

THE TIMES.

A. E. GLENN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

FOR THE TIMES.

AD VALOREM LAW—NO. 1.

MR. EDITOR—

I most cheerfully and heartily subscribe to and admire that liberal and just spirit of our free institutions which guarantees to one and all, the liberty of speech and of the Press; and which also affords us the privilege of discussing and reviewing the acts of our rulers and our lawgivers. With this in view, then, I hope, sir, you will allow me the privilege of occupying a small portion of your columns for a short period while I calmly and dispassionately examine into the justness and expediency of the law, passed at the late session of our Legislature, and published in your last paper, providing for an equitable mode of levying the taxes of this State.

In the operations of this law every citizen of our State has a common interest. It is the duty of all carefully to examine its provisions, and no citizen should be backward in divulging his opinions and sentiments. For myself, I am opposed to the law, on the broad basis that it is not equitable, neither is it just. I know that there are some, and they are my neighbors too, who honestly hold to a different opinion, and I cherish the hope that they will admit I am honest in my opposition. In stating my objections, I do not wish to be understood as wanting to force them upon the people—on the contrary, I want all to speak out, and let us have the equity and justness of the law fairly discussed.

My first objection to the law is, that our State is entirely too young for its operations. I have heard this objection urged by numbers of my fellow citizens, and I think it entitled to great weight. If it is asked, why? I answer, that by far the greater portion of the present adult population of Indiana, have migrated, rather poor in circumstances, from the Eastern and Southern States. They fled, from the unjust and arbitrary laws of their richer and more favored fellow citizens—from States, in many instances, where, owing to their not being able to accumulate property, they were not allowed the privileges of freemen—they fled from these States, and they came to the wild woodlands of the West, to erect an asylum and a home for their declining years, and to secure for their children situations in society which would prevent them from being made "hewers of wood and drawers of water," as their fathers had been before them.

Difficulties unparalleled, troubles, and mishaps, which were unforeseen, had to be encountered by these emigrants. Many a sad and bitter tale have I heard rehearsed by these fearless Pioneers—but it is useless to dwell on this subject, as all are ready to admit that their toils and suffering are unsurpassed. And now, when they have begun to get fairly settled—when, by untiring labor, industry and economy, they have been enabled to make some improvements on their hard-earned possessions—when, by their toil and perseverance, the wilderness of Indiana begins "to blossom as the rose," let me ask, is it just, is it right, is it equitable, to pass a law which embraces, in its provisions for taxation, all those improvements? I think not. Why, sir, under all the circumstances of the case, it can not properly be called taxing a man's property—on the contrary, it is taxing the labor, the industry, the economy, which enabled the individual to secure the property! There can be no mistake in this assertion.

Let us state a case:—Two men just arrived at the age of manhood, set out into the world, poor and penniless; one by indefatigable industry and economy obtains a piece of woodland—he cultivates it, and erects good buildings thereon. The other, by neglecting his business, frequenting distilleries, grog-shops, and taverns, becomes a worthless sot—he pays no tax, but the industrious man's property comes under the provisions of the ad valorem law, and he has to pay tax, while the worthless sot reaps all the advantages and shares the same benefits which the industrious man is entitled to. Where is the equity in this? Let the friends of the law answer.

Another objection to this law is, that it provides for taxing all improvements on lands and town lots, which are valued over and above two hundred dollars. The bad effects of this provision must be obvious to all—it has a direct tendency to stop improvements. Those who have already erected good buildings, either in town or country, will be taxed; while those who live in old log houses and cabins, will prefer to remain there; for they know that the moment they erect a good brick or frame house

they will be taxed—and for what? why for the privilege of living in a respectable and good looking house. If you should ask my neighbor or myself why we do not put up good buildings and improve the appearance of our farms? we would tell you that as soon as we do so we must pay heavier taxes. I am very much mistaken, sir, if this does not be the case. A farmer does not earn his money so easily as to be willing to part with it in this manner; and my firm impression is, that our last Legislature, instead of holding out inducements, and creating a stimulus for improvement, have, by passing this ad valorem law, thrown a complete damper upon it.

But, Mr. Editor, I do not wish to be tedious on this subject; and I should be pleased to hear something from the friends of this law. In my next number I shall advert to some more of its most objectionable provisions.

A FARMER.

For the Times.

MR. EDITOR—

The following are a few of the things observable in the Rising Sun Lyceum, that I like to see.

I like to see young ladies attend the Lyceum, and fidget about, whisper and laugh, when there is a serious and instructive subject under investigation. It shows good sense, and is very lady-like.

