

AMERICAN CITIZEN.

"Let us have Faith that Right makes Might; and in that Faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it"—A. LINCOLN.

VOLUME 2.

BUTLER, BUTLER COUNTY, PA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 1865.

NUMBER 43.

The Poor Whites Again.

We must educate them. That is our own answer to the question—What shall we do for the poor whites? We must create a new South by taking the negro in one hand and the poor white in the other and leading them forth from their squalid huts and cabins into the pleasant cottages and school-rooms of Northern civilization. It is ignorance that has degraded both classes; it has been because the South had run-shops where the North has School houses, and slavemasters where the North has liberties, that we have had a long war and have now a heavy debt.—The schoolmaster was abroad when the poor whites squatted, and he found no attractions to induce him to return.—What he should have given, the mothers of the poor whites could not supply.—Had every teacher in the North enlisted in the army, the rising generation would hardly have raised them. For it is our glory that our women are everywhere a highly cultivated class; that there is hardly a position now held by men in any of our schools or colleges for which a woman, nearly equally well qualified, could not be quickly provided in an emergency. But the women of the South are more illiterate than the men. Of the 88,520 adult Virginians who, in 1850, could neither read nor write, 53,135 were women; and in every Southern State the proportion was in favor of the men.—This accounts, in a large measure, for the greater virulence of Southern women, which has everywhere been displayed against our forces of occupation. Saved by the fact of their sex from the dangers of war, and shut out, by their gross ignorance, from all opportunities of examining into its remote causes, they have been the zealous champions of a movement which would have perpetuated Slavery, and thereby, as every Southern mother knows, would have entailed generations more of home tragedies, of jealousies, of secret forms of social corruption; for it would have caused the nation to suspect always, and often to know, that each of her female servants was her rival, or the mistress of her sons, and many a secret shudder it would have caused her as she thought of the perils to which the daughters of her household were constantly exposed. Half has not been told of the misery which Slavery brought into every Southern home. And yet—so potent is ignorance—the women, who were the chief victims of Slavery, were its chief companions also.

The war has placed the poor whites in a position where we can reach them, for the first time in our history, without begging leave of their political and social superiors, who persistently and consistently were hostile to their elevation.—To be sure there were exceptions to this general rule; as where Memminger and Aiken, in Charleston, succeeded in establishing common schools in the teeth of a bold opposition by the Rhettists and others, who did not hesitate to say that the poor people had no better right to an education than the slaves. But such exceptions were few in number and far between in territory. The war has also enabled the poor whites to appreciate to some extent their own degraded position; and the revelation has visited not a few of them that there is no necessary alliance between ignorance and poverty—that the mechanics and farm laborers and small farmers of the North are as well educated as the children of the rich planters who lorded it over them. The war has rendered the poor whites another service—it has taught them habits of regularity, and it has forced them to work. It has brought them into contact, also, with men from every section of the country, and new ideas have thus found their way into regions where nothing less powerful than an army could have carried them for us. Still more, it has shown them that their old leaders were unfit for their position; that "a rail-splitter and a tailor," after all, were able to put down the united chivalry in arms. They are learning another lesson now. They see the proudest of the haughty slave-masters sue daily and humbly for pardon from a tailor who was once a poor white. This spectacle is "demoralizing" them hopefully. Sometimes we may have secret doubts of it, but perhaps, if we could see the end from the beginning, we would say that everything happens for the best. Certainly, in order that we might remain a united people it was necessary that the old South should be reduced to its original elements.

It may be said that if the war has done so much for the poor whites, why is there the listlessness and apathy of which we have complain d? We believe that it is mainly because the poor whites have not been accustomed to independent political action and do not know how to go about it. They have no leaders—for the

old ruling class absorbed or exiled "all the talents;" and those men who would naturally aspire to represent the poor whites are not yet sure how the political chess-board stands. In other words, they are on the fence, and do not know on which side of it the Federal loves, and fishes will be stored.

