



A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Temperance, Literature, Science, The Arts, Mechanics, Agriculture, The Markets, Education, Amusement, General Intelligence, &c.

J. S. & J. J. BRISBIN.

WE STAND UPON THE IMMUTABLE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE—NO EARTHLY POWER SHALL DRIVE US FROM OUR POSITION.

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Incident of the Battle of Trenton.

BY EDWARD B. ELLIS.

It was the night before the battle—the darkest night of the Revolution. The town of Trenton was lit up as if for a carnival.

Every one abandoned himself to revelry, and harbored no thought of danger.

Now and then an officer reined for a moment, that perhaps a disciplined army might afford them considerable trouble.

In a small unpretending house, close to where the "State Bank" building now stands, lived an elderly lady and her only daughter.

They were both patriots, and the mother's darling son was then serving in the Continental Army.

Upon entering the town, three of the Hessian officers took up their quarters with Mrs. Manton, without the formality of an invitation.

The officers were all young, swearing dissipated men, who immediately took possession of the best room, on the second floor, which fronted the street.

No pains had been spared to make the above the first floor in Harrisburg. The table is always spread with the best market affords and the accommodations are superior to any found elsewhere in the city.

While he was thus engaged, the following words were exchanged between two soldiers in Washington's army.

"We have them at last!" exclaimed the latter, exultingly.

"Yes, thank Heaven! they are in full retreat."

"Are they not near your house, Manton?"

"Yes, and my dear mother and sister are no doubt thanking God for what is now going on around them," said young Manton, proudly.

The American forces were now at the head of Warren Street, and the British retreating before them.

When the latter reached the house of Manton, they turned off to the right, through a by-street, and continued their retreat through Greene, toward the Assanpink Creek.

Washington observing this, executed a maneuver that placed victory at once in his hands.

Dividing his force, he dispatched one portion of it down Warren street, while his own body continued his pursuit through Greene.

The former division was to cross the Assanpink as quickly as possible, and attack the enemy in the rear.

Manton was in this body; and as they hastened forward to obey their orders, he glanced up, while passing, at the windows of his home.

What was his astonishment to see an officer deliberately shaving himself in full view from the street!

Impulsively he raised his musket and fired. The ball went through the window pane, struck the officer in the face, and he fell and died in less than two minutes!

The results of the battle of Trenton is well known. It was the turning point of the Revolution, and the dark clouds which had so long hung over our destiny as a nation were then dissipated.

After the battle, Manton and his friends visited the house of the former. Then he learned that he had slain the insurer of his sister, and it is needless to add that it occasioned him but little regret.

The window-pane through which the Hessian officer was shot is still preserved in Trenton, and is in the possession of a Mr. Wilson.

It is still regarded as a curiosity. The bullet made a clean hole, perfectly circular, and did not crack any other part of the glass.

But time and storms have rendered it fragile and weak, and it is now guarded with jealous care.

The building from which it was taken was known, until about eight years since, as the "Phoenix Tavern," when it was torn down and a more tasteful edifice erected in its stead.

But there are other houses around it, in which the bullet marks of this battle are yet visible, and almost any one can show you the spot where the Hessian officer was shot as he stood shaving at the window.

From Bennett's Dollar Monthly.

An Original. There is out in Arkansas, at Fort Smith, a funny fellow by the name of Bright, over whose dull advertisements we have enjoyed a laugh.

Fundamental Principles—Bacon, beans, corn, rice, meal, sugar, coffee, molasses, and strap iron, now on hand. De Oiled Oat-flour and beautiful unsophisticated mackerel, taken during their kittenhood, and of course, very tender, fat, and good.

Dum Vivimus Vivimus!—Signifies treat yourself to Chesnut Bay oysters, highfalutin clams, and lantern-jawed lobsters, and keep them fed with ketchup, pickles, sauces, fresh peaches, raisins, prunes, figs, and Epson salt.

Lubricatives!—Lard oil, lincsed oil, hair oil, tannor oil, tanner's oil, and the oil of gladness.

Plows—A very Florida root-ripping, sod-ripping and ground-tearing plow, warranted to upset the holder over a six feet tall fence at dinner time, thus saving the expense of a watch.

"Sing, I tell you!" "Not to-night," said Ruth firmly. "Take that, then!"

He sent her reeling with a blow, and added, with a sneer: "Now go, and next time learn to obey when you receive an order."

Ruth, half-dazed with pain, groped her way back to her room, and fastening the door, sunk down upon her knees and prayed—not for vengeance, but for mercy upon her insurers.

Before it was yet light, the officers were awakened by the discharge of musketry.

They knew well enough what it meant, and two of their number instantly sprung out of bed, and hastened into the street.

But the third, who so grossly insulted Ruth, remained still, half stupefied by the dissipation of the previous day.

Louder and louder, nearer and nearer came the sounds of conflict. The shouts of officers and the cries of the wounded were heard, while now and then the faint cheering of the Americans in the distance reached his ears.

