Altoona Tribune.

ALTOONA, PA.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1862.

Hints and Plain Questions.

In our last issue, in referring to the editor of the *Blair County Whig*, and the course he has pursued in his paper, we were frank enough to tell him that his acts and whole course of late had been such as to not endear him to the people, and, in answer to his secret slur at us, we charged him with having been guilty of mean and dirty tricks during the Congressional campaign of 1856, when he wasn't nominated for Congress, although the man of fat and simplicity insisted then, as now, that *he* was *the* man. In his last paper he denies that he alluded to us, and yet in the same breath says "the hint we gave was suggested to us by a friend." Then the fellow wiggles out of this—He does us to tell *all* the truth we know about him. No, sir; it would take too long, and would be giving more space to the *subject* than we desire. That "J. B." was a candidate for the nomination of his party for Congress in 1856—that every sensible man who *knew him* laughed at the idea of his impudence and ignorance—that he went to Johnstown to be nominated—that he didn't *quite* succeed—that he came home mad, and was guilty of all sorts of plans, by which he tried to defeat his successful rival, and only failing became he was too *bright* to fool anybody very bad—neither Mr. "J. B." nor any one else acquainted with the facts will attempt to deny. He assumes as of course being in his confidence, and says we are now going to sell on him. Well, yes sir; we were slightly in your confidence once, soon after we settled in our present home, and before we *knew some people* as we do now. Is that satisfactory? We also told the fellow, in our last issue, that if he desired it we would give an inkling into his career since he got the *Whig*, and tell why he got it and how he said he was going to raise the "hard cash." He not only wants to know this, but says if we don't tell, the public will be down on us as hard as it is on him. As we don't want this, we will relieve ourselves by politely asking the *pious* and *good* editor one or two plain and practical questions:

1st. Have you not publicly boasted in the streets of Hollidaysburg, since you got possession of the *Whig*, that you intended to make it pay *somehow?*—in other words, that you intended to levy *black mail?*

2d. Did you not assert, in the office of a respectable attorney of that town, that you would not support Mr. Hall for any office unless he paid you for it in "hard cash?"

Such is common rumor, John, and we thought it our duty, as you desired it, to frankly tell you what the people said of you, as we have already told you what they thought. Suppose you add the above questions to those the *Standard* man has been putting to you for many weeks—still unanswered. We refer to how you were last winter on the Tonnage Tax Bill; and also a revelation of your secret sealings of Uncle Sam, in your late contracts at Washington. We are thus specific in calling your attention to the points, as you say you only *understood* such questions were put to you. *Understood* so! That's rich. He didn't see them—*of course not*.

We observe that the whole of your last railroad article is taken from the speech of Mr. Williams, of Allegheny, in the House: the only difference being that your quotation—published as original—is an indifferent recitation, the spelling and grammar being very bad, John, very bad. You must be more careful, in future, when you copy. Give us a little original, and answer our questions.

ROLL OF HONOR.—A bill passed the House, on Monday week, authorizing the Governor to appoint a person to keep a Roll of Honor of the Pennsylvania Volunteers. It provides that the Executive shall appoint "some suitable person, whose duty it shall be to prepare, from reliable data, and have carefully preserved with the archives of the State, a Roll of Honor, upon which shall be inscribed the name of each and every officer, private and musician who has volunteered from this Commonwealth during the present war, and who has honorably served therein, and has fallen in battle or died in hospital, military prison, upon the field or at home, or in transit to or from his or their homes, from wounds received in battle, disease contracted in the service, or from other casualties resulting from connection therewith, &c., with such other particulars as may be accessible, and deemed important and of interest as a matter of record; and that the Governor shall annually cause a copy thereof to be published in the report of the Adjutant General of this Commonwealth, and thus communicated to the General Assembly." An appropriation of $1,000 is also made to carry out the object of the bill.

A PRETTY PAIR.—The old mountebank of the Hollidaysburg *Whig* says that he has learned from Harrisburg, that the Hopkins investigating committee have proved the "most extensive and unparalled corruption." From the same place we learn just the reverse, viz:—that Hopkins had got the scheme up for the purpose of furthering his prospects for Governor, and that he was about as sick of it as men generally get. But as the *Whig* editor was a prominent member of the *third* House last winter, (although he has this winter studiously avoided the place,) rolling about the lobbies week after week, he may be better posted than we.—The committee will soon have to report, and we will then see who is right, and whether Mr. Hopkins is any nearer the Gubernatorial Chair or not. It is said that the reason why the *Whig* man is so friendly to Hopkins is, that the latter agreed not to call him before the Star Chamber Court. A pretty pair! Plenty of nerve!

☞ On Monday morning last there were stored at Milwaukie 116,759 barrels of flour, and 3,211,[illegible] bushels of wheat, a larger quantity than at any other point at the West.

Condensed War News.

Since our last issue we have the following advances, skirmishes, and items of interest to record.

