BEAVER ARGUS.

Wednesday, Feb. 11th, 1863.

D. L. IMBRIE, Editor & Proprietor.

S. M. Pentengill & Co.,

No. 37 Park Row, N. Y., & 6 State st., Boston are our Agents for the ARGUS in those cities, and are authorized to take Advertisements and Subscriptions for us at our *Lowest Rates.*

SALUTATORY.

The undersigned having purchased the interest of Mr. NICHOLSON in the *Argus*, will henceforth assume the editorial control of the paper.

On entering upon the duties of editor of the *Argus*, at the present time, one cannot but be aware that the responsibilities of the position have been largely increased by the state of our National affairs; yet, with a firm reliance upon the justice of our cause, it is believed that we may meet and discharge those responsibilities in a manner that may never cause us to blush in after years.

Under its new management the *Argus* will, as it has heretofore done, sustain, to the utmost of its power, the principles laid down by the Founders of our Government; and so long as our present Chief Magistrate shall be faithful to those principles, we shall continue to give him our unqualified support. As we were opposed to the Slaveholders' Rebellion, both in its inception and in its prosecution, we may say that we are in favor of having it put down, with any and every means that God has placed in our power.—Believing that sympathy with Treason and Traitors is in nowise better, or more honorable, than Treason itself, we shall denounce it wherever found, whether in the person of a General in the army, or in the columns of a so-called Democratic newspaper.

We have never believed in the policy of treating the rebellion in a mild manner, but think it should be crushed with an iron hand. We are, as ever, opposed to disunion, and shall never consent to the formation of two governments on this soil. We believe that the rebels can be crushed, and we believe that they will be. We are, therefore, opposed to all compromises of every kind, and hold every man that advocates any and every kind of compromise with armed rebels, as an enemy to his government. We believe that those who cry out that "they are for putting down the rebellion, but that if Negroes are allowed to fight they shall fight," and those who say they will fight for the Union only in case Slavery is to be upheld in Rebel States, as well as all whose loyalty is in the least conditional, are in no sense for the Union at all, and might just as well be for Jeff. Davis at once.

The above we conceive to be sufficient to indicate the position which the *Argus* will assume, under the management of the present editor, in regard to National affairs.

Believing that the administration of Gov. Curtin has been eminently wise and patriotic, we shall advocate the continuance of the same line of policy that has marked his administration. *The Argus will, however, be rather the exponent of principles than party,* and we shall always be ready to sustain and co-operate with such Democrats as Butler of Massachusetts, Dickinson of New York, Hickman of Pennsylvania, and hosts of others who are for maintaining the Union. We are convinced that party names often mean nothing, and that partizan editors are frequently led away from their real opinions by a blind zeal for success. With the *Argus*, the aim shall always be for the right; and what we believe to be wrong, we shall not hesitate to condemn in any party, or any set of men, whatever. With these views and opinions, the editor assumes the control of the *Argus*, trusting that he shall have the countenance and support of all the loyal citizens of Beaver county.

In our intercourse with our editorial brethren, we shall endeavor to maintain the same dignified and courteous demeanor that has always characterized this journal under its former proprietors. D. L. IMBRIE.

☞ We learn from a Freedom correspondent that Rev. Dr. Storer, Chaplain of the 134th Reg. Pa Vol., arrived at his home, in that place, on Tuesday of last week, in good health. He reports that Co. E (Capt. Vern) is in excellent health, and as brave as they are intelligent. The Dr. brings with him about six thousand dollars for friends in the regiment. Of Captain Vern, he speaks in the highest terms as an officer and soldier; and that Beaver county may well be proud of Co. E and its officers. He returns to the regiment on the 18th or 19th.

☞ Our thanks are due Hon. John W. Wallace, for valuable Public Documents. We are also under obligations to Senators Lawrence, M'Candless, Bound, Boughter, Robinson, Connell and Clymer, and Wm. Henry of the House.

Change of Venue.

