LEWISBURG CHRONICLE.

H. C. HICKOK, Editor.
O. N. WORDEN, Printer.

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The Lewisburg Chronicle.

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TERMS—$1.50 per year, for cash actually in advance; $1.75, if paid within three months; $2.00 if paid within a year; $2.50 if not paid before the year expires; 5 cts. for a single number. Subscriptions for six months or less to be paid in advance. Any old patron procuring one or more new patrons, shall have the Chronicle at $1 each for himself and the new patrons (for one year only,) each in advance.

Advertisements handsomely inserted at 50 cents per square one week. 25 cents each subsequent insertion. $5 a year. Two squares, $4 for six months, $7 for a year. Mercantile advertisements not exceeding one fourth of a column, $10 a year. Half square, a half price. Yearly advertisements under half a square, 50 cents per line—18 lines to a square long primer, 16 brevier, 12 nonpareil.

Discontinuances optional with the Publisher, when all dues are not paid; and Interest on all accounts due.

Communications solicited on topics of general interest not within the range of party or sectarian conflict. All letters to come post paid, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, to receive attention. ☞ Those relating exclusively to the Editorial Department, to be directed to Henry C. Hickok, Esq., *Editor*—and those on business matters to O. N. Worden, *Publisher*.

The MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH is located in the office of the *Chronicle*, and arrangements are made to obtain News from the East in advance of the Mails.

Connected with the Office are ample materials for most kinds of JOB PRINTING, which will be executed with neatness and despatch and on reasonable terms.

☞ Office on Market Square, north side, second story, 3d door above the Post Office.

O. N. WORDEN, Proprietor.

LEWISBURG CHRONICLE

February 17, 1854.

For the Chronicle.

N. Y. Tribune and Erie.

For the last four weeks Mr. Greeley, of the Tribune has been braying himself hoarse in denunciations of the people of Erie; and we see that he has now brought into his list of proscribed the whole State of Pennsylvania. His list of opprobrious epithets has by this time nearly run out we opine. In fact he has fished up from the dirty gutter and filthy ponds of our language a host of terms that doubtless are new to a great majority of his respectable readers, and has affixed them all to Erie, the Erians—to Pennsylvania and the Pensylvanians.

The Tribune has been swelling and puffing for a long time past, and unless some relief be found for the rabid editor, we fear that this Erie matter will be fatal to him.

To a cool observer his course has been an interesting and suggestive one. He has such a happy faculty of seeing with glory spectacles all that belongs to New York interests, and of thinking all that pertains to the simple question of truth and justice, that we gaze with no small wonderment on him. We have now no longer the shadow of a doubt that if the interests of New York were imagined to be at stake and a rival were to be crushed thereby, he would go in voice and pen for capital punishment itself, against which he has been running a muck for years past. Let it tend to the glory of New York or to the interests of its capitalists, and he would no doubt see in gigantic proportions every argument for it, and would fail entirely to see the puny arguments against it.

We wonder what he will say or do next. Henceforth, however, we shall be surprised at no position he may assume and no language he may employ. A.

☞ The foregoing is from an intelligent, long-time patron of the Tribune. It is rare that a man of Mr. Greeley's information gets so far astray on mere matters of fact, as he has done in this case. Pennsylvania is *all right* on the Erie question; and the course of the people of Erie, in taking up railroad tracks and bridges, has been *mainly* by order of legal authorities, and in due course of law. On the other hand, the New Yorkers and Ohioans have *attempted* to overpower the Erians by brute force, after being themselves guilty of low tricks, gross disregard of private agreements, violations of charters, and (many believe) of legislative bribery, in obtaining the powers which have been either abated as an illegal nuisance by the authorities of Erie, or annulled by the Legislature.

The whole question, so far as concerns the public in general, is, shall *the* break which is necessary, be at Buffalo or at Erie? Pennsylvania contends that if she can have that advantage in her own bounds instead of a neighboring State, it is her right and duty to keep it.