The news of the fall of Newbern is said to have created the greatest consternation at Charleston, and the women and children commenced to move out of the city, supposing that the next attack would be upon it. The fire-eaters charge the North Carolina troops with cowardice, and the bakers and store-keepers refused to receive North Carolina money. In consequence of this, two North Carolina regiments, stationed at that place, revolted, and broke open the stores and helped themselves. They refused to serve any longer and were allowed to return home.

Our advices from Florida are very encouraging. There is a strong Union sentiment in the eastern part of the State. From the *New South*, a paper published at Port Royal, S. C., we learn that the citizens of Jacksonville and St. Agustine hailed with delight the approach of our gunboats. The country had for some time been overrun with guerillas who pillaged and destroyed all species of property. The Union people describe their feelings, at the sight of our gunboats, as unutterable; men burst into tears of joy, and their voices trembled as they recited the history of their wrongs and long-delayed deliverance. Our gunboats have been 150 miles up the St. John's river, and met with no opposition. White flags were displayed along the banks, and numbers of the inhabitants claimed their protection. Florida has most likely been entirely abandoned by the rebels.

The loss of life on board the *Merrimac*, during her engagement with the *Monitor*, was pretty heavy. A recently arrived contraband states that he helped to shroud thirty-one of the crew of the *Merrimac*, and that Capt. Buchanan and Lieut. Minor are dead.

Gen. Wise has so fallen in public estimation that he is treated not on the streets of Norfolk, a coward and poltroon. In his escape from Nagg's Head *he rode thirty miles on horseback*, notwithstanding he had previously reported himself too ill to remain at Roanoke Island at the head of his command. He would be honored were he to appear on the streets of Norfolk, consequently he has retired to his farm in Princess Anne county.

General Banks has driven the enemy from Strasburg to Woodstock, a distance of twelve miles, and then to Edinburg, seven miles beyond. The enemy burned the bridges in his flight, except that in a narrow pass, which our men arrived in time to save.

The Richmond *Inquirer*, of the 27th ult., places our loss at the Winchester battle at 1500 to 1600, theirs 500 to 600. Among their casualties were Colonel L. S. Moore, of Winchester, and S. H. Lowner, of the General Assembly, killed, and Col. Echols, of the 27th Virginia, wounded.

On Saturday week General Evans advanced from Charleston on North Edisto with 2,000 troops, but, finding that the Federals were at least 6,000 strong, he retired in a masterly manner.

Fort Pulaski is besieged, and must fall.

The gunboat Seminole landed recently and destroyed Thunderbolt fort, within five miles of Savanah.

Gov. Brown, of Georgia, has stopped the distilling of whiskey, as they want the grain for bread, which will be entirely out in July.

Skidaway fort, on the Wassaloo river, was entirely destroyed by Capt. Gillis, on the 25th ult. A few shells from the gunboat Seminole made all the rebels in that region skedaddle in a hurry.

General Blenker's brigade has been assigned to Fremont's command. Carl Schurz is to have command of a division under Fremont.

On the 21st inst., Lieut. Com. Murray proceeded to Washington, N. C., and took possession of the town, raised the stars and stripes over the Court House, and found quite a number of loyal citizens to welcome him.

A few days since some of Gen. Sickels' troops had a skirmish at Stafford Court House. They captured some 40 horses belonging to the rebel cavalry, together with a quantity of small arms and the mails in the Stafford Post Office, which are supposed to contain matters of importance to the Government.

Gen. Milroy is driving the rebels out of Southwestern Virginia.

From Fortress Monroe we have information that the rebel iron-clad boat Merrimac, (now called Virginia,) is coaling up, and will probably soon make her appearance in Hampton Roads. She will be accompanied by several gunboats. Two more guns have been placed upon her. The Monitor, it is said, is ready for her, whenever she gives the challenge. Skipping Point, and other places on the route to Yorktown, have been taken by our troops.

Late information from S. C. states that a few nights since the rebels came down in considerable force upon Little Edisto Island, and succeeded in cutting off an entire company of the 56th Pennsylvania regiment which was stationed on picket.

UNCLAIMED BAGGAGE.—A bill has been read in the Legislature, giving to railroad companies the right to open and examine any unclaimed freight, baggage, or property of a perishable nature, and sell it, at public sale, to the best advantage. When property of any kind has been twelve months in their possession, then they shall have power, after separate public notices for four consecutive weeks, describing the property, the place and time of shipment, and name (if known) of the owner or consignee, to dispose of the same. All excess arising from such sale, over and above all charges, is to go to the State Treasury, and the companies to be relieved forever from any liability.

☞ The tax on advertisements has been so far modified as to impose it only on such newspapers as have in circulation of more than two thousand copies, and where advertising patronage exceeds $1,000. This will relieve all country heldominals, and be the means of drawing an immense revenue from the journals of the commercial cities.

