

The Raftsmen's Journal, Clearfield, Pa., April 5, 1871.



Raftsmen's Journal.
S. J. HOW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., APRIL 5, 1871.

The Democrats now have more members in Congress than at any time since the 35th Congress, the first during President Buchanan's term.

In Pennsylvania the unassessed property is one billion. The total assessed value of real and personal estate (1870) is as follows: \$1,634,210,936. Average assessment per capita, \$464.

The New York World asks: "Is the Democratic party dead?" It has been so reported, and, judging by the odor arising from it, we are inclined to say yes and quite ready for burial too.

The New York Sun now supports Sumner. If that is not sufficient to alienate what few friends the testy, querulous Senator has remaining, they must be, like the rights of American citizens, inalienable.

A circular from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue makes an important change in the regulations for assessing the income tax. The inquisitorial examination is to be omitted. Nothing will be required except a statement under oath of the gross taxable income, after making all legal deductions.

The return of fifty thousand dollars consigned money to the treasury from a single source is a very remarkable occurrence. If many persons exist who are conscientiously indebted to the Government, and will pay up their indebtedness, the public debt will be very speedily reduced by several millions of dollars.

A Democratic caucus at Albany has resolved to abandon the attempt to change the day of the New York State election in order to escape the provisions of the United States election laws. They evidently prefer to run the chance of continuing their frauds in spite of the law, than to admit, as they would by such action as was proposed, that they had heretofore been guilty of the frauds.

The New Hampshire Democratic Representatives were elected week before last, and seated last week. One of the new members has progressed so rapidly in legislative lore that he has introduced a financial policy—allowing no taxation but for revenue, and constituting a special commission to report a reform of the tariff. The resolutions were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The rapid rate at which the loan of the United States is being taken, places beyond all question its early and successful absorption. English capitalists have proposed for two hundred million dollars, and the subscriptions in this country are rapidly increasing. We are thus passing the crisis of our financial efforts, and the country must shortly feel the improved condition of affairs in all the channels of finance and business.

J. Q. Adams, of Massachusetts, has discovered the key to a Democratic victory. He says: "Democrats must be Democratic to succeed." If Democrats will only be Democratic they promises them a victory. But then, after all, that is the great difficulty. Democrats are not Democratic, and have not been for years, and under the present manifestations of the South and their leader, Blair, in Congress, there does not seem much chance of their being Democratic for some time to come. Under this phase of the case, we suppose J. Q. Adams gives up all hope of success.

It is wonderful how suddenly the Democrats have transformed Charles Sumner into a saint, hero, and martyr. We should not be surprised if they invited him to be their candidate for President. His only rival in that party will be Wendell Phillips, who is much stronger in the denunciation of Gen. Grant than Mr. Sumner. Which of these two radical reformers are now ahead in Democratic circles it is hard to tell. Both have been transformed, as it by the touch of Aladdin's lamp, into "great and honest men," where, as they were, but a few days ago, all that is vile and dishonest.

Affairs in France are rapidly approaching a crisis. The Red revolutionists of Paris are becoming more and more violent, and the guillotine is even hinted at; in fact, a despatch announces that that terrible instrument is to be shortly erected and that the houses of its victims have already been marked. The watchword of the Communists is: "Death to the rich—death to the land owners—death to the priests!" The Versailles government has prepared a plan of attack on the city, and the insurgents, to forestall them, contemplated attacking their armories on Friday last. When and how is this anarchy to end? Better the restoration of the humbled man of Sedan than a second reign of terror.

The Michigan Senate has passed a bill to the effect that all public officers guilty of voluntary drunkenness, shall be subject to removal for such offence. Under this act Michigan officers can get drunk *involuntarily*, just as much as they please. As this is the way the "drunk" generally comes, the act does not seem to meet the case.

The New York Legislature, at the dictation of Tammany, has passed a bill allowing "citizens" who have failed to register to vote on election day by simply taking an oath. This is the worst stab the ballot has yet received in New York, and opens the door to the widest frauds. Whither are we drifting?

The return of the election in Connecticut on Monday, so far as received, indicate the success of the Republican ticket.

Worth Remembering.

The course being pursued by the Democracy, in the Pennsylvania Legislature, clearly demonstrates that they are playing a desperate game to defeat such legislation as will directly effect the people in general, i. e. the apportionment bill, the bill authorizing a Convention to revise the State Constitution, and the appropriation bill, unless their scheme to repeal or emasculate the registry law is acceded to by the Republican majority in the House. This determination on the part of the Democracy, the force legislation is revolutionary in its character; and we hope that the Republican members in the Legislature will unitely and resolutely spurn all advances towards a recognition of this Democratic conspiracy. The Registry law prevented the perpetration of innumerable frauds upon the ballot box since its passage; and had the law applied to the late special election for a Senator in Philadelphia, Mr. Lyndall would have been returned by an overwhelming majority, and the State and the people thereby saved the humiliation of a dead-lock in Legislation through the acts and votes of Mr. Decherd who holds the seat by frauds. The success of Mr. Decherd by the most unblushing frauds, and the refusal of the Democratic majority in the State Senate to allow Mr. Lyndall to investigate those frauds, are the very strongest arguments in favor of retaining the present Registry law intact.

