

Lancaster Intelligencer

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1881.

Our Surplus Revenue.

The New York Sun calculates that at the present rate of increase of the annual surplus in the United States treasury, in twenty years enough will have accrued to discharge the whole national debt. It is troubled as to what shall then be done with the surplus, and concludes that "the measure which will most naturally commend itself to the sense of the nation is the reduction of taxation and the prolongation at a reduced interest of the funded debt."

But we are not so sure that this is the sense of the nation. There is an old saying forbidding us to be solicitous about crossing a fence until we get to it, and another which declares that sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. There may be no surplus to worry us twenty years hence, and if there is, it will hardly be a difficult matter to determine how it shall be appropriated. A removal of taxes will do it promptly. And at that time there will be a great many taxes that can be advantageously removed, as there will certainly be many industries that will then have outgrown their need of protection.

Meanwhile we believe in the policy of reducing the national debt, since it can be done by a taxation that is not only not oppressive, but that has its advantage in affording incidental protection to the national industries. We are not converts to the idea that a national debt is a national blessing. No doubt it is very handy and desirable for capitalists and widows and old folks, as a place where to invest their money safely and to assure themselves of their income. But it is not the duty of the government to maintain a debt for the convenience of these classes. If it needs money it is very convenient for it to have such ready lenders in its midst; but if it does not need it, in no way advances the general good by keeping it and paying interest upon it. The nation in no way differs in this respect from the individual, in the intelligent management of its finances. The money it does not need it should not take, but should let it find some other means of finding increase. It will not rust, but will always find a user. There are innumerable opportunities for the employment of capital in this country of great material wealth, in producing and dispensing it. And while it is not the duty of the government to take money that it does not want, from those who desire it to take it that it may be safe, it is the government's duty to protect the citizen from the fraudulent plans of scheming rascals to borrow his money without a respectable guarantee of its safety. Here the national legislature can properly exercise a protecting care over the interests of the widow and the fatherless.

THE HEBREW MESSENGER is of the opinion that such a time-honored prayer as the "Our Father who art in Heaven," it would seem, has entered too deeply into the hearts and minds of Christians, and is too closely identified with the tenderest phases of family life, to permit of even the slightest verbal change. "Deliver us from the evil one," instead of "Deliver us from evil," will not be a welcome specimen of the work of revision.

THE PHILADELPHIA Evening Telegraph congratulates itself that it recognized in Mahone a renegade Democrat, a blatant, unrepentant rebel, and a repudiator of public debts. It recognized in Riddleberger a low politician of the same sort, and in Gorham a free-lance Republican, who had defeated the Republican candidate of his state for governor, for purely selfish reasons, and it therefore opposed a bargain which took those men into the Republican fold and made the Republican party responsible for them and their political principles.

THE "boy preacher" who delivered the Decoration memorial sermon in this city, must have discovered "a revised version" of Whittier, if our esteemed contemporary correctly reports him as quoting "the poet."

WE are glad to see the Examiner awakened to a proper appreciation of the "contest against Steinmetz for representative which came to a sudden end, and another for a 7th ward constable, which cost the county several hundred dollars and resulted in showing an increased majority for the Democratic candidate." While the Examiner was hunting in the political gear yard it is a wonder it did not come across Mayor Stauffer's libel suit against the INTELLIGENCER; and the skeleton of a peculiarly nice little game which the Examiner's friends tried to work to beat "Steinmetz for representative," even at the price of beating Boring for mayor—or any other man.

LET it not be forgotten that when Mr. Blain publicly seized and carried off his own compromising correspondence, after having begged Mulligan on his knees to save him from disgrace and ruin, he fought the audacity to read prepared extracts from those letters on the floor of the House, upon which a lame defence of the alleged corruption was made. But he absolutely refused to submit the abstracted letters to the committee of investigation, or to any open inspection. He then destroyed the proofs by which the charges made against him were to be sustained. How he was able, as a public man, to survive that scandal, and soon after to come near being nominated for the presidency, is one of the marvels of these times.

