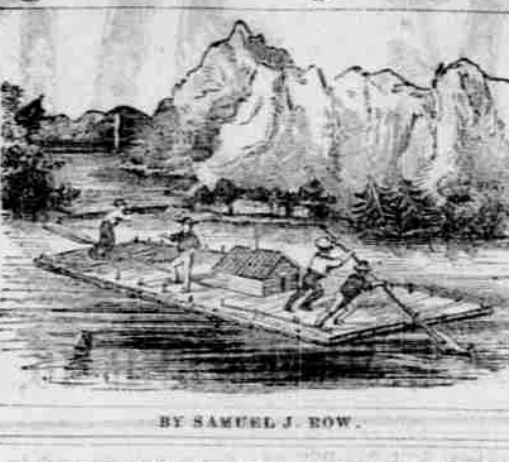


Raftsmen's Journal.



BY SAMUEL J. ROW.

CLEARFIELD, PA., DEC. 16, 1863.

MEETING OF CONGRESS.

Both Houses of Congress assembled on Monday a week. The galleries were densely crowded long before the hour for the opening of the session arrived. The Vice President, Mr. Hamlin, called the Senate to order at noon. Rev. Mr. Sunderland offered a prayer expressing the gratitude of the country, that though the storm drives the Republic still lives.

Mr. Davis, from Kentucky, raised the question as to the right of the gentlemen from West Virginia to take their seats. He held that there was constitutionally and legally no such State as West Virginia, and there could be, therefore, no Senators from such State. After further debate, Mr. Davis, as a test question, moved that the oath of office be administered to the gentleman from West Virginia. The motion was carried—yeas 36, nays 5. Mr. Buckalew, of Pennsylvania, voted with the nays. Mr. Lane, of Indiana, gave notice of the introduction of bills to repeal the \$300 commutation feature of the enrollment act, and to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the army fifty per cent. The Senate adjourned.

THE HOUSE.—At noon Mr. Etheridge, the Clerk, rapped the members to order, and said, this being the time designated by the Constitution of the United States for the meeting of the Thirty-eighth Congress, he would now proceed to call the roll of members, and of such only whose credentials show that they were regularly elected, in accordance with the laws of their States respectively, or the laws of the United States. The Clerk then read the roll of members from all the States excepting Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Oregon, Missouri and Kansas. After some debate the gentleman from all the excepted States were admitted to seats. The next important business before the House was the election of a speaker. The Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Union, from Indiana, was elected on the first ballot. Whole number of votes cast 181, necessary to a choice 91.

Mr. Colfax, 101 Mr. Mallory, 7
Mr. Cox, 42 Mr. Stebbings, 7
Mr. Dawson, 12 Mr. Blair, 2
Mr. King, 5 Mr. Stiles, 1

The announcement of Mr. Colfax's election was greeted with vociferous applause. Mr. Colfax, on taking the chair, said: GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—To-day will be marked in American history as the opening of a Congress destined to face and settle the most important questions of the country, and during whose existence the rebellion, which has passed its culmination, will, beyond all question, thanks to our Army and Navy and Administration, die a deserved death. Not only will your constituents watch with the strictest scrutiny your deliberations here, but the friends of liberty, to the most distant lands, will be interested spectators of your acts.

In this greater than Roman forum, I invoke you to approach these grave questions with the calm thoughtfulness of statesmen, freeing your discussions from that acerbity which nays instead of advances, legislation, and with unshaken reliance on that Divine Power which gave victory to those who formed this Union, and can give even greater victory to those who are seeking to save it from destruction by the hand of the parricide and traitor. I invoke you, also, to remember that sacred truth which all history verifies, that "they who rule not in righteousness shall perish from the earth."

Thanking you with a grateful heart for this distinguished mark of your confidence and regard, and appealing to you all for that support and forbearance by the aid of which alone I can hope to succeed, I am now ready to take the oath of office, and enter upon the duties you have assigned me.

The balance of the proceedings of the day were in regard to the admission of members claiming seats from Louisiana and the territories.

On Tuesday very little was done in the Senate. In the House Hon. Edward McPherson, of Pennsylvania, was elected Clerk.

On Wednesday, the President's Message was read in both houses of Congress. It is worthy of remark here, that most of the Border State men voted with the Republicans for Hon. Schuyler Colfax, for Speaker of the House.

