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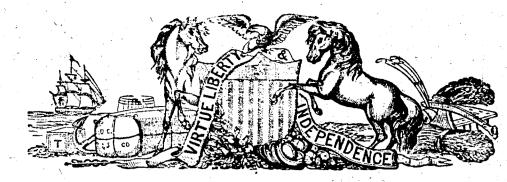
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ALTOONA, PA., THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1861.

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Select Poetry.

MORTAL BE PROUD?

A correspondent of Ziou's Advocate, (Maine), says the following was ellipsed from an Illinois paper printed three

Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud? Like a swift fleeting meteor-a fast flying cloud-A flash of the lightning-a break of the wave-He passeth from life to his rest in the grave. The leaves of the oak and the willow will fade, Be scattered around, and together be faid; As the young and the old, and the low and the high, Shall crumble to dust, and together shall lie.

'The mother, that infant's affection who proved; The father, that mother and infant who blessed-Each, all! are away to their dwelling of rest. The maid on whose brow, on whose cleek, in whose eye,

Shone beauty and pleasure-her triumphs are by; And alike from the minds of the living crased Are the memories of mertals who leved her and praised. The hand of the King, that the sceptre bath borne, The brow of the Priest, that the mitre hath worn, The eye of the sage, and the heart of the brave,

The herdsman, who climbed with his goats up the steep; The Leggar who wandered in search of his bread,

So the finititude comes, even those we behold, To remeat every tale that has often been told. The wa are the shap our fathers have been We see the same sights our fathers have seen; We drink the same stream, we see the same sun: And run the same course our fathers; have run. The thoughts we are thinking our fethers did think,

From the death we are shrinking our fathers did shrink; To the life we are clinging our fathers did cline. But it speeds from us all like the bird on the wing. They loved, but the story we cannot unfold; They scorned, but the heart of the haughty is cold; They grieved-but no wall from their slumbers will come They joyed-but the tongue of their gladness is dumb.

They died-alt! they died :- we, things that are now-That walk on the turf that lies over their brow, And make in the dwellings a transient abode, Meet the things that they met on their pilgrimage road. Yea, hope and despondency, pleasure, and pain, Are mineled together in sunshine and rain. And the smile and the tears, the song and the dirge, Still follow each other like surge upon surge. 'Tis the wink of an eye; 'tis the draught of a breath,

Select Miscellany.

From the blossom of health to the paleness of death,

From the gibbel saloon to the bier and the shroud?

Oh! why should the spirit of mortal be proud?

BATTLE OF RICH MOUNTAIN. We make the following extracts from

a highly interesting letter to the Cincinnati Commercial. It is dated at Beverly, July 14th, and gives a very minute and detailed review of the late battle:

THE FLANK MOVEMENT. According to the testimony of captive visited Rich Mountain, when his advice war was held, when it was unanimously decided that the configuration of the moun-General McClellan did not concur in this while General McClellan was encamped at Buckhannon, he wrote a letter to General Scott, in which he said :- "We shall probably have a fight at Roaring Run or FORM the citizens of Altoona and vicinity that his CONFECTIONERY, NUT and FRUIT STORE is always supplied with the very best articles to be had, and in great variety. He has also an turn the enemy's flank and assail his rear.' This whole campaign has developed, in its main features, precisely according to the plan formed by General McClellan

before he left Cincinnati. THE DETOUR BY LANDER AND ROSENCRANZ. You will bear in mind that Gen. Roseneranz's whole force, excepting the Thir-

in the rear of Pegram, and their garments fall. He were his battle countenance that feet with assistance, suffered great agony. were soon thoroughly saturated. The day, and it swept away that sad Hidalgo- If he survives it will be almost miracuground was muddy, and the thickets were like solemnity that mantles his features lous. Now and then a rebel would stare heavily laden with rain-water. But the habitually. But he displayed none of the sullenly at our people, but the majority column pushed on laboriously among unbroken masses of underbrush, through "natural general," in a rough overcoat, ness with which they were treated. Intrackless forests, and over rugged moun- with slouched hat, and his pantaloons deed everything possible was done to mittains, sweeping around, during eight hours, stuffed into his boot-tops—an excellent ligate their sufferings. I shall not attempt until they had described the circuit and picture for Harrie Lovie. Colonel Ben- to depict the ghastly picture of horrid got directly into the rear of the enemy, ton, in his official report of the battle, wounds and shuddering forms of poor vieupon vantage ground for the intended at says, "Col. Lander led the leaders into time, to whom it would have been mereitack. Col. Lander, who is familiar with the fight." mountain travelling, describes the loss as HEROIC EXPLOITS AND SHARP SHOOTING. 12 00 one of unexampled severity, and says the lads pushed on heartfully until the work