I like to see a crowd of young men, when a member is speaking, move out of the house. It shows respect to the speaker, politeness, and good breeding.

I like to see a good number of little boys running in and out, making a continual jarring with the doors. Such conduct is highly commendable in youths and reflects a great deal of credit upon their parents.

I like to see a large house well filled with people, and splendidly illuminated with two or three burning candles.

And above all, Mr. Editor, I like to see members of the Lyceum leave the house before the meeting is adjourned. It shows that they have been well pleased with the proceedings of the evening, and possess a willingness to promote the cause in which they are engaged.

A CITIZEN.

LAW OF INDIANA.

AN ACT supplemental to an act, passed during the present session of the General Assembly, to provide for an equitable mode of levying the taxes of this State.

(APPROVED FEBRUARY 7, 1836.)

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That the State Printer shall print and procure to be stitched, in pamphlet form, two thousand copies of the act aforesaid, so soon as practicable; and the Secretary of State shall forward to the clerk of each county, twenty copies of the same, for the use of boards doing county business, and the respective assessors appointed under the provisions of said act.

Sec. 2. If in the opinion of the Secretary of State, the laws of the present session cannot be distributed to the respective counties as soon as the twenty-fifth of April next, it shall be his duty, if no other safe and speedy conveyance occur, to transmit the said number of copies by mail, to the clerks of the respective counties, discharging the postage thereof out of the contingent fund. And it shall be the duty of each clerk, upon the reception of the same, to endorse on one of said copies, to be by him filed in his office, the time of its reception; and said act shall be taken and deemed to be in full force from and after the date of such endorsement, so far as the same is intended to be in force from and after its publication.

Sec. 3. This act shall be printed with the act to which it is supplemental, and shall be in force from and after its passage.

ROBBERY AND LYNCHING.

We learn a robbery was committed on the line of the canal during the last week. The circumstances, as far as we have heard them, are as follows: Mr. James B. Johnson one of the canal commissioners had in possession several thousand dollars, which, with his saddle bags, he left in charge of a merchant on the line, to be kept until they were called for. On calling for his saddle bags and examining, he discovered that a package, containing about eight thousand dollars, was missing. Suspicion rested on three individuals, and a court of the contractors, &c. was called, and after several hearings suspicions centered on Dr. Pomroy, a person who slept in the room where the money was deposited. He, of course, exhibited great indignation at being accused of such a crime and attempted to throw it on Mr. Johnson, but so confident was the court of Mr. Johnson's innocence and Pomroy's guilt, that Pomroy was sentenced to be whipped, until he confessed his guilt and gave up

the money. The sentence of the court was carried into execution, and after a severe and long trial of Lynch's infidelity, which he bore with Mammon fortitude, and resignation, he yielded up the ghost, on condition that no questions should be asked, and a horse, bridle, saddle, and fifty dollars be given him to make his darn'd eternal escape. The conditions were accepted by the court, the package was produced, and Pomroy decamped with a striped flag-gelated back back. So eager was the package seized, and so little did they suspect that it had been opened, that the money was not counted, until not a grease spot of Pomroy was to be seen; when it was counted five hundred dollars "came up missing." So the result was, that Pomroy received a good lynching and about \$650 in the bargain for one night's work.

Wabash Mercury.

POPERY IN BOSTON.

Do not pass this article by, without giving it a careful perusal,—nor without thinking over it, and *receiving* over it. It is a fact that such things are done here;—here, where independence of opinion is so strenuously advocated? Yes, in Boston, liberty of conscience is opposed by physical force.

The following facts have come to our knowledge, of the truth of which there can be no doubt.

A very interesting, amiable, and intelligent boy, about 15 years of age, of Irish descent, last December commenced working as an apprentice to the printing business, in an office in Cornhill. His parents are papists, but he has been sceptical respecting the truth of Popery, for some time past. His parents discovered it, and with the genuine spirit of their Church, began to take incipient measures to bring the boy back to the faith.

On the evening of the 1st of January, his mother requested him to go to confession; but he evaded the request.

January 6th he met his father in the street, who wished him to go home with him to converse with one of the priests. The ecclesiastic urged the importance of his being "confirmed," and receiving the sacrament, saying, he should obey his parents in matters of religion. Upon the boy's saying, incidentally, that he had a Bible given him as a new year's present, the priest said, "The Bible was not made for common folks to read, but only for ministers of the church."

