



C. D. MURRAY, Editor.

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S. M. Pettengill & Co.,

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Mr. McClure's Speeches.

We are indebted to a member of the Legislature, for a copy of Mr. McClure's speeches in favor of the repeal of the tonnage tax, delivered in the State Senate on the 26th and 27th of February. They have been neatly printed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for gratuitous circulation among the Heathen, who are foolish enough to think, that the said Company has as good a right to pay taxes for the support of the Government as the hard-fisted yeomanry of the State. Like Ayer's medical Almanac, any amount may be had "just for asking." Mr. McClure is the fagelman of all the soulless corporations in the State which have favors to ask of the Legislature, and understands his work well. He loves money and consequently loves corporations. For bold downright insolence, and utter disregard of the courtesy expected from a member of the Legislature to the members with whom he differs in debate, we have never seen these speeches excelled. He evidently felt that he had not only the wealth of the Company but also its herd of borers in the lobby, at his back, and could therefore safely strut, bully and fume. His remarks in reply to Mr. Clymer of Berks, betray but little of the statesman and still less of the gentleman. Festus thought that much learning had made St. Paul mad, and we are equally certain that much wealth suddenly acquired, has made Mr. McClure haughty, purse-proud insolent and impudent. His system of brow beating is eminently appropriate in the agent of a Company which relies more on its money, than equity and right in getting its measures through the Legislature. We have not time at present to review Mr. McClure's speeches at length, but will glance at a few of what he is pleased to consider his strong points.

Mr. McClure starts out by asserting that this bill does not release the Railroad Company from taxation forever. The State may reimpose this tax should any necessity arise for it. This may be so, but does Mr. McClure or any other member of the Legislature who voted for this bill, honestly believe that the tax will ever be restored, while the Company continues to control the Legislature as it now does. Has it not for years secured the passage through the Legislature of whatever measures it desired, whether right or wrong? Let us glance for a moment at the record. By its original charter the tax on its tonnage was fixed at five mills. It professed to be satisfied with this. The charter was accepted, and it at once proceeded to the construction of its road. After a few years it arrived at the conclusion that the tonnage tax was unjust and burdensome, and succeeded after considerable opposition in procuring the passage of a law reducing it to three mills. It again professed to be satisfied—it would ask no more legislation. But a change soon came over the spirit of its dream. It desired to own the Main Line of the improvements belonging to the State. After a protracted struggle, it succeeded in procuring the passage by the Legislature of a law selling those improvements to it at a very low rate. It once more professed to be satisfied, and would ask no more legislation. It now turned its attention to resisting in the courts of the State, the payment of the tonnage tax, which in accepting its charter from the Commonwealth, it had bound itself by the solemn obligations of a contract to pay. Failing to receive any aid and comfort in that quarter, and finding, that by litigation it could not get rid of the payment of its honest debt, it determined to procure from the Legislature, which had always treated it so kindly, a bill repealing this tax and allowing it to go "scot free," of taxation. It will thus be seen, that the company has never failed in procuring whatever legislation it asked. It has always thus far controlled the Legislature whenever it desired to do so.

It will never permit the restoration of the

tonnage tax. It is much more likely, its borers will appear at Harrisburg next winter, and "shove through" a bill repealing the provisions of the present bill which were inserted for 'uncombe,' and do not meet its unqualified approbation. This will be the next legislation the Company will demand. It has money, and is therefore never dismissed without a hearing, and its petitions when once heard are never refused.

