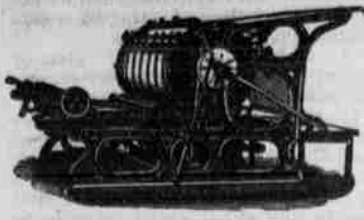


The Bloomfield Times.

NEW BLOOMFIELD, PENN'A.

Tuesday, December 9, 1873.



Notice to Subscribers.

Subscribers to THE TIMES who wish some other publication and chomo, can have either of the following at the price mentioned:

Peterson's Magazine for 1874 and The Times, for \$2.75.

The People's Journal, with an engraving 13 x 19 inches (see advertisement) and The Times, for \$3.00.

Wood's Household Magazine and the splendid chromo, YOSEMITE, and The Times, for \$2.25.

All the above Magazines are monthly publications.

THE ELECTION to decide the acceptance or rejection of the New Constitution will be held on NEXT TUESDAY. This week we give our readers the entire document, and in order to do so without curtailing our usual variety of other reading matter, leave out the most of our advertisements.

IN FORMING the Standing Committees for the House we notice that the Speaker has placed the member from this district, Hon. John A. Magee, on two of said committees, viz. Committee on Patents, and Committee on Expenditures for the Navy.

THE Democrats in the House supported Fernando Wood as their candidate for Speaker. As Wood was one of the most conspicuous advocates for the salary grab, it seems like a Democratic endorsement of that "steal." To their credit however, several members of that party refused to support him, and we hope both Democrats and Republicans in Congress will eventually repudiate that bill. The people will carefully watch the votes of members on this subject.

THE French steamer Ville du Havre, which left New York on the 15th of November, at 2 o'clock, in the morning of November 23rd, collided with the British ship Lochearn, from London for New York, and sunk shortly after. All but eighty-seven of her passengers and crew perished. The Ville du Havre was a fine steamer, noted for her rapid passages, and her officers were thorough seamen in all respects. This calamity will bring mourning to scores of families, and add another mark to the record of memorable accidents which have happened during the year.

QUEER it is, but not at all uncommon, that whenever politicians have an axe to grind they always fall deeply in love with the "dear people," and especially the "poor farmers." Considering the amount of sympathy manifested for them by political papers and candidates about election times, and the great care taken of them by politicians after they are elected, all the farmers should have been made rich long ago. It would be a good idea for the farmers to do a little thinking for themselves, and not trust much to such guides.

By looking for themselves they will see the falsity of the charges regarding the tax clauses in the new Constitution and see that if the legislature under the new Constitution, ever should feel disposed to lay a tax on real estate, the farmers are the ones to be benefited, as in that case favorites and corporations cannot be exempted. Under the present constitution, should the legislature think best to lay a tax, the farmers are the ones to bear the burden while the favorites are exempt. No legislature is bound by the acts of its predecessors and so such a law can be passed at any time should the old constitution remain in force.

CONGRESS.

Congress convened on Monday of last week. The House elected Mr. Blain of Maine as Speaker, and Mr. McPherson of Pennsylvania as Clerk.

The President's message was not read until Tuesday.

Several bills have already been reported looking to a repeal of the act increasing the salaries of members of Congress, all of which have been referred to a select committee. A notice has been given that a bill restoring the franking privilege and the free circulation of newspapers will be offered as soon as it can be prepared. Great but unsuccessful pressure was brought to bear on the Speaker of the House to have him leave the members who were prominent in the Credit Moblier frauds in the back ground in forming the standing committees. The President has nominated Attorney General Williams of Oregon, as Chief Justice of the United States. His nomination was quite a surprise to the country, and as yet has not received the confirmation of the Senate.

What it Will Save.

The opponents of the new constitution argue that it will greatly increase the expenses of running the State Government, in that the number of Legislators is doubled. It is true the Legislature will have nearly twice as many members under the new as under the old constitution, but it meets only half as often. So far, then, as salaries are concerned, there should be no difference. Of course no argument can be based on a presumption of rascality; but assuming that body to be honest, there will be a great saving. 1. In that extra compensation for services on committees of investigation, election, and the like, is not allowed under the new constitution. Also the incidental cost of the Legislature for stationery, printing, pasters folders, will be diminished almost entirely. These items represent a large amount of saving. For example the Legislature for 1872, stands charged with the following extra items:— Clerks, assistant and transcribing, pasters, folders, very few of which will be needed under the new constitution.—cost, Senate, \$23,678. 75; House, \$28,875. 55. During the same session, there were paid members of the Legislature for serving on committees,—all of which is stopped by the new Constitution—\$17,700. The contingent expenses of the Clerks of two Houses, which will be greatly reduced, \$16,300. The State printing proper, which will be greatly reduced, \$50,528. George Bergner's account, and all of which can be dispensed with, was, \$20,314. Thus the Legislature cost in what are chiefly extras, \$157,491.30. At least \$100,000 of this amount will be saved under the operation of the new Constitution, and as the Legislature now meets, yearly, it may be fairly put as follows: Savings each alternate year, when the Legislature is not in session, \$157,491.30; saving each alternate year, when in session, \$100,000; total saved every two years, \$257,491.30. No man who knows, can honestly say that this not a fair showing.