If we are rightly informed, Pennsylvania paid New York, at a time when both States were comparatively poor, the then very large sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars, for the right to the Harbor of Erie—the best on the Lake. For her now to be so simple as to give away, sell, or be cheated out of any of the advantages of this location, in order to build up Cleveland and Buffalo and New York city, at the sacrifice of Erie, Pittsburg, and Philadelphia, is a piece of folly Pennsylvania is incapable of.

Mr. Greeley has in this instance—as well as in repeatedly calling our Governor, John Bigler instead of *William*—shown that he lacks some knowledge of facts, which his multiplied engagements may extenuate but can not excuse. The vollies of abuse he has heaped upon this State, will harm no one but himself.—*Chronicle.*

The Portland Advertiser says it is a supposition generally conceded to be true that cords of wood given to the poor are recorded above.

From Wisconsin.

[Correspondence of the Lewisburg Chronicle.]

Madison, (Wis.) Feb. 6, 1854.

Mr. Editor: Since I last wrote you, the Legislature of this State have assembled, divided the spoils among their respective party friends, and are now dispensing the results of their profound deliberations. Among the most important questions now before them, is a bill to repeal the act passed last winter, abolishing capital punishment, and making the crime of murder a bailable offence. The propriety of this measure is very questionable, giving those who are able to pay the bail, liberty to kill when they please, pay the ransom, and be free. An incident of this kind happened a few months ago in a small town in Illinois. A traveling circus was exhibiting in the town, when one of the company having an altercation with a by-stander, drew a pistol and shot him dead on the spot. The showman was arrested, held to bail in a very insignificant amount, (compared with the value of human life,) which he paid immediately, and went on his way rejoicing, to amuse the public by feats of "grand and lofty tumbling." The bill is very ably contested, but is thought will eventually be repealed.

A prohibitory liquor law bill has been introduced in the Senate, which is very stringent in its requirements; but already the process of excoriation has commenced, and it will soon be reduced to a nonentity. The general impression is that there will be no prohibitory law passed, or if there is, it will be so specific that it will not produce the desired effect. They also—without the fear of the De'il or Charley Shriner before their eyes—passed an act, authorizing a certain county to issue bonds, to aid in the construction of a Railroad.

The debut of the new Executive, Wm. A. Barstow, has been very creditable to himself, as a politician, and satisfactory to his constituents. His first message was received with every demonstration of approbation, and unanimously pronounced the best Executive document ever read in the capitol of Wisconsin. Upon the subject of the liquor law, he is very compromising; having a great and reverent regard for the wishes of the people, but a stronger reliance in the wisdom of their legislators, and handled the subject very much as the dog did the hot potato.

The following classification of the members of the Assembly may be of some interest:

Of the 82 members, 41 are farmers; 13 lawyers; 6 merchants; 3 notary publics; 3 physicians; clerks, brewers, and carpenters, 2 each; miner, raftsman, shoemaker, gunsmith, lumber merchant, merchant-tailor, editor, mason, real estate dealer, and agriculturer, 1 each.

Thirty were born in New York, 9 in Vermont, 6 in Pennsylvania, 4 in Massachusetts, 2 in Connecticut, 1 each in Michigan, Kentucky, Illinois, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, New Jersey, Maine, Indiana, and New Hampshire, 5 in Ireland, 4 in Prussia, 3 in Germany, 2 in Scotland, 1 each in Wales, Nassau, Saxony, and Great Britain, and 2 in England. Native born, 62; foreign born, 20. Not one born in the State; and but one has been in the State over twenty years, and one but two years.

The decided predominance of farmers speaks well for the intelligence of that class in this State, and the wise discretion of its voters. Editors seem to be under par.

