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Executed in the highest style of the Art, and on the most reasonable terms.

THE PUZZLED CENSUS TAKER.

BY JOHN G. SAXE.

"Got any boys?" the Marshal said
To a lady from over the Rhine;
And the lady shook her flaxen head,
And civilly answered "nine."

"Got any girls?" the Marshal said
To the lady from over the Rhine;
And again the lady shook her head,
And civilly answered "nine."

"But some are dead?" the Marshal said
To the lady from over the Rhine;
And again the lady shook her head,
And civilly answered "nine."

"Husband, of course?" the Marshal said
To the lady from over the Rhine;
And again she shook her flaxen head,
And civilly answered "nine."

"The d—l you have?" the Marshal said
To the lady from over the Rhine;
And again she shook her flaxen head,
And civilly answered "nine."

"Now what do you mean by shaking your head
And always answering 'nine'?"
"Ich kenn nicht English;" civilly said
The lady from over the Rhine.

"Nein!" pronounced nine, is the German for no.

The Decencies of Life.

It is not decent for a person to make a show above his or her means.

It is not decent for a man to run in debt when he does not intend to pay.

It is not decent for persons to be always talking ill of their neighbors.

It is not decent to ascribe improper motives to every one we come in contact with.

It is not decent for one to appropriate others' pecuniary means for their own gratification.

It is not decent for young people to show no respect to the aged.

It is not decent to be praising yourself always.

It is not decent in persons going to church to incommode others by making a noise.

It is not decent to spend your money in foolishness, when you have debts which ought to be paid.

It is not decent to starve your family by spending your money for liquor.

It is not decent to cheat your neighbor, because you happen to have a little more knowledge than he is possessed of.

It is not decent to put the bottle to your neighbor's mouth, and make him drunk.

It is not decent to take a paper and refuse to pay for it.

Col. Bartlett, now of the 54th Massachusetts, was, in 1861, a student at College, enlisted as a private in the 20th Massachusetts, and soon rose to a captaincy. He lost a leg at Yorktown, but procured a wooden substitute and rejoined his regiment. At Post Hudson he was shot through the wrist and foot, and returned home. Recovering, he raised another regiment, and now goes again to fight for the Union. He is only 24 years of age.

This is the way the Rebel Gen. Forrest manages to obtain recruits: A squad of soldiers is sent into a town or district, where they represent themselves as being on furlough, resolved on enjoying a good time, and determined to spend their money freely. They treat every one well several days, never attempting to molest even their known enemies, in order to disarm suspicion; and then, at a preconcerted time, they capture every male person between the ages of 16 and 50, and march them off to camp.

A man in Miami, Conn., recently applied for a marriage certificate, and, without noticing that a wrong name was inscribed as that of the lady, hastened with his bride elect to a clergyman, and the twain were made one flesh. Next day he was led to look at the document by an advertisement, and then found out the error. Turning to the object of his affection with an excited yet tremulous voice, he exclaimed: "Maria, a mistake has been made, I am married to the wrong woman! You are not my lawful wife!" Maria gave a glance at the document, and with a half-drawn sigh answered: "It's no use fretting, Jeremiah—it's too late now."

An old maid, speaking of marriage, says it is like any other disease—while there's life there's hope.

"Nobody ever lost anything by love," said a sage looking person.—"That's not true," said a young lady, who heard the remark, "for I once lost three nights' sleep."

A down east editor says that modesty is a quality that highly adorns a woman, but ruins a man.

Touching Incident of the War.