was ilone. Had Roseneranz attacked where the rebels had expected him, he would have had bloody work, since the road was proteeted by a six-pounder, and was entirely flanked for two hundred yards by the A number of shots struck his tree, but as at the door, a rough soldier exclaimed to corn-crib defences and an almost inaccessibly steep ascent. But he very skillfully selected the gorge of their works, and came full into their rear, making some of their works available for the protection of his own column, and obliging the enemy to reverse their dispositions, so that they OH. WHY SHOULD THE SPIRIT OF had to get on the side of their breastworks opposite that which they expected to occupy. In other words, they proposed to stand on one side of the fence and fight, lads was astonishing, when we consider but were compelled to climb over and fire how apt "raw material" are to overshoot from the opposite side. They were so and to "shoot wild." It was observed by confident of their ability to repel our troops that they neglected to secure retreat

for their guns. HOW THE SURPRISE WAS FRUSTRATED. The assault in the rebel rear was intended to be a surprise, but was defeated in that respect by an accident. An orderly sent by Gen. McClellan to Gen. Rosen- Joseph Frank, of Company A, 8th Reeranz with instructions how to proceed, giment, was shot in the ankle, and fell.—allowed himself to be captured, and his He said to a comrade that he couldn't get expedition was forming to march. Gen- doing very well. eral Rosencranz bitterly denounced this

the battle points. GALLANTRY OF THE VOLUNTEERS. The bravery and intrepidity of the volnot an instant, but were eternally for "pifehing in." Col. Lander says they were brave as lions, but too prone to disregard orders-the necessity of which they did not seem to realize. The General says that, with this exception, they acted splendidly. He was compelled to bring many to their senses by rapping them smartly with the flat of his sword Northern pluck displayed itself to fine advantage on that leaden and fiery day .--Our rebel prisoners confess their surprise at it. One of them said that when Col. Pegram, ordered them instantly behind officers to conceal their numbers in that

All participants concur that Gen. Roflamed over the field with battle in his rebel officers, General Garnett recently of the fray he went charging across the and moved according to his orders. respecting rear defences was asked. The The rebel prisoners say they distinguished quartered here for the present. A detachengineer was consulted, and a council of him repeatedly. His escape from injury ment, guided by a rebel Lieutenant, is now tain made it physically impossible for the His Aid-de-Camp, Capt. A. Irwin Harri-Federal troops to turn the Rebel flank and son, was also remarked for his cool, quiet tains. They are ordered by their commanget into their rear. So it seems. That bearing under trying conditions. The der to surrender. We have now seven

> GALLANTRY OF COL. LANDER. After Gen. Rosencranz, Col. F. W. Lander was the most conspicuous figure on the field. He was there without command yet he is a man that must command where ever there is battle. The admiration of the men for his splendid bearing justifies

There was so much getting behind rocks and trees that the combat, part of the time, resembled an Indian fight. One of the General's servants says he saw one of the Indiana boys shoot repeatedly from behind a tree at rebels who stuck their heads from behind a big rock to shoot at our men.soon as a rebel poked his head from be- a comrade: "Why, the General is crying." the battle he went to the rock and found four dead rebels behind it—three of whom were shot in the head, Most of the firing was at a distance of about three hundred

yards.. The accuracy of the shooting by our hundreds who reviewed the field of battle that a great number of the balls which struck the trees, ranged at from three to twelve inches above the line of the rebel breastworks. So many rebels shot in the head was powerful testimony of the accu-

papers were secured by the enemy. Lieut. out of the fight, but if he would lie be-Ransom, Assistant Adjutant General to hind a rock with him where he had fallen, Col. Pegram, also says it was surmised by and load muskets, he would pick off somethem, on account of the unusual number body. The fellow, it is said, fired eighteen of lights visible in our camp, while the shots after he was hurt. His wound is the most hideous seene was that of twen-

