



ALTOONA, PA. THURSDAY JUNE 20, 1861.

Where parties are unknown to us, our rate for advertising is as follows: For one square, one insertion, \$1.00; for one square, one month, \$10.00; for one square, three months, \$25.00; for one square, six months, \$45.00; for one square, one year, \$80.00.

S. M. PETTINGILL & CO., Advertising Agents, 119 Nassau street, New York, and 10 State street, Boston, are the Agents for the Altoona Tribune, and the most influential and largest circulation newspapers in the United States and the Canada. They are authorized to contract for us at our lowest rates.

Army Appointments.

We notice that the press throughout the country are speaking out in reference to the appointment of inexperienced men to high positions in the army, to the exclusion of men who have served for years in the regular army, and seen actual service on the field of battle. This should not be the case, and if it is continued, will result disastrously. We would not question the patriotism of those who are thus promoted, and it may be that some of them will be found fully competent to discharge the duties of their position, yet we submit that it would be safer to appoint to high positions old veterans who are known to be capable. Patriotism, bravery and education are not all the essential requisites to a successful commanding officer; it requires presence of mind, strategy and perfect military discipline, combined with a knowledge of what may be expected in marching to attack a foe, such as ditches, masked batteries, and various other sources of annoyance, which, if not guarded against, become formidable barriers; and these things are only thought of by those who have encountered something of the kind. It will not do to lose one or two engagements, and a number of precious lives, in order to acquaint the new commanding officers with the routine of war. It is a business, and must be followed to be understood practically, because in it there is a vast difference between practical and theoretical knowledge.

Some of the regiments from this State are already complaining that they are improperly officered, and give this as their reason for not entering the service for three years instead of three months. It is highly important that men have confidence in their officers. If they have not, it is not to be expected that they will fight as well under them as they would under other circumstances. There are many good men in the ranks of the regular army who are fit for higher offices than they now hold, and whom it would be right and proper to elevate. Let civilians take a lower position at first, until they learn the rudiments, and give the old veterans the higher positions.

We sincerely hope that all favoritism in this matter will be discarded. Where the lives of our friends, the honor of our country and the upholding of our government, is at stake, it will not do to bring such considerations into the account, and nothing will more surely arouse the indignation of a loyal and brave people.

As a matter of course, all the officers of the army cannot be taken from the regular service, nor do we desire that they should, but we would like to see in the higher offices men whom we know to be qualified to fill them. In the lower ranks of officers let there be a suitable mingling of regulars, old veterans and civilians, and we have no fears of the result.

Here is some late news from Washington, bearing on this point: There is a petition up in private circulation among the officers of two or three regiments of the regular army, praying that the practice of excluding uneducated militia men above old officers be discontinued. Over forty-six names are now attached to it. The signers ask whether it is right to ignore promotions in time of war, that civilians may be made distinguished. Annexed is a paragraph from the document: "There are one hundred and sixty men known to eight signers of this petition, who have grown gray as Lieutenants—nine tenths of them having averaged seven years in the army. And these are the men who are to be displaced by a subordinate, which he does not know how to return."

Nine gentlemen have resigned since the 28th of May, because they were ordered to serve under persons of no known military skill. GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK FOR \$1.00.—To meet the times, the sixty-third volume of Godley will be sent to subscribers for One Dollar. This volume comprises the six best numbers of the year, and will contain seven steel engravings, six of the large double extension fashion-plates, and all the winter clock patterns. The volume commences with the July number. Address, J. A. Godley, 323 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

The Loan Taken.

