

The Daily Post

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY

PITTSBURGH

MONDAY MORNING, JULY 1, 1861

LEGISLATIVE REFORM NEEDED

For years past there have been complaints of corruption in the legislative proceedings of our State, and it must be confessed that the manner in which business has been conducted at Harrisburg, has been such as to give just cause for these complaints.

It is not our purpose to call up at this time subjects which may implicate any man's personal or political integrity, but briefly to speak of general evils which beset our system of legislation, and to suggest if possible a remedy.

In the first place, it is manifest to all who have any knowledge of legislation that the present rate of compensation is not sufficient to attract to the legislative function, as a general thing, second and third rate men. They have been selected as politicians and through political influences; not because they were men of competent judgment and ability, possessing a thorough knowledge of the wants of the people.

Another reason why men of worldly experience and whose integrity is above reproach, ought to be selected for the legislative position, is that the system of lobbying may be forever put an end to. The borer at Harrisburg has become a professional. He lives off of corruption. He exercises a most pernicious influence over the class of persons who now are sent to Harrisburg.

Measures to be Proposed to Congress

Already practical measures of legislation are being prepared. Senator Wilson, it is understood, has been in consultation with Congressmen, as well as high officers of the government, and as Chairman of the Military Committee, at an early day of the extra session of Congress will produce a series of bills, proposing—

First—To legalize Executive action concerning the present defensive or warlike preparations.

Second—Giving the sanction of law to the plan already announced for a permanent increase of the army.

Third—Retiring invalid and disabled army officers.

Fourth—To organize from the militia a hundred regiments, as a National Guard, to be all clothed and armed alike.

Fifth—To increase the number of cadets to the extent of sixty-eight, or to the number of Senators, and authorizing the President to fill the vacancies caused by resignation or otherwise in that institution.

Besides, it is designed to recommend an appropriation of two hundred millions of dollars, to carry the defensive measures into effect.

The above are substantially the objects contemplated.

General Scott received on Friday evening a dispatch from the headquarters of General McClellan, at Cumberland, Maryland, announcing that a portion of Colonel Wallace's Indiana Zouaves regiment had a sharp skirmish that morning with rebel outposts in the vicinity of Cumberland. The Zouaves attacked and routed a considerable body of cavalry, killing some twenty rebels and capturing seventeen horses. Only one man was killed on the Union side.

The following is the dispatch: CUMBERLAND, June 27, 1861.

I have been accustomed to sending my mounted pickets—thirty men in all—different posts along the several approaches to Cumberland. Finding it next to impossible to get reliable information of the enemy, yesterday I united the pickets, and directed them to Frankfort, a town midway between this place and Homestead, to see if there were rebel troops there.

They went within a quarter of a mile of the place, and found it full of cavalry, returning they overtook forty horsemen, and at once charged on them, killing and driving them back more than a mile, killing eight of them and securing seventeen horses. Corporal Hayes, of company A, was wounded, but taken prisoner, and brutally grounded. Three companies went to the ground this morning and recovered everything belonging to my pickets, except a few of the horses. The enemy were engaged all night long in boxing up their dead. Two of their officers were killed, but it is not ascertained.

The reports of the skirmish sound like fiction, but it is not exaggerated. The fight was really one of the most desperate on record, and abounds with instances of wonderful daring and courage.

LESLIE WALLACE, Col. 14th Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

Origin of the Peace Movement Rumor We have good reason to believe, says the Philadelphia "Inquirer," that the report alleging that Jefferson Davis had submitted terms of compromise to President Lincoln, originated in the fact which is well authenticated, that Judge Mason, of Maryland, for himself and ex-Gov. Pratt, applied to the Secretary of War a few days ago for authority to pass the lines of Government troops in Virginia, to Richmond, for the purpose, as they alleged, of making an effort to open negotiations for peace. They asserted that the suggestion was their own, and that no other parties were in any way committed to it. Being known as strong Southern sympathizers, yet much esteemed as men of honor, the suggestion was courteously received by those to whom it was submitted. Still the Secretary refused to entertain it, because it might commit him to the enterprise, and therefore he refused to give the gentlemen the answer they asked for. As we are informed, the scheme is not yet abandoned.

GEN. LANE will occupy his seat during the extra session of Congress, and he expects to take command about the 20th of July.