GEORGE W. HAMERSLY, ESQ.—This gentleman occupies the position of Chief Clerk of the Senate, and a most excellent clerk he is. He is a fine reader, has a good voice, is quick and correct, and is always affable and kind to every person who has any business with him. He is a model clerk and a very polite and affable gentleman.

☞ The office of the Lawrence *Journal* is offered for sale. From the description given of it by the proprietor, we think it well fitted up, and, in the hands of a good practical printer, would be a good paying establishment.

"POPULAR OPINION."—"J. B." the plus contracting editor of the *Whig*, in an article, as long as it is stupid, in last week's issue, is out for Hopkins for Governor. This we don't object to, but he seems to be displeased with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. At this, we are *surprised*. Is there something wrong about his reins again? But what we wanted to call attention to was this: He says, "although popular opinion is sometimes wrong and occasionally visits with punishment those who have not merited it, yet, in ninety-nine cases out of the hundred, it is right." Bully for you, Sir John Falstaff—no, not Falstaff, either—you have the knight's belly and paunch, but none of his brains. Please tell us, then, was popular opinion right or wrong when you made that splendid run for sheriff? Was it visiting you with "punishment" when you didn't deserve it? Speak out, man. It may be a lesson to you and Hopkins both.

WHO ARE ENTITLED TO PENSIONS.—The Attorney General of the United States has decided that all disabled soldiers who have enlisted for three years or the war, are entitled to invalid pensions under the Act of July 22, 1861; and that all disabled three-months soldiers, called into service under the President's proclamation of April 15, 1861, are entitled to pensions under the Acts of 1802 and 1816. He also decides that there is no law giving pensions to widows and orphans of deceased soldiers of the present war.

☞ Among the many testimonials of kind feeling towards the patriot martyr of East Tennessee, it is proposed by his New York friends, to give him a "Hoe's last fast," with which to uproot the last vestige of secession at his old home. He has been invited to make the Astor House his home as long as he remains in New York. His notes of the rise and decline of secession in Tennessee, will make the name of "Brownlow's Book."

RECRUITING STOPPED.—All officers engaged in the recruiting service have been ordered to their regiments, and notice given to the Governors of States that no new enlistments nor new levies will be received until further orders from the War Department. The force now in the field is deemed amply sufficient for the suppression of the rebellion and the speedy termination of the war.

☞ The Newbern, N. C., *Progress* states that on the 24th, Postmaster Reed received a monster mail from the North, containing some fifteen thousand letters, besides some fifty bushels of newspapers. The letters were distributed by him, with the aid of half a dozen assistants, in two hours and ten minutes.

GLORIOUS NEWS!

Surrender of Island No. 10.

Successful Movement of Gen. Pope

THE SIEGE OF YORK[illegible]

On Monday last General P[illegible] across the Mississippi and [illegible] side of the river, below Islan[illegible] quence of this movement, [illegible] compelled to evacuate their [illegible] Island. This they did on [illegible] Tuesday, leaving all their gun[illegible] visions and their sick. It was [illegible] rendered to the gunboats, and has [illegible] session of by Com. Foote.

ST. LOUIS, April 8.—General Pope has captured three generals, six thousand prisoners of war, one hundred siege guns, several field batteries, an immense quantity of small arms, tents, wagons, horses, and provisions. In accomplishing all this he has not lost a single man.

Our forces have been before Yorktown for some time, and a fight has been going on several days. The latest from that point says that the fighting up to Sunday evening, had been done by the artillery, and that no infantry engagements had taken place. On Sunday night Yorktown was seen to be in flames, and it was conjectured that the rebels had fired the town, perhaps with the intention of evacuating their position. The place will certainly be taken, although the enemy have strong fortifications.

TERRIBLE BATTLE NEAR CORINTH, MISS.

BEAUREGARD WHIPPED.

Heavy Loss on Both Sides.

Washington, April 8.

The following message was received by the Secretary of War this evening:

On the 6th instant the rebels, in overwhelming numbers, attacked our forces at Pittsburg Landing. The battle lasted from morning until late in the afternoon, and resulted in the defeat of the rebels, with heavy loss on both sides.

General Grant is following up the enemy.

General Buell has arrived in Tennessee.

Two divisions of his army were in the battle at Pittsburg Landing.

The enemy attacked our works at Pittsburg, Tennessee, yesterday, but were repulsed with heavy loss. No details given.

CHICAGO, April 8.—A private despatch received in this city to-night, from one of Gen. Grant's staff, says: "We have fought and won the hardest battle ever fought on this continent."

The despatch is dated Pittsburg Landing, April 6.

An Extra Philadelphia *Ledger* issued to-day (9th,) says that the battle at Pittsburg Landing was terrible, and that Gen. A. Sidney Johnson was killed by a cannon ball. Gen. Beauregard had an arm shot off. From 1800 to 2000 United States troops, and from 3500 to 4000 rebels were killed, wounded and missing.

