



WEEKLY PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

WM. M. BRADLEY, Editor and Proprietor.

LEBANON, PA.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1862.

Congress is in Session at Washington. A number of resolutions of inquiry have been submitted relative to the conduct of the war, the reign of terror, the violations of the Constitution, but all are promptly tabled by the friends of the administration. Thad. Stevens has also introduced a resolution indemnifying the administration for its tyranny, and violations of the Constitution. It will no doubt pass and be signed by the President, who kindly assumes the responsibility of his subordinates. Mr. Vallandigham, on Friday, offered resolutions for the perpetuation of the Union, which on motion of Mr. Lovejoy, were tabled, yeas 75, nays 50—all the yeas being republicans.

The German Newspaper publishers of Eastern Pennsylvania, held a Convention in Reading, last Wednesday, when, among other things, it was resolved, that, owing to the recent enormous rise in the price of paper and printing materials of all kinds, the subscription price of the German Newspapers, on and after the 1st of January, shall be raised to \$1.50 a year.

The 2d Article of the President's proposed amendments to the Constitution, as clarified in his Message, provides that after we have got a State free from slavery and the slaves paid for, if that State wants to re-establish slavery, it may do so, only it must pay back our money! Now what is the use of abolishing slavery by amendments to the constitution if paying back the money gives the power to introduce it again. Such nonsense shows the utter incapacity of the present powers that be.

The operative in Lancashire, England, are suffering for the necessities of life, owing to the want of cotton and the consequent want of labor. In New York subscriptions are received for their relief. A. T. Steward, the dry-goods man, subscribed \$10,000. That's all right enough; but we have still a little suffering among our own poor, which should also be attended to. The families of many in the army are not quite so comfortable as we have a right to be an inclement winter.

It will be admitted on all sides that the President, in his message, devoted a full share of space to the negro. By doing so let us see what he excluded. He finds no white men to commend—no word of cheer for the army or the country, nothing of congratulation, no victory to name, no success to recall, no patriots to eulogize, no brave dead to praise, no noble living men to bid us to confide in. But all for the negro! The Secretary of War is equally unable or unwilling to give us any encouragement, or to speak a good word for our soldiers or their cause; and Halleck is also silent except to censure all but himself. The papers of the President and the Departments will be read by the civilized world, and shame to them for thus neglecting at this time to say a word of praise for our brave and war-worn soldiers.

The New York Tribune published, last week, a lot of staff about propositions for peace represented to have emanated from the South. There was not a particle of truth in the reports, and even if there had been the administration would not receive them. The disposition of the Abolitionists in regard to the ending of the war, was, however, developed to its full extent. Although the proposals were to embrace a restoration of the Union and the ending of the war, it was said, apparently by authority, that no proposition or commissioners would be received by the President, but that they would be promptly imprisoned. All the Republican papers, who had a chance for a say on the subject before the canard exploded, expressed themselves indignantly against any countenance of the proposals. They will have no peace nor restoration of the Union if the Democrats have a hand in bringing it about, and we have doubted all along if they desire it even without the assistance of the Democrats. They declare that the only way is for the rebels to lay down their arms, pay for pardon and submit. This would be just enough if the administration knew how to compel them to that, but until then, we very much fear that the strife will continue, at least until a change in the administration takes place.

The Reading and Columbia railroad is finished between Columbia and Manheim.

The Abolitionists have a pat saying to the effect that "slavery caused the war, and hence that it is only necessary to get rid of slavery to end the war." This is most admirably answered by the Reading Gazette, as follows:—"Slavery has caused the war only in the sense that property causes theft, that money causes forgery and fraud, that the creation of two sexes has caused various violations of the laws of chastity and decency, and that the existence of the human race has been the cause of murder. It is the interference with slavery by those who are under no moral responsibility for its existence, and who have no more right to meddle with it than they have to regulate the domestic institutions of China or Japan, that has caused the war. If the war is to cease, and the Union is to be saved with the same form of Government that our forefathers framed for themselves and their posterity, this and all interference with the internal affairs of the States, under whatever pretext, must be stopped."

The soldiers recently in camp at Harrisburg, have nearly all been forwarded on to Washington, and the probabilities are that some of them comprise a portion of Banks' expedition. The regiment in which the militia from this county are embraced, was, last week, at Washington, and it was supposed that it would either be made a part of the expedition or sent to garrison Fortress Monroe.

