

THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

How to Prepare for the Draft.
OFFICE BOARD OF ENROLLMENT,
3RD DIST. IND.

S. G. OSBORNE, 1111 Editor.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

THURSDAY, DEC. 22, 1864.



Christmas.

We learn from the State Sentinel that in many places throughout the State Christmas will be observed on Monday, the 25th falling on Sunday this year. We believe that the arrangements are all made for celebrating this festival of the church in this place on Saturday the 24th instead of Monday the 26th. We learn that extensive preparations are in progress for the benefit of the little folks, especially those belonging to the Sunday Schools of our place. Last year the Presbyterians for the first time in their history adopted the good old custom of having a Christmas-tree and this year we are glad to note that the Methodists are also going to have a Christmas-tree. The adoption of this and other customs of the early church by the several religious associations is full of promise for the future. There will be no less than four congregations of expectant juveniles on Saturday evening in this place, all in earnest in knowing what Santa Claus or Kris Kringle has laid up in store for them, and we should not be surprised if many adult persons should make that the occasion of exchanging *sous vises* thus recalling the happy days of innocence and childhood. It does one good occasionally to roll back the tide of years and revel again for a time in the sunny light of childhood, indulging in the pastimes of early years, calling up the hallowed associations in which a loved mother bore so large a part. He who heartily does this will find himself a better man in consequence of it, and be better prepared again to go forth and engage in the busy scenes, and toilsome labors of life. We once knew an excellent man, a physician of some fifty years practice, who not only occasionally, but habitually, as he had opportunity, laid aside the "working cares of life" and indulged with real zest in the games and sports usually deemed appropriate to early years only. His heart was fresh and his face always beaming with love to old and young. Life with him was something to be enjoyed, not endured. We pity that man or woman who through the asperities of life forgets the fact that he or she was once a child. Christmas reminds us that Jesus himself was once a little child, and of such is the kingdom of heaven.

The Republican thinks we are bound to furnish it with the names erroneously published by that sheet as having voted the administration ticket at the October election in Green and Union townships. We had no idea before that we were bound to furnish information to enable the editor of that paper to publish a truthful sheet. We suggest to the editor that he has only to compare the lists published by him with the Poll Books on file in the Clerk's office to enable him to correct the lists. We are now done with this subject and the Republican is welcome to the last word if it so desires.

Floating with the Current.

The Local of the State Sentinel has recently taken to puffing Gen. Carington, calling him an excellent officer and a Christian gentleman &c. &c. That Local is an appreciative genius; he has no difficulty in discovering merit of a rare order in those who for the time being are clothed with a little brief authority. It's safer decidedly to do so, perhaps such a course will secure immunity from the reign of terror at the State Capitol. Prudent young man is the Local of the Sentinel. We suggest that he say nothing relative to the Indianapolis depot military exploit of the renowned General during the Morgan raid, as that might possibly wound the feelings of Bumbastes. *Wise sucker.*

The New York Soldiers Vote—Letter from Judge Parker.

ALBANY, Nov. 18, 1864.
MY DEAR SIR.—In answer to your letter of yesterday, I would state I have no doubt in the least, thousands of honest soldiers' votes were lost by the course pursued at Washington in arresting our agents without cause. The proceedings had the effect to intimidate our agents everywhere, and nearly suspended all operations in taking democratic votes. Added to that, the delay to forward our votes until after the election was such a to make a difference of thousands more. On a full vote, I have no doubt we had at least 20,000 democratic majority in this state.

Yours, &c.,

AMASA J. PARKER.

THE PLYMOUTH WEEKLY DEMOCRAT.

The Peculiarities of This War.

The Cincinnati Enquirer says: More great battles have been fought in the three and a half years of this war than occurred in the fifteen years Consulate and Empire of Napoleon the First. They have been battles of the same class and magnitude. Shiloh was more than equal to Marengo, and Antietam and Gettysburg to Austerlitz or Waterloo.

The loss of life has been greater in our battles than has ever been known in Europe—result which is due to the improved and more deadly character of the weapons employed and to the passionate nature of the combatants.

It is the first great war in the world's history that was ever waged under the railroad and telegraph system. These modern inventions make it practicable to do more in a month, if not in a week, in carrying on military operations, than used to be performed in a year. Had Russia possessed a net of railroads such as the South has got, the allies would never have taken Sebastopol. Her misfortune was that she could not send supplies in abundance and as fast as they were wanted over the miserable apologies for roads and paths that now intersect the points of her empire.

In expense, nothing like this war was ever known. It has already cost probably more than was spent by England in her twenty-one years' conflict with Napoleon, when she subsidized and had in her pay the millions of Continental Europe. The whole expenses of Napoleon the First, when he went to Moscow with 600,000 men, moving those immense masses of men slowly through Germany and Poland, was but \$200,000,000 for the entire year, or about one-fifth as much as we contrive to spend in the same time. We have kept on foot armies of a greater size and magnitude than were ever known to be called out by populations twice or three times as large as ours. One would suppose that we must reach the point of exhaustion at no distant day, on the scale with which the war is now prosecuted.

