



The Lehigh Register.

Allentown, Pa.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1849.

Circulation near 2000.

V. B. PALMER, Esq., N. W. corner of Third and Chesnut streets, Philadelphia, and 169 Nassau street, (Tribune Buildings,) New York, is our authorized Agent for receiving advertisements and subscriptions to the Lehigh Register and collecting and receiving for the same.

The War of 1812.

We observe by an article in one of our exchange papers, that the officers who served during the war with England in 1812, design applying to Congress at the next session for bounty and extra pay. The remark is made that these rewards have been "awarded to those of our fellow-citizens who volunteered in that war, and joined their countrymen in the struggle, who had previously emigrated to Canada—to better their condition, perhaps. They received by act of Congress, approved 5th March, 1816, a bounty in land equal to their relative rank, with three months' extra pay. Most assuredly, then, those of our citizens who remained in their country and manfully pressed forward to the field of strife, paid their taxes for the support of government at a time when her finances were at a low ebb, and jeopardized their private affairs, should not go, as many of them have, to their graves unrequited. It is known that the officers in the war with Mexico, in addition to their regular pay, received three months' extra pay, and the soldiers their bounty in land, as well as three months' extra pay. It may be noted that a number of the officers who volunteered in the war of 1812, joined their countrymen in the war with Mexico, and received three months' extra pay. Why, then, should not their copatriots of 1812 fare alike with them?"

County Administration.

Mr. Samuel Knass, the new County Commissioner, entered upon the duties of office on Monday last, in place of Peter Breinig, whose term had expired. Mr. Breinig has been an able and efficient member of the Board, and goes out of office with the good wishes of political friends and opponents. Mr. Knass will no doubt prove himself equally worthy of the trust reposed in him by his fellow citizens.

The Board at present consists of Messrs. John Lichtenhauer, of Upper Macungy, Benjamin Breinig, of North Whitehall, and Samuel Knass, of Hanover.

At their first meeting the Board re-appointed their present gentlemanly and efficient clerk, under whose care and attention the Office has undergone many invaluable improvements, and we hazard nothing in saying that no County Administration in Pennsylvania, dispatches business more correctly, the records of which are kept more neatly than that of our Lehigh. Generally speaking, Lehigh county has been very fortunate in the selection of their public officers, a thing much to be looked upon by the people.

Lehigh Fenobles.

This new company will make their first parade on Monday next, in full uniform. We learn that it numbers between forty and fifty members. Their dress is the adopted uniform of the United States Artillery. We have no doubt the Company will make a very imposing appearance, and as to their tactics, cannot help to be anything but first-rate, having been for some time under the instructions of their efficient Captain Hiram B. Yeager, an old "Mexican Sapper."

State Convention.

The friends of Common School Education in Lancaster city, have in pursuance of a resolution passed by a meeting of the Pennsylvania Delegation to the National School Convention, lately held in Philadelphia, to hold a State Convention at Harrisburg on the 16th day of January next, called a general County meeting of the friends of Education, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to said Convention.

What say the friends of Education in Lehigh to a similar meeting, and when shall it be held? We pause for an answer.

Hon. William Strong.

A correspondent of the Reading Gazette, warmly recommends this gentleman for the Speakership of the House of Representatives in the next Congress. We cordially endorse the recommendation. Mr. Strong's qualifications for the office are unquestionable; and his elevation to the Speaker's Chair, would be a merited compliment to the staunch Democratic District of "Old Berks."

Sartain's Union Magazine.

The November number of Sartain's Union Magazine has come to hand, and exceeds in brilliancy of embellishment and literary worth, everything in the Magazine's effort heretofore attempted. Among the embellishments of this number are "The Brothers," a splendid engraving by John Sartain, "The Rustic Wealth," "Luther amidst his Family at Wittenberg, on Christmas Eve, 1536," &c. Terms, single copies 25 cents, one copy \$3 per annum, two copies \$5 per annum, five copies \$10 per annum, invariably in advance. Address John Sartain and Co., Philadelphia.

Odd Fellows Hall at Easton.—This beautiful building was not sold by the Sheriff. Theseals was adjourned to the first evening of Court-week. The sum of 10,000 was the highest bid offered—just about 6,000 less than its cost. Arrangements should be made to retain the building in the hands of the order.

For the Lehigh Register.

The Folly of Pretence.