The next day he went home again. The Priest was immediately sent for. When he entered he accosted the lad thus—"You wretch! how often must I come to see you for nothing!" The boy replied—"I did not send for you." An old woman who was listening asked him how he dared to talk so to a priest. "Don't you know," said she, "that he could strike you dead, and has power to remove mountains?" The priest heard this, but did not contradict her. The woman said, "if ye war my son, I'd chain ye ind the hoose, and satisfy myself by bateing ye. I'd make ye be a Catherlic." His father told him "if he was going to leave the Roman Catholic faith, to quit his house, and never come there again, and never speak to him hereafter. He got into a towering passion, snatched up a stick of firewood, about two inches thick, and struck him, saying that "it would be a charity to kill him."

The ensuing Saturday the father called at the printing office, and ordered the youth to go to his boarding house, get his clothes, and return home. Through fear of ill treatment, he refused.

On Monday morning the father called again, and promised if he would return home, not to talk with him on the subject of religion. Consequently he went. When he arrived at the house, his father took him by the hair, struck him several times, and knocked his head against the wall. He then took off his clothes, and made him put on some sailor's apparel, and told him if he attempted to escape he would murder him. Several men were stationed on the stairs and around the house as guards. After being locked up for a day and night, in the upper chamber, and beaten several times very severely, by the advice of the priest, he was released, and told to leave the house immediately, and never enter it again.

Thus was the boy sent from the home of his parents, a wanderer over the face of the earth, because he chose to adhere to that belief which he thought most consistent!

We have the names of all concerned in our possession.

One thing should be particularly remarked, that the father was apparently the instrument, merely, of the Boston Popish priesthood.

Since writing the above we have had another interview with the young man. He has received warning from

a brother not to go alone near his father's house, as the P-pists in that vicinity threaten to kill him. One of them said he "didn't think any thing of killing a Protestant."—*Zion's Herald*.

VIOLENCE.—A spirit of violence is abroad in the land. A few days since, Hayden, a student of Miami University, severely wounded his fellow-student, Miller, by discharging a pistol ball into his leg. Hayden has fled. His parents are respectable. They are our friends, but we must publicly reprobate this conduct of their son, while we sympathize in the affliction which his act has brought upon them.—*Cin. Journal*.

GREAT CONFLAGRATION.—Fifty houses were burnt to the ground in Charleston, S. C. on the 15th ult.—Among them was St. Philip's church. A Charleston paper says:

This venerable structure, which has for more than a century (having been built in 1723) towered among us in all the solemnity and noble proportions of antique architecture—constituting a hallowed link between the past and the present—with its monumental memorials of the beloved and honored dead, and its splendid new organ, (which cost \$4,500) is now a smoking ruin.

POPISH EMIGRANTS.—We are told, that Papal emigrants come, not like others, guided by individual enterprise, but with their location agreed on by the Pope and his advisers before they embark; that they are consigned to his sacerdotal agents, as regular as merchandise; and that they are located with special reference to future action.

Ohio Observer.

PRAYING SOULS OUT OF PURGATORY.

Patrick O'F. ** a Papist of this city went some time ago to Mr. ** a Roman Priest, and informed him, that he would give five dollars, if the Priest would deliver his mother, his sister, and Burny O'Leary, his friend out of purgatory. The Priest refused to liberate the whole of them without ten dollars, but promised to get the release of the two women for five. Some short time after, the man went to Brooklyn, and there met with a Priest who offered to "do the job" for all three, for the five dollars.—Patrick called upon the Priest, told him the circumstances, and demanded his five dollars back. The Priest finally promised him to "do the job" for the three at the same price; but the papist replied, "I will not take your word, unless you will swear to do it by your vestments"—upon which the Priest swore solemnly by his vestments, that he would get the whole of them out of purgatory for the five dollars, and the robbed dupe left his house.

Prof. Vindicator.

WAR IN IRELAND.