Frank Hall, of the Tenth, was felled part of the performance. The enemy, by a shot in the leg. He hailed a comhowever, expected our forces at another rade, and told him to shoot while he loaded. point, until shortly previous to the attack Frank heroically seated himself on a rock by their pickets. A glance at the posi- in the midst of the fire, and loaded mustion is necessary to a comprehension of kets thirty-five times for his comrade to and others with lacerated and mangled shoot. His comrade tells the story, and flesh, with here and there a splintered bone Frank modestly answers that it is a fact. exhibiting itself. Oh, horrible! most hor-

They flinched coolness in private Chapman, of Peru, in number, had been more tenderly gath Ind. A rebel gunner was just touching off one of the guns, and in the very act Chapman discovered him, but instead of looking out for grape he drew a quick features, but saw nothing to remove from "sight" on the gunner, and "fetched" him as the grape-shot hurtled over his own head. The gunner's body was picked up, shot in battle. after the battle, from the spot where Chapman laid him.

NUMBER ENGAGED AT RICH MOUNTAIN.

General Rosencranz informs me that I greatly exaggerated his strength at the battle of Rich Mountain. He left Roar-Manson on the hillside ordered his men ing Run with 1,800 men-not more than to "fire low," their own commander, Col. 1.200 of whom were in the action altogether, and only 800 at one time. It is their breastworks. And here I remark a impossible to estimate the force of the studious effort on the part of the rebel enemy. They differ widely in their own statements. Some say 300, other officers fight. According to the best accounts, say 400 and 450. Col. Pegram informed they had engaged in it, from first to last, me that he had "five companies" in acnine hundred or a thousand men. Their tion. Some of their wounded reported breastworks and cannon made them fully immediately after they were captured that equal in strength to the assailing party. they had 500 to 900. Our own officers ROSENCRANZ THE SOUL OF THE ACTION. say that they had between 900 and 1,000, but their breastworks and batteries equalseneranz was the soul of the battle. He ized the forces. Several of their officers face, exposing his person conspicuously had that day was the two volleys by batduring the whole action. When the col- talion fired by the 19th Ohio. One of found himself shut up in the mountains umn was first formed to engage, he led it them said, "we supposed your regulars without food and no refuge. A council on the other flank leading. While the fight against them." This is good testimen fought with unflinching intrepidity, mony for the Ohio boys. Gen. Roseneranz tered. He addressed a note to Gen. Mefight he lost his cap, and during the rest who stayed where he ordered them to stay,

field with his hair streaming in the wind. But I digress. The prisoners will be is marvelous, and he deserves great credit out in the mountains looking for one hunfor his generalship and personal gallantry: dred and twenty-six more of Pegram's position of Aid is perhaps the most dan- hundred prisoners, with one thousand Regram is quite ill, having been seriously hurt by being thrown from his horse in battle.

OUR AND THE ENEMY'S WOUNDED. 'Our own and the rebel wounded lay recurrence to the part he acted. He saw strewn together in blankets on the floors the disposition of the men to fight single- of Hart's house. Every available space handed, and, comprehending the necessity was covered with their convulsive and of concentration and the display of war- quivering bodies. Down under the porch precation. After his horse was shot, he sufferers. The severely wounded of the leaped upon the top of a rock, presenting enemy were attended to before the slight-IRVIN STEEL, D. D. S., HAV
ING heated permanently in Altoona, respectfully months' volunteers. The Thirteenth are for the riflemen of the enemy; but he them suffered in silence, a few slept sound
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The Thirteenth are for the riflemen of the enemy; but he them suffered in silence are for the riflemen of the enemy; but he them suffered in silence are for the riflemen of the enemy; but he them suffered in silence are for the riflemen of the enemy; but he them suffered in silence are for the riflemen of the enemy are for the riflemen o three years' troops - and they were fresh paid no more attention to hurtling bullets ly, but some moaned with intense agony. from the forests of Indiana. It was rain- than if they had been rain. Many have One poor fellow, an Indianaman, shot thro' first apple in Paradise should have turned May 16, 61-46 ing hard when the column started to get said they constantly expected to see him the head, who could even yet stand on his out the first pair.

ful if they could have died, but who lay on the cold ground quivering with agony with no chance to survive, and yet could not eke out a last suffering gasp.