The weather, for the past two or three weeks, was much better to talk about by a warm stove, than to experience. During this period, the thermometer has ranged from 8° to 30° below zero, and for several days in succession, was not above 14° below zero, and down to 30°. There was good sleighing here from the 1st of Jan. until a few days ago, when the weather changed suddenly, and it became as warm and balmy as a May day, and flooding the streets with melting snow. The next day the mercury stood several degrees below zero, leaving the streets in a "sentimentally icy" condition. Near Green Bay, on the 21st ult., two men were frozen to death while riding in a sleigh; and in the same vicinity, cattle were frozen to death in their stalls. This has been the coldest weather known in this State for a number of years.

Madison, as yet, has no Railroad connection with the "outsiders;" but they will have a Railroad opened by the 1st of April next, which will greatly enhance the already prosperous condition of the place. Great enthusiasm prevails in regard to the construction of Railroads in this State, and applications are almost daily made to the Legislature for charters. These works are indispensable to the prosperity of the State, and for the transmitting to maket its vast produce. Wisconsin is becoming a State of no mean importance, and successfully vies with the older of the Western States.

Truly yours, F.

The Farmer.

Officers of the Union County Agricultural Society.

President—Jacob Gundy, East Buffalo.

Vice Presidents—

Samuel Shaffer, *Perry*	Rob'T B. Barber, *Limestone*
Daniel Witmer, *Chapman*	Abs Swineford, *New Berlin*
E. R. Mengas, *Washington*	Isaac Eyer, *Union*
Henry C. Eyer, *Penn's*	, *East Buffalo*
Geo. Dauberman, *Middlecreek*	David Watson, *West Buffalo*
John Swengel, *Center*	Wm. Vanvalzah, *Buffalo*
Jacob Beaver, *Beaver*	Geo. Dersbach, *Mifflinburg*
H. H. Margaritz, *West Beaver*	Isaac S. Sterner, *Lewisburg*
Jacob Sanders, *Centreville*	Thomas Howard, *Kelly*
John Wilt, *Hartley*	Sam. Henderson, *White Deer*

Corr'g Sec'y—Richd V. B Lincoln, Hartley.
Rec'g Sec'y—O. N. Worden, Lewisburg.
Treasurer—Robert H. Laird, East Buffalo.
Librarian—Samuel Weirick, New Berlin.
Executive Com.—Jas. P. Ross, Lewisburg.
do Isaac Slenker, New Berlin.
do Hy W. Snyder, Penns.

Quarterly Meeting.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society, held at New Berlin, on the 13th Feb.—present, Messrs. Jacob Gundy, Snyder, H. C. Eyer, Weirick, Mengas, Laird, and Worden—the following List of Premiums, prepared by a Committee and revised by the Board, was adopted:

Premiums for 1854.