Our loss in officers was very heavy. Brigadier General Wallace was killed, and Gen. Sherman wounded. Gen. Prentice with several hundred men were taken prisoners on Sunday.

HEMMING COTTON.—

"Hem them in!" is the country's cry;
See how the bayonet needles fly!
Nothing neglect and nothing leave,
Hem them in from skirt to sleeve.
Little they reck of scratch or hurt
Who toil at hemming the Southern shirt;
Little they'll care, as they shout aloud,
If the Southern shirt proves a Southern shroud.
Hurrah for the needles sharp and thin!
Cotton is saved by hemming it in.

Our Army Correspondence.

HILTON HEAD, S. C.
March 15th, 1862.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I must really beg pardon for not being more regular in my correspondence with you, and through you with the many friends of the 76th P. V. But two reasons will be advanced as the ground of my continued silence: first, a continued lack of news; and, secondly, my time being pretty steadily devoted to the constantly recurring duties. I hope these reasons will be satisfactory, and I will try hereafter and be more regular. I believe I have not heretofore given the locations of the different Pennsylvania Regiments now in active service on the "sacred soil" of South Carolina. I shall now endeavor to point out their precise locations.

The 76th, Col. John M. Power, is encamped on Hilton Head Island, and forms a part of the brigade which does duty as post guard. The camp is located on a high, dry and healthy part of the Island, extending directly along the beach.—The men have the full benefit of the delightful sea breezes, which are of so much importance in a sanitary point of view. Though the regiment has not yet had an opportunity of meeting the rebels in deadly conflict, they are being well heard for in under the steady and persevering training of their energetic Colonel. Of him, so much cannot be said. By his gentlemanly and soldier-like bearing he has endeared himself to all, both officers and men.

There have been two resignations in the 76th since it arrived on this Island. Lieut. Holmes, Company G, and Lieut. Forsyth, Company K, have both left us and gone home. Dr. Siemans, our accomplished Assistant Surgeon, has been promoted to the post of Surgeon of the 50th Regiment, P. V., Col. Crise, commanding.

This Regiment and the 100th, Roundsavis, Col. Leasure, are quartered at Beaufort. I must not forget to mention that John P. Blair, a brother of S. S. Blair, Esq., of Hollidaysburg, is a Lieutenant in the 100th Regiment, and now holds the responsible post of Provost Marshall at Beaufort.

The 45th P. V., Col. Welsh, commanding, are stationed at Otter Island, and are in close proximity to the rebels who hold a portion of Freemark's Island, which is close to Otter Island. A sad accident happened in this Regiment a few days ago. Two companies were sent out at night to attack a small party of rebel pickets. They separated, and, as usually happens in such cases, met unexpectedly and fired on each other. The result was that two were killed and seven wounded.—The killed were Capt. Rambo, formerly of Columbia, and a corporal in his company. The two companies were under the charge of Lieut. Col. Beaver, but I have not heard any one attach the blame of the accident to him.

The 55th Regiment, P. V., Col. Richard White, commanding, is encamped on North Edisto Island, [illegible] a day's march of Charleston. They seem [illegible] quite warm quarters for on last Sunday [illegible] Lieut. Col. (Benner) and a 1st Lieut[illegible] of the companies, were seized by [illegible] riding one about a mile from their [illegible] immediately whisked off to Charleston [illegible] prisoners were lately seized in [illegible] from them. In connection with a [illegible] per found on them, it has been [illegible] all their movements, the names of the [illegible] are well known to the rebels. In [illegible] paper contained the names of the officers [illegible] the number of men in the Regiment. I am [illegible] to believe that this information has been obtained through the contrabands, yet it has been positively asserted to be a fact, and it is a fact that they have been entirely excluded from some of the camps as suspicious and not to be trusted. It is a notorious fact that they are allowed almost unlimited freedom to go and come as they please. I do believe that many of the so-called contrabands are, in reality, spies, who come among us, watch our movements, gain valuable information, and then leave. Many of them have been seen sitting down with pencil and paper, sketching and drawing, making notes, &c., and who knows but that by this very means the rebels gain much valuable information. Why it is well known here that the rebels had full information of the fleet leaving this port for the attack on Fernandina. They knew the very day it was to leave, and the exact strength of it. I am fully satisfied that all such information is gained through the contrabands. And yet, the greater portion of the negroes here are allowed to run at large, do but little work, live on government rations, and take the world easy, while the freemen of the North, who enlisted for the defence of their country, have to do all sorts of slavish work and drudgery. How appropriate it would be for the negroes to do the public work of the post, cleaning stables, gathering fuel from the beach, &c., &c., instead of having squads of soldiers, armed with rakes, spades and wheelbarrows, day after day, performing this very duty. But I will drop this dark side of the picture of daily life, and scenes on Hilton Head Island.

The 97th Regiment, P. V., Col. Guss, commanding, is, I believe, now doing garrison duty at Fernandina.