PERSONAL. Captain MAYNE REID interests himself in sheep raising on his small estate in Hartfordshire, England. The monopoly of Washington society will be relieved next winter by the presence of King KALAKAUA. It seems to be settled that MURAT HALSTEAD, field marshal of the Cincinnati press, is to have the German mission. Hon. WILLIAM G. FARGO, president of the American express company, is lying very ill at his residence in Buffalo, and little hope is entertained that he will survive. The father of Miss ANNA HARKNESS, who took the second prize for violin playing in Paris, is a newspaper carrier in Boston and has devoted every dollar he could earn to her musical education. Gen. KILPATRICK felt so happy over his appointment as minister to Chili that he sent the secretary of state a pretty floral ship with "Blaine Forever" lettered around the base. But if Blaine makes many such appointments his ship will go to wreck.

At the coming commencement of Muhlenberg college in Allentown, on Wednesday, June 29, at 3 p. m., the address before the alumni will be made by Rev. W. K. FRICK, of Philadelphia, formerly of Lancaster; in the evening at 8 o'clock the address before the literary societies by Hon. WILLIAM A. WALLACE, of Clearfield.

There is now being erected over the grave of Mrs. Cross (GEORGE ELIOT) in Highgate cemetery a beautiful memorial stone. It is in the form of an obelisk 12 feet in height, and is a beautiful specimen of the blue or Aberdeen granite. The pedestal bears the following inscription in gold letters: "Of those immortal dead who live again in minds made better by their presence" Here lies the body of "George Eliot," Mary Ann Cross, Born 23d November, 1815, Died 21st December, 1881.

When the gold cross given Miss Anthony by her Philadelphia admirers was passed down to the reporters' table for examination at the Woman Suffrage convention in Boston, E. P. Robinson, of Saugus, who sat among them, remarked: "Mrs. President and ladies: When one of our Massachusetts regiments was starting for the war, John A. Andrew, taking the musket carried by Theodore Parker's grandfather at Lexington, which had been presented to the state, kissed it as an earnest of his devotion to their cause. So I kiss this cross as an earnest of my admiration of SUSAN B. ANTHONY." The kiss was given, the audience laughed, and Miss Anthony blushed appreciation.