Dec. 10.—In the Senate, notice was given of a bill to encourage volunteers in the Naval service, crediting all such to the military quota of the states. Mr. Sumner gave notice of a bill to repeal all acts for the giving up of fugitive slaves. Adjourned to Monday.

In the House, notice was given of a bill to facilitate the payment of bounties due on account of deceased soldiers. Mr. Pemberton gave notice of a bill to admit Members of the Cabinet to the Senate and House with the right to debate matters touching their several departments. The Treasury Report was handed in. The House elected a Chaplain; the Rev. Wm. H. Channing, Unitarian, had 80 votes; Bishop Hopkins of Vermont, author of a Bible Deacon of slavery, had 55; Mr. Channing was declared elected. Adjourned to Monday.

At Booneville, Missouri, two hundred negro men were brought in by their owners to be enrolled in the army at \$300 per man. So it is in many other parts of the State. They are flocking into the recruiting stations by hundreds, and will number thousands before the draft takes place.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We this week occupy a large portion of our space with the President's Third Annual Message. It is one of the most important documents of the times, and will be read with much interest by all classes. The President treats the various subjects in a terse, pointed and pleasing, and, no doubt, satisfactory manner, to loyal men generally. Perhaps, not in the history of our country, has it fallen to the lot of any statesman to speak in a crisis more momentous, or to deal with questions of a graver import, or of a more varied character, than the President was called upon to do in this instance.

The President sets forth the cheering fact, that our relations with Europe are of the most amicable nature—that foreign nations are settling down to a really neutral position in reference to our intestine difficulties—that all questions arising out of the blockade have been satisfactorily arranged—that the treaty in reference to the African slave trade has been ratified by Great Britain—that the question of the coast rights of Cuba, and seizure of property by Chilean naval officers, which have been under discussion for some time, are leading to a favorable adjustment.

The course pursued by some of the naturalized citizens of the United States, in connection with our military operations, is referred to by the President. It appears that many naturalized citizens deny their naturalization to escape service in the army—and that many come to this country and are naturalized to escape taxation and service in other countries. The President thinks that Congress should adopt some measures to prevent this species of fraud. Congress is also urged to establish some system by which to encourage emigration to the United States.

The heavy demands upon the Treasury, and the successful operations of Secretary Chase in raising the means to pay all the troops in the field, are a source of gratification, and shows forth the great resources of the country, as well as the great alacrity with which those resources are made available. The National Banking Law is also deemed a complete success.

The army and navy are highly spoken of. Our armies now surpass those of any other nation, and our navy is equal to nearly the combined navies of the world, while our military resources are of an almost inexhaustible character.

The postal system, heretofore a heavy expense to the Government, is now really self-supporting—and the revenue from the sale of public lands, which was materially lessened at the commencement of the rebellion, is beginning to assume its former importance, by an increased sale of lands.

The rebellion is treated at some length by the President, who seems determined to bring it to a successful close, by adhering to the policy enunciated in the Emancipation Proclamation, and the several acts of Congress. While the President is thus firm on this subject, he offers terms of peace to all who will throw down their arms and acknowledge the authority of the Government of the United States, by subscribing to an oath of allegiance.

Upon the whole the message is an able State paper—dignified, frank, brief and comprehensive, and the policy enunciated therein will have much to do with the "weal or woe" of the future of our country—with the success or unsuccessful working-out of the great problem of popular government.

LABOR WELL PAID.—There is no country in the world where labor is so well paid as in the United States at the present time. The demand for skilled labor is so great as in a measure to defeat the requirements of the armies in the field, and a competition arises between the employers and the Government for the possession of this labor. States and cities, to induce volunteering to raise their required quota, have to increase the amount of the bounties, and employers, to retain their men, have to add to the amount of their wages. These high prices and high bounties are, however, not only attracting large numbers of emigrants from Europe, but the British Provinces are sending quite a large portion of their laboring population to this country. In the army or in the workshop they will find their services adequately paid.

Can anybody tell us why it is that we are denounced as "traitors," "rebel sympathizers," &c., by men who, in former days, cordially agreed with us on all converted questions touching the relative powers of the Federal and State Governments?—Copperhead organ.

Most certainly. In times of peace all were for the Union—now, in times of war, we are divided into two classes, to wit: War men and Anti-war men—Unionists and Secessionists—Loyalists and Rebels—Patriots and Traitors. Those who agreed with you heretofore, we presume, hold to the former class, whilst they consider you as favoring the latter, and hence, the designation of "traitors," and "rebel sympathizers." Do you see? It is plain.