Here there are six Pennsylvania Regiments belonging to the E. C., and yet, Pennsylvanians and their interests and their rights are not entrusted to a Brigadier from Pennsylvania, while other States, having but one or perhaps two regiments here, are represented by at least one and sometimes two Brigadier Generals. I do think that Pennsylvania should have one officer at least, of that rank, in this department.

MARCH 24, 1862.

On the 20th inst. the papers of the 12th were received here, giving full accounts of the great naval conflict at Fortress Monroe, and also the cheering news of the evacuation of the rebel stronghold at Manassas. The latter has created great rejoicing here, while we find that what at first was looked on as a defeat at Fortress Monroe, has proved quite the reverse.

On last Thursday four rebels were brought in and turned over to the Provost Guard. They belonged to a Regiment of Georgia Volunteers, calling themselves "Phillip's Legion." They were on picket duty near Bluffton, and were bagged by a reconnoitering party from the 3rd New Hampshire Regiment. They seem to be greatly pleased at the change, and are very communicative. They say that they have to uniform themselves, and have not been paid for six months past. Their uniform is made of a very coarse, dirty, grey cloth, while their shirts are made of a very coarse article of bed-picking. They say the service in the Southern army is very hard and unpalatable. They will likely be sent north in the next summer.

For some time past great trouble has been caused in some of the Regiments by the intemperate use of whiskey. Several rum-holes have been closed by the Provost Marshal and his assistants, and stringent orders have been issued, but all to no effect. Finally, on last Saturday morning, the following order was issued and copies deposited on every vessel in the harbor, and sent to every sutler and commander of troops on the island:

HEAD QUARTERS, E. C.,
PORT ROYAL, S. C., March 21, 1862.

LIEUTENANT:—The fact having become apparent that the liberty given to venders of liquor on vessels lying in the harbor to dispose of the same to officers, has been greatly abused by officers furnishing privates with written orders over their own signature to obtain liquor, dates having been altered, orders forged, &c., the men thereby obtaining liquor at pleasure.

You are hereby directed to notify all parties selling liquor at this post, that on and after this date they are prohibited from disposing of liquor to any officer, soldier, employee of U. S. Government, or negro, without a written permit signed by the commandant of post.

Officers wishing to purchase liquor, will make such request known, in writing, to the commandant of post, who will act in the manner as in his judgment may seem best.

By order of
COL. E. Q. FELLOWS,
Commanding Post.
M. S. JAMES, 2d Lieut. R. I. V.
Post Adjutant.

To Lieut. G. B. VAN BRUNT,
Provost Marshal.

HEAD QUARTERS, PROVOST GUARD,
PORT ROYAL, S. C., March 21, 1862.

In compliance with the above order, all venders of liquor in this post, such as masters of vessels, sutlers, &c., are hereby forbid selling any liquor to officers, soldiers, government employees, sailors or negroes, without a written order countersigned by the commandant of post, under the penalty of having their entire stock confiscated.

GEO. B. VAN BRUNT,
1st Lieut. 47th Reg't N. Y. S. V.,
Provost Marshal.

This will, I think, effectually stop the use of liquor which, I must say, is doing more harm among the troops here than disease is.

Within the last two weeks a large number of *sutlers* have arrived from New York, pamphleting to be teachers, sent out here by some society in that city, to educate the negroes. But, singular as it may appear, many of them will not venture near the negro quarters, but take a respectful look at a distance, and then leave for New York by the first steamer. The thing is about "played out," to use a common phrase. I do hope this whole thing will be properly ventilated in some of the Northern papers.

Yesterday the steamer transport, Ocean, arrived at this port, bringing two companies of Rhode Island artillerists, and the papers up to the 16th. There has also a large mail arrived.

No movements of special importance have taken place here since I last wrote. There is a report current here that Gen. Hunter has arrived, but I am not yet satisfied of its correctness. One thing is certain, he must have more troops before he can advance successfully from this point. There are now but about 15,000 effective men in this department, and we have both positions extending from Charleston to Fernandina—over one hundred miles of sea-coast—and in front of us 60,000 rebels guarding the Railroad from Savannah to Charleston. Examine the map and see if our forces are not well scattered. But throw 25,000 more men into this place, and, in two weeks time, both these cities can be restored to the Federal Government.

The many friends of Company F will be rejoiced to hear that the health of the Company is very good. I must, however, except Capt. Wayne, who has been suffering for several days past with a pretty severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism. We, however, expect him to be well enough in a few days. But the length of this letter warns me that I must close, for you shall hear from me again.

KEYSTONE.

