



RIGHT OR WRONG.

WHEN RIGHT, TO BE KEPT RIGHT, WHEN WRONG, TO BE PUT RIGHT.

EBENSBURG:

THURSDAY DECEMBER 24.

The Three Hundred Dollar Exemption Clause.

We are told that the present Congress is likely, within a few days, to repeal this provision in the Act of Congress, fixing \$300 as an equivalent for military service.

The time has not come to adopt radical changes in this act. As soon as, and no sooner than the names in the present boxes are exhausted, and a new enrollment has to be made, can those wholesale changes be engrained by Congress in the law.

It is said that Copperheads raised a clamor against this \$300 feature. So they would if Congress should re-enact the Lord's Prayer, the Constitution, or anything else.

As soon as the nation has exhausted the names collected in the box, then let us have a new Act of Congress, based on our experience of the workings of the present.

We have no right to reject the Acts of Congress, and thus subject the names heretofore obscure to the chances of a new deal.

If this three hundred dollar clause is now repealed, why then Congress may say that no substitute shall be allowed, and thus the remaining names be subjected to terms ten times as onerous as were imposed on those first drawn.

Late news from Washington seem to indicate that the draft will be postponed twenty days. There is great diversity of sentiment among the Congressmen as to whether the \$300 clause of the Conscription law ought or ought not to be repealed.

Jottings from Washington.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 17, 1863.

On Monday, the standing committees for the session were announced in both Houses of Congress. In the Senate the committees are first selected by a committee appointed for the purpose, and are then confirmed by a ballot vote of the Senators themselves.

After the committees are constituted, vacancies which may arise by death, resignation or otherwise, are filled respectively by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. A glance at the committees themselves: In looking over the list of the Senate committees, I observe that Senator Cowan is a member of the Finance committee and chairman of the committee on Patents and the Patent Office.

Some anxiety has been felt as to the course the Hon. Reverdy Johnson of Maryland would pursue in the Senate on the great questions of the day. He is one of the ablest jurists and most profound statesmen in the country, and his influence, it was felt, would be irritating and damaging to the Administration if cast in the balance against it.

The Indiana American says that the resignation of Major Harry White, State Senator for that county, arrived there on last Wednesday, having been smuggled through the rebel lines by Sergeant Hosack.

A Sunday paper says: "Gen. McClellan is now engaged upon a series of articles shortly to be published in a popular journal. They will be published as an electioneering document, in connection with his report. A life of McClellan by a popular New York journalist is also under way; and the three—his life, his report, and his explanatory articles—will probably be published some time during the coming March.

wardly schemes of Northern submissionists, and will zealously support on the floor of Congress the war measures of the Administration.

The country has met with a real loss in the death of General Buford, which took place at the residence of Gen. Stoneman, in this city, last evening. His disease was typhoid fever, following protracted chronic diarrhea. He was one of the best cavalry Generals, if not the best, the service could boast.

I have just learned the facts in a little romance which I jot down for the lady readers of The Alleghanian. One of the new Members of Congress from the State of Maine is the Hon. James J. Blaine, of the Augusta district.

The rainy season—corresponding to the snow and ice, the sleigh bells and frozen apples of the North—has commenced along the Potomac. The campaign of Gen. Meade for 1863 may be considered at an end.

The steamer Chesapeake has had a short voyage in her new capacity of Confederate pirate. Unable, from lack of men and coal, or afraid to put to sea, the murderers who seized her have hung around the small harbors of Nova Scotia, until justice has overtaken them.

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Quill-Drives.

See new advertisements. Slip-up-pery—the pavements. A nuisance—the new postal currency. Snow go—the sleighing hereabouts as yet.

The Confederacy's "last ditch"—the Slough of Despond.

The Pennsylvania Legislature meets on the first Tuesday in January.

The wife of ex-President Pierce died at Andover, Mass., on the 2d inst.

Read it—the Christmas story on today's outside.

Ponder over it—the narrative of barbarities inflicted upon our soldiers in Libby Prison.

Played out—the strike of the Broad Top coal-miners. They have returned to work at old wages.