Truly yours,
J. B. BELFORD,
Comr. 9th Dist. Ind.

Presidential Proclamation.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 20.
By the President of the United States.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, By the act of July, 1864 entitled "An act further to regulate and provide for enrolling and enlisting out the national forces, and for other purposes," it is provided that the president of the United States may, at his discretion, at any time hereafter, call for any number of men as volunteers for the respective terms of one, two, and three years for military service, and that, in case the quota, or any part thereof, of any town, township, ward of a city, precinct, or election district of a county not so subdivided, shall not be filled within the space of fifty days after such call, then the president shall immediately order a draft for one year to fill such quota or any part thereof which may be unfilled; and,

Whereas, By the credits allowed in accordance with the act of congress on the call for 500,000 men, made July, 1864, the number of men to be obtained under that call was reduced to 250,000; and,

Whereas, The operations of the enemy in certain states have rendered it impracticable to procure from them their full quota of troops under said call; and,

Whereas, From the foregoing causes, but 250,000 men have been put in the army, navy and marine corps, under said call of July 18, 1864; leaving a deficiency of that call of 250,000;

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, president of the United States of America, in order to supply the deficiency and to provide for casualties in the military and naval service of the United States, do issue this my call for 300,000 volunteers, to serve for one, two or three years.

The quotas of states, districts, and sub-districts, under this call, will be assigned by the war department through the bureau of the provost marshal general of the United States; and, in case the quota, or any part thereof, of any town, township, ward of a city, precinct, or election district of a county not so subdivided, shall not be filled before the 15th day of February, 1865, a dr. ft shall be made to fill such quota, or any part thereof, under this call, which may be unfilled on said 15th day of February, 1865.

On the 14th inst. Gen. Foster had an interview with Gen. Sherman at Fort McAllister, which was taken by assault on the 13th. Savannah was invested closely, and a summons for its surrender was about to be sent in, a refusal to comply with which would lead to an opening of the federal batteries. The capture of Savannah, and the forces constituting its garrison, was anticipated with confidence.

From the Chicago Times December 20.

Hood is in full retreat, with Thomas in pursuit. A large number of rebels were captured on Sunday between Brentwood and the Harpeth river. Hood's loss in prisoners during the two days' battle before Nashville is estimated at 6,500, and his total loss of men since advancing from Columbia is placed at 15,000. It is reported that Gen. Wood has got into Hood's rear, near Franklin, and the opinion is expressed that the rebel army will be speedily crushed.

A battle occurred at Murfreesboro on Thursday, a rebel force, under Forrest, attacking the federal position. The assailants were repulsed, leaving 1,500 dead and wounded upon the field. Forrest, it is stated, was "certainly killed."

Later.—Some cavalry skirmishing occurred near Spring Hill yesterday and Forrest was found to be in command of the rebels.

Breckinridge has eluded Burbridge, and is seeking to effect a junction with Hood.

In the senate, yesterday, a bill was introduced appropriating \$10,000,000 for the defence of the lakes and frontiers. After a long discussion, involving the consideration of a war with Great Britain, the bill was referred to the committee on foreign affairs. Bills were introduced, also, to create the rank of vice admiral in the navy; to enable the people of Colorado to form a state government; and to complete the Southwest branch of the Pacific railroad to Springfield, Mo., as a means of preventing an invasion of that state.

It is supposed that Wilmington harbor is the destination of the expedition, under Admiral Porter, which left Hampton Roads on the 13th inst., and that Porter, after reducing the works at the mouth of Cape Fear river, and removing the obstructions in that stream, will pass up to Wilmington and assist Gen. Butler, in the capture of that place.

Josh Billings says: "Tew baw up a child in the wa' he should go t'avel that wa' yourself." Queer fellow is Josh.

A New York paper announces that

none of the federal armies will go into winter quarters, except the one operating against Petersburg and Richmond; that the expedition is, to occupy the entire southern coast and all the strategic points on the rebel lines of communication before the 1st of May, by which time Grant will be ready to make an assault upon the confederate capital.

Secretary Stanton announces that a call and draft for 300,000 troops, "to make up deficiencies occasioned by credits on the last call," have been ordered by the president.

Mrs. S. C. Hall.

HOSPITALITY.—It is an excellent circumstance that hospitality grows best where it is most needed. In the thick of men it dwindle and disappears, like fruits in the thick of a wood; but where men are planted sparsely, it blossoms and matures, like apples on a standard or an espalier. It flourishes where the inn and lodging house cannot exist.—*Hugh Miller.*

The Executive power itself would be greatly diminished by the cessation of actual war.—[Lincoln's Message.]

Is not that one of the reasons why Mr. Lincoln is desirous the war should go on that peace would diminish his power?

SENTIMENTAL YOUNG LADIES.—I hate those mere gentle girls without mind, or spirit, or feeling, to deepen the blush upon a pale cheek; a fellow might as well think of living upon sweet cake, and sweet cream, and sweet strawberries, and all the sweets, which, after all, are sure to become sour, as going through life with a sleepy-headed beauty, whose roughest word would be: "Am I if it please you, sir?"

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