

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor.



CARLISLE, PA., MAY 5, 1864.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1864. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN.

[Subject to the decision of a National Convention.]

STEARING GROCERIES.—THE THIEF IN LINCOLN.—For the last year or more, a German, named AUGUSTUS JEREMIAH, residing in Louther street, this borough, has been selling groceries, at his diminutive residence, at very low rates—at least one-third and sometimes one-half cheaper than they could be purchased at our regular stores. He drove a smallish business, and people flocked to him with wheelbarrows and go-carts to lay in a good supply of sugars, coffees, salt, fish, bacon, indigo, &c. Many had their suspicions that JEREMIAH had never purchased these goods, for it was notorious that even at whole sale prices they cost from thirty to forty per cent. more than he was selling them for. A number of our grocery men had missed articles from their cellars, but still they did not like to institute a search of JEREMIAH'S premises, without first having some tangible proof of his guilt. Finally, at the instance of Messrs MYERS and HALBERT, both of whom had lost heavily in sugar, coffee and meat, a search warrant was placed in the hands of officer MARTIN, who, with the assistance of Col. R. McCARTNEY, proceeded to the premises of J. and instituted the search. Goods belonging to nearly every grocer in town were found. More than a cart load belonged to Mr. HAIKERT alone, and a large quantity of dried meat was claimed Mr. MYERS. Messrs BENTZ, MYER and others also recognized articles belonging to them. On the person of JEREMIAH (who was at once arrested and placed in prison,) was found some fifty keys, with which he had opened the various cellars he had robbed. The prisoner confessed his guilt, and of course a long term in the penitentiary will be his fate.

Our grocery men have no idea how much they were robbed of by this hardened scoundrel. Mr. HALBERT thinks he lost several thousand dollars worth. Mr. MYERS and Mr. BENTZ also lost considerable, and several others had suffered on a smaller scale. It should serve as a lesson to them to be more careful in the future in securing their cellar doors.

BGS ON THE APPLE TREE.—A few days since in examining an apple tree in our garden, we found that each budding bud was literally covered with very diminutive bugs or lice. They are the color of the wax, and it requires a very close inspection to discover them. We mentioned the circumstance to a farmer acquaintance, who at once, on his return home, made a careful examination of the trees in his orchard, and found them all polluted with the same vermin. We fear, therefore, that this pest will be found on apple trees generally, and of course the crop we expected will be injured, and possibly destroyed. It really appears that the plagues of Egypt are to be sent upon us, for nearly every kind of fruit trees as well as the oats and grain crops are beset with new enemies, in the shape of flies, bugs and lice.

Assistant Surgeon A. E. CAROTHERS, (formerly of this county,) paid a short visit to his relatives in this borough, a few days since, previous to his leaving for Texas for duty. He expects to be attached to the staff of Gen. HAMILTON, Military Governor of Texas. The doctor is a promising young physician, and stands high in the army as a careful and successful practitioner. We wish him success.

SMALL ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday afternoon the freight train of cars, in passing East struck a fish wagon in High street, upsetting the same, and making a general scatter of fine shad. The driver and horse escaped without injury, by a very close calculation. The cars run too fast through town, and the Company should be compelled to obey the Borough ordinance.

The Quarterly meeting of the Soldiers' Aid Society will be held in the basement of the Episcopal Church on Thursday evening, May 6th, at 7 o'clock, P. M. F. J. CLERC, Pres't. L. E. C. JOHNSON, Sec'y.

THANKS TO THE MONITOR CLUB.—The Soldiers' Aid Society desire to return their thanks to the members of the "Monitor Club," of this place for their kindness in giving a concert on the evening of the 11th ult. for the benefit of the Soldiers' Aid Society. All the proceeds of the concert were allowed to go into our Treasury, and it is by such gratuitous services that we are enabled to carry on the works of our Society. The "monitors" certainly know how to make good music and their concert was a complete success. The gross receipts amounted to \$38.20, leaving a balance for our treasury, after all necessary expenses were paid, of about \$50. In behalf of the Society, MRS. G. W. SHEPHERD, E. BRADY, Committee. H. S. RITTER.