LILLIE ACKERMAN, aged 7 years, was drowned by falling into the creek at Chester. The 5-year-old son of Mr. Dunkle, superintendent of the Cottage Landing mill, Huntington, was drowned in the race near the mill. Daniel Smith, a moulder, who worked in the Bessemer steel works, Bethlehem, committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart. Frederick Walter, a coal miner, employed at Armstrong's works near Pittsburgh was killed by a fall of slate on Saturday. The deceased leaves a wife but no children. The everlasting ecclesiastical case of Stark vs. O'Hara is at the supreme court again from Lycoming county; and it wouldn't be a Williamsport list if the Herdicks and Lycoming fire insurance companies were not on it as litigants. The case of the "steeping" Hungarian at Allentown seems to be lost sight of, since his trance-like condition has come to be attributed to the abscess on his head which is now three inches long, two wide, and a running sore. In April 1880, in Beaver Falls, Barney Miller, a grocery clerk, was offered ten shares of stock in the Pennsylvania Lake Erie railroad for \$250 spot cash. He borrowed the money, bought it on faith and sold at \$98 per share the other day paying his interest and pocketing \$700 profit. LATEST NEWS BY MAIL. George W. Townsend, a wealthy citizen of Newburg, New York, died suddenly at Babylon, Long Island, on Sunday. Jeremiah Hall, D. D., ex-president of Denison university, at Granville, Ohio, died yesterday, at Port Haven, Michigan, aged 76 years. Base ball—Easton—Lafayette, 16; Brooklyn, 9; New Haven—Yale, 3; Brown, 2; Worcester—Worcester, 2; Detroit, 1; New York—Metropolitan, 6; Atlantic, 4; Philadelphia—Athletic, 6; National, 2. A duel was fought in Scott county, Mo., between two young men named Trent and Strickland, who in a quarrel on the highway resorted to knives. The result was the mortal wounding of Strickland. It begins to look as if Conkling would be elected—to stay at home. Only 35 members attended his caucus last night. The administration conference had 57. The Democrats have nominated Francis Kernan and John C. Jacobs as their candidates. In Indianapolis John Enrich, formerly a policeman and saloon keeper, who had applied for a divorce, shot her and her father and then shot himself. Enrich has since died. Mrs. Enrich's condition is critical, but she will probably recover. Her father was only slightly wounded. The first annual meeting of the League of American Women, held at New York yesterday and was an event of a most novel character. Many clubs from different cities had arrived within the past two or three days, and at the parade there were about 800 bicycles in line. The Discount and Deposit bank of Chattanooga has made an assignment. The assets of the bank are ample sufficient to pay all liabilities; if from any cause they should not, the liability of the stockholders under the terms of the charter, makes it absolutely certain that every creditor will get every dollar due him. Emma Ague, 26 years old, a patient in the Bloomingdale insane asylum, was found hanging to a sheet to the closet door of her room. She had been dead several hours. She had put a dummy in her bed so that her absence from it would not be missed by the attendants. John P. Munley challenged George Manley, his nephew, nineteen years old, to fight a duel. They met on Campbell's Creek, West Virginia, and George Manley was shot in the mouth before he fired a shot. He can recover. Both are miners in good circumstances, and the quarrel between them arose out of family matters. At Bridgeport, Ala., 20 miles from Chattanooga, an Irish tramp named Mehan, while bathing with some young men, became enraged because they spatred him with mud, rushed for his knife and cut Wm. Copeland in the neck, causing instant death. The tramp was seized and bound hand and foot, and while in prison, Sam Reese, a cousin of Copeland, slipped up and shot Mehan through the head, causing death immediately. Reese escaped. The two cousins are connected with the wealthiest and most substantial families in that neighborhood. An Important Admission. Philadelphia Evening Telegraph. If Dr. Smith was right in his testimony in the case of Lizzie Aarons, and his great practical knowledge and professional reputation entitled him to a respectful hearing at least—it is painful to think how many poor mothers have been unjustly punished for the alleged crime of killing their new-born babes. It has been for years a doctrine among the physicians that if an infant's lungs will float in water it is proof that they have been filled with air, and consequently that the child was born alive. The test has been accepted as conclusive in multitudes of cases; but it now appears to hold good only under certain conditions, and if these are not fulfilled it is worse than useless. This fact was demonstrated so clearly at the trial of the district attorney at Judge Allison's suggestion, asked for a verdict of acquittal, being convinced of the worthlessness of the evidence on which he had relied for conviction. It will be well for physicians who may have to testify at similar trials in future to study the medico-legal aspect of this case before they undertake to swear away a human life. "Playing Soldier." A number of children were "playing soldiers" in the vicinity of William Reed's residence, Baltimore. Among others was a bright little fellow of nine years, James H. Frebarger, son of a city official. Charles Herling, aged twelve, found a rusty old army musket that had been rusted for eight years, and was supposed to be unloading it, when a tiny pistol cap on the nipple and at the suggestion of a companion pointed the barrel through a grating toward the little soldiers and pulled the trigger. A loud explosion followed and when the smoke cleared away

A REPLACED SWITCH.