MAXIMILIAN is getting ready to start for his new empire. A Vienna letter of November 17 says: "The captain of the steamer Elizabeth has received orders to be prepared to take the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian and the Archduchess Charlotte to Mexico, and it is probable that the frigate Schwarzenberg and the sloop Frederick will accompany the above mentioned vessel to her destination."

"Now, we are perfectly sure that our ideas and principles have undergone no change."—Copperhead organ.

Not recently, sure. For your ideas long since centered on the "nigger," and your principles dwindled into Secesh sympathy.

Gurley, the guerrilla who murdered General McCook of Ohio, is on trial at Nashville. Gurley pleaded not guilty, but outside of the Court admits having shot McCook.

"The 'stray sheep' that has broken into the editorial pasture of our neighbor."—Copperhead organ.

Pray, whose ass does your braying?

"ACKNOWLEDGE THE CORN."

In their issue of December 9th, the editors of the copperhead organ, in this place, admit that "Patriotism can take no Democrat (i. e. Copperhead) to the field." This is just what we have frequently intimated. Whilst Butler, Burnside, Dix, Corcoran, Steadman, Rotecrans, and a host of others, are found in the Union army battling against treason, such men as Woodward, Lowrie, Frank Hughes, Vallandigham, the editors of the Republican, etc., remain at home and try to create discussions among the people to aid the rebels. The first named are true and patriotic Democrats—the others will copperheads. The former are trying to restore the authority of the Constitution over the States in open rebellion—the latter, so far as their puny efforts go, are hindering the consummation of that much desired end—"Patriotism can take no (copperhead) to the field," but the "nigger" could, according to the declaration of the editors of the Republican. If the war was for the enslavement of the whole black race in the United States, (we infer from their language,) then they, (the editors,) would be found in the front ranks of the army. Yes, they would not then say "Go!" but "Come, boys, to the rescue of our glorious inheritance!"—the "nigger." Well, we do not envy you your "glorious inheritance," if such it be. You have long hugged it to your bosoms, and are welcome to it. In the language of Governor Bramlette, your "thoughts linger in the shadow of the negro," and not in the salvation of the Government under which you live. A "glorious inheritance," indeed—plenty of "niggers" and a divided Union, rather than a restored Government without them. Alas! poor Cops! what will you do should Governor Bramlette's prognostication—that the destruction of slavery may be the result of the war, "come true? Would it not, in that event, be advisable for you to emigrate to Africa where you could revel in your "glorious inheritance" unmolested? To that kingdom where to Lloyd Garrison would haunt your dreams by night, nor a Wendell Phillips your thoughts by day? To that region where no "Union as it was" need be restored, because no traitor hands have been raised to destroy it, or trample its flag in the dust? To the realm where the King of Dahomey still rules unopposed over his sable subjects, and where no "patriotism" would be required to take you "to the field" of battle? Oh! what a "glorious inheritance"—what sweet elysian possessions—a perfect paradise, that must be! Long may live the King of Dahomey, and the editors of the Republican be his "profits."

THE WAR NEWS.

We have had very little news of interest from our armies within the last week. The Army of the Potomac is still in its old quarters on the north side of the Rapidan. A band of rebel guerrillas visited Lovettsville on the 8th, but done very little damage.

Longstreet has raised the siege of Knoxville, and has retired to Morristown, where it is said he will make a stand. The rebels admit a loss of 600 in their attack on Knoxville.

The siege of Charleston continues, but nothing of importance has transpired lately. During the storm on the 6th the iron-clad Dew-haven sunk suddenly at her anchorage off Morris Island, with 30 of her crew on board. No other vessels were injured.

A daring act of piracy was committed off Cape Cod on Monday the 7th. The steamer Chesapeake was seized by 17 seecah passengers, who had gone on board at New-York. The chief engineer and mate were wounded, the second engineer killed and thrown overboard, and the balance of the crew were landed at St John's, N. B. The vessel and cargo are valued at \$180,000. Latest advices report the vessel at St. Mary's, destitute of coal, where, it is to be hoped, she will be re-taken. This is the most daring act of piracy that has occurred during the war.

