

Port Tobacco Times

PORT TOBACCO: Friday Morning, April 29th, 1881.

Defence Loan and the "Bombshells."

We have been reading the different "bombshells" carefully with a sincere desire, not unmixed however with a sense of humiliation, to ascertain the extent to which the State treasury has been "despoiled" by the Democratic party, being willing and anxious to know the whole truth, painful though it might be, and to inform our readers upon the subject.

The Hagerstown "Mail" is its preliminary explosion of April 1st, after charging the Democratic party with "despoiling" the treasury: "the defence loan of \$4,000,000 was contracted, and taxes levied for the purpose of redeeming it within 15 years. The debt matured in 1883, and there is almost nothing in the treasury to pay it with. The taxes were spent for other purposes, and we must negotiate another loan to pay it—\$3,300,000."

His Excellency, the Governor, in one of his auxiliary "bombshells" is reported as saying that the Comptroller's report showed that the iniquitous "ring" had expended over six millions of dollars for bounties while the expenditure of only four millions had been authorized by law.

Unless we seriously misconstrue the Comptroller's report and the laws bearing upon this question, both the Governor and his organ are laboring under a misunderstanding with regard to this bounty question, and have both put forth unfounded assertions with regard to it. First as to the Governor's charge: The Comptroller's report, in statement "M" on pages 21 and 22, does show that \$6,083,368 16 has been paid for bounties, and that including interest on loans, commissions and other incidental expenses, the total expenditure in this behalf has been \$8,522,588 05. But we have been unable to find the law that limits the expenditure for bounties to \$4,000,000, or any other sum. We may have overlooked it, but we have failed to find it. It is true that the loan authorized by the act of 1864 was limited to \$4,000,000, but we do not find that the appropriations for the payment of the bounties provided for in the different acts was ever restricted to the funds to be derived from this loan. These acts designated the class of volunteers and drafted men to whom bounties were to be paid, and provided for their payment by the Comptroller and Treasurer "out of any unappropriated funds in the treasury."

The expenditures made by the treasury officers in this behalf have been in strict conformity with the bounty acts. The Comptroller's report shows that from the creation of this bounty in 1864, up to the repeal of the bounty acts in 1880, the prescribed bounties were paid to 17,297 volunteers and drafted men, and 3,639 owners of slaves were compensated in conformity with the provisions of the act. The Comptroller says in his report, "no claim was paid without the closest scrutiny of the proofs presented, and except when there was no other alternative than to comply with the laws." So that unless we are seriously mistaken the Governor is misinformed on this question, and has made charges against the party that elected him to office that he cannot substantiate. This discrepancy appears to result solely from the failure of the Legislatures that created the bounties to properly estimate the extent of the burden they were entailing upon the treasury, and to authorize a loan sufficiently large to provide an adequate fund to discharge it. So much for this "bombshell."

Now with regard to the Mail's statement that the party to which it professes to belong has "despoiled the treasury" by "spending" the bounty taxes "for other purposes" and leaving the defence loan unredeemed, the same table of the report, if we construe it properly, proves that statement to be also without foundation. It appears from that table of the report, as we have already stated, that in pursuance of the bounty acts, the sum of \$8,522,588 05 has been paid out of the treasury, from the time the act of 1864 went into force up to the act of 1880, which repealed the bounty laws went into operation. The same table shows the total receipts from the bounty tax, during the sixteen years it has existed, to have been \$4,057,940 96; the receipts from the sale of the defence loan bonds of act of 1864 to have been \$326,185 00; the receipts from the sale of the defence loan bonds of acts of 1865 and 1868, to have been \$3,964,495 45; and the receipts from repayments by commissioners, agents, &c., during the existence of the bounty laws, to have been \$138,837 63; making a total disbursement in this behalf of \$8,084,459 09, and showing an excess of receipts from all sources over the necessary disbursements required by the bounty acts to be only \$161,821 04.

