

CH. Essex County Herald.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1862.

The Senate has passed the House Bill Appropriation bill, including the amendment which reduces the postage on letters from three to two cents for each half ounce. The bill goes to the President for his signature, when it will become a law and will go into effect when the next year for which the appropriations were made begins, viz., Jan. 1, 1862. This result is due to the better management of Post Office Department and the increase of postal revenues incident to general improvement of business in the country have made it possible. Indirectly, it is a great loss to the people of a country who receive many letters as do the residents of the United States.

Interest has been reduced by one-half, from \$1,600 to \$1,500, or 62,450, total of \$162,699, 150. The annual interest has been decreased by \$12,722, and the average rate of interest has dropped from 3.59 per cent to 3.37 per cent. This is the largest reduction we have ever received in any calendar year, and for some reasons our success is a source of pride. If Congress reduces the taxes we shall make slower progress in the future, but the debt need not be a source of anxiety, if our policy of honest finance is continued. It is better to be out of debt, but it is not best to rob ourselves of our resources to pay debts which our creditors would prefer should not be paid for the present.

NATIONAL REFORM CONFERENCE.

A conference of representative men of all parties has been called to be held in Washington, D. C., commencing on Feb. 5, to consider the best means of obtaining speedy legislative action on the following measures, namely, 1st, prompt payment of the public debt; 2d, the general Government to issue all money, make it a legal tender in payment of private debts and public taxes and keep its volume uniform with the requirements of business on a cash basis; 3d, railroads and telegraphs to be regarded as public institutions and their charges regulated by National and State laws based on a fair return on the amount actually paid by stock and bondholders for the construction and equipment of such property; 4th, the repeal of all class legislation and the enactment of laws compelling all property to bear its just proportion of public burdens; 5th, all public lands to be held for actual settlers; 6th, economy in public expenditures, honesty in administering public affairs, and an elective civil service system; 7th, parity of the ballot through laws adding disenfranchisement to imprisonment for all who sell their votes, coerce voters or render false returns of votes cast.

We have always maintained that if a man could afford to live in Vermont he never ought to leave it, but that a young man, starting in life with little money, but with good habits and Vermont energy and industry, could get on faster in the West. We think that is true, looking at the question from a purely utilitarian rather than a sentimental or perhaps spiritual point of view. It is true of Vermont and of all rural New England. The principal interest left in Vermont is the dairy interest, and even that begins to be encroached upon by the West. With the exception of a few favored localities like Rutland, Vermont does not grow, but rather declines, if we may judge of the value of real estate. The once flourishing, but now deserted, towns in certain sections of Vermont bear witness to the truth of our statement, that while Vermont is a beautiful State to live in, there are other States where it is easier to make a living with the same expenditure of money, time, labor and labor. We are speaking now of course of young men, who have their own way to live and no wish to baffle their hands to do it with — *Rutland Herald and Globe.*

HOMELAND AND THE PRESIDENT.

He, Edmonds, is not as yet fifty-five. He is two years younger than Logan, one year younger than Winslow, and only two years older than Blaine. He was born in 1815, began in 1826, Winslow in 1827 and Blaine in 1828. He will be inaugurated President of the United States at 57, and still retire in the youth of his colleague, at 65, after having served his country and his party for two quadrennial terms. — *N. Louis de J. Jackson.*

Those who meet the little friend after Mr. Edmonds is the leader of the Republican column in the next engagement with the enemy. He is one of the few great statesmen in the United States Senate, and by far the ablest lawyer in that body. One thing that favors him considerably more than any other is the fact that

he hasn't the presidential bee in his bonnet. He is plain and open to everybody that he doesn't want to be President, and occasionally he adds with a smart show of impudence that he will not take the nomination under any circumstances. If Mr. Edmonds cannot unite the Republican party and secure the support of the conservative influence to the country, there is no one else on the Republican side that we now call to mind who can do it, and there will be little use in trying with anybody else. — *Troy, N. Y. Times.*

With the West and New York State at once turning to Edmonds as the coming man it begins to look as if President Arthur might yet surrender his trust to another able Vermonter. As General Solzwick said: "Put the Vermonters ahead and keep the column well closed up." If this was good advice in war why not in politics, and the party may yet adopt it in 1864 by handing Mr. Edmonds the flag and presenting a Republican column so well closed up that we shall not be able to tell by the marching step which was a "stalwart" and which a "half-breed." — *Herald and Globe.*

WEST VERSUS EAST.