At last our officer arose from his bed, half-dressed himself, went to the window and looked out. He saw the whole Hessian force slowly retreating before the Continental army, which was resolutely pressing onward.

Instead of passing out and joining his own men, the officer hung a small mirror upon the side of the window, and commenced shaving!

While he was thus engaged, the following words were exchanged between two soldiers in Washington's army.

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The Crittenden resolution have been approved by the Senate of New Jersey, by a vote of eleven to six.

A Scrap of History

There have been ten specific attempts to defy the authority of the Federal Government since its formation.

The first was in 1782, and was a conspiracy of some of the officers of the Federal army to consolidate the thirteen States into one, and confer the supreme power on Washington.

The second was in 1786, called "Shay's Insurrection," in Massachusetts.

The third was in 1794, popularly called "the Whiskey Insurrection of Pennsylvania."

The fourth instance was in 1799, by the opponents of the Sedition laws, known in Berks county as the "Schreckenkrieg," or "Reign of Terror."

The fifth instance was in 1814, by the Hartford Convention of the Federalists.

The sixth, on which occasion the different sections of the Union came into collision, was in 1820, under the administration of President Monroe, and occurred on the question of the admission of Missouri into the Union.

The seventh was a collision between the Legislature of Georgia and the Federal Government, in regard to certain lands given by the latter to the Creek Indians.

The eighth was in 1829 with the Cherokees in Georgia.

People We can Dispense With. Does any enterprising individual wish to form a colony at the North Pole, or Central Africa, or any such far-off place, where the voyagers will be warranted never to come back again?

If so, we can point out quite a cargo whose export would never be lamented over by their native land.

We are no sure but that government would pay their entire expenses, to get rid of them finally and forever. Here is a list of the most promising.

The man who "can't live within his salary," and is always wanting to borrow money, but who wears as fine broadcloth and expensive sleeve-buttons as his millionaire employer.

The woman who brings up her daughters on a diet of curl-papers and dancing school, and who "can't account for Anna Maria's conduct" when she elopes with a penniless drygoods clerk!

The man who would rather buy a new coat (of credit) and cheat the tailor, than to be degraded by a neat patch on his elbows.

The woman whose stocking-tees resemble a colander in their ventilating conveniences, but who considers a nicely executed darn in the skirt of a dress to be vulgar beyond endurance!

The man who is always "making up his mind," who answers every question with "Wal! I don't know exactly!" and treads with his hands in his pockets, until it is too late to do anything else with them!

The woman who always has to stop and sew on her bonnet-strings when she is going anywhere—who is universally behindhand—who is too late at church, too late at tea, too late to get her railroad ticket, and invariably arrives at the steamboat landing just three seconds after the plank has been taken up.

The man who never can subscribe for the Centre Democrat, but who always sends little Zekiel over to his neighbor's house to borrow it, twenty minutes after the mail comes in.

The young lady who never can remember the mislister's text at church, but who makes the hair of her dear particular friends stand upright with a repetition of the horrors she has devoured in her last yellow-covered romance.

The man who "has no faculty to work," but has an amazing faculty in attending political meetings, standing on street corners, and running after free companies.

The woman who can't get a minute's time to mend the girls' aprons and the boys' jackets, and who spends her leisure in leaning out of the window, on her elbows, and hearing about "that dreadful murder" from her next-door neighbor, while the children are padding in the wash-tub, and the soup burning in the dinner-pot.

We could mention a good many others—but this will serve as a pretty fair sample. We can spare them just as well as not—in fact, we would offer a reasonable premium to any one who would warrant their non-return. Perhaps they might become useful members of society in the Feejee Islands.

They certainly never will here!

An immense peak of alum stone, from which the purest alum is obtained by a very simple and cheap process, is discovered in Amador county, California.

The school-mistresses whom Gov. Stide of Vermont sent out to Oregon, were to pay a fine of \$500 if they married under one year. Most of the girls paid the fine imposed.

The bill admitting Kansas into the Union as a State, passed the Senate on last Tuesday, by a vote of 36 to 16. Those who voted against the admission were Southern Senators.

Centre County Teachers' Institute.

"Were half the power, that fills the world with terror, Were half the wealth, bestowed on camps and courts, Given to redeem the human mind from error There were no need of arsenals and forts." Longfellow.

Pursuant to adjournment, and a call of the President, the Teachers met at Boalsburg on Tuesday, December 20th, 1860, at 1 1/2 o'clock, P. M.

The President, Mr. Thos. Hollahan, took the chair, and called the Institute to order. A prayer was then offered by the Rev. Mr. Grow.

On motion of the Secretary, S. Brigger, the President appointed the following persons a board of critics: Messrs. H. G. Stitzer, John T. Reed, and John F. Hollahan.