HORSES.	
For best Stallion—to be paid when he has been kept within the limits of the Society one service season	$5,00
2d best, same conditions	3,00
best Breeding Mare, one or more of her colts to be shown	3,00
2d best, same conditions	2,00
best Gelding Horse, not over 7 years	3,00
2d best	2,00
best 3 years old Colt	2,00
best 2 years old Colt	2,00
best sucking Horse Colt	1,50
2d best	1,00
best sucking Mare Colt	1,50
2d best	1,00
PLOWING MATCH.	
best Plowing, regard being had to the skill of workmen and discipline of teams as well as execution of the work, rather than time, provided it be done within a reasonable time	3,00
2d best	2,00
best done by a boy under 20 years of age	2,00
NEAT CATTLE.	
best Bull, not under 2 nor over 5 years old, kept within the limits of the Society one service season	3,00
2d best, same conditions	2,00
best Bull Calf	2,00
best Cow for all purposes, 2 of her Calves to be shown as evidence of her breeding, and full statement in writing of her Dairy qualities	3,00
2d best, same conditions	2,00
best 2 or more Dairy Cows, owned and kept by one person, written statements of age, breed, yield &c. to be rendered. "Penn'a Farm Journal" one year, or Agricult. Patent Office Rep. and $1, or	2,00
best 2 year old Heifer, J. or R. and $1, or	2,00
Cow giving greatest amount of Butter	2,00
best Cow for stock	2,00
best 1 year old Heifer	1,50
best heifer Calf, J. or R. or	1,00
best stock of Neat Cattle belonging to one farm, not less than 10 head, J. or R. and	1,00
OXEN AND STEERS.	
best pair of Oxen, 4 years old or more	3,00
2d best	2,00
best yoke Steer Calves, J. or R. or	1,00
TEAMS.	
best team of Oxen from any one township 8 pairs or more 4 years old or more	8,00
best span of Working Horses	4,00
2d best	2,00
best span of Matched Horses	2,00
SHEEP.	
best French Merino Buck, kept within the Society limits 2 years	5,00
best Buck of any other breed	2,00
best 6 Ewe Sheep, J. or R. and $1, or	2,00
best 6 Lambs	2,00
SWINE.	
best Boar	2,00
2d best	1,00
best Sow, with 1 or more of her pigs to be shown, J. or R. and $1, or	2,00
best 5 or more Pigs, 2 to 10 weeks old, J. or R. and	1,00
best 2 Pigs	1,00
POULTRY.	
best pair Shanghai Chickens	75
2d best	25
best pair Chittagongs	75
2d best	25
best pair Cochin Chinas	75
2d best	25
best pair Polish	75
2d best	25
best pair of any other breed	75
2d best	25
best pair Turkeys	1,00
2d best	50
CROPS.	
best 5 acres Winter Wheat	5,00
2d best, J. or R. and	3,00
3d best	2,00
best bushel Wheat	1,00
2d best	50
best acre Spring Wheat	1,50
best 5 acres Rye	3,00
2d best	2,00
best 5 acres Indian Corn	5,00
2d best	3,00
3d best	2,00
best bushel Corn in ears	1,00
2d best	50
best 5 acres Oats	2,00
2d best	1,00
best bushel Oats	50
best bushel Buckwheat	50
best 3 acres Barley	2,00
2d best	1,00
best crop Potatoes, not under ½ acre	3,00
2d best	2,00
best bushel Sweet Potatoes	1,00
do Common Potatoes	50
best 2 acres Turnips	2,00
best bushel Turnips	50
best ½ acre Carrots	2,00
best ½ acre Beets	2,00
best bushel Beets	50
best ½ acre Ruta Baga Turnips	2,00
best ½ acre Beans, J. or R. and	50
2d best	1,00
best peck Beans	50
best peck Peas	50
best lot Cabbage	50
best 2 Pumpkins	1,00
FRUIT.	
best lot Winter Apples, not under 4 kinds, a peck of each kind, all raised by the person presenting, J. or R. and	1,00
2d best, J. or R.	
best variety Apples not under 10 kinds or less than 2 bushels in all, J. or R. and	1,00
best ½ bushel Apples	1,00
best specimens Pears	1,00
best specimens Plums, 3 or more kinds	1,00
best peck Quinces	1,00
best peck Peaches	1,00
best lot Grapes, 5 lbs. or more	1,00
DAIRY PRODUCTS.	
best 10 lbs. or more Butter, a silver butter knife and	2,00
(no 2d best offered for)	
best Cheese, 25 lbs. or more	2,00
best lot Honey, 25 lbs. or more	1,00
FLOUR AND BREAD.	
best barrel Wheat Flour	1,00
best 50 lbs. Buckwheat Flour	1,00
best specimen Flour Bread, with written statement of manner of making it	1,00
best Rye and Indian, same conditions	1,00
HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.	
best Fulled Cloth, 10 yards or more	2,00
2d best	1,00
best Wool Flannel, 10 yards or more	1,00
2d best	50
best Cotton and Wool do. 10 yds or more	1,00
best Woolen Yarn Carpeting, 5 yds or more	2,00
2d best	1,00
best Rag Carpeting, 6 yds or more	1,00
2d best	50
best Hearth Rug	1,00
best ½ doz. pairs Men's Woolen Half Hose	50
best Woolen Shawl	1,00
2d best	50
best pound Woolen Yarn	50
best Quilt	2,00
2d best	1,00
best Bedspread	1,00
2d best	50
best specimen Needlework	1,00
2d best	50
best Lamp Mat	50
best Knit Tippet	50
best Wrought Shoes	50
best 2 pairs Mittens	50
best specimen raised Worsted work	50
best Straw Hats, 6 or more	1,00
best domestic Soap, 5 lbs. or more	1,00
MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.	
best single Wagon	2,00
best specimen Cabinet work	2,00
best Dress Coat	1,00
best Vest	50
best Wagon Harness	1,00
best ½ doz. Calf Skins finished	1,00
best ½ doz. Kip Skins	1,00
best ½ doz. sides Sole Leather	1,00
best lot finished Leather any other kind	1,00
best ½ doz. pairs Thick Boots	1,00
best 2 pairs sewed Calf Boots	1,00
best 2 pairs Ladies' Kid Shoes	1,00
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.	
best improved Sward Plow	3,00
2d best	1,00
best improved Seed Plow	2,00
2d best	1,00
best Subsoil Plow	1,00
best Grain Reaper	2,00
best Grass Cutter	2,00
best Grain Drill	2,00
best Corn Drill	1,00
best Fanning Mill	1,00
best Cultivator	1,00
best Harrow	50
best Roller	1,00
best improved Horse Rake	1,00
best Lime-Spreader	2,00
best portable Cider Mill	1,00
best portable Clover Huller	2,00
best doz. Scythes	1,00
best doz. Hay Forks	1,00
best ½ doz. Manure Forks	1,00
best ½ doz. Shovels	1,00
best ½ doz. Hoes	1,00
best ½ doz. Narrow Axes	1,00
any new and useful improvement in any farm machine, or implement, from $1 to $5, according to its value, at the discretion of the Committee.	
any new and useful improvement in any household machine, implement or article of furniture calculated to lighten the labor of females, from $1 to $5.	
MANURE.	
ten 4 horse loads compost Manure, best quality, prepared at least expense, by any new process, a statement in writing to be given of materials used, mode of preparation, expense, &c.	4,00
2d best	3,00
FARM ACCOUNTS.	
best account of Farm Operations for the season, giving the management of stock, crops, any improvement in fencing, plowing, seeding, cultivating and harvesting crops, together with expenses and income of the farm, to be presented to the Committee on Crops on or before the first Monday in January next, and premium awarded by them	3,00
greatest profits from ½ acre of land in any crop or crops, full statement in writing of expense of labor, manure, &c., with true value of crop, certified under oath, J. or R. and	1,50
2d best	2,00