It will not be possible for the Freedmen's Aid Societies to educate the poor whites even if they were disposed to do so, because the existing prejudices of the people would prevent them from working harmoniously with both classes. They would be obliged to neglect one or the other. It has been proposed to establish a National Bureau which shall superintend the educational interests of the nation. The South made nothing of the National Government, and now there is a disposition to make everything of it.—Buckle has demonstrated by the records of other countries that the less a government does for a science the better for it; and our own national interference with the science of agriculture—as one illustration—does not show that we have improved on the method of Europe. The English historian says that the right men seldom get the offices or the rewards; and that when they do, this "protective spirit," as he calls it, prostrates individual enterprise and ends in the downfall of the interest it was designed to foster. Any attempt to "run the schools" by the nation would result in fierce sectarian contests and put back the cause, by these and other quarrels, for a quarter of a century. Already we see specks of this danger in the management of the Freedmen's Aid Societies; and if it sometimes shows its head in voluntary organizations it would inevitably leap, armed *cap-a-pie*, into a national Bureau of Education.

Our suggestions is that voluntary associations be formed for the secular education of the poor whites, and that, at the same time, lecturers be sent among them to explain the true character of our Government, its origin and history, the heresy of State Sovereignty in its Southern interpretation, and the various questions of living interest which now divide, or will soon divide, the great political parties. Hitherto, the poor whites have never heard other than the Southern version of all our controversies, and hence came alienations which can only be permanently overcome by the utmost diligence on our part now. Let this plan be tried in the meantime, and when the Southern Constitutions are submitted to Congress, it may be pertinent then to discuss and decide whether any State shall have the "reserved right" to neglect the education of any portion of its people.—N. Y. Tribune

The Wirz Trial.

WASHINGTON CITY, Sept. 31, 1865. Nothing new in the Wirz trial has been brought to light during the past week.—Though the defense have used all sorts of strategy and summoned all sorts of witnesses to their aid, nothing yet has been deduced very favorable to the prisoner.—Thus far the main point of the defense has been to prove that Wirz only acted as directed by his superior officer, Gen. Winder, and he is responsible and not Wirz. This has been done to some extent, but not sufficient as yet to clear Wirz of any of the inhuman cruelties proved against him. We learn that rebel official documents have been discovered of great importance, tending to give much light on the *modus operandi* of working that diabolical prison pen. Letter press copies of original letters and documents fix the crime of many of the worst cruelties there practised on high rebel officials. Yesterday subpoenas were issued and an officer dispatched to summon before the Court Gen. Lee, Joe Johnston, Howell, Cobb, Robert Ould, ex-Governor Brown, of Georgia, and other noted rebel leaders. The testimony of these persons will be looked for with interest, and will no doubt be very lengthy.

Yesterday the White House was again besieged by applicants for pardon, both male and female. Such a vast number of applicants had accumulated that the President ordered a stamp fac-simile of his signature, by which means he can rush through pardons at the rate of a thousand per day should it be necessary if all applications are granted, which from present appearance is quite likely. Those rebels are generally all prepared to swear any and everything, first to get a pardon, and then to get an office. Several rebel soldiers' applications for clerkships in the Departments have been received and a few it is said have been appointed.—Hundreds of noted secess' women are seeking clerkships in the treasury department.

The complexion of the next Congress is a matter of considerable gossip among the southerners now here. In the Sen-

ate 25 States are now represented by 85 Unionists and 11 Democrats. According to the party division that existed before the war the House stands 140 Unionists to 41 Democrats. Should all the Southern States now without representation, whose senators and members are yet to be elected, choose candidates opposed to universal suffrage, and should they all be admitted, the Senate will stand 47 Unionists to 27 Democrats; and the House 160 Unionists to 92 Democrats. This is consoling information for the Copperheads. Prominent Democrats who are here figuring with the southerners say that there will be a majority of ten in favor of admitting the southern members who will come here prepared to take the test oath. It is very doubtful if any of them be admitted under any consideration whatever during its coming session.

The Provost Marshal officers of Alexandria, Fairfax Court House and Fort Albany have been abolished and the records of the same turned over to Col. Ingraham.

To-day expires by limitation the order of the Government authorities prohibiting the disinterment and removal North of the bodies of the Union soldiers who are buried in the different cemeteries in this vicinity. A great many bodies will undoubtedly be removed by relatives and friends during the fall months.

