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—BY—

THOS. A. BUCKLEY,
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FREELAND, PA., MAY 29, 1890.

OPponents of ballot reform, despairing of preventing its adoption in nearly all of the States, as a final effort to defeat it, are raising the cry that it would cost too much money. Anything that will tend to reform the ballot and to permit a full and free expression of the voters is worth paying for, and the people are ready and anxious to do the paying. Fair and honest elections ought to result in the electing of fair and honest officials, and the people would thus more than get their money back. A good, vigorous ballot reform law in Pennsylvania would not come amiss.

The McKinley bill aims a blow at some of the most vital interests of this country. The increase on women's clothing proposed under this iniquitous measure would have to be borne by the poorest of our women to benefit, perhaps, half a dozen manufacturers. The manufacturers to-day are suffering only for free raw materials. We want to work with them so that they can give employees constant work and avoid strikes. The farmers are awakening to the fact that while they must pay high tariff taxes on everything that they buy, they must accept the prices of free trade England for their products.—Mr. Constable (of Arnold, Constable & Co., New York merchant.

From various pension decisions of the Interior Department it is clear enough that no sullen maligner nor cowardly deserter will be refused a place on the list of pensioners. The latest addition to the roll is Henry C. Bird, a drafted man, who deserted at the first opportunity, was caught, court-martialed and sentenced to "complete his term of service." While serving this sentence the disgraced man contracted a pensionable disability; but being an offender under sentence he could not be pensioned. It has been reserved for Assistant Secretary Bussey, of the Interior Department, to declare that such a man is the peer of the brave men who fought and suffered uncomplainingly, and that he deserves and is entitled to a pension. If this is so, there is hardly a sneaking coward nor shirking coffee cooler who could be kept off the Pension Office rolls.

GENERAL HASTINGS' Republican campaign committee, at a meeting in Philadelphia, a few days ago, said the following in their address to the Republican voters of Pennsylvania: "The most thoughtful of men of our party have not failed to discern that the tide of popular support which carried Benjamin Harrison in the Presidential chair has been ebbing since the last election, and many strongholds of the Republican party have been captured, and some States hitherto Republican have gone Democratic. It does not belong to us to speculate upon causes, for they may be removed, but the same influences prevail in Pennsylvania as in other States, and being timely warned we should omit no effort to keep Pennsylvania in the Republican column. To do this we feel that a proper regard should be paid to the overwhelming demand which comes from all parts of the State for General Hastings." Yes! the Republican tide has been "ebbing since the last election," and will continue to ebb under the management of Boss Quay and Harrison.

EX-SENATOR EMERY, of McKean county, some weeks ago in a public speech, accused Senator Delamater, the candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor, of perjury, forgery and bribery, not to mention any crimes of lesser grade, and declared himself able, willing and anxious to furnish proofs of his averments wherever and whenever called upon. Delamater has made no attempt to vindicate himself but he sought a left-handed vindication by trying to secure delegates in McKean county. He was aided in his effort by Congressman Watson, who wants a re-nomination in the Twenty-seventh district, and by the powerful backing of the Standard Oil Company. For once, however, the Standard appears to have shouldered a load too heavy for it. Senator Emery has carried his county against Delamater, and the perjury, forgery and bribery charges, instead of being informally rubbed out, have been informally rubbed in. It is a sad, sad occurrence when an indigent public will not assist in vindicating a distressed candidate, even when he is willing to pay for it.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court sustaining the Edmunds' law, which dissolves the Mormon Church corporation, and confiscates its outside property means the death of Mormonism. The charter of the so-called church is thus annulled and polygamy has been dealt a blow from which it will never recover. There is no way, nor is there a desire, in this country to find a way to make those who believe in the Mormon Church believe in anything else, but

there is a way to stamp out polygamy, and that way has been taken. The decision is the best thing that could happen for Utah, for it will not be long now before that territory will be admitted as a State. It never would have had a chance for admission but for the clause providing for the taking of the anti-polygamy oath before the Mormons can vote. Polygamy is a disgrace to the whole country, and it is gratifying to know that hereafter it cannot be practiced even in Utah except as a crime. Three of the judges of the Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice, dissented from the decision, declaring that certain essential provisions of the Edmunds' act are unconstitutional, but the majority, unfortunately, took another view of the matter, and thus the Mormon leaders, who so bitterly fought the law in the Territorial Courts, hoping to save the life of polygamy, are totally routed. Indeed the majority of the Supreme Court, it is understood, justify the confiscation of the church property on the ground that the property was used to sustain the practice of polygamy.