Mr. McClure dwells at length on the stale argument, that this tax ought to be repealed, because it imposed, not on the Company, but on the tonnage, and is paid by the owners of the freight which is transported over the road. In a former article we pointed out the fallacy of this argument. Taxation must of necessity increase the price of all articles brought into market. But taxes, notwithstanding this, must be imposed, because the Government cannot be supported and carried on without money. If the farmers of Carroll and Allegheny townships were released from the payment of taxes, they would be able to sell the products of their farms—their wheat, oats, corn, &c.—to the citizens of Ebensburg at lower rates than they now do. What would be thought of the introduction of a bill into the Legislature to release the owners of improved real estate in Cambria County, from the payment of taxes, for the purpose of enabling them to reduce the price of the products of their farms? It would be received with nothing but laughter and contempt. And yet it would rest on the very doctrine which is urged in justification of the repeal of the tonnage tax. The Company, during the last ten years, has been in a condition which rendered it unnecessary for it to compel the transporters of freight to pay this tax. Its net profits have annually amounted to about \$2,200,000, and surely out of this immense sum, it could well afford to pay its tonnage tax without imposing it directly as a burthen on the transporters of freight over its road. If it were poor it would have some claims to our sympathies, but it is powerful and wealthy, and therefore should be compelled to contribute to the revenues of the State. Every citizen of the Commonwealth is taxed. Even the day laborer who toils from the rising to the setting of the sun for a pittance, scarcely sufficient to purchase for himself and family the necessaries of life, is compelled out of that pittance, to contribute to the support of the Government. And yet we are told, that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, whose clear annual income, will soon amount to the sum of three million, of dollars, is unable to pay a tax of a few hundred thousand dollars to sustain the government which protects it in its rights! But if the Company really collected this money off of the transporters of freight as State tax, it received it as the Agent of the State for the use of the State. What right then had it to resist the payment of it by litigation, going even so far as to carry the matter to the United States Supreme Court? Or what right had the present Legislature to release it from the payment of all of said tax now due? It won't do for Mr. McClure to tell us that a gift is made of this money to certain branch Railroad Companies for the completion of their roads. This is untrue. The money is loaned to those Companies at a high rate of interest, payable semi-annually, the principal being secured by mortgages and payable to the Company in twenty years. If this be a gift, it is certainly a novel specimen of the artifice.

Mr. McClure makes the following extraordinary admissions with regard to the public improvements of the State which the Company recently purchased— "Another fatal blunder of the Senator from Berks—and perhaps the least excusable of all—is his assumption that the construction of the Railroad destroyed the value of our main line of improvements. He based a considerable portion of his argument on this point, and pressed it upon the Senate with almost startling earnestness. I cannot think that he is utterly indifferent to the truth of his assumptions; but when the facts of this important feature of his comedy of errors are of such easy access—when the figures are on the shelves of this Hall—how are such mistakes, going to the very heart of his argument, to be explained? So far from the Railroad destroying the main line of our public works, their revenue steadily increased from year to year after the Railroad was built. The Railroad brought to our State millions of produce that otherwise would have sought river channels of trade, new sources of trade were opened along the line, and all of it had to pass over the Columbia Road as it hurried onward to build up our own commerce. Look at the records; and the eloquence of the Senator is forgotten in his want of intelligence."

Now if this be true, if the revenue arising from the public works was rapidly increasing, was it not bad policy to sell them at a very low price, and was not the Company fortunate in becoming the purchasers? It seems that the people and Legislature were awfully humbugged in this matter by the Company. They were told in order to induce them to sanction the sale, that the public improvements instead of being a source of revenue to the State, rapidly increasing in value, were a burden to the people increasing the amount of their taxes. It was therefore the part of wisdom to part with them at any price. Now we are told that their revenue had rapidly increased for years, and that it promised to increase rapidly in the future. Thus it appears the Company humbugged the State out of its improvements when they were daily increasing in value, purchasing them for a "mere song."

But not content with this nice little business transaction, it has now had itself released by the Legislature, not only from the payment of tonnage tax in the future, but from the payment of all of said tax now due and unpaid, although it acknowledges it collected it as State tax of citizens of the Commonwealth. Great is the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and the People are its servants!

Our Country.

The History of our Country during the last five months, is the record of a series of events which for novelty and importance, have not a parallel in the history of any other period of the present century. The election of Lincoln was followed by the secession movement in the Cotton States, which the Republican Party at first affected to laugh at as mere bombast and bravado. But they soon found it was no laughing matter. Those States all adopted secession ordinances with astonishing unanimity, and proceeded to take possession of the U. S. Ports, Arsenals, Custom houses, Mints, &c., within their limits. A Congress was called, a provisional government erected, a President and Vice President elected, and a Cabinet formed; every step on the part of the Seceders indicating that they were as determined, and as much in earnest, as were our fathers, when they declared their Independence of Great Britain. The Black Republicans, the men who elected Lincoln, now ceased their laughing, and began to talk seriously. They openly proclaimed themselves in favor of coercion, in other words, of compelling the seceding States to remain in the Union by military force. Mr. Buchanan was denounced as a coward and hoary-headed traitor, for not immediately raising an army, and inaugurating a civil war in the land, by invading the Territory of South Carolina with fire and sword. He, however, believed that this Union, which is a league of love, could not be preserved at the point of the bayonet, and refused to listen to the advice of his coercion counsellors.