We had no time last week to comment on that "document of remarkable ability"—the President's last anecdote. This week we do not care wasting much time upon it, as, with any other joke, it has had its day, and to talk much about it would be stale and unprofitable. It has been laughed at, and it has been criticised, and, aside from the fun it produced, has only been a matter of regret, that it will furnish another source of contempt for us by the civilized world. The "Americans of African descent," are the text for nearly the whole message. One point in it is, however, overshadowing importance, if true. He says, "we (Congress and the Administration,) know how to save the Union." If they do we wish they would practically apply their knowledge and save it at once. If they have a grand camp de main in store for the ending of our troubles, the general opinion is that it should be at once brought into play. Let there be no longer any delay. They have heretofore convinced the world that they knew better how to destroy the role of staff and niggerism, with the clear statesmanlike, and practical papers of President Buchanan, as well as the situation of affairs, we may well hold up our hands and weep at the change that has taken place in the high places of the nation in the short space of two years.

Important Decision in Relation to the Draft. Judge Pearson, of Harrisburg, Pa., has rendered an important decision in the case of John Markley, who was brought up on habeas corpus. Some points of the decision are of general interest. Markley was drafted in the town of Hempfield, Lancaster county. He was not one of the forty-nine (the quota of the town) first drawn, but was in the overdraft. Of the forty-nine first drawn, six were excused on account of being conscientiously scrupulous about bearing arms, one as being under age, three for physical disability, and one as the justice of the peace. None of these had appeared before the commissioner until drafted, with the exception of the justice, whose claim was disallowed by the commissioner, but was afterwards allowed by an order from the Department. The quota of Hempfield under the overdraft was sixty-one. Markley's name was the sixty-third drawn under that draft. Judge Pearson says:—"The army order, which has all the force of an act of Congress, directs the commissioner to cause 'to be drawn from the wheel a number of ballots equal to the number of drafted men fixed by the Governor to be drawn as the proper quota' for that municipality. This was done, and the complainant was not within that quota. But the commissioner continued to draw until one hundred and ten ballots were taken from the wheel. After the most careful consideration, we have reluctantly come to the conclusion that the overdraft is void—that there was no authority in the commissioner to make it. His power ceased the moment he had drawn forty-nine ballots from the wheel, and all names taken out afterwards cannot be treated as drawing under the law, but in express violation of its directions, and Markley's name must be considered as one not drawn; but he stands in the situation of a person forced into the service without being drafted. The jurisdiction of the commissioner ceased when he drew the number prescribed; and an act done without jurisdiction is clearly void, and must be so declared on habeas corpus—1 Dal. 135.

Such was the opinion also of Lord Mansfield where the drafting commissioner exceeded his jurisdiction in the case already cited, from 1 Burr. 636. Nor does this come in conflict with, but it is in precise conformity to what is said by Chief

Justice Marshall in the case of T. Watkins, 3 Peters, 202 3; and also in Bollman & Swartwout's case. After thoroughly and ably discussing the question, the Judge ordered that John Markley be discharged from the control and custody of Colonel Everhard Bierer, and that he be relieved from the service of the United States.

Gen. Halleck's Report. The Commander-in-Chief, in his report to the Secretary of War, states that he started on the 24th of July to visit the army of the Potomac to ascertain if there was a possibility of an advance upon Richmond from Harrison's Landing, and if not, to form some plan of uniting the armies of General Pope and General McClellan, who was of the opinion that it would require fifty thousand additional men to go on. Halleck replied that there could not possibly be sent more than twenty thousand. Mac asked to consider the matter till morning, when he agreed to go on with that number. On General Halleck's arrival home he received a despatch saying that at least thirty-five thousand would be required. The report states that such reinforcements could not be sent without leaving Washington and Baltimore almost defenceless, and an order for the withdrawal of the army of the Potomac was issued August 3d, a previous order having been given for the removal of the sick, and transports in vast numbers supplied, but that a protest was received from General McClellan on the 5th, and that the order was not put in force for 11 days afterwards. On the 1st, orders were given to General McClellan to embark at Newport News for Aquia Creek, which arrived there promptly on the night of the 3d. A review of the movements before Washington is made. He says that a part of the army of the Potomac was ordered to the front from Alexandria, and that Gen. Cox was ordered to come by rail via Washington from Western Virginia with the main portion of his force. Of Gen. Pope's order on the 27th to Gen. Porter to be at Brislston Station the next morning he says, "for some unexplained reason Porter did not comply with this order, and his corps was not in the battles of the 28th and 29th, in which Gen. Pope gained considerable ground," though the battles were not decisive. Of the reinforcement from Alexandria, embracing at length the whole Peninsular army, it is said, "Some of the corps moved with becoming activity, but the delays of others were neither creditable nor excusable." The soldiers actually engaged in those battles "fought with great bravery," but many thousands straggled away from their commands, and it is said that not a few voluntarily surrendered to the enemy so as to be paroled as "prisoners of war." It is added: "Had the Army of the Potomac arrived a few days earlier, the rebel army could have been easily defeated and perhaps destroyed. The losses at South Mountain and Antietam were 10,000 killed, 10,000 wounded, and 913 missing—a total of 20,913. The report states that the army rested on the north bank of the Potomac, near Sharpsburg, from the 17th day of September until the 26th day of October, and says that "the long inactivity of so large an army in the face of a defeated foe and during the most favorable season for rapid marches and a vigorous campaign was a matter of great disappointment and regret." General Halleck states that he telegraphed McClellan, October 6th, to cross the river. Gen. McC. disapproved the plan of crossing at Harper's Ferry and moved on Winchester, but did not cross until Oct. 26th, and then at Berlin, the passage occupying till Nov. 3d. During this period Gen. McClellan stopped communicating with the Commander-in-Chief, addressing the President. On the 5th his removal was ordered.