It is an indisputable fact that the people of Pennsylvania are in favor of Constitutional Reform to prevent many existing abuses through special, as well as general legislation; and if their wishes are not realized at the present session of the Legislature, it will be by the action of the Democratic majority in the Senate, which has thus far defeated every effort on the part of the Republicans to accede to the wishes and desires of the people. Then let the responsibility of the defeat of all legislation for the relief of the masses rest upon the guilty authors, and not upon the Republican members who have battled manfully for the rights of the people.

THE KU KLUX AND DEMOCRACY.—The Democrats and their allies, the Ku-Klux miscreants, are rapidly bringing the Presidential canvas into shape. A number of the most prominent members of the South Carolina Legislature have been compelled to flee from the State, and outrages against Northern men and Unionists are becoming more frequent all over the South. A private letter from Jacksonville, Florida, informs us that last week a large lumber mill was set on fire, and with a considerable quantity of lumber, burnt, the owner, a Northern man, who had made himself obnoxious, having previously been "warned."

An unsuccessful attempt was made to fire a hotel there, not long since. The letter says

that this state of things is owing in some measure "to a certain class of Northern men who disregard the duty they owe to cultivate good feeling and harmony."

If Democrats in the North are not in actual sympathy with those who commit outrages, let them say so. It is undoubtedly true that the State Government is Republican and the Legislature quite as strongly Republican as Democratic—each party having one legislative body—the action of the Senate has some of the old snap of the slave-driver's whip. Three weeks ago, the Democratic majority in the Senate agreed in caucus, to take such action as would compel Republicans to agree to their measures. They seek to force a coordinate body to submit to their dictation. A greater outrage was never attempted by one legislative body on another. But they have overstepped the bounds of propriety. The gauntlet they have thrown down has been taken up, and Republicans have determined to come to an open rupture, and entirely stop legislation rather than be dominated by the majority in the Senate. If the Senate will not appoint a conference committee, and compromise the question of apportionment, legislation is about ended during the present term of the Legislature. Let it be remembered, the Republicans in the Legislature are willing to confer, and agree on some fair measure; thus far the Democrats are not. The latter are therefore responsible for any lack of legislation that may follow.

Among the things that will thus be crowded aside is the proposed amendment of the Constitution. In preventing this the Democrats are realizing, of course, their precise wishes. But it remains to be seen whether the presentation of this subject to the people will not serve to illustrate their eagerness to *prevent* rather than consummate needed reforms. This will afford an excellent proof, before the people, of the sincerity of their outcry against the Republican party for not effecting certain reforms, as well as of their earnestness to secure beneficial changes in our State Constitution.

The beauteous Chinaman is making whisky in California by fermenting old rice and rubber shoes and things, and the revenue people are after him. This whisky made this way is much sought after by suicides.

They have strange titles in Japan. One of the high dignitaries in Jeddah is called His Grace of Sixty-five Umbrellas; another the Lord of a Hundred Fans, and a third the Supreme Controller of the Golden Puddles.

Theodore Parker, of Boston, has been presented with a bill of fare, said he would rather run the risk of being murdered than endure the certainty of starvation.

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through mistake, to somebody who was dishonest enough to keep it, which goes to show that rogues are not all inhabitants of the spirit land.

One operator has resumed work at his coal mines near Wilkesboro. His workmen concluded they would rather run the risk of being murdered than endure the certainty of starvation.

A North Missourian recently entered the dining room of a first class hotel in St. Joseph, and on being presented with a bill of fare, said he would "eat his dinner before taking a read."

A Western girl got the idea into her head that the devil was in her and hung herself. If women go to hang themselves for a little thing like that, they are going to be mighty scarce, that the Presidential field is being pretty rapidly and accurately staked out.

SHOWING THE CLOVES FOOT.—Mr. Jefferson Davis, on the occasion of the reception given him by citizens of Selma, Alabama, made a speech in which he is reported to have declared that State sovereignty, although defeated in the late struggle, will ultimately triumph; its day of success might not come in his time, but he will live and die in the belief that it would surely triumph. He also said that he had never asked pardon for what he had done, and he never would, for he felt that he had done right. He had always been willing to give his life for his people, and now, if any Yankee power wanted his blood to atone for any action of the Southern people, they could take it. Commenting on this speech of Mr. Davis, a Selma paper says it is the first time he has touched, in public, genuine political questions, and hints that he is probably encouraged to enunciate his still rebellious notions from recent transpirings in public affairs. His utterances are commended to the portion of the Northern press and people which has been led to believe that the cause of the rebellion is a "dead issue" in the minds of the leading men at the South. Mr. Davis is preparing to compete for the next Democratic Presidential nomination?

