

OUR WAR DEBT. HOW CAN IT EVER BE PAID?

This question, although often gravely asked, ought, in the mind of any intelligent, loyal American, to be answered not with a smile.

Before the rebellion our cotton crop was estimated at over four millions of bales of five hundred pounds each. A tax on this one article of five cents per pound would amount to one hundred millions of dollars.

Take the other productions of the South which Europe must have, and which will stand a heavy tax without being felt by the people, both for export and home consumption, and add thereto the amount of tax which can be placed upon our mining operations, and there is a fund at once provided amply sufficient to provide for the principal of a debt of \$750,000,000.

Therefore, be it remembered that the chief of the Copperheads in the month of February, 1864, did propose treating with the rebels for a peace upon the basis of a recognition of Southern independence, and treaties of commerce and amity, offensive and defensive as relative to outside parties.

We last year heard a great deal about the "immutable Democracy." That was the only national party. That party had known no shadow of turning, no change, either in principles or in name, from the beginning.

Suppose, instead of two thousand millions, as we now owe, the war should involve us in a debt of eight thousand millions, a tax of five per cent, on all sales in the United States per annum, excluding sales of real estate and stocks, according to the estimate of the Boston Board of Trade, would probably pay the whole principal of the debt in twenty years, perhaps in a much less time.

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It will soon be understood in Europe that our loans, even at three per cent, are the best loans in the world. One important reason is, we can pay them when due without inconvenience, and our resources are so ample that no disposition can ever exist to repudiate.

The correspondent of the New York Times says that the worst foe the French occupation in Mexico has now to contend with is not a military one; it is rather one of politics.

Suppose ten men, yourself among them, had contracted to do a certain thing for the public benefit. You proceed to the preliminaries, and find that certain other men have possessed themselves of the means and appliances, through which, and by which, that work must be accomplished, if at all; and refuse to yield them up.

Suppose further, that, after weeks of delay, involving great expense, and damage to the public interest, these objectors should say to you: "Gentlemen, we don't want to be unreasonable, but you may as well understand at once that you cannot proceed in the discharge of your public duty until you deposit for our use the sum of \$100." By what means would you call these objectors, after that?

This is substantially the situation at Harrisburg. Through the connivance of Jefferson Davis, sixteen Senators (we do not say men, because, while a man may be a Senator, a Senator is not always a man) find themselves in condition to block the wheels of legislation with the baldest of technicalities.

But who are these sixteen Senators? Not Republicans; no—there is no such pretence made. Not Democrats; no, for no Democrat can join with Jeff. Davis in his attempt to overthrow free institutions. Not conservatives;

no, for conservatives, at least, reaffirm their devotion to the sacred cause of law and order. Who, then, are these sixteen senatorial triflers?

THE AGITATOR.

M. H. COBB, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

WELLSBOROUGH, PENNA.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1864.

THE NEW GOSPEL OF PEACE.

The nation witnessed an exhibition of mingled assurance and poltropony the other day in the Capitol of the nation, which, we feel confident, will never be repeated, and will some day return to vex the actors, Fernando Wood, as chief of the Opposition, proposing a deputation of public men, to go to Richmond and treat with Jeff. Davis for a cessation of hostilities on a basis of recognition and separation, constitutes a picture to be carefully framed, and preserved for future reference.

Otherwise, Fernando Wood, and his fellows, little and big, everywhere, whether they swear by Seymour, or Woodward, or Vallandigham,—Fernando Wood and his fellows, we repeat, will strenuously deny that he, or they, ever meditated such an act of cowardice and unreasoning folly, much less proposed it in the Congress of the United States.

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Well—why not call men, senators, and things by their right names? Why not call liars, "liars," thieves, "thieves," and traitors "traitors"? We do not stand upon punctilio when we detect a man entering a dwelling at midnight by means of false keys.

These sixteen senators, led on by Hiester Clymer, are traitors. The men who uphold them in their factious behavior are also traitors. There can be no degrees in the crime of betraying one's country.

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Have You a Friend in the Army? Fort Alexander, Md., Oct. 13, '62. Let me assure you that persons having sons, husbands and brothers in the army will do well to send them Clive's Embrocation.