After the battle of Bean Station, East Tennessee, the rebels were guilty of all manner of indignity toward the slain.— They stripped their bodies, and shot all persons who came near the battle field to show any attention to the dead. The body of a little drummer boy was left naked and exposed. Near by, in a humble house, there were two little girls, the eldest but sixteen, who resolved to give the body a decent burial. They took the night for their task. With hammer and nails in hand, and boards on their shoulders, they sought the place where the body of the dead drummer boy lay. From their own scanty wardrobe they clothed the body for the grave. With their own hands they made a rude coffin, into which they reverently put the dead boy. They dug the grave, and lowered the body into it and covered it over. The noise of the hammering brought some of the rebels to the spot. The sight was too much for them. The stillness of the night—the story so eloquently told by the heroic labors of the little girls. Not a word was spoken, no one interfered, and when the sacred rights of burial were performed all separated, and the little drummer boy sleeps undisturbed, in his grave on the battle field. Such tenderness and heroism deserve to run along the line of coming generations with the story of the woman who broke the alabaster box on the feet of the Savior, and with her who of her penury cast her two mites into the treasury.

The Rebel General Forrest.

The Forrests, one of whom has become more than infamous by his cowardly massacre of black and white prisoners at Port Pillow, were all negro traders before the war. There were four brothers: Bedford, who kept a negro-pen for five years before the war, on Adams street, in rear of the Episcopal Church, Memphis; John a cripple and a gambler, who was jailor and clerk for Bedford; Bill Forrest, an extensive negro-trader at Vicksburg; and Aaron Forrest, general agent to scour the country for his other brothers. They accumulated large sums of money in their nefarious trade, and Bedford won by that and other influences a natural promotion to a brigadier in the woman-whipping, body-stealing, rebel Confederacy. He is about fifty years of age, tall, gaunt, and sawn-shouldered, with a long nose, deep-set, black, snaky eyes, full black beard without a mustache, and hair worn long. He was accented mean, vindictive, cruel, and unscrupulous. The slave-pen of old Bedford Forrest, on Adams street, was a perfect horror to all negroes far and near. His mode of punishing refractory slaves was to compel four of his fellow slaves to stand and hold the victim stretched out in the air, and then Bedford and his brother John would stand, one on each side, with long, heavy bull whips, and cut up their victims until the blood trickled to the ground. Women were often stripped naked, and, with a bucket of salt water standing by, in which to dip the instrument of torture, heavy leather thong, their backs were cut up until the blisters covered the whole surface, the blood of their wounds mingling with the briny mixture to add torment to the infliction. One slave man was whipped to death by Bedford, who used a trace-chain doubled for the purpose of punishment. The slave was secretly buried, and the murder was only known to the slaves of the prison, who only dared to refer to the circumstance in whispers.

A Good Occupation.

"Pete," a comical son of the Emerald Isle, who carried wood and water, built fires, &c., for the "boys" at Hamilton College, is as good a specimen of the genus Hibernian as ever toddled in a brogan. One of the students having occasion to reprove him one morning for delinquency, asked him where he expected to go to when he died.
"Expect to go to the hot place," said Pete without wincing.
"And what do you expect will be your portion there?" asked the soph, solemnly.
"O," growled the old fellow, as he brushed his ear lazily with his coat tail, "bring wood an water for the boys."

Influential Dwarf.

The Rochester Democrat, mentioning a visit of Joseph Lefel, of Springfield, Ohio, to the former city, says:
"He is the smallest business man in the world, and, indeed, quite an atom as compared with General Tom Thumb. Mr. Lefel being only forty-four inches in height, and weighing but fifty-five pounds! Mr. Lefel is now thirty-two years of age. He is an intelligent, able-bodied, handsome featured man, and sports a mustache that would really do credit to the Scotch giant. He has filled the office of supervisor in Springfield, and is regarded as one of the most public-spirited citizens of that place. He is about to marry Miss Sarah B. Belton, who is smaller than Mrs. Thumb, and was formerly Dutton's maid of honor."

SINGULAR.—A soldier of the 1st Pa. Cavalry, in the Potomac Army, was a short time since found asleep near Warrenton, Va., having slept 24 hours. He stepped up to his captain and said, "Captain, I die to-morrow at 4 o'clock, and the war will end in June. You have no more for me to do." As the clock struck 10 on the following day he died without a groan.