The Christian Commission closed business yesterday turning over to the Freedmen's Bureau the stock of goods remaining on hand. The Christian Commission has been a noble and great institution. With hundreds of thousands of dollars less than the Sanitary Commission it has done much more and efficient work. It is held in much more esteem by the soldiers. The Sanitary Commission is also about to close its labors. It is not so liberal with the goods remaining on hand, preferring to sell them off at auction and raising a cash fund. It has now over \$400,000 in money. It is a query what will be done with this surplus money on hand. As the war has ended it is no use keeping up a lot of High salaried officers.

The Secretary of the Treasury has gone to Indiana on a two weeks leave. Our city is very dull. No trade or business of any kind in operation. And yet the Hotels are as much crowded as if Congress was in session. There is scarcely a room to be had. Four-fifths of all the guests are Southerners and many of them have engaged rooms already for the whole winter.—Franklin Repository

An Act.

To provide for the payment of bounties to volunteers in the County of Butler.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,

That the School Directors or a majority of them, of the several townships and boroughs of the county of Butler shall have the power to levy, assess and collect on the property now taxable for State and county purposes a tax sufficient to pay a bounty of not exceeding Three Hundred Dollars to each volunteer enlisted and credited on the quotas of said districts for the present or any future calls and drafts.

SECTION 2. That in levying and collecting said tax the said Directors shall have power to include in the same a Poll or Per capita tax on Each taxable Citizen who is, or may be subject to a draft, of not exceeding Twenty-five Dollars.

SECTION 3. That in case said Bounties have already been raised and paid to said volunteers in any of said districts, by money subscribed, loaned, advanced or paid by or through individuals or Committees acting for the Citizens, and with the understanding or Condition that the same should be repaid by general taxation, the said Directors are hereby authorized and required to repay the same to said persons out of said monies so assessed and collected.

SECTION 4. That in assessing and collecting said taxes said Directors shall have power to make such *exonerations and exemptions* as they may deem just and proper, and shall have power to appoint such Collectors and issue such Warrants and take such Bonds for the collecting and safety of such monies as is provided by existing Laws for the assessing and collecting of State and county taxes, and do all other acts and things necessary in the premises.

SECTION 5. All funds so raised for said purposes shall be audited by the township or borough Auditors of any of said districts, and if any surplus exists, the same shall be paid over by said Directors to the Common School fund of said districts.

SECTION 6. The said county of Butler

shall be exempt from the provisions of the General Bounty Law, approved Twenty-fifth March, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four. Wherever said provisions are inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

HENRY C. JOHNSTON,
Speaker of the House of Reps.
JOHN P. PENNY,
Speaker of the Senate.

A Supplement.

To an Act to provide for the payment of bounties to Volunteers in the County of Butler.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,

That if the board of school Directors, or a majority of them, in any of the townships or boroughs of said county, shall neglect or refuse to levy and collect a tax under the provisions of the first section of the act to which this is a supplement, and a majority of the qualified electors of any of the said townships or boroughs shall have petitioned the said directors in favor of said taxation, then the Court of Common Pleas of said county shall, on petition of any ten of said electors and upon due proof of all the facts, have power to proceed by mandamus to compel the said board of directors, to discharge the duties imposed upon them by this act, and the act to which this is supplementary.

SECTION 2. That if any of said Boards of School Directors, or a majority of them, shall neglect, or refuse, to levy and collect a tax, under the provisions of the third section of said act, then on due proof of all the facts in the case, the court aforesaid, shall have the power to proceed, by mandamus, to compel the said defaulting boards of Directors to discharge the duties so imposed upon them by said act.

SEC. 3. That the word "taxable," in the second section, and the words "understanding, or," in the third section, and all, after the word "whenever," in the sixth section, are hereby stricken out of said act, to which this is a supplement.

SEC. 4. That the said boards of School Directors in making the Exonerations and Exemptions, provided by the act to which this is a supplement, shall Exonerate and Exempt the property of all persons who have lost two or more sons in the service; also, the property of those who now have two or more sons in the service, without having received any local bounty; also, the property of all widows and families, whose husbands or fathers have fallen in battle, or died in the service.