To the Editor of the Herald.

The worst part of writing a reply to last week's letter on "West vs. West" lies in the fact of your informing me that my opponent in this case is a young lady. I am disbarred from asking some questions which I designed doing, if, as I supposed, I had a gentleman to deal with. As it is, I fear I am undertaking a hopeless case, for ladies always have the last word.

However I shall endeavor to die game, and hope the public generally will drop a sympathetic tear at the unhappy fate of a young man who dared to cope with the natural wit and ready tongue of an opponent of the fair sex. I am pleased with the thoughts brought out by the lady; her composition shows her versatility, but will she be guided by my advice and in the future look ahead; not, having as it were, set up her row of pins, knock them down herself without giving me a chance. What do I mean? Just this. In her first letter, after making an attempt to overthrow my arguments, the lady concedes the superiority of the West in an agricultural sense, thus undoing all her labor by admitting a point that would have the greatest influence on the class of readers among whom our arguments appear. Now in her last essay she speaks of parties in the West, who she knows are worth \$3000, yet they live in a dirty, untidy condition, with poorly furnished houses and no shelter for live stock. Just look at that statement from my standpoint and what do you see, young lady? In the first place, where did the \$3000 come from? As you are not too young to know, which you surely would were it otherwise, it must have been obtained in the West. So then \$3000 men are plenty enough out there so you cite them as examples. It must be a beautiful country, that you in argument against it must needs use an eight thousand dollar figurehead to illustrate with. Next, having \$3000, is it necessary, or any fault of the country if a man chooses to live like a hog? How often we read of a miser dying in hunger and rags, with large sums of money secreted in the house that might have given him a happy, luxurious home. Ah, my friend, you thought that a great idea of yours, but having opened your eyes I leave it to your own candidness to say if you now see any argument in it. I may have misconstrued the intended comparison in the case of Lumberville, but to the question of last week I answer: no, you cannot find more than twelve Lumberville men, now living in the New England states, outside the town itself, worth \$3000. I have already claimed that a young man without a cent stands a far better chance in the West than in New England, giving my reasons for the same. Young men often get a small capital, in various ways, and I am furtive in my last to show that this capital can be invested more profitably in the West than here in this section. As for sheep raising, I also know of instances where as the lady says they have signally failed. I know two parties who started at the same time, with almost the same number of sheep, and in nearly parallel circumstances, not two miles apart. To-day one has 150 sheep and everything is booming; the other has less than his original number, and he sells his loss and puts it all down to the country. The fact is, both lots of sheep got foot rot and scabs. One man went diligently to work, treated the disease and treated his flock properly; the other sat down and frittered over it instead of trying to mend the matter. The fact of the success of the one shows that the ill-fortune of the other was not the fault of the country, but the shiftlessness of the man that made him so.

My friend should give credit to whom it is due, and not try to make a country in which many have succeeded, responsible for the loose habits and laziness of others. It must be taken into consideration that New England has been settled two or three centuries, that it takes time to bring a fruit orchard into a bearing condition, and then it will be seen that for a few years New England has the start in the matter, but if the lady is as clever as I judge her to be, she can evidence that in the near future the West will have a fruit supply as large and good as could be desired. What improvement does land want that by simply plowing it yields a heavy crop? I don't know what treatment the lady wants to give it, but I reckon if a few hundred acres of the poor, unadmirable, "unimproved" Western prairie

land were dropped down on the western part of Lumberville there would be a great jubilee. I think I have answered my fair opponent's arguments in a way that will give her a little food for reflection before she tries me again. I therefore rest the question, unless she has another word to say, in which case, look out once more for OXYDENT.

P. S. It has occurred to me that I have laid myself liable to the query, if you like the West so well, why didn't you stay there? Suffice it to say,ickness in the family and telegrammes from home called me back; since then business affairs have kept me here; these matters I hope to get settled by the early summer, then I go back; and as I am an unmarried man, of steady habits, I hereby invite the fair young lady who has been opposing me to join her lot with mine on the western plains, and while I may not wholly overcome her inertial prejudices against the West, I will guarantee that the festive pig shall keep out of the doorway, and bacon and beans be only an occasional luxury.

OXYDENT.

PROCLAMATION!

To The People of Island Pond.

I have presented to the people of Island Pond, the following Proclamation:

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In the only form preparation that does not irritate the stomach, and will not interfere with the absorption of food, or the preparation of tea, coffee, &c.

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