The total amount of Defence Loan bonds authorized to be issued, if we understand the laws, was \$4,501,000. The first loan authorized by Act of 1864, was limited to \$4,000,000, but after \$501,000 of the bonds authorized by this Act had been negotiated, the Legislature of 1865, repealed the law authorizing the loan, and stepped further issues under it, and authorized a new loan of \$4,000,000. It appears from the table of the Comptroller's report referred to, that the aggregate sum of \$4,490,480 45, was received from the sale of the bonds authorized by both of the Acts mentioned, so allowing for premiums received upon these bonds, it would not appear that this loan was negotiated to the full amount authorized by the Acts of Assembly. But at any rate it is certain that bonds to the amount of \$4,000,000, or slightly upwards, were issued. So we will assume the Defence Loan to have been \$4,000,000, as the Mail states. The amount of these bonds now outstanding, we are told by the Comptroller in his last report, is \$3,326,750 66; and the extent to which the loan was authorized to be refunded by Act of 1880 was \$3,000,000 and not \$3,300,000, as the Mail states. We presume therefore that the Treasury officers adjudge themselves to be able to take care of the remaining \$326,750 66 of the loan when it matures in 1882.

Now the problem that we want the Mail, or some of the rest of the bombshell people to solve is this: If the original loan was \$4,000,000, and it is now reduced to \$3,326,750 66, and will be further reduced by 1880 to \$3,000,000, and the receipts into the Treasury from the bounty tax "levied for the purpose," and the loans combined, have only been \$161,821 04, in excess of the necessary disbursements required by the Acts, is the Treasury indebted to the Defence Loan, or the Defence Loan indebted to the Treasury, which? To put it differently: take \$1,000,000, the extent to which the loan appears to have been reduced, from \$161,821 04, the excess of receipts over necessary disbursements, and how much remains for the "bombs" to "spend for other purposes?" Doubtless the Mail and the Governor can solve this little problem satisfactorily. Their sole desire is to see these "abuses" corrected. They are actuated entirely by a lofty patriotism, and not private animosities or personal ambitions in the slightest degree influence their action. They are true and loyal and unselfish Democrats, and no doubt have carefully considered this matter and assured themselves that the "abuses" they so loudly complain of have a real existence, before they did so grave an act as to fly into the public prints with these charges. Doubtless, therefore, the Governor can find the law limiting the expenditures for bounties to \$4,000,000, and the Mail can solve the little problem we have alluded to. We shall be glad to be enlightened.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND. Its Resources and Advantages.

We have from time to time alluded to the inviting field for enterprise and the broad acres of sparsely populated and generally neglected Southern Maryland. Upon this point we have frequently, though vainly perhaps, urged the importance of some people making some organized exertion to divert from the great flood tide of foreign emigration that is flowing steadily through our State to the West a small current sufficient to populate our peninsula and develop and utilize its great hidden resources. We have urged too upon our young men (some of whom depressed and discouraged by the lethargy that seems to have settled upon our people, thought of emigrating to the West) the imperative duty incumbent upon them of remaining at home and assisting in the noble work of developing and improving the land of their nativity. We do not propose at present to say anything further on the subject of encouraging immigration into our country, but intend merely to point out what we believe to be some of the superior advantages possessed by this section of the country which in our judgment ought to keep our young men at home, and which, if properly utilized by the agricultural emigrant from Europe would be apt to induce him to settle here in preference to the West.

The inquiries which naturally suggest themselves to the emigrant, who is prospecting in a strange country for a place of settlement, are with regard to its climate, soil, market facilities, state of society and nature of government. Now let us see what answer an intelligent agent representing an immigration society of Charles County would be able to give to these several inquiries. First as to climate. It is a well-known fact that our climate is more equable, mild and temperate than almost any section of the West in which foreign emigrants are now settling. Indeed in this respect our section is peculiarly blessed. The seasons here are regular and uniform, and the animal and vegetable kingdoms alike thrive and prosper under their influence. The distressing droughts of the West are unknown, and the necessity of irrigation of crops was never heard of. In point of healthfulness, it is all that could be desired; and in this respect, immensely superior to nearly all the new country in the West. One of the first duties of our people is to correct an erroneous impression in regard to that section that seems to have obtained currency in the northern section of the State, and that these lower Potomac counties are subject to an unhealthy malarious atmosphere. With the exception of a few valleys, lying immediately adjacent to creeks our country is not at all subject to malarious troubles. The greater portion of the territory of our country is as free from this trouble as the Alleghany mountains.

The next inquiry is as to soil. Here it must be admitted that our country presents in this particular a less inviting prospect than in any other. While we have many valleys equal in fertility to any in the seaboard States, and much fertile highland, yet it must be admitted that much of our interior lands are in point of fertility rather below the medium. It is in point of present existing fertility alone, however, that any portion of our lands are by any means at a discount. The surface of the country generally lies beautifully and gently undulating and always well drained. Our lands cannot be said to be worn out. By no means. Almost every intelligent stranger, capable of judging lands, who has visited this section of the country, with whom we have conversed, has expressed himself highly pleased with the "kindness" of our Southern Maryland soil and its easy susceptibility of increased fertility. It may be safely said that our lands will show as good results from the application of fertilizers as any in the world.