PROSPECTS OF WAR.

The prospect of preserving peace between this country and Spain, is not as good as it was a week since. The Captain General of Cuba, instead of trying to carry out the agreement President Castelar has made, sends in his resignation, and says popular feeling will prevent any such agreement. And now the query comes: "Suppose Castelar, acting in good faith in the Washington protocol, cannot carry out the Spanish agreement with the United States?" What next? Spain has covenanted to deliver up the Virginius, and punish those who may be proved to have been guilty of illegal acts of violence towards citizens of the United States. The national faith is pledged to this course of action. Castelar has commanded the chief officer of Cuba to carry out the first item of the protocol. He resigns on account of inability to do so, and the people declare the ship shall not be given up to the United States. In other words, they repudiate the treaty and defy the home government. In this aspect of affairs the United States will look to Spain for an enforcement of so much authority as will make her promises good in point of fact. If Castelar cannot carry out the items of the treaty, then what course will the government of the United States pursue? Will they allow a few men in Cuba, who recognize no permanent government, no legal responsibility, to nullify a solemn international compact, and defy all laws both human and divine? That is the point to be considered, and there is no doubt but what the situation is more alarming than it has been, at any previous time.

The Treasury Report.

Secretary Richardson's annual report is replete with interesting information, and is in many respects an admirable State paper.

The net revenue for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1873 amounted to \$333,738,904.67. The ordinary expenses for the same year were \$290,845,245.33. The surplus revenue for the year was, therefore, 43,893,659.34, which has been applied to the payment of the debt.

The receipts for the first quarter of the present fiscal year were \$99,704,810.58, inclusive of \$15,000,000 receiving from Great Britain as a result of the Geneva arbitration, and the total expenditures during the same period, exclusive of debt payments, were \$88,718,578.21.

The estimated receipts for the remainder of the current fiscal year are \$187,100,000, which would leave a deficiency of \$200,630,000. The estimated receipts and expenditures of the year ending June 30, 1873, also show a small deficit.

The Secretary, therefore, recommends that provision be made for increasing the revenue if business should not speedily improve. He notes, however, the very gratifying fact that, notwithstanding the monetary troubles, the credit of the United States has not stood higher since the close of the rebellion than at present, and expresses confidence that the funding of the six per cent. debt at a lower rate of interest can be still further continued.

SIXTY millions of dollars worth of property in the city of Philadelphia, is exempt from taxation by special legislation. The new Constitution wipes out all the special laws and makes those favored properties liable to pay tax for school and other purposes, the same as other property.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The crowded state of our columns forbids our giving the message entire, but we give the most important parts:

Washington, December 2, 1873.—To the Senate and House of Representatives: The year that has passed since the submission of my last message to congress has, especially during the latter part of it, been an eventful one to the country. In the midst of great national prosperity a financial crisis has occurred that has brought low, fortunes of gigantic proportions. Political partisanship has almost ceased to exist, especially in the agricultural regions, and finally the capture upon the high seas of a vessel bearing our flag has for a time threatened the most serious consequences and has agitated the public mind from one end of the country to the other. But this happily now is in the course of satisfactory adjustment, preferable to both nations concerned. The relations of the United States, however, with most of the other powers continue to be friendly and cordial. With France, Germany, Russia, Italy and the minor European powers, with Brazil and most of the South American republics, and with Japan nothing has occurred during the year to demand special notice. * * * The money awarded to the United States by the tribunal of arbitration at Geneva, was paid by Her Majesty's government a few days in advance of the time when it would have become payable according to the terms of the treaty. In compliance with the provisions of the act of March 3, 1873, it was at once paid into the treasury and used to redeem, so far as it might, the public debt of the United States, and the amount so redeemed was invested in a five per cent. registered bond of the United States for fifteen millions five hundred thousand dollars, which is now held by the secretary of state, subject to the future disposition of congress.

In referring to the trouble with Spain the President says: "The steamer Virginius, was, on the 26th day of September, 1873, duly registered at the port of New York as a part of the commercial marine of the United States on the 4th of October, 1873. Having received the certificate of her register in the usual legal form, she sailed from the port of New York and has not since been seen within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States. On the 31st day of October last, while sailing under the flag of the United States on the high seas, she was forcibly seized by the Spanish gunboat Tornado and carried into the port of Santiago de Cuba, where many of her passengers and crew were inhumanly treated, and so far at least as relates to those who were citizens of the United States, were without due process of law put to death.