COL. THOMAS SCOTT, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and now engaged in important services connected with the Government as the great director of the movements of troops on the Southern railways, is thus handsomely alluded to by the North American:

"Mr. Scott has been appointed by the Government to reconstruct the almost demolished roads in Virginia over which the Federal troops and marauders of war are to be carried into the rebel country. When the first rush of soldiers found its way to the Pennsylvania Railroad, Mr. Scott created a line of telegraph to the Governor's rooms at Harrisburg, and there sat night and day, with watch in hand, superintending the running of the trains, exhibiting powers of endurance and physical strength, far beyond a physician. He is now in charge of all the railroad lines in possession of the Government that lead to Washington. The work of reconstructing the damaged roads is so rapidly progressing that the rebels are already taking on a consternation. While the publication of all that has been done would be improper, it is well to say that under an exterior of extreme modesty Mr. Scott has performed tasks of the greatest importance to the Government, and that no man upon the side of the Union has done more for the cause than his Philadelphia namesake.

Reporters again Excluded. On Friday afternoon Gen. Scott had issued positive orders that no reporters of the press shall be admitted, under any circumstances, visit the different encampments. Oh! what will Massa-Greedy say?

Pay of the Volunteers. The Harrisburg Telegraph says Paymaster Maxwell will disburse one month's pay to the Pennsylvania volunteers on Monday next. The Assistant Paymasters will first have to file their books.

Corron—From the Southern journals we learn that the total receipts of cotton at the Southern ports from January 1st to June 9th instant, was 3,473,855 bales, against 4,384,731 received during the same period of last year. The stock on hand at the same port, as reported by the latest circulars, was 75,299 bales.

The Union forces now in the city of Baltimore, exclusive of the troops at Fort Mifflin, is upwards of seven thousand strong, a heavy battery of artillery, a number of ugly looking pieces of ordnance planted on Federal Hill, commanding every street leading in that direction.

It is said that Major General John C. Fremont, who arrived in Washington last week, will be appointed to the Department of Virginia, now commanded by Brigadier-General McDowell. This we believe has not been decided upon, but it appears that, in any event, General Dix will not supersede General McDowell, but will be otherwise provided for.

The Charleston "Mercury," in speaking of the letter of London "Times" Russell, in which he asserts that the people of the South desire one of the royal regals of England to rule over them, says there are but two monarchs in the whole State of South Carolina, one of whom is a lawyer in Charleston, James L. Peirce, and the other an eccentric planter.

We learn from a private telegraphic dispatch received in this city, that Thos. D'Arcy McGee has been re-elected to the Canadian Parliament, by acclamation, from the Western District of Montreal. There was no opposition to Mr. McGee. The Canadian elections, in districts where opposing candidates are in the field, will take place on July 3d.

COL. GEARY'S REGIMENT.—On Friday three companies of this regiment were mustered into the United States service—two from Pittsburgh, and the other, Capt. Wilson's company, of Philadelphia. Company G, Capt. Costello, has been made the color company of the regiment.

The "Press" has been shown a dispatch from Mr. Meredith, dated Harrisburg, June 28, declining the nomination for Congress in the Second district.

MR. MEREDITH'S nomination for Congress in the Second Congressional District, has been indorsed by a very respectable and enthusiastic assemblage of the citizens of the District.

GEN. PILLOW has issued two proclamations at Memphis in these recalls his order to have whisky and tobacco served with army rations; the other recommends the payment to the State of all debts due in the loyal States.

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CARS are now running through by way of Harrisburg, from through by way of Washington.

THE Grand Jury have found a bill against John Merryman on a charge of treason.

THE verdict of the jury in the Birch Divorce case at Chicago, has been set aside and a new trial granted.

Strawberries—Where New York gets them from.

Last year you got them at first from Charleston, South Carolina, and Baltimore, and gradually from further North. In the strawberry season, New Jersey furnished immense quantities. They came too from Long Island, and a few from Westchester County, and Connecticut. Later, we had a considerable supply from Albany and parts of the Southern article, but we have opened up a new source of supply—New York City is in the daily receipt of strawberries from Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania! Reader, do you know where it is? It is beyond the Alleghenias. It is on the site of "Deadlock's Field." It is on the site of "Fort Duquesne"—that very "far West" of our boyhood. And, like from this far-off point that we get strawberries with our tea that were growing in a Pittsburgh garden at tea-time yesterday! Wonderful! It is wonderful! It will sound to some of our readers, of the bear of the size—out of the berries, though they are five inches in circumference, as a common thing; but—of the garden where they grow. Fifty feet long and ten feet wide. This is the size of the "patch." It is owned by Rev. Mr. Knox on "Coal Hill," about two miles from the city. The two principal varieties are the Albany Seedling, and Triumph de Gand, both of which are of such firm texture that they are transportation, and are so productive, that 4000 bushels an acre is not a large estimate of "sir yield."

Mr. Knox sends his strawberries to New York, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Cleveland, and Chicago, and we don't know how many other towns. It comes in a great way, as was "Cook's basket," a Connecticut notion, pins and snips, by Adam's Express, eighteen hours on the journey, and generally arrive in good order.

