

JOLIET SIGNAL.

JOLIET, ILLINOIS.

Tuesday, January 19, 1864.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

THE TRUE THEORY OF TAXATION.

We have always contended that the true theory of taxation, the only just and Democratic mode of raising revenue for the Government and the one which we trust, the people will some day insist upon adopting, is that of direct taxation.

The system of raising revenue by tariffs, by income tax, by licenses, by stamp duties, bears unequally upon the people. Raising our revenue in this manner tends to place the load, in an undue degree, upon the shoulders of the poor.

We know men worth their hundreds of thousands, who pay no more tax to support the Government than the man who has to depend upon his daily labor for a livelihood. The present internal revenue tax system falls almost exclusively upon the laboring men of the country.

The truth is the system of taxation from which we now derive the resources of our Government is in utter opposition to the maxim upon which it is formed.

The institutions upon which our Government is built profess the utmost confidence in the integrity and intelligence of the people, but our present mode of collecting the national revenue betrays distrust both of their integrity and virtue. The men who now make our laws and govern us, either fear that the people have not sense to see that the expenses of the government must be defrayed by them, or that they have not honesty and patriotism enough to pay them if directly applied to for that purpose; and hence we are seen about by various modes of indirection, to fitch the money from their pockets in such a manner that they may neither know how much they contribute, nor the precise purpose to which it is applied.

We do not believe a system could be better devised than the present one to encourage lavish expenditure and introduce variety of corruption. If the people knew how much they were paying, we opine that a change of programme would soon be introduced. If our revenue was collected from a direct tax upon property, instead of a system of indirect levies, the war for freeing the negroes would buy brought to a close.

We trust that the people will elect a Congress this year that will adopt the true system for raising revenue. Let our farmers and property holders be taxed in proportion to their wealth, and we believe it would not be long before the Government would be placed in different hands. The landholders and rich men should be made to bear the expenses of Government in proportion to their means.

The present system of raising revenue is not only calculated to encourage frauds and peculations and lavish expenditures, but to prolong the present appalling civil war.

LOYAL LEAGUE PATRIOTISM.

We learn that one of Old Abe's enrolling officers of this county, a loud-mouthed loyal patriot, gave striking evidence of his patriotism the other day.

He prevailed upon one of his neighbors, who has a son—a mere lad—not fit for military duty, to let him bring him to this city and get him enlisted. The father consented after some persuasion, and the boy was dressed in several thicknesses of clothing and delivered over to the patriotic enrolling commissioner aforesaid, who was to receive twenty-five dollars of the bounty money if he could get the boy accepted.

He took him and the Provost Marshall and succeeded so as to get papers sufficient to draw the county bounty and fifteen dollars of the government bounty, and pocketing his twenty-five dollars went home.

When the boy returned he was examined by Sergeant McArthur, of course, he was rejected, as he was, perhaps, anticipated by the enrolling officer.

All accounts as the matter now stands, one of Old Abe's officers has made twenty-five dollars and the county has paid one hundred dollars without getting a soldier. We believe this is the same enrollment officer that left the names of all his Abolition relations off the list.

We might give other striking instances of loyal league patriotism, but this one will suffice for the present.

ABOLITIONISM SHOWING ITSELF.

There was an affair in the Court House the other day, which exhibited the tendency of the higher-law notion of Abolitionism.

A certain eminent Abolition lawyer, who is the recognized high-priest of Abolitionism in this county, took offense at certain remarks of a brother lawyer and in open court struck him a severe blow on the temple with a large inkstand, inflicting a dangerous wound. There was considerable excitement occasioned by the affair, but the matter was terminated for the present by Judge Harris assessing a fine of fifty dollars against the aforesaid pugilistic attorney.

This is but another evidence of the tendency of Abolition doctrines. It teaches disregard of law, and tramples upon constitutions, and it cannot but be expected that its apostles and disciples will practice what they preach.

Judge Harris did wrong in fining the Abolition attorney, for violating the law, for the whole party from Abraham Lincoln to the lowest of his stultifying officials practice trampling upon law whenever it suits their convenience. These higher-law men should not be punished for carrying out their principles. Judge Harris, should, therefore, remit the fine, if he has any regard for the practices and teachings of the Abolition school.

The Difference. The Joliet Republican lays down its platform: It says it is for "the Union and freedom"—meaning, of course, negro freedom.

The Joliet Signal is for the Union as it is, and the constitution as it is.

And this is the difference in the positions of the two papers of the city.

A SPLENDID MAP.—The new township map of the State of Illinois, by Edward Mendell, is one of the best that has been published. It is beautiful, and what is better, is correct. Subscription price \$5.

By an advertisement in to-day's paper it will be seen that an agent is wanted to procure subscribers in this county.

The Loyal Leaguers and the War.

The editor of the Missouri Courier reads the loyal leaguers throughout a lecture to their apathy about volunteering. And the remarks of our Iowa contemporary apply with equal force in other localities.

The fact is, as we firmly believe, not a single loyal leaguer has enlisted in this county since the President's last call for 300,000 men.

The loyal leaguers, as a general thing, dodge behind corners, hide behind mail bags, get metamorphosed into enrolling clerks or assistant commissioners, or are doing anything except enlisting.

The Democrats, on the other hand, though they do not believe in the policy on which the war is being carried on, are endeavoring to fill our quota by volunteering. It is notorious that four fifths of the enlistments of the county since the last call, were men who have been classed as "Copperheads and traitors."

The men who have been thus classed have been thus denominated as coming forward and doing the abominations of war while the loyal leaguers Abolitionists are skulking as far away from the recruiting offices as they possibly can get.