On the 4th of March Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated. He was pledged to work wonders for the Country. Well what has he done? Do we hear any talk about coercion from him? No but on the contrary, we learn that Fort Sumpter is to be evacuated, that the Commissioners from the Southern Confederacy are kindly received, and that the administration seriously entertains the idea of acknowledging the Independence of the States composing that Confederacy. At all events the idea of coercing them has been abandoned as impolitic and inexpedient. The only hope now is, that Virginia and the other border States can be persuaded to remain in the Union.

Are we not right then, in saying that the events which have transpired in our Country, during the last five months, are the most remarkable of the present century. Seven States, equal, if not surpassing in territory and population, the 13 States during the Revolutionary war, have quietly withdrawn from the Union, without the shedding of a drop of blood, and without even a harsh word being uttered save by excited partisan newspapers and orators, and fears are entertained that eight more will follow. They have formed a new Union, and established an apparently strong government, at the head of which are statesmen, of acknowledged ability. This revolution is remarkable because it has been bloodless. Where can we find a parallel for it in the history of the world? It is an easy matter to accomplish a revolution with the assistance of the sword and bayonet, but it is another matter, to accomplish it without the loss of a human life. Something more than mere human agency seems to have been at work in the matter, and a new proof furnished that "There's a Divinity that shapes our ends, 'Rough hew them as we may."

Mr. Lincoln's "peace policy," does not please the ultra members of his party, but we presume they will have to grin and bear it.

For Peace.

According to the latest news from Washington, Lincoln's voice is still for peace. He is making no arrangements to carry out the pledge in his inaugural address, to enforce the revenue laws in the seceded States. If Mr. Buchanan were still President he would be denounced as a traitor, for not reinforcing Fort Sumpter. But the Black Republican leaders have nothing to say in condemnation of the course of Lincoln, although he don't redeem his pledge to the American people on the fourth of last March. But wait until the disappointed office seekers begin to return home. We may then expect to hear some magnificent grumbling and growling, interspersed with some rough swearing. Of course every disappointed applicant will think he has been treated very badly, and leave Washington full of wrath and fury.

For the enlightenment of those of our friends who take an interest in this establishment, we beg leave to state that it is entirely out of a supply of cigars at present, & that they are a luxury in all hands, with the exception of ourself, indulge. Kind friend, if you have a spare box of the article send it around. You may feel assured that the cigars will be puffed, and so will you.

Those of our subscribers who have changed their residence, or intend doing so, will please inform us, so that the carrier can leave the paper at their residence. Persons residing at a distance will please inform us by mail.

There was tolerable good sleighing on the plank road yesterday, and Monday was cold enough to pass for a first class January day. We mountaineers live in a rather variable climate, but still for all that Cambria County is the best place in the world to live.

"Her sons are bold and harry,
Of brave and dauntless air,
Her daughters chaste and witty,
The fairest of the fair."

It must be confessed, that her sons are lovers of excitement. This is the reason why her politicians are almost constantly quarreling and wrangling among themselves. When they get tired of this, they amuse themselves by electing a resident of Blair, Clearfield or some other adjoining County to Congress or the State Senate. They generally do the hard fighting of the campaign, but seldom succeed in securing a share of the spoils after it is over.

During the present week a number of our citizens have changed their domiciles. Mr. Isaac Crawford having purchased the 'Arcade Hotel,' moved into it on Monday. We understand it will hereafter be known as the 'Ebensburg House.' Crawford is a model landlord, and fully merits the liberal share of public patronage he has received since he has been in the business in this place. Mr. H. Foster, late proprietor of the 'Arcade,' has leased and taken possession of the 'Logan House' vacated by Mr. Crawford, where he will be happy to see his friends and accommodate them in the best style. He understands his business and is justly popular with his customers.