Evading the Laws.

The Mine Examining Boards of this Fourth district are confronted with a dilemma—one that the framer of the law creating such boards of examiners never dreamed of.

Long before the law went into force, authorizing a miner to hold a certificate of competency to work as a miner in an anthracite coal mine, it was the custom in some collieries to have two miners work their breasts, gangways, or whatever contract they had as partners. Since the law, requiring miners to be certified, this plan has increased to such an extent as to be almost a defiance to the law. It is done in this way: A miner receives a certificate from the examining board, gets a job and is assigned to a breast, gangway or some other contract work and an uncertified man placed with him. This man to all intent and purpose is only a laborer, but when pay-day arrives the certified miner turns over the difference in wages to the supposed laborer, and he is placed on the same footing as the man in whose name the contract is entered. If any trouble arises between them, as to qualifications or other matter, the miner cannot get rid of his uncertified partner, but is quietly given to understand that he must keep him and if not satisfactory he can quit.

The miners in good standing—those possessing certificates—should see to it that those men are shaken off them, and refuse point-blank to share their hard earned wages with men who have no responsibility resting on them. By this means and no other can the miners of the Anthracite Coal Field protect themselves and live up to the law. It is useless to rail and scold the examiners. They cannot be cognizant of all violations of the law, and must, in a great measure, rely on their fellow-workmen to aid them in its enforcement by bringing to their notice any violations of the law when it takes place.

Some Rather Impertinent Questions.

THE TRIBUNE recently published the list of thirty questions which the census enumerators are to ask of each person when they start out on their work next month. A vigorous protest is being made against some of them by the prominent Journals of the country. The New York Sun says:

We call attention to the amazing programme of inquiry which has been prepared by the Superintendent of the Census. We are glad to observe that there is likely to be a general protest against the outrage which the Census Bureau intends to perpetrate in the name of the United States Government. The census enumerators will start out on their rounds equipped with a schedule of thirty questions. Among other objects of inquiry, they are instructed to ascertain from every citizen and inhabitant of the United States:

- "22. Whether (he or she is) suffering from acute or chronic disease, with the name of disease and length of time afflicted.
- "23. Whether defective in mind, sight, hearing or speech or whether crippled, maimed or deformed, and name of defect.
- "24. Whether a prisoner, convict, homeless child, pauper.
- "25 and 26. Is the home you live in hired, or is it owned by the head or by a member of the family?
- "27. If owned by head or member of the family, is the house free from mortgage encumbrance?
- "28. If the head of the family is a farmer, is the farm which he cultivates hired, or is it owned by him or by a member of his family?
- "29. If owned by head or member of family, is the farm free from mortgage encumbrance?
- "30. If the home or farm is not owned by head or member of family and mortgaged, give the post office address of owner."

We advise every citizen and inhabitant who respects himself and is disposed to resent an impertinent, unwarranted and illegal intrusion into his private affairs to refuse flatly to answer any of the questions here quoted from the schedule. Not one of them is within the constitutional scope of the Federal census. Not one of them is justified by necessity or propriety. The census-takers have no more business to investigate the chronic maladies, the bodily defects and the private account-books of the people living under this free Government than they have to inquire into our loves and hatreds, our moral weaknesses, our secret sorrows. It would be just as legitimate and legal a proceeding for the enumerators to present themselves with pencil and cardboard, and to demand, under penalty of a \$30 fine, true answers to the inquiries here subjoined:

"If married, do you really love your wife or husband, or do you only pretend to?"
"What secret doubts, if any, do you entertain relative to the existence of a Supreme Being?"
"Is there anything in your past life of which you are now ashamed, and if so, what is it?"
"What is the amount of your indebtedness to your tailor, your dressmaker, your butcher, your milkman? Does your next-door neighbor pay his debts?"

ator about his business. His business is to count the people for the purpose of apportioning Representatives in Congress and direct taxes. He has no more right to require answers to the questions quoted above than has the man who goes around canvassing for a directory.