NORTH EDISTO ISLAND, S. C.,
March 16th, 1862.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Can you find room to insert a few lines from a soldier? Since I last wrote you we have been put through the thing mighty pretty severely. On the 6th of January we left Bull's Island in surf boats. The weather was very rough, causing Calabogie Sound to rave so that we were compelled to land at Spanish Wells. We landed at 10 o'clock at night and were obliged to seek shelter as best we could. Fortunately some ten or twelve of us got into an old barn, in which there was a great quantity of corn on the cob.—We wrapped our blankets around us and gave ourselves into the arms of Morpheus for the night.—We soon found that we were not the only occupants of the place, but that we had any amount of company in the shape of large rats who persisted in working at corn shelling while we slept. The first thing that we observed, on waking in the morning, was a small mill fixed up in one corner of the barn, looking to us like a double-crank grindstone. Some of us went to shelling corn and others to grinding it, and we soon had enough to make three or four kettles of mush, which was relished by the boys. After breakfast we arranged the teams, loaded the wagons and then started on foot to Port Royal, a distance of 14 miles. The day being very warm, several of our men gave out and had to be loaded on the wagons.

We remained at Port Royal until the 25th of February, during which time nothing of interest transpired, except the bringing in of a secesh now and then. These we put on a little swampy place, called the "Devil's Half Acre," for safe-keeping. On the day above mentioned we received marching orders and at once proceeded to Seabrook landing, where we went on board the steamship Cahawba and sailed for Warsaw Sound. We anchored at Port Royal harbor to take on fresh water, when we found our order countermanded. We lay here until the 5th of March, when we were ordered to Edisto Islands, where we landed next morning, much to the satisfaction of the whole regiment, as we were pretty well starved out during our stay on the ship. Taking possession of this Island was but a small job to what we had expected. We were accompanied by two gun-boats which did the work effectually. The secesh, finding that they could not stand the pressure, took to their heels, making double quick time. Two of the rebels were killed, and several wounded and taken prisoners. We also captured four excellent 12-pounders (which have come quite handy to us) and a schooner containing 900 bushels of rice, together with the crew. We have here the 55th Reg. Pa. Vols., 47th Reg. N. Y. Vols. and 100 cavalry.—Col. Richard White of the 55th is in command of the Island.

On the 11th we had quite a smart scrimmage, about ten miles from our camp, while on a scout. We had 30 men of Co. I, your humble servant included, under command of Serg. Samuel Scimer, of the 55th, and 30 men under command of Capt. Jones, of the 47th. Serg. Scimer deserves great credit for the manner in which he led his men through the engagement. He took all advantages to save his men from the missiles of the enemy's rifles and fully succeeded.—The enemy numbered about 200, six of whom we killed & wounded 11 and took 4 prisoners. None of our company were hurt and only 7 of the 47th were slightly wounded. In pursuing the secesh the ferry which crosses to the main land we secured a small schooner. Finding it difficult to get it around to our landing we put fire to it and burned it to the water. Our days work being now over we buried the dead rebels, gathered up the wounded and returned to camp, where a number of compliments were paid to Sergt. Scimer for his bravery and coolness.

I would notice here that we almost daily receive information that the families of soldiers in Bedford County are in want. Imagine the feelings of a soldier who is in the very hot-bed of secession, when he receives information that his family are in want, neglected by those whom he left behind them for the purpose of attending to them. We most sincerely hope that this bloody war will soon cease and we shall be permitted to return home and attend to our families ourselves. As it is, we must be content if we can, and go on our way to conquer this rebellion though it cost our lives. If we get home safe, we may, some day or other, have the pleasure of returning all the compliments paid us.

MAHLON B. HAMILTON,
Sergt. Co. I, 55th Reg. Pa. Vols.

Gallant Exploit at Island No. 10.

The correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*, writing from the vicinity of Island No. 10, under date of April 2nd, gives the following full particulars of the daring exploit of Col. Roberts and the men under him. The spiking of the guns in the battery of a superior number of rebels is one of the most brilliant exploits of the war, and reflects much upon all engaged in the humerous business:

The fleet, this morning, is enriching over a most daring and brilliant exploit, performed last night by Colonel Roberts, of the Forty-second Illinois, at the head of a small expedition. In order to appreciate more thoroughly its character and difficulties, I must premise it with a brief preceding statement. The night was intensely stormy. During the day the wind had blown strongly from the south, with occasional hot gusts. Heavy clouds hung upon land, piled up in the most fantastic shapes upon the distant horizon, gradually as night approached, darted towards the south in dark threatening curls and whirls. The barometer fell rapidly. Everything indicated, even to the most inexperienced weather prophet, the advent of a terrible storm. During the evening the wind freshened, accompanied by the frequent sputters of rain which drove against the hurricane deck like a sudden shower of shot. The river ripples were augmented into turbulent waves, whose white caps gleamed like phosphorescent sparkles in the gathering darkness. At midnight the storm burst upon us with fearful fury. The rain came down not in drops, but in sheets, accompanied by the most terrific thunder and lightning I have ever witnessed. The Cimmerian darkness of the night rendered it all the more appalling. The gale increased at midnight into a raging tornado, tearing madly through the woods, snapping off branches like pipe stems, and hurling them in every direction.