Bearing upon this point there is an important question as to the natural resources of our peninsula that is worthy of the serious consideration of our people. Some years ago, when a student in Washington city, the writer was interviewed by a distinguished scientific gentleman of that city, who stated that he had a theory that the whole of this peninsula of Southern Maryland is underlain by a sub-stratum of marl of high fertilizing properties. He asked us a number of questions as to the natural features of the country, the character of the water, &c., with a view of testing his theory. By observations we have since made of the frequent outcroppings of this natural fertilizer in different sections of the country, and from inquiries made of those digging wells, we are convinced that this theory is substantially

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He had long, and all other Senators from Maine, getting into a dirty narrow groove and undertaking to disparage and condemn where he could find objectionable and questionable lines, and the Senator had characterized the civilization of the North as the schoolbook and Bible, that of the South as the civilization of the great Republic. The time had come when that kind of utterance ought to end. Were the Southern people responsible for that barbarism, were they the cause of the war, and the compensation of the State from which it came was no more responsible for slavery or the evils growing out of it than the people of any of the States of the Union. The Senator's speech was a model of a man South of the Potomac who did not reject it. It was not the part of the Senator to state that the compensation of the State from which it came was no more responsible for slavery or the evils growing out of it than the people of any of the States of the Union. The Senator's speech was a model of a man South of the Potomac who did not reject it. It was not the part of the Senator to state that the compensation of the State from which it came was no more responsible for slavery or the evils growing out of it than the people of any of the States of the Union.

Upon the question of our market facilities we are wonderfully blessed. In this regard we have a most important and far reaching advantage over the West. We are surrounded on all sides by water highways, by which we have easy access to all the great producing markets of the East, untrammelled by the extortions and tyranny of any great and soulless corporations; and are in no way dependent on the few great monarchs who control the great "trunk lines." On the other hand, the man who invests his earnings in the wild lands of the far West, will soon begin to realize that, though he is living under a free republican government, he is nevertheless the helpless subject of a more irresponsible and absolute tyranny than that from which he fled beyond the briny deep. He will soon find to his great dismay, that he is under the domination of a power that can tax him through his poor production, at will, increasing its rates at pleasure, and with no right of appeal in the victim. These considerations will impress themselves upon the more intelligent and sagacious of those who are seeking agricultural homes in the new world, and if properly availed of will operate greatly to our advantage.

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We have thus briefly summed up some of the natural and other advantages possessed by our country which we believe would, if properly represented, induce many of the desirable immigrants who are daily arriving into this country to settle here. The advantages that would flow from the addition of seven or eight hundred thirty families of agricultural people to our population are great and incalculable.

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Dr. Eli J. Henkle was the first speaker. He spoke of the Democratic platform as adopted in 1876, the pledges then made and the failure to carry them out. He also referred to the failure of the Legislature to pass any of the leading reforms recommended by Governor Hamilton, and reviewed the Governor's "bombshell" and commented upon it. The party he said stands just where it did before the platform was adopted: the expenses of the Legislature of 1880 and the number of employees exceed anything in the previous history of the State. Gorman and Colton dictated who should and who should not hold office and the legislation of the State and they are responsible for the corruption of the party. The speaker concluded by paying a high tribute to Gov. Hamilton's ability, honesty and true democracy.

Dr. Henkle was followed by Senator Wells, of Anne Arundel county, who was present as a spectator, and took the floor by permission and spoke in opposition to Mr. Henkle's arraignment of the party managers, creating a great deal of excitement and applause. He said that Messrs. Henkle, Bannock & Co., who now denounce the ring, were unquestionably charter members of it. There ought now to be smooth their paths for future political preferment. The people of the State know them too well, however, to put faith in what they say. He denied that the last Legislature had not carried out reforms, and quoted several instances, such as making provisions for funding the defence loan, a lower rate of interest, reducing the salaries of the adjutant general, whiegher of live stock, inspector of coal mines, officers and crew of our navy, repeal of the bounty law, &c. Then came Mr. Bannock. Hon. R. T. Merrick was expected to address the meeting but did not attend.

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New Goods, For Fall and Winter.