We have received a number of a new paper which has been recently started in the City of Pittsburg, under the head of "Our Paper." It is designed for the home circle, and is devoted to pure literature, humor, &c. The reading matter will compare favorably with most of the eastern literary papers. As this is the only one of this class of papers published in Western Pennsylvania, we hope our friends will subscribe for a copy of it. Terms, single copies, \$2.00; two copies, \$3.00. Address Hunt & Minor, Pittsburg, Pa.

The Appropriation bill has passed the House of Representatives, and will pass the Senate in a few days. The bill for apportioning the State for members of Congress, has not yet, we believe, been reported. Jonathan Oldbuck informs us that if Cambria is placed in a Democratic district, he will be a candidate for Congress next time. Although he is our personal and political friend, a ripe scholar, and 'eminently fit for the office,' we can't promise him our support so far ahead. If he thinks that Mordecai or the pretty School Mistress can influence us in the matter, he is very much mistaken.

According to the Harrisburg Patriot and Union, a number of the members of the Legislature recently had a high old time, over the success of a favorite measure. Chairs, tables, glass, beds, bedding &c. were tossed out of the windows in the exuberant glee of the revellers. All right we presume. These devoted servants of the people, need a little amusement and relaxation, after the arduous labors of the last three months, besides they are able to pay and don't care for expenses. They can afford to break things.

Last Monday, the first of April, was one of the roughest days of the season. Those who expected a pleasant day for moving, were badly fooled. April has always been reputed a coy and fretful maiden, and we never expect a constant succession of pleasant and sunny days during her reign. But at all events, the stern and pitiless reign of winter is over, and that is certainly something to be thankful for.

On Monday morning, the 1st inst., at her residence in Allegheny township, Mrs. CATHERINE KAYLOR, aged about 63 years. We were unacquainted with the deceased, but frequently heard her spoken of in the highest terms by her neighbors. She was emphatically a christian wife and mother, and having lead a pure and blameless life is doubtless now

"A dweller on that happy shore,
Where tempests never beat nor billows roar."
May she rest in peace.

We learn that A. C. Mullin, J. H. Campbell and Wm H. Gardner, have each been appointed to a lucrative clerkship by the Lincoln administration at Washington. If this be true the Republicans of Cambria County cannot complain that they have not been provided for.

A. Blain has removed his barber shop to the building, on Main Street, two doors West of Dr. Bunn's drug store. He is an excellent barber and merits patronage.

We direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. Conant & Drake, which will be found in another column.

In Loretto on Friday morning, the 22nd ult., of Diphtheria, SEVERUS, son of WILLIAM and MONICA LITZINGER, aged 8 years and 1 month.

The notorious abolitionist and infidel, Carl Shurz, has been appointed U. S. Minister to Spain, by Lincoln.

Why can no quadruped enter a garden? Because there can never be more than three feet in a yard.

The U. S. Senate has adjourned sine die.

FAITHFUL MINISTERS OF HEALTH.—In examining the vessels at the various wharves, we find among the curiosities of our commerce the brig Miranda, just in from Truxillo with a cargo of Honduras Sarsaparilla for Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., of Lowell. So particular are these firm as to the articles used in compounding their various remedies, that they have this drug, like some others they consume, gathered for them by a skillful agent of their own in the tropical regions of its growth. He informs us that there are many species of this plant, but two of which are really valuable in medicine; the qualities of these are also affected by the time of gathering, mode of curing, etc., operations which in that region of unreliable climate, imposes a heavy labor upon him. One of the inert varieties of Sarsaparilla grows wild in our own forests, while several others, nearly worthless, abound in Central and South America. The intelligent agent assured us that the virtues of this drug had never been fully told, and that the reason of the low esteem in which many hold it, is mainly due to the importation of such immense quantities of the worthless varieties. His accounts of his trips to Honduras, and his business excursions along the Gulf of Dulce and the rivers of Montagu and Santiago, and among the adjacent mountains, were of intense interest. We can but commend and honor his employers for the faithfulness and energy with which they execute their trust as ministers to the public health, and we suspect that this course is at least one of the reasons why their medicines are held in such extraordinary favor throughout the civilized world.—[New York City News.