The New Tax Law.

An act imposing additional taxes for State purposes, and to abolish the Revenue Board.

Section 1. *Be it enacted &c.* That in addition to the taxes now imposed by law, hereafter every railroad, steamboat, canal, slack-water navigation, or any other transportation company doing business within this Commonwealth, shall, by its president, treasurer, cashier, or other financial officer, make quarterly returns to the Auditor General, commencing upon the first day of July next. Said returns shall be made within thirty days, after the termination of each quarter, under oath or affirmation, and shall fully and particularly state the entire number of tons of freight traffic carried or moved by said company or corporation during the three months ending on the first day of that month; and said company or corporation owing or managing said railroad, steamboat, canal, slackwater navigation, or other transportation company, shall pay to the State Treasurer, for the use of the Commonwealth, the following taxes, to wit: Upon all tonnage carried upon or over their respective lines of transportation to be graduated as follows: First, upon the products of mines, for each ton of two thousand pounds, two cents. Second, upon the products of the forest, on animal or vegetable food, and all the other agricultural products, three cents. Third, upon merchandise, manufactures and all other articles, five cents. In all cases where the same freight is transported over different but continuous lines of transportation, then the tax hereby imposed shall be paid by the several corporations carrying the same, each in proportion to the distance carried, as may be adjusted among themselves; the State Treasurer being and he is hereby authorized to collect the whole of said tax from either of the companies carrying the freight as he may select: *Provided*, That freight shipped through and over one or several lines of transportation, shall be chargeable with but one tax as aforesaid.

Sec. 2. That every private banker and broker, and incorporated and unincorporated banking and saving institution, and deposit and trust company every gas company, express company, bridge company, insurance company, foreign insurance company, building and land associations, manufacturing, mechanical, mining and quarrying company, and all other companies and corporations doing business in this Commonwealth, except those specified in the first section of this act, not paying a tax to the State upon dividends under existing laws shall annually, upon the first day of November of each year, make a report to the Auditor General, under oath or affirmation, setting forth the amount of net earnings or income received by said individuals or corporations from all sources during the preceding year; and upon such net earnings or income, the said individuals or corporation, as the case may be, shall pay to the treasurer, for the use of the State, within sixty days thereafter, three per centum upon such annual net earnings or income, in addition to the taxes now imposed by existing laws: *Provided*, That institutions, individuals or corporations paying under this section are not to be also taxed under the act of the sixteenth of May, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, relative to private bankers and brokers, and the act of the ninth of April, A. D., 1861, except so far as the license therein required relative to foreign insurance companies: *Provided further*, That any corporation which failed to make returns to the Commonwealth, as required by the act of April twenty-first, A. D., 1858, entitled An Act for the better securing to the Commonwealth the payment of taxes due by incorporated companies, may make such returns within sixty days after the passage of this act, any law to the contrary notwithstanding; and all delinquent companies failing or refusing to make full returns and payment to the State, as required by the general laws of this Commonwealth in relation thereto, shall have all their rights and privileges declared forfeited by proclamation from the Governor.

Sec. 3. That every president, treasurer, cashier or any other officer of any company incorporated, or that may hereafter be incorporated, which pays interest to its depositors, bond holders or other creditors, upon which, by the laws of the Commonwealth, a State tax is imposed, shall, before payment of the same, retain from said depositors, bond-holders or creditors the amount of State tax imposed by existing laws, and shall pay over the same to the State Treasurer; and that all the laws regulating the mode of such payment in regard to treasurers of counties, cities and boroughs be and the same are hereby extended to the financial officers thereof; and they are hereby required to collect and pay over the taxes due to the State on such payment of interest, as provided in this section, to be done by officers of incorporated companies; and in case of any officer neglecting or refusing to retain the same, he shall become personally liable to the amount.

