

Terms of Publication.

THE TIOGA COUNTY AGITATOR is published every Thursday Morning, and mailed to subscribers at the very reasonable price of One Dollar per annum, in advance. It is intended to notify every subscriber when the term for which he has paid shall have expired, by the stamp "Time Out," on the margin of the last paper. The paper will then be stopped until a further remittance be received. By this arrangement no man can be brought in debt to the printer.

THE AGITATOR.

Devoted to the Extension of the Area of Freedom and the Spread of Healthy Reform.

WHILE THERE SHALL BE A WRONG UNRIGHTED, AND UNTIL "MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN" SHALL CEASE, AGITATION MUST CONTINUE.

VOL. IV. WELLSBORO, TIOGA COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 11, 1858. NO. XXVIII.

Table with 4 columns: Rates of Advertising, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months. Includes rates for square, column, and line advertising.

LIFE.

Life is an ocean, tempest tost and wild, On which our little fragile boats are launched With neither compass, chart or guide.

Go to the waves to fury lashed by storms And whisper "peace be still," or with thine arm Of insignificance attempt to stop The planets in their bright effulgence; preach reason To the children of despair; bind with silken Cords the monarch proud of Ethiopia's Burning sands; but tell not misery's sons That life is fair.

But go with me Where on a squalid couch wan poverty In rags and wretchedness reclines. Or to Yon loft where gentles pines in misery, Neglected, lone, From out those sunken orbs The fire of intellect once gleamed.

That vice should be the hard, the sly, That face should be the downy, and that hand, And virtuous stars, is clothed in vestments mean, And throws at night his woe on couch Of paltry straw. But mortals, short of sight, We oft forget his ways are not as ours; That earth is not our place of final rest; What if our hearts are riven with neglect And coldness here below. This life is but A pilgrimage to where all sorrows cease— Northumberland, Pa. ALLIE.

Communications.

Education and the Educator.

BY J. WALBRIDGE.

The necessity of education in our country goes to show that there is a marked defect, either in our methods of imparting instruction or in the institutions themselves. Parents do not appear to take that interest that they should take in the intellectual advancement of their children.

Go to your schools! Go to your streets! Consider dispassionately the ratio in attendance and then say if you can, that you do not see the necessity of education. It is generally imagined that the masses have education enough—so think the Roman Catholics—so think those who are too ignorant to comprehend the advantages derived from a liberal education.

plication. The mocking-bird process of repeating rules is of very little use to a philosophical student. He discards the idea of the purely practical and embraces the theoretical. He deals in infallible principles and rejects mere facts which are disputable and therefore improbable.

The development of the faculties, which is the object of all systems, of all schools of instruction; hence, talent, skill and knowledge are greatly needed by the teacher in his sphere of action. It is a great mistake to suppose that those who know little are qualified to teach those who know less.

New England's noble sons are displaying their native talent the world over. Why does New England take the lead in intelligence and enterprise? Because her schools are miniature colleges; her teachers are of necessity not only qualified to teach the common branches, but also the natural sciences, and the higher English classics.

Why do not our schools accomplish more? The reason is very evident to a thinking mind. Who can behold the want of intelligence and the consequent lack of public spirit among our citizens and then ask the question, why? Who can witness the incessant teaching of the street, the gathering, and in some instances even the fireside itself, and wonder why our schools are not more efficient than they are in fitting and refining men and women for performing the active duties of life.

"I am thy father's spirit," as the bottle said to the boy when he found it hid in the wood pile, and wondered what it was.

Sharp Practice.

A COUNTRY LAWYER ON HAND FOR HIS CITY FRIEND.—Five and twenty years ago, when the western region was sparsely settled when the country bar-room was the place of common resort, and before those old fashioned bar-room stores and songs had yielded to the gossip now generally heard in every drinking saloon, there was a certain set of good humored, free-and-easy individuals whose custom it was to "gather at the inn" of old

These, with others, whiled away many a winter evening, telling stories, smoking the pipe, quaffing mugs of hot flip, a "fluid" now almost forgotten.

But time, separated this jolly company, as it does others, and the subsequent history of the Counselor and worthy Mr. X. was as diverse as their fortunes. G. plodded on with his "capias" at Ellicottville. X. in due time became engaged in respectable duties here.

Legal business, at distant intervals, called the lawyer to Buffalo, and he was, of course glad to see his old friend, but X. engrossed in business, or for reasons of his own, had not much time to talk over old times, and without intending it, probably gave him the cold shoulder.

And they entered a small "one horse grocery," where the "cheap and nasty" was dealt out by the small. X. gave a nod to the "mixer" behind the bar, and said— "Just give my friend here some beer and what crackers and cheese he wants, and charge it to me!"