CLIVE'S VEGETABLE EMBROCATION! MOST ASSURED IF IT FALLS TO GIVE SATISFACTION. For Diphtheria, Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, or Hoarseness, its equal is not to be found.

Eye and Ear Institute. DR. UP DE GRAFF, OCULIST, AURIST & GEN'L SURGEON, ELMIRA, N. Y.

TREATS ALL DISEASES OF THE EYE, EAR AND THROAT. THE EYE.—He will operate upon Cataract, Artificial Pupil, Cross Eyes, Lachrymal Fistula, Strabismus, Entropion, (inversion of the eye lid), and treats all forms of Sore Eyes, such as Granular Lid, Punctate Ophthalmia, Opacities of the Cornea, Serpiginous Diseases of the Eye, and all diseases to which the Eye is subject.

CATARH, In all its forms, permanently cured. GENERAL SURGERY.—He will operate upon Club Feet, Hare Lip, Cleft Palate, Tumors, Cancer, Morbid Growths, Deformities from Burns, &c.

HERNIA, Operated upon by a new mode with entire success; and performs PLASTIC OPERATIONS; where the Nose, Lip, or any portion of the face is destroyed through disease or otherwise, by healing them on anew.

September 1st, 1863. FROM THIS DATE, FOR READY PAY ONLY! CUSTOM BOOTS AND SHOES; Leather, Findings, &c. CASII PAID FOR HIDES, BELTS, DEER SKINS AND FURS.

DR. FRANKLIN SAYS: "When you have anything to advertise, tell the public of it in plain language. I am manufacturing good Boots and Shoes which I will sell at fair prices, and as low for READY PAY. Such work cannot be sold at any other price pair as eastern made slip-work, but it can and will be sold at prices which will enable the purchaser to protect his feet with good substantial boots more cheaply than with a poor slip-work article, which, even if it chafes not to fall in pieces with the first weeks wear, is but a doubtful protection in wet and cold weather. Try me.

Buck and Doeskins Wanted, in the red and short blue, for which I will pay cash and a good price. Beef-Hides and Calfskins Wanted, for which I will also pay cash. Sheep Fats Wanted, for which I will also pay cash and the highest market price.

Sale of Valuable Real Estate. SITUATED in Union and Bliss Townships, in Otsego County, Tioga, and State of Pennsylvania. The subscriber will offer at public sale, at Canton Corner, in Bradford County, on TUESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF MARCH NEXT, at 10 o'clock, P. M., the following seven lots or tracts of land situated as follows, to wit:

Lot No. two, warrant No. two, containing 122 acres and 55 perches; Lot No. two, warrant No. three, containing 181 acres and 120 perches; Lot No. three, warrant No. three, containing 145 acres and 120 perches; Lot No. two, warrant No. six, containing 120 acres and 52 perches; Lot No. six, warrant No. six, containing 128 acres and 26 perches; Lot No. eight, warrant No. one, containing 135 acres and 154 perches.

man. I do not suppose he would steal so lank a pocket-book as your humble servant's; but then I would not risk it after all. The owner of such a face would not stop to indulge in abstract ethics if the object he sought made it necessary to ignore the nice distinction between mine and thine.

So much for Fernando Wood. Next time I may speak of James Brooks, whose face is not less an index to the character of the man. I propose, also, to study Voorhees, Allen, Cox, physiognomically, as well as some of our own more prominent members, and jot down the result for public benefit. M. H. C.

REPORTED BATTLE WITH GEN. POLK! THE REBELS WHIPPED AND 12,000 PRISONERS TAKEN! HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Saturday, Feb. 20, 1864. It is rumored here that Gen. Sherman has had a fight with Gen. Polk, near Brandon, whipped him and taken 12,000 prisoners.

CAIRO, Saturday, Feb. 20, 1864. An officer from the Big Black River reports that just before reaching Jackson, Mississippi, a skirmish ensued between a part of Gen. Sherman's forces, and a body of 4,000 to 5,000 Rebels, in which the latter were defeated, and forty captured.