It was during the height of this storm that Col. Roberts performed his daring mission. Yesterday morning, the flag officers, Capt. Phelps, Col. Buford, Secretary Smith, and other officers, held a conference upon the flag-ship, at which it was decided to make a night reconnoissance of the upper battery, the details of which were left to Col. Buford. He selected Col. Roberts and forty picked men of his regiment to be the chosen few. Each gunboat furnished a yawl, manned by six of their hardiest seamen. At 2 o'clock, in the very thickness of the storm, the little party embarked. The flag officers and his subordinates, with Col. Buford, stood upon the deck of the *Benton*, giving the final orders. The yawls set out upon their perilous journey, and they retired anxiously awaiting the result.

Each of the cutters also carried a screwpin, and was manned by ten men. The boats were all in charge of First Master Johnson, of the St. Louis. The soldiers were picked men of Company A, and each man armed with a five-shooter Colt rifle.

The following was the plan laid out: the boats were to approach the battery in line, pulling slowly till at the point of the bar, after which, when 500 yards off, the *St. Louis*, *Benton* and *Pittsburg* should run abreast, the *Cincinnati* and *Mound City*, in the rear as reserves; and this plan was carried out to the very letter.

With muffled oars and under cover of the friendly darkness the boats advanced cautiously along the edge of the bank. Owing to the furious violence of the storm and the darkness, they passed the head unperceived, until they were within a few rods of the battery. For one instant, a blinding flash of lightning glared across the water revealing to the rebel sentinels dark objects approaching them. The next instant the impenetrable darkness closed in. The sentinels fired wildly three or four times, the shots passing over the boats without doing any damage, and then immediately fled to their tents, which were pitched upon a high ridge some distance back from the battery, evidently impressed with the alarming idea that the whole Lincoln fleet was upon them, and that immediate annihilation stared them in the face.—Our boats made no reply. Not a word was spoken. In two or three minutes they touched the slope of the earthworks. The boys sprang over the parapet, sledges and files were busy and a few vigorous strokes told the tale. In less than three minutes' time all the guns in the battery were spiked completely and thoroughly. They were six in number, all of large calibre—two sixty-pounders, three eighties, and one of them a splendid nine-inch pivot-gun with cushion lock, which received the personal attention of Col. Roberts' heavy arm. It was undoubtedly the *Lady Davis*. In an inconceivably short time, the boats were on their way back, ploughing a path through the surging waves at the imminent risk of submersion, as the current was washing against them with fearful velocity. All arrived safely, however, at the gunboats, exultant over the glorious accomplishment of their important and dangerous mission.

WHO PLANS THE VICTORIES.—A Washington correspondent of the Springfield *Republican*, gives the following interesting bit of testimony, which concurs with a multitude of others, to show that our recent course of victories has not been the result of chance or impulse:

"The subject was under discussion at a dinner table where Gen. Banks was present; and he, who, by the way, stands by Gen. McClellan most loyally, quietly remarked that while in consultation with Gen. McClellan last November or December, the latter incidentally took down a map, and pointed out to him upon it every movement that has since been made by our armies; and as to Manassas, said that we should either drive the rebels from it, in a successful battle, or they would evacuate it of their own accord."

☞ "I guess I'll go and see Washington's table ox (ass) this evening," said Mrs. Spooks.—"I guessed Washington kept cows, but did not know he had any corn."

Altoona Trib[illegible]

LOCAL ITEM[illegible]

SUIT AGAINST THE BOROUGH.—Sou[illegible] winter, Mrs. Jesse Grove, of this pla[illegible] verely injured by falling into a ditch [illegible] walk, in front of a vacant lot, near th[illegible] ville line. Some time since Mr. Gro[illegible] suit against the Borough for damages. [illegible] was referred to arbitrators, who met [illegible] change Hotel on Saturday week, L. M[illegible] Esq., appeared for plff., and S. M. Woo[illegible] for the Borough. In order that our r[illegible] better understand the case, we will call [illegible] membrance the fact that there is a Bor[illegible] nance requiring lot owners to put down [illegible] in front of their lots, otherwise the pav[illegible] be put down by the Borough and the[illegible] incurred will be entered up against [illegible] paved. It was argued by the plff's c[illegible] this Ordinance compelled the Counc[illegible] pavements put down in all parts of th[illegible] that the Borough was liable for all da[illegible] tained by pedestrians by reason of th[illegible] not being enforced. No pavement ha[illegible] down in front of the lot, where Mrs. [illegible] jured, and the water had washed dee[illegible] the sidewalk, into one of which she [illegible] counsel for the Borough contended ag[illegible] construction being put upon the Ordina[illegible] ing that the Borough was not liable f[illegible] because a lot owner had not obeyed the [illegible] and that the suit should have been brou[illegible] the owner of the lot. We believe the [illegible] awarded Mr. Grove $50 damages. Th[illegible] most likely be carried up to Court wh[illegible] bility of the Borough for damages, thus [illegible] will be settled.