The same animal or article shall take the same premium in the same class but once, nor be allowed to take a lower premium in rank than has previously been taken by the same.

The several Committees shall have liberty to recommend Honorary Premiums, to be paid by the Executive Committee as they may deem the funds of the Society will warrant, and also to award Diplomas to such contributors as they may deem worthy of that notice.

Editors who publish these proceedings to be Honorary Members, and exempted from the payment of any admission fee.

The Treasurer presented the following annual report, which was accepted:

Robt H. Laird, Treasurer, in account with the Union County Agricultural Society, for the year 1853.

DEBTOR.

By Cash received for memberships up to day of exhibition	$107 00
From County Treasury	100 00
	$207,000

CREDITOR.

To Cash paid, and ready to pay, on Premiums awarded by Committees as per printed schedule	$118 03
Henry Hess in lieu of Journal	1 00
5 copies Journal at 75 cts in Club	3 75
O. N. Worden for printing Blank certificates, Book for Society, Postage &c.	8 00
R. H. Laird and Jacob Gundy for services rendered Society in distributing certificates	2 75
Blank book for Treasurer	37
	$133 90
Balance in hand	73 10
	$207 00

In addition to the above, there is an unexpended balance of the Seventy-Five Dollars, pledged for the use of the Society, in charge of the Treasurer of the Committee of Arrangements at New Berlin, which will be acknowledged when paid over. R. H. L.