DEATH OF DR. CRAWFORD.—We regret to learn by a telegraphic dispatch from Millintown, Juniata county, that Dr. E. D. CRAWFORD, the predecessor of Mr. DUCHER in the State Senate, is no more. He died very suddenly on Monday afternoon last. Dr. C. was a most estimable man, an intelligent physician, and devoted husband and father. His loss will be severely felt by the people of Juniata and lamented by all who knew him. JIM LANE, the vulgar Kansas Senator, made a speech in New York city, favoring Lincoln's nomination, in which he said he was "willing for one to make this war a permanent institution." The New Nation, a Fremont organ, responds that if Lincoln is re-elected, Jim's wish will in all likelihood be gratified

A CURIOUS LETTER FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

In another column will be found a very remarkable, if not startling, letter from President LINCOLN. Without exception it is the most unblushing confession of guilt and treachery we have ever read. JEFF. DAVIS himself has never, we believe, enunciated stronger language against the laws and the Constitution. "I am naturally anti-slavery; if slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong," says the President in the outset of his letter. Indeed! But other men who had almost as much character and sense as the "rail-splitter," did not consider slavery in this light. WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, MADISON, MONROE and JACKSON, whose portraits grace the Lobby (Thieves) League Rooms of Philadelphia, were slave owners, and they did not consider slavery the unforgiving sin. And when the Sun of God made this earth his foot-stool, slavery existed, and he did not condemn it in word or deed. But as Christ has been repudiated by the House of Representatives, we have had better make no reference to so unimportant a personage in these times of Abolition idolatry—these times of "new ideas."

"And yet," says the President, "I have never understood that the Presidency conferred on me an unrestricted right to act officially upon this judgment and feeling."—Very true, Mr. LINCOLN. The Presidency (a position you obtained by fraud and by misrepresenting your opinions,) did not give you an unrestricted right to carry out your own whims on any subject, but yet, in the face of your oath, in the face of the Constitution and State rights, you did not upon your own judgment, and put all Constitutional barriers at defiance. "I could not take the office without taking the oath," remarks the President. True again, and to get a \$25,000 office he took an oath which he confesses he has violated. "Nor was it my view that I might take an oath to get the power, and break the oath in using the power," he continues. Perhaps old ABE is sincere in this declaration; perhaps he was not aware at that time that he had masters over him, who would require him to "break the oath" just as often as they desired him to do so. Possibly he was not aware that he was the mere cat's paw in the hands of a set of Infidels, who had pronounced our flag a "stunning lie," and who had petitioned and voted for a dissolution of the Union. Perhaps, we say, he was not aware of all this, and therefore was of opinion that he could not "break the oath" with impunity and at the bidding of those benighted scoundrels behind the throne and who are greater than the throne itself.

Again, the President says: "I understood, too, that in ordinary civil administration, this oath even forbade me to practically indulge my primary, abstract judgment on the moral question of slavery."—"In ordinary civil administration," then, Mr. LINCOLN would consider his oath binding, but in his extraordinary administration he intimates that he is at liberty to violate his oath and "to practically indulge his primary abstract judgment," &c. Again he says: "I did understand, however, that my oath to preserve the Constitution to the best of my ability, imposed upon me the duty of preserving, by every indispensable means, that Government, that Nation, of which the Constitution was the organic law. Was it possible to lose the nation and yet preserve the Constitution?"

The above extract is cloudy and muddled, like all LINCOLN'S writings. He evidently means that he was compelled to do one or two things—either violate the Constitution, which he had sworn to support, or "lose the nation." Now, sensible men have always been of opinion that the only way to perpetuate the Union was to obey, enforce and maintain the Constitution. But this third-class lawyer of Illinois combats this opinion, and to do so casts aside his oath of office. Again: "By general law, life and limb must be protected; yet often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb. I feel that measures, otherwise unconstitutional, might become lawful by becoming indispensable to the preservation of the Constitution, through the preservation of the Nation. Right or wrong, I assumed this ground, and now avow it. I could not feel that to the best of my ability I had even tried to preserve the Constitution if I should permit the wreck of Government, Country and Constitution all together. When early in the war General Fremont attempted military emancipation, I forbade it, because I did not then think it an indispensable necessity. When a little later, General Cameron, then Secretary of War, suggested the arming of the blacks, I objected, because I did not yet think it an indispensable necessity. When, still later, General Hunter attempted military emancipation, I again forbade it, because I did not yet think the indispensable necessity had come."