The \$3,000,000 loan, authorized by the recent extra session of the Legislature, has been taken at par, The Philadelphia Bulletin, in speaking of the matter says:—We confess to a deep feeling of pride and pleasure in our noble old state, if (the loan) is taken when the State is already in debt near forty millions of dollars. It is taken evidently by something like a pro rata division among the banks. Instead of taking advantage of the necessity of the State, inasmuch as money must be had for the troops, the people come forward and take a six per cent. stock at par. We believe it to be a perfectly good investment, and yet no one believes that it would have been taken without influence of high, patriotic motive. Nothing can show this more strikingly than the fact that State 5's sold yesterday at 77. This represents the regular market price, influenced only by financial considerations. A corresponding six per cent. stock, it is very evident would fall much below par, yet here is three millions of money freely offered to the State at par to pay our soldiers, to promote their comfort, and to carry on the war with rebels and support the Government.

We have heard much from the South of the mercenary North, of men who would sell their muskets for a dollar, of men who sacrifice everything for money. The fact however is, that the Secession loan is not taken, and that the rebels are in great straits for money. Our Federal Government obtains all that it needs, and when further our State comes forward and asks for three millions in addition to half a million already expended, Pennsylvanians come forward and take the entire sum, without asking a man out of the State to help, and at par. Honor then to the old Keystone! Honor to the State that never fails in time of need. Honor to the people who become more and more reliable in proportion to the pressure upon them.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE.—The July number of this popular Monthly is already on our table. In addition to its usual quantity of Stories, Poetry, Receipts, &c., it contains two splendid colored patterns, one of which is a "Stars and Stripes" Bed-Quilt. Every lady ought to have a number, so as to work one of these Quilts.—As a new volume begins with July, this is a good opportunity to subscribe. The price of "Peterson" is only two dollars a year, or a dollar less than magazines of its class. It is just the one, therefore, for the times. To clubs, the terms are still cheaper, viz: three copies for five dollars, or eight copies for ten dollars, with a super Premium to the person getting up a club. Specimen copies sent gratis to persons desiring of getting up clubs.

Address CHARLES J. PETERSON, 306, Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

OUR NATIONAL EXPENSES.—According to the verbal statement of General Scott last week, there are now under arms and in pay of the government of the United States 280,000 men. To maintain this army, after its equipment, will require \$1,000,000 annually to each regiment, or \$220,000,000 a year. The navy will require, in addition, at least half that sum, so that with the ordinary expenses of the government, we may safely put down our national expenses at this time at the rate of \$365,000,000 per year.

CHEAP MAPS.—Mr. G. W. Findlay, agent for Mitchell's New Military Map of the United States, is now in this place, stopping at the Altoona House. The map shows all the forts in the United States, military roads, railroads, &c., and has also separate maps of several States and localities—especially those to which attention has recently been attracted on account of their being the theatre of the present difficulties. The price of the map is only 25 cents, and is worth, for reference, four times that sum.

BEAUREGARD VS. CAPT. BALL'S COMPANY.—We have positive information that General Beauregard has ordered the Fairfax horse company of Capt. Ball, recently prisoners here, to leave the State of Virginia, because they have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States. Those of them who may be induced to violate it will of course, be excepted from the operation of the order. We learn that they will all, however, leave the State, including Captain Ball, who has no idea whatever of forfeiting his allegiance to the Union, as alleged in some of the newspapers. Beauregard condemns them for declining to remain prisoners until exchanged, his object being, if possible, to induce the Government to regard disunionists captured in arms against the United States as prisoners of war, in which he will not be accommodated.—Wash. Star.

GOOD FOR THE PARSON.—Parson Brown, of the Knoxville, (Tenn.) Whig, still holds out nobly. In a late number he says:—"That all we understand us, we take occasion to say, free from all excitement, that to destroy our office or stop our windpipe, is the only way in which we can be prevented from denouncing secession, and advocating the Union. There are now but three Union papers in Tennessee, as we consider, and unless we are assassinated, or our office is destroyed, we shall soon have the honor of standing alone. And there we shall stand—neither the gates of hell, nor the pressure of secession riots, being able to prevail against our conviction of right."

From the Philadelphia Press. The Habeas Corpus Case.

