

THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

J. C. OSBORNE, & E. L. HARVEY, Editors.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

THURSDAY, JAN. 21, 1863.



The New Year.

To one and all of our patrons and friends we wish a "happy new year."

Last Sunday night closed life's membrane for 1863. It is to be consigned to the abyss of the past, only to be brought forward to the memory as a warning and an example. Monday morning we started forth on another declining year. A fresh volume of time is opened before us, each volume makes a wide gap in those we are destined to receive. It behoves us, then, to regard them in their precious light, and let none pass away in vain. May the year that has just commenced prove in every sense, one of happiness, peace and prosperity to our readers and friends.

ANOTHER "ADVANCE!"—Last week, the price of printing again "advances." This makes *Advances* within the past six months. Of course it is impossible to tell *when* or *where* the extortions of a set of avoriters, miserable speculators will end, but *one* fact has become patent: publishers must combine to put a stop to the nefarious schemes of *respectable* swindlers. Let the publishers of the State unite, let them hold a convention and adopt measures to protect *themselves* from the machinations of paper manufacturers. Until they do this, they need expect no *revenge* at the hands of the "sharks."—*Leopold's Democrat*.

Publishers have tamely submitted to the bleeding process of paper dealers about as long as they consistently can. It is time they moved in a plan to put a stop to the schemes referred to by our contemporary of the Democrat. Let us call a convention of publishers of the whole State, and take some action that will block the high tariff of these sharks.

We are in favor of a convention of Publishers, and a full representation. Let us have it.

TO DEMOCRATS GENERALLY.—A contemporary truthfully says, now is the time to push true Democratic papers in every direction, for it is only by sowing seed that he may hope for a good harvest. Democrats too often wait until just before election before they begin to circulate their papers, and that time is generally too late.

Abolition tares have sprung up, and the good seeds will not take root. Reader, if you have a Democratic neighbor, or one who is a moderate Republican, do not rest until you have induced him to take a good Democratic paper. Your own county paper first, and others afterward.—*California Express*.

Every word of the above, we are forced to say, is true. Democrats are too slow to move in this direction; many of them do not even take their county paper; others send off and subscribe for some foreign paper, never thinking that they have a paper published right in the county where they live, for which they should first subscribe. It is time democrats were moving in the matter.

Amendment of Interest Law at Special Session.

Section 5, amended to read as follows: If a greater rate of interest than is hereinbefore allowed shall be contracted for, the contract shall not therefore be void; but if, in any action on such contract, proof be made that interest at a rate exceeding six dollars a year on one hundred dollars has been directly or indirectly contracted for, the plaintiff shall recover only his principle with six per cent interest, and he shall also recover costs; but in all cases in which money or any other thing of value shall have been voluntarily paid as interest for the loan, use, or for usage of money, the same shall not be recovered back, either directly or by any set-off or counter claim or payment.

Section 6, amended to read as follows: If any action on any contract in which illegal interest shall have been directly or indirectly contracted for, the defendant shall have, previous to the commencement of the suit tendered to the plaintiff, his principal with legal interest; the defendant shall recover costs, and the plaintiff recover only the amount tendered.

Approved December 19, 1862.

CONRAD BAKER, Acting as Governor.

Filed December 19, 1862.

H. THAYER, Secretary of State.

No emergency declared. The set will not take effect until the acts of extra session are distributed to all counties, and proclamation made.

Gen. Grant in his report, after reciting the splendid campaigns which culminated in victory for the Union, thus speaks of General Lee and of the debt which the nation owes to that officer's manly and honorable course after his surrender:

"General Lee's great influence throughout the whole South caused his example to be followed, and to-day the result is that the armies lately under his leadership are at their homes, desiring peace and quiet, and their arms are in the hands of our ordinance officers."

These are the words of a just and brave man who respects the truth and whose patriotism is a thing not of words but of deeds.—*Fr.*

Fearful Destitution!

The "Destitute ration," which has been the solitary dependence of so many of our people for their daily bread, ceased on yesterday; and it is ascertained that there are now in this city three thousand and forty-six women and children entirely destitute, with the rigors of winter upon them, and nothing between them and death but charity.

