

RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.



BY SAMUEL J. BOW.

CLEARFIELD, PA., JAN. 14, 1863.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

We print in this week's *Journal*, Gov. Curtin's Message to the Pennsylvania Legislature. It is a plain and concise statement of the affairs of the Commonwealth during the past year. According to the Governor's statement the finances are in a much more healthy condition than for several years past—the State Administration having been guided by a just and liberal economy in the management of our fiscal concerns. The message will be read with much interest by every lover of his country. The *Philadelphia Press* in noticing the Message says:

"His Excellency the Governor had an interesting chapter of our State's history to write in his annual message. The year 1862 was one of the most thrilling and important we have ever known. In that time she has passed through the tumults and excitements consequent upon the great war—she has felt the foot of the invader upon her soil—she has been in conditions of preparation and alarm—she has suffered more from the rebellion than any Northern State, and we may say without any assumption of pride or superiority, that no State has done more to aid in the suppression of the rebellion. Her sons have followed the banner of the Union wherever it has floated. In South Carolina and North Carolina, in Virginia and Maryland, in Tennessee and Kentucky, they have borne the banner of their State, and shed their blood in defence of the nation. In every time of danger they have been ready, and in every time of sacrifice they have been unselfish and generous. Much of this devotion and bravery is due to the worthy magistrature who has presided over our destinies since the rebellion began—and it must have been with a feeling of deserved pride that he sat down to write the story of our Commonwealth's sufferings and glory.

MAILABLE MATTER.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, APPOINTMENT OFFICE, Jan. 3, 1863.—Many postmasters persist in sending through the mails packages of clothing, boots, &c., charging thereon only one cent an ounce postage. This is a palpable violation of the law and regulations with which every postmaster should be acquainted. The packages are held for the legal postage at the distributing office or offices of delivery, accumulating to such an extent as to be greatly annoying to those offices, and in a large majority of cases never reach the parties addressed, thus causing a loss to the parties sending. The law and regulations clearly define what is mailable matter, and prescribe what amount of postage is to be charged thereon; and further provide that all other matters of things, if sent by mail, are subject to letter postage.

To prevent further loss to parties interested, and the improper interruption of business at the large offices, all postmasters are required to make themselves acquainted with the laws and regulations relating to the postal service, and the mailing of packages hereafter of the character referred to by any postmaster, without the proper postage being prepaid by postage stamps, will be considered good cause for removal.

ALEXANDER W. RANDALL,
First Assistant Postmaster General.

LEGISLATIVE DEAD-LOCKS.

Dead-locks in Legislative bodies seem to be quite the rage. In the New York Assembly more than a week has elapsed without an organization being effected. Mr. Sherwood the Republican candidate for Speaker, receiving 63 votes all the time, and Mr. Dean, the Democratic member, 63 also. In the State of Indiana, the Senate is Republican, and the House Democratic—the former refuse to go into convention for the election of a U. S. Senator, and the House refuse to receive the Message of the Governor without the joint presence of the two Houses. In the Legislature of Missouri parties are so divided that neither has enough to elect a U. S. Senator, and so far no two have been able to effect a union upon any one candidate. Thus it will be seen, that dead-locks have quite a run all over the country.

Gov. MORROW, of Indiana, is said to have urged the Government to mount fifty regiments of infantry, to carry no sabres, and to retain their muskets or rifles and bayonets, using their horses for rapid marching. He insists that in this way only can our communications be protected, and such roving bands as Morgan's be driven out of the country. Morgan's men carry but few sabres, fight on foot, and have their horses for marching.

SUCCESSFUL EXPEDITION.—On the 7th instant, a party of cavalry and infantry was sent out from Yorktown, by Major Keys, and landed at West Point. On the morning of the 9th they returned with a large number of animals and eight wagon loads of produce. They destroyed the depot and rolling stock at White House, burnt a steamer and sloop, boats and barges, laden with grain, and sustained no loss whatever.

The train on which Gen. Butler was a passenger for Boston came in collision with another, on the morning of the 10th, and all the seats except those of the car in which he rode were smashed. The General escaped without injury.

A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT.

To set up a *source* as a source of truth, is a fine piece of blind man's assurance. And the variety of it consists in the haughty air of superiority and compassion which is assumed towards the philosophy that sees God, by this philosophy that *has to grope its way*. It makes one think of a mole exclaiming: "How they excite my pity with their prate about a sun!"—*Les Miserables*, 2 vol. p. 133.