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The Belgians are highly excited in consequence of the report that the Pope has determined to take up his abode in their country. The Liberals and Clergymen in Belgium are about equally strong. The Clergymen want the Pope there, and the Liberals threaten they will even resort to force in order to keep him out of the country. Serious complications are expected in consequence.

The successive stages of Northwestern growth are remarkably illustrated by a paragraph in the Waverly, Iowa, *Republican*, which says: "We have a man in our city who was born in 1800 and has a son who was born in the Territory of Michigan, and another in the Territory of Wisconsin, and still another one in the Territory of Iowa, and also a daughter born in the State of Iowa—all in the same house." Col. J. W. Woods is the man.

Milwaukee had a case of suspended animation. A child sickened, and all appearances dying, arrangements for burial were made. On the third day after, during the funeral service, the officiating minister casually placed his hand upon the folded arms of the little sleeper, and noticing a warmth unusual in the dead, advised postponement of the burial. His suspicions proved correct, in the reanimation of the child, which was alive at last accounts, with a fair chance of recovery.

Gold is down to 10 with the prospect, under Secretary Boutwell's possible outpouring of the precious stuff, of going lower. The gap to close up is not wide, and it may be closed up sooner than has generally been supposed, and without any great effect on the business affairs of the country.

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Notes from Harrisburgh.

State Senator Connell presented on Monday a very important bill. It provides that "on and after January 1, 1872, all moneys received from licenses shall be paid into the several county treasuries instead of the State Treasury as heretofore." Our State finances are in such a flourishing condition, and our State debt is being so fast liquidated, that we have arrived at a point wherein we can calculate to a certainty not only our resources, but our wants. Every year our income is increasing, and the present year will demonstrate that we can easily spare the counties the tax from licences, and still have sufficient for State wants. In 1867 our revenue was about five and a half millions. We relieved real estate from taxation yielding one and a half millions, and yet last year we had a revenue of six millions, sufficient to pay our expenses and one million and a half of our State debt, and this year it will be at least six and a half millions, fully two millions beyond our expenses. It is a fact well known to all financiers that, the only way to economize in our expenses is to regulate our taxes that they shall yield sufficient for our needs and no more. An excess begets extravagance. Hence, we say, let us lop off the revenue and return it to the counties from whence it was taken in 1842, when we were in need. If the counties then choose to relinquish it entirely or modify it, they can do so, and we hope every member, regardless of party feeling, will join in passing this bill.

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A camel was hatched out in an Indian fair ground the other day. A manager was wintering there.

The New York Police are making furious raids upon the little gamblers, and leaving the big ones alone.

Mr. Stackhouse died in Altoona on the 18th of March. She was born March 16, 1771, and died March 16, 1871.

Monograms on note paper are now made larger than ever, beautifully elaborated in gold, came and ultra marine.

"Money makes the man." Perhaps it does; but Pauch thinks it particularly necessary that man should make money first.

A drum major who ran away at Chickamauga says he "would rather be a coward all his life than corpse fifteen minutes."

What pleased the Japanese best in our financial system was Gen. Sherman's signature. They read it alone, as classical Japanese.

Mrs. Stanton, in her Philadelphia discourse, on Monday evening a week, "ranked protection with intemperance."

A man who stole another man's hat, even when his name was written on it, was left off on the ground that he was collecting autographs.

A London diamond merchant, of great experience, pronounces the South African diamonds inferior to the old and famous Golconda gems.

There are said to be millions of pounds of fool's gold in Alaska. It is of excellent quality, and is worth a dollar a pound in San Francisco.

An Irishman who was found guilty of stealing a lot of coffee was asked by the magistrate what he did with it. "Made tay wi' it," was his reply.

The *Terre Haute Mail* says there is a lady in that place who can turn a barrel of cider into first rate vinegar by looking in at the hung hole.

"A Grand Circular Fox Hunt" in South Mahoning township, Indiana county, on the 11th day of March, resulted in the capture of a fox, a white weasel, and a skunk.

A lad in Hartford, whose fifth birthday occurred last week, asked of his parents if the schools would keep on that day, adding, "they don't on Washington's birthday."

The Chief Engineer of the Boston Fire Department reports that thirty per cent. of the fire in American cities are caused by the deposit of ashes in wooden boxes or barrels.

A Tyrone girl wants to know if the woman's rights movement includes the right to do the courting; if it does she is in for it, as the men in my vicinity are very badful.

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In New York it has been decided that sewing machines are not liable to seizure for debt, on the ground that they are necessary articles of household furniture, as much so as a sofa, which has always been regarded.

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The Washington *Capital*, which scarce three weeks ago started as an independent paper, has now become rabidly free trade and anti-administration. If blood is the price of liberty, what is the price of independence—as represented in the Capital.

We desire to call attention to the fact that under the recent modification in the method assessing the income tax, as declared in the circular of Commissioner Pleasanton, all that is required is a statement under oath of the gross taxable income, after all deductions have been made.

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