What a declaration is this to come from the President of the United States? He here compares the Constitution to a diseased limb of a man, that had to be amputated, and therefore, he (ABE LINCOLN,) has lopped off or set aside the Constitution to save (as he says) the life of the nation! He is explicit, therefore, in announcing that he has violated the Constitution, and disregarded his oath. And "right or wrong," he says, he now assumes this ground! More than this, he confesses that CAMERON, FREMONT and HUNTER were in advance of him in their attempts at military emancipation, and that he "objected," because he did not think "the indispensable necessity had come."—"The indispensable necessity," he should have added, was the "pressure" brought upon him by such demagogues and "let the Union slide" traitors as JIM LANE, GREENE, WILSON, SUMNER, ANDREWS, and men of that ilk. That was the "indispensable necessity" that governed ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and forced him to disregard the oath he had taken. Again: "When, in March, and May, and July, 1862, I made earnest and successive appeals to the border States to favor compensated emancipation, I believed the indispensable necessity for military emancipation and arming of the blacks would come, unless averted by that measure. They declined the proposition, and I was in my judgment, driven to the alternative of either surrendering the Union, and with it the Constitution, or of laying strong hand upon the colored element."

"I chose the latter. In choosing it, I hoped for greater gain than loss; but of this, I am not entirely confident. More than a year of laying strong hand upon the colored element; I chose the latter. In choosing it, I hoped for greater gain than loss; but of this, I am not entirely confident. More than a year of laying strong hand upon the colored element; now shows no loss by it, in our foreign relations; none in our home popular sentiment; none in our white military force—no

loss by it anyhow or anywhere. On the contrary, it shows a gain of quite a hundred and thirty thousand soldiers, stamens and laborers. These are palpable facts, about which, as facts, there can be no caviling. We have the men, and we could not have had them without the measure."

In the name of sense, why was it, that because the people of the Border States disregarded his earnest "appeals" to free their slaves at about one-tenth their value, he considered that the "arming of the blacks would come?" The Border States declined the proposition, and therefore he (Mr. LINCOLN,) was "driven to the alternative of either surrendering the Union and with it the Constitution, or of laying strong hand upon the colored element." "I choose the latter," he says. So! Then it appears, by his own confession, that because the Border States declined his "compensated emancipation" project, he determined to disregard his oath and the obligations resting upon him as the chief magistrate of the country! Again: "And now, let any Union man, who complains of the measure, test himself, by writing down in one line that he is for subduing the Rebellion by force of arms, and in the next that he is for taking three hundred and thirty thousand men from the Union side and placing them where they would be, but for the measure he condemns. If he cannot face his cause so stated, it is only because he cannot face the truth."

Mr. LINCOLN here claims that his unconstitutional acts and his emancipation schemes have transferred 330,000 blacks from the South to the North, and this he considers a wise stroke of policy. We doubt it. More than two-thirds of these blacks are women, children and old men, and are maintained at the expense of the government. Nay, more, his fanatical notions have tended to "fire the Southern heart," and swell the Southern armies. We feel satisfied that his Emancipation Proclamation was the very thing the rebels wanted, for it united them to a man, and converted good Union men to the rebel cause. The President concludes his letter thus: "I add a word which was not in the verbal conversation. In telling this tale I attempt no compliment to my own sagacity. I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me. Now, at the end of three years' struggle, the nation's condition is not what either party or any man desired or expected. God alone can claim it. Whether it is tending to some great end, and will also that we of the North, as well as you of the South, shall pay fairly for our complicity in that wrong, impartial history will find therein new cause to attest and reverse the justice and goodness of God. "Yours truly, "A. LINCOLN."

Such is this most extraordinary letter.—When it is remembered that the man who writes it is President of the United States, and that he confesses that he has been guided by circumstances and not by his oath, (for this is his language,) is it not wonderful that even shoddyites and "loyal thieves" have the brazen audacity to propose this weak, but bad man for re-election? In the name of heaven, what is to become of us as a people if the highest officer in our land is to repudiate law, Constitution, his oath and honor? A dark future certainly threatens us, and God alone can rescue our nation and save us from anarchy and revolution.

PAYMENT OF THE EMERGENCY BOND.

HARRISBURG, PENNA., APRIL 27, 1864.

Dear Sir.—Will you please give notice in your next issue that I will be in your place on Thursday, May 12, 1864, to pay the companies commanded by Capt. HUNNICH and Capt. GARDNER, during the emergency of 1862. The men will receive pay for the number of days they were in service, together with the clothing allowance in cash. By so doing you will confer a favor upon the men themselves, who probably will not have another opportunity, and also upon me by securing a full attendance at the pay table. Very respectfully, WILLIAM S. STRYKER, Paymaster U. S. A.

TERMINATION OF THE SWORD CONTRACT.