RECORD, June 10, 1861. TO THE EDITOR OF THE PRESS:—Enclosed I send you for publication a copy of a letter to the Secretary of War, embodying my views of the habeas corpus difficulty. I think it presents a legal solution of the question, and will satisfy the minds of many men who wish to believe that this resistance of judicial authority is right, and need difficulty in doing so. If you think it is a correct solution of the question, in a legal point of view, will you do me the favor to endorse and approve it? A. H. REEDER. Yours truly, A. H. REEDER.

RECORD, Pa., June 7, 1861. HON. SIMON CAMERON, Secretary of War: Your Sir.—The collision between the civil and military authorities at St. Louis and Baltimore, besides their intrinsic interest to all our citizens, have to lawyers a peculiar and special interest, because of the professional character of the questions involved. As a lawyer, I have had some decided opinions in respect to them ever since they occurred, which I have freely expressed to the civil authorities, and would be glad to communicate them to you. After some hesitation, I have concluded that there would be no impropriety in doing so. It occurs to me that the apparent technical advantage which has been taken by the military authorities, is due not at all to the technical merits of their position; but, on the contrary, to the erroneous and defective shape in which the other side of the case was brought into court and put on the record. Every lawyer knows that any case in a habeas corpus may be put in the wrong if the strong points of the case are set forth in the return, with all the necessary sustaining averments, which I submit, was not done in either of the cases referred to. Almost every lawyer has an instinctive conviction that the military authorities acted in error, and on reading the case, is at least a little suspicious of the principle or for what legal reason. It only needs a correct return to develop it, and I have drawn the following form for that purpose. It is not hastily, and upon the careful analysis and dissection of the merits before being used, is doubtless susceptible of improvement, but it nevertheless presents the main allegation that the party detained is held as a prisoner of war, and also contains the averments necessary to sustain the writ, and the right to capture and detain prisoners of war. Some of these averments are such as the magistrate would probably be bound to know judicially, without their being set forth, but it is as a judge given to civilians, and especially before a jury, that it is necessary to state fully the facts alleged to suit the case of a writ directed to the superior or inferior officer of the commander under whose arrest was made.

It is reported that the South Carolina troops commanded the batteries. The Ohio regiment was taken up in the train, in order to protect the telegraph corps while erecting lines. There was no suspicion of any battery being near. They were stationed on the hills and in the woods. The Federal force were obliged to retreat. All is quiet at the scene of yesterday's engagement. This morning the batteries were still there. It is understood they will be taken during the day. Rumors are quite rife that the rebel troops have commenced a retreat from Manassas. General Patterson's division, it is currently reported, has been ordered to occupy Harper's Ferry and to remain there until further orders.

St. Louis, June 17.—As a part of Colonel Kellman's regiment of the reserve corps were returning from the North Missouri Railroad, about 10 o'clock this morning, they were opposite the Recorder's Court-room. Seven men, between Olive and Locust, a company near the rear of the line suddenly wheeled and discharged their rifles, aiming chiefly at the windows of the Recorder's Court and the second story of the adjoining hotel. The shot killed two citizens, mortally wounding two, and slightly injuring one. The statements regarding the cause of the firing are very conflicting: one being that a pistol shot was fired from a window of a house on the corner of Stevens and Locust streets, which took effect in the shoulder of one of the men when he gave the word to fire. Another is that a soldier accidentally discharged his rifle in the ranks, at which the whole company became frightened and discharged a full volley into the air on the sidewalk and windows of the houses. The Recorder's Court was in session, and the room was crowded with prisoners and spectators. Policeman Pratt was shot in the side and arm, and fell from his post. The Recorder received three balls in his back, and was mortally wounded. The names of the other persons who were killed on the pavement below have not been ascertained. The man just behind the Recorder's desk was killed with a bullet in the back, and the broken glass was scattered over his desk. The bodies of the killed were removed to the residences of their families. A thorough investigation of the affair will be had, when full particulars will be given.