A communication received from the Allegheny County Agricultural Society, for co-operation in obtaining the passage of a law making the stealing of growing fruit, vegetables, grain, &c., larceny. Voted that we approve of such a law.

Voted that each Vice President furnish at our next meeting all the Memberships he can obtain, with the money (50 cents,) and that those from whom nothing shall then be heard be considered as dropped from our list; and that the Certificates of Membership be then ready to give out.

A valid subscription, from Lewisburg, of upwards of $75, conditional that the next Fair be held there, was presented.

Voted that the next Fair and Cattle Show of this Society be at Lewisburg on Thursday and Friday, 5th and 6th October next.

Adjourned to 2 P.M. on first Monday of May Court. O. N. Worden, Rec. Sec.

Correspondence of the Lewisburg Chronicle.

Bellevue, Erie Co., O., February 3, 1854.

I noticed in your paper, some time ago, that a man in Bradford county raised fifty-nine bushels of Wheat per acre. That is more than I ever knew to be raised in Pennsylvania. Some people might think that was more than could possibly grow on an acre, but I am satisfied it can. The farm I now live on produced, three years ago, one hundred and fourteen bushels on two acres; that would be fifty-seven bushels per acre, which is not quite up to Bradford county, but we can do better yet. William Schoch, formerly from Union county, now in Seneca county, Thompson township, raised last year an average of sixty bushels per acre from ten acres. He told me this himself, and he is a man whose word dare not be doubted for truth and veracity. Mr. Kline, two miles west of Bellevue, harvested from one eighty acre lot, three thousand one hundred and seventy-one bushels of wheat.

As for Corn, we can not raise as much as they do in some other places; 99 bushels shelled corn per acre, drew the premium last fall at our County Fair. Fifty bushels is an average crop with us on the prairie. Where they raise nothing but corn, there are farmers who raise as high as twenty thousand bushels, planting from one to five hundred acres. It is rather a good business here, when corn sells at fifty cents per bushel. It was up to 60 cents last summer. You might wonder where we find market for all our corn. There are two large distilleries near Bellevue, that use five hundred bushels per day, and always keep two thousand hogs on hand.

For raising Cloverseed, we can beat the world. Last year, Mr. Solomon Knauss had 80 bushels from seventeen acres, and this year William Schoch had four bushels to the acre from one field.

Our markets are nearly as good as with you. Wheat $1.56; Corn, 50 cts.; Cloverseed, $5; Oats, 35 cts.; Potatoes, 37½ cts.; Butter, 16 cts.

Your paper comes very regular. I generally get it on Tuesday, and sometimes on Monday. We have had very little snow here this winter, and no sleighing. I do hope you will nominate Mr. Pollock for Governor.

Yours Respectfully, M. P.

Seeds distributed by Congress.

In the House of Representatives, Washington, Feb. 7, on a motion to appropriate $10,000 out of the patent fund for the collection of agricultural statistics and the purchase of seeds, a long discussion took place. Mr. Middleswarth, of Pennsylvania, said—

"I have the honor ro represent a class of citizens who have a deep interest in this matter. The greater part of my constituents are agriculturists, and I think that if there is any class of the people of the United States that has not been protected by this Government, it is that class. Commerce, manufactures, and all other interests are protected, and have been from year to year protected; but nothing has been done for the farming interest, to which we are all so much indebted.

"Sir, I know, of my own personal knowledge, that seeds which have been obtained from the Patent Office have been of very great use in the country that I come from. I suppose that it is known to every gentleman on this floor that even the best kinds of seeds—wheat of the finest quality—will, after it has been used for a considerable length of time in particular soils, deteriorate. It will not be what it was when first planted.

"The sending of seed, even from the North to the South, and from the South to the North, is of great advantage. I have no doubt that the exchange of seeds with other countries would be of far greater advantage. I do not think that $10,000 or even $20,000 could be better appropriated than for the advancement of the interests of the farmer.

"Mr. Chairman, from whom do we obtain the means of subsistence? Certainly from the agricultural portion of our citizens. The welfare of our country is in their hands.