We noticed last week that a Bill was before our State Legislature proposing to change the Venue in the case of the commonwealth vs. Mrs. Barker *et. al.*, from this county to Fayette.—The Bill has since passed both Houses, and may be it has, or will be, signed by the Governor, thus making it a law. We have heretofore refrained saying anything about the guilt or innocence of these parties, notwithstanding the false assertions of interested persons to the contrary, and we will not in any way write or publish anything to prejudice the minds of the people against them. Our sympathies and feelings are all with them. It would be exceedingly gratifying to us if they should establish their innocence, and we would fain hope that they may be able to do so. Living in the same borough, and knowing the defendants for a long time, our prejudices, if we have any, are entirely in their favor. But as the Bill just passed reflects upon the county, the manner in which it was passed, so unusual for Legislative bodies, and the means employed by certain persons so unprincipled, that we deem it our duty to acquaint our readers with the facts. Here we might say that so far as the defendants were instrumental in accomplishing it, we have no complaint to make. A petition was circulated, and a few names obtained, asking the pardon of defendants before trial.—It may seem strange to some that law-abiding citizens would sign a petition asking the Governor to interfere before trial, and pardon the defendants before it is known whether they were guilty or not; before they have had an opportunity of establishing their innocence, as we sincerely desire they may be able to do, *if ever tried.* Allowing, however, that to be proper, we find on reading the petition, it sets forth for truth that which is entirely incorrect. Most of the petitioners we have no doubt were not aware of this, but two or three of them living in this borough must have known that they were misrepresenting the facts. For instance they say Sheets was found in a room very easy of access from the outside. Some of the petitioners living in the borough surely know that is not true. On said petition, accompanied with letters *ex parte*, the Legislature is induced to interfere. The Bill was rushed through the Senate before it was even known here that it was in contemplation, and sent to the House, reported from the committee immediately, it was taken up and passed in the House the day it reached it. Mr. *Cain*, from Fayette, a strong advocate of the Bill and our member, Mr. Henry, asked a postponement to give time to enquire as to its merits, and that they might have an opportunity to amend. Although it was shown there was no need for such haste, their requests, contrary to all usage and decency, were refused. The conduct of the House is without a precedent. Poisoned by falsehood and misrepresentation, they would not wait for light and truth to reach them. The change was asked for on political grounds, partly. Who ever heard or supposed politics had anything to do with the case. The defendants are not politicians. Their politics were not known—being women. Did any one care what their politics were? Have politics anything to do with the case? How ridiculous! The man who makes use of such an argument is a mean, low politician and a dishonest man, even should his name be *Cyrus Pershing.* Why would one political newspaper persecute them? How absurd! Hon. Cyrus Pershing, member from Cambria county, made a lengthy speech which we publish on the outside of our paper of this week, and to which we desire to call the attention of our readers.—This Pershing is a lawyer of some reputation in his own county; we believe, studied with Judge Black (now fossilized) and happened to get to the Legislature; he makes a speech nearly every assertion of which is untrue. He says that Mrs. Craft was at Pittsburg at the time of the arrest of Sheets, had been for some time before, and remained there for some time after. That is untrue. He says that there is a great excitement and prejudice in Beaver county against the defendants. That is equally false.—There was no excitement or prejudice against the parties whatever. We but speak truth when we say that instead of a feeling against them here, there was a strong feeling in their favor. It would have required stronger evidence to have convicted them here than ever was required in the case of any other criminals. He asserts again that the Grand Jury found bills of indictment against the boys, without evidence, to prevent their becoming witnesses. That attacks the honesty and integrity of twenty or more of our best citizens, and for them we pronounce the charge utterly false and without shadow of foundation, in truth. Again, he says they could not have a fair trial here. That attacks the Court, the Bar, the Jury and the People, and is equally untrue. He again says "that this lady has been the subject of attack through a political news paper in Beaver county," and that every effort has been made to arouse public opinion against her. In this the *Hon. (?)* Cyrus Pershing, either ignorantly or wilfully, stated a palpable falsehood. Any opinion given by any newspaper in this country was in their favor. All spoke of their high respectability, of their intelligence and good standing in society.—Then, how could this gentleman from Cambria make such a declaration on the floor of the House of Representatives? "The ungenerous and unmanly attacks" made on the floor of the House, "ought to bring a blush to the cheek of the man capable of perpetrating them." He also says that there is no Rail Road communication between Beaver and Washington. In this he is mistaken. Now this man says he got his information (rather mis-information) from correspondents in Beaver. Who can this correspondent be that attacks the Grand Jury, District Attorney, Court, Bar, Petit Jury and people generally, charging them with falsehood corruption and tyranny? With whom is he acquainted here and with whom does he correspond? Many of our readers, we presume, know. It was upon such false assertions the Bill was passed—an outrage and disgrace upon Beaver county. This outrage and disgrace was perpetrated by citizens of Beaver county, and such tools as Pershing *Cain*, Hopkins, Ludlow and others engaged to perfect it. Will the people of Beaver county forget it?