GEN. M'CLELLAN IN TEARS. When Gen. McClellan rode up to the battle field, he visited the hospital and spoke cheerfully to the sufferers making many kind inquiries. When he came out hind the rock the Hoosier would nail him. It had never occurred to him that it was My informant said he had a curiosity to a scene to draw tears from a soldier. As see what the Hoosier had done, and after brilliantly as Gen. Roseneranz shone in the field, his lustre in the hospital had a brighter glow. He did all that a General and a generous-hearted man could do to mitigate the suffering of his gallant troops.

THE DEAD ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE. The dead presented a ghastly spectacle. never conceived anything half so hideous. No power of expression is adequate to describe it. The faces of our own dead were as fearfully forbidding as those of our dead enemies. Some were lying prone on the field as they had fallen, with limbs sprawling, great thick plotches of coagulated blood near their bodies, their garments saturated with the ensanguined flow, and their gaping faces and stony eyes staring full at the broad, brazen sky. One who had been shot down in the woods, above the breastworks, lay stark upon his face, one arm thrown with a convulsive struggle around the limb of a fallen tree Clotted blood which had flowed out of his side, was near him in thick lumps. But ty-nine dead rebels packed horribly together in a trench-most of them with fearful orifices perforating their heads, through which the brains oozed in sickening clots; others with Minie holes full in their breasts; some with shattered limbs. An eye-witness relates an instance of rible! Our own precious dead, but few ered, and kind comrades had decently com-

> my mind that indelible impression of unmitigated ugliness of dead faces of men One poor fellow, of the Thirtcenth Indiana, was shot in the left eye by a grape shot. It perforated the brain and dislodged and disorganized the whole inner structure of the cranium from the skull downward, leaving a monstrous cavity of unimaginable horror. The ball left the eyelid perfect, entering directly under the nose where it joins the forehead, without difiguring the nose in the least-a perfectly clean, but a very singular wound. Our own dead occupy separate graves on the battle field they so gallantly won. The bodies of our brave, but misguided formen,

were carefully laid in a common grave, and

are now resting quietly where but yester-

posed their stiffening forms. I lifted the

covering which concealed their inanimate

day they fought so well. THE PRISONERS GIVE THEIR PAROLE. I witnessed a most melancholy procession yesterday. Indeed it was touching. inform me that the most terrible fire they The rebel commander, Col. Pegram, after flying from his stronghold with his forces. on one side of the conflict—Col. Lander were at work, and that it was no use to of his officers advised surrender. His force, excepting six hundred, had scathe was encouraging them. During the himself said they were the only regiment Clellan, proposing to surrender, and the General's Aids, Lieut. Col. Key and Capt. Lawrence A. Williams, U. S. A., went out to receive the surrender. That afternoon

they marched sadly into Beverly, and stacked their arms where some of them had but, lately encamped. A feeling of sympathy for the brave but misguided fellows was irrepressible. I don't know that my emotional nature was much effected by Col. Pegram's sadness, although he was sick. An officer who betrays and deserts gerous in the field. It is sufficient to say stand of arms, chiefly U. S. muskets chan- the country which educated and fostered that Capt. Harrison was always at his post. | ged from flint to percussion locks. The | him, is like the son who abuses his mothwounded of both parties are being removed er. But there were many young officers from Rich Mountain to this place. Col. and privates for whom I felt keenly .-Many of them openly confess they have been deluded, and assert they will not encourage rebellion further. Many will take the oath of allegiance, but others, restrained by the influence of their officers, stubbornly insist that they are right in defending the "sacred soil" of Virginia. Among the most determined in his hostility I mention Capt. Atkinson. President of Hamp like skill, he lent his aid to form the troops there was another line of wounded. There den and Sidney College, of Prince Edby appeals, admonition and vehement im- was no difference in the treatment of the ward's. He commands a company of students who are his fellow prisoners. Need I tell you that our prisoners are as kindly

It is rather remarkable that the

SLEEPING POSITION.