If we could suppose the existence of an acquaintance between an author so little known to fame as the writer of the above work, and the exalted and illustrious editors of the *Clearfield Republican*, we would be constrained to believe that Victor Hugo, when he penned the paragraph quoted, had in his eye the individual who wrote the leader in the last number of that high-toned sheet, entitled "The Week of Prayer." If they have not, in that article, "set up a sense they lack, as a source of truth," it would be difficult to comprehend the expression. Their reputation for piety not having hitherto been very well established—one of them, on the contrary, being regarded as an infidel—it is the last source to which we would have looked for a homily on "prayer." Having in their preceding number religiously advised our soldiers to go into battle with "a deck of cards in one pocket and a Bible in the other"—making flings in nearly every issue of their paper at Christian ministers and the cause of religion—ever denouncing the Government, and to the extent of their ability and influence, encouraging those who are in rebellion against it—their qualifications to instruct Christians what they should and what they should not pray for, as well as the manner in which their supplications should be made, will doubtless readily be conceded! Bailey, in his celebrated poem of "Festus," records that Lucifer once preached a sermon in the market place of a village, and exhorted the bystanders, in most eloquent terms, to "seek salvation with prayers and tears." Having concluded his services by giving out a hymn and pronouncing a benediction, he remarked, in an aside, that "manner was a great matter, and he hoped he had done no good." After a precedent so illustrious, it would perhaps be unwise to find too much fault with our neighbors over the way. DeFoe says of this same Devil, in his History, that "he once threw a three-legged stool at the service-book in the person of an old woman, and animated the zealous people to take up arms for religion, and turn rebels for God's sake." He seems to be repeating the operation at the present day, in the persons of the "ancient dames" of the *Republican*.

The canting hypocrisy of this article is too apparent and disgusting to be worthy of serious consideration. That a paper which weekly contains the most outrageous attacks upon the officers of the Government, and all who support and sustain them—denouncing them as "Jacobins," "traitors," "splunderers," and "abolitionists"—charging them with prosecuting "a war that cannot possibly result in any good," "for a purpose abhorrent to our race, if not transgressive of God's law"—should prate about "uncharitableness," and undertake to define the proper state of heart in which a Christian should approach a Throne of Grace, exhibits a degree of audacity hitherto without a precedent!

This, however, is not the only specimen of theological ability which these editors have condescended to give to the public. It is well known that they have long since solved the great problem of human slavery by pronouncing it a "Divine Institution!" Their polemical disquisitions upon this subject have been so frequent, and doubtless, so familiar to our readers, that it is unnecessary to make quotations. In a recent number they paid the high compliment to the Methodist Church of saying that "a large number" of her clergymen, "as well as most of the other denominations, have spent their time in preaching politics, endeavoring to make citizens out of persons of African descent, and in their ungodly attempt to improve the works of the Almighty, have succeeded in splitting the Union!"—charging them also with "devoting their time and talents in a common effort to destroy religion and liberty!" The members of the Methodist Church, "and most other denominations," will no doubt be sufficiently "charitable" to appreciate this compliment, and will be ready to accept with gratitude the advice and instructions of its authors as to the subjects and mode of prayer.

If the spirit of the other articles in the same number of their paper was not diametrically the opposite of this sanctimonious production, it might be supposed these editors had repented, and in "faith believing" had presented themselves at the Mercy Seat. We have looked in vain, however, for that spirit of humility, charity and universal love which betokens the true penitent. Instead, we find, side by side with this article on Prayer, a tissue of abuse and misrepresentation of all who are in authority. So far from following their own advice, and praying that "the rulers of our nation might be blessed with wisdom," &c., they accuse the Administration with being "mad" and "infatuated," and predict that the Government is about to "raise the Black Flag" and show neither mercy nor quarter." Before undertaking to dictate to their "praying friends," they should bring forth "fruits meet for repentance." We are not of the number of those who pretend to more piety than our neighbors; but if we have any proper conception of the genius and spirit of Christianity, we can regard as nothing less than the profanation of God's altar, the worship of that man who, in his "heart of hearts," sympathizes with the enemies of the country to which he owes allegiance—who uses all his efforts, within the sphere of his influence, to damage that country's cause—who expresses regret when her enemies fall victims to the war which they have themselves invoked, but has no tears to shed over the brave men who have perished in defence of that country's flag. Whatever we may think of Slavery, Government is a "Divine Institution," and one of the greatest lessons taught by Christ and his