"How much will the cheese weigh?" "About sixty pounds apiece." "Full sixty?" "Sixty, and no mistake." "Well, just send over to the Farmer's Hotel, where I stop, four of those cheeses, and three barrels of crackers, and charge them to Mr. X., will you? You heard him say I was to have what crackers and cheese I wanted?"

The four cheese and three barrels of crackers were sent down, and in due course of time Mr. X. was presented a bill for the same, which he paid, confessing at the same time that although rather expensive, the joke was nevertheless, a good one. He never afterwards gave the cold shoulder to Counselor G.

NEVER JIBE AT THE UNFORTUNATE.—The editor of the Oswego Palladium says: "We once remember in our experience seeing a small boy making sport of the pitiful appearance of a poor half-starved wretch, whose tattered garb it was fluttering wildly in the unsympathizing breeze. "Young man," said a philanthropic observer of the incident, "be aware how you jibe at the sorrows of the unfortunate—the Lord only knows what you may come to." We marked the words.—That young man grew up; he fell from the rank of wealth; his haughty spirit was gradually crushed—and he is now the editor of a country newspaper!"

A USEFUL HINT.—Lord Chesterfield says, all ceremonies are in themselves very silly things; but yet a man of the world should know them. They are the outworks of manners and decency, which would be too often broken in upon if it were not for that defense which keeps the enemy at proper distance.—It is for that reason I always treat fools and coxcombs with great ceremony, true good breeding not being a sufficient barrier against them.

Too GOOD TO WASTE.—The medical attendant of the St. Louis Hospital accented an Irish servant at the door of the same the other day, with: "Did you give the medicine as I told you?" "Faith, an' I did sir."—"And the brandy?" "Sure, an' I thought it a pity to waste so much good liquor on the me that were bound to die anyhow, so I drank it meself."

REMARKS OF HON. G. A. GROW, Upon the Treasury Note Bill, House, Dec. 22, 1857.

Mr. GROW said: Mr. Chairman, before addressing myself directly to the merits of the bill, I desire to say a word in reply to the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. Letcher,] who yesterday claimed that the Administration and the so-called Democratic party were not responsible for the expenditures of the Government increasing within five years from forty-six million dollars to over seventy million dollars. The gentleman's practical economy in legislation is proverbial, and I trust it will not be considered egotistic for me to say that since I have been a member of Congress, upon almost all questions affecting the expenditures of the Government, I have voted with him. He will, therefore, receive my remarks as being made in no spirit of cavil, but with an earnest and sincere desire to see a reform in this Government that shall bring back its expenditures to the economy and simplicity of its days of early virtue.

The Departments first create the necessity for appropriations, by enlarging their forces and increasing the expenditures of the Government, and then ask Congress to appropriate the money; and if Congress fail to do it, they divert the appropriations made for other purposes to the payment of those they desire to see paid, or they come in with a deficiency bill, and you are then asked to pass it, because, if you do not, the citizen will suffer who has relied on the faith of the Government, and furnished either labor or supplies. Sir, the enormous expenditures of today are chargeable upon the Administration that has controlled the Government during the six years in which those expenditures have doubled. Let them commence retrenchment and reform by limiting the estimates, and then you will limit the appropriations; for, as I said before, you cannot stop these vast expenditures in the legislative department of the Government, unless you are ready to meet the charge that you are trying to inaugurate revolution, and block the wheels of the Government.

We met that charge in the last Congress, when we refused to appropriate the money for some of the estimates, and because we did so, the so-called Democratic party endeavored to make the country believe, during the last presidential canvass, that we were revolutionizing, and that we desired to block the wheels of the Government by refusing to grant the appropriations asked for to carry on the Government, though we believed the appropriation wrong. And, sir, unless you have the cooperation of the heads of Departments of the Government, and would be the result in every case.

The expenses of the Army and Navy have been doubled within a few years, and so have been those of almost every department of the Government. How are you to bring the Government back to the economy of the early days of the Republic, and the simplicity that characterized its administration? The men who have charge of the public Departments know what branches of the public service can be curtailed without injury to the public service; but it is impossible that we should know all the details of the different Departments of the Government. No law can be passed that would not have a discretionary power, to some extent, in the head of a Department in its expenditures and the number of its employes, which have been gradually increased and converted by this Government into a secret police force, to stand guard at the ballot-boxes in the local elections of the country, in order to control, if possible, the action of the people. The Administration has swelled the expenses of the Government from forty-six to seventy million dollars, much of it in this way; and to-day, if a subordinate of the Government dares to exercise the right of an American freeman in one of the local and municipal elections of the country, his head falls under the guillotine, worked by the headsman in Washington. Places must be provided by the Administration for the Representatives who, upon this floor and in the other wing of the Capitol, have been discarded by their constituents because they betrayed their solemn trust in order to uphold the policy resolved on by the Administration as a party test. In this way the patronage has been greatly increased, and to it is attributed much of the enormous increase in the expenditures of the Government.

