

The Centre Democrat.



F. E. & G. P. BIBLE, Proprietors.

"EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL MEN, OF WHATEVER STATE OR PERSUASION, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL."—J. S. BROWN

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ALEC McCLEURE was "not guilty" but having the longest purse, and being a stranger, the jury thought he should pay the costs of the libel suit.

The death of another great man in the person of General Robert Toombs occurred at his home in Washington, Ga., on Monday, the 15th inst.

THE Philadelphia Evening Call of December 9th, was a twenty page paper, with a colored cover. The Call is one of the papers of Philadelphia which have reached popularity and success at one bound.

Kelley's Case.

The correspondence in the Kelley case has been laid before the Senate by the President, and the action of the President and Secretary Bayard will no doubt be fully sustained. The history of this case is so peculiar as to excite general interest. Mr. Kelley, whose eminent fitness for a diplomatic position was unquestioned, was first appointed Minister to Italy. The New York Herald raked up a speech of Mr. Kelley's, delivered fourteen years ago, in which that gentleman, with the fervor of a good Catholic and the proverbial loose tongue of an American citizen, denounced the deposition of Pius IX. as a temporal sovereign. For this reason the Italian government refused to receive Mr. Kelley. He then resigned his commission, and was appointed by the President to Austria. The Austrian government refused to receive him ostensibly because his wife was a Jewess, but in reality because Italy, a "friendly power," asked that Mr. Kelley be not received. This is a brief history of the case. The question is now before the Senate of the United States. In our country a religious test cannot be applied to any citizen within its borders, nor can it be tolerated when it comes from a foreign power. We give the position of the administration on the case in the language of Secretary Bayard, which will meet the hearty approbation of all:

"In harmony with this essential law," says the Secretary, "is the almost equally potential unwritten law of American society that awards respect and delicate consideration to the women of the United States and exacts deference in the treatment at home and abroad of the mothers, wives and daughters of the republic."

On August 31st Mr. Bayard, in a long communication to Mr. Lee, reviewing the case in detail, writes:

By no act of mine, nor with my consent, can the Government of the United States be placed in an attitude of supplication for favor or become a petitioner for recognition on terms prescribed by any foreign power, and this expression meets the full approval of the Executive. There is, therefore, and can be no suggestion of expostulation or protest by us against the unprecedented action of the government of Austria-Hungary. All that has been said and written by us has been designed to make it clear that as between the revocation of Mr. Kelley's appointment by this government and his rejection as an Envoy by that of his Imperial and Royal Majesty the responsibility of the final decision must rest with the latter, which, having now signified its determination and accomplished its object, must abide the result. Two facts appear—first, that the alleged race and religious faith of the wedded wife of an envoy of the United States is held a cause of his rejection, and further that objections by a third party, "a friendly power," are necessary to be removed in order to allow a proper reception to be extended. These conditions are simply intolerable and are in the case of the United States not only inhibited by the plain letter and underlying spirit of our constitution of government, but are inconsistent with that decent self respect which forbids a nation of sixty millions of freemen to accept the position of a diplomatic dependency of the "friendly power" whose rebuffs appear to have been acquiesced in and carried out by Austria-Hungary in the present instance.

Brave Words.

In an address to the stockholders of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, Franklin B. Gowen, Ex-President of that corporation, gave expression to a sentiment in which every Pennsylvanian is interested, in which every inhabitant of the great west whose products find market in the east or in Europe, has a common interest with the citizen of Pennsylvania. "We must save the Jersey Central, save the Beech Creek, save the Baltimore and Ohio." Does any one ask why these roads must be saved? Can the carrying trade of the west or the manufacturing industries of Pennsylvania be trusted to the tender mercies of a single corporation? "We must save the Reading," is the sentiment of every man in the State who is not blinded to the common good of the people by pecuniary obligation to, or partisan feeling for Reading's great rival. Mr. Gowen's words are "brave words" and they touch a responsive chord that vibrates sweet music through the length and breadth of the State. "There are \$10,000,000 waiting in Allegheny county to be put into the construction of a competing line to connect with the Reading," said the speaker. Considering Pittsburgh's vast interests and that her only outlet to the seaports of the east is through the Pennsylvania railroad, there can be little doubt of the truth of Mr. Gowen's statement.

"When I have saved the Reading I will compel the construction of the South Penn. or build another line with the aid of the Baltimore and Ohio, and the Pennsylvania Railroad and all the powers of darkness cannot prevent it." Mr. Gowen is of course sanguine of success in the event of his election to the Presidency of Reading and with such purposes in view we can but say, God speed his election.