HENRY C. JOHNSTON,
Speaker of the House of Reps.
JOHN P. PENNY,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved the Twenty-second day of August, Anno Domini, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-three.

A. G. CURTIN.

An Act.

A further supplement to an Act to provide for the payment of bounties to volunteers in the county of Butler.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the provisions of the act entitled an act to provide for the payment of Bounties to volunteers in the county of Butler, approved fourteenth day of April, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and also the supplement thereto approved the twenty-second day of August, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, be, and the same is hereby repealed, so far as the same relates to the townships of Marion, Mercer, Oakland and Jefferson, and the Boroughs of Millerstown and Harrisville.

SECTION 2. That the property of returned soldiers, or those who have paid commutation or furnished substitutes, and not liable to the draft; also all the property of all soldiers now in the service and credited to said county; also of widowed mothers of soldiers who died in the service, is hereby exempt from taxation for bounty purposes.

SECTION 3. That it is the true intent and meaning of the act to which this is a supplement, and its supplement, that the several boards of School Directors shall have full power to make such *exonerations and exemptions* (in addition to those specially authorized) as they may deem just and proper.

SECTION 4. The Board of School Directors shall exonerate and exempt the property of those who have lost, or may hereafter lose, two or more sons in the service; also the property of those who now have, or may hereafter have, two or more sons in the service; also the property of those who have lost, or may here-

after lose one son in the service, and one remaining in the service; also the property of those whose only son died, or may hereafter die in the service, or whose only son is in the service; or may hereafter enter the service; also the property of widows and families whose husbands or fathers have fallen in battle or died in the service. Provided, That the fourth section of an act supplement to an act to provide for the payment of Bounties to volunteers in the county of Butler, approved twenty-second day of August, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, is hereby repealed.

A. G. OLMSTED,
Speaker of the House of Reps.
W. W. J. TURRELL,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved the twenty-third day of March, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

A. G. CURTIN.

Manifesto of the Emperor of Austria.

TO MY PEOPLE: To maintain the power of the monarchy, by a participation of all in the management of the highest questions of the State; to insure the unity of the realm, by respecting the manifoldness of its component parts and the historical development of their several laws and rights, this was the leading idea expressed in my diploma of October 20, 1860, and which, for the welfare of my faithful subjects, will still continue to be my guide. In that diploma, the right of the different people to have a share and vote in the legislature and in the administration of the finances, sure pledges for furthering the interests both of the subject and of the different countries, was solemnly guaranteed and established irrevocably. The fundamental law for the legal representation of the Empire, which was promulgated in my Patent of February 26, 1861, laid down the form according to which this right was to be exercised, and in the 6th article of the said Patent I announced that the pre-existing fundamental laws, as well those then revised and those which I now publish, were, all taken together and in their embodiment, to be considered as forming the constitution of my Empire. To vivify this dead form, to shape harmoniously the constitutional structure in all its parts was the task committed to the combined free action of all my people. I cannot but remember with warm acknowledgement the readiness with which, during a series of years, a large portion of the realm, following my behest, sent its deputed representatives to the capital of the Empire, there to debate and solve some important questions about the laws, the State, and its economy. Yet my intention, to which I still unchangeably adhere, the intention of offering to the intention of offering to the interests of the age the sure guarantee afforded by a constitutional form of government, whose strength and whose signification should lie in the free participation of all the different peoples in the work, has remained till now unfulfilled. A large portion of the Empire, warm and patriotic as were the hearts that beat there, persisted in holding aloof from the common legislative action, endeavoring to confirm scruples about legality by acting separately, and thus finding differences of meaning in these fundamental laws which were intended in their collective form only to make up the sum of the constitution of the realm.

My duty as a ruler forbids me any longer to ignore a fact which hinders the realization of my intention, that of aiming to develop a free constitutional life, and which menaces also the rights of all the nations in their very foundations. But also for those countries which do not belong to the Hungarian crown, it is the fundamental law, which at article 6 of the Patent of February is designated as the Constitution of the realm, that the legislative rights emanate to all are vested and there only. As long as the first condition for a vital embodiment of the fundamental law, as well as clearly discernible harmony of its parts is wanting, the great work contemplated, which would assuredly bring so many blessings, cannot become a reality, the task, namely, of giving to the Empire a durable constitutional form.