Visiting Rebels under a Flag of Truce.

The President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal has been to the rebel camp at Harper's Ferry, to endeavor to stop the passage of property of his Company. He reached Cham No. Four, near Williamsport, while the fight was going on between the Marylanders and the Virginians—the latter endeavoring to destroy the canal. He remained at Cham No. Four, and received three balls in his back, and was mortally wounded. The names of the other persons who were killed on the pavement below have not been ascertained. The man just behind the Recorder's desk was killed with a bullet in the back, and the broken glass was scattered over his desk. The bodies of the killed were removed to the residences of their families. A thorough investigation of the affair will be had, when full particulars will be given.

THE COTTON QUESTION.—W. F. Stearns, of Stearns, Hobart & Co., Bombay, and son of President Stearns, of Amherst College, in a recent letter to his friends, dated 12th April, since, as far as Shobor, and found that the natives throughout the country had heard of the troubles in America, and that the amount of land that had been laid out and planted by them, with cotton, was something astonishing. My word for it, founded on personal observation, if the secession movement continues, in five years India will export 4,000,000 bales. The quality is constantly improving, and the means of transportation are becoming so easy that the South will not be able to command the monopoly of the staple out of the Union. England is building railroads rapidly into the interior, and the cotton crop, very soon, can be moved as fast as it is produced to the sea shore, and the ship canal across the Isthmus of Suez, from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean, by his the distance 6,000 miles, will be finished in twelve months.

A CHECK UPON EXPORTERS.—Although we have several correspondents in the division of the army now moving southward from Chambersburg, they have furnished us with nothing in the shape of news since that movement commenced. The following dispatch will explain the reason of this: A special reporter was detected within the lines, near the village of Rockville, in Maryland. He was arrested by order of Col. Stone, and was confined in the camp of the army. He was given no opportunity to publish any information relative to his movements. He was then released, but orders were given for the shooting of any reporter who was found exposing any movements of the troops, either by telegraphic dispatches or correspondence.

Evacuation of Harper's Ferry.

We copy the following from the "special despatches" from Washington, to the Philadelphia Press of Monday last: The Government department despatches last night from Point of Rocks, giving a full account of the evacuation of Harper's Ferry by the Confederate troops, and arrival of the Federal army, moving via Chambersburg. The troops landed on the Virginia side of the Ferry at two o'clock, P. M., Saturday. They passed over to the town, and found it nearly deserted. There was nothing of value left, but the village and surrounding country presented a forbidding and dreary aspect. There was a solitary soldier visible. The better class of houses were all closed, and the only individuals on the streets were of the poorer classes, whose poverty compelled them to remain in the ruins. The arsenal building, magazine, and engine houses are saved, only because their destruction would jeopardize other property, which it was desirable to preserve.

Three cars of grain and coffee, marked "Miller Rifles, Winchester," and left for the engine to haul over through the river, probably for five miles, to be loaded on the cars. Five trucks marked "Richmond," and loaded with machinery and papers, stand in front of the hotel. The "boys" fished fifty fish lock muskets, and the river near the army, and they have obtained some old bayonets, and pieces of muskets, to retain as mementoes. There was nothing left of any value. The physician, who it appears remained behind the retreating column, reported 50 soldiers from Mississippi and Alabama troops sick with measles.

The troops were twenty-four hours behind the time they were ordered to evacuate, and they were only ten miles out towards Winchester when our men entered, or an hour before the cavalry, as they were reported, still on the opposite side of the Potomac. One of Johnson's staff informed our troops that it was reported General Scott was going off to take Winchester, and fortify it, and cut them off from their object was to get previous possession, and be reinforced from Richmond. The men are oddly uniformed, and their fancy or the purse of the State from which they came. No side-arms were allowed in the hands of the troops, except for commissioned officers. The Rebels, who Mississippi troops said they came to fight, and were eager to go up and take Washington on their own account. The inhabitants are rejoicing at the evacuation.