"The farmer has heretofore been looked upon as of those who were unworthy of the national notice; but that day has gone by. The farmer, if honest and industrious now-a-days holds a respectable and even enviable position in society.

"I hope the appropriation may be granted. I would rather it were larger. If any gentleman will take the trouble to go to the Patent Office, and examine the different kinds of corn there for inspection, he will see that the quality of that grain could be vastly improved in his own country, I do not care where he comes from. I have seen some of the best specimens of corn in the Patent Office that I have ever witnessed in my life, and corn which was raised from seed distributed by this Government."

The motion was finally agreed to.

The Consolidated City.

We learn from a report made to the Legislature in 1850, by Mr. Fernon, that the area of the old city proper is 14024 acres; Southwark, 508¼ acres; Northern Liberties, 320 acres; Spring Garden, 1100 acres; Kensington, 1238 acres; Moyamensing, 1486 acres; seven boroughs, 5384 acres; twelve townships, 63,000; total, 74,259 acres. The estimates vary from this amount to 77,000 acres. The city extends from Darby creek on the south of Poquessing creek on the north, a distance of twenty-two miles, and up the Schuylkill measuring from Kensington about ten miles. It is estimated that there are one hundred and twenty square miles in the city. According to the calculation of the Consolidation Committee in November last, the debt of the city, county and districts, was $14,961,735. To this, $4,500,000 since contracted, should be added—making the aggregate near nineteen millions and a half. The property of the various corporations in stocks, real estate, &c., is valued at about $14,000,000. This pays an annual interest on the amount. The actual burden is therefore about five millions and a half. The population at this time is probably 475,000. The whole of taxable property at last assessment was $155,260,000.—*Philad. Register.*

Grace Greenwood.

The gifted writer who has won such a wide and beautiful reputation around the hearthstones of this country, under the name of Grace Greenwood, was born in Pompey, a quiet agricultural town in Onondaga county, N. Y. Her family name was Sara G. Clarke, which by her marriage with Mr. Leander K. Lippincott, of Philadelphia, in October last, is again changed; but the appellation by which she will be best known in the history of American literature, is that under which she made her earliest appearance in the field of authorship, and attracted a multitude of appreciative and admiring readers.

The first years of her childhood were spent with her parents, and a large family of brothers and sisters, in a pleasant rural home in her native place. Here she acquired that face-to-face familiarity with nature, that wild passion for out-door sports and exercises which made her a sort of Die Vernon at an early age, and which, if we may judge from her writings, the experience of maturer life has never quite taken out of her heart. No one but a genuine country-girl, with eye and soul alive to all the enchantments of woods and waters, and verdant fields, could have given the living description of Beauty which we find in one of her published letters. "Beauty," says the jocund Grace, "is no fragile, rouged, and powdered ball-room belle; but a wild, blooming, vigorous nymph of the mountains, a bounding, sparkling Undine, amid green dells and dashing water-falls. Her eye flashes not back the glaring brilliancy of the gay saloon, but warm sunshine and clear starlight; and her voice is not tuned to the harp and guitar, but sings with the wild bird and laughs with the rivulet.—Hebe herself was no luxurious resident of a marble palace, with silken couches and velvet carpets, but reclined beneath the shades and danced amid the dews and moving splendors of the sacred mountain of the Gods. The Muses and Graces were all young ladies of rural propensities and most unrefined habits."

