

The Times & Journal

BY S. J. ROW.

CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1863.

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Battisman's Journal.

Mr. S. J. Row—Sir: You will confer an everlasting favor on me, by giving vent to my accompanying letter through your columns: DUTY.

It may now be said that another year has been annexed to the vast Eternity of years gone by, and with it many of our noblest and best citizens; some of whom have been bright and shining lights in society, and dear to our homes, and hearts, by all the ties that bind our affections to those we hold most dear.

Taking the example of our Great Master, who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications, with strong cries and tears unto Him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared, 'tho' he were a son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of Eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.

WHAT THEY ARE PREPARING TO DO.

From the Philadelphia Press. WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1862.—During the contest for the Presidency in 1860 I predicted that the Slaveholders would destroy the railroad between Baltimore and Washington in order to prevent the inauguration of a Republican Chief Magistrate.

POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES—1860.

Table with columns: STATES, WHITE, COLORED, FREE, SLAVE. Lists population for various states including Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, N. Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, N. Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, S. Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, Total.

Table with columns: TERRITORIES, COLORADO, DAKOTA, NEBRASKA, NEVADA, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WASHINGTON, DIST. COLUMBIA, Total. Lists population for various territories.

It will be seen by the foregoing that there are more free colored persons in the Slave States than in the Free States.

WAR UPON THE WORD "LADY."

The London Saturday Review thus execrably takes this word to pieces: "The silly euphemism of 'lady' for 'wife' has pretty nearly gone out of fashion. Probably it first arose from such phrases as 'Lord A. B. and lady,' much as one often speaks of a king and 'his queen.' But 'lady,' 'female,' or 'young person' have pretty nearly driven out the plain word 'woman,' which, by the light of nature, we should have thought needed a euphemistic substitute very much less than female."

Perhaps the two very oldest euphemisms which we have ever heard come in two sermons preached at the time of the Irish famine. In one, preached in the university pulpit, the divine talked about "that excrement which has recently failed." Now, if Moses and the prophets could talk straight-forwardly about leeks and onions and cucumbers, why on earth should not an English clergyman talk straight forwardly about potatoes?

The other instance was more eccentric still. The preacher told his flock that he had himself been in Ireland, and that the wretchedness of the people was so great that he had with his own eyes seen a woman yoked to a plow "along with an animal which decency forbade him to mention." His hearers were puzzled. What animal is there—especially what animal at all fit for drawing a plow—which decency forbids any one to mention? There is, indeed a noisome insect which may only be mentioned under the most general terms. There is also a quadruped, whose female form requires the most delicate circumlocutions, though the male is presentable by name in the best society. But the poor woman could hardly be yoked with a "lady-dog;" though, had the sermon been preached in America, it would have been quite possible to imagine her yoked with a "gentleman-cow." Some ingenious persons suggested a pig as an unclean beast; yet the mention of a pig is not commonly looked upon as a breach of decency. At last the best so delicately veiled turned out to be—a donkey! But why decency forbade the preacher to mention an animal which certainly fills an honorable place in both the Old and New Testaments, is, like Dr. Johnson's custom of collecting orange-peel, one of those problems whose depth can never be pierced by anything short of the inquisitiveness of a Boswell.

The Duke of Somerset, surnamed the Proud Duke, and of whom it is related that he rode all through Europe, without ever leaving back in his carriage, used to say, "That he pitted Adam, because he had no ancestors." "The man who has not anything to boast of but his illustrious ancestors," says Sir Thomas Overbury, "is like a potato—the only good belonging to him is under ground." "Matchless misery" is defined as having a cigar, and nothing to light it with. Second thoughts are best; man was God's first thought; a woman his second.

FRAUDS ON THE GOVERNMENT.

Upwards of \$700,000 Swindled Out of Government in New York City. Commissioners, appointed by the General Government, have been at work for several weeks past, in New York city and elsewhere, investigating alleged frauds upon the Government in connection with the raising and subsisting of volunteers, organizing of regiments, and other operations, from the commencement of the rebellion to the present time.