The fact is appalling. It carries its own appeal with it. Words cannot convey its inexpressible horror. Many of these persons, threatened with an awful fate, have never, in former days, known want. Not a few of them are delicate, refined, gentle bred, possessed of household virtue, and adorned by every social grace. Something must be done, and done quickly. The whole head and heart of the community must be devoted to instant, practical, thorough measures for their relief. We had never expected to see such a state of things in America; least of all in Virginia. Every man who can share ought, however little, must now deny himself all but the bare necessities of life to save his perishing brethren. Will not the benevolent everywhere assist us in these efforts of common humanity? America, which has dispensed her bounty to the famishing of foreign climes, will not look coldly on and see Christian people—flesh of their flesh and bone of their bone—dying of starvation at their own doors.—*Richmond Dispatch*, 16th.

Works a Blessing.

Many young men have fathers that are well off, and they have no ambition, and no particular prospect. They scorn a trade. A man that is too well born for a trade is very well born for a gallows! Thousands of parents, who by industry, have gained a position which enables them to destroy their children, take the surest means of accomplishing their destruction by encouraging them to idleness, and alluring them as they grow up to feel that it is disgraceful to work at whatever manual of labor best suits his talents, no matter if his father is a minister, or a lawyer, or a senator, or the President of the United States.—Many young men are looking forward upon life with the general idea that they are going to enjoy themselves. They are provided with all useful physical comforts, and they mean to be happy. They have no trade. They slight their profession.—Their whole governing principle in life is to shirk any thing like work; and they expect to have enjoyment without industry.—But no man in this world will be happy who violates the fundamental law of industry. You must work, if you are going to be a happy man. I know you think it is hard; but if God had meant that you should be a butterfly, you would have been born a butterfly. And as you are not born moth or a miller, but as a man, you must accept the conditions of your manhood. And if there is one principle that is more important at the very threshold of life than another, that is man is born to work.—*H. W. Beecher*.

Reception of President Johnson's Message in Europe.

President Johnson's message was generally received with favor, and regarded as friendly.

The New York *Evening Post* says: "The passage which concerns England ought to be received in a friendly spirit."

The *Morning Post* says: "It evinces a desire to keep on good terms with those whom they acknowledge to be their friends."

The *Telegraph* is very eulogistic. It says: "The document reflects the highest credit on its author, and furnishes the world with satisfactory auguries of peace."

The *London Standard* says that, though President Johnson's message was generally received with favor, and regarded as friendly.

The *New York Tribune* made the following hit last Thursday at those extrapatriotic friends who are clamoring for the death of Jeff Davis:

If no other reason existed for the pardon of Davis, this would do: If he is hanged, whom can the "loyal" organs abuse? When Wirtz was living he was a most fruitful subject. If Davis goes, their case will be distressing. We would recommend, as an emergency victim—the Czar of Russia, or the King of Abyssinia.

By all means let us have the King served up.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, '65.

The radical faction in Congress has become so well convinced of its inability to carry out the proposed measures of territorializing the South and defeating the President's plan of reconstruction, that a new programme has been invented to circumvent the President if possible.

Precisely the same tactics as those employed in the Kauas imbroglio have been adopted. Resolutions are to be introduced authorizing the Caucus Committee of Fifteen to appoint a sub-committee to visit all parts of the South, and report upon the condition of affairs.

When it is resolved that this sub-committee, if authorized, will be appointed by Thaddeus Stevens, the character of its report may be easily anticipated.

The object of this movement is to delay the reconstruction of the South on the President's plan, but it is confidently believed that the reconstruction will be completed long before any such committee, if one should be appointed, can make a report.

The President was closeted for several hours to-day with the Secretaries of War and the Treasury and General Grant. The object of the consultation is understood to have been the reform of abuses in the Freedmen's Bureau, which cry loud for reform. They are acknowledged to be very outrageous.

The farmer who tries to carry his horses, cattle and sheep through the winter without a morsel of anything but dry hay, grain and straw, makes a grave mistake. A few roots—carrots and rutabagas, or other sorts of turnips—seem to keep the bowels in good condition thus contributing to the general health, while at the same time they give a better relish for more solid and nutritive kinds of food. A small mass of them twice a week, if you haven't them to feed often, will be quite serviceable.

The Fenians.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.

A local paper upwards, through the help of the Police Court, the sensational story that a Washington auctioneer has been engaged in buying up fire arms for the Fenian organization of this city, and had partially delivered an invoice of the deadly weapons, when the municipal authorities embarrassed the further consummation of the conspiracy by imposing a *quarantine*. This proceeding will undoubtedly delay, for some weeks longer, any demonstration on the border.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31.