☞ The editor of the *Star* is very indignant, and spreads himself wonderfully, about the arrest of Boileau, of the Philadelphia *Evening Journal*, for writing and publishing treason. In this case Mr. Boileau's friends are much more exercised than he is himself. In fact, he admits in his retraction to Gen. Schenck, which the *Star*, designedly, we presume, omits to mention, that the arrest was just. Why, then, does the editor of the *Star* get into such a terrible rage? Is he more interested, or a better judge of treason, right and wrong, than the principal himself—Mr. Boileau? In his article the editor of the *Star* uses this remarkable language: "We have read the article in question, that is the one upon which the arrest was made, and "while we cannot approve or endorse it, we do not think it amounts even to 'probable cause' for arrest." If there is any one doubted before the legality of the arrest they need do so no more. The editor of the *Star* can't endorse Mr. Boileau's article! Is not that evidence enough to convict any man? We are surprised, and gratified likewise, to learn that our neighbor could not go quite so far as some others of his party. There is really a length, then, that he won't go against the government. It is really encouraging. We must beg leave to change our opinion of him, *slightly.* Mr. Boileau, after his release, says in his editorial, that his retraction was voluntary, that he is a Union Democrat, and no such articles as the one in question can ever again find a place in his paper. We see since the retraction, and avowal of union sentiments, Mr. Boileau's friends in the Legislature, who were so much outraged at his arrest, are now equally indignant at him, and many of them refuse to take his paper longer. He avowed himself a union man, and they again forsake him. We expect the *Star* will notify its readers next week of his conversion to Republicanism. When a man once declares himself loyal, intercourse with Democracy ceases.

The editor of the *Star* is mistaken when he says the Legislature passed resolutions condemning the arrest.—They passed no such resolutions.—Again, he states the Court ordered the District Attorney to prepare bills of indictment against Gen. Schenck and others. Judge Ludlow made that order, but he was only one of three, and the other two made a different order.

☞ The editor of the *Star* is greatly exercised about arming the negroes. It is a fearful thing, hain't it, Brother Long? Niggers were not made to be killed. It is much better to make the white soldiers do all the fighting—do all the the work and undergo all the hardships. They are just made for it and we are not going to allow any others to interfere. What if the negroes could save the lives of fifty thousand white soldiers, it would not be right to allow them to do it. A nigger shan't save the life of a white man, no how. We suppose Mr. Long, if he was drowning, would drown rather than let a nigger rescue him.—So you would Mr. Editor there is nothing like asserting your rights, and showing your superiority over others.

BOARD OF REVENUE COMMISSIONERS.—The members of the Board of Revenue Commissioners for the year 1863 are hereby notified to meet in the City of Harrisburg, on Tuesday, the 17th day of February, inst., at 11 o'clock, A. M. H. D. MOORE, *State Treasurer.*

Hon. Geo. V. Lawrence.

This gentleman was elected Speaker of the Pennsylvania Senate at the close of the last Session, and upon the reassembling he was re-elected. This is an honorable and responsible position, and he possesses rare qualifications which fit him for the performance of the duties of a Speaker and a Legislator. On a visit recently to the State Capitol we observed that the Speaker was perfectly at home whilst sitting in the Chair, and in our intercourse with the members of the Senate, we found that Mr. Lawrence was admired as a Speaker by all, both Republicans and Democrats. He is thoroughly versed in parliamentary rules, sagacious and unassuming, possessing the respect and confidence of all the members of the body over which he presides. He is now serving for the tenth session as a legislator. The people whom he has so long and faithfully represented, most truly appreciate his services. We have known him intimately for years, and can bear testimony, free from all bias, when we say that he is honest as a representative, affable and courteous as a gentleman, and warm-hearted as a friend; and he only represents the peculiarities of fitness which appears to have been inherent in the Lawrence family whilst presiding in the Senate as its Speaker. That body could not have made a better selection for the position. He is still a rising man. We congratulate our old friends and associates of the Senate in their choice of one so eminently qualified to preside over their deliberations.