If the enumerator, still acting under his instructions, warns you that you will be fined \$30 for refusing to disclose your chronic maladies, your physical defects and the private affairs of your landlord, laugh at him.

Our readers can judge for themselves how likely they are to be indicted, tried, convicted of misdemeanor and fined for refusing to answer questions which the United States Government has no constitutional authority to ask. But if there should be a general agreement on the part of citizens to resist this obnoxious and unnecessary inquiry, the position of each individual resister would be better. It would be an interesting experiment if the census officers should indict the whole community for refusing to disclose its secret physical ailments and its private debts for the benefit of statistical science.

Section 2191 of the Revised Statutes, being part of the general Census law of 1850, under which the censuses of 1850, 1860 and 1870 were taken, provided a penalty of \$30 for refusal to answer either of the inquiries authorized by law. But the fine had to be sued for and recovered in a civil action by the Assistant United States Marshal in the district.

The law of 1879, and again the present law of 1880, provided a penalty "not exceeding \$100" and made a misdemeanor of willful failure or refusal to respond to the enumerator's interrogatories. The present law also provides that the penalty may be enforced "by indictment or appropriate action in any Court (United States Court) of competent jurisdiction."

The expected happened when by an unanimous vote the Democratic members of the Kentucky Legislature selected ex-Speaker Carlisle to succeed the late Senator Beck. It is seldom so high an honor is conferred on a man under such circumstances as existed in this particular case, but Mr. Carlisle's services in behalf of his party fully entitle him to such recognition. It is also a high compliment to the ex-Speaker that the most forcible arguments which could be advanced against him was the fact that his elevation to the Senate would deprive the House Democrats of a leader whose ability was conceded on every hand. Mr. Carlisle's Congressional career has been marked by a spirit of fairness and less aggressive than was sometimes necessary for successful leadership. The dignity of the Senate will, no doubt, be more suitable to Mr. Carlisle's tastes than the turmoil of the House, and his elevation will strengthen the Democratic minority in the Upper branch of Congress. There will be an interesting contest on the Democratic side as to who shall wear the discarded mantle of the ex-Speaker. There is no Samuel J. Randall or Samuel Sullivan Cox to turn to. The Democratic minority must exploit in an untired field and make a selection, but the opportunities for success are, however, almost unlimited.

Mr. McKinley has to hold a pretty tight rein to keep some of the members of the majority from kicking over the traces and smashing the dashboard of his tariff cart. The House members of the Ways and Means Committee held court in the private consulting room Saturday and heard a number of Republican members, who want certain things in the bill different from what they are at present. Had a dozen or more different subjects were discussed but the committee did not commit themselves to any new proposition. There are a large number of Republicans in the House who have amendments to offer and to clarify the bill. The House is considering the bill by sections. The committee will not grant this extension, however, and Mr. McKinley says the vote on the bill and amendments will be taken on Wednesday, as provided by the new rule. Ex-Speaker Carlisle is expected to make his last effort in the House on next Wednesday, closing the debate for the Democrats. He will have but five minutes under the rules, but if he arrives in time unanimous consent will be asked that he be permitted to speak without limit. It is hardly possible that any member would object to this, in view of the uniform courtesy shown to everyone by ex-Speaker Carlisle when presiding over the House.

The House committee on claims has under consideration the Roach claim against the Government. It is the claim of the building of the Dolphin. The matter has become a party issue in the committee, the Democrats endeavoring to defeat it as a vindication of ex-Secretary Whitney, while the Republicans have accepted the issue as a political one and are on the Roach side of the issue. So far the Democrats have been more alert and attentive, and have kept the hands of the majority tied. This is the only claim that the committee on rule will give a special order, and the Democrats are greatly amused at the fact that they have accomplished in the claims committee.

