojib Indians have encamped near the city and warn off all "traders and bummers generally." THE Collieries in the Mahanoy coal region, Schuylkill county, stopped operations on Friday, in consequence of a strike among the miners. As coal had a downward tendency, last week, the "Coal ring" take this method of keeping up the price. THE perpetrators of election frauds are coming to grief. John M. Pugh, copperhead probate judge of Franklin county, Ohio, has been held in the sum of 5,000 dollars to appear before the U. S. Circuit Court, for issuing fraudulent naturalization papers. A WEALTHY gentleman in Providence, who has made a specialty of collecting political caricatures, has a full collection, going back as far as the hard cider campaign. It is said to be the richest of the kind extant, as he has been offered repeatedly several thousand dollars for it. WALTER F. HALDEMAN, when a boy, hired himself to George D. Prentice, at that day considered the ablest journalist in America, as a clerk in the office of the Louisville Journal. Halderman is now the principal owner of the establishment, and Prentice is in his employ, at a salary of \$40 per week. Such is life. Rum did it! THE Pennsylvania Central railroad has effected the consolidation of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, and the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis railroads, with their own. Over one thousand miles of railway, stretching from the Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley, passes under the control of one corporation by this arrangement. ANOTHER whipping and pillory affair occurred at New Castle, Delaware, on Saturday last, in pursuance of the sentence of the Court. Three negro boys were the victims this time, and as Delawareans hate "niggers"—if they are black—we suppose they got the full benefit of the *homo* and *civilis* punishment! All hail, Delaware! A PHYSICIAN attributes much of the sickness in winter to the bad effects of coal gas. He says in nine out of ten houses that he enters, he notices coal gas in the air they breathe. Many times he finds the damper in the stove-pipe closed to save coal, and the result is a room full of gas, not noticed by the inmates, perhaps, but by those who come in from the fresh air. A COMMITTEE of ladies from New York called upon Governor Geary, at Harrisburg, on Friday, to ask for the pardon of Hester Laughlin, convicted of child-murder. They were told that their intercession was anticipated by humane citizens (not daily agents) of Pennsylvania, and that further agitation was unnecessary, as the Governor had determined on his action in the case. LIEUT. MICHAEL WALTER, of Reading, appears to be agreed upon by a large majority of the Republicans of Berks county, for the Assessorship of Revenue under the Grant Administration. He is unquestionably deserving, and in every respect well qualified for the position. He is entitled to special consideration, also, on account of the loss of a limb in the service of his country. THE *Moose's Journal*, of Pottsville, Schuylkill county, says: In the trunk of James Finley, the robber and assassin, opened recently by the police at New Boston, where Finley worked and lived, was found a fraudulent naturalization paper bearing the signature of J. Ross Snowden, a billy, and a silver watch, old fashioned, with the initials "J. M." on the back, and on the works, "Jas. Miller—Poplar—No. 2,080." GEN. R. E. LEE and Horatio Seymour have been suggested by cabinet makers to Gen. Grant as suitable men for a place in his administration. Lee is named on the score of "magnanimity, bravery and Christianity," and Seymour on account of his well known "conservatism." Gen. Grant might make Gov. Seymour "Superintendent of the Cultivation of Water Melons," and this might relieve him from the *melon*-choly state he is described as being in. IT is stated that Gen. Butler purposes introducing early in the present session of Congress, a bill for the correct registration of voters in cities, providing for complete registration at least thirty days before a regular election, and for a public posting of the list at least fifteen days before the election. This list shall give every voter's name in full, and place of residence. The bill, as presented, will embrace several other important provisions, calculated to guard the purity of the ballot-box.