Late news from Ireland gives the details of a bloody affray between the King's troops and the peasantry in the neighborhood of Rothcormac. The affair originated in an attempt by a couple of clergymen to enforce the payment of tithes. Among others they proceeded to make distress of the property of a widow woman. Previous appearances induced a belief that a rescue would be attempted; to prevent this the military was called out, and met in the vicinity of the place where the distress was to be made of a large number of the peasantry. The business proceeded. A shout was instantly raised by the people to protect the people and to "protect the widow's hag-gard." They rushed forward, the military advancing in an opposite direction. Two volleys of blank cartridge, it is said, were fired over the heads of the peasantry, when a cabbage stalk was thrown which struck one of the officers on the shoulder. The account proceeds—

"The military were now commanded by one of the Magistrates to fire. In less than three minutes the bugle sounded to desist, and 12 of the peasantry lay dead on the ground. More than 20 were severely wounded, and we understand, two have since died. The people fled in all directions, and some of the wounded, before they could reach a place of safety, fell from exhaustion. Amongst those who were wounded were three or four small farmers who had paid all their arrears of tithes. After the termination of this lamentable affair the party effected several distresses in the neighborhood; and the Widow Ryan arraigned for her opposition. Half an hour after the troops had been withdrawn, the bell of the neighboring chapel commenced tolling, and the bodies of the slain were carried by the people and laid within the walls. It would be impossible, it would be useless to describe the heart rending spectacle which followed. The news of the occurrence spread through the country with the usual celerity of bad things. Horns were sounded from

the different hills, fires were kindled on the surrounding heights, and a gentleman who left Cork on Friday assures us the country many miles around Rothcormac is in a state of dreadful excitement. An inquest was held on the bodies on Saturday, but the result will not be known for some days."

E. K. AVERY.—A petition from Montgomery county, was presented in the House by Mr. Sawyer praying that the Rev. E. K. Avery, of Sarah Maria Cornell memory, should be appointed Chaplain of the Ohio Penitentiary! After debate, the petition was rejected by a large majority. This is a new method of getting a man into the Penitentiary.—*Springfield (O.) Pioneer*.

The commissioners of the sinking fund, consisting of the Vice President, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Secretary of the Treasury and Attorney General, have transmitted their final report to the Senate, showing their operations for the last year, stating that the National debt is now extinguished, that the sinking fund of which they had charge, was no longer required, and asking to be discharged from further duties.—*Western Tel.*

DIVORCES IN NEW JERSEY.—Matrimony appears really upon the eve of "break up house keeping" in New Jersey. The number of applications for divorces to the legislature now in session, has been beyond all former example.—Three petitions were presented in one day during the last week. We are afraid that bad husbands or bad wives are more plentiful in New Jersey than they should be.

EXPENSES OF GOVERNMENTS.—By computation, it has been ascertained that the government of England costs each individual \$9 86; France, 5 55; Netherlands, 4 68; Prussia, 2 43; Austria, 1 92; the United States the same.—Hereafter it is believed that \$1 17 will probably cover the expense, which shows that republican simplicity is worthy of emulation.—*Brook. Ing.*

"Mr. Rotchchild is said to have awaited on the Duke of Wellington soon after his appointment to the Premiership, to know whether he intended any change in the foreign policy of the country."

The Duke declined answering, whereupon the great Stock dealer said he should consider his silence as indicative of the change, and act accordingly. This alarmed the Duke who then declared that he knew of no intended change.

Thus the money of a Jew controls the fate of the world!"

A private letter from Paris, of the 16th says—"The French government dread more an internal commotion than a war with America. Such measures on the part of the American government as may affect the commercial and manufacturing interests of France, will therefore have a more serious effect here than an open declaration of war."

A letter from a late member of the Chamber of Deputies, addressed to Capt. Forbes, and received just before his departure from Havre, says—"The honor of France is so deeply concerned in fulfilling the treaty, that I am fully satisfied the indemnity bill will soon pass the Chambers."

We have recorded a number of instances lately of extreme old age in the south, but we believe the following goes ahead of all. A colored woman, the property of Wm. T. Mason, of Loudoun county, lately died at the advanced age of one hundred and thirty, retaining her bodily and mental faculties.

A railroad is to be commenced immediately between St. Francisville, Louisiana, and Woodville, Mississippi. Another between Clinton and Baton Rouge will no doubt be shortly commenced, a sufficient sum having been already subscribed. The state of Louisiana is making great progress in internal improvements.

A new way to tell of the prosperity of a town—A Southern paper speaking of the increased prospects of the town, notices that doctors with long faces, and lawyers with sour looks, bespeak a prosperity long anticipated, and very much needed.

A young man named J. McLaughlin, attached to a Thespian society, at Nashville, Tenn. when enacting the character of Bertram, accidentally inflicted a wound upon himself of so dangerous a nature as to cause his death. His mother resides at Lancaster, Penn.

A bill is before the Legislature of Mississippi, to establish a bank at Jackson, in that State, with a capital of five millions of dollars.

The whole number of Methodists in what is called the Western valley, is 27,409, an increase during the year 1834 of 13,449.