Reinforcements for Canada. The Liverpool Daily Post, which is a little facetious on what it calls "the very civil war in America," refers to Mr. Russell's letters from the South, and says: "A convention may be traced in them that there is no hope of the South making any real stand against the North. It is very evident, too, from the gingerly way in which the two parties deal with each other, that they even yet scarcely consider each other enemies. It is quite possible that our (the British) Government will persist in their irritant policy, and the engagement of the British to convey troops to Canada, is another example; the Union may be rehabilitated, and all family quarrels patched up for the sake of resuming our intercourse."

He is an English journal of high character confessing, as much in sorrow as in anger, that the policy of the British Government towards us has been irritating, and that the transmission of additional troops to Canada—A step which the North is anxious to prevent, is only a continuing part of the "irritant" policy in question.

THE GREAT NAVIGABLE STREAM OF THE OLD WORLD, the Adriatic, of the British Navy, has succeeded in ascending the great river of China, the Yang-tze, to a distance of 570 nautical miles from its mouth, without any accident, and it was stated that it was navigable for 107 miles further, by making in all 727 nautical, or 834 statute miles from the sea. The Yang-tze, therefore, although it be a point of navigation neither the Mississippi nor the St. Lawrence, far exceeds the longest river in the world. The expedition up the Yang-tze in the months of February and March, when it was at the lowest, but with the rain it rises from twenty to twenty-five feet higher. In the dry season the current, when met by a bar, is the rate of three and half miles an hour, but the average only two knots. This current, of course, is greatly increased in rate when the river was swollen, but it seems at no time to be so rapid as to be an impediment to navigation; and of course is not at all to steam.

PROBABLE ADVANCE IN THE VALUE OF HOGS. There is every reason to believe that before the new hatching and packing season, arrives there will be a very great advance in the value of mess pork and hogs. The stock of mess pork on hand in Chicago is only 3,800 barrels. The stock in New York City is but little over 50,000 barrels. There is less pork in store generally through the North than usual, at all times. A large portion of that packed last winter was shipped to the South before the war broke out; the rebelling every precaution to supply themselves with food, and the result will be a large quantity of pork, and the supply will soon be found inadequate to the demand. So firmly are holders convinced of this fact, that they decline to sell now, and wait for the rise which they know must come. It will be well for farmers throughout the East, and the West generally, to make their arrangements for fattening all the hogs they can get hold of this fall. They will be almost certain to get a good price for the pork.

THE NEW YORK GOONS TRADE.—There is a modern business doing in domestic goods for army purposes, especially in woollens, but otherwise there is but little movement to advise. Many of the mills are working up to capacity of supplies, and there is now a scarcity of supplies. The goods are bid with increased firmness, owing to the small stock and the fact that the price of the material there is still a demand for drills and duck for the army, but beyond this the market is generally quiet. In foreign goods there is some activity in trimmings and goods suited for the summer wear and traveling purposes, but not in quite such volume. The short credit system is to be inaugurated the 1st of July, by merchants do not seem desirous to purchase themselves of the few days left to purchase under the old system. In fact, most of them are not in a position to credit to do so.—N. Y. Express.

HYDRAULIC ROSE—Vulcanized rubber is not so much used as it once was, and will sell at a low price. The first purchase reaches \$250,000.

A CENTENARY.—The Register

General of England reports that the "widow of an author died, in Clifford's Inn, from degeneration of the mucus membrane of the stomach," whose age is reported to have been one hundred years and eight months. What a span this person's life included! She might have seen Garrick retire from the stage when she was sixteen—have met Sir Joshua chespening fish in Coventry street—have known all about the squabbles before the foundation of the Royal Academy. She was fourteen when Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" first appeared. George the Third's reign was a year old when she was born. A Grub street was still in existence—her husband, "the author," might have lived there; he might have been "Paddy's old woman." Hogarth died and "Mr. Pitt" still talked of intercepting the Spanish galleons. Her father might have known De Foe!

The "Tribune" acknowledges that the sensation Hott's letter, which it published a day or two since, was a forgery.

DIED.—On Sunday afternoon at half past three o'clock ROBERT WATSON, son of John and Ann Watson, aged 18 years, died at the residence of the parents of the deceased, at half past 3 o'clock this afternoon, No. 102 Washington street, Sixth Ward.

IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.—Great Union Patent Agency. ROBERT W. FENWICK, Counselor and Patent Agent AT WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.

REMARKABLE CURE.—A very simple remedy for the cure of all kinds of skin diseases, such as eczema, psoriasis, and other eruptions, is now available. It is a simple and effective treatment, and is highly recommended by medical authorities.

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GRAND CELEBRATION

FIREWORKS FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

W. R. HAY

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