Will the Senate ever adopt the previous question? This query has been made many times and has usually been answered in the negative. The Senate is a body which, sometimes, with all its dignity, more partisan than the House. But as regards the privileges of its individual members it is disposed to subordinate party advantage to personal consideration. The Senate will probably maintain freedom of debate, and let election and other party measures take care of themselves.

Senator John James Ingalls says the Decalogue and the Golden Rule have no place in politics, and First Assistant Postmaster-General Clark declares that this Government should be wholly practical, by no means religious, and let it in it. According to the combined logic of these two distinguished Republicans, therefore, there should be neither morals nor method in the administration of the public affairs of this Republic.

Senator Sherman does not "want any free coinage in his," and says he will vote by himself first. It is not likely, however, that he will be permitted to flock by himself on the negative of this question.

THE WELSH WOULDN'T STAND IT.

So Harrison Withdrew Evan Jones' Would-Be Supplanted.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 27.—When the Rev. Samuel L. Gracy, of Massachusetts, was proposed for a consulate by the Massachusetts Senators it was stated that Gracy had rendered valuable party service in the last campaign by keeping the "Prohibition Republicans" in line for the Republican candidates.

Later on President Harrison was informed by a distinguished Massachusetts Republican that Mr. Gracy's chief service to the Republican party in the last campaign was in suppressing, in the Republican gubernatorial Convention of Massachusetts, the ballots which the Prohibition Republicans had prepared for the nomination of President Capen, of Tufts College, for Governor. Nevertheless, under the pressure of Hoar and Dawes, President Harrison nominated Gracy for Consul at Cardiff, Wales.

As soon as he saw the nomination Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin, rushed up to the White House and told the President that Evan Jones, the incumbent at Cardiff, was a wounded Republican veteran of the Iron Brigade, appointed by President Arthur, whose removal after he had been retained by Cleveland, would alienate the Welsh vote. Harrison took the hint, and to-day withdrew Gracy's nomination to Cardiff and nominated him to Foo Chow, China, not so desirable a place. We should think not.

BASE BALL.

Don't miss the two great games at the park to-morrow (Friday) between Shenandoah and Freeland. Games called promptly at 10 a. m. and 3 p. m.

The Eckley Base Ball Club has been reorganized, and would like to hear from some of the amateur clubs of this region. John Murphy, captain; Frank Johnson, manager.

THE TIGERS DEFEATED. Sunday afternoon was cold, damp and chilly, and it proved to be a cold day in general for the Tigers, as they suffered their first defeat at the hands of their most bitter opponents—the Gimlers—by a score of 6 to 2. The game was marred by some of the most glaring errors ever seen on the base ball ground. The Tigers played a miserable, listless, don't-care-sort of a game, and the dash and vim which they have shown in previous contests was absent; while the Gimlers played a game, which if kept up will be hard to beat. They pounded the ball hard, and often, at times when the Tigers were getting in their errors, which accounts for their victory. The score by innings as follows:

Tigers 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 — 2
Gimlers 1 0 1 0 4 0 0 — 6

BASE BALL NOTES. The presence of "Tailor" Ferry on the Gimlers team seemed to have a deadening effect on the Tigers.

Pitcher McNulty, of the Gimlers, is doing good work for his team. The manager of the Bloomsburg Club was in town on Sunday trying to arrange for games on Memorial Day.

The Kickers, of Jeddo, were defeated by the Litterer Club on Sunday. Score, 20 to 10.

Two great games on Memorial Day—Shenandoah vs. Freeland. The battles for Freeland in the morning will be: Welsh and Herron; afternoon: Seields and Simmons.

The Tigers will probably play the Terrors, of Eckley, in the park on Sunday afternoon.

George Wagner, the enterprising greenback dealer on Main street, presented the Tigers with ten pairs of base ball shoes.

The Tigers intend holding a picnic on Saturday, June 21. We wish it a success. Ashland defeated Hazleton on Saturday. Score, 5 to 4.

MISS ROSA O'DONNELL, of Freeland, spent Sunday with her parents at No. 5. Misses Boner and Kennedy, of Scale Siding, spent Sunday afternoon with friends here.

Charles Harvey, Jacob Hill and Frank Johnson took a drive to Freeland Sunday afternoon.

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