

BITLER CITIZEN

JOHN H. & V. C. FEGEY, PROP'RS. Entered at the Postoffice at Butler as second-class matter.

HON. JOHN HALL has been re-appointed Marshal of the United States Courts for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

COURT this week is engaged in the trial of criminal cases, Judges Bredin and Storey occupying the Bench. Proceedings next week.

MR. ROBERT LINCOLN, son of the martyred President, received more votes than any other candidate as a Presidential Elector in Illinois.

THE revenue to the United States derived from the tax on spirits and tobacco amounted to about a hundred millions of dollars during the past year.

MR. FRANKLIN JAMISON, of Allegheny township, was appointed foreman of the Grand Jury last week instead of Mr. Westerman, who became too ill to attend Court.

FOR pensions, including the amount paid for arrears of pensions under the late law, there was paid during the past fiscal year the large sum of nearly fifty-seven millions of dollars.

THE Republican Committee of Montgomery county met in session last week and passed a resolution instructing that county to vote for Mr. Grow for U. S. Senator. The delegation from the county is one senator and five members, making six additional votes for Grow. His friends now claim his election certain. He is undoubtedly the popular favorite, taking the State all over.

"FOR REVENUE ONLY."

After the experience of the late election one would have supposed that the tariff question was pretty well settled, and that we would not soon have heard again of the "for revenue only" principle. But not so. On the very first day of Congress last week a leading Democrat introduced a bill of that principle, and declared it his intention to urge it and make the Pennsylvania and all other Democrats show their hands for or against it. He declares it the true Democratic doctrine and appears disposed to have it continued as an issue in our politics. Of him it may be said "whom the Gods wish to destroy they first make mad."

PRESIDENT HAYES.

In another place will be found a synopsis of President Hayes' late annual message to Congress, together with extracts from the same on some interesting subjects. This is the last annual message the President can deliver, and he takes occasion to give what may be regarded as a general review of the policy of his administration. There is no doubt that it has been one of singular purity, honesty and fidelity to the public interest, and will go down and be recorded in history as such. Compared with the closing scenes of some former administrations it stands out in striking contrast. There are but one or two questions dealt with in his late message that there exists any difference of opinion upon. His civil service ideas would seem to be impracticable in this country where we have parties, and where the successful party expect, and in one sense, have the right to fill the offices. The object is good if it could be enforced from the highest to the lowest office. But to merely establish it for minor places in the Government always seemed to us of but little public benefit.

The retirement of the legal tender currency, or greenbacks, is another question that the majority of his party and of the country would likely differ with him upon. Although issued as a war measure, as he states, yet their convenience and use are such that it would be difficult to see how we could get along without them. Nothing better could be substituted as paper money and what is singular the President points out no substitute for them. That currency is firmly secured, of great convenience and general use, and in our opinion should be maintained and continued as the best and safest paper money we ever had and as an actual necessity to the people.

DO THEY MEAN TROUBLE?

We can hardly believe that the Democrats in Congress mean trouble, by calling up, on the first day of the meeting of that body last week, a resolution relative to the counting of the electoral votes next February. Yet it looks as if something was intended, from the effort made to force it through on such short notice. It is true there is an obscurity in the language of the Constitution of the United States as to who or how the electoral votes of the different States shall be counted. They are "directed to the President of the Senate," who, "in the presence of the Senate and House shall open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted." Now it would seem to be intended, and seem to be in accordance with all our daily transactions of life, that the person or officer to whom any papers or documents are "directed" is the person who has the right to open them and make known their contents. This would seem to give the Vice President the power to have those votes "counted." But, inasmuch as they are required to be opened "in the presence of the Senate and House," that would also seem as if those two bodies had some power and rights as to the proper counting of the votes. There was no difficulty since the origin of the government until the

election of 1876, four years ago, which was avoided by the creation, it will be recollected, of the Electoral Commission. Then there were double sets of returns from some of the States, which threatened trouble. But now there are no such returns, as yet known. And hence there would seem to be no reason for the hasty action now pressed in Congress by the Democratic members thereof. The pending bill gives either branch, Senate or House, the right to object to any return from any State, and prevent it from being "counted." This would certainly be dangerous and unwise. Both Houses should concur at least before the vote of any State was refused for any cause. But time should be taken and the Constitution either amended entirely, or a perfect bill matured and passed to remedy the present uncertainty in the language of the Constitution.

