

American Wealth-Repudiation.

The wonderful resources of the country within the boundary of the United States are ever exciting the admiration of traveler and citizen. We gave yesterday, as a matter of news, a statement that Iowa had a surface of arable land worth \$1,800,000,000...

It is the most impudent proposition ever presented to the American Congress. Since the Congress were to grant this application we should consider it as the most corrupt Congress that ever met in the Federal Capitol.

That there must be a southern line to the Pacific cannot be doubted. It is essential for the national defence and development. Whether Colonel Scott shall lead in the enterprise or not is a secondary matter...

It is amazing that in such a land it should have occurred to any one that it was necessary for want of means that there should be a public delinquency to meet the just claims for money loaned for the public works.

When we consider the Puritan States and their public faith, and look upon the loose sense of public obligation in the land of civility, we feel a sadness we cannot express, and we deplore what we consider the demoralization—the hallucination—which has come upon that which we have idolized through all our past life.

The Pacific Railroads. The Union and the Central railroads, which are combined in their operations and monopolies, and whose history is so infamous in their strategies to rob the Government, their Credit-Mobiler, etc., are heavily indebted to the Government, and have avoided their obligations while sharing heavy dividends among the few men who hold the stock of the giant corporations.

They refuse to pay the interest due on their Government bonds, though they are abundantly able to do so, and compel the tax-payers to pay the interest year after year. They reject and oppose every equitable arrangement proposed by the Government, whereby without oppression and with but a moderate diminution of their large dividends they could establish a sinking fund in the hands of the Government which would redeem their indebtedness at maturity.

A Letter from Colonel Tullitt on the Public Debt, the Moffett Register, and Other Matters.

MANASSAS, VA., December 16, 1877. To the Editors of the Richmond Dispatch: I have concluded to break my long silence by writing you a letter from the historic fields of Manassas, where so many brave men murdered each other under the belief that they were serving the God of love, mercy, and peace.

The people here are poor but desperately brave, patriotic and honest, and they watch with lively interest the proceedings of the Legislature, the assembled wisdom of the State. Our people are well versed in the science of government, and believe in that maxim that life is no longer desirable without honor and liberty.

Some kind friend in this county has conferred on me the distinguished title of Aristotle of Terrapin Forest, which cannot be regarded as a just compliment to my departed wisdom and many virtues. I should, however, have preferred the sobriquet of "Toots," as the resemblance is greater, and would be a nearer approach to the truth.

To determine the respective and legitimate spheres of the Divine and human law, and when they come in contact; to point where the human is to yield to the Divine, is a matter I shall not assume to determine. But if we should dispense with all laws which come from God or from the principles of justice and rectitude.

There are three kinds of evil—viz.: Natural, moral, and civil. "Natural evil is anything which proceeds from the distribution of calamity, which in any way disturbs the peace, impairs the happiness, or destroys the perfection of natural beings. Moral evil is any deviation of a moral agent from the rules of conduct prescribed to him by God or by legitimate human authority.

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It claims against a State can be enforced by judicial decisions, like those against individuals, it would not only destroy the sovereignty of the State, but would lead to the destruction of the Union itself.

To illustrate this fact, let it be supposed that a citizen obtains judgment against a State from the Supreme Court of the United States, from which there is no appeal, and that court having power to enforce its decrees, and the State should refuse to satisfy the award of the court, would it then have a right, and it would be its duty, to enforce its authority by superseding the State government by the appointment of a receiver, with full power to levy and collect sufficient funds to settle the award of the court, which would be a virtual dissolution of the Union, as it would destroy an integral member of the Federal compact.

Every citizen of the United States who enters into a contract with a State knows, or ought to know, that there is no power in the country which can force a State to pay its obligations, and that the only remedy for the failure of the State to do so is the intervention of the courts, which is in the honesty of the State government.

The claims of aliens may be urged by their respective governments, and, if refused, such governments may declare war in order to compel payment. It is not only a matter of honor, but it is that the solemn duty of the Legislature to provide for the preservation, prosperity, and honor of the State, and not for its destruction, misery, and degradation.

MASONRY and the DEITY.—The Earl of Carnarvon, the 7th Grand Master of the English Masons, a few days ago, at a very large meeting of Grand-Lodge members, who represent the 1,700 lodges "working" under the English constitution, called attention to the recent action of the Grand Orient of France, who had struck out from their preliminary declaration of words expressing belief in the existence of God and the immortality of the soul.

SECRETARY SHERMAN INTERVIEWED.—New York, December 28.—Secretary Sherman, who is in town, was interviewed yesterday in regard to charges made by William E. Chandler, and gave the following as authoritative on his part: "There is no truth whatever in the story. I never made any such bargain as is alleged in the letter, and I do not believe any of the others did. I voted and made a two hours' speech against the electoral bill, and fought these very men—Randall, Gibson, &c., with whom Chandler is now bargaining."

THE COMING PUBLIC-DEBT STATEMENT.—The public-debt statement will be issued on the 2d of January in stead of on the 1st of the month, as usual. No unusual payments have been made during the month excepting disbursements on account of the army, which amount to about \$1,000,000.

MARRIAGES. Married, on the 26th of December, 1877, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. T. G. DUFFY, Mr. JAMES M. HAYES and Miss JANE ZIMMER, daughter of Mr. William A. J. Martin. No cards.

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH (Seventh street near Grace).—The pastor, Rev. W. C. SCHAEFFER, will preach at 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Sunday school at 9 1/2 A. M. All are welcome.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

COHEN BROTHERS, in order to reduce their extensive stock of FALL and WINTER GOODS yet on hand, will commence MONDAY, December 31st, at their great reduction. To prevent their being carried off they have reduced many fabrics to less than wholesale value.

COHEN BROTHERS have on hand over 100 pieces of WHITE FLANNEL, which they are offering at a great reduction. Their stock of CARPETS will be sold regardless of cost to close.

COHEN BROTHERS are offering a very extensive lot of FRENCH CASHMERE, which have been purchased recently to great advantage, and which will be offered at considerably less than market value.

NEW-YEAR'S PRESENTS. DRY GOODS AT LOWEST CASH PRICES. AT ARCH HILL VARIETY STORE, 2502 BROAD STREET.

HOLIDAY AND CHRISTMAS GOODS. AT THALHIMER BROTHERS, 601 BROAD STREET.

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TOO LARGE A STOCK! GOODS MUST BE SOLD! We will from this day offer our winter stock at a great reduction. You will find in every department a full assortment.

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