The New York correspondent of the Baltimore Transcript, in a letter dated the 25th of April gives the finale of the great sword contract, explains how it was done, &c. He says: "As predicted in my letter to the Transcript, McClellan has been cheated out of the army sword, which has created such an excitement at the Metropolitan Sanitary Fair during the last three weeks. Nothing better shows the popularity of the ex-commander of the Army of the Potomac than the fact that he had the largest number of votes by several thousand, and the Lieutenant General the largest number of greenbacks. Sensible Democrats ceased voting altogether the moment the secret voting commenced, as they well knew that, if required, the entire capital of one of Chase's National Banks would be used to defeat General McClellan. Now it should not be lost sight of that the "loyal leagues," who contributed their \$15,000 not to present Grant with the sword, but to deprive the people's idol out of it, did not subscribe one single cent, as long as the voting was open and above board, and it was only at the last moment that an employee of the shoddy club at Union square was sent to deposit the sealed envelopes with the heavy Grant votes. They would not have given one cent for the benefit of our sick and wounded soldiers, but for the fear inspired from headquarters that "Little Mac" would receive too much honor at the hand of an upright people. There was on Saturday night and there is even yet this morning, considerable ill-feeling against the Managers of the fair, for having thus at the last moment violated their pledge, that every voter should inscribe his name in the book separate for the purpose. This pleased our people at the outset, no un derhand work was possible, as McClellan and Grant men, and a fair sprinkling of Argus-eyed reporters were constantly present, and hence there was no dissatisfaction. But the shoddy contractors who sent the \$15,000 called themselves "Loyal men of New York" and with all their "loyalty" dared not to give their names, but enclosed their money secretly, just at the moment it was wanted, and in an underhand manner. But, after all it will only heighten the administration entertained by the people for General McClellan, as another injustice is added to the long list of outrages inflicted on this patriot by the radical clique of the country. Arrangements are now being made to prevent him with a "People's sword," which cannot be brought by, "loyal" greenbacks.

WHY GRANT HAS DELAYED MOVING.

The following letter, dated Washington, April 29, appeared in all the city daily papers of Saturday last:

THE LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL McCLELLAN AND FREMONT.—It has transpired that when Lieutenant-General Grant assumed command of the armies of the Union, he represented to the President that in view of the magnitude of the trust imposed upon him, he felt it incumbent upon him to fortify himself by all the means in his power; and in particular he needed the moral support which the employment of McClellan, Fremont and Fremont, representing two great phases of public opinion, would give. He therefore desired permission to assign them to duty. This was refused on a trifling pretext as respects Fremont, but porporarily as to General McClellan. General Grant then proceeded to re-organize the armies on another basis. He thought it best to bring several western generals to his aid and displaced many who had served under McClellan. This has not worked satisfactorily, and General Grant is understood to have admitted, while satisfied with the number and material of his army, he is uneasy respecting the morale. He returned to Washington on Monday, therefore, with a peremptory demand for the services of General McClellan in the forthcoming campaign, and refuses to move the army until his demands are complied with. He is also very urgent that General Fremont be assigned to duty. These facts are admitted by Lincoln's adherents, and here we have the reason why, with splendid roads, no movement is made.

It therefore appears that the President has (as we predicted he would,) already commenced a war upon GRANT, and is doing all in his power to thwart his views and plans. GRANT, it seems, is of opinion that the services and influence of McCLELLAN and FREMONT are indispensable to his success, and particularly is he solicitous to place McCLELLAN at the head of his old army. But politics, as usual, rule our wretched President, and he "peremptorily refused GRANT'S request!" Rather would he see the army cut to pieces, and the country wrecked, than give a command to the hero who twice saved Washington and possibly his (the President's) own neck, and who would have taken Richmond but for the wicked treachery of the President and his administration, who conspired against him and ordered 25,000 of his best troops to leave him at the very hour he was about to make the final assault upon the Rebel Capitol. No matter what becomes of the army of the country, so that LINCOLN can carry out his own miserable political designs, and gratify his little malignant heart. Various Abolition journals as well as many members of Congress of the same party, have expressed the devilish sentiment that "rather than see McCLELLAN again in command they prefer a dissolution of the Union and universal bankruptcy." Horrible, wicked and treasonable as this sentiment was, it now appears that they got the hint from LINCOLN himself, and that they were speaking for him! The fact is there is a conspiracy against the Government by the Government itself, and before long the people will discover that those blatant demagogues who talked "loyalty" in public places, were at the same time and in a secret manner, plotting treason and robbing the Treasury of millions of treasure. Mark it, we say, the people will yet discover that a conspiracy exists against both the nation and Gen. GRANT. GRANT sees this himself, and chafes like a tiger at bay. "Let traitors beware! GRANT is a quiet man, but yet the awe of CROMWELL, no doubt, occasionally occupies his mind. The administration had better be cautious, and not too bold in making known its real designs to the army and the people."