Apostles was implicit obedience to properly constituted authority. "Speaking evil of rulers and magistrates" has ever been deemed a heinous sin by all Christian denominations. Until the editors of the *Republican* give evidence of the sincerity of their repentance, by "a chaste walk and an upright conversation," we apprehend the praying community will look to a different source for counsel and advice.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Congress reassembled on Monday the 5th of January. IN THE SENATE, after petition, the coast survey report was received. The Secretary of War answered that no citizen had ever been required to take oath not to bring suit against those who arrested him, as a condition of discharge. Bills were noticed to promote the efficacy of artillery in the army; to prevent correspondence with the Rebels; to reserve from sale military sites in the Rebel States; to tax bank bills. Information was requested as to the number of desertions from the army, and what punishment has been inflicted; as to the expediency of consolidating regiments in field so as to bring them up to 1,020 men each; and as to modifying duty on paper. The bill from the House to raise volunteers for the defense of Kentucky was discussed, and recommended to the Committee on Military Affairs. The Bankrupt bill was then taken up, the question pending on the amendment of Mr. Doolittle to exempt homestead from execution, in accordance with the laws of the different States. Without disposing of the subject, the Senate went into Executive Session. IN THE HOUSE, the bill to abrogate treaties with the Sioux was passed, 78 to 17. A bill was proposed to prevent the admission to the rolls of Congress of names of members elected under special proclamations of Generals or Military Governors. It provides that the Clerk shall enter the names only of those who present certificates of election duly authenticated by the Governors of the loyal States; that from the passage of this act a quorum of each House shall consist of a majority of those elected from the loyal States; in counting the electoral vote, the same rule is to be observed, and no State shall be counted excepting those represented in Congress at the time of the Presidential election. A bill was offered providing for Governments in any Rebel sections until the loyal people could reestablish regular officers. Leave was asked to introduce a joint resolution approving, ratifying and affirming the Emancipation Proclamation. Bills were introduced for the survey of swamp lands in California; to set apart land for railroads in Washington Territory; for a State Government in Colorado; to provide means for the support of the Government. Resolutions were offered to examine into Indian affairs; and to inquire into the loss of the Monitor. There was a discussion concerning the payment of the stocks 1842, but no vote. The Diplomatic appropriation bill was brought in. After discussing the Executive appropriation bill, the House adjourned.

In Senate, on January 6th, the bill to suspend temporarily the act to prevent and punish fraud on the part of officers entrusted with making contracts for the Government was reported back and put upon its passage, but after discussion was postponed. The joint resolution to hurry up the pay of soldiers and sailors was referred to the Finance Committee. The bill concerning the discharge of State prisoners was taken up, and Mr. Wright spoke against the amendment to strike out the section authorizing the President to suspend the writ of habeas corpus. No vote was taken. A bill was introduced providing for greater comfort for sick and wounded soldiers. IN THE HOUSE, the Select Committee on Emancipation reported back a bill to aid Missouri in securing the abolition of Slavery therein. It provides for the issue of ten millions of thirty-year bonds, payable to loyal owners, the Government pledging itself to the redemption and colonization of the freedmen. The Pro-Slavery members were thrown into great excitement, and used every means in their power to defeat, delay, or weaken the bill; but they were unsuccessful, and it was adopted by 73 against 46. The Committee of Ways and Means were instructed to inquire into the expediency of issuing Treasury Notes bearing 3.55 interest, the amount issued to be equal to the amount of Tender Notes in circulation, and such other sums as the demand of the public service for the current year shall require, under certain regulations. A bill was passed to allow certain articles not now available to be sent to the soldiers in the army by their friends at home, on book-postage rates, one cent per ounce. The remainder of the session was spent in discussion upon the Executive Appropriation bill.

In Senate on January 7th, a bill in relation to bounties to volunteers was passed. A bill was introduced to pay Minnesota for suppressing Indian hostilities. A bill respecting the Judiciary system was referred. Also a bill to prevent correspondence with Rebels; also to regulate the appointment of midshipmen; also for the protection of overland emigrants; also to repeal the law authorizing the appointment of Rear Admirals and Commodores on the retired list. Mr. Field spoke on the bill relative to the discharge of State prisoners. The bill authorizing the President to issue letters of marque was referred to the Naval Committee. The bill to forfeit the pay of absent officers was discussed; Mr. Wilson said there were 7,800 now absent, with and without leave. The bill was passed. IN THE HOUSE the subject of introducing Homeopathy into the army doctoring was dropped. A joint resolution was passed that each State shall have credit, in enumerating the number of soldiers enrolled for all enlistment in the navy. The resolution denouncing Gen. Grant for expelling Jews from his army, was laid on the table. A resolution of thanks to Gen. Butler was proposed—Vallandigham's followers opposed it, and it was laid over. The Bankrupt bill was discussed, and a motion to

lay it on the table was voted down—Yeas 69, Nays, 66. It was postponed till the 15th.

In the United States Senate on Jan. 8th, a joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Rosecrans and his army was referred to a Committee. The bill to tax bank circulation was discussed, Mr. Sherman making an elaborate speech. The bill concerning the discharge of State prisoners gave Mr. Sausberry a chance to make a pro-Slavery speech, after which the Senate adjourned. In the House a bill was offered to increase the efficiency of the Commissary Department. The House refused to adjourn because it was the 8th of January. The great Ways and Means bill for the support of the Government was reported (nothing yesterday.) The resolution of thanks to Gen. Butler for his able, energetic, and humane administration of the Department of the Gulf, passed by a vote of 83 against 28. The Committee on Military Affairs were requested to consider the expediency of a bill requiring an increase of the amount of bonds of paymasters, and other restrictions and penalties. A Special Committee was appointed to attend to the matter of compensation to loyal citizens in rebellious districts. In Committee on the Executive Appropriation bill, a running debate, involving national questions, took place between Messrs. Stevens, Dunlop, Thomas of Massachusetts, Olin, Lovejoy, and others.