Gen. Buford, the distinguished cavalry officer, died in Washington city on the 16th, of typhoid fever.

Late advices indicate that the guerrilla Morgan, instead of being in Canada as was reported, has arrived safely in Dixie.

Does not the Dem. & Sent., in giving the prefix to our cognomen thus, "MR." make a capital fellow of us?

The Dem. & Sent. talks about a "click" of Abolitionists. Like the weather for the past week, this is a very severe spell.

A dolorous query to non-exempts—Will Congress repeal the \$300 clause of the Conscription Act?

The Dem. & Sent. says that a couple of logs were poisoned lately by eating a stray copy of The Alleghanian.

We hope our neighbor wasn't one of them.

Home on a visit—Jack Rhey, for several years back a departmental clerk in Washington city. He is one of nature's own noblemen.

In a squib last week, the Dem. & Sent. institutes that "Campbell" don't write the editorials for the Johnstown Democrat.—When rogues fall out, etc.

By decision of the State Superintendent, school teachers are exempt from duty on Thanksgiving days, Christmas, Washington's birthday and the Fourth of July.

The Johnstown Democrat boasts that it contains more reading matter than any other paper in the county.

What it lacks in quality it makes up in quantity.

Our Devil says we have already had several changes as regards the matter of the incumbency of the Stewardship of the county Poor House, and the people now call for one Moore.

The Dem. & Sent. calls "MR. banker" the ostensible editor of The Alleghanian.

The difference between ourself and the D. & S. man, then, is this: We are an ostensible editor—he an astensible editor.

Capt. Thomas C. Williams, of Co. C, 19th U. S. Infantry—commander of a company recruited in this county—has been appointed Assistant Adjutant General on Gen. Rousseau's staff.

Excursion tickets will be issued on the Pennsylvania Railroad on the 24th and 25th inst., good for a return trip on the 28th, and on the 31st inst. and 1st January, good for return on the 3d of January.

The Rebel authorities decline allowing any more supplies to be sent from the North to our suffering soldiers in Richmond.

Cause why—the Northern press has charged the officials at Richmond with misappropriating aid contributions.

We have been so lucky as to secure the services of an able Washington correspondent, who will during the session of Congress favor our readers with a weekly budget of news transpiring in that metropolis. See his initial letter elsewhere.

A lot of prayer-books just received and for sale by James Murray.—Dem. & Sent.

We would respectfully suggest that the editor of the D. & S. enter into negotiations looking toward the purchase of one. He needs something of the sort badly.

Our Devil, who is a "gay and festive cuss," asserts that if the Ladies' Fair of Johnstown, for the benefit of the New Catholic church, only prove half so attractive as the Fair Ladies of Johnstown, the enterprise must needs be a success and give unlimited satisfaction.

Apropos of the new year: An old female contraband with the Army of the Potomac places upon record the following prophecy.

"In sixty-one, the war begun; In sixty-two, it was half through; In sixty-three, the niggers were free; In sixty-four, the war will be o'er."

If nature had kindly provided the editor of the Dem. & Sent. with a caudal appendage—which is evidently an unpardonable omission on the part of nature—why would he then strikingly resemble his editorial columns of last week as encroached upon by the publication of the President's Message? Because he as well as they would be "cur-tailed."

The Erie Observer, an obscure newspaper published somewhere in the vicinity of Canada, says that the Johnstown Democrat, another obscure journal published in the south of this county, is "one of the smartest and neatest papers in the country."

Whereupon, the Democrat, acting upon the principle possibly that one good turn deserves another, turns around and calls the Observer "a live paper, spic and vinegar."

"Tickle me, Johnnie—do, do, do! You tickle me, and I'll tickle you."

The War Power.

The war power is still our main reliance. So the President said, after proposing to the country a plan for the restoration of peace, and offering pardon to the people of the South. Unquestionably he is right. The success of the war is understood to be the groundwork of any plan for such a peace as we require, and until the war power has overthrown the armies of the rebellion, it will be impossible for those who are desirous of accepting the magnanimous offer of the President to make their wishes known.