Sec. 4. That the treasurer of each county and city, the burgess or other chief officer of each incorporated district or borough of this Commonwealth, within ninety days after the passage of this act, shall make return, under oath or affirmation, to the Auditor General, of the amount of scrip, bonds or certificates of indebtedness outstanding by said county, city, district, borough or incorporation, as

the same existed on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of each succeeding year thereafter, together with the rates of interest thereon at each of those periods, under the penalty of five thousand dollars, the amount to be settled by the Auditor General, and the amount thereof sued for and collected as debts due by defaulting public officers are collected: *Provided*, That on the receipt of said returns the Auditor General shall proceed to settle the accounts of each county, city and borough, with the Commonwealth, fix the State tax due and unpaid, and transmit notice of the amount by mail to officers making said returns; and if the amount so found due shall not be paid within sixty days, the Attorney General shall sue and collect the same, with interest from the date of such settlement; and hereafter it shall be the duty of the treasurer of every county, city, borough and incorporated district in this Commonwealth to deduct the said State tax, or dividend on payment of any interest on debts due by the county, city, borough and incorporated district, and pay the same over to the State Treasurer within thirty days after the said interest or dividend has fallen due.

Sec. 5. That in case any officer of any corporation, or any person or persons required by this act to make return under oath or affirmation, shall falsely make such return, he or they shall, on conviction thereof, be held guilty of perjury; and in case he or they shall neglect and refuse to make any return required by this act, he or they shall be liable to the Commonwealth for a penalty of five thousand dollars for every such neglect, to be sued for as other penalties now are; and if the said corporation, or company upon notice given, persists in its refusal to make return and pay over the tax hereby imposed, it shall be liable to an additional tax of one per centum upon the amount of its gross receipts; and that the Auditor General and State Treasurer, or any agent appointed by them, are hereby authorized to examine the books and papers of any corporation, company, individual, or to verify the accuracy of any return made to them, or either of them.

Sec. 6. That every incorporated company whose lines extend into any other States, and every corporation created under the laws of any other State, and holding and enjoying any franchises, property, railroad, canal work or privilege whatsoever within this State, shall make the same returns in regard to the tonnage of such portions of their lines as lie within this State as if the whole was within; and if any president, treasurer or other financial officer required to make returns shall, after demand for thirty days, still neglect and refuse to make the returns or pay over the amount of such tax, the same shall be handed over to the Attorney General, who shall forthwith institute proceedings to annul the corporate franchises of such company or corporation within this State.

Sec. 7. That so much of the forty-second section of the act approved the twenty-ninth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, as provides for the abatement of five per centum on the amount of State taxes paid fifteen days prior to the first of September, in any year, be and the same is hereby repealed; and hereafter it shall be the duty of the Auditor General to add five per centum penalty to each county, on all State taxes remaining unpaid on the first day of August, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of each year thereafter, which shall be charged in the duplicate against each delinquent tax-payer in arrears on and after said day. That in addition to the taxes already imposed by law, all persons appointed to an office by the Governor or elected under the provision of any law of this Commonwealth, the gross receipts of whose office shall exceed six hundred dollars, shall pay into the treasury of the State of one per centum; and on all amounts over twelve hundred dollars and not exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars, two per centum; and on all amounts exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars, five per centum annually: *Provided*, That the revenue derived from this act shall, so far as necessary, be first applicable to the payment of the ordinary expenses of Government; and the residue not needed for such purposes shall be transferred to the sinking fund, as directed by the act of the twenty-second of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

Sec. 8. That so much of the act to reduce the State debt and incorporate the Pennsylvania railroad company, approved twenty-ninth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, and the several supplements thereto, requiring the appointment of revenue commissioners from the several judicial districts of the State, be and the same are hereby repealed; and that all the powers granted to the said board, and the duties enjoined thereon, shall hereafter be vested in a State board, to consist of the Auditor General, the State Treasurer and the Secretary of the Commonwealth; and that all acts of Assembly inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

HENRY C. JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN PENNY,
Speaker of the Senate.
Approved the 30th day of April, A. D., 1864.
A. G. CURTIN.