A small piece of the Confederate flag, raised in April, remains on the flag-staff; there is no other flag of any kind in the place. A young man came down at 9 o'clock, from the Relay House, with a sword and two trunks—the latter evidently filled with percussion caps, as their weight would indicate. He said he was going to Richmond, where he was in command of a company of Baltimore men. Our troops found 15,000 to 20,000 musket barrels piled up in the ashes of the buildings burned in April.

Loss of the Steamship Canadian.

St. Johns, N. F. June 14.—The steamer Canadian, from Quebec on the last inst. for Liverpool, struck a field of sunken ice eight miles south of Bellefleur on the 4th inst., and sunk about three-quarters of five minutes. One hundred and eighty persons were saved in the boats and landed at Capt. Bauld. The survivors arrived here to-day in a French bark. From twenty to thirty lives were lost, including six cabin passengers. The ship's papers were found with her, it is as yet impossible to ascertain the exact number drowned. A portion of the mails was saved. Among the number drowned was the mail officer, and the second officer of the ship. The Canadian steamer was built by Foremast, and her three compartments were broken in at once, whereupon she filled rapidly and soon sank. The ice field did not attract much attention when first discovered, as the logs and buoys were scarcely above water. The steamer was going slowly, with 40 cabin and 71 second cabin passengers, with a crew of about 80.

A VALUABLE HUMAN CONTRABAND.—An elbow specimen of "contraband" who says he "missed his ole massa 'bout two weeks ago, one dark night in Virginia, an' hasn't seen him since," is employed in Fort Monroe, and came up with Lieutenant Butler to Washington. He ran away from his master, and has been here for some weeks. He was sent out some days ago, being acquainted with the country beyond Hampton, and reported the existence of a battery at "Big Bethel,"—having eluded the pickets of the Union army, and secondly the rebels. He reported several companies in and around Great Bethel, and subsequently to his discovery, lay some twenty-four hours in the bushes, concealing himself from the foe. He at last escaped, he was shot at, received a ball through the side of his jacket, another shot away a pistol from his belt, and yet he returned unharmed. When the last expedition started forward this negro accompanied Lieutenant Butler and Major Winthrop. The Major left his horse with him, when he disappeared. This colored boy is an intelligent sample of his race, and is said to be very useful at the fort, as scout and servant. He goes fully armed, always, and says he "can smell a rebel farther than he can a skunk." He was in the thickest of the late fight, and was highly servicable to Lieut. Butler throughout the conflict.

MR. DALLAS FOR THE UNION.—George M. Dallas, late American Minister in England, regards the Union as the only basis of our national existence. He is a Union man, and has the following: "Let us then be firmly linked as a band of brothers around this unchanged standard. For my humble self, born beneath it, having imbibed from a venerated father's inculcations a devoted attachment to its comprehensive import, having deeply loved to the last, a brother who gallantly gave his life to its support, and dying in a distant field of duty found his noble blood—having spent my life contented and happy, though poor and inglorious, under its protection, and especially by those to sustain who equality and right, and shrink from no personal sacrifice, I come back to you gentlemen, filled, it is true, with grief at the national calamity, but unaltered in my determination to stand, come what may, for the Union, and, unalterably by the flag of the American Union, the whole Union and the Union forever."

PAPER SHORTAGE IN THE SOUTH.—As so many questions have been asked us recently in regard to the new enterprise, a paper mill, we will endeavor to give a faint outline of its absolute necessity. The supplies of paper have, hitherto, all our news papers in the North, but as paper has recently been declared contraband, and the source of supply is destroyed, and we will have to look in our own Confederacy for our future supply. There are in the Confederacy some 15 millions of people, who produce daily about 75,000 pounds, while the consumption is over 150,000 pounds daily, or just double the supply. If this war is to be a long one, and this enterprise is suffered to fall through, there are serious consequences to apprehend an entire suspension of news paper publications, and also great inconvenience will result from the want of common wrapping paper. In our judgment, there never has been a better opening for the employment of capital.—New Orleans: Ec.

