



ALTOONA, PA.

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1862.

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To see four million slaves in a country where they are denied the recognition of human beings, and have never known any other state than that of degraded servitude, leaving the mind maddened and the desperate plantations to a fate as mournful as that of the helpless convicts.

Between that solid conservatism which knows no future but unending slavery and southern troubles, and that wild fanaticism which is for inscribing immediate and unconditional emancipation upon our banners, all at hazards, there is a happy medium, which will mean masses of the people have thought they say to be the governing policy of Mr. Lincoln and his advisers.

A recent speech of the Hon. F. P. Blair, delivered in the House of Representatives, professed to explain this policy of Mr. Lincoln, and we have reason to believe that that speech was an authorized exposition of the views of the Administration.

"All hail, Religion! made divine Excess a hard, so man as mine Who in her rough imperfect line Thus dares to name thee: To stigmatize false friends of thee, Can never be defined thee."

We pronounce the "phat" editor of the Whig a hypocrite, and one of the worst stamp. Do we do him injustice? A hypocrite is defined to be "a dissembler in morality or religion." No further answer, we imagine will be expected.

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The New Iron-clad Gunboat Galena.

On Monday week the mail-clad steam schooner Galena, built at Mystic, Connecticut, was put in commission at the Brooklyn navy-yard.

It was curious to see the strategy resorted to by some of the wounded rebels, or their friends.

With three feet of this wounded Secessionist lay a dead Unionist, with his hair and whiskers burned off. Just at this period two or three of our men came up, and observing the horrid spectacle of their dead brother-in-arms, they could only mutter and groan, and then they were gone.

Repeating the blanket over the face of the wounded man, I proceeded to step over another log near by, and was considerably startled by a loud exclamation of pain from another wounded man.

"Oh God!" replied the suffering man; "I have a family, sir, and that's just what my old woman told me. She said she'd never see me again, and I've got six little boys at home."

The rebels had allowed him to follow the fortunes of his base leaders. He persisted in saying, "I left him, that he was certain he never had killed a man."

Perhaps a finer opportunity has not for many generations occurred, than that after the battle, for the study of attitudes. There was the old man, a sturdy, and at times a noble-looking man.

Another wonderful looking man had just placed a cartridge in the muzzle of his gun and had rammed in his right hand, as if about to ram it down. Death caught him at that moment, and as he lay with upturned face, the right hand clutching the gun, and the left on the ramrod.

Some had lain down quietly with their heads tucked up in a nap or tree, their caps resting on their faces, and having no other concerns.

The Harrisburg Telegraph contradicts the statement that Hon. Lem. Todd, of Carlisle, has been appointed to the Colony of the 84th Penn. Regiment, and states that the regiment does not number four hundred men, having not been up to the maximum when it left Pennsylvania.

The Great Battle-Fields and the Advantages They Give Us.

The rebels have decided to stake their cause upon two great battles—at Yorktown in the East, and Corinth in the South-west. At these points they have concentrated all their available forces in the West.

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More of Its Horrors.

A correspondent writing from Pittsburgh Landing gives the following additional particulars of the horrors now witnessed in that locality.

The most curious feature is a sort of neutral hospital just this side of the line. It is a wooded farm of both parties, attended by the physicians of which ever side at the time has possession.

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Tone of the Rebels a Year Ago.

The Columbia, (S. C.) Chronicle, just about a year ago, had an article which was generally approved by the Confederate press, showing how easy it would be for the Confederates to whip and destroy the soldiers of the Union.

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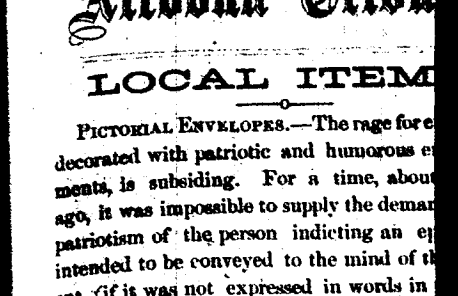
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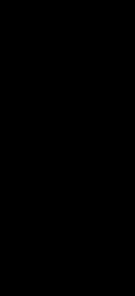
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LOCAL ITEMS

PICTORIAL ENVELOPES.—The rage for decorated with patriotic and humorous emblems, is subsiding. For a time, about ago, it was impossible to supply the demand of the person inducing an engraved intended to be conveyed to the mind of the (if it was not expressed in words in communication), by the national or patriotic emblem on the envelope containing it.