During the battle of Shiloh an officer hurriedly rode up to an Aid, and inquired for Gen. Grant. "That's him with the field-glass," said the Aid. Wheeling his horse about the officer furiously rode up to the General, and touching his cap, thus addressed him: "Sheneral, I want to make you report: Schwartz's Battery is took."

"Ha!" says the General, "how was that?"
"Well, you see, Sheneral de t—d Shesheshenists come up in de front of us, de t—d Shesheshenists came up in de rear of us, and Schwartz's Battery is took."

"Well, Sir," said the General, "you of course spiked the guns."

"Vat!" exclaimed the Dutchman in astonishment, "schpik dem guns—schpik dem new guns! No, it would schspoil dem!"

"Well," said the General sharply, "what did you do?"

"Do! Vy, we took dem back again, by—"

Here is the last specimen brick in the line of "confidence games": "A woman in Cincinnati having an earthen vessel in her apron, entered a grocery store and bought a pound of coffee. Removing the lid, she propped the coffee in said vessel, replaced the lid, and was about to pay for it, when she discovered she had forgotten to bring her money. Not to have her honesty suspected, she said she would leave her purchase till she went home and got money, and accordingly set her crockery on the counter, where it remained until the grocer thought something must be wrong, and on removing the lid he found there was no bottom to the vessel, of course the woman had gone off with the coffee in her apron."

A Father and his son were jogging comfortably towards a neighboring town, when the father volunteered the following advice: "Now, my sonny, says he, 'when you get there, you keep your mouth shut, and no one will find out that you are a fool.' When they arrived at the public inn, there happened to be several gentlemen present who had a pleasant word and smile for the youth, but all their inquiries failed to elicit any replies from him, when a gentleman spoke to a friend in an undertone, 'I guess that boy must be a fool.' Whereupon the boy hearing this called out to his father, 'Father, they've found it out!'"

The Boston Traveller tells of a man who, at a watering-place, was seized in the night with violent pain in his stomach; cocktails were in vain. His wife, unwilling to disturb the servants, went into the kitchen and made a mustard poultice, which she spread on her own handkerchief. Returning, she made a mistake in the room, and, entering, gently raised the bed-clothes from a sleeping form and placed the poultice upon its stomach. The stranger leaped from his bed, uttering "strange odors." The lady screamed, her lord rushed to the rescue; there was a grand tableau. The husband forgot his stomach-ache, but at early dawn left with his wife for parts unknown.

"Madam," said a very polite traveller to a testy old landlady, "if I see proper to help myself to this milk is there any impropriety in it?"
"I don't know what you mean; but if you mean to insinuate that there is anything nasty in the milk, I'll give you to understand that you've struck the wrong house! There ain't a first hair in it, for as soon as Dorothy Ann told me that the cat was drowned in the milk I went straight and strained it over."
The young man faints.

Some music teacher once wrote that the "Art of playing on a violin requires the nicest perception and the most sensibility of any art in the known world." Upon which an editor comments in the following style: "The art of publishing a newspaper, and making it pay, and at the same time have it please everybody, beats fiddlin' higher than a kite."

A female witness at the Court of Sessions, the other day, who was asked what business her husband followed, said he was engaged in "finishing." Further explanation was necessary, and after a brief examination she continued, "Finishing his time in Sing Sing Prison."

An eccentric preacher, in his address to his congregation lately, observed that "there is as much chance for a drunken man to enter the kingdom of Heaven, as there is for a pig to climb up an apple tree and sing like a nightingale."

Two countrymen went into a hatter's to buy one of them a hat. They were delighted with a sample, inside the crown of which was inserted a looking-glass: "What is the glass for?" said one of the men. The other, impatient at such a display of rural ignorance exclaimed: "What for? why for the man who buys the hat to see how it fits him."