Mr. Olcott, the commissioner appointed for New York city, entered upon his investigations on the 1st of November last, and has already discovered frauds to the extent of \$700,000 perpetrated in that city, and the prospect is that they will reach double that amount before the investigation is finished. In order to give a clear idea of the mode, or rather the various modes, in which the Government has been swindled, it is necessary to go back to the beginning of the war. When the rebellion broke out Congress was not in session, and there was no appropriation by the General Government to defray the expenses of recruiting regiments of volunteers; consequently the expense connected with raising regiments had to be paid either by the colonel and regimental officers, by subscriptions of private individuals, or by donations from the Union Defence Committee. In the following August, however, during the extra session of Congress, \$20,000,000 were appropriated to recruit and organize volunteers, and the Adjutant-General of the United States Army was made the custodian of the fund. Mustering offices were established in the different cities, and at each office an army officer was appointed to disburse the moneys that were drawn from the general fund. The disbursing officer, appointed for New York city was Col. Sackett, of the regular army. The first sum received from the Adjutant-General was \$50,000, which was all disbursed in three or four days.

The second draft was for \$100,000, which was soon disbursed, and was the last received until the following November, when another installment of about the same amount was sent from Washington. The disbursements made at this time were principally for the subsistence and lodging of recruits after their enlistment, and pending the time of their going into camp; and it may be stated here that the regulations of the United States army had always been that bills for subsistence and lodging should be certified to by the recruiting officer, signed by the contractor, and endorsed as approved by the colonel commanding the regiment.

The contractors were of two kinds; first, general contractors, who took bids for the subsistence and lodging of recruits, and who gave sureties; and, second, special contractors, who were generally keepers of lager beer saloons and cheap boarding-houses, and who boarded and lodged recruits to the number of half a dozen, more or less, previous to their going into camp. These small contractors were anxious for the payment of their bills, and, being unable to get the money from the Government, they were driven into the hands of brokers to get them discounted. This class of men—whom we may call army brokers, and who figure more extensively than any other class as swindlers of the Government—commenced business in that city in December, 1861. They first did a legitimate business, but they soon found a way of increasing the size of their bills by alterations in the figures, and followed up this fraud by making fictitious bills which were vouched for by downright forgery.

On the 8th of December, 1861, Col. Sackett vacated his post as disbursing officer for that city, and was succeeded by Lieut. Col. Nichols, also of the regular army. Before Col. Sackett left he was in the habit of requiring affidavits from the special contractors of the correctness of their bills, and also employed as an additional guard against fraud, detectives to ascertain whether the affidavits were true. Lieutenant Colonel Nichols held the post of disbursing officer until June, 1862, when he was relieved by Captain Larned, who in turn gave way on the 26th of August last to Lieut. Colonel Reed, who now holds the position. During the latter part of Colonel Nichols' term, and all through the term of Captain Larned, the brokers were in full blast, and conducted their business with a recklessness of villainy that is perfectly astounding. They employed runners to visit lager-beer shops and boarding-houses, and any and every place where it could be ascertained that a recruit had ever eaten a meal or slept over night, and induce the keepers of these places, under various arts and pretences, (often by actual bribery,) to certify and swear to bills against the Government. Not satisfied with this, they employed clerks to manufacture bills out of whole cloth, and forged signatures to them. Mr. Olcott has in his possession over forty forged signatures to bills which have been verified as forgeries by the colonels and contractors whose names were used. Instances have been discovered where brokers have purchased claims of poor Germans for \$25, and on the following day have called at his place and got him to sign what purported to be a receipt, but which was in reality a fictitious bill for \$2,000. Their frauds have been