It is a well established principle, asserted by the United States from the beginning of their national independence, recognized by Great Britain and other maritime powers, and stated by the senate in a resolution passed on the 16th of June, 1858, that American vessels on the high seas in time of peace bearing the American flag remain under the jurisdiction of the country to which they belong, and therefore any violation, molestations or detention of such vessels by force or by the exhibition of force on the part of a foreign power, is in derogation of the sovereignty of the United States. In accordance with this principle the restoration of the Virginius and the surrender of the survivors of her passengers and crew, and a due reparation to the flag and the punishment of the authorities who had been guilty of the illegal acts or violence were demanded. The Spanish government has recognized the justice of the demand and has arranged for the immediate delivery of the vessel and of the surrender of the survivors of the passengers and crew and for a salute to the flag and for proceedings looking to the punishment of those who may be proud to have been guilty of illegal acts of violence towards citizens of the United States and also towards indemnifying those who may have been shown to be entitled to indemnity."

"In taking leave of this subject for the present I wish to renew the expression of my conviction that the existence of African slavery in Cuba is a principal cause of the lamentable condition of the island. I do not doubt that congress shares with me the hope that it will soon be made to disappear, and that peace and prosperity may follow its abolition."

"The embargoing of American estates in Cuba, cruelty to American citizens detected in no act of hostility to the Spanish government, the murdering of prisoners taken with arms in their hands, and finally the capture, upon the high seas, of a vessel sailing under the United States flag and bearing a United States registry, has culminated in an outburst of indignation that has seemed for a time to threaten war. Pending negotiations between the United States and the government of Spain on the subject of this capture, I have authorized the secretary of the navy to put our navy on a war footing to the extent at least of the entire annual appropriation for that branch of the service, trusting to congress and the public opinion of the American people to justify my action."

"Assuming from the action of the last congress in directing the committee on privileges and elections to prepare and report to this congress a constitutional

amendment to provide a better method of electing the President and Vice President of the United States, and also from the necessity of such an amendment that there will be submitted to the state legislatures for ratification such an improvement in our constitution, I suggest two others for your consideration: First, to authorize the executive to approve of so much or any measure passing the two houses of congress as his judgment may dictate without approving the whole, the disapproved portion or portions to be subjected to the same rules as now, to wit: be referred back to the house in which the measure or measures originated, and if passed by a two-thirds vote of the two houses then to become a law without the approval of the President. I would add to the law a provision that there should be no legislation by congress during the last twenty-four hours of its sitting, except upon vetoes or in order to give the executive an opportunity to examine and approve or disapprove bills understandingly. Second, to provide by amendment that when an extra session of congress is convened by executive proclamation, legislation, during the continuance of such extra sessions, shall be confined to such subjects as the executive may bring before it from time to time in writing."

The President also suggests that greater economy be used in the appropriations for public service and the public buildings. He also acknowledges the necessity of some improvement in our currency, and suggests that national banks be forbid to pay interest on deposits and required to hold a large reserve in their vaults. He also suggests other steps looking towards resumption, but says he has not reflected enough on the subject to make any positive recommendation. In referring to claims against the government the President says:

"Your careful attention is invited to the subject of claims against the government and the facilities afforded by existing laws for their prosecution. Each of the departments of state, treasury and war have demands, for many millions of dollars upon their files, and they are rapidly accumulating. To these may be added those which were pending before congress, the court of claims and the southern claims commission making in the aggregate an immense sum. Most of these grew out of the rebellion, and are intended to indemnify persons on both sides for their losses during the war, and not a few of them are fabricated and supported by false testimony.

Projects are on foot, it is believed, to induce congress to provide for new classes of claims and to revive old ones through the repeal or modification of the statute of limitations by which they are now barred. I presume these schemes, if proposed, will be received with little favor by Congress, and I recommend that persons having claims against the United States, cognizable by any tribunal or department thereof, be required to present them at an early day, and that legislation be directed, as far practicable, to the defeat of unfounded and unjust demands upon the treasury."

Referring to the report of the Post Master General the President says:

"I invite favorable consideration of congress to the suggestions and recommendations of the postmaster-general for an extension of the free delivery system in all cities having a population of not less than 10,000, for the pre-payment of postage on newspapers and other printed matter of the second class, for a uniform postage and limit of weight on miscellaneous matter, for adjusting the compensation of all postmasters not appointed by the President, by the method of commissions on actual receipts of the office, instead of the present mode of paying by salary in advance upon special returns, and especially do I urge favorable action by congress, on the important recommendations of the postmaster-general for the establishment of the United States postal savings depositories.

Your attention is also again called to a consideration of the question of postal telegraph and the arguments in support thereof in the hope that you may take such action in connection therewith as in your judgment will most contribute to the best interests of the country."