On the 26th ult., at White Creek, Vermont, Jabez Knapp, at the tender age of 83, was married to Thankful Williams, who was only 81. The census shows that Vermont is almost stationary in population. If this style of marriages prevails to any extent, there can be no surprise at the facts told by the census.

The National Debt.

The public debt of the United States on the 10th May, as has been ascertained from an official source, stood as follows: Debt bearing interest in coin, \$812,826,162; the interest thereon being \$43,472,714; debt bearing interest in currency, \$404,191,935; interest, \$22,109,429; debt bearing no interest, \$509,220,314. Total debt, \$1,726,248,411; interest, \$71,582,144.

One by one they are coming back to the loid. Jeremiah Clemons, an eminent son of Alabama, formerly a Senator in Congress, and an enemy of Secession until Treason swept him away, is now in Washington. He is said to be anxious for the return of Alabama to the Union—an event that will soon be accomplished, if Sherman keeps on his thundering march.

Artemas Ward hits a large class of noisy demagogues, when he says, "I have already given three cousins to the war, and stand ready to send my wife's brother next, if necessary. Yes, and—if the worst comes to the worst—I stand ready to sacrifice all my wife's relations. This rebellion must be skwashed, if it takes the lives of all my friends and fellow citizens."

CHILDHOOD.—Childhood is like a mirror, catching and reflecting images. One impious or profane thought, uttered by a parent's lips, may operate upon the young heart like a careless spray of water thrown upon polished steel, staining it with rust, which no after-scouring can efface.

Idleness is the mother of mischief—the moment a horse is done eating his oats, he turns and gnaws down his manger. Substitute labor for oats, and virtue for manger, and what is true of horses is equally true of men.

I cannot say that I sympathise with you, sir, in commiserating the sufferings of our heroic soldiery, for I think it must be "Sweet to die for one's country."—"Why don't you go to the war then?"—"O, well, that is—ah!—indeed, I must say, I never did like sweet things!"

The paper having the largest circulation in the world, is now said to be that issued by Secretary Chase. It is an extremely loyal publication, too. It supports both the Administration and the Union.

"John," said a father to his son one day, when he caught him shaving the down on his upper lip, "don't throw your shaving water out where there are any barefooted boys, for they might get their feet pricked."

"I say, Bill," asked an insulting fellow, "why is your hat like a giblet pie?"
"Give it up."
"Why because there's a goose's head in it."

"What church do you attend, Mrs. Partington?" "Oh, any paradox church where the gospel is dispensed with."—The old lady won't be troubled to find a place on that "platform."

An oil-farm in Western Pennsylvania has been sold for the enormous sum of five hundred and fifty thousand dollars. It contains several priceless oil-wells.

An army chaplain, preaching to his soldiers, exclaimed: "If God be with us who can be against us?" "Jeff. Davis and the devil!" promptly exclaimed one of the boys.

Prentice thinks that if things go in the South as they are now going on, the soldiers will soon get to be as naked as so many ladies in a ball-room.

A man cannot possess anything that is better than a good woman, nor anything that is worse than a bad one!

Woman is the last and most perfect work of God. Ladies are the productions of silk worms, milliners and dress-makers.

Canon like locomotives, go off with a tender behind.

Tom Murphy has such excellent spirits that he has only to drink water to intoxicate himself.

What is that which every one wishes for, and yet tries to get rid of it? Ans.—A good appetite.

A Quartermaster of the Confederate cruiser Alabama, who deserted and took the oath of allegiance at Singapore, has recently arrived in New Bedford.

Persevering mediocrity is much more respectable, and unspeakably more useful, than talented inconsistency.

Never violate a promise—always speak the truth—be industrious—be honest—and you will do well.

It would be a bad thing for a child to get a wasp in his mouth, but he can't even say his alphabet without A B in it.