

# Altoona Tribune

McGURUM & DERN, [INDEPENDENT IN EVERYTHING.] EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS. ALTOONA, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1861. VOL. 6. NO. 15.

**DR. KEYSER'S PECTORAL SYRUP.**  
CURES ALL DISORDERS OF THE LUNGS.  
CURE CONSUMPTION, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, WHOOPING COUGH, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE THROAT AND LUNGS.

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directed operations here. While exhibiting all that energy which you and I know he possesses, in fostering the interests of the company, he never for one moment forgot the welfare of those who surrounded him. While the passengers are taking "a smack" of breakfast at this place, your well ordered hotel at this place, your "Our Own" is diving, with a sorrowful headache, into the archives of history which he has neither time nor space to dilate upon in this communication. But when on another occasion we shall come to write of Altoona, I will be tempted almost to call it Scottville in the east, and Lombardville in the west, so great is the affection entertained and manifested towards those gentlemen by the residents of this town.

Farewell to Altoona and its really magnificent hotel, and by the remarks of the passengers its proprietor must rank always with our De Houbbons and Howmans of Reading, who I think make Reading what it is.

Byron lies on our left, and ensconced as it is, has much to admire; but flying along at a velocity which knows no limit, Spruce Creek makes its debut, and the Juniata, which will now accompany us to the Susquehanna, fully realizes all that has been written of it—peaceful, gentle, and an indication of bliss, it surpasses in rural simplicity and beauty any stream known. Some of the situations along its banks are the perfection of solitude, and the mind easily imagines bowers of romance—whether "love-knots are woven whose cement is lasting," I am not prepared to say; but if I were in that line, I would covet just such a locality as that which embraces the field watered by the fair Juniata, whose praises I have heard sung in "Auld Lang Syne" by contraltos and sopranos, whose possessors have long since crumbled into dust.

Petersburg is passed, and may Charlie Green ever look out for a "stay" in the shape of an old red cow as he passes, which proved such a fertile theme for Smokeytowners to growl at. Huntington, Mill Creek, Mapleton, and Mount Union, are places where stages start and run from, though thriving, (apparently,) I know so little of, that I cannot state anything authoritatively about.

Lewistown, a neat, thriving little town, looks like a nest-egg in the wilderness, and never fails to captivate. I am sorry to destroy the illusion, but those who have penetrated its borders inform me that it is a dirty, shambling village. Logan, the celebrated Indian Chief resided here, and this distinguished orator of the red man evinced, I think, considerable taste in the selection. The surrounding scenery here draws forth all that is poetic and romantic in the composition of man, and a staid would exclaim, I am led to think, "Great are Thy works, oh Lord!"

Patterson is named after Col. Wm. C. Patterson, a former President of this Company, and it is well that we should have a terminus of this description, as the rugged, rocky scenery through which we have passed, leads the traveler to hope that an oasis is not far distant. The promontories present few wilder scenes of the diversities of nature than are exhibited here. Gorge, river, canal, turnpike and railroad are in view, and exemplify not only the ingenuity of man, but the magnificence of that creation formed by Him, who made all things as to Him seemed fit.

The mountain and the river, diversified with all that interests, occupy the attention of sight-seers, and the various exclamations made, convey a fair insight into the phenomenal dispositions of your fellow-travelers.

of the Secretary of War for 11,000 muskets. Captain Stokes went to St. Louis, and made his way as rapidly as possible to the Arsenal. He found it surrounded by an immense mob, and the postern gates all closed. His utmost efforts to penetrate the crowd were for a long time unavailing. The requisition was shown. Captain Lyon doubted the possibility of executing it. He said the Arsenal was surrounded by a host of spies, and every movement was watched and reported to the headquarters of the Secessionists, who could throw an overpowering force upon them at any moment. Captain Stokes represented that the Arsenal more certain, and the arms must be moved to Illinois, now or never. Major Callender agreed with him, and told him to take them at his own time and in his own way. This was on Wednesday night.

Captain Stokes had a spy in the camp, whom he met at intervals in a certain place in the city. On Thursday he received information that Gov. Jackson had ordered two thousand armed men down from Jefferson city, which movement could only contemplate a seizure of the Arsenal, by occupying the heights around it, and planting batteries thereon. The job would have been a easy one. They had already planted one battery on the St. Louis levee, and another at Powder point, a short distance below the Arsenal. Captain Stokes immediately telegraphed to Altoon to have the steamer City of Alton drop down to the Arsenal Landing about midnight. He then returned to the Arsenal, and commenced moving the boxes of guns, weighing some three hundred pounds each, down to the lower floor.

About 700 men were employed in the work. He then took five hundred Kentucky flint-lock muskets, which had been sent there to be altered, and sent them to be placed on a steamer as a blind to cover his real movements. The Secessionists nabbed them at once, and raised a perfect Bedlam over the capture. A large portion of the outside crowd left the Arsenal when this movement was executed, and Captain Lyon took the remainder, who were lying around as spies, and locked them up in the guard-house. About 11 o'clock the steamer City of Alton came alongside, planks were shoved out from the windows to the main deck, and the boxes slid down. When the 10,000 were safely on board, Captain Stokes went to Captain Lyon and Major Callender, and urged them, by the most pressing appeals, to let him empty the Arsenal. They told him to go ahead and take whatever he wanted. Accordingly, he took 10,000 more muskets, 500 new rifle carbines, 500 revolvers, 110,000 musket cartridges, to say nothing of the cannon and a large quantity of miscellaneous accoutrements, leaving only 7,000 muskets in the Arsenal, to arm the St. Louis volunteers.

When the whole were on board, about 2 o'clock on Friday morning, the order was given by the captain of the steamer to cast off. Judge of the consternation of all hands when it was found that she would not move. The arms had been piled in great quantities around the engines, to protect them against the battery on the levee, and the great weight had fastened the bows of the boat firmly on a rock, which was tearing a hole through the bottom at every turn of the wheels. A man of less nerve than Capt Stokes would have gone crazy on the spot. He called the Arsenal men on board, and commenced moving the boxes to the stern. Fortunately, when about two hundred boxes had been shifted, the boat fell away from the shore, and floated in deep water.

"Which way?" said Captain Mitchell of the steamer. "Straight to Alton, in the regular channel," replied Captain Stokes. "What if we are attacked?" said Captain Mitchell. "Then we will fight," said Captain Stokes. "What if we are overpowered?" said Captain Mitchell. "Run her to the deepest part of the river; and sink her," replied Captain Stokes. "What do you think?" said Captain Mitchell. "I think it is the heroic answer of Captain Mitchell, and away they went past the Secession battery, past the entire St. Louis levee, and on to Alton in the regular channel, where they arrived at five o'clock in the morning.

When the boat touched the landing, Capt Stokes, fearing pursuit by some two or three of the Secession military companies by which the city of St. Louis is disgraced, ran to the market-house and rang the fire-bell. The citizens came flocking pell-mell to the river, in all sorts of tabernacles. Captain Stokes informed them of the situation of things, and pointed out the freight cars. Instantly men, women, and children boarded the steamer, and the freight, and ordered the ship to be taken to the city. Rich and poor begged together with might and main for two hours, when the cargo was all deposited in the cars, and the train moved off, amid their enthusiastic cheers, for Springfield.

M. Robinson, a Belgian chemist, has invented "an apparatus" by which an ordinary cook can make enough sugar to last a family a week, out of materials which may be bought in any market.

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