The food passes from the stomach on the right side, hence its passage is facilitated by going to sleep on the right side. Water and other fluids flow equally on a level, and it requires less power to propel them on a level than upwards. The heart propels the blood to every part of the body at each successive beat, and it is easy to see that if the body is in a horizontal position, the blood will be sent to the various parts of the body with greater ease, with less expenditure of power, and more perfectly than could possibly be done if one portion of the body were elevated above a horizontal line. On the other hand if one portion of the body is too low the blood does not return as readily as it was carried thither; honce there is an accumulation and distention, and pain soon follows. If a person goes to sleep with his head a very little lower than his body, he will soon wake up or die of apoplexy before morning, simply because the blood could not get back from the brain as freely as it was carried to it.

floor for sleep, a portion of the head at least, is lower than the heart; and discomfort is soon induced; hence very properly, the world over the head is elevated during sleep. The savages use a log of wood or a bunch of leaves; the civilized a pillow; and if this pillow be too thick, rising the head too high, there is not blood enough carried to the brain, and as the brain is nourished, renewed and invigorated by the nutriment it receives from the plood during sleep, it is not fed sufficiently, and the result is unquiet sleep during the night, and a waking up in weariness, without refreshment, to be followed by a day of drowsiness, discomfort, and a general inactivity of both mind and body. The healthful means is a pillow, which by the pressure of the head keeps it about four inches above the level of the bedding or mattress, nor should the pillow be so soft as to allow the head to be buried in it. and excite perspiration, endangering earache or cold head, on turning over. The pillow should be hard enough to prevent the head from sinking more than about

If a person lays himself down on a level

THRILLING ADVENTURE WITH TWO LARGE SNAKES.—The St. Joseph (Mich.) Traveler, June 12, says:

three inches. - Hall's Journal of Health.

While crossing a piece of marshy ground bordering on the Northern bayou near this village, in company with a small boy the Sheriff discovered two large blue racer snakes just ahead of him, and although armed with nothing but an insignificant stick, he resolved at once to endeaver to dispatch the monsters. Therefore, by describing a circle he headed them off, and hemmed them in next to the water, which this species of reptile dislikes exceedingly, but as he approached nearer and nearer, the largest one, head erect, turned upon him, and in an instant coiled its strong sinewy body about his legs with such tenacity that it was impossible for him to move from his tracks without falling over.

But, in spite, of his predicament, the Sheriff was not so much alarmed until he saw the other snake, which had meantime been running from side to side, suddenly start towards him, and with the quickness of lightning, leap upon him, catching his body as firmly as if it had been secured with chains of steel, and, of course, notwithstanding he strained every nerve in the effort, he could not release it. With his left he drew a sheath knife from'a breast pocket of his coat, and made short work of severing the coils of his disagreeable foes. The largest of these monsters measured seven feet four and one half inches, and the other five feet eight inches in length. The Sheriff says that it seemed to him that the terrible embrace of the large snake was equal to the strength which two men could bring to bear on a rope about a person's limbs, and was extremely painful; while the quickness of their movements was indeed astonishing. He brought away their heads as trophies of his victory.

RAT STORY .- A young lady of Providence, in whose veracity we have no doubt, recently saw what is related in connection herewith. As she sat looking ont of her window into the yard connected with the house, she saw an egg lying upon the ground in the hencoop; presently two rats made their appearance, one of which, lying down upon his side, gathered the egg between his limbs and held it fast, while the other rat took him by the 'narrative' and drew both rat and egg into the hole together, where, without letters of Marque, the egg was speedily confisticated.

As a man "tipples" he generally grows reckless; in this case, the more drams the fewer scruples.

Camphor has been discovered to be an antidote for that terrible poison, strychnine. di eiu:

To prevent a headache on getting sober-keep drunk.