

Father Abraham.

INDEPENDENT AND PROGRESSIVE.

LANCASTER CITY, PA. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1869.

Economy, Retrenchment, Faithful Collection of the Revenue and Payment of the Public Debt.—GRANT.

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We will send from this date, to all new subscribers, THE INDEPENDENT, published at New York, the subscription price of which is \$2.50, and FATHER ABRAHAM, for THREE DOLLARS AND A QUARTER PER YEAR. In addition, we will send to each subscriber (to both papers) a SPLENDID STEEL ENGRAVING OF GRANT AND COLFAX, the price of which in the print stores is TWO DOLLARS EACH. Specimens of these Engravings can be seen at the office of FATHER ABRAHAM.

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NOTICE!

ALL REMITTANCES OF MONEY TO US SHOULD BE MADE BY CHECK, REGISTERED LETTER OR MONEY ORDER.

COMPLIMENTARY.

"Hon." M. S. Quay, who knows all about the Legislative thieves, treasury robbers and political bummers, compliments the "humble individual" named as follows:

"Mr. E. H. Rauch, editor of a Republican paper in Lancaster, is after the Senate clerkship. He is one of the most adroit pilferers that ever infested Harrisburg, and will make the stationery account howl if he gets into the Senate."

TAKING CARE OF THEMSELVES.

Gen. O. O. Howard, the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, says in his annual report that to the oft-repeated slander that the negroes will not work, and are incapable of taking care of themselves, it is a sufficient answer that their voluntary labor has produced nearly all the food that has supported the whole people, besides a large amount of rice, sugar and tobacco for export, and two millions of bales of cotton each year, on which was paid into the United States Treasury during the years 1866 and 1867 a tax of more than forty millions of dollars.

WHO THREW DAT LAST "BRICK."

The XVth Amendment places a ballot in the hand of every negro. No Democrat can swallow it.—Brick Pomeroy.

But suppose it also placed a bottle of wine in the hand of every Democrat, how many would refuse to swallow it then?

This conundrum is open to all children under ten years of age.—Trenton Sentinel.

TRUE.

The editor of the Wheeling Intelligencer is of the opinion that "an editor who respects his obligations to tell the truth about men and measures inevitably makes many enemies; and the number grows steadily with his length of service. Every rascal whose toes he treads on, and every demagogue whose purpose he thwarts, becomes a life-long enemy. None of these ever forget his offence, and as their number constantly accumulates, the honest editor can always count on a large number of implacable and bitter foes, ready to stab him whenever the opportunity offers.

The general public whom he faithfully serves are his friends, but only passively so. They look upon him as entitled to no special credit, because he only did his duty; and they have none of the incentive to zeal in his behalf that is felt against him by the disappointed politician whose tool he refused to become, or the thieving lobbyist whom he exposed."

Our Wheeling cousin appears to speak from experience.

THE INCOME TAX.

Public opinion—says a contemporary—appears to be strongly in favor of either allowing the income tax law to expire by its own limitation, or of cutting it down to two or two and a half instead of five per cent. as it is at present. It is an anodious tax, and as administered, unjust in the extreme. Its original object was to reach the capital not otherwise reached; but in this it has failed. While people of comparatively small incomes report promptly and pay honestly, it is true, and lamentable that it is true, thousands of possessors of large incomes manage to pay nothing and yet hold their heads up. It is quite evident that there should be a remedy for this; either by a more rigid enforcement of the law, or its repeal altogether. The effort of Commissioner Delano for a revision of the returns, in the hope of insuring honesty, may be preliminary to deciding whether total repeal or a reduction with amendments to enable him to realize the objects of the law, will be the best policy.

THEIR FINANCIAL SYSTEM.

The Legislative Ring which succeeded last year, in total disregard of party usage, in ousting Gen. Irwin from the office of State Treasurer, and, at the eleventh hour, bringing forward and forcing through an obscure, unknown individual, without the shadow of a claim upon the public for such a position, have accomplished their purpose by means of a financial system that demands some little ventilation before the public at this time. Not having the necessary amount of space to give all the minute details as we might give, we will state, in a general way, how the credit of the ring may be, and has been, used in lieu of cash. Their credit system differs from that of the general government in this, that the ring issues no greenbacks as other evidence of indebtedness to the holder. It is a system of trust, simply, and credit based entirely upon the honor and high character of the contracting parties. But, the facts:

Last winter the Treasuryship was set up by securing a sufficient number of members to constitute a majority of the joint caucus, and made up of two classes—those who were induced to go into the arrangement on trust, and those who believe in and strictly adhere to the cash system. The latter were the fortunate ones, and have now no back-standing accounts to settle. The former, however, have not yet been paid up, and some of them having been left out in the cold by their constituents, are to-day pressing their claims with extraordinary persistency. Their only hope is in appealing to the pledged "honor" of the principals and managers of the ring. The latter, as we are reliably informed, have magnanimously proposed that if these suffering creditors will bring up and assure the votes of their successors, in support of the ring and its candidates, at the coming session, they will then pay up in full all back-standing accounts due them on last year's job. Now, if the new members will only agree to do this favor for the old ones who preceded them, and vote in the interest of the ring, they will then become creditors, and may present their claims upon their successors next year, in the same way.

The only difficulty in the way of establishing such a financial system is the lack of confidence in the permanency of the ring, by reason of the people's growing disposition to burst it up. The only way, probably, to assure regularity, and system, and confidence, would be to have the ring regularly incorporated, with authority to sue and be sued, hold property, real or personal in the name of the corporation; issue evidences of indebtedness, and require its agents and treasurer to give ample security. Stockholders should also be held individually liable for all debts contracted by the ring. Until they do adopt some system of this kind, and become incorporated, we fear they will not be able to hold together long enough to carry them through successfully at the coming session. Look out for a general burst up!

SCHWEFFLEBRENNER.

We have before us a highly interesting letter, in which the writer exhorts us to quit publishing the productions of "Pit Schweflebreuner." We give him the benefit of his reasons by extracting the following in regard to this "Pennsylvania Dutch" literature:

"It is low literature, and objectionable on account of its vulgarity, its profanity and sarcasm. * * * Printed in no language but in a low provincial brogue that is spoken by them, but still they see no interest in having it published in a paper. * * * I cannot recommend your paper unless you leave out that Dutch—low Dutch. They have low Dutch in Germany, but editors never come down so low as to put it in type. * * * As this Lancaster County Dutch existed for the last hundred years, you are giving no new literature, and you are no discoverer. Thus you must perceive, to your sad experience, that the people are disgusted with 'Schwefflebreuner' and such stuff. I reveal this to you that you can save your paper before it is utterly lost and past recitation. So please publish a beautiful selection. Also, have a scientific column, and some religious intelligence. I hope you will ponder the matter, or you will find perhaps that your own way will stop your business. I voted for Lincoln, Grant and the Republican ticket. Thus you see this complaint comes not from the opposite party, but your own. But, by all means, don't give your 'Schwefflebreuner' letters as a quality to recommend your paper. It will not take. You will bring loss and sorrow down upon yourself. * * * But, kill Schweflebreuner (!) and all Lancaster County Dutch. (It is not Pennsylvania Dutch—more than half the State speak English.) In the next Presidential campaign you can revive him: (Schwefflebreuner) and he would be received with new zest."

"Yours till glory, "A B—"

Our highly esteemed friend, it seems, is "down on the Dutch," and even goes so far as to recommend the killing, in cold blood, of our well-remembered and correspondent, Pit Schweflebreuner, and thus make his own dear Bevy a widow and little Abey a poor, helpless orphan!

But, says our friend, we "can revive him (Schwefflebreuner) in the next Presidential campaign, and he would be received with new zest." But how could we revive poor "Pit" after killing him? And suppose we'd kill him now, dead as a mackerel, as you, Mr. A—B— would have us to do, and revive him at the commencement of the next Presidential campaign, how then, about Bevy? Do you suppose she'd consent to endure sorrowing and mourning widowhood during the entire period of over two years, in patient waiting for the revival or resuscitation of even her own distinguished and reconstructed Pit? Never! And then, upon the re-appearance of Pit among the living, just imagine the domestic scene at Schliffeloffen—Pit, Bevy, Abey and then, that other fellow—the successor of the first named and step-daddy of his own dear little Abey!

But, the intense hatred towards this low Dutchman, Schwefflebreuner, is accounted for by Mr. A—B— in his letter in which he also says:

"I never read the Schwefflebreuner stuff myself," &c.

And that, probably is just what is the matter with him. His education is evidently imperfect—too much of his time wasted on the dead languages, and the neglect of the living and real. We venture to assert that the true reason why he don't read the literature in question is because he can't, and that he would if he could. Nor can we imagine how any one of the uneducated but well-meaning patrons of FATHER ABRAHAM can pronounce Pit Schweflebreuner's letters "vulgar," "low" or "profane" unless it is because he spells "Philadelphia" by beginning with a "F," or "Jerusalem" with a little "g."