☞ We commenced in our last paper, and continue in this, the publication of the Receipts and Expenditures of Beaver County. The statements are worthy the close attention out of our readers. The labor of the Commmissioners and Treasurer, during the past year, has been very arduous. In addition to their ordinary duties the payment of Bounty and disbursing the Relief fund, added almost one-half more. The Commissioners discharged their duties with credit to themselves and to the satisfaction of the citizens of the county. Mr. Bradshaw, our excellent Treasurer, has displayed great energy and capacity in the performance of his duty. He left nothing undone, no duty unperformed that was required of him, and we feel assured the interests of the people in his department are safe in his hands. We were also fortunate in having a good Board of Auditors. They labored faithfully and notwithstanding as we stated above, the increased labor they closed this work in about the usual time. The people of Beaver county have been very fortunate in the selection of officers generally. A good recommendation for the party from whom they were taken.

Harrisburg Correspondence.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 6, 1863.

MR. EDITOR:—The doings of the Legislature the present week may be briefly told. A man named Boileau, an editor of a paper in Philadelphia, was arrested for his treasonable teachings. So soon as his brethern in feeling, in the House, heard of his arrest, there was quite a flutter among the Kanes, Ludlows, Boyers, &c., &c., a resolution must be offered, of course. It is not sufficient, it would seem, that such chaps should sympathise with Jeff. Davis, but they must embrace every opportunity to show it. They are making history—a history their children will blush to read. A strange fatality attends almost all the doings of these men. After wasting a great deal of gas on the subject of Boileau, he comes down and recants and promises to behave well in the future.—Judge Ludlow, of Philadelphia, has burnt his dirty fingers also. When he heard of Boileau's arrest, he *commanded* the Grand Jury to lay aside all other business and take up the case of Boileau. There is law for you.—You may have seen the response of the Grand Jury in the case; also the withering rebuke of a majority of the Court.

The supreme court has been doing a dirty retail business in Philadelphia lately, having virtually decided that a minority is a majority. Who dare say after this that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is not good, great and *impartial* in political questions.

Gen. Heintzelman in a late report of the battle of "Seven Pines," says "the 101st Pa. fought well." As this regiment was commanded, originally by a citizen of your county, and some three hundred of your cititizens were in it, I feel confident this tardy acknowledgment of their good conduct will be gratifying to many of your readers. The history of that regiment has not yet been written. If my life is spared to the proper time, it will be written. The materials are ready even now, in part. But enough of this.

The Legislature adjourned to-day, to meet Monday night, at 7½ o'clock.

A. B. C.

☞ If a man during fifty years chews every day two inches of solid plug tobacco (and millions do it) it amount at the end of that time to 9360 feet, or a mile and a quarter of solid tobacco, half an inch thick and two inches broad, and will cost $1,500. What filth and folly!

List of Jurors

For March Term of Court, First Monday.

GRAND JURORS.

New Brighton bor: Horace Beeson, Jacob Allman.
Beaver bor: Isaac N. Atkins.
Big Beaver tp: Samuel Blair, James Patterson.
Phillipsburg bor: Henry Bimber
Hanover tp: David Beale.
New Sewickly tp: William C. Brown Michael Harger, John Mellon
Economy tp: William Cole, John Conway.
Hopewell tp: John Craig.
Moon tp: Edwin H Davis, Corban Profater.
Rochester bor: Monroe Miller.
Glasgow: Austin J. Pettit.
Bridgewater bor: Nazro Park.
Raccoon tp: John K. Potter.
Green tp: William Ramsey.
Darlington tp: Matthew Reed, Jos. H. Veon.
Ohio tp: James Scroggs.
Franklin tp: Francis S. Wilson.

PETIT JURORS, (FIRST WEEK)

Beaver bor: J. L. Anderson.
Hopewell tp: Jacob Bruce.
Pulaski tp: Henry Barrett.
New Sewickly tp: George Bonzo, Christian Black, Thomas Boggs, James Feazel.
New Brighton bor: James Boggs, David Magaw, William Beabout, Jos. Champion.
Economy tp: Henry A. Bryan, Thos. Watt.
Fallston bor: R. D. Cooper, David Johnston, James Hayden.
Hanover tp: Jos. Cooley, David D. Dungan, John A. Gibb, William Hice, Jr., David Stevens.
Brighton tp: Andw Carothers, George Barclay.
Marion tp: Jacob Dumbacher.
Darlington tp: George Greer.
Raccoon tp: Samuel Gormly, Saml. Kennedy, John Reed.
Green tp: David Kerr, Jr., Michael C. Kerr, Wm. J. Sterling, Jr., Henry Cowan, Benjamin Lawrence.
Industry tp: John Wilson, John Jackman, Benjamin Todd, Charles Hays, John Mason.
North Sewickly tp: William M'Creary, Hugh Wallace, Isaac Hazen.
Hookstown bor: William Miller, Samuel H. Witherspoon
Franklin tp: Joseph Phillis.
Bridgewater Bor: John A. Rowan.
Rochester bor: John Stiles.
Big Beaver tp: Robert Wiley.
Borough tp: Amos Doutt.
Harmony tp: William Gull.
Patterson tp: Charles Kuttz.

