



A sentiment not to be appalled, corrupted or compromised. It knows no baseness; it cowers to no danger; it oppresses no weakness. Destructive only of despotism, it is the sole conservator of liberty, labor and property. It is the sentiment of Freedom, of equal rights, of equal obligations, the law of nature prevailing the law of the land.

WAYNESBURG, PA.

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1862.

A PETITION FOR EMANCIPATION.

The Abolitionists of New York, headed by Bryant, Cheever & Co., are scattering a Petition broadcast over the country, praying Congress to emancipate the Slaves in the Southern States. They say, among other equally absurd and extravagant things,

"That we are admonished—and day by day the conviction is gathering strength among us—that no harmony can be restored to the nation, no peace brought back to the people, no perpetuity secured to our Union, no permanency established for our government, no hope elicited for the continuance of our freedom, until slavery shall be wiped out of the land utterly and forever."

What process of reasoning has brought these astute gentlemen to the conclusion that this Government cannot be preserved without changing its fundamental character, we are left to conjecture. It is but charitable to presume that with these persistent fanatics the "wish is father to the thought"—that they are weary of a Government of the people, of a Constitution conferring only limited powers on the Federal authorities, and would invade Congress and the President with the absolute right to abolish slavery, which has heretofore been a purely domestic and local institution,—created, protected, perpetuated or abolished by State law, (statute and organic), at the pleasure of the people immediately interested in its preservation or extinction.—What degree of favor the American people are disposed to extend to such a rash and revolutionary project is unerringly indicated by the recent popular expressions. Every where, but in localities afflicted by the incurable anti-slavery mania or distemper, the people and the press have spoken out in tones and terms not to be doubted or misunderstood. They are not only satisfied with the Constitution and Union as established by the sages and patriots of the Revolution, but are willing to peril life, health, treasure, every personal interest, present and prospective, to restore and transmit our institutions, pure and unadorned, and unchanged in their essential features, to future generations. Human wisdom never devised a better Government, one more admirably adapted to the great end of all good governments, the happiness and well-being of the people. The limits of Federal authority have been clearly defined, the rights of the States are amply guaranteed, and all powers not expressly delegated to the General Government are distinctly reserved to the States and the people, the rightful source of ALL power in a representative democracy like ours.—To change this Government, to strengthen the Federal at the expense of the State authorities and at the expense of the people, is the evident intent of the deluded fanatics who are agitating, with dogged pertinacity, the question of emancipation. In their view, slavery should be abolished at any sacrifice, even that of the Government itself. With them, as with the old-time Federalists, centralization is a darling idea, promising them, as it does, an early realization of their cherished hope of negro emancipation, and subsequent social and political equality, for this we believe is their ultimate aim, as it is the indisputable tendency of their teachings.

But, aside from the revolutionary character of the measures proposed by Northern Abolitionists, there is another serious, if not equally weighty objection to them: they are chimerical, utterly impracticable in every sense of the word. To inaugurate a system of general negro emancipation would require the absolute subjugation and armed possession of every foot of slave territory at the South, and complete control of the slave population. This would require a force on our side which we are not likely to call into the field, and would involve an expenditure of means and an indefinite prolongation of the war from which reasonable minds instinctively recoil. We must catch an offender before we punish him, and we must have possession of property before we dispose of it; and to possess ourselves of the four millions of slaves these pseudo philanthropists seek to emancipate may prove the work of long years of toil, and suffering, and sacrifice. Indeed, we might never be able to obtain control of the slaves but by arming them for a war of extermination upon the Southern white population; and who is prepared to espouse or apologize for such a terrible and revolting struggle? A struggle which would be characterized by atrocities unknown to modern warfare and repugnant alike to the spirit of civilization and Christianity.

We by no means despair of the restoration of the Union and of our ancient concord and harmony through the means hitherto employed by the Government.—On the contrary, the logic of events leads us to the deliberate conviction that a consistent adherence to the policy which has thus far obtained will soon revive the Union sentiment in the revolted States, and lead to an early and satisfactory adjustment of our deplorable sectional differences.

Mr. Down, a distinguished Republican

member of Congress from Indiana, in a recent speech in reply to LOVELL, holds to the views of emancipation embodied in the subjoined extract. They are conservative and reasonable, and meet the approval of nine-tenths of the Northern people: "I tell you that, if the general emancipation of slaves is to be our policy, our Union is forever gone, and there is no redemption for it. We might still have a Union of the Free States—a great and powerful Union—a Union that would in time throw its shadow over any other confederacy on this continent, but, as to restoring the Union as it was two years ago, it is impossible if we make this a war upon slavery. With four millions in bondage, with all the value of that property, as it is called, interwoven with every other interest in the South, and forming the support alike of old age, middle age, widowhood and orphan childhood, the attempt to blot it out of existence by a sudden stroke on the part of the Government is as chimerical a scheme as ever entered the brain of a madman."