We therefore respectfully decline being the assassin of our highly esteemed Pennsylvania Dutch friend, Schwefflebreuner, but, in the hope of pacifying Mr. A—B— and for the sake of variety, we this week make room for a highly interesting letter from Bevy, which will be found on the fourth page and under the proper Dutch head, "Pit" will doubtless turn up again next week.

THE STATE TREASURER.

The Beaver Argus—published at the home of Gen. Irwin—of last week says: "For the past week or two paragraphs have appeared in several newspapers of this State alleging that Mr. Mackey would be renominated for State Treasurer, at the approaching session of the Legislature 'without opposition.'" We do not know who originated this "bit of information," nor from what locality in the State it came, but our information on the subject is very different. Unless we are greatly mistaken General W. W. Irwin, an honored citizen of this county, will be a candidate for that position, and if moral character, ability and official integrity have as faithful friends in the Legislature as they have in the ranks of the people, he will be nominated and elected State Treasurer beyond a peradventure. At the recent election our professions and pledges in favor of retrenchment and reform were freely made and accepted by the voters of the State, and it will not do to take a backward step on these professions and pledges now. The people expect them to be fulfilled in good faith, and if our representatives soon to assemble at Harrisburg intend to carry them out, and continue in accord with their constituents on these questions, they can perform no act that will be more convincing of their good intentions than an earnest, active support of General Irwin for State Treasurer. We hope and trust he will secure this at their hands."

Correspondence.

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

Sentence of Mara and Dougherty—Jimmy Haggerty heard from—The Acondale Relief Fund—Brigham Young, Jr.—The Chicken Cholera—Assessors' Returns—General News, &c., &c. PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 24th, 1869.

DEAR ABE: Mara and Dougherty, the two representatives of the Whisky Ring who made the attempt to assassinate Revenue Detective Brooks, have received their just deserts. An attempt was made to have a new trial; this was not only denied them, but each sentenced on Saturday, to pay a fine of \$1,000, and undergo confinement at hard labor in the Eastern Penitentiary for nearly seven years. Mara, in being taken from the Court House to the prison van, attempted to escape by breaking away from his officers, after the fashion of Haggerty, but, notwithstanding that he was aided by a large delegation of the ring who were loitering around the crowd, the attempt proved unsuccessful, and the community can now congratulate itself that he will attempt no more murders, at least for the next seven years.

Speaking of Jimmy Haggerty reminds me that he was convicted and sentenced a few months since to undergo imprisonment for an indefinite period in Cherry Hill; but aided by a crowd of the Fourth Ward Democracy, of which he was a humble disciple, made his escape, and until the other day nothing had been heard of the notorious Jimmy. A letter from him to one of his cronies, states that he is in Kentucky, which State he has made his future home, and like the "republican" rebels of the South, all he now desires is to be let alone.

The Treasurer of the Acondale Relief Fund has made a financial settlement, and turned over all the funds to the trustees in Luzerne County. It appears from his report that over thirty-five thousand dollars was contributed by Philadelphia.

Brigham Young, Jr., who is direct from Salt Lake City, is now in town, but what's his mission I am unable to say. He is accompanied by Colonel Brent, formerly of the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, and one of the Commissioners of the Pacific Railway.

It is said that the cholera prevails to a fearful extent among the turkeys and chickens in the neighboring counties. Within a distance of twenty miles, in New Jersey and Delaware, five thousand fowls are reported to have died. This report don't appear to injure the poultry trade in the least, however, as over twelve thousand pounds of chicken meat was shipped from one station on the Baltimore road this week.

By the returns of the assessors, made to the City Commissioners, the following increase in valuation is shown: Horses in 1867 were valued at \$12,705; in 1868, 70, at \$1,405, 22; carriages in 1867, \$125,628; in 1868, 70, \$743,797; the total number of watches returned in 1867 was said to be 4740, and for 1868, 70, 12,885.

At the Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Peace Society, held here during the week, a letter was read from Pere Hyacinthe, declining an invitation to be present.

Edward Smith, charged with the murder of John Hughes, on Chestnut street bridge, on Oct. 2d, is now being tried before Judges Pierce and Paxson in the Oyer and Terminer. Yours, WARWICK.

NATIONAL MILITARY ASYLUM.

DAYTON, Ohio, Nov. 15th, 1869.