But, as I said before, the gentleman from Virginia will understand that I make these remarks in no spirit of cavil, but merely to show that the needed reform must begin in the Departments. They are responsible for the enormous expenditures of this Govern-

ment; and they are responsible, in the most obvious way, by converting the Government officials into a secret police to interfere with the elections of the country. They send into the conventions of the people of the States their chosen minions from the post offices and the custom-houses to lay down their political platforms and, so far as lies in their power, to control their nominations; and then whatever official of the Government dares to oppose the nominee of the party—even though the "devil incarnate"—loses his place, and is no longer fit to discharge the duties of the office. The manly exercise of the inalienable rights of an American citizen to act on his own judgment in the local elections of the country, if against the wishes of the Administration, disqualifies him for holding any office of profit or trust under the Government of his country.

But, sir, I now turn to the consideration of this bill and its features. While it is true that a Government, in the exercise of its legitimate functions, should not attempt to shape and control the business of the country, nor to convert itself into an almshouse to distribute charity to the needy and distressed of its citizens, yet it is its duty—its first and paramount duty—so to legislate, confining itself to its proper and legitimate functions, as not to enhance any existing derangement of business in the country; but, if possible, to add to the prosperity and development of its great interests and resources.

To-day, we are asked by the Government to provide means to pay its debts. That is a legitimate object of legislation. The ordinary sources of revenue, in the present state of the business of the country, are dried up, and the Government is unable to meet its liabilities. While it is a proper, legitimate duty of the Government to raise the revenue necessary to defray its expenses, a sound statesmanship requires you to do so in the way that will least embarrass the business of the country, and will add, if possible, to the development of its great and material resources.

The question presented is, whether the Government should go into the money market and make a loan of money to pay its debts, or whether it will issue paper promises to pay when there is nothing in its vaults to redeem these promises. It is only the mode and manner of relieving the Treasury that is in controversy; for there is no man on either side of this Hall who would refuse to furnish relief to the Government and save its plighted honor by voting the necessary supplies to pay its honest debts. The manner of doing it is the only question. And to answer that question properly, it is necessary to consider the condition of the country, and how your proposed law is likely to affect it in its business relations.

What, then, is the condition of the country? In a day we have seen the most far-seeing and sagacious of our business men reduced from affluence to penury and want, and honest, willing labor wandering a famished beggar in the streets. What has produced this unprecedented convulsion of the country? For it becomes a wise legislator to inquire into the probable influence of the laws he proposes upon the business relations of life.

M. FENTON. I wish the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Grow,] to state, if he is in possession of the information, the relative amount of the specie, and of the paper money in the country at the date of the late monetary disaster, and then I would inquire whether, in his judgment, the banks are directly responsible for the late financial revulsion that has come upon us; or whether other causes, growing out of the speculative spirit of the times, not immediately marked by the facilities afforded by the banks in obtaining money, have aided to swell and hasten this commercial and financial crisis?

Mr. GROW. I will answer the question of the gentleman from New York, though I may not be able to furnish conclusive or very satisfactory proof of the real cause of the present financial revulsion. Many things may have combined to produce it, and it might be difficult to specify any one thing as its cause. Without stopping to inquire, except so far as is necessary to notice the question propounded by the gentleman from New York, whether it was caused by a redundant paper currency, or is the result of the financial policy pursued by this Government for a few years, or what influence either or both of these causes have had in producing it, it is in my judgment to be attributed more to an expanded credit than any other one thing. What influence the financial policy of the country for the last few years has had in producing that expansion, I do not propose here to inquire; but will merely say that, in my judgment, the changes made in the tariff policy of the country during the last Congress, forced upon the House of Representatives by the Senate, were injudicious, and calculated to stimulate this overgrown and expanded credit, and add largely to our foreign indebtedness, which has augmented the evil of the day.