THE PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES.—Governor

Curtin, on the 4th of March last addressed a communication to the President in relation to this gallant corps, making certain suggestions and requests, as follows: "1st. That the brigade which has been separated from the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps be immediately returned to it, with the understanding that hereafter the whole division will be allowed to serve together, unless some military reason to the contrary shall exist. "2d. That all the men of that corps, or of any other Pennsylvania regiments, who shall re-enlist, shall remain in the regiments to which they now belong, and be credited to Pennsylvania on account of her quota. "3d. That the term of service of the veterans in the Pennsylvania Reserves be estimated from the date of their original enlistment, and not from the date of their being originally sworn into the service of the State. "By the miserable policy adopted towards this gallant corps—says the Valley Spirit—it is now composed of shattered regiments, separated; their esprit de corps effectually broken and the pride of the division crushed. In reply to the Governor's communication General Canby, A. A. G., says, that the question of returning the regiments of the corps to the Army of the Potomac has been referred to the circumlocution office where red tape abounds, and that the term of service of these veterans is calculated from the date of their entry into the United States service, and not into that of the State. The United States government, under this decision, may gain a few months' service from these men at the expense of creating great dissatisfaction and losing them for a new period of three years. The treatment of our gallant reserves, on the part of the government, has been shameful ever since they entered Washington, four days after the battle of Bull Run, fifteen thousand strong. They have since participated in all the battles in which the Army of the Potomac was engaged, and have covered themselves with glory, yet the government has persistently kept them in the front and refused to accord them what was so freely accorded to other troops, the privilege of returning home to recruit their shattered ranks. Nothing short of annihilation would seem to be the fate of the gallant Reserves, the pride of Pennsylvania. Shame!

SECRET SCHOOL.—Select scholars for February and March, 1864.

- School No. 11.—Samuel Long, Daniel Coraman, Jesse G. Wolf. No. 12.—Esther Gill, Kate Halbert, Helen Noble. No. 13.—Susan Brown, Kate Hey, Maggie Gray. No. 14.—Edward W. Biddle, Geo. Hoffman, Martin Tobias. No. 15.—Louisa L. Weaver, Kate M. Bentz, Jane C. Zollinger. No. 16.—Fred S. Law, Alfred Addams, Chas. G. Weaver. No. 17.—Martha H. Senor, Fannie E. Cromer, Lydia J. Shapley. No. 18.—Ernest Egolf, J. F. Yengst, John McCarter. D. Eckles, Pres. S. S.

THE APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE.

The Act recently passed by the Legislature dividing the State into Senatorial and Representative districts, and apportioning the members, is one as iniquitous as could have been framed. Its injustice is apparent in almost every part of it; but it is in strict accordance with the morality and policy of the party in power. It passed the Senate by yeas 17, nays 15. In the House by yeas 51, nays 44. A more infamous Gerrymander was never before attempted by any party.—It is some consolation however to know that frauds of this kind always recoil upon the perpetrators.

- SENATORIAL DISTRICTS. 1, 2, 3 and 4, Philadelphia city, 4 2, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery 4 6, Bucks, 1 7, Lehigh and Northampton, 1 9, Schuylkill, 1 10, Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne, 1 11, Bradford, Susquehanna and Wyoming, 1 12, Luzerne, 1 13, Potter, Tioga, McKean and Clinton, 1 14, Lycoming, Union and Snyder, 1 15, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia and Sullivan, 1 16, Dauphin and Lebanon, 1 17, Lancaster, 1 18, Berks, Butler and Armstrong, 1 19, Adams and Franklin, 1 20, Somerset, Bedford and Fulton, 1 21, Blair, Huntingdon, Centre, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry, 2 22, Cameron, Indiana and Jefferson, 2 23, Clearfield, Cameron, Clarion, Forest and Elk, 1 24, Westmoreland, Fayette and Greene, 1 25, Allegheny, 1 26, Beaver and Washington, 1 27, Lawrence, Butler and Armstrong, 1 28, Mercer, Venango and Warren, 1 29, Crawford and Erie, 1