In order now to redeem my imperial word, in order not to sacrifice the essence to the mere form, I have resolved to aim at coming to an understanding with the lawful representatives of my people in the eastern part of my Empire, and to lay before the Hungarian and the Croatian Diet, for their acceptance, the diploma of Oct. 20, 1860, and the fundamental laws relating to the representation of the empire, which were made known when the Patent of Feb. 26, 1861, was published. Considering, however, that it is judicially impossible to have one and the same def-

inition a subject of debate in one part of the Empire, while in other parts it is treated as an Imperial law, binding for all, I find myself obliged to set aside the purpose of the law relating to the representation of the empire—at the same time positively declaring that, should the decision of the representatives of these Eastern Kingdoms contain a modification of the aforesaid laws compatible with the continuance of the empire in its integrity and power, I reserve to myself the right, before pronouncing a resolution myself, to lay it before the legal representatives of the other kingdoms and countries, in order to learn and appreciate their equally important decision.—I can only regret that this unavoidable step brings with it a cessation of the constitutional labors of the lesser Reichsrath. However, the organic connection of all the principles of all the determining the united action of the Reichsrath, and the necessity for its being observed similarly by all, makes a disjoining of the law, and anything like a mere partial maintenance of its efficacy quite impossible.

As long as the Representative Assembly of the Empire has not met, it will be the business of my Government to take measures for those matters which cannot be deferred, and among those especially such as are to be counted those which regard the financial and economical interests of the realm. Free and open, the path will with a due observance of legitimate right lead to mutual understanding, and, what I confidently hope to find, a conciliatory spirit, too; one ready to make sacrifices, as soon as mature comprehension guides the judgment of my faithful people, to whom these Imperial words are confidently addressed. FRANCIS JOSEPH, Vienna, Sept. 20, 1865.

The Wirz Trial in England.

The correspondent of the (London) Times has re-enforced his original statement of the atrocities committed by the Rebels on our prisoners, by another letter, summarizing the evidence on the Wirz trial. The Times, with characteristic meanness, tucks his communication away on the inside of the paper and prints it solid, but the effect of such testimony is not to be overcome in that way. The written word abides. The sneers of the Tory press, the pleas in avoidance of Mr. Benjamin, and the inventions of other less known partisans of the Rebellion will not hold their ground in England against the reiterated assertions, backed by facts, of such letters as the American correspondent of the Times has lately written. The trial of Wirz, he admits, shows that "the bitter feeling which has been excited in the North by stories of barbarity practiced in Southern prisons is founded on sense, reason, and indisputable evidence. . . . It is incidentally bringing out proof of the fact which when I stated it, with the strongest evidence before me, was peremptorily and instantly denied—the fact, namely, that the Confederate Government knew of the misery and death which reigned supreme at Andersonville." Elsewhere this correspondent says:

"But, whatever the result of the trial may be as regards Wirz, it is as clear as noonday that awful atrocities were committed against the unhappy Northern soldiers at Andersonville. The *terrore* would be no answer, even if a counter-charge of cruelty could be proved against the North. But it cannot. Let those who say it can bring forward their evidence, as the Government here is doing. Do not let heresy be set against sworn testimony; do not let what one man 'saw' weigh against what hundreds 'saw' as well as well as 'saw.' I say again that the barbarous treatment of Northern prisoners in Southern pens fills the Northern people with anger. This is not an opinion, but a fact, which every Englishman now traveling in this country can confirm, provided his mind be not filled and choked with forgone conclusions. You may see it in every street, and hear it in every house."

His letter is filled with extracts from the testimony of different witnesses on the trial, condensing it with a point and force hardly any American journal has thought it worth while to attempt. He does not omit to show that the most damaging evidence comes from Rebel officers. We do not object to quoting once more the official statement of Col. Chandler, Rebel Inspector General, begging his superiors to remove Winder and appoint—

"Some one who at least will not advocate deliberately and in cold blood the propriety of leaving them (the prisoners) in their present condition until their number has been sufficiently reduced by death to make the present arrangements sufficient for their accommodation, and who will not consider it a matter of self-laudation and boasting that he has never been inside the stocks, a place the horrors of which are difficult to describe, which is a disgrace to civilization and the condition of which he might, by the exercise of a little energy and judgment, even with the limited means at his command, have considerably improved."