J. Hollahan wished to be excused, and suggested that the President should appoint a lady member in his place.

By a vote of the Institute he was excused, and Miss E. Tate was appointed by the President.

The Rev. Mr. Blake, of Aaronburg, was then introduced by the Pres't, who delivered a very able and interesting address on the studies of the school room; discarding the mere use of the text book, and insisting that the teacher be thoroughly versed in everything he pretends to teach.

On motion a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Blake for his able and interesting address.

On motion, the Pres't. appointed the following persons a Committee to prepare business for the Institute: Messrs. T. G. Ehrhart, Wm. P. Dale, M. R. Beck, Dr. R. Weir, F. W. Hess, Alfred Shae, and Miss Jennie F. McBride.

On motion, the hours for opening and closing the Institute were fixed as follows: 9 to 12 A. M., 1 1/2 to 4 P. M., 6 1/2 in the evening and adjourn when through evening session; President Hollahan in the chair; prayer by W. Galbraith; roll called; the members responding with sentiments: music by the band, and minutes read and approved.

Letters were then read by the Secretary from Thos. Burrows, State Superintendent, and A. Smith, Sup't. of Millin county, both stating they were present, by prior engagements, from attending the Institute.

The President then delivered his inaugural address, in a clear, distinct and able manner, and was listened to with marked attention by a large and appreciating audience.

Music again by the band. Essay on Physical Geography, by R. C. Weir.

Essay Subject—the "Present Age" Music.

Practical questions being next in order Dr. Weir proposed the following question:—How many and what branches should be taught in common schools?

He opened the discussion and maintained, that in small country schools of not over 30 scholars, only the branches required by law should be taught.

He was followed by M. R. Beck, E. P. Foreman, J. F. Hollahan, Alfred Shae, J. T. Reed, D. H. Chesebro, H. G. Stitzer and Frank W. Hess. The majority were in favor of a more extended course of study, maintaining that such was the design of the law.

On motion the subject was closed. A motion was made to reconsider the vote but was lost.

Mr. Hollahan then suggested the following topic for discussion: What effect has the constant change of teachers upon the common schools?

On motion, the question was postponed until the following morning.

On motion, Mr. Keller, Daniel Musser, P. Sheneberger, Rev. Mr. Grow, Mr. David Keller, and all the members of the Band were elected Honorary members of the Institute.

Report of the critics.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted and incorporated as one of the by-laws: Resolved, That no member speak more than twice on the same subject, nor longer than ten minutes at one time unless by the permission of the Institute.

Adjourned. WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION. President Hollahan in the chair; prayer by Mr. D. Mathias; roll called; minutes read and approved.

On motion of F. W. Hess, the Secretary read the Constitution and By-laws. After the reading a number of the teachers came forward and signed them.

The question, "What effect has the constant change of teachers on the common schools?" was then opened by J. F. Hollahan, who was decidedly opposed to continual change in teachers. He was followed by H. G. Stitzer, who took the opposite side, maintaining that change is beneficial in keeping up the interest of both scholars and teachers. The discussion was continued by Messrs. T. G. Ehrhart, G. W. Rumbarger, R. C. Weir, Frank W. Hess, J. W. Muffly, W. W. Weaver and D. H. Young.

The subject, "the best method of teaching Arithmetic," was then taken up, Mr. A. Musser having been appointed to open the subject, declined doing so, and Mr. Galbraith took his place, followed by D. Keller, H. G. Stitzer and others.

On motion, the subject was postponed until Thursday morning.

A song was then sung by Miss A. Keller's class in a very pleasing manner.

The next question, "are merit registers proper in schools," was opened by R. C. Weir, who maintained they are not proper, and that he does not approve of credit marks. He was followed by J. Campbell, who approved of merit marks, also by Messrs. D. H. Young, E. P. Foreman, T. G. Ehrhart, W. W. Weaver and others.

Miscellaneous business. ARMY AND NAVY. President Hollahan in the chair; prayer by W. R. Dale. Roll called. Minutes read and approved.

Mr. M. R. Beck, member of business committee reported that he had waited upon the Rev. Mr. Hamill, and that he could not address the Institute. A song was then sung by Miss A. Keller's pupils.

"Should schools be graded in rural districts," was the subject next taken up by F. W. Hess, who was decidedly in favor of graded schools. He was followed by Messrs. Young, Musser, Reuben, J. S. Neff, and others.

The majority being in favor of graded school. A vote of the Institute was taken on the subject, and stood Yeas 25, Nays 9. Recess of 20 minutes.

The subject "should vocal music be taught in our common schools," was then taken up and discussed by H. G. Stitzer, E. P. Foreman, and others. By request of the Institute, Mr. J. G. Mayer, and other experienced teacher of vocal music addressed them. He spoke decidedly in favor of teaching music to all the children in our schools.

He illustrated his method of teaching music by forming a class. H. G. Stitzer offered the following resolution which was read and adopted