- REPRESENTATIVES. 18 Philadelphia, Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, Bucks, Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon and Monroe, Luzerne, York and Pike, Susquehanna and Wyoming, Lycoming, Union and Snyder, Columbia and Montour, Northumberland, Blair and Potter, Clinton, Cameron and McKean, Centre, Huntingdon, Juniata and Mifflin, Schuylkill, Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, York, Cumberland, Adams, Somerset, Bedford and Fulton, Bradford and Sullivan, Blair, Allegheny, Clearfield, Elk and Forest, Clarion and Jefferson, Armstrong, Indiana and Westmoreland, Fayette, Beaver and Washington, Venango and Warren, Crawford, Erie, Allegheny, Lawrence, Mercer and Butler, 4

The bill passed by the following vote—in the Senate: YEAS—Messrs. Champey, Connell, Dunlap, Fleming, Graham, Hoop, Householder, Johnson, Lovry, McCandless, Nichols, Ridgway, St. Clair, Turrell, Wilson, Worthington and Penny, Speaker—17. NAYS—Messrs. Boardley, Bucher, Clymer, Donovan, Glavin, Hopkins, Kinsey, Lamberton, Latta, M'Sherry, Montgomery, Reilly, Smith, Stone, and Wallace—15.

IN THE HOUSE:

YEAS—Messrs. Alleman, Balabach, Barnett, Bigham, Billington, Bowman, (Lancaster,) Brown, Burquin, Cochran, (Rice,) Cochran, (Philadelphia,) Coleman, Denniston, Eber, Foster, Glavin, Hancock, Hanel, Henry, Herron, Hill, Huston, Kelly, Kerns, (Philadelphia,) Koonce, Lee, Lilly, McCallister, McKee, M'Nair, Meyer, Marsh, Miller, Musselman, Negley, O'Hara, Olmstead, Orwig, Patten, Price, Reed, Slack, Smith, (Chester,) Smith, (Lancaster,) Smith, (Philadelphia,) Stamberger, Watt, Watson, Wells, White, Winkle and Johnson, Speaker—51. NAYS—Messrs. Alexander, (Centre,) Alexander, (Clarion,) Berger, Buck, Bonator, Bollau, Bowman, (Cumberland,) Boyer, Ellis, Gilbert, Hargrett, Hopkins, Hoover, Horton, Jackson, Kerns, (Schuylkill,) Kline, Labar, Long, M'Nair, Marshall, Missimer, Meyers, Noves, Patten, Peshing, Pottinger, Purdy, Quigley, Reiff, Reid, Rice, Riddle, Robinson, Schofield, Seagriff, Sharps, Spangler, Sulphur, Walsh, Weaver, Weiser and Wimley—44.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.—The stone

masons engaged in laying the foundation of the new blacksmith shop, at the rolling mill of Wood, Marrell & Co., in Johnstown, Cambria county, in breaking a large sandstone in two, the other day, discovered a frog, pressed as flat as a cent, and lying in a crevice or in the cavity stone, from which there was no visible outlet. As soon as it fell out it began to manifest symptoms of life, and before one hour, it was as large, plump and lively as any other frog. It appears, however, to be blind at present, but as the eyes appear perfect it may regain its sight. The rock from which it was taken was quarried from some of the spurs of the Laurel hill, about thirty rods east, when the Pennsylvania canal was constructed, and built in a wall, where it remained till a few days ago, when it was removed to be put in the foundation before mentioned. Of the real age of his frog-skipper, says the Johnstown Democrat, we are in entire ignorance. It may be a pre-Adamite, an antediluvian or a post-deluvian, or it may be a millonarian or even a centenarian. "The rock is a loose sand-stone formation, coarse in the grains and of a rusty color, and may not be very ancient. As there was no crevice in the stone except the bed in which it lay, it certainly has been there for the last thirty years, and it may have danced at Mother Eve's wedding for aught we know. If it was in prison when the Barons at Runnemede extorted the Magna Charta from King John, must have experienced a thrill of joy upon the reception of such cheering news, but then how depressed the poor thing must have felt when it learned that the trial by jury and the general jury deliverson assembly were the general juries, and that it was cured was not for frogs. If it could speak we would like to ask it something about the origin of the Indian tribes living on this continent by Columbus, and learn the precise date of the great town of Kickedapawing. But it cannot speak, and all the fame it can ever acquire here below, is that it will be pronounced by all men the "oldest inhabitant" of the Western Continent now known.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S LAST.