What is believed to have been a misplaced switch at Bear Swamp, four miles east of Trenton, on the New York division of the Pennsylvania railroad, which occurred about 4:30 p. m., caused an accident resulting in the killing of two persons and the wounding, more or less seriously, of twenty more. The train was the fast Pittsburgh express, which left New York at 9:20 and was due in Philadelphia at 5:50. It consisted of baggage car, Pullman parlor-car, and three passenger coaches. The engineer, conductor and a number of passengers agree in saying that the switch-tender was seen running off toward a woods when the wreck occurred, the theory being that he turned the switch the wrong way by mistake and, seeing the error, hurried back to rectify it, but discovering he was too late, fled to avoid the consequences. The engine was the famous 724, which made the quickest run between New York and Philadelphia before the last big engines were built and was in charge of Engineer E. F. Osmond, who says he was running about thirty miles an hour, but the conductor says the speed was about fifty-five miles. The two passenger cars were smashed to kindling-wood. The baggage car, smoking car and Pullman parlor car in front kept the track and were not damaged. The engine, though cast overboard and quivering in every joint, kept the track, and the engineer and firemen held their posts. Among the dangerously injured is Topsy Venn, of Rice's Surprise Party, now engaged at the Walnut Street theatre, who, with Ella Chapman, of the same troupe, had gone to New York to spend Sunday, and were returning to take their places in last evening's performance. Topsy Venn was shot between two seats, while Miss Chapman received severe strains to her back and right ankle. In the midst of the excitement and sufferings of others, however, both, according to the statements of passengers, forgot their own injuries and devoted themselves to the care of others. The train was in Philadelphia they were conveyed to the Continental, where the condition of Miss Venn immediately became alarming. Dr. Turner says that in the crush between the seats she received a dangerous concussion which rendered her condition most serious. In fact, the doctor would not last night give an opinion as to the exact extent of her injuries, but gave all inquiries to understand that nothing definite could be known for a few days. Miss Chapman was taken to the hospital, where her place in the company in a few days. Mrs. Lucretia Pennington, who was one of the killed, was the widow of John Pennington, formerly a well-known book dealer on Seventh street, below Sanson, Orange street. She was a devoted friend of the late General Scott's old favorites, having run the road for twenty-four years without an accident. The other killed was Ritter, Augustus, book-keeper for J. P. Dittman & Co., 633 Morris street, Philadelphia; 36 years of age; crushed beneath the train, instantly killed. Mrs. Ritter was injured and Mrs. Pennington's niece had her spine severely injured. About a dozen others were more or less hurt.

It seems that Mr. Ritter and his wife had their baby with them, a passenger who saw him killed thus describes the scene: "The father had his baby half way out of the window when the trucks came crashing down on him, smashing in the roof like an egg shell and falling right over him. The mother was screaming and blood was streaming all over his head and face and he was quite dead. I don't think he lived an instant after the trucks struck him. In one hand he held his baby's little lace cap, and it could not be seen in the fingers. The mother was rushing wildly about, screaming for somebody to come and get her husband out. It was not until two or three passengers, one of them with the baby in his arms, had taken her in hand that she could get out of the car. The passengers got axes and cut the husband out. The car was as complete a wreck as I ever saw or expect to see. The old lady who sat in the seat behind the dead man was also badly crushed, and, I think, died a few minutes afterward. If it had not been for the passengers, the mother would be pulling me back, too, would have been crushed to death under the heavy truck and the baby along with me. How the mother was saved I don't know. When the car pitched over the second time and fell off on the side, the mother was seated and toward the door. She was crushed between the seats and seriously hurt. Afterwards she and her baby were cared for by passengers, who raised a purse of money for her and took her to the hotel. Her little watch was also given her by the German who took it off his person in my presence."

Decorations Day. Despatches from New York, Washington, Brooklyn, Albany, Jersey City, Cincinnati, Chicago, Baltimore, Atlanta, Boston, Wilmington, New Castle and Milford, in Delaware; Gettysburg, Chester, West Chester, Wilkesbarre, and other places in Pennsylvania, and also from various other cities and towns in the United States, show there was a very general observance of a memorial day. At Arlington cemetery, near Washington, President Garfield, Secretary Hunt and Windom, Postmaster General James and General Sheridan were among those present. Hon. Mark H. Dunbar, of Minnesota, was the speaker of Gettysburg among the 15,000 visitors were Lieutenant Governor Stone and the members of the Legislature. In Philadelphia there were many different ceremonies at the various cemeteries by the several churches. The 700 graves in Odd Fellow's cemetery were decorated by Fred. Taylor post No. 19, George W. Waterhouse, commander. The post numbers 95 members, including the firing party. Eleven wagons of flowers and the members of the post, sick members of the post accompanied the procession to the cemetery and M. Brosius, esq., of Lancaster, was the eloquent orator.