Editors Father Abraham: Thinking that a few lines from Ohio might be interesting to the numerous readers of your truly patriotic journal, I have taken the liberty to write you a short letter. The National Soldiers' Home is located three miles west of the city of Dayton, on an eminence commanding a fine view of the city and the Miami Valley for miles around. The institution contains at the present time over one thousand disabled soldiers. Of this number there are 132 men with only one arm, 150 with one leg, and five have lost both legs. In connection with the Home, we have a large and commodious music hall, chapel, school-room, library and reading room, where 60 daily and 150 weekly papers are kept on file. Our school is in splendid working order, and is well patronized by the inmates. Miss M. J. Eaton, a live Yankee school ma'am, is the principal, and discharges the duties of her position in a manner quite satisfactory to her numerous scholars. This school is in many respects different from other schools. Whilst other teachers are engaged in teaching "the young idea how to shoot," Miss Eaton is here engaged in teaching "the old idea how to shoot," and I am proud to say these old scholars are making commendable progress. Having proved themselves fully able to shoot rebels on the battle-field, they now prove themselves able to shoot after knowledge. We have now in the course of erection and nearly completed, a large hospital, capable of accommodating six hundred men. This building is the largest of its kind in the United States, if not in the world, and is the object of great attraction and interest to every visitor to our Home. We have also in course of erection a church, built entirely of stone, and in the Gothic style of architecture. Our chaplain, Rev. William Earnshaw, is an eloquent preacher, a true Christian, a kind friend to the soldier, and is very popular with the inmates. In connection with the Home, we have a postoffice with a disabled soldier for postmaster. In a word, we have a town of our own here, and though but two years old, it is improving rapidly. We are connected by telegraph with the city of Dayton and the rest of the world. Any of our Pennsylvania friends visiting this part of Ohio would do well to pay us a visit. They will find an orderly and neatly completed building, and will show them every attention. But fearing I have made my letter already too long, I must close. More anon. Respectfully yours, STANLEY RUSSELL.

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"I am one of those who believed that it was the interest as well as the duty of the nation to return at once to the true and solid standard of value as soon as active hostilities ceased; that we should have treated the currency as a main process, whenever it comes, no doubt, but harder and worse for us the longer it is delayed. I hope that Congress will address itself with courage and constancy to the solution of the problem as soon as it meets; and will feel assured that the American people have intelligence enough to support those who do it. My views on the subject are of little importance to anybody; but as an American citizen, I should be sorry and ashamed to find my country unable and unwilling, in a time of peace and prosperity, to provide for its over due paper."

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The first of Prof. Frank Stouch's soirees took place in Fulton Hall on Tuesday evening.

The First Annual Ball of the Junior American Mechanics Association took place at Fulton Hall last evening.

The Friendship Fire Company of this city have ordered a horse carriage from William P. Frazer, of Philadelphia.

William Livingston was before the Mayor on Tuesday charged with stealing a horse from Lev M. Stouffer of West Hempfield township. Early in the morning the supposed thief offered the horse for sale at Landis' Mill, in Manor township, and being apprehended was arrested by the Constable of that township and brought to this city. The owner shortly after came along and identified the property and in default of bail Livingston was committed.

Capt. Jas. Lewis, son of ex-Chief Justice Lewis, formerly of this city, has been promoted to Major U. S. Marine Corps.

The following have been elected Directors of the Inland Insurance and Deposit Company for the ensuing year: H. E. Muhlenburg, S. W. P. Boyd, David Hartman, John W. Jackson, John A. Hiestand, James L. Myrland, Wm. B. Fordney, Samuel Nisley, W. M. Wiley, W. P. Brinton, F. Schroder, O. J. Dickey, Benjamin S. Muhlenburg.

Two boys named Stambaugh and Stager, aged respectively 15 and 18 years, got into an altercation in Mount Joy, a few days ago, when the latter stabbed the former, inflicting a serious wound.

Thomas J. Grover, of Schuylkill, Chester county, threshed 200 sheaves, from which he took 36 bushels of oats. It was the Canada Oats.

The Corner Stone of a new Methodist Church at Millersville, was laid on Sunday last.

The high commission paid by the Grand Jury to Mr. Steinheiser, the humane and gentlemanly Steward of the County Hospital is a well merited one. He is a capital officer, and should be continued in the position.

The new two-story dwelling house, of Mayor Hoover near Ephrata Mountain Springs, was, on Saturday night at 10 o'clock, destroyed by fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

Governor Geary has remitted the \$1,000 bail forfeited by Joseph Huber and Isaac Miesler, sureties of Lewis Stur, indicted in the Quarter Sessions two or three years ago, and who failed to appear for trial.

Hugh Carson, who keeps a beer saloon in