☞ The poet's home is generally fou[illegible] dingy garret, and the artists studio al[illegible] flight of rickety stairs, the ascent of whic[illegible] as dangerous as facing a rebel batter[illegible] friend Fisher, up street, has brought th[illegible] down to the gaze of the common crowd, [illegible] pies a ground floor, where he touches u[illegible] which surely must satisfy the subject. H[illegible] is attractive, and often arrests our most bu[illegible] Passing that way, a day or since, we [illegible] smiling countenance of our friend of th[illegible] *nion*, "large as life and twice as natur[illegible] the best joke connected with Fisher's est[illegible] is the story that one of our Hibernian fri[illegible] while passing by the window, slightly un[illegible] fluence of tangle-leg, challenged the "a[illegible] Capt. Wayne, declaring "be jabers" [illegible] him "the best day iver he saw." We know[illegible] tain would not decline a brush with the [illegible] we are credibly informed that his pictu[illegible] to enter into combat with a loyal citizen.

TRANSFERRED.—We had a letter fro[illegible] T. Moore, a few days since, in which he [illegible] us that the company to which he belongs [illegible] transferred. It will be remembered tha[illegible] listed in a company, made up of boys [illegible] and Huntingdon counties, which was in[illegible] Young's Kentucky Cavalry. After [illegible] Washington the company was, by som[illegible] thrown into the 1st Regiment D. C. Vo[illegible] it remained until the 1st inst., when it wa[illegible] the influence of Hon. S. S. Blair, transferr[illegible] McCall's Division, and is now attacho[illegible] Seymour's Battery, 5th regiment U. S. [illegible] consisting of six 12-pounders. Letters [illegible] the members of the company should be [illegible] in care of "Lieut. Jno. M. Clark, Capt. S[illegible] Battery, 5th Reg. U. S. Artillery, Gen. [illegible] Div., Washington D. C." This address [illegible] the boys wherever they may be stationed.

DEAD.—Sergt. William C. Hileman, [illegible] wounded at the Winchester battle, and [illegible] roic conduct on that occasion we gave a[illegible] of in our last, died at the hospital in W[illegible] on the 31st ult. His remains were brou[illegible] on Thursday last, and on Friday were i[illegible] the Presbyterian Cemetery, at Holliday[illegible] They were escorted to the grave by the mil[illegible] Van Tries' Cornet Band. The decease[illegible] son of Philip Hileman, of Frankstown [illegible] and was about 23 years of age.

Emanuel Brubaker, a member of the 8[illegible] ment, wounded in the same battle, die[illegible] Winchester hospital on the 26th ult. H[illegible] son of Ephraim Brubaker, of Allegheny t[illegible] and was aged about 21 years.

☞ The "phat" man of the *Whig* says [illegible] of an effort being made to have the post[illegible] this place removed, and professes to think [illegible] make much by it. Now, "J. B," you k[illegible] were penning a deliberate falsehood w[illegible] committed that article to paper. The [illegible] never insinuated such a thing. But th[illegible] understand English about as well as yo[illegible] interpreted what we said correctly. After [illegible] our P. M. as shabbily as you did, some ti[illegible] you can't crawl back into his favor by tha[illegible] soft-soaping. Ever since our P. M. had [illegible] position he has been popular, the people [illegible] ing him all right, but if you take up wi[illegible] will kill him, sure. Please withhold you[illegible] and spare him.

A NOBLE ACT.—We noticed in the H[illegible] *Patriot and Union*, a few day since, a [illegible] that Hon. George R. Barrett, of Clearfield [illegible] (who has three sons in the 84th regime[illegible] purchased a metalic coffin, in which to e[illegible] remains of Lieut. Charles Ream, of Fra[illegible] who fell at the battle near Winchester, [illegible] he had sent a man to exhume the body an[illegible] it in Frankstown. Lieut. R. leaves a wife [illegible] children. He had no relatives who were [illegible] bear the expense of bringing his corpse ho[illegible] for this reason the noble act of Judge Bar[illegible] mends itself as one one of pure benevolen[illegible] it be remembered, and let others do likewi[illegible]

BASE BALL CLUB.—Among the so[illegible] amusement devised for the season, in this [illegible] a base ball club, the organization of w[illegible] been perfected, and all the necessary imp[illegible] such as bases, balls, bats, markers, &c., h[illegible] purchased. The ground upon which the [illegible] play has not yet been definately fixed u[illegible] we presume it will be upon the top of the h[illegible] East Ward. Terms of membership in [illegible] $1,00.

WOMAN KILLED.—The Huntingdon Jo[illegible] that an unknown female was killed by the [illegible] the bridge immediately above Spruce Cre[illegible] two weeks since.