THE public debt is still a billion, eight hundred and eighty-six millions of dollars. President Hayes speaks of it in his late message to Congress as follows: "The debt of the United States, less cash in the Treasury and exclusive of accruing interest, attained its maximum of \$2,756,431,571.43 in August, 1865, and has since that time been reduced to \$1,886,019,504.65. Of the principal debt, \$168,738,160 has been paid since March 1, 1877, effecting an annual saving of interest of \$6,107,593. The burden of interest has also been diminished by the sale of bonds bearing a low rate of interest, and the application of the proceeds to the redemption of bonds bearing a higher rate. This annual saving, thus secured since March 1, 1877, is \$14,290,453.50. Within a short period over six hundred millions of five and six per cent. bonds will become redeemable. This presents a very favorable opportunity not only to further reduce the principal of the debt, but also to reduce the rate of interest on that which will remain unpaid. I call the attention of Congress to the views expressed on this subject by the Secretary of the Treasury in his annual report, and recommend prompt legislation, to enable the Treasury Department to complete the refunding of the debt which is about to mature."

A Synopsis of The President's Message. In his message the President refers to the late election, denouncing the Southern States for fraudulently counting out the votes of the negroes, thus virtually disfranchising them. He asks for the abolition of such a system. He speaks of the necessity of a general system of education in the South, urging that Congress shall make appropriations to this end and establish Federal supervision over the expenditure of such grants as it may make.

GOOD NEWS, IF TRUE. The following from the Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette is good railroad news, and we hope it may all soon come to pass. The Baltimore and Ohio road has for years been seeking connections north, and if this effort succeeds Butler county will be unanimous in its favor. The Gazette says: "The rumor that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company was interested in the combination made by the Pittsburgh, Titusville & Buffalo Railroad with other corporations, to build a direct line to Pittsburgh from the Titusville system, receives corroboration from the fact that the Baltimore and Ohio have had a corps of engineers for nearly two months surveying a route across the eastern part of Allegheny county, from Nine Mile run, on the Monongahela river, to Negley's run, on the Allegheny river. At the latter point the new railroad will bridge the river and the Allegheny Valley Railroad. North of the Allegheny river the road will run north from 'Sharpsburg and Pine Creek, and up Connoquenessing Creek. The necessary connecting road will be about forty miles long, and will strike the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad probably at New Hope or Hilliard, in the northern part of Butler county. Hilliard is the eastern terminus of the Shenango and Allegheny division of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad, and from New Hope there is almost an air line to Cleveland by the Mahoning division. The line from Nine Mile run to the Allegheny river was run more than ten years ago, and the surveys have been made in the old stakes which had been put in, it is expected that the Baltimore & Ohio Company will build the branch, but not before spring. The matter will be discussed at the annual meeting to be held in this city to-day, and then the Baltimore directors will make a personal inspection of the proposed route."

PRESIDENT HAYES thus refers to the transmission of power in our Government from one Administration to another, as illustrating the beauty and stability of our institutions: "The occurrence of the twenty-fourth election of Chief Magistrate has afforded another opportunity to the people of the United States to exhibit to the world a significant example of the peaceful and safe transmission of the power and authority of government from the public servant to the public servant in office about to expire to their newly chosen successors. This example cannot fail to impress profoundly thoughtful people of other countries with the advantages which Republican institutions afford. The immediate, general and cheerful acquiescence of all good citizens in the result of the election gives gratifying assurance to our country, and to its friends throughout the world, that a government based on the free consent of an intelligent and patriotic people possesses elements of strength, stability and permanency not found in any other form of government."

He calls attention to the fact that the legislation of the last Congress in regard to silver has failed to produce the effect then predicted. The United States produces more silver than any other country, and is directly interested in maintaining it as one of the precious metals. He recommends the legislation for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and asks for liberal appropriations for this purpose.

He recommends the completion of the new war department building, and the creation of a fire-proof building for the army medical museum and library. He commends to the attention of Congress the great services of the commander-in-chief of our armies during the war for the union, whose wise, firm and patriotic conduct did so much to bring the war to a successful conclusion. The legislation of the United States contains many precedents for the recognition of distinguished military merit, authorizing rank and emoluments to be conferred for eminent services to the country. An act of Congress authorizing the appointment of a captain-general of an army, with suitable provisions relating to a compensation, retirement and other details, would, in our judgment, be altogether fitting and proper, and be warmly approved by the country.

He recommends the establishment of American lines of steamers to carry the mails between our own ports and those of Mexico, Central America, South America, and trans-Pacific countries. He recommends the attorney-general's suggestion for the establishment of an immediate court of errors and appeals. He advises the increase of schools for Indian education, as much good is accomplished thereby.