Trade Signs at the South.

A New Orleans Free-Current, for June 18th has reached us, and in it are some especially interesting facts mentioned. Mention is made of the hurried shipment of all the cotton in the State, 300,000 bales, so as to get it out before the time allowed by our quarantine experts. The tobacco trade is said to be "a complete stand-still." There was more activity in sugar, as all the Confederate States had to obtain their supplies in New Orleans, and large shipments had already been made to Richmond. Of West Point there had been "no receipts" during the week, and it was quoted at \$25 per 100 lbs. at retail \$28. Of beef there have been "no receipts" of whiskey "no receipts." What are to do, if this last named necessary article is cut off? Of coffee, the stock on hand was only 105 bags, and this is all of this necessary article, so profusely used at the South, that New Orleans can expect to have till the blockade is raised. Prices have advanced, and the small sales of the week have run at 25 per cent. according to quality—these, of course, being the wholesale prices. Money was quoted at 2 to 2 per cent. a month for first class paper; but it is added "it would be difficult, if not impossible to procure any more approved signatures to any extent at 2 1/2 to 3 per cent." There are many other significant little facts stated in the paper, showing how New Orleans has been affected by the blockade, even before it has been completely enforced.—Bulletin.

BATTLES OF THE REVOLUTION.—Lives of Life.—A correspondent has taken the pains to compile the following table, showing the comparative losses of life sustained in the battles of the Revolution. It says that he may have made some trifling errors, but that the statistics are mainly correct to the figure. The table should be preserved for future reference: Lexington, April 19, 1775, 733 killed, 81 wounded; Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775, 1,054 killed, 1,100 wounded; Brandywine, September 26, 1777, 1,100 killed, 1,100 wounded; Germantown, October 4, 1777, 600 killed, 600 wounded; Red Bank, December 19, 1777, 200 killed, 200 wounded; Monmouth, June 28, 1778, 400 killed, 400 wounded; Brandywine, September 26, 1777, 1,100 killed, 1,100 wounded; Germantown, October 4, 1777, 600 killed, 600 wounded; Red Bank, December 19, 1777, 200 killed, 200 wounded; Monmouth, June 28, 1778, 400 killed, 400 wounded; Brandywine, September 26, 1777, 1,100 killed, 1,100 wounded; Germantown, October 4, 1777, 600 killed, 600 wounded; Red Bank, December 19, 1777, 200 killed, 200 wounded; Monmouth, June 28, 1778, 400 killed, 400 wounded.

Our actual Commander-in-Chief, the Lieut. General of the Army, though as brave as Achilles, is as serene as Agamemnon, and as prudent as Ulysses. From his youth he has been a soldier and a victorious one. He has seen more service than any man under his command, and has more knowledge to be discovered by danger. A strict disciplinarian, and a stern enforcer of a martinet, it was joyously said of him in his younger days, that he would drill a battalion under fire. Yet General Scott is as chary of men's lives as a miser of his gold; and he is as kind as a father to his soldiers, and if he can avoid it, until he sees no other alternative, he will not order a man to be killed, or to be wounded, unless he can accomplish a good purpose; but would be as chary of his men. It is his avowed belief that an officer who exposes troops to needless peril is guilty of a degree of negligence which he has not only thus regards himself as responsible for the lives of the men under his command, but he looks after their health and comfort.