PHIES IN BOTH FORMS CURED. READ THIS. "I can only account for my present sound health, the constant, though moderate use of BERNHAYE'S HOLLAND BITTERS—having from my youth suffered, at intervals from PILES, in both forms, sometimes so severely as to completely prostrate me. I have for several months past, though subject to loss of sleep, and unusual physical effort, been entirely free from any symptom of this distressing disease; while my general health is very much improved."

Persons doubting the authenticity of this certificate, are requested to call upon or communicate with the proprietors. They will take pleasure not only in referring them to its author, but to many others who have used the Holland Bitters for the same affection, with equal success.

THE GREAT DRAWBACK to persons emigrating to the extreme south and western country, is the fear they have of the Fever and Ague—the most dreadful of all diseases. Every day we hear of persons attacked by this disease, and made helpless in a short time, without any means of affording relief. In view of the great demand for a remedy, Dr. Hostetter has presented his CELEBRATED STOMACH BITTERS, whose curative powers for all diseases of the stomach have been universally acknowledged. The Bitters, prepared after a long experience and deep study, have received the encomiums of the most eminent physicians, as well as all classes from every part of our country. To those who doubt their many virtues, all we can say is to try them, and judge for themselves respectively. Sold by all druggists.

THE COOLIE TRAFFIC. A correspondent of the Panama Star and Herald, writes from Elma, under date of February 4th, as follows: "A vessel with 600 Chinese emigrants arrived in Callao lately, who are now offered for sale, and will fetch from \$300 to \$400 a head. These poor people have made contracts to serve eight years, I believe, at \$5 per month, which contracts are sold then to the highest bidder. The treatment of these men in the haciendas is horrible; they get scanty and bad food, are frequently cheated out of their wages, are put in irons and lashed for trifling offences, often when they are unable to work on account of illness, in which case they never get medical assistance; thus they are forced to work until they died of exhaustion.

Their overseers are generally former slaves, negroes and mulattoes, who find a pleasure in inflicting the same or greater tortures than those they have had to suffer themselves before, and thus one may imagine what a terrible lot awaits these poor coolies in Peru. Slaves were much better treated, because slaves were property, which lost in value if deteriorated by bad treatment, but out of the wretched Chinaman, they try to get as much as possible in these eight years, no matter if they die or not. They have got no protection, whatever, from such a corrupt government as the Peruvians. The other day, sixty Chinaman fled from a hacienda to Lima, and went straight to the intendente, in order to complain about the treatment they received. The intendente sent them all immediately back to the hacienda, and lodged those whom he called the ringleaders, in jail."

Opinion of Attorney General Bates on the Revenue Collection.—It is announced that Attorney General Bates has given the President a written opinion, that under the 89th section of the law of 1799, it will be impossible to collect any revenue in any of the seceded States. That section declares that the trial of any fact regarding a violation of the revenue laws, shall be within the judicial district in which the seizure or forfeiture occurred. As there are no United States Courts, Judges or Marshals in any of the ports of the seceded States, there are no means, under existing laws, of enforcing any penalties for violation of the revenue, even if it were practicable to appoint a Collector to reside on shipboard with four miles of the port. This condition of the law, it is said, has induced the President to determine upon calling an extra session of Congress immediately.

A Peaceful Solution. The New York Herald's Washington correspondent says. "It has leaked out, through semi-official channels, that the administration is, and has been for some days, occupied in arranging or devising some plan whereby a solution of the difficulties now pending over the country may be solved without resort to arms. It was for this purpose, it is said, that an armistice of ten days or two weeks was asked for and assented to by the Commissioners from the Confederate States. "It is extremely problematical whether the administration will be able to accomplish any thing tangible. There are some impracticable men in the Cabinet, who hold to the doctrine enunciated by Senator Chandler, that a little blood letting is the only effectual method of settling the difficulties which menace the country. There are others, however, in the Cabinet, who take a vastly different view of affairs. Both Mr. Seward and Mr. Chase do not hesitate to state that the more practicable way would be for peaceful separation. They believe such a solution preferable, far more so, than one of force. "This is the question that complicates the attention of the administration. They cannot postpone it much longer. The time is nearly up when they are to render a decision. The Confederate States are watching the issue, and are desirous as to whether it is to be peace or war. Virginia and the other border States are anxiously watching the course of events. "The rumors of the non-evacuation of Fort Sumter are supposed to be put forth for political effect. It is positively certain that it will be abandoned speedily. It is equally certain that Fort Pickens will not be restored. All the signs are favorable for a peaceful solution."