Asked and Answered. In his M. E. pulpit, in Philadelphia, on Sunday, Rev. Geo. C. Kimmel, late P. E. of this district, preached on the revised version, which, he said, was highly valuable as commentary on the old, although he could find no satisfactory answer to the question, "Was the revision necessary?" He said the time had come when Rev. Dr. Ph. Schaff was explaining that there were two reasons for such a revision; first, the changes in languages, and second, the progress in biblical scholarship. The forty-seven persons who made the King James translation had none of them been in Palestine. They were thus liable to make errors, and did make many. Since then Egypt has given up her treasures, Sinai has been explored, Palestine has been traversed, Babylon and Nineveh have risen from their graves to testify to the truth of the Bible, and lend their manuscripts and inscriptions to the explanation of some of its passages.

Decorations Day. The funeral of Mrs. Israel Gehr, a highly esteemed lady of Washington borough, took place yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. The deceased was a sister of Mr. Henry Mellinger, blacksmith. She had suffered many months from consumption and was only relieved by death, which occurred on Thursday of last week. It was a very pitiful and affecting scene to behold the father, surrounded by five little children, as they stood around the coffin and gave the farewell look to the departed mother. Deceased was in her 81st year. Rev. C. H. Gehr, pastor of the M. E. church at this place, preached an impressive sermon. Mr. Gehr and family have the sympathy of the whole community in their bereavement.

Decorations Day at Marietta. The day was one of unusually impressive observance and general interest in Marietta, and all classes of people participated in the ceremony and noted the significance of the day by abstaining from all amusements and pursuits. The Sunday schools under the management of Dr. Worrall; the societies and employees of the cigar and other manufactories and citizens formed in procession at 3 o'clock, the Sunday schools in front of the city hall, and the parade moved down Elbow Lane to Market street, to Gay, to Fairview and thence to the cemetery where the Sunday school children opened ranks and allowed the remainder of the procession to pass through while they sang, "God Save Our Native Land" to the accompaniment of the band. The procession moved around the center plot of the beautiful cemetery and formed a circle, followed by the Sunday schools who formed in an inner circle, the committee of reception, orator, clergy, color guards and bands taking position in the center. Rev. J. C. Wood then offered a prayer and Capt. Dracke, miller made the G. A. R. address. "Blest are the martyred dead who lie" was sung and a prayer was made by Rev. Newton Shannon. The Soldiers' Monumental Song was sung and to its strains the children strewed flowers over the graves of the dead soldiers, which had previously been marked with small flags. After this was concluded W. D. Weaver, esq., of this city, delivered an oration. It was about a half hour in length, and he spoke with eloquence, earnestness and appropriateness. The band then played a suitable selection and after a benediction by Rev. Wood the audience dispersed, many remaining in the cemetery to inspect and admire the tasteful and profuse decorations.

At Manheim. The exercises at this town were of a very interesting nature. The procession formed in Market square at half-past one o'clock in the following order: March. Band. Returned Soldiers. Clergy and Orators. Choir. Town Council and School Board. Hope Fire Company. Secret Societies. Citizens. The procession marched over the route to George Long's orchard, where a fine stand was erected, which was beautifully trimmed with flags, etc. The meeting was

Decorations Day at Mount Joy. At Mount Joy the decorations were also held. In the afternoon the procession, which was composed of forty veterans of the late war, the children of the soldiers' orphan school, the borough council and board of school directors, Knights of Gethsemane and citizens, was formed. It started for the cemetery, where it visited all the cemeteries, in which the graves of the dead soldiers were decorated. The last cemetery visited was the Mount Joy and here the regular exercises were held. The oration was delivered by Rev. H. Boyer, of the M. E. church. There was a very large turnout, and after the exercises at the cemetery the procession moved to the council chamber where it was dismissed. The music for the parade was furnished by the Mount Joy band and the soldiers' orphan drum corps.

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