MANUFACTURE OF HEAVY ORDNANCE.—At the South Boston Foundry, over 500 men are now employed in manufacturing heavy ordnance and projectiles for the Government. At this foundry are now making not only twelve and thirteen-inch shell for mortars, but also twelve and thirteen-inch columbads, and shelled shot for twelve and thirteen-inch guns, and shell and grape. From two to three hundred of shot and shell are made per day, and about twice as many heavy ordnance are cast hollow, ready for the shop, for use. This is a magnificent sight, for the foundry is a large one, and the gun is cast solid and has been bored. The Government inspection is of the most rigid character, and for the slightest deviation, even the thousandth part of an inch, the gun is rejected. We saw one heavy nine-inch columbad, and one twelve-inch shell, which were rejected for the furnace, simply because, in finishing the outside, where it could not be turned, the workman had chipped off a bit of iron as big as a ten cent piece. The gun was just as good as when it had been cast, and the inspector had rejected it.

CHEAP! CHEAPER!! CHEAPEST!!! LUZZA FOR NORTH WARD.—The undersigned would respectfully inform the citizens of Altoona, that he has just received from the Boston Foundry, a large quantity of heavy ordnance and projectiles for the Government. At this foundry are now making not only twelve and thirteen-inch shell for mortars, but also twelve and thirteen-inch columbads, and shelled shot for twelve and thirteen-inch guns, and shell and grape. From two to three hundred of shot and shell are made per day, and about twice as many heavy ordnance are cast hollow, ready for the shop, for use. This is a magnificent sight, for the foundry is a large one, and the gun is cast solid and has been bored. The Government inspection is of the most rigid character, and for the slightest deviation, even the thousandth part of an inch, the gun is rejected. We saw one heavy nine-inch columbad, and one twelve-inch shell, which were rejected for the furnace, simply because, in finishing the outside, where it could not be turned, the workman had chipped off a bit of iron as big as a ten cent piece. The gun was just as good as when it had been cast, and the inspector had rejected it.

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ALTOONA MAIL SCHEDULE.

Table with columns for destination (Western Way, Altoona, Eastern Way, Western Through, Eastern Through) and times (10:40 A.M., 7:00 A.M., 6:00 P.M., 7:20 P.M.).

RAILROAD SCHEDULE.

Table with columns for train name (Express Train East, West, Mail Train East, West, Indiana Branch Train East, West) and times (4:40 A.M., 7:00 A.M., 8:00 P.M., 11:00 A.M., 6:30 P.M., 6:45 P.M., 7:45 A.M.).

LOCAL ITEMS.

THE COMING FOURTH.—While there appears to be a desire on the part of our citizens to pay proper respect to the return of our natal day, they are disinclined to enter into an arrangement which will involve the outlay of money, and we think they are right. Just this time it would be highly improper to squander money in useless demonstrations. Our brethren and friends now upon the "tent field," almost in the face of the enemy, had need of many little luxuries and comforts which the money recklessly spent at a large celebration would furnish them, and we think it would be more patriotic, and afford much more pleasure on all sides, to send it to our volunteers than to spend it for fireworks and other extravaganzas. While we favor this disposition of the money that would otherwise be spent uselessly, we do not wish to see the day pass unobserved in this place, and from present indications, we think it will not. It will not require the outlay of means to have a general union of all our citizens at some given point, in the morning, have the Declaration of Independence read, a few national airs by the band, an address delivered, and then allow all to spend the day as they feel inclined. We think an arrangement should be made to have all the bells in town rung at five o'clock in the morning, and a salute fired, at sunrise, by the different companies. We have nothing definite as to when will be done here on the Fourth, but by next week we shall probably be able to announce a programme.