The present crisis is likened to that of 1837, when there is no similarity in the apparent causes that have produced them. In 1837 there was an expanded paper currency, with a very insufficient metallic basis. The banks had a circulation of \$150,000,000, while they had in their vaults but \$50,000,000 in specie, and outside the banks, there was but \$30,000,000 in the hands of the people. There was in the country at that time, according to the most reliable statistics, but \$80,000,000 in specie, so that the bank issue was in excess of the whole specie in the country, \$70,000,000. When the crash came, therefore, there was no circulating me-

dium. Gold and silver could not take the place of paper money, for there was not sufficient of it. The Government then issued Treasury drafts, because paper was the only thing that could be substituted to fill up the void.

That state of things does not exist to-day, and this brings me directly to the inquiry of the gentleman from New York, [Mr. Fenton,] Whether an excessive paper currency was the cause of this expanded credit will be determined by the statistics of the banks. In 1837 there was a necessity for some circulating medium, there not being metallic currency enough for the business of the country. Its whole amount then was about eighty million dollars, while now there are over three hundred millions. The coinage of the Mint, from the formation of the Government down to the 30th September, 1856, amounts to \$549,000,000. The imports of coin into the country since 1820, (for previous to that time there were no separate statements kept by the custom-house,) amount to \$293,000,000; which makes an aggregate of \$842,000,000. That does not include the amount of specie brought into the country by immigrants, who seek homes on our shores. Deduct from this \$942,000,000 the entire exports of coin from the country since 1820—\$436,000,000—and it leaves somewhere in the country \$406,000,000. The circulation of the banks September last was about one hundred and eighty-seven millions, while they had in their vaults in specie \$60,000,000. Take the amount of specie in the banks from the whole amount in the country, and it will be found that in September last there was, in the country, and remaining in the hands of the people, not far from \$300,000,000 in specie. The bank issue in September last, by these figures, was over one hundred million dollars less than the metallic currency of the country, after allowing a dollar of specie for every dollar of paper. In 1837 the paper circulation was \$70,000,000 in excess of the coin in the country.—To-day the coin is \$100,000,000 in excess of the paper.

Why, then, this revulsion? It certainly has not resulted from an excessive expansion and contraction of bank issues, as in 1837; for the bank issues for the last four years have been quite uniform: in 1854, \$182,030,141; in 1855, \$163,322,705; in 1856, \$170,968,903; and in 1857, \$187,000,000. During this period the banks have had in their vaults about sixty million dollars, while there, have been over two hundred million dollars in the hands of the people. The first failure, however, in the beginning of this crisis, created a panic, by reason of the expanded credit of the country, which ended in almost entire want of confidence in moneyed circles. Hence, the specie in general circulation was hoarded, and the banks compelled to refuse further discounts, and finally to suspend specie payments.

Under such circumstances, what is the duty of a wise Legislature? Is it to send forth an irredeemable paper currency, to augment the pressing evils of the times? What is the duty of a wise legislator in the present condition of the business of the country? Is it to adopt such legislation as will tend to keep out of circulation a metallic currency, by substituting a paper currency in its place which has no metallic basis, and for which there is no provision for its redemption in gold? Will not the paper currency which is proposed by this bill tend to keep from circulation the hoarded specie of the country? No man even on the other side of the House will deny that the tendency of paper, in any form, as a currency, is to exclude specie from circulation. The worst currency always circulates. If a man has two bank notes, one at ten per cent. discount, and the other at two per cent., he will, as a matter of course, pay out the one at ten per cent. first, and retain in his possession the one of the most value. So, if you bring the paper currency provided for in this bill into circulation, you will keep out of circulation a like amount of hard money, because that is the best and safest currency.

While the paper currency is sent abroad to furnish the means on which the business of the country is to be transacted, the specie will continue to be locked up in vaults and chests, and withdrawn from circulation.—You issue these Treasury notes, as provided by the bill, and they can be immediately converted into a currency that will pass from hand to hand. All that would be needed is an indorsement in blank. It would go out representing the credit of the Government, the same as a bank note represents the credit of the bank. There is neither gold or silver in the Treasury, nor have you provided one dollar for the redemption of these notes.

Mr. HUGHES. I wish to call the attention of the gentleman to one point. I wish to ask him whether the stocks which he is in favor of issuing have not coupons attached to them, which may go into circulation as a currency?

Mr. GROW. I have not examined this bill as it came from the Senate; and I know not what provisions it may have on that point. I can only say, therefore, to the gentleman that I have never known of the coupons attached to bonds going into circulation as a currency. I do not think they would ever enter into circulation. But, sir, when one of these notes has an indorsement upon its back, as the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Banks] yesterday remarked, it is upon its legs and it may go forth to the country to return whenever it pleases; but by this bill you cannot force it to come at any time. But, sir, authorize a loan and you draw specie forth from the vaults and hoarded chests, and put it into circulation.

This crash has come upon the business in-