perpetrated mainly through the agency of ignorant German people, who could not read our language, and who were made to swear to a bill of a thousand dollars when they supposed it was only \$20, or to certify to the correctness of a large claim when they supposed they were signing a receipt for a small one. Some of this class of people, however, who had no claim against the Government, large or small, have been induced to certify and swear to bills through the agency of a bribe. Recruiting officers are also discovered to have played the same game. Instances have come to light where recruiting officers have induced lager-beer men to sign a bill for \$1,500 where the claim was only \$25, and the bills have been sworn to before a notary, who either through negligence, or because he was privy to the fraud, asked no questions, and in some cases did not even administer the oath. Cases have also turned up where the Union Defence Committee had paid the regular 40 cents per ration for recruits, and the contractor has been compelled to pay five cents for each ration to the colonel of the regiment, and 10 per cent. of his gross receipts to the quartermaster.

Mr. Olcott commenced his labors by investigating the frauds of the army brokers, and after disposing of these he was presented by the Secretary of War with a bill which had been paid at Washington, and was sworn to by a colonel of a New York regiment. The bill was accompanied by the names of a large number of sub-vouchers for the different items, all of which, except two, the Commissioner has discovered to be forgeries. A further investigation has brought to light the fact that this same colonel has swindled the Union Defence Committee, swindled private citizens, swindled the General Government, and swindled every one of his subordinate officers and privates, and that the sum total of his swindling cannot fall short of \$100,000. The wholesale frauds developed in this case have induced the Government to direct Mr. Olcott to investigate the transaction of each and every regiment raised in New York, where the circumstances connected with its organization are open to suspicion.

It is thought that nearly a thousand persons will be shown to have been implicated, directly or indirectly, in the frauds. Many of the men who have been trumpeted as martyrs to the system of "illegal and arbitrary arrests" are men who were sent to Fort Lafayette for these very frauds; and when their names come to be known, they will doubtless turn out to have been the most noisy defamers of the Government, and the swiftest to accuse everybody but themselves of robbing the public treasury.

There is another feature of the general system of swindling to which, it is said, the State and country have been subjected, almost ever since the offer of bounties for the enlistment of private soldiers was made. At first—that is, for a very few weeks—there was, at least, a show of honesty in drawing the exceeding liberal bounties offered to men to enlist; and, at that time, when a man enlisted he was taken to the quarters of the company or regiment into which he had enlisted, and there kept. That course, however, was not long generally pursued. The men, when enlisted and having received their bounties, would ask for a "pass" for a few days, to regulate their family affairs, and to spend the bounty money for what themselves or their families needed. This seemed proper enough at the time, but experience proved that many of the men thus let go did not return, and were, in consequence, marked as deserters. The system was then commenced by many officers of retaining a large portion of the bounty money, on granting a pass, in order to insure the return of the enlisted man. Those who had enlisted with the intention of going to the war, returned, of course, and claimed the remainder, of their bounty money. But there were many who did not; and it is at least remarkable that those who did not return very few have been arrested. Of the (about) six thousand men who received the bounties in the city of Brooklyn, and the immensely large number who received the bounties in New York, it is not believed that much more than one-half are now connected with the army by reason of their first enlistment.

It is also stated that there are men now in New York, in citizen's clothes, who have been enlisted from two to six times, under the several bounty acts, under different names, and who have never been arrested.

Artemus Ward says that "unless there's different management of the war right off, the American Flag will have to disguise itself as a Shanghai Rooster, and make tracks for Canada; while the Goddess of Liberty will have to go out doin' general housework at two dollars a week."

Two deacons were once disputing about the proposed site for a new graveyard, when the first remarked, "I'll never be buried in that ground as long as I live." "What an obstinate man," said the second, "if my life is spared I will." "Biddy," said a lady, "I wish you would step over and see how old Mrs. Jones is this morning." In a few minutes Biddy returned with the information that Mrs. Jones was just seventy-two years, seven months and two days old.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that the undersigned Auditor appointed by the Supreme Court of Clearfield county, to audit the accounts of the late Francis Levey, late of the township of Covington, Clearfield county, deceased, will attend to his duties as Auditor and hear all persons interested in said estate at the office of J. B. McEnally, on Saturday, the 30 day of January, A. D. 1863, at 2 o'clock p. m.