Fine Family Groceries, FRESH & NEW DRY GOODS, CHEAP CASH PRICES, THOMAS R. FARRALL'S LA PLATA STATION.

Having greatly enlarged and improved my store and with increased facilities I am now prepared with the additions to my already large stock of goods to furnish the public with everything they may require.

MY STOCK OF Family Groceries is complete and consists of Brown and White Sugars, Syrups, Molasses, New Hams, Lard, Cheese, Coffee and Tea, Hour, all grades, Buckwheat, Canned Fruits, Mince Meat, also a large lot of Cigars, Nutts, Raisins, all kinds of Candies, Currants, Canned Fruits and Vegetables, and everything usually found in a first-class Grocery Store.

The Dry Goods Department, is well stocked with every variety and grade of Calicoes, Cottons, Gossamers, Cottons, Dress Goods, Muslins, Shawls, Hosiery, Gloves, Trimmings, Flannels, and everything usually found in a first-class Grocery Store.

MY BAR Is at all times stocked with all Grades and Brands of Wines, Whiskies, Brandy, and other Liquors.

G. WM. RAMSAY, Grocer, Tea-Dealer AND Coffee Roaster, King & St. Asaph Sts. Alexandria, Va.

Fine Green, Black and Japan Teas, Laguyra & Java Coffee, Molasses and Sugars of All Grades.

LOWEST PRICES. Ashten's Salt. CANNED GOODS, TABLE OILS, MUSTARDS, SAUCES & C.

GOOD TEA 50 CTS PER POUND. ORDER NISI. In the Circuit Court of Charles County Sittings as a Court of Equity.

FOR POTOMAC RIVER LANDINGS. STEAMER MATTANO. Leaves SIXTY STREET WHARF, Washington, D. C. every Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday.

At Greenway Fishery, HERRING, SHAD & C. At the very lowest Prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. JAMES R. SMITH.

NOTICE! ALL persons indebted to Dr. F. B. Adams for professional services, are hereby notified that their accounts have been left with the undersigned for collection, and they are respectfully requested to settle the same at once. JNO. H. MITCHELL, Atty-at-Law.

E. Whitman Sons & Co.

141 and 143 W. PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE, MD. MANUFACTURERS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, AND Sole Agents for Four Pointed Galvanized

Substitute for WOOD FENCING EVER USED. It will last forever, It will not rust, Wind cannot blow it down, Snow cannot drift against it, Fire cannot burn it.

We have a Large Stock on hand and are Constantly Receiving IT IN Car Load Lots, And will furnish at Factory Prices.

E. WHITMAN SONS & CO. 141 and 43 W. Pratt Street, BALTIMORE, MD.

1881. Spring! 1881. FRED'K PAFF No. 99 King street, ALEXANDRIA, VA.

GREAT ATTRACTION IN SPRING STYLES AT PAFF'S, 99 King Street, Alexandria, Va. My stock for the Spring and Summer is now in and I run set without foreign goods.

IS COMPLETE, AND I MAKE To order anything in my line in a workmanlike manner, guaranteeing satisfaction to every customer.

Boots and Shoes! No goods with MY NAME stamped on them and made North for Made in my own manufacturing department and all in need of a good pair of shoes.

Frederick Paff, 99 King street, ALEXANDRIA, VA. 1849. "Old and Tried." 1881 Glens Falls Insurance Co. GLENS FALLS, N. Y.

Abstract from its Sixty-Fifth Semi-Annual Statement, January 1, 1881. Total Cash Assets \$1,000,000.00. Net Surplus over all Liabilities, Taxes and Deductions \$300,000.00.

New York Safety Deposit Law, UNDER WHICH LAW THIS COMPANY IS ORGANIZED. Guarantee Surplus Fund \$200,000.00. Special Reserve Fund \$100,000.00.

Wm. H. GRAY, Agent for the Montgomery FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. Persons desiring to insure their property in either of the above companies will please address me at NANTUCKET, P. O., or PORT TOBACCO on Tuesday.

SHERIFF'S LICENSE NOTICE. TO MERCHANTS, TRADERS AND OTHERS. ALL persons and both corporate and individual, who are engaged in business, or who are about to engage in business, in the State of Maryland, are hereby notified that the following requirements of the License Law:

Under the provisions of said law, the following requirements of the License Law: 1. The amount to be paid for the license is \$10.00. 2. The license is valid for one year. 3. The license is subject to the payment of the license fee.

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