(SECOND WEEK.)

South Beaver tp: Thomas Bradshaw, George W. Barclay, Samuel Lawrence.
Brighton tp: Samuel Black, Henry Evans.
Freedom bor: George Baker, Isaac Black, William Hooper.
Hopewell tp: Ingram Boyd, Archibald M'Coy, John Shaffer.
Borough tp: Lucien Conrad, Samuel Lecoff.
Rochester Bor: Ivory Cole Jesse Moore, E. Degen, J. R. M'Clelland, George Lehmer, Gilbert Pendleton.
Big Beaver tp: Reed Clark, Charles De Hass, Thomas M'Cluro.
Hanover tp: David Deaver, Aaron Minsinger, Samuel Wilson.
Industry tp: David Eakin.
Greene: Jno Ewing, Robt E. Moody
Moon Wm. C. Fisher, George Hicks.
Harmony tp: Henry Feucht.
North Sewickly tp: James Jackson.
New Sewickly tp: George Miller.
Franklin tp: Henry Potter, James Wright.
New Brighton bor: John Robinson.
Phillipsburg bor: Jacob Shaffer.
Pulaski tp: Joseph Whisler.

Obituary.

Died at Hammond General Hospital, Point Lookout, Md., on the 2d of Jan. 1863, George W. Hays, of Fallston, Beaver County, aged 28 years.

Another flower is plucked from our happy home; another jewel stolen from our treasure of love; one happy household band has again been broken. A few short months, with its clouds and sunshine, has passed away; and what a change. One who stood by our side, rich in youth and beauty, has left us to return no more; one with a soul as pure as the flowers that lay upon his coffin lid, and a heart well stored with treasures of holy thoughts and kind impulses—far too pure and good to bear the wars and sorrows of earth. The angels came for George and bore him to a more genial clime, where now he "dwells on the hills of myrrh". His simplicity of soul and his unselfish heart won for him the involuntary esteem and admiration of friends and acquaintances, over whose hearts his sudden death has cast a pall of deepest gloom. A found wife waits in vain to hear the sound of that well known step. No more will his merry voice greet our ears. They have brushed back the dark curls from his manly brow. The cherished one has gone; but oh! not last forever. His spirit, free and untrammeled, still hovers around those he loved on earth, to comfort and strengthen their stricken hearts. He is waiting in glorious anticipation for the time to come when the hand of God shall join him with the loved ones of earth. It is true George now lies low in death;—the name so familiar shall it now be forgotten?—The accustomed presence of one in our midst, shall it cease to be remembered? Family and friends, those most dear now bereft of husband, son and brother, can forget?—Never but in fond recollections, clinging still, George will live. For why? oh! ask not, else in the human heart affection lingers not. Was he not a friend, was he not loved? Why, was he not brave? aye was he not a man, honest and true in word and deed? Thoughts pure as if of higher spheres, and actions governed thus will friend or foe find fault—Freely offered, he fell in a cause most just, and friends will mourn while surrounding patriots bear testimony to his worth

Yes, thou art dead, yet fond memory oft
Around thee lingers, George, forever dear;
O, would that those sweet accents kind and soft
Were [illegible] and [illegible] cheer.

LEWIS CARTER.

Raid of the Rebel Gunboats.

The New York *Herald* of Wednesday publishes from the Richmond *Dispatch* of Monday, the following Rebel telegrams from Charleston.—They should be read with a liberal allowance for the exaggeration of the rebel authors. We have no confirmation from Union forces, and would advise our readers to wait until our own accounts of the affairs reach the Department:

CHARLESTON, Jan. 31.—This morning the gunboats Palmetto State, Capt. Rutledge, and Chicora, Captain Tucker, accompanied by three small steamers—the General Clinch, Etiwan and Chesterfield—all under the command of Commodore Ingraham, made an attack on the blockaders, and succeeded in sinking two and crippling a third.