Our army passed through Jackson in two columns, the enemy retreating across Pearl River, so precipitately that his pontoons, two pieces of artillery, and a number of prisoners fell into our hands. Our forces seized provisions of all kinds and swept on.

DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VIRGINIA, Feb. 21, 1864. Yesterday Major Cole, while in command of a portion of the 1st Maryland Cavalry Battalion, had a skirmish at Piedmont Station, Farquiger County, with Mosby's command.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Saturday Feb. 20, 1864. Official information from Gen. Dodge was received at Gen. Logan's headquarters to-day, that the Rebels, supposed to be Roddy's command, attempted to cross the Tennessee river at three different ferries but were driven back by Gen. Dodge's troops. Our loss was very light.

The Conscription Act. The following are the main points of the amendment to the Conscription law, as it passed the House on Saturday. The vote was 93 yeas to 60 nays.

Any person enrolled may furnish, previously to the draft, a substitute not liable to the draft, and shall be exempt during the time for which his substitute shall be exempt.

Members of religious denominations conscientiously opposed to bearing arms, and so declaring by oath or affirmation, may be assigned, when drafted, to hospitals, or may pay \$300 for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers.

Aliens who have voted or held office shall be liable to draft. Mariners or able sea men may within eight days enlist in the naval service for a period not less than the term of the draft; the whole number of such transfer enlistments not to exceed 10,000.

Persons physically or mentally unfit, persons actually in the military or naval service, and persons who have served two years during the war and have been honorably discharged, are exempt.

FOR SALE: A QUANTITY OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS, consisting of Dining and Breakfast Tables, Wash-stands, Chairs, Bedsteads, Bureaus, 1st Floor Stove, Looking Glasses, Crockery, one Rag Carpet, nearly new, &c., &c. The above will be sold very low for cash, or notes payable in three months.

CAUTION. WHEREAS, my wife, HANNAH T. TIPPLE, has left my bed and board without any just cause or provocation; also, my sons JOHN and ABRAHAM. They are at liberty to return home any time they see fit to do so.

CAUTION. WHEREAS, my wife, ANNA, has left my bed and board without any just cause or provocation; I hereby forbid all persons from contracting after this date.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. LETTERS of administration having been granted to the subscribers on the estate of Ezra Davis late of Mansfield, deceased, notice is hereby given to those indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims to present them properly authenticated for settlement.

BOARDMAN AND GAY'S CELEBRATED PATENT IMPROVED INSULATED IRON, RIM, AND FRAME PIANO FORTES! These pianos have the pure musical tone of the grand, together with the strength of the iron, and are thus far superior to all others.

CAUTION. WHEREAS, my wife, CATHARINE, has left my bed and board without just cause or provocation; I therefore caution all persons against trusting her or trusting her on my account as I will pay no debts of her contracting after this date.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. LETTERS of administration having been granted to the subscribers on the estate of Julia H. Joyce, late of Delmar township, deceased, notice is hereby given to those indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims to present them properly authenticated for settlement.

NOTICE. In the Court of Common Pleas of Tioga County, State of Pennsylvania, of the 15th day of September 1861, No. 282. Ejectment for a tract of land in Deerfield township, county of Tioga, State of Pennsylvania.

TIOGA COUNTY, SS. I, John F. Donaldson, Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of said county, do certify the above to be a true copy of a rule entered in the foregoing entitled suit, in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office the 1st day of February, 1864.

Portable Printing Offices. For the use of Merchants, Druggists and all business and professional men who wish to do their own printing, neatly and cheaply.

A Valuable Farm for Sale, VERY CHEAP. THE old homestead of the late Ansel Purpale of 100 acres, together with 200 acres adjoining on the north is now offered for sale at the low price of \$30 per acre—\$2,000 will be required at the time possession is given—the balance may be paid in installments to suit the purchaser.

SUPERIOR ARTICLE TEA, just received at ROY'S DRUG STORE. FAMILY DYE COLORS at ROY'S DRUG STORE. FLINT CHIMNEYS, extra quality for Kerosine Lamps, just received at ROY'S DRUG STORE.

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