The *Saturday Review* and other Anglo-Rebel journals with large funds invested in the Confederate cotton loan had better abandon their case. It is not of great consequence what England may think on such matters, except so far as the change of opinion abroad fore-shadows the final verdict of history.

Old Age in the United States.

The following lively but exaggerated description from the pen of George Augustus Sala has a spice of truth in it.—Our readers, we think, can easily separate the wheat from the chaff:

The drollest thing is, that when the American lady comes to be about fifty years old, she gets over her leanness and her plainness, and suddenly becomes young again. The population of Broadway seems to be composed (apart from the middle-aged ladies, who are as a rule heart-rendering in appearance) of pretty young ladies of sixteen, and pretty young ladies of sixty. No, sir, I have not tripped in my speech; I repeat, young ladies of sixty. A juvenile grandmother is anything but a rarity here; gushing young things of three score are not uncommon; and I have ventured to cast more than one humbly tender glance at a damsel of seventy. You very seldom meet with an old man in society. The men work, fret, smoke, speculate, chew, or drink themselves to death at a comparatively early age. Nor are old men very popular in the States; they are passed by, as "played out." I have heard more than one lawgiver and statesman called "worn out cases." It was an unflattering topic of sarcasm against the Hon. Edward Everett that he was so very old; and George Bancroft, the illustrious historian of the United States—a writer who combines the accuracy of an Alison with the research of a Pinnock, the copiousness of a Grimsbow and the vivacity of a Peter Parley—is usually spoken of by the irreverent young men of Gotham as "old Fuss and Feathers." The truth is that American men have little reverence for age among their own sex. Strong, active, energetic, unscrupulous, noisy, pushing men, they admire and almost defy; but age generally brings with it wisdom, experience, calmness, judgement, depreciation of wild enthusiasm, dislike to rash innovation. These qualities are not to the taste of Young America. They are not go-ahead. They do not go far towards making up the beau-ideal of transatlantic humanity: "A real live man, Sir,—" I have heard of venerable partners in mercantile firms being superseded and pushed off their stools, as obsolete and incompetent by their juniors; and an American—mind, an American, not an English—friend once told me that he saw over a storefront in Jersey City this announcement—"Tompkins & Father." Therein lay a mine of philosophy. Tompkins the elder was evidently "played out;" he was a "cuss" and of "no account;" and "very small potatoes." He was permitted, just for charity's sake, to continue in the business, mind the shop, dust the counter, and see the shutters put up by the black porter; but the real live man in the concern was young Tompkins, who, despising and disparaging his entiquated progenitor, was making rapid strides, no doubt towards ranking for Congress, taking the presidency of a petroleum company, and putting himself in nomination for the highest offices in the State—say the secretaryship of the treasury, the postmaster-ship of Communipaw, or the light house-keeping of Cape Kooob.

An old American gentleman, when you do meet him, which is but rarely, is generally a most delightful companion—very benign, very tolerant, very free from prejudice, and usually a strong friend to England. The old American lady, whom, fortunately, you often meet, is the most charming person it is possible to conceive. See her in Broadway; handsomely, but warmly and sensibly clad; smiling and nodding and joking; with her wrinkled but rosy little face; in guise something between a waxen peach and a well-preserved pipin; with the nicest set of artificial teeth that Doctor Zachary could carve from a rhinoceros' tusk; and her own hair disposed in snowy silvery bunches on either of her temples.

—Spring Brook, the splendid mansion of Geo. H. Stuart near Philadelphia, was sold at auction yesterday to Edwin Forrest, the actor for \$70,000.

—Hon. Ezra Cornell was yesterday unanimously nominated by the Union Convention as State Senator from the Oswego (21st) District.

—The Provost-Marshal-General's office at St. Louis is closed, and all its documents and archives have been packed up for transportation to Washington.