A little incident of her childhood is related in one of her juvenile works, which shows the precocious development of that spirit of enterprise and romance which seems to be ingrained in her natural temperament. On a certain occasion it appears that the young madcap had called forth the displeasure of her affectionate mother, by indulging in a wild equestrian performance which had nearly ended in broken bones. "It happened," says Grace, "that I had on that day a nice new dress, which I had sadly soiled by my fall from the pony; so that when I reached home, my mother was greatly displeased. I suppose I made a very odd appearance. I was swinging my bonnet in my hand, for I had a natural dislike to any sort of covering for the head. My thick, dark hair, had become unbraided and was blowing over my eyes. I was never very fair in complexion, and my face, neck and arms had become completely browned by that summer's exposure. My mother took me by the shoulder, set me down in a chair, not very gently, and looked at me with a real frown on her sweet face. She told me in plain terms that I was an idle careless child! I put my finger in one corner of my mouth, and swung my foot back and forth. She said I was a great romp! I pouted my lip, and drew down my black eye-brows. She said I was more like a wild young squaw than a white girl! Now this was too much; it was what I called "twitting upon facts;" and it was not the first time the delicate question of my complexion had been touched upon without due regard for my feelings. I was not to blame for being dark—I did not make myself—I *had* seen fairer women than my mother. I felt that what she said was neither more nor less than an insult; and when she went out to see about supper, and left me alone, I brooded over her words, growing more and out of humor, till my naughty heart became so hot and big with anger, that it almost choked me. At last, I bit my lip and looked very stern, for I had made up my mind to something great. Before I let you know what this was, I must tell you that the Onondaga tribe of Indians had their village not many miles from us. Every few months, parties of them came about with baskets and mats to sell. A company of five or six had been to our house that very morning, and I knew that they had their encampment in our woods, about half a mile distant.—These I knew very well, and had quite a liking for them, never thinking of being afraid of them, as they always seemed kind and peaceable.

To them I resolved to go in my trouble. They would teach me to weave baskets, to fish and to shoot with the bow and arrow. They would not make me study, nor wear bonnets, and they would never find fault with my dark complexion. I remember to this day how softly I slid out of the house that evening. I never stopped once, nor looked round, but ran swiftly till I reached the woods. I did not know which way to go to find the encampment, but wandered about in the gathering darkness, till I saw a light glimmering through the trees at some distance. I made my way through way through the bushes and brambles, and after a while came upon my Indian friends. In a very pretty place, down in a hollow, they had built them some wigwams with hemlock boughs. There were in the group two Indians, two squaws, and a boy about fourteen years old. But I must not forget the baby or rather pappoose, who was lying in a sort of cradle, made of a large, hollow piece of bark which was hung from the branches of a tree by pieces of the wild grape vine. The young squaw, its mother, was swinging it back and forth, now far into the dark shadows of the pine and hemlock, now out into the warm firelight, and chanting to the child a wild Indian lullaby. The men sat on a log, smoking gravely and silently; while the boy lay on the ground, playing lazily with a great yellow hound, which looked lean and starved, like all Indian dogs. The old squaw was cooking the supper in a large iron pot, over a fire built among a pile of stones.

"For some time, I did not dare to go forward, but at last I went up to the old squaw and looking up into her good natured face, said, "I am come to live with you and learn to make baskets, for I don't like my home" She did not say anything to me, but made some exclamation in her own language, and the others came crowding round. The boy laughed, shook me by the hand, and said I was a brave girl; but the old Indian grinned horribly and laid his hand on my forehead saying, "What a pretty head to scalp!" I screamed and hid my face in the young squaw's blue cloth skirt. She spoke soothingly and told me not to be afraid, for nobody would hurt me. She then took me to her wigwam, where I sat down and tried to make myself at home. But somehow I didn't feel quite comfortable. After a while the old squaw took off the pot, and called us to supper. This was succotash, that is, a dish of corn and beans, cooked with salt pork. We all sat down on the ground near the fire and eat out of great wooden bowls, with wooden spoons, which I must say tasted rather too strong of the pine. But I did not say so then—by no means—but ate a great deal more than I wanted, and pretended to relish it, for fear they would think me ill-bred. I would not have had them know but what I thought their supper was served in the very best style, and by perfectly polite and genteel people. I was a little shocked, however, by one incident during the meal. While the young squaw was helping her husband for the third or fourth time, she accidentally dropped a little hot succotash on his hand. He growled like a dog, and struck her across the face with his spoon. I thought that she showed a most Christian spirit, for she hung her head and did not

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