Over six thousand people listened for two hours to the eloquent statements of the brilliant Gowen, the majority perhaps holders of Reading's stock or bonds. Why Philadelphia should sit still and see Reading pushed to the wall is unaccountable, but such is the case. The rival factions of the Reading company are each constantly reorganizing the road by a diminution of its earnings. Mr. Gowen is anxious to be president of the company and promises to bring order out of chaos. He cannot but be a vast improvement on the fellows who are now running the road and ought to be elected. He gives expression to a wholesome truth at the bottom of which perhaps lies Reading's future prosperity and safety, viz. "Reading can never be saved as a local road." But Reading with an outlet to the west either by the B. & O. or the South Penn. ceases to be a local road, and divides the traffic with the other trunk lines. The railroad question like the question of slavery will be settled gradually, but it is nearing its solution now. The power of absorption is limited even in great corporations and when the Pennsylvania sponge, takes up all the water it can hold there will be an end of its absorption and the squeezing out process will begin.

A Game of "Freeze Out."

Just now two great coal companies are engaged in the pleasant pastime of buying up all the bituminous coal lands of Centre, Clearfield, and Cambria counties that can be purchased, and then "freeze out" the small operators who refuse to sell at the dictation of the great corporations. These two corporations are the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Company, and the Berwind-White Coal Co. The sale of the coal lands of Harned Jacobs & Co., to Berwind White & Co., and the formation of the new company called the Berwind White Coal Company is one of the first steps in the creation of the twin monopolies

that are to control the bituminous output of the Clearfield region. Berwind, White & Co. have always "stood in" with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the rebates and "draw-backs" on freight to that company in one year, according to the testimony of a member of that firm, have been up in the hundreds of thousands. The Beech Creek Railroad deal as an out and out sale to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is confessedly a failure, but there remains one other resort to those engaged in the deal to dispose of that corporation, and that is by a fore-closure of a certain mortgage, which will shortly come due. With the fore-closure of this mortgage which is owned by a trust company in which the Vanderbilt family are large stockholders, will come the wiping out of all shipping contracts that have been made with the Beech Creek Company; these contracts at present protect the small shipper and there can be no discrimination against him as long as they are in force, but as soon as the slate is sponged off, the shipper on the line of that road is at the mercy of its new owners. The party purchasing the Beech Creek will not be the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, but that corporation will be the power behind the throne. The freight rates to the eastern markets will then be put up to an exorbitant figure; there will be no discrimination against the small shipper, but the rates will be so high that he cannot possibly mine his coal and ship. The great coal companies will mine and ship their coal as usual because they "stand in" with the railroad and the rebates on their freights of 35 or 50 cents per ton, and the "draw-backs" and all the other tricks of the trade known to those in the ring will represent their profits. When the small operator is "frozen out" so that he is compelled to sell out to his opponents, and the coal output entirely in the hands of these giant corporations we will begin to realize that the head of the state is in the lions mouth. The private fortunes of certain gentleman connected with the Beech Creek Road are at the mercy of the millionaire stockholders concerned in the deal, and they have either to put up thousands of dollars more to save that already in, or make the best terms possible with the highway men who call "stand and deliver." This is the situation to-day in the coal regions of the central part of the state. Every manufacturer, every consumer of bituminous coal in our section will pay tribute to these robber corporations. Do we realize that something more terrible than rebellion hangs over us? Yet the creatures of oppressive monopolies represent us in Congress, sit in our legislature administer justice and grind us finer and finer.

We are in receipt of the *Weekly Star* published in New York. The *Star* is "a newspaper supporting the principles of a democratic administration." This is not remarkable considering that the *Star* is a democratic paper, but as the *New York World* is now engaged in fighting the administration, the *Star* intends to shine for the administration and reform. This new weekly candidate for public favor, is bright, new and pure. It is more—it is thoroughly reliable as a newspaper. William Dorsheimer, ex-Lieut. Gov. of New York, is its editor and proprietor. Address. The *Weekly Star*, 26 and 28 North William St., New York. Per year, \$1.25.

Why should a polygamous Mormon kick when punished under the Edmunds law when bigamous gentiles have been punished to, these hundred years, for violating the common and statute law? Judge Furst sent a fellow to Pittsburg for a year and some months for bigamy, and the public said, amen!

The Message.

The first message of President Cleveland, while quite lengthy, is remarkable for the manner in which he handles the grave questions which his administration has to grapple with.