In the United States Senate on January 9th a bill was reported to authorize the President to negotiate treaties with certain tribes of Indians. A bill was introduced to construct a ship canal for the passage of naval and armed vessels from the Mississippi River to Lake Michigan, and to enlarge the lock of the Erie and Oswego Canals of New-York, to adapt them to the defense of the North-Western Lakes. Notice was given of a bill to aid West Virginia in abolishing Slavery. The resolution censuring Gen. Grant for expelling the Jews from his army was laid on the table—the order having been revoked by the President's direction. The bill concerning the punishment of criminals in the District of Columbia was passed. A bill in regard to suits against officers making arrests or holding prisoners of State was referred. After discussing while the Kentucky Volunteers bill, the Senate adjourned. In the House a bill for a branch mint at Nevada was introduced. Mr. Stevens reported the Post-Office Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Wednesday. The House, in Committee, resumed the consideration of the Executive, Judicial and Legislative Appropriation bill. Several amendments were made, including a proviso to the clause making appropriation for the compensation of mileage of members, that until further legislation no part of this appropriation shall be paid for the mileage of Senators and Representatives beyond the sum of 10 cents per mile each way, and the distance shall be computed according to existing laws. The bill then passed. Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill was next considered and adopted. The House then went into general debate, in Committee of the Whole.

A MYSTERY.—Mr. Peter Van Devander, of Petersburg, Huntingdon county, Pa., in company with one or two others, started to hunt deer, on Thursday Jan. 1st, in "Diamond Valley," in the neighborhood of Barre Forge, and soon after reaching the hunting ground the party separated with the understanding that they would meet at some given point in the evening. The others were there at the appointed time, and Mr. Van Devander not coming, his comrades started home, and upon their arrival found that he had not reached there. Not arriving that night search was made for him, but without success, until Sunday last, when his lifeless body was found in the woods with a bullet hole in the head. His gun was still loaded when found, leaving no other conclusion to be arrived at than that he was foully dealt with. The deceased leaves a wife and several children.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements set in large type, cuts, or out of usual style will be charged double prices for space occupied.

To insure attention, the CASH must accompany notices, as follows:—All Cautions with \$1. Strays, \$1; Auditors' notices, \$1.50; Administrators' and Executors' notices, \$1.50 each; and all other transient Notices at the same rates. Other advertisements at \$1 per square, for 30 or less insertions. Twelve lines (or less) count a square.

NOTICE.—All persons are hereby notified not to meddle with the following named property, now in the possession of William Luther of Woodlawn township, viz:—one cooking stove and tensile, three bedsteads and bedding, one set of chairs, and household furniture, as said property belongs to me and he only has in loan.

ROBERT ALEXANDER,
Woodward township, January 12th 1862.

CAUTION.—All persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing or meddling with the following property in the possession of Abednego Caskey, of Becarris township, to wit: 1 Bay horse; 2 mares, one dun and one bay; 1 4-horse broad-wheeled wagon, three set of horse-gears or harness, &c., as the same belongs to me and have only been left with said Caskey on loan—subject to my order.

A. G. FOX,
Smith's Mills, January 7, 1863.

LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Post Office at Clearfield, on January 1st, 1863. Armstrong, Geo. Ellinger, Miss Jane 3. Beady, Alex. 2. Fox, David 2. Barber, Wm. Esq. Rhodes, Miss Sarah 2. Ball, Chas. C. Robison, John 2. Brown, J. W. Esq. Streun, G. W. Bauder, James Wagner, Miss Henrietta Dixon, George Persons calling for letters will please say that they are advertised. M. A. FRANK, P. M.

VALUABLE PROPERTY AT PRIVATE SALE.—The undersigned is desirous of selling his farm situate in Penn township, Clearfield county, Pa., one mile from Pennville, on the road leading to Punxsutawney, containing one hundred acres and allowance. Sixty acres of said land are cleared and in a high state of cultivation, of which 25 acres are in meadow. There is erected on the premises a comfortable 1 1/2 story dwelling house, a good barn and other necessary out-buildings. There is also a quantity of most excellent Pine and other timber on the land. A clear and indisputable title will be given. Terms—one fourth in hand, and the balance in three equal annual payments secured by mortgage or judgment bonds. For further information apply to the subscriber residing on the premises. THOMAS M. MARTIN.
Penn tp., January 14, 1863-31.