At Gallitzin, on the Allegheny Mountain, a man was approached by a man who had subsequently escaped, and rejoined in Pennsylvania. He still wore his secessionist's uniform, and was warmly greeted by Mr. B. He stated that he had been impressed into service, and being ordered on picket duty, he had escaped. He bore to the intelligence of the latter's family, therefore, doubly welcomed. The firm prisoner-parted with a warm good bye.

A SIGN OF PROGRESS.—An exchange marks that a man need not live long in a discover who are his enterprising and merchants and business men. Let him place a perfect stranger, and shut him out from all society except the society of the pers, and, as a rule, he can gain as much knowledge of its business men as a six residence ordinarily gives others. The plain—your sharp business man always.

He judges rightly that if a "sign" is needed which his name and business are to be emulped only the few persons who happen will read, much more is his sign need newspapers, which are seen and read whole population. What narrow-minded prize to hurry to put up "a shingle," which passer in a hundred reads, and to omit add. No sign, no customers; little sign, little great deal of advertising, great deal of profits. Advertising costs, but it comes by—nothing cheap. If you doubt it, ask. Ask thousands of men who have made for spending hundreds of thousands of dollars their ink.

BUILDING.—If any of our readers were convinced that old "hard times" has no Altoona this spring, let him take a stroll town and count the number of new buildings of erection and foundations being. We have not taken time to count them; know that we are within the number which that workmen are now engaged on twenty buildings—a pretty good sized town. Individual enterprises, the Rail Road, you has made, and is about to make, improvement in and about its works. A shop, 160 feet long by 30 wide, has been inside of their line on Branch street, and painted. The Car Shed which formerly alle with Main street, below Annie, has been taken down to give room to increase the house, at the East end of the works, to fit the car shed is about being put up on street, below Annie, and will be an improvement to the appearance of that street.

GENERAL SCOTT'S OPINION.—Gen. Scott, on Saturday, gave an expression of his confidence in the skill of the new recruits, our army at Yorktown. In speaking of General McClellan and Halleck to his friends at Elizabeth, Gen. Scott said: "There are two men who can be depended upon under all circumstances and in every emergency." General McClellan was not a General Halleck. There are two men who can be depended upon under all circumstances and in every emergency. General Halleck was not a General Halleck.

A SURESH WOMAN'S TRICK.—Our readers, by the Louisville Journal, do not doubt regarding the statement as to General Tilgham's mother calling to see him at Fort Warren with a pass from Secretary Stanton, and bitterly upbraiding him, in the presence of the officers of the fort, for his treason. But all this, it is said, was only a bold woman's trick. The Boston correspondent of the Chicago Times says that the old lady, the moment she found an opportunity, slipped a revolver into the hands of her rebel progeny, and that it was for the possession of the weapon that he has since been kept in close confinement. So that trick good woman, like the son in whose behalf you practised it, seems to have been one of your failures.

REBEL GATHERING AT GORDONVILLE.—From latest Richmond papers, it would appear as if a strong rebel force was being concentrated about Gordonville, in order to dispute our passage of that side. This news is confirmed by a federal report from a Rebel spy at the crossing of the river, where the railroad bridge was burnt, with eight thousand men; Gen. G. W. Smith at Gordonville, strongly entrenched with thirty thousand men; Gen. Jackson crossing over from Shenandoah Valley to unite with more than ten thousand men to the force—making a total of nearly forty thousand men, if the figures are reliable.

FOLLOWING SET.—No higher complaint of the efficiency of our sharpshooters, has been made than that of the rebel Congress, in the previous adjournment, in the passage of a bill providing for the organization of a battalion of the same character. It is doubtful, however, whether they can procure the guns which make the Best regiment such a terror to their forces in Pennsylvania.

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