There is no ambiguity in his language, nor is there any hesitancy in meeting the different questions. He is unequivocally opposed to the compulsory coinage of the silver dollar because it is a lie and a fraud on its face. It is driving gold out of circulation and cheating the laborer out of thirteen cents on every hundred. He handles the mormon question without gloves, and will require strict enforcement of all laws looking to the repression of polygamy. He plants himself squarely on the platform of the party on the revision of the tariff, and advocates the construction of a navy, that has not to be dry-docked ten months in twelve. On the whole as a state paper it will meet the approval of the American people.

On the question of Naturalization he recommends that a bureau of Naturalization should be formed where a perfect record of all Naturalizations should be kept. And says that no person should be naturalized who does not bona fide intend to forsake his allegiance to his mother country and take on the duties and privileges of American citizenship. There are no wild projects of annexation and no bombast. The message is dignified, calm, clear and earnest, and marks an era of progress even in presidential messages.

Mr. Carlisle's Speech.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:—In assuming the duties and responsibilities of this place for a second time, I beg to return my most profound thanks for the manifestation of your continued confidence. It is a compliment which I shall always remember with pride and gratitude.

Nowhere else in the world can there be found a legislative assembly representing so great a constituency as that represented by this House, and certainly no similar body consisting of an equal number of members is its superior in point of ability and devotion to the interests entrusted to it. The privilege of presiding over the deliberations of such a body is a very high and honorable distinction—the highest and most honorable it can confer on any of its members, and I appreciate it as such.

But, gentlemen, my full appreciation of your action to-day can best be shown by a conscientious and impartial discharge of my official duty, and although it may not be wise to make pledges in advance, I venture to promise that to the full extent of my ability, the law governing the proceedings of the House shall be evenly administered with a view to the preservation of order and decorum, the protection of the personal and representative rights of members, and the prompt transaction of public business. None of these results, however, can be obtained without your active co-operation and support. In a body so large as this, representing such vast and sometimes conflicting interests, a constant observance of established rules and precedents is imperatively required, not only by the considerations vitally affecting the public welfare, but in order to maintain the honor and dignity of the House itself. In the sharp contests of priority which unavoidably occur in such a body, the restraints imposed by fixed rules are sometimes severely tested, especially if there has been a large accumulation of business. But experience has shown that the necessity for order and regularity in the consideration of legislative measures is so fully appreciated by gentlemen on the floor that they can always be relied upon to sustain the presiding officer in

every effort he may make to obtain that result.

In view of this fact I feel much more confident of a reasonable degree of success in this trying position than would otherwise be justifiable. Questions of order must be decided promptly as they are raised—generally without much opportunity for deliberation and consequently by whoever may occupy the chair, and however careful he may be mistakes must frequently be committed. But, fortunately, this house has at all times in its own hands the power to correct them and preserve the integrity and consistency of its practice; and I am sure, gentlemen, you will not hesitate to exercise that power whenever the occasion may demand.

Gentlemen, we are about to enter upon the work of an important session, more important, perhaps than any that has preceded it for many years. The political relations heretofore existing between the two sides of the House and the executive department of the Government have been reversed and this of itself imposes new duties and obligations on both.

Under a popular form of government like ours, a political change in the executive branch necessarily, to a greater or less extent, involves altered methods of administration, inaugurates new legislative policy, and consequently presents new questions for the consideration of the people and their representatives. It is probable, therefore, that many subjects not heretofore prominent in our deliberations will engage a large share of your attention during the present Congress. It may reasonably be anticipated also that wide differences of opinion will exist on many of those questions, resulting in long, earnest, and perhaps exciting contests on the floor, and, it may be, these differences will not always be defined by recognized party lines. Under these circumstances a broader appreciation of the integrity and patriotism of each other, a sincere respect for the honest opinions of opponents in debate and the cultivation of a spirit of mutual forbearance will be necessary to enable the House to conduct its proceedings with order and deliberation and avoid unpleasant incidents, which are always, in my experience at least most seriously regretted by those who participate in them. The house is only custodian of its own peace and dignity and without its cordial support no presiding officer can preserve either.

And now, gentlemen, before taking the oath of office allow me to renew the expressions of my sincere acknowledgement of the great honor you have conferred and the great trust you have confided to my hands. I accept both with a proper sense of the obligations they impose, and certainly with the earnest desire to discharge those obligations without prejudice to any public interest. [Loud and long continued applause].