TAXABLE PROPERTY OF THE STATE.

By a tabular statement appended to the Auditor General's Report for the year 1861, we learn that the total valuation of Real and Personal Property in the several counties of this Commonwealth, subject to taxation, amounts to \$569,049,867, upon which a State tax of \$1,479,377 81 has been assessed. The total population of the State, by the census of 1860, 2,921,045; and the number of taxable inhabitants is 642,462. The aggregate State tax on Watches, amounts to \$13,865 23.

The total valuation of Real and Personal Property in Greene County amounts to \$2,923,916, upon which a State tax of \$7,562 92 is assessed. The population of the county, by the census of 1860, was 24,406, and the number of taxable inhabitants 5,615.

AUDITOR GENERAL.

The "Genius of Liberty," "Washington Review," and other influential Democratic journals have expressed themselves as decidedly friendly to the nomination of Mr. PAULEY for the Auditor Generalship.—There is no more deserving Democrat in the State, and it would be but an act of justice to himself and the gallant Democracy of little Greene to put him in nomination. Let the West unite on him, and success is certain.

R. A. MCCONNELL, ESQ.

It will be seen, by his card in another column, that this gentleman, favorably known to our readers as District Attorney of the county, has opened an office in the new building recently erected on the corner of Main and Washington streets, and is prepared to give faithful attention to any professional business with which he may be entrusted. Mr. MCCONNELL's ability, integrity and acquirements render him a safe and excellent counsellor, and we hope to see his office crowded with clients.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

We learn that on Monday the 27th ult., Mr. ADAM BORTONFIELD, an aged and estimable citizen of Morgan township, in this county, met with a fatal accident.—He was engaged in hauling saw-logs, and fell in attempting to get out of the way of one which he had started down hill, when it struck and passed over him, literally crushing his head to a jelly.

A SPLENDID INSTRUMENT.

We dropped in, a few days since, on our old friends, Harry Kleber & Bros., Fifth street, Pittsburgh, and examined an Organ Harmonium from the celebrated Factory of CARLIART, NEEDHAM & Co., New York, and recently purchased for the Methodist Episcopal congregation of Cadiz, Ohio. It has two banks of keys, 13 stops, an octave and a half of base pedals, and a pedal and stop well. It is of solid walnut, oil finish, and is a credit to any establishment. Although it may be made almost as soft as a lute in tone, it has power enough to fill nearly any cathedral in the country. Its cost was only \$450.—Other smaller, but similar Harmoniums, may be had of the same manufacturers or their Agents, for \$250. We sincerely wish our village churches could all afford one of these instruments.

DEAD.

Another gallant Greene county volunteer is dead. WM. EVANS, a private in the Ringgold Cavalry, and a brother to Lieut. L. K. EVANS, died in the hospital at Washington City, a few days since, of Typhoid Fever. His remains were brought home by his brother and interred by a large concourse of relatives and friends.

GIRARD HOUSE.

This popular Hotel, Smithfield street, Pittsburgh, is still under the supervision of S. L. HOCKESS, Esq., one of the best-natured and best-hearted fellows the sun ever shone on. His only thought is the comfort of his guests, and all his energies are expended in efforts to please them.—His table and general accommodations are unexceptionable, and his bills refreshingly moderate.

We understand the Girard is to be handsomely refitted in the Spring, and rendered a much more inviting stopping-place. As it is, however, no one can find fault with it, and no one is disposed to, as its large share of business testifies. Go to the Girard, by all means, if you want to find all the comforts of a quiet and luxurious home.

HITTING THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.

At the Democratic State Convention in New Hampshire the other day, ex-Governor Williams hit the nail exactly on the head by moving the following resolution: Resolved, That we denounce Northern abolitionism and Southern secession as the co-operating sources of our present calamities—alike treasonable to the constitution and inimical to the Union. The way to a restored Union and a respected constitution, with returning peace and prosperity, is through the overthrow of the abominable to both.

Mr. Down, a distinguished Republican

ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF WAR.

Secretary Stanton, in accordance with the law creating these posts, has appointed John Tucker, of Philadelphia, and P. H. Watson, Esq., of Washington city, his Assistants. They are both men of great energy and administrative ability.

CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOTISM.

The Congressional House of Representatives abolish the franking privilege, and every body was surprised at the self-denial and patriotism of the act. The surprise and admiration, however, were a little premature, for Congress did not intend to make any self-sacrifice at all.—Though the franking privilege is abolished, the postage of the members is all provided for in a special appropriation of \$20,000.—While Congress is thus endeavoring to fasten the cost of their private correspondence upon the people, they have also a proposition to tax every man's newspaper, thereby depriving a large portion of the community, especially the readers of cheap journals, of the advantages of taking a newspaper, in consequence of its increased cost.

From Correspondents.

For the Messenger.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 29th, 1862.

MESSENGERS EDITORS.—It matters but little who brought on this war—who were the instigators of this wicked rebellion, we must all pay for it, and taxation which heretofore in this State has been the cause of great complaint is to be quadrupled. The interest upon the indebtedness of the United States before the year ends will not be short of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars. This amount apportioned among the loyal States will require the people of this State to raise some fifteen or twenty millions of dollars annually by taxation. This state of affairs may justly be attributed to fanaticism, which has never been known to be productive of a single good result. A fanaticism which has operated more as a curse than a benefit to the negro, and which will likely prove the same to the white man.

In connection with this subject, Mr. Lowry, Senator from Erie, and a Republican, offered a series of resolutions, calling upon the Finance Committee to report a bill, taxing tobacco, liquors, paper, bonds, notes, certificate of deposits, deeds of conveyance, contracts, and a variety of other things too tedious to mention. This is but the beginning, and we are not to wonder if the dishes in the kitchen, household and kitchen furniture, the old woman's spinning wheel, and the old man's jack-knife, will have to undergo the same ordeal. The cry in this Legislature is nothing but taxes, and taxes we will have to our heart's content. The people of this State are now some forty-three million of dollars in debt, and if we add our proportion of the United States indebtedness, the present and the next generation will not see it liquidated. All this we get for listening to the wretched fanaticism about a negro, and that false philanthropy which had its origin in the added brains of misguided men.

The resolutions for the appointment of a committee to investigate the passage of the act commuting the tonnage tax bill, was passed this morning. What the result will be, cannot at present be said, but if even the committee are unable to glean any facts compromising parties, or that undue and corrupting influences were used in its passage, there is one good will result from it at all events, and that is to drive away from the halls of legislation those borners who have been mixed up with all kinds of legislative rascality. That act took from the Commonwealth at one sweep over two millions of dollars, and millions more that were in prospective, and it is due to a tax ridden and tax burthened people to ascertain, if possible, what means were used in its passage, and who were the guilty parties. No punishment could be too severe for those who assisted in perpetrating this fraud upon the Treasury.

THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE ARMY FRAUD.

The resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate the army fraud, about which there was so much talk last summer, also passed, and the committee has been appointed. Gov. Curtin, it has been pretty plainly shown, has had no connection with these frauds, except the connection which he has had with those scoundrels who perpetrated the frauds. They were his advisers and counsellors, and they did betray his confidence most shamefully. The resolution, however, will, if he is innocent, place him upon the legislative records of the State as free from all imputation, and this is worth more to him than an expensive investigation.

A number of bills have been read in place and a few passed, but none of any great interest to our people.

REVIVAL NEWS.

MESSENGERS EDITORS.—There is a great religious awakening going on in the M. P. Church, on Robert's Run, this county.—The meeting has been in progress two weeks, and it is possible, from present prospects, that it may continue two weeks longer. A large number of men and women have professed faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and still there are a great many seekers at the altar. We devoutly pray that this gracious work may spread all through the country.

DEAD.

On the 1st of January, of Measles, after an illness of eight weeks, SARAH ELLEN INMINNER, aged 3 years, 7 months and 23 days, daughter of John and Mary Inminner, of Springhill township.

On Tuesday, January 21, 1862, at her residence in Cameron, Va., JAMES, wife of Elias Whylerd, aged 62 years.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF GREENE COUNTY.

STEPHEN H. ADAMSON, Esq., Treasurer, in Account with the County of Greene, for the Year 1860, and previous Years, Audited January, 1862.

Table with columns: Collectors, Townships, Co. tax due, Since paid, etc. for 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856.

Table with columns: Collectors, Townships, Co. tax due, Since paid, etc. for 1857, 1858, 1859.

Table with columns: Collectors, Townships, Co. tax due, Since paid, etc. for 1860.

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