He recommends that provisions be made for the sale of abandoned posts, the proceeds to be applied to establishing new posts. McCandless, Pa., Dec. 6, 1880. MESSRS. EDITORS:—In the Herald (Butler) of December 1st, 1880, we find allusion to an address of "Bob Ingersoll" on the South Slavery, etc. The Herald says that Ingersoll says: "The church taught the doctrine that slavery was a divine institution" and it founded this doctrine on the teachings of the bible. Now in this Ingersoll tells the truth. Doubtless his father, as a minister, taught him this doctrine, as many churches did. But does this prove that the church taught that slavery was a divine institution? By no means. But it does prove that there were men in the church, who in support of the Democratic party preached in favor of slavery and tried to support it from the bible. Every preacher of this type was a Democrat and every preacher so preaching is an aider and abettor of infidelity. Bob's logic is right—his premises wrong. He calls Democratic preachers the church. They are not. The Herald need not fear. No taint will attach to Garfield from contact with Ingersoll. Infidelity is as diffusive among Republicans, as that thing called Democracy is among Democrats. If R. B. Maxwell had been here to enlighten the Democracy, then "my idol had not died." Oh! ignorance, ignorance. Come back my dear Maxwell—come ere infidelity hath ruined the Nation—consecrately.

He reviews at some length the success which he believes has been attained during his administration in improving the tone and efficiency of the civil service. The danger of patronage, or appointments for personal or partisan considerations, have been strengthened by observation and experience in the executive office, and I believe these dangers threaten the stability of the government. The reasons are imperative for the adoption of fixed rules for the regulation of appointments, promotions, and removals, establishing a uniform method, having exclusively in view, in every instance, the attainment of the best qualifications for the position in question. Such a method is consistent with the equal rights of all citizens, and the most economical and efficient administration of the public business. In several of the departments he says they have tried the competitive mode of appointment, and it has wonderfully benefited the service; so a method which has so approved itself by experimental test, should where such tests may be fairly considered conclusive, should be extended to all subordinate positions under the government.

He recommends an annual appropriation of \$25,000 to pay the expenses of a commission whose duty it shall be to devise a just system of competitive examinations throughout the country for applicants for the service, which would relieve the president and congressmen greatly. The first step in the reform of the civil service must be a complete divorce between congress and the executive in the matter of appointments. The corrupting principle has been the system of "spoils politics," inseparable from congressional patronage as the established rule and practice of parties in power.

The question of polygamy in Utah has also a share of attention. He heartily denounces the "crying evil," and asks for the abolishment of the "crime." Our foreign relations have been good. He refers to the fisheries question, the firing on American vessels in Cuban waters, and says that these matters are approaching a settlement. The President considers it as one of the striking successes of his administration, that resumption has been accomplished and the country brought out of the disasters following the panic.

He calls attention to the fact that the legislation of the last Congress in regard to silver has failed to produce the effect then predicted. The United States produces more silver than any other country, and is directly interested in maintaining it as one of the precious metals. He recommends the legislation for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and asks for liberal appropriations for this purpose. He recommends the completion of the new war department building, and the creation of a fire-proof building for the army medical museum and library. He commends to the attention of Congress the great services of the commander-in-chief of our armies during the war for the union, whose wise, firm and patriotic conduct did so much to bring the war to a successful conclusion. The legislation of the United States contains many precedents for the recognition of distinguished military merit, authorizing rank and emoluments to be conferred for eminent services to the country. An act of Congress authorizing the appointment of a captain-general of an army, with suitable provisions relating to a compensation, retirement and other details, would, in our judgment, be altogether fitting and proper, and be warmly approved by the country.

He recommends the establishment of American lines of steamers to carry the mails between our own ports and those of Mexico, Central America, South America, and trans-Pacific countries. He recommends the attorney-general's suggestion for the establishment of an immediate court of errors and appeals. He advises the increase of schools for Indian education, as much good is accomplished thereby. He recommends that provisions be made for the sale of abandoned posts, the proceeds to be applied to establishing new posts. McCandless, Pa., Dec. 6, 1880.