J. R. LOWRIE Esq., of Warriors Mark Huntingdon county and trustee of the estate of Lyon, Shorb & Co., died at his residence on Thursday of last week. Mr. Lowrie was an attorney but has not practiced for years. He has devoted his time to the management of the large estate under his control and to literary and scientific pursuits. Mr. Lowrie was a very charitable man, and a prominent member of the Presbyterian church. He was married twice, his first wife being a Miss Lyon.

Outraged Her and Cut Her Throat.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 14.—Last night officers found Katie F. Delany, aged 16 years, a pretty working girl, lying on the pavement near her home, No. 384 East Third street, unconscious and bleeding from a severe wound in the neck. When restored consciousness she said that George Jones, aged 22 years, living next door, had enticed her into his house under the pretense of showing her some pictures, and then outraged her. On her threatening to tell her mother he wrapped a towel around her head and cut her in the neck with some sharp instrument. She then lost consciousness. Jones was arrested later. He denies the charge. The girl is in a dangerous condition.

THE MESSAGE.

SYNOPSIS OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

To the Congress of the United States:

Your assembling is clouded by a sense of public bereavement, caused by the recent and sudden death of Thomas A. Hendricks, vice-president of the United States. His distinguished public services, complete integrity and devotion to every duty, and his personal virtue will find honorable record in his country's history.

Ample and repeated proofs of the esteem and confidence in which he was held by his fellow-countrymen were manifested by his election of officers of the most important trust and highest dignity; and at length, full of years and honors, he has been laid at rest amid universal sorrow and benediction.

The constitution which requires those chosen to legislate for the people to annually meet in the discharge of their solemn trust, also requires the president to give to congress information of the state of the union and recommended to their consideration such measures as he shall deem necessary and expedient. At the threshold of a compliance with these constitutional directions, it is well for us to bear in mind that our usefulness to the people's interests will be promoted by a constant appreciation of the scope and character of our legislation. While the executive may recommend such measures as he shall deem expedient, the responsibility for legislative action must and should rest upon those selected by the people to make their laws.

RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

It is gratifying to announce that the relations of the United States with all foreign powers continue to be friendly.

THE CASE OF MR. KELLEY.

Question has arisen with the government of Austria-Hungary, touching the representation of the United States at Vienna. Having, under my constitutional prerogative, appointed an estimable citizen of unimpeached probity and competence as minister at that court, the Government of Austria-Hungary invited this government to take cognizance of certain exceptions, based upon allegations against the personal acceptability of Mr. Kelley the appointed envoy, asking that, in view thereof, the appointment should be withdrawn. The reasons advanced were such as could not be acquiesced in, without violation of my oath of office and the precepts of the constitution, since they necessarily involved a limitation in favor of a foreign government upon the right of selection by the executive, and required such an application of a religious test as a qualification for office under the United States as would have resulted in the practical disfranchisement of a large class of citizens and the abandonment of a vital principle in our government. The Austria-Hungarian government finally decided not to receive Mr. Kelley as the envoy of the United States, and that gentleman has since resigned his commission, leaving the post vacant. I have made no new nomination, and the interests of this government at Vienna are now in the care of the Secretary of Legation, acting as charge d'affaires ad interim.

OUR FRIENDLY ACTION ON THE ISTHMIAN.

Early in March last war broke out in Central America, caused by the attempt of Guatemala to consolidate the several states into a single government. In these contests between our neighboring states the United States forbore to interfere actively, but lent the aid of their friendly offices in deprecation of war and to promote peace and concord among the belligerents, and by such counsel contributed importantly to the restoration of tranquility in that locality.

THE PROPOSED NICARAGUAN CANAL.

The interests of the United States in a practicable transit for ships across the strip of land separating the Atlantic from the Pacific has been repeatedly manifested during the last half century.

Maintaining, as I do, the tenets of a line of precedents from Washington's day, which proscribe entangling alliances with foreign states, I do not favor a policy of acquisition of new and distant territory or the incorporation of remote interests with our own.

Whatever highway may be constructed across the barrier dividing the two greatest maritime areas of the world must be for the world's benefit, a trust for mankind, to be removed from the chance of domination by any single power, nor become a point of invitation for hostilities or a prize for warlike ambition.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

The harmony of our relations with China is fully sustained.

The condition of the Chinese question in the western states and territories is, despite restrictive legislation of 1880, far from being satisfactory.

The admitted right of a government to prevent the influx of elements hostile to its internal peace and security may not be questioned, even when there is no treaty stipulation on the subject. That the exclusion of Chinese

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