The engagement commenced at four o'clock.

The Palmetto State, with Commodore Ingraham on board, opened on the Federal gunboat Mercedita, carrying eleven guns and one hundred and fifty-eight men, which was soon sunk in five fathoms of water. Her commander, Captain Stellwagen, with a boat's crew, came on board and surrendered. One shot pierced her boiler, going clear through. Captain Stellwagen and crew were paroled by Commodore Ingraham.

Captain Tucker, of the Chicora, reports sinking another Federal gunboat and disabling of the steamship Quaker City. The latter was set on fire by the Chicora, and hauled down her flag to surrender, but afterwards managed to escape, using one wheel. She was very seriously injured.

The number of the blockading fleet outside at the time the attack was thirteen, with two first-class frigates, the Susquehanna and Canandaigua.—*The Federal loss was very severe. It was a complete success on our part, with not a man hurt. Our gunboats were not even struck.*

All the blockaders have disappeared. There is not one to be seen within five miles with the strongest kind of glasses. Our boats are now returning to Charleston.

The following is the official dispatch:

CHARLESTON, Feb. 1, 1863.—*Headquarters Land and Naval Forces.* Charleston, S. C., Jan. 31, 1863.—At about five o'clock this morning the Confederate States naval force on this station attacked the United States blockading fleet of the harbor of the city of Charleston, and sunk, dispersed or drove off and out of sight for the time the entire hostile fleet.

Therefore we, the undersigned, commanders respectively of the Confederate States naval and land forces in this quarter, do hereby *formally declare the blockade by the United States of the city of Charleston, S. C., to be raised by a superior force of the Confederate States from and after the 31st day of January A. D. 1863.*

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Reports in regard to the encounter of Charleston harbor, being from rebel sources, are doubtless greatly exaggerated. There has been no interruption of the blockade, and no such assumption will be admitted by the Government.

Telegrams were received to day from Fortress Monroe, stating that Gen. Dix is in receipt of rebel news from Charleston to the 30th inst., at which time the port was thoroughly blockaded. The Federal iron-clads are lying inside of the wooden walls. The former were not with the fleet at the time of the attack on the 1st inst. An attack upon the city was expected on the 3d.

A dispatch boat, with official accounts from Admiral Dupont, is hourly expected.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8.—The iron steamer Princess Royal, in charge of Acting Master Edward Van Sice, arrived off the navy yard to-day. She brings highly important intelligence, both as relates to her capture and the rebel attack on our blockading squadron at Charleston, showing conclusively that there is no foundation for the assumption of rebels that the blockade of Charleston was even raised by the departure of the U. S. fleet, only two vessels out of eight or ten having been disabled and obliged to leave.—It appears from the statement of intelligent eye-witnesses that the cause of this attack of the rebel rams on our squadron was owing to the capture of the Princess Royal, the captain and pilot of that vessel having escaped ashore during the darkness of the night, and communicated the intelligence to the enemy. The Princess Royal endeavored to run the blockade, by way of Breach Inlet, on the 29th, but was discovered by the pilot boat Blunt, and the signal being given, the Unadilla proceeded towards her, and captured the prize without any other assistance.

It was then discovered that the captain and pilot had succeeded in getting ashore by means of a small boat, carrying important dispatches to the rebel government. The Unadilla carried her to the side of the Housatonic and laid there till daylight, when the thunder of guns was heard, accompanied by sharp flashes of fire. It was supposed that our fleet was engaged in making captures, or the Alabama or Florida were endeavoring to force an entrance.

At daybreak two rebel iron clads were seen coming slowly from the direction of Stono Inlet towards our fleet. They attacked the Mercedita first, one ram struck her on the water's edge, keeling her over and at the same time firing a shot which entered one of her boilers, causing the death of three persons—including the gunner—by shot and steam.