REGISTER'S NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that the following accounts have been examined and passed by me, and remain filed of record in this office for the inspection of heirs, legatees, creditors, and all others in any other way interested, and will be presented to the next Orphans' court of Clearfield county, to be held at the Court House, in the Borough of Clearfield, commencing on the second Monday of January, 1863, for confirmation and allowance:

The account of Hubert Levey Admistrator of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits which were of George Weaver, late of the township of Covington, Clearfield county, deceased. The final account of George Knarr, Jr., Administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of George Weaver, late of Brandy township, Clearfield county, deceased.

The final account of George Knarr, Jr., Administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of Charlotte Weaver, late of Brandy township, Clearfield county Pennsylvania, deceased.

AYER'S PILLS—Are you sick, feeble and complaining? Are you out of order with your system deranged and your feelings uncomfortable? These symptoms are often the preludio to serious illness.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Price 25 cents per box. Five boxes for \$1.

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THE MECHANICS AND MANUFACTURERS—No person engaged in any of the mechanical or manufacturing pursuits should think of doing without the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. It costs but four cents per week; every number contains from six to ten engraving of new inventions and inventions, which are not found in any other publication.

THE INVENTOR—The Scientific American is indispensable to every inventor, as it not only contains illustrated descriptions of nearly all the best inventions as they come out, but each number contains an Official List of the Claims of all the Patents issued from the United States Patent Office during the previous week; thus giving a correct history of the progress of inventions in this country. We are also receiving, every week, the best scientific journals of Great Britain, France, and Germany, thus placing in our possession all that is transpiring in mechanical science and art in those old countries.

TERMS.—To mail subscribers: \$3 a year, or One Dollar for four months. The volumes commence on the first of January and July. Specimen copies will be sent gratis to any part of the country.

Western and Canadian money or Post-office stamps taken at par for subscriptions. Canadian subscribers will please to remit twenty-five cents extra on each year's subscription to prepay postage.

NOTICE.—A meeting of the stockholders of the Western Central Railroad Company will be held at the office of the Secretary, in the Borough of Clearfield, on Monday, the 12th day of January, A. D. 1863, between the hours of 1 and 6 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of electing One person to act as President, and Twelve persons to act as Directors of said Company for the ensuing year. GEORGE B. BAILETT, President. L. J. Crans, Sec. Dec. 24 1862.

SHERIFF'S SALES.—By virtue of sundry writs of Venditioni Priorum, to place out of the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield county, and to me directed, there will be exposed to Public Sale, at the Court House, in the Borough of Clearfield, on Monday, the 12th day of January next, year 1863, at 1 o'clock, P. M., the following described Real Estate viz:

A certain tract of land situate in Ferguson township, Clearfield county Pennsylvania. Beginning at a Hemlock corner, thence by Benjamin Gibbs survey south 59 deg west 230 perches to a post, thence south 40 deg east 116 perches to a post and line of Cornelius Tubbs, and thence along line made between them north 50 deg east 230 perches to post, thence by John Tripler survey 50 deg east 190 perches to a post, on the west line of the north west half of survey in name of Mathias Barton, with about twenty-five acres cleared and log house and barn erected thereon. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Silas White.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Curwensville Borough, Clearfield county Pennsylvania, to wit: a lot of ground situate in the Borough of Curwensville, fronting sixty feet on Main street, and running back 200 feet to an alley. Bounded east by H. D. Patton, south by an alley, west by—street, and north by Main street, with a two story frame house thereon. Also—two lots fronting on Thompsons run, on the west side of an alley, and bounded by lands of Wm. Irvin, with a one and a half story dwelling house and wood house thereon erected. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Alfred Montelius, Edward Montelius and Wm. Tenkley trading as Montelius, Ten Eyck & Co.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Knox township, Clearfield county Pennsylvania. Containing one hundred acres more or less, situate in Knox township, with about thirty acres cleared, and a log dwelling house and log barn erected thereon, adjoining lands of Wm. Robertson and others. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Isaac P. Carson.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Goshen township, Clearfield county Pennsylvania. Containing about three hundred and fourteen acres, bounded by lands of—about twenty acres on the north, with a dwelling house, and having a log cabin-house erected thereon, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Wm. B. Hegarty.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Decatur township, Clearfield county, one piece known as the old place, bounded on the north by lands now in possession of Wm. Goss Jr., on the east by lands of George D. Morgan and lands of Walter Morgan on the south by lands of Daniel Albert, Jonathan Kephart, and George D. Morgan, and on the west by lands of George D. Morgan. Containing about two hundred acres more or less, having about one hundred and eighty acres of cleared land thereon, with a large story log house, a log barn, and other outbuildings, and having a large bearing orchard thereon.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Decatur township, Clearfield county Penna. bounded by the north of lands of George D. Morgan, on the east by lands of George D. Morgan, having about one hundred and fifty acres therein and being all cleared land or nearly so, with a good plank house, log barn and other outbuildings thereon, with a young bearing orchard thereon.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Decatur township, Clearfield county Penna. bounded by the north of lands of George D. Morgan & Co., east by lands of John Crane and others, and by lands of D. I. Pruner & Co. and others, and west by lands of Solomon Hammerslagh, containing about 200 acres, having about 140 acres cleared, with a two story log house and a log barn and other outbuildings, and a good orchard. Also a certain tract of log house and log barn and other outbuildings, and a good orchard. Also a certain tract of land of Kessler, Kopp, Hill and others. Containing eighty-six acres, with a good dwelling house erected and other outbuildings, with a good bearing orchard. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Abraham Goss, Sr.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Decatur township, Clearfield county Penna. bounded by the north of lands of George D. Morgan & Co., east by lands of John Crane and others, and by lands of D. I. Pruner & Co. and others, and west by lands of Solomon Hammerslagh. Containing about two hundred acres, having about one hundred and forty acres cleared land, and a two story log house and log barn and other outbuildings thereon erected, as the property of Abraham Goss. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of J. J. Lingle and Abraham Goss, Sr.

Also—A certain tract of land situate in Carters township, Clearfield county Pa., being the same tract of land which Ellis Irvin, Esq., High Sheriff of Clearfield county, by his deed dated the 2nd day of September 1841, conveyed to the said Francis McCoy the said tract being known as the Salt Lick Bend Tract, beginning at a hickory tree, thence north 39 deg east 68 perches to a white oak, thence north 31 deg east 298 perches to a chestnut oak, thence south 10 deg west 84 perches to a hickory on the west branch of the Susquehanna River, thence down the same by the several courses thereof 139 perches to a maple, thence north 31 deg west 329 perches to a hickory on a course of beginning. Containing 388 acres, and 40 perches of the usual allowance, being the same more or less comprising a good farm with about ninety acres cleared and in a good state of cultivation, with a good two story frame farm house, a good frame bank barn and other outbuildings thereon erected, and a young bearing orchard, besides 20 acres of River bottom cleared and in a high state of cultivation with two commodious two story frame dwelling houses, black smith shop, cabinet shop, frame barn and frame stable with other outbuildings, with two young and bearing orchards on this portion of the property, the whole being upon and comprised within the said 388 acres known as the Salt Lick Bend property. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Robert Gilliland and John Gilliland.

Also—A certain lot situate in Tezer Town or Newburg, Chest township, Clearfield county, Pa., bounded north by Main street 60 feet, and extending in depth 200 feet back to alley, with a two story Tavern house and stable erected thereon, now in occupancy of Wm. Worell. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Ezra Root. EDWARD PERKS, Sheriff. Sheriff's Office, December 10, 1862.

H. B. WOODS, Attorney at Law, Indiana, Pa. Professional business promptly attended to.