A Very Curious Letter from Honest Old Abe.

Chop Logic for the Million.—He says the Constitution by Overthrowing it.—Why it was he Snubbed Fremont, Cameron, and Hunter for doing what he afterwards did himself. He Lays "a strong Hand upon the Colored Element."

THE NEGRO QUESTION QUAINLY PUT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, April 4. A. G. Hodges Esq., Frankfort, Ky.: MY DEAR SIR,—You ask me to put in writing the substance of what I verbally said the other day, in your presence, to Governor Bramlette and Senator Dixon. It was about as follows: "I am naturally anti-slavery. If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong. I cannot remember when I did not so think and feel.—And yet I have never understood that the Presidency conferred upon me an unrestricted right to act officially upon this judgment and feeling. It was the sense of the people that I took, that I would to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. I could not take the office without taking an oath. There was it my view that I might take an oath to get power, and break the oath in using the power. I understood, too, that in ordinary civil administration, this oath even forbade me to practically indulge my primary, abstract judgment on the moral question of slavery. I had publicly declared this many times and in many ways. And I aver that to this day, I have done no official act in mere deference to my abstract judgment and feeling on slavery. I did understand, however, that my oath to preserve the Constitution, forbade it, because I did not yet think the indispensable necessity had come. By general law, life and limb must be protected; yet often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb. I feel that measures, otherwise unconstitutional, might become lawful by becoming indispensable to the preservation of the Constitution, through the preservation of the Nation. Right or wrong, I assumed this ground, and now avow it. I could not feel that to the best of my ability I had even tried to preserve the Constitution, if I should permit the wreck of Government, Country and Constitution all together. When, early in the war, General Fremont attempted military emancipation, I forbade it, because I did not then think it an indispensable necessity. When a little later, General Cameron, then Secretary of War, suggested the arming of the blacks, I objected, because I did not yet think it an indispensable necessity. When, still later, General Hunter attempted military emancipation, I again forbade it, because I did not yet think the indispensable necessity had come. Then, in March, and May, and July, 1862, I made earnest and successive appeals to the border States to favor compensated emancipation, I believed the indispensable necessity for military emancipation and arming of the blacks would come, unless averted by that measure. They declined the proposition, and I was, in my judgment, driven to the alternative of either surrendering the Union, and with it the Constitution, or of laying strong hand upon the colored element."

I chose the latter. In choosing it, I hoped for greater gain than loss; but of this I am not entirely confident. More than a year of laying strong hand upon the colored element; now shows no loss by it, in our foreign relations; none in our home popular sentiment; none in our white military force—no loss in our army. On the contrary, it shows a gain of quite a hundred and thirty thousand soldiers, seamen, and laborers. These are palpable facts, about which, as facts, there can be no caviling. We have the men, and we could not have had them without the measure."

And now let any Union man who complains of the measure test himself, by writing down in one line that he is for subduing the rebellion by force of arms, and in the next, that he is for taking three hundred and thirty thousand men from the Union side and placing them where they would be, but for the measure he condemns. If he cannot face his cause so stated, it is only because he cannot face the truth. "I add a word which was not in the verbal conversation. In telling this tale I attempt no compliment to my own sagacity. I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me. Now, at the end of three years' struggle, the nation's condition is not what either party or any man desired or expected. God alone can claim it. Whether it is tending to some great end, and will also that we of the North, as well as you of the South, shall pay fairly for our complicity in that wrong, impartial history will find therein new cause to attest, and reverse the justice and goodness of God. "Yours truly, A. LINCOLN."

Col. First, lately provost marshal of Baltimore

under General Schenk, tried recently by a court-martial has been sentenced to the Albany Penitentiary, one year without labor.—Sunday Mercury. We congratulate the gallant Colonel on his honorable retirement from a sphere of so much usefulness to his country. During his official career in Baltimore he shed lustre, and imperishable glory, on the Union cause; and now, instead of playing Bull-dog for the great Gen. Schenk, of Vienna fame, he has a new sphere of usefulness opened up to him in the penitentiary. Such cases of "swift retribution" will sometimes occur, and we congratulate the people, that another petty tyrant and blatant "loyalist" has received at least a portion of merited punishment for plundering his country in the day of her sore distress.—How are you, Colonel? Shall we send you another copy of our paper?

NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY.—The New York

Tribune, says, "the nation is drifting steadily toward bankruptcy. We are now in the greatest crisis of our national history; and we choose always to do the work which might well employ angels. Something must be done to stop the tendency to ruin, or the country is lost beyond redemption." This is strong language to come from a party organ. But who is to blame for allowing "the nation" to drift into bankruptcy? The administration have had things all their own way; not an obstacle has been interposed by the people of the North. After conducting the war for three years under such circumstances, the Tribune now admits that there is danger that "the country will be lost beyond redemption." There may be one hope left. The time for a change is coming, and the hand of the Government and in Congress who are not dwarfs—men who understand the principles upon which the Government was founded, and who will endeavor to restore the Union.

Read Senator Powell's speech on first page.

The Pennsylvania Reserves.

Interesting Discussion in the State Legislature.—The President Solicited to Discharge Pennsylvania, April 29.—Evening.—In the House of Representatives this evening, Mr. Barger made an important statement relative to the fifteen regiments of Pennsylvania who served in the Peninsula in May, three years ago, but were not mustered into national service until two months afterward. These were now greatly dissatisfied, so much so, that a number were under arrest, the men claiming that their time of service expired in May, and the National Government contending that it extended until July.

Mr. Barger read an extract from a letter from Colonel McCandless, commanding the division relative to this dissatisfaction existing among the men who will refuse to serve after May. Mr. Barger, and Mr. Smith, of Chester, called on Governor Curtin this morning, and the Governor urged some action on the part of the Legislature to induce the National Government to comply with the demand of the Reserves. In accordance with this suggestion, Mr. Barger offered a resolution urgently soliciting the President to discharge the Reserves. To add to the dissatisfaction of the men, it is stated that some of their former comrades who had left and joined the regulars, had already been discharged under an order of the War Department. Which allowed soldiers to re-enlist in the regulars, and joining the regulars, count their time from the date of their original enrollment, and not from the date of their actual muster into the national service. The resolution of Mr. Barger was unanimously adopted.

THE WAR NEWS.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

MADISON COURT HOUSE DESTROYED.

LEE'S ARMY REPORTED 80,000 STRONG.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

Newbern Again Threatened.

Reported Abandonment of North Carolina by the Rebels.

LATE FROM RED RIVER.

The Inquirer has a special dispatch dated Washington, May 1, which says: "Let us from your special correspondents from Culpeper and Brandy station, dated this morning, repeat the familiar phrase of "all quiet along the lines of the Army of the Potomac," an occasional review of a straggling, venturesome guerrilla on the only transpiring events. Deserters who came in yesterday report that Lee's army is 80,000 strong with 22,000 effective cavalry. All were in good condition with ten days' supplies distributed to them, and the railroad trains are running night and day bringing more. The expedition which was sent out last week and destroyed Madison Court House, met no rebels till about a half mile from the town. A slight skirmish then took place in which the rebels lost five men and the Union soldiers none. The enemy then retreated to the Court House. The Star has the following further particulars: "The rebels suddenly disappeared from our rear entering the town they received a volley of musketry from the windows of the houses, and they were for a time compelled to withdraw. The officer in command of the reconnoitering party placed in advance, when again a destructive fire was opened on them from the houses, and there being no other way of smoking the rebels orders were issued that the town should be fired. The torch was applied to a number of houses affording cover for the enemy whereupon the latter hastily decamped, leaving our forces in full possession of the place. The flames having spread very rapidly and there being no means at hand for making them stop, could be checked, a verbal arrangement was the result, and in a short time almost the entire town was in ashes. The Cavalry expedition sent out from Vienna on Thursday last under the command of Col. Lowell returned to this place yesterday after having visited Leesburg, Reston town and Upperville. Near the latter place a portion of Mosely's guerrilla band was encountered who had been ordered to result in the capture of 25 prisoners. Col. Lowell had three men killed and four wounded. He returned in safety to Vienna with the prisoners captured from Mosely, and three blockade runners, 25 horses and a large quantity of wool, tobacco, and other contraband goods picked up on the route.

From North Carolina.—Newbern

Again Threatened.

A military gentleman direct from Newbern, 27th inst., writes under the command of additional particulars from North Carolina: "It appears that the rebel ran Rowlock, which sunk some of our best gunboats, and which assisted so materially in capturing Plymouth, was injured some in the fight, but as soon as he is repaired, which will not take long, the enemy say that they will assert their authority over the rivers and sounds of North Carolina, including all the towns now in our possession. They expect to do so in connection with their other ram on the Neuse river, which is reported ready to move down on Newbern."

The Abandonment of North Carolina

by the Enemy Reported.

New York