The ram then hailed the Mercedita, and Capt. Stellwagen lowered one of his small boats, after leaving one of the plugs out, allowing the water to enter it. The ram answered our hail by replying "Confederate ram Palmetto State. Do you surrender?" This was repeated three times to Capt. Stellwagen, who at each inquiry replied; "I am in a sinking condition." The rebel answered:—"God d——n you to h——l; if you don't surrender I will blow you out of the water.—Send your boat aboard." The boat which Capt. Stellwagen lowered, then contained his lieutenant and executive officer to the side of the rebel ram, and the officer asked to be admitted aboard. This was refused. The Lieutenant then repeated Capt. Stellwagen's statement that we were in a sinking condition. The rebel officer replied: "You can't sink lower than the rails; we cannot take you aboard." The officer then gave his parole, as demanded, and returned to his ship. The rebels were thus successfully deceived as to the condition of the Mercedita, and did not capture her, thinking she was in a sinking condition. She laid in shoal water, and hence their reply, that she could not sink lower than her rails.

The ram then steamed towards the Keystone State and sent a shot through her steam drum, causing the death of twenty-one persons, twelve by shot and nine by being scalded by steam; fifteen of the wounded are lying at Port Royal, some in a precarious condition. In the meantime the U. S. gunboat Housatonic engaged the ram, driving her away. At six o'clock p. m., both rams left the scene and proceeded up to Charleston.

During the day time our blockading fleet were not particular as to keeping their station, and on the day of this assault most of the vessels sailed toward the Keystone State to ascertain her condition, and whether she wanted any assistance. This may account for their apparent absence at the time of the visit of the Consils, as mentioned by the rebel papers.

Our vessels, as usual, resumed their position at dark. The New Ironsides arrived the next day to reinforce the blockade.

The Princess Royal has aboard, besides a large amount of arms and ammunition, the complete machinery for the construction of an iron clad steamers, and also, as a passenger, an intelligent English mechanic, who is well versed in the process of making and hardening projectiles.

Her value is variously estimated, but she is doubtless worth a million of dollars.

Her possession by the rebels would have been incalculable, and well worth the effort they made to obtain her by the attack on the blockading squadron.

Rest for the Reserves.

At length our brave brothers, who from the remnant of the Pennsylvania Reserves, are to have rest. An order has been promulgated, to the effect that the Reserve Corps be withdrawn from the field, and placed on duty on the fortifications around Washington. However late this order comes, we still rejoice that it has at length been issued. Had a similar order been made six months ago—had the Reserves been allowed time to rest and recruit, even three months ago, and officers been detailed to visit Pennsylvania on recruiting service, every company of the Reserve Corps could have been filled with fresh levies, and the Corps thus brought up to its maximum strength. The State yearned to increase the glory of that gallant band by renewing its strength and again reviving its undaunted valor in adequate numbers to meet the foe. Propositions in every shape were made to secure this object and result, but each in turn were rejected as impracticable, until delay and death diminished the courage and enthusiasm and thinned the ranks of what was once the most effective corps in the army.

At length, the Reserve Corps is to be relieved from duty. If it has already reached, it will shortly reach the entrenchments in the vicinity of Washington. But, alas how changed! Its swelling ranks no longer throbbed with ardor and strength. The proud host that went forth with banners streaming—that was hailed as the deliverers of a nation at the hour of its worst peril—will leave the field of its glorious action, no less proudly than when it first engaged the foe, but still broken down, shattered and weary of its great struggles. We trust that some notice of this retirement will be taken by the authorities of the State. We suggest that the Legislature do something in the premises, by which a resolution may be passed, recognizing the services and commending the valor of the Reserve Corps. The passage of such a resolution would reflect more credit upon the Legislature than the discussion of a motion of censure on the federal government, for arresting a foul mouthed, ill reputed and desperate traitor.—*Har. Tel.*

☞ A gentleman asked Dennis Doyle, who, some years ago, was a member of the old Tammany Hall Nominating Committee, and famous for his Irish wit, why they had sent, for the last two years, such a fool as Mr. —— to the Assembly?"

"Why," said Dennis, "we send him on *true republican principles.*"

"How so?" inquired his friend.

"Shure, you know," replied Dennis, "the Constitution says *all classes* are to be fairly represented, and faith I think it we only send *one fool* out of thirteen members, to represent all the fools in New York, we hardly do them justice."

☞ A story is told of the revenge taken by a Nantucket shipmaster against a U. S. Consul, who was very rarely to be found in his office, although upon his sign were the words "In from ten to one." The indignant captain, after trying to find the Consul several days without success, took a paint brush and altered the official's sign, so that it read "*Ten to one he is not in.*"

DIED—On Friday, February 6th, 1863, Mrs. DORCAS C., wife of James Allison, of Beaver C. H. Pa., aged [illegible] years.