It is amusing to listen to some persons, when describing their own merits, qualifications, families and pecuniary circumstances. They either deceive themselves, or they make most absurd efforts to deceive others, as to the real position they occupy in the world. They may be "amiable and friendly enough, generally speaking, but they desire to appear better and more important than they really are, and in attempting to accomplish this object of vanity, selfishness or pride, they assume to themselves faculties, qualifications and advantages utterly at variance with the facts, and calculated only to excite a smile. They pretend to a condition of affairs that has no existence. They boast of their wealth, their associates, their family connexions and influence, and in so doing they utter much extravagance, much exaggeration—say, and to speak plainly much falsehood. Very few are misled by this policy, while with a majority it only produces a feeling of contempt. The true course, the honest, the high-minded, is to aim at the lofty qualities of integrity, truth, respectability and unswerving character, and not to forget the reality which is not really enjoyed. How frequently, too, do we see individuals bow before money, by ennobling wealthy friends and relatives, as if an intimacy or a connexion with such persons constituted a matter of the least importance. It merits formed the test, if courtesy, grace, benevolence and education—and these allied with humility, were alluded to as objects of admiration and ambition, the philosophy would indeed be commendable. But when all these are sacrificed for money—when a dishonest man with an income of \$5000 a year is spoken of as little inferior to a demigod, while an intelligent, a virtuous, but a poor man, is avoided—and when this course of policy is regarded by those practising it, as calculated to elevate them in the eyes of the world—the folly and the guilt of such miserable pretence are indeed palpable. There is another error of a kindred character in social life, which is by no means rare. It is the disposition even among neighbors, not to appear better than they are in a moral sense, but wealthier—not to aim at worth and virtue, but consequence and importance, through the assumed or pretended possession of money. If such really were as rich as they pretend to be, the mistake would still be a serious one; but being poor comparatively, and yet assuming to be otherwise, the folly of such conduct is most absurd. We very often, too, find people who boast of some remote connexion, as if such a fact, supposing it to be a fact, were calculated to elevate them in point of merit and importance. They forget that it is the duty of all not to deteriorate in position and respectability, not to depend upon others for consequence and reputation—but so to think and to act, as to render all such influence unnecessary. And when too, as it often happens, these very connexions are of no moment whatever, the character must be frail and feeble, that is compelled to lean upon them for support. But there are pretenders every where in all ranks and conditions of life. The self-deceived may be found in every circle of society. They fancy that the world is blind and they alone can see. They are misled by passion, by prejudice, by vanity, by self-interest, or by some other quality of the kind, and thus, mistaken themselves, they are deluded with the notion that others cannot penetrate the thin veil with which they attempt to disguise their motives. Far better to think and act honestly, in a spirit of truth, manliness and independence, for then we shall have no occasion for the hollow and shallow trickery of pretension, no reason to seem other than we are—no cause to overpraise our associates, to exaggerate our influence, or administer, by means of misrepresentation and falsehood, to our vanity and self-importance.

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The Ballot Box.

Thousands of articles have been written on the importance of preserving to every man the glorious privilege of exercising his own free will, as to whom he shall vote for when he comes to deposit his vote. The excessive electioneering on the election ground, the "watching of windows," the watching "how men vote," with a view to coerce them into a certain way of voting, all sounds bad, looks bad, and is repugnant to all the better feelings of intelligent men. What think you of this picture, all of which is matter of fact, given to us by a creditable witness, and which was perfected at an election district in Montgomery county? It seems a certain voter (these are just instances of the too general way of doing business) wished to vote for a friend of his of opposite politics. He offered his vote, which was distributed on the ballot box, when some tyrant gathered it up again, on discovering it was not all "simon pure," in his opinion, handed it back to the voter, when a "leader" walks up to him, takes the objectionable ticket, tears it up, gives him another that he wishes voted, and tells him to hand that in, which of course could not be refused, when a ruling genius demanded it. Two other voters who wished to vote a similar way to the above, were watched at the windows by an "officiating lordship," their votes examined by him, the objectionable one selected therefrom, torn up, and the one he wished voted, placed instead—and the voters told to vote that way. It is of course had to be done. We refer to this state of things, with the hope that it may have the effect of waking up the indifferent to a just sense of their rights, and that the ballot box may not be a tool in the hands of a few men, as is too often the case. How is the vain boast of intelligence and freedom rendered a nullity by proceedings like this? There are scores of districts to be found, where this example is carried out, at almost every election. May another spirit soon dawn upon such places and free the people from thralldom. It is a disgrace to our country.

All reasonable persuasions on the election ground, to bias votes, may be well enough, though there is too much necessity for that to speak well for the intelligence of the people, but when it comes to actual coercion, it becomes a penal offence, and every one guilty of exercising undue influence, no matter if high in the "leadership" of the people, should suffer the penalties of violated law. There is a mighty work yet to be performed, before our elections can be truly what they are represented to be, the conscientious and free expression of the will of the people.—Montgomery Ledger.

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