The Cleveland Leader states that the son of John C. Breckenridge, who was taken prisoner at Chattanooga, accompanied the escort of the bodies of Colonel Creighton and Grano, as far as Nashville, and that in conversation with Sergeant-Major Tisdell, he declared himself in favor of the Union. He said that he had been forced into the Confederate service by his father. The young man thinks it would be only necessary to put down the leaders of the rebellion to secure a prompt and honorable peace. This statement is made on the authority of Major Tisdell, who had the conversation with young Breckenridge.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

To insure attention, the CASH must accompany notices, as follows—All Callings 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 3 or less insertions. Twelve lines (or less) count a square.

FODDER CUTTERS—of a superior make—for sale at reasonable prices, at MERRELL and EIGLER'S, Clearfield, Pa.

IN THE MATTER of the Estate of Benjamin B. Boushall, late of Brady Township, Clearfield County, deceased.—The undersigned who was duly appointed Auditor to distribute the money remaining in the hands of Lever Legal Exec. Administrator, will attend to the duties of his appointment, at his office in the Borough of Clearfield, on Thursday the 24th day of December 1863, at 10 o'clock A. M., of said day, when and where all persons interested may attend if they see proper.

T. J. McCULLOUGH, Auditor.

THE ESTATE OF ISAAC KLINE, DECEASED.

Clearfield County, ss: in the matter of the Estate of Isaac Kline, deceased, the appointment of the Personal Estate of said deceased, set out to the widow on her claim of \$300, on the 24 day of November 1863, read and confirmed N. S. and the Court ordered that publication be made in one of the newspapers published in said County notifying all persons interested that unless exceptions are filed on or before the first day of the next term the same will be confirmed absolutely. By the Court, Nov. 25, 1863. I. G. BARBER, Clerk of C. C.

WANTED.—A man to dig and put out 3 to 4,000 bushels of coal. Highest cash price will be paid by IRVIN BROTHERS, Burnettsville, Pa.

JOHN WANTED.—A good sober, industrious journeyman, Cabinet-maker, and constant employment, at good wages, by applying soon to JOHN GUELLICK, Clearfield, Pa. Sept. 16, 1863.

NOTICE TO COLLECTORS OF STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.—The Collectors of taxes for 1863 and previous years, will take notice that any exemptions will be granted by the Board of Commissioners on or before the 24th day of December, A. D. 1863. Collectors neglecting this notice will be compelled to pay the full amount on their duplicates. By order of the Board, Nov. 25th 1863. W. S. BRADLEY, Clerk.

LOST.—A woolen Carpet sack, somewhere between Salona, Clinton county, and Curwensville, on the 7th or 8th of November—supposed to be lost between Philipsburg and Curwensville. The sack contained a valuable black shawl and a number of other articles. The finder will be liberally rewarded by leaving the same at the office of, or Dr. Foster's in Philipsburg. Journal office, or at Dr. Foster's in Philipsburg. Nov. 25, 1863-pd. MARY McNAUL.

CAUTION.—As my son Samuel left me with out any just cause, I hereby caution all persons against harboring or employing him. Any person harboring or employing him without my consent, will be held accountable for such amount of wages as he is able to earn; and no debts contracted by him will be paid by me unless countersigned by the undersigned. WM. CALDWELL, December 2, 1863-3p.

AUCTIONEER.—The undersigned having been licensed an Auctioneer, would inform the citizens of Clearfield county that he will attend to calling sales, in any part of the county, whenever called upon. Charges moderate. Address, JOHN McQUEEN, May 13. Bower Post, Clearfield co., Pa.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—All persons interested in the estate of Howard Ferguson, late of Lumber city deceased, have this day been issued to the undersigned. All persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment, and all persons claiming against the same will present their claims for settlement. ELIZA FERGUSON, Executrix. JOHN PATTON, Exr. October 27, 1863-pd.

MILINERY & FANCY STORE.

MRS. H. D. WELSH, RESPECTFULLY ANNOUNCES TO THE LADIES of Clearfield and vicinity that she has opened a Millinery, Notion and Trim-mings store, on Second street, next door to Mrs. Lanich's Hotel, where she will be happy to receive orders for either work or goods. Old Bonnets made over into the latest New York and Philadelphia styles, on short notice. By purchasing of her, ladies will save time and money. Very latest styles of Dress Trimmings, Hosiery, Ribbons, Hoops, Collars, Sleeves, &c., which she will sell at the smallest possible profit for cash. Clearfield, Pa. Nov. 18, 1863.