Chapter of Accidents. For the following correct account of the sad fate of young Elvases S. Grant, of Allegheny township, this county we are indebted to the Rev. J. R. Coulter, who writes us from Crawford's Corners, Pa., under date of Dec. 9th. "On Saturday December 4th Ruyess S. Grant, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Johnson Grant, of Allegheny township, Butler county, Pa., had been hunting rabbits, and was coming towards home to get dinner about noon. When within 30 or 40 rods of the house he came to a fence and set his gun against the fence and climbed upon it. He went to start and reached back to pull his gun up, and as he did so the trigger caught upon the fence, causing the gun to send a bullet precisely into the middle of his forehead, and the poor boy was dead in a moment. He was supported by Tommy Layton, or he would have fallen down a precipice off the fence 30 or 40 feet. His parents were away from home a few miles visiting friends. It was an awful shock to them. He was a good boy to his mother, and no wonder she repeated frequently, at his funeral, 'My dear boy! my dear boy!' It is dreadful to lose a good boy in such a way, but it would be much harder to lose a bad boy. Boys be good to your mother. Every mother of us has a son. Very many of our neighbors, in about 50 conveyances followed his remains to the graveyard of the old stone Presbyterian church on Monday, J. R. C. —William Sloan, when lately working on Sloan farm, near said Grant farm, fell off the beam of an oil well and broke his leg and arm.

Thomas Perry, living near said Grant farm, and when cutting down a derrick it fell upon him, broke some of his ribs and severely injured him, from which he is yet confined.

A man, name unknown, but who was working on a well near said Grant farm, was found dead lately lying on an oil barrel, with head and face hanging in the barrel, supposed to have been suffocated by gas.

"THE LEADING AMERICAN NEWSPAPER." The New York Tribune for 1881. THE LARGEST CIRCULATION AMONG THE BEST PEOPLE.

During the past year The New York Tribune reached the largest circulation it ever attained, the single exception of a short period in the first Lincoln campaign. It is a larger circulation, and more widely distributed over the globe, than any other newspaper in the United States. This fact may be taken as the verdict of the American people on the Tribune's policy, its fidelity to sound principles, and its merits as a newspaper.

The Tribune will labor for, and it confidently expects the incoming Administration to promote a free and fair suffrage, South and North, sound money, protection to Home Industry, judicial integrity in Internal Improvements, civil service conducted on business principles, on the theory of elevating, not of ignoring or degrading politics.

Every citizen who helped to bring in this Administration should watch its course. The events to be recorded in The Tribune for 1881 will therefore have a special interest. The year promises besides to show whether the South will still sacrifice everything to solidify, and whether it will give up its rights of disloyalty and defeat, will dissolve or reform. Abroad it will show whether England can support Ireland, whether the Republic of France, without the support of the leaders who established it, can stand alone; whether the month's political progress, in its course it promises such practical triumphs as the use of electricity for gas, modern heating, and the invention of a new kind of steam engine.

The well-known special features of The Tribune will be sedulously maintained. Its Agricultural, Scientific, and Religious Departments, the literary, scientific and religious departments, its opportunity offers, extended.

Terms of the Tribune. Postage free in the United States. Daily Tribune, \$12.00 per annum. Daily Tribune, without Sunday edition, 10.00 per annum. Sunday Tribune, 2.00 per copy. THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE. Single copy, one year, \$3.00 each. Five copies, one year, 2.50 each. Ten copies, one year, 2.00 each. THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE. Single copy, one year, \$3.00 each. Five copies, one year, 2.50 each. Ten copies, one year, 2.00 each.

From the Hub. There is perhaps no tonic offered to the people that possesses as much real intrinsic value as the Hop Bitters. Just at this season of the year, when the stomach needs an appetizer, or the bowels are clogged, or the blood is impure, and best remedy is Hop Bitters. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, don't wait until you are prostrated by a disease that may make months for you to recover in.—Boston Globe.

Obituary. MR. RICHARD DEAN. Mr. Richard Dean, formerly of this city, died at his residence in Butler, on Saturday last, at the advanced age of sixty-three years. Deceased came to this country from England in 1813, the following year settled in this city, where he engaged in the manufacture of gloves. In the spring of the present year Mr. Dean's health became impaired and he removed to Butler, where he spent the remainder of his days. Deceased was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, honest and upright in all his dealings and universally respected. —Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette, Dec. 8.

Eighty-five Dollars Lost. "You do not tell me that your husband is up and about again, and entirely cured by a simple medicine as Parker's Ginger Tonic?" "Yes, indeed, I do," said Mrs. Benjamin to her neighbor, "and that too when he had foolishly paid eighty-five dollars in doctor's bills and prescriptions, and after he had given up all hope of recovery. Now he is as well as ever, entirely cured by this excellent Tonic." And why? it may be said, "because it is a medicine which would, in our judgment, be altogether fitting and proper, and be warmly approved by the country."

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