Good as New. The following anecdote, although old, is as good as new at the present time. The Republican office seekers will please make the application for themselves— "History records the accuracy of but one incident parallel to the enormous demand in demand made by the State of Virginia for her Legislature and Convention. In the last eventful session of Mr. Tyler's administration a free and enlightened citizen of Maine—apple-headed, long legged, and of the supple sawny generation—presented himself at the White House and demanded an interview with the President. Being introduced, he informed that personage that he came for an office. In return, he was desired, which distinguished all the departments of General Harrison's successor, to state what office he was particularly like to have. Apple-head was not long in answering that the place he had already decided to take, was a place in the Cabinet. On learning, with surprise, that the table was wholly occupied, he suggested a "foreign mission." Mr. Tyler had the polite regret to inform him that every legation was full. A thousand dollar clerkship, a deputy's duty in some good country, post office would suit him quite as well. The President was sorry to say that none of these had any other place in the thousand pages of the thickly printed list book were vacant, and likely ever to become so in vacuo senectute. The disappointed aspirant rose to go, but when the polite President had risen with him, and so displayed his graceful proportions, he paused to survey him from head to foot, and uttered the memorable words—'So large you and I be worth the same build; haven't you any old clothes to spare?'"

A Sensitive Republican. The St. Louis Republican states that the Hon W. Ogden, of Chicago, member of the Illinois State Senate, and a very popular gentleman withal, was called upon by a number of gentlemen in that city a few days since, in a speech, he made use of the following language in reference to his own (the Republican) party:—"He could not be un true to his own conscientious convictions. He would not say that the Republican platform was not right, as far as an abstract truth was concerned; but he would say that the Republican party had made a mistake. The doctrine of that platform, that there should be no more slave States, was not carried out. The attempt to carry it out would put an end to this government. He saw the mistake which they had made before the election, and he had anticipated the result. When, on the evening after the election, he stood in the house of a friend in Boston street in the city of Boston, and saw the long procession of 'Wide awakes' go by, with banners and banners and shouts of triumph, a loud sounding near him remarked, 'M. J. Ogden, you do not seem to enjoy it.' "Mastan, was the reply, 'I am never merry at a funeral.' With some surprise she asked what he meant. His reply was that he feared the procession thus passing would prove to be the funeral procession of the nation."

Playing Jackson.—We suppose that Mr. Lincoln has found out ere this, that playing Jackson is a kind of amusement more pleasing to contemplate than to take part in, and less of flout in speculation than in action. In the quiet of a rural residence, it was doubtless sweet to ruminant on coming glories—sweet to hear the buzz of approving courtiers, sweet the bowing multitude and to feel the comfort and heavy salary—sweet to anticipate the pleasures of being President. But distance lends an enchantment to the view, which, in the Executive mansion, very decidedly fades on a near approach. Mr. Lincoln's chapter of sweets was doubtless as soothing as Don Juan. But Mr. Lincoln's realization of sweet is bitter as gall. "I am utterly disgusted," said he to a confidential friend the other day, "and an mighty sick and tired of the whole thing." We don't doubt he is. It is very hard to play Jackson. But if Mr. Lincoln has made up his mind to go through with it, we recommend that he first and straight away make up his mind to cast from him his own party of fanaticism for a party of principle and patriotism, who will help him play Jackson by saving the Country.

A Play with a Real Hero.—They have a play in the Crescent City called the "Battle of New Orleans." It was performed one night last week at the St. Charles Theatre, the drummer on the occasion being Old Jordan, who beat the drum, and helped to make the music to which Gen. Jackson and his gallant soldiers won the battle on the field of Chalmette, forty-six years ago. Old Jordan still lives in New Orleans, and gives the people there a touch of his drumming regularly every year on the 8th of January.