Twelve out of the sixteen Circles of the Fenian Brotherhood in this city will be represented by delegates at the New York Congress. Only two Circles have indorsed the Senate, viz: the Saratoga and Wolfe Circle. Eight of the Circles have passed resolutions positively indorsing O'Mahony.

It has been decided lately that a boy found on a man's doorstep, may not necessarily be his stepson.

The School Law.

At the late expensive and unnecessary special session of the Legislature, a good piece of work might have been done in perfecting our extremely defective school law; a law now almost impracticable to execute. A bill was introduced for this purpose; but a majority of the Republicans would not allow it to pass unless the negroes were allowed to share equally in the school fund with the whites; and on that point, a minority of the Republicans, as in the liquor bill, joined the Democrats and defeated it. Thus the question stood; no school bill, unless it be a negro school bill, could not pass. Reason why? No money in it, for the State Printer!—*Ind. Herald*.

State Convention on the 1st of March.

The Legislative Caucus unanimously adopted the following:

Resolved, That the Democratic State Central Committee be requested to call a State Convention, to be held at Indianapolis, on Thursday, the 1st day of March

That Caucus was not called at the instance of the *Herald*, but the notice for it was handed in, if we are rightly informed, by the Chairman of the State Central Committee. We take it for granted the Convention will be held on the 1st of March; let all the counties hold their conventions and appoint delegates. We must sustain the President against the disunionists. While the late Republican Legislature refused to pass a resolution in favor of punishing Jeff Davis, still they refused to pass a resolution endorsing President Johnson. He, as our readers are aware, holds, with the Democrats, that the Union is not dissolved, but only disordered, and requires simply to be put in harmonious working order by the action of Representatives of all the States, acting under the Constitution; while the Republicans hold the Union to be dissolved, and the southern half of it to be held and governed under the northern half, by military despotism.

If the President is going to fight it out on the Union line; if he has checked his baggage through on that, and is going to follow it to the station, we must rally to his support, and hold up his hands while he attempts to hold together the Union.

AN ALARM AT MADRID.

Great alarm exists among the people.—Orders were issued on the evening of Dec. 10th, forbidding any officer of the garrison to sleep out of the barracks, and prohibiting any officer from admittance into the barracks until he had first been reconnoitred through a wicket of the gate by the officer of the guard. Regiments that have been stationed in the city for some time are being sent away, and fresh ones, from the provinces, are taking their place.

A PRECAUTION BY QUEEN ISABELLA.

"It is rumored that the Queen has lately been lodging large sums of money in her own name, in France and England."

A Paris letter says: "The reason of the termination of the extradition treaty between England and France was, that, during the whole period of the existence of such treaty, every criminal demanded by England of France has been promptly surrendered; while not one single criminal demanded by France has ever been given up by England. The Emperor does not choose to be any longer a party to such a one-sided arrangement."

THE NEW TELEGRAPH CABLE.

Several hundred miles of the core, or interior portions, of the new Atlantic telegraph cable are completed.

From Minnesota.

The St. Cloud (Minnesota) *Democrat* says that on the 12th inst., two soldiers of the 10th Minn. infantry, stationed at Fort Ripley, visited a saloon near the fort, where they obtained liquor, and while under its influence started for some Indian tepees, and lost themselves. Search was made just after roll call, and one of the men found with both his hands frozen and brought back to the fort. The other was not found till next morning about ten o'clock. He had frozen to death on the ice, about half a mile below the fort.

John Headman started from Red Wing on Wednesday, to go to Hastings on foot. He had got five miles beyond a place called Hungry Point, and being frozen and despairing of reaching Hastings, turned back and attempted to reach Hungry Point. This he was unable to do, in his own language his "legs refused to go ahead." In this condition he was found by a man who brought him to Hungry Point, and a teamster brought him from that place to Red Wing.

The man who first found him says at the time he so found him he was unable to move.

He was under an oak tree, around which he had beaten the snow all down and had kicked the bark all off, near the roots, in his efforts to keep warm.

He was taken to Red Wing. His right hand was done up, being frozen so badly that it was completely useless. Every finger on the left hand was more less frozen.

His boots were frozen to his feet so hard that it was for a time impossible to get them off. His feet were put into pairs of cold water, and after awhile one of his boots was gotten off, but, horrible to tell, his whole foot was frozen as hard as ever a piece of meat was frozen. The other boot was not taken off at that time.

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