The President recommends the repeal of so much of the bankrupt act as provides for involuntary bankruptcy. He also suggests the taking of the census every five years; the passing of an act for the admittance of Colorado as a state in the union, and the building of a canal from the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountain to the Missouri river. He concludes his message with the following:

"I renew my previous recommendation to congress for general amnesty. The number engaged in the late rebellion, yet laboring under disabilities, is very small, but enough to keep up a constant irritation. No possible danger can accrue to the government by restoring them to eligibility to hold office.

I suggest for your consideration the enactment of a law to better secure the civil rights which freedom should secure, but has not effectually secured to those enfranchised.

(Signed)
U. S. GRANT,

While standing on a board reaching for a chicken in a coop Miss Nancy Carney, an aged woman of Cambria county, fell headforemost to the ground and was killed.

Miscellaneous News Items.

An iron kettle containing the skeleton of a child was exhumed recently in Gibson county, Ind.

William Toole, of Montoursville, a few days ago fed his horse an apple. The horse seized the apple and bit off the thumb of Mr. Toole at the same time.

On the 3rd a hurricane swept over Malvern, Tennessee, razing to the ground six business houses, and tearing away the roofs of several others, wounding two men badly and six slightly.

Spur's four-story frame building in Passaic City, fell on the 4th, burying a number of workmen and passers under the ruins. City councilman, George McLean and Mr. Barkley were killed.

While a party of hunters were sleeping in a cabin in Centre county recently, the building took fire near the door. In passing through the flames Samuel Adams was fatally burned. All were slightly injured.

Joseph Kerr, of Westmoreland Co., was found in bed the other morning with his skull fractured and his throat cut. Samuel Beighley, who had been working for Mr. Kerr, has been arrested as the probable murderer.

Mr. Joseph Miller, residing about one mile east of Laurelton, in Union Co., died very suddenly on last Monday afternoon, Dec. 1st. He appeared as well as usual, ate a hearty dinner, and shortly afterwards he was found dead in his chair.

At a Laporte funeral the father of the child lay in the house beastly drunk during the services. He bought his liquor with the money contributed by the neighbors for the funeral expenses.

At the trial of a breach of promise suit in Indianapolis, on Monday last, the fair plaintiff fainted away during the reading of the declaration. It was so neatly done that it is estimated it will add \$1,000 to the verdict.

An Irish nobleman, attended by twenty-six dogs, passed through Indianapolis on Tuesday last, on his way to Florida, on a hunting expedition. He had a car attached to a freight train devoted to himself and attendants.

The suffering at Paterson, New Jersey, consequent upon the suspension of many manufactories is more severe than at any other point in the country. Over 6,800 mechanics are out of employment, many of whom are in an actually starving condition.

A dispatch from Waynesboro', Pa., states that the dead body of Israel Willard, of Sabillaville, Frederick county, Md., was found yesterday about one o'clock hanging to the bed post in his room. He attempted to commit suicide last summer, by cutting his throat.

One hundred men lately discharged by a contractor on a railroad between Tenco and Tocomo, Washington Territory, without being paid, have armed themselves and notified the workmen that no more work can be done until their claims are settled. They are damaging the road by filling in cuts.

A woman named Mary Wall, a resident of Bloomsburg, was found, on Monday morning of last week, on the track of the New Jersey Central Railroad, dead, and much mutilated, by being run over.—She was known to have from \$60 to \$100 about her person, and when the body was found the money was missing. This circumstance gives rise to suspicions of foul play.

On Thursday, about 2 P. M., a little daughter of A. J. Saunders, of Muncy, aged about seven years, was so badly burned, by her clothes taking fire from the stove, that death ensued after seven hours of intense suffering. Her parents were both away from the house at the time, and on the return of the mother, the child appeared all in flames. The fire was instantly put out, but too late—her fate was sealed.

Mechella who was to have been hanged in Jersey city manifests no penitence and expresses no desire for spiritual consolation. The Rev. Mr. Verrinden called on him on Sunday afternoon, and as he announced the errand of salvation the prisoner indignantly said: "You want to convert me; you a dam fool; you get yourself drunk I no want to see you here; I got no soul; you go leave me lone or you get murdered." The messenger of peace departed.

A reprieve has been granted by the Governor until January 9, in order that his mental condition may be considered by the Court of Pardons. This is at the request of citizens and the Russian Minister.

Sharkey, the escaped New York murderer, is believed to have gone to Newark on the day of his escape. A figure in female apparel attracted the attention of some ladies on the train, and when getting out of the car they noticed as the dress was elevated, grey pantaloons underneath. On learning of the escape they gave the information to the New York authorities. It is believed the fugitive went to Elizabethport, and thence to Amboy, and took passage on an outward bound vessel.