RELIEF NOTICE.—The Board of Relief for the county of Clearfield, will meet at the Commissioners' office in Clearfield, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 23rd and 24th days of December, A. D. 1863.

The Board of Relief have directed that the wife of the soldier must appear before the board, and produce her sworn statement, detailing name of soldier, regiment and company, and when enlisted; the number of children, and the age and sex of each; the township in which they resided at the time of enlistment, and their present residence; and that she is without the means of support for herself and children, and is dependent upon her husband. Two witnesses of credibility from the township in which she resides, must also be produced, whose certificate (sworn to before the Board of Relief) must set forth that the applicant is the person she represents herself to be, that the statement of the number and age of her family is true, that she is in destitute circumstances, and her family in actual want, and that all the facts set forth in her application are correct and true. Forms containing the above regulations can be obtained at the Office of the Board of Relief, when application is made and the witnesses appear. N. B. Finesness of the applicant, properly proven, will excuse personal attendance. WM. S. BRADLEY, Clerk. Nov. 4, 1863.

U. S. 5-20'S.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY has not yet given notice of any intention to withdraw the popular Loan from sale at Par, and until ten days notice is given, the subscription of the U. S. 5-20'S. AGENT, will continue to supply the public.

The whole amount of the Loan authorized is Five Hundred Millions of Dollars. NEARLY FORTY HUNDRED MILLIONS HAVE BEEN ALREADY SUBSCRIBED FOR AND PAID INTO THE TREASURY, mostly within the last seven months. The large demand from abroad, and the rapidly increasing home demand for use as a circulating medium, by the National Banking Association, and by all parts of the country, will, in a very short period, absorb the balance. Sales have lately ranged from ten to fifteen millions weekly, frequently exceeding the entire amount of the Loan. It is well known that the Secretary of the Treasury has ample and unfailing resources in the Duties on Imports and Internal Revenue, and in the issue of the Interest Bearing, Legal Tender Treasury Notes. It is almost impossible, therefore, to find it necessary, for a long time to come, to seek a market for any other long or permanent Loans, THE INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL OF WHICH ARE PAYABLE IN GOLD.

Prudence and self interest must force the minds of those contemplating the formation of National Banking Associations, as well as the minds of all who have idle money on their hands, to the prompt conclusion, that they should lose no time in subscribing to this most popular Loan. It will soon be beyond their reach, and advance to a handsome premium, as was the result with the "Seven Thirty" Loan, when it was all sold and could no longer be had for par. It is a SIX PER CENT LOAN, THE INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL PAYABLE IN GOLD, THIS YIELDING OVER NINE PER CENT PER ANNUM at the present rate of premium on gold.

The Government requires all duties on imports to be paid in Coin; these duties have for a long time past amounted to over a Quarter of a Million of Dollars daily, a sum nearly three times greater than that required in the payment of the interest on all the 5-20's, and other permanent Loans. It is hoped that the surplus coin in the Treasury, at no distant day, will enable the United States to resume specie payments upon all liabilities.

The Loan is called 5-20 from the fact that whilst the Bonds may run for 20 years, yet the Government has a right to pay them off in gold at par, at any time after 5 years.

THE INTEREST IS PAID HALF-YEARLY, viz: on the first days of November and May. Subscribers can have Compound Bonds, which are payable to bearer, and are \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1000; or Registered Bonds of same denominations, and in addition, \$5000, and \$10,000. For Banking purposes and for investments of Travellers the Registered Bonds are preferred.

These 5-20's cannot be taxed by States, cities, towns or counties, and the Government tax on them is only one-and-a-half per cent. on the amount of income when the income of the holder exceeds Six Hundred dollars per annum. All other investments, such as income from Mortgages, Railroad Stock and Bonds, etc., must pay from three to five per cent tax on the income.

Banks and Bankers throughout the Country will continue to dispose of the Bonds, and all orders by mail, or otherwise, promptly attended to. The inconvenience of a few days' delay in the delivery of the Bonds is unavoidable, the demand being so great; but as interest commences on the day of subscription, no loss is occasioned, and every effort is being made to diminish the delay.

JAY COOKE, Subscription Agent, 114 South Third Street, Philadelphia. Philadelphia, November 25, 1863.