Now that we have read the noble message of the President and studied his plan of restoration; now that we have examined the official history of the past year, we can better understand the work before us. We can clearly see that all measures concentrate in one object—the strengthening of the war power. If Congress authorized a conscription, it was to increase our armies; if it authorized the creation of a national debt, it was to sustain those armies; if it gave to the President extraordinary powers during the war, it was that he might use those armies with energy; if we have submitted to taxation, before the rebellion unknown to us, to the loss of our friends and relatives in battle, to the draft, cheerfully accepting these misfortunes and inconveniences, it is solely because we wish to strengthen the war power.

A nation so thoroughly dependent upon war as this nation now is, cannot afford to wage war upon any scale less than Titanic. Two thousands of millions of dollars will cheaply purchase peace, and maintain a Republic worth millions of millions. No sacrifice of life can be too great if victory is obtained by it. The grave of every loyal soldier is an argument for still mightier war, for vainly have our heroes fallen if the battle they nobly begun is meanly ended. So largely has the nation invested in the war, that it is ruined if it abandons the enterprise. And if we fail, to what depth do we fall? Our national degradation will be greater than our former national glory; our shame will be perpetual, our ruin irretrievable; the sceptre of the continent will have passed from the hands of its inhabitants. Europe will govern America; the destiny of the New World will be controlled by the despotism of the Old. It is impossible to exaggerate the universal evil of failure in this war, and, therefore, impossible to strive too earnestly for success. Let the people of America look, then, to their armies. The war power of the Government is the strength of the nation, and to increase it by men, money, and measures, is to legislate for freedom and build upon enduring foundations the temple of perpetual peace.

Late dispatches from Chattanooga say the army will soon go into winter quarters. The situation is unchanged.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Letters of Administration on the estate of Emmeline Benson, late of Wilmore, Summerhill tp., Cambria county, deceased, having been granted to the subscriber, all persons indebted to said estate are notified to come forward at once and settle their respective accounts, and those having claims against it will present them, properly authenticated for settlement. JOSEPH MILLER, Adm'r. Wilmore, Dec. 17, 1863-6t.

NEW BLACKSMITH SHOP.—The subscriber would respectfully inform the public that he has bought out the well-known establishment of Isaac Singer, in the West Ward, Ebensburg, where he will carry on the BLACKSMITHING business in all its branches. Confident in rendering entire satisfaction, he hopes for a share of patronage. WILLIAM GRAY.

COMMISSIONERS' SALE.—

The Commissioners of Cambria county will offer for sale at the Court House, in Ebensburg, on Friday, Jan. 15, A. D., 1864, the following tracts of unseated and seated lands, which tracts were legally purchased by the Commissioners at different Treasurers' sales, and have been held the time required by law, and have not been redeemed by former owners within such legal limitation, viz:

Table with columns: Acres, Pa. Warrantee's name, Township, and other details. Includes entries for Jacob Burns, Jacob Harris, Jas. Ross, Wm. Jones, etc.

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

The whole amount of the Loan authorized is Five Hundred Millions of Dollars. Nearly Four 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 the basis for circulation by National Banking Associations now organizing in all parts of the country will, in a very short period, absorb the balance.

The Government requires all duties on imports to be paid in Coin, and these duties last 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. So that 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 Coupon Bonds, which are payable to bearer, and are \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000; or Registered Bonds of same denominations, and in addition, \$5,000 and \$10,000. For banking purposes and for investments of Trust-moneys the Registered Bonds are preferable.

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 from the day of subscription, no loss is occasioned, and every effort is being made to diminish the delay. Jay Cooke, SUBSCRIPTION AGENT, 114 S. THIRD ST., PHILADELPHIA, Philadelphia, December 10, 1863.

FOR SALE.—A Foker Engine, 8 inch cylinder, 26 inch stroke, nearly new, in complete order. 2 pumps, one cistern holding 30 bbls water, boiler 26 inches, 20 feet long, fire front, all complete. Price \$650. Will take Lumber at cash prices in payment of same. H. F. LUDWICK, Manor Station, Pa. RR. 2 1/2 miles east Pittsburg, Dec. 8, 1863.