EXERCISES AMONG THE "HOME GUARDS."—On Tuesday morning last, quite an excitement was created among the members of Companies "A" and "B," of the "Home Guards," in this place, by the arrival of Ed. H. Gardner, of Hollidaysburg, with instructions from the Adjutant General, to collect and forward to Harrisburg all the State arms and accoutrements in Blair county. "Company A" is equipped with the rifles belonging to the "Logan Rifle Regt.," and "Company B" with the muskets of the "Altoona Guards." The members of both companies have gone to the expense of uniforming, and the Rail Road Company has had a man employed for several weeks past in overhauling and repairing the guns, and they are now in first-rate order. It may well be imagined that an order, such as Mr. Gardner bore, would not be received with a very good grace by the Rail Road Company, or by the members of the different military companies, who have spent considerable time in brightening up their pieces, and we are not sure that some of them did not swear a little. But to cap the climax, just previous to Mr. Gardner's departure, a dispatch was received by W. H. Wilson, Esq., from John A. Wright, Esq., Aid to the Governor, (in reply to a letter of Mr. Wilson in which he set forth the fact that the Company had repaired all the guns at its own expense,) authorizing the State arms now in this place to be left in the possession of the companies. This calmed the storm that was rising, and our boys can now go ahead and prepare their cartridges for grand salute on the morning of the Fourth; and let them remember, also, that this result is due to the energy of Mr. Wilson, whose watchful care of Altoona's interest would not permit him to see the guns removed and the companies disbanded, without using his endeavors to prevent it.

A HEALTHY SICK.—It will be seen by reference to the notice of the Treasurer of the Altoona Gas and Water Company, in another column, that a dividend of four per cent. has been declared on the capital stock for the six months ending June 15th. This is an increase of one per cent. over the previous six months, and equal to eight per cent. per annum. This certainly exhibits a healthy state of the finances of that institution, and proves that it pays. With such a result at this time, we may infer that it will pay at least one or twelve per cent. within another year. Query.—If gas and water stock, which has so lustily cried down as a sinking investment while the works were in course of construction, will pay so handsomely, would not stock in a market-house and town-hall, which all admit that this place greatly needs, pay equally as well? Suppose somebody figures up the cost of such a building, and the income that could be derived, and give it to us for publication.

FAMILIES OF VOLUNTEERS.—We understand the Judges and Commissioners of some of the counties have decided that the county in which the family of a volunteer resides, is bound for the support of that family, although the volunteer may have been enrolled in a company from another county. For example, if a man living in a town in Blair county, joins a company from Huntingdon county, Blair, and then Huntingdon, must provide for the family. Whether this decision will become a general one, we can't say, nor have we examined the act on which the subject, but it looks reasonable, and appears necessary, as soldiers are frequently changed from one company to another after they enter the service.

DUMPS! PUMPS!—THE UNDER-SIGNED would respectfully inform the citizens of Altoona, that he has just received from the Boston Foundry, a large quantity of heavy ordnance and projectiles for the Government. At this foundry are now making not only twelve and thirteen-inch shell for mortars, but also twelve and thirteen-inch columbads, and shelled shot for twelve and thirteen-inch guns, and shell and grape. From two to three hundred of shot and shell are made per day, and about twice as many heavy ordnance are cast hollow, ready for the shop, for use. This is a magnificent sight, for the foundry is a large one, and the gun is cast solid and has been bored. The Government inspection is of the most rigid character, and for the slightest deviation, even the thousandth part of an inch, the gun is rejected. We saw one heavy nine-inch columbad, and one twelve-inch shell, which were rejected for the furnace, simply because, in finishing the outside, where it could not be turned, the workman had chipped off a bit of iron as big as a ten cent piece. The gun was just as good as when it had been cast, and the inspector had rejected it.

MR. DALLAS FOR THE UNION.—George M. Dallas, late American Minister in England, regards the Union as the only basis of our national existence. He is a Union man, and has the following: "Let us then be firmly linked as a band of brothers around this unchanged standard. For my humble self, born beneath it, having imbibed from a venerated father's inculcations a devoted attachment to its comprehensive import, having deeply loved to the last, a brother who gallantly gave his life to its support, and dying in a distant field of duty found his noble blood—having spent my life contented and happy, though poor and inglorious, under its protection, and especially by those to sustain who equality and right, and shrink from no personal sacrifice, I come back to you gentlemen, filled, it is true, with grief at the national calamity, but unaltered in my determination to stand, come what may, for the Union, and, unalterably by the flag of the American Union, the whole Union and the Union forever."