Now, this is decidedly unfair. The loyal leaguers would not let Mr. Lincoln rest until he declared his intention to carry on the war for the purpose of giving freedom to the Southern negroes, but when he asks them for help to do this great and dangerous work, they are the last men to put themselves in the range of rebel bullets.

The duty of the secret loyal league society seems to be, if we would judge from the acts of the members of that organization, to be to stay at home and vote for the President should issue a proclamation declaring all the manufacturing property of the North confiscated, and holding all the inhabitants as criminals until one-tenth of them shall enduce his proposition.

A contemporary remarks that it is worthy of note that all the cruel, barbarous and vindictive measures of this Administration have been originated by the meek-eyed, silver-tongued, gentle-hearted philanthropist of other days; by men who have shuddered at the idea of hanging a murderer, flogging a negro, or going to war to vindicate national honor.

These same philanthropists now witness unmoved, with silent tongue and stony hearts, white men manacled and driven at the point of the bayonet into the army—had they witnessed anything of the kind during the war with Mexico, how the cowardly scoundrels would have hurried their curses upon the Administration.

These men have dug graves of hundreds of thousands of American citizens, and are now loudly calling for more blood. And they are backed in every city and town by pensioned miscreants, some of whom, unfortunately for the country, are in high official positions and at the head of influential journals.

OUTRAGE.—As a train load of soldiers was passing the Rock Island depot in this city yesterday, a soldier reached his arm out of a car window and seized a valuable fur cap of the head of Mr. Levi Shipley, the popular runner of the National Hotel, and carried it away with him.

DEATH OF H. G. BROWN.—Another of our old citizens, Henry G. Brown, died at his residence, near this city, on last Tuesday morning. He was an honorable man and a good citizen. His remains were buried at their final resting place by the Masonic Fraternity of the city, of which order he was a worthy member.

A contemporary says that "marriages have increased five per cent. under Mr. Lincoln's Administration." So have funerals increased five thousand per cent. under his administration.

Washington, Jan. 17. The members of both the Military Committee of Congress have received large numbers of letters, the writers volunteering suggestions or advice as to what should be done in the future, or as to the present bill, evidently desiring that it should be so framed as to exempt themselves from the draft.

The bill before the Senate will probably reach that body to-morrow, and be sent to the House for concurrence. It corrects some of the faults in, and its object is to render more efficient the operation of the present law.

The only persons specially exempted from the draft are the Vice President of the United States, the Judges of the several United States Courts, the heads of the several Executive Departments, and the Governors of States, and, by implication, such persons as are physically or mentally unfit for service according to the prescribed army regulations.

The two classes for enrollment and draft are merged in one, which is made to include persons between the ages of 20 and 40 (1) years. Credits are to be given to cities, towns, and villages, so as to equalize as far as possible, throughout each district. The commutation is increased to \$40. Those who pay it are to be exempted from the draft for a year, such terms as they may see fit to call upon in the next; in other words, they are in the condition of a reserved class. Drafted men say, if they prefer, they may be sent to the navy, such terms as they may see fit to call upon in the next; in other words, they are in the condition of a reserved class.

Alterations are made in the details of the old act for conducting the draft, and it is proposed to increase the fee of \$5 for preparing the necessary exemption papers. The bill has not yet been perfected by the Senate, but it will probably reach that body with the above prominent features.

New York, Jan. 19. The Herald's Washington special says: "K. J. Perkins has been appointed Postmaster of New Francisco."

The House resumed the consideration of the joint resolution, reported from the Judiciary Committee, to make the confiscation act continue in force until the 31st of March, and to provide for the trial of the offenders during the lifetime of the offenders.

Mr. Cox argued that the confiscation system had proved an utter failure, and, because this failed, the House should call upon to adopt another measure to stimulate the rebellion, and destroy what little Union feeling there was in the South.

Mr. Davis, of Maryland, replied saying that the bill before the House was the majority on his side, no support of the administration was to be expected from them, and when they tendered their support, he (Davis) would look upon it with suspicion.

Further proceedings on the subject were interrupted by the expiration of the morning hour.

The Senate resolution for a revival of the Confiscation Act of 1862, was referred to the Committee on the Conduct of the War, and was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House went into committee of the whole on the bill to increase the internal revenue, which bill was recently published.

Mr. Stevens moved an amendment taxing spirits distilled since August 31, 1862, on brand and for sale.

After debate, the amendment was agreed to. No other amendments of importance were made.

Without action on the bill, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

Washington, Jan. 15. SENATE. Mr. Morgan presented a petition from

The Conditions.

An eastern paper states the truth in regard to the actual position taken by the President in his late annual proclamation. Nor can the best friend of the President deny that this manner of stating his real position is literally correct.

And being true, in what light does it exhibit Abraham Lincoln and those who follow him?

If we can understand what the President, in his message and proclamation, is driving at, it is to prevent any restoration of the Union until he has gotten rid of slavery in the States where it exists.

According to Republican authority, the rebellion is almost subdued; we have but to fight easily a little longer, and the old flag will wave from the capital of every State, and the constitution will be the supreme law of the whole land.

But this, says Mr. Lincoln, will not do. "I must make a new condition of reunion. Loyalty isn't precisely what I wanted. All these rebels have been guilty of a crime, and I will punish them all as traitors unless they will agree under oath to give up their property."

This is the proclamation. It is to repress the Union sentiment in the South—to prevent the Southern States from returning to the Union. It is precisely as though a President should issue a proclamation declaring all the manufacturing property of the North confiscated, and holding all the inhabitants as criminals until one-tenth of them shall enduce his proposition.

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On motion of Mr. Anthony, a resolution was adopted calling for the military conduct of the Senate to inquire whether any obstacles have been thrown in the way of the progress of colored men not subject to military duty here, and, if so, by whom, and by what authority.

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