Over Eight Hundred Thousand Men in the Field—Estimates for an Army of One Million Men. The annual report of Secretary Stanton sets forth the following facts: The portion of the United States which is now, or has been during the last year, the scene of military operations is confined within ten military departments. The armies operating in those departments, according to recent official returns, constitute a force of seven hundred and seventy-five thousand and three hundred and thirty-six officers and privates, fully armed and equipped; since the date of the returns this number has been increased to over eight hundred thousand. When the quotas are filled up it will number a million of men, and the estimates for next year are based upon that number. DARING ROBBERY AND OUTRAGE.—The Potstown Ledger, of Tuesday last says: On Wednesday afternoon last, two negroes, or men disguised as negroes, came to the residence of Mr. Henry Mowery, a farmer, living in Pottsgrove township, about three miles north of this borough. The male members of the family were absent at the time, the only person on the premises, being a young woman living with Mr. Mowery. The negroes asked for something to eat which was given to them by the girl, who soon after alarmed by some of their movements, attempted to escape from the house. In passing from the door one of the men attempted to seize or strike her, but she eluded him, and succeeded in making her escape, not, however, without hearing their threats of "calling again and making it even with her yet." Nothing, however, was seen of the parties until Friday afternoon following, when the same men presented themselves at the house a second time, also finding the girl alone. They again asked for and received

something to eat, after which they demanded money. The girl declared that she had none, whereupon one of the number knocked her down with his fist, the violence of the blow rendering her perfectly insensible. While the girl was in this condition and unable to give any alarm, the men ransacked the house in search of money, and finding in all about \$800 which they took and departed. The girl was found about four o'clock, still unconscious and in convulsions. She recovered after a while sufficiently to relate the circumstances of the robbery, and then relapsed again. Pursuit was made the next day by the neighbors, but nothing more was found of them than that two colored men had been seen on Friday evening a mile or more from the scene of the robbery. We learn, however, later that a clue has been found which may lead to their discovery and arrest. We earnestly trust that they may be soon brought to receive that measure of retributive justice which they so richly deserve. The girl has been quite ill ever since the affair, suffering with continued convulsions, consequent upon the brutal treatment and the fright she received from the ruffians.

More Blundering. The Government has put its foot in it again. A short time ago with a great flourish of trumpets, it was announced that nearly a thousand officers were to be dismissed from the army on account of desertion, cowardice, drunkenness and general inefficiency. The first batch of names, about eight in all, have been published, and among them are several dead men who were killed in battle, while a number of others had already been honorably discharged on account of wounds or sickness. This shows the utter confusion which prevails in the management of the War Department. Here are officers gazetted as cowards or drunkards who were either slain in battle or incapacitated by wounds from further service. If mistakes of this kind occur in the roll of officers, people will be apt to inquire if there are not tens of thousands of privates on the pay rolls who are either dead or discharged from the army. And if so, who pockets their pay? A blunder such as this is a crime. This system of arbitrary dismissals from the army is all wrong. Every alleged delinquent officer is entitled to a trial by court martial, and he should have it before being ignominiously discharged from the service. There may be gross inefficiency among many of the subordinate officers of the army, but it can never be remedied by injustice such as this.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC SHOULD NOT ADVANCE.—This is the strange opinion expressed by the National Republican, which claims to be an Administration organ. It argues that disaster in an advance movement would be the triumph of the rebellion; that therefore we cannot afford to incur a hazardous tremendous, and that as long as the army of the Potomac "compels the rebels to keep up their forces and protect Washington, it does all that it ought to do under the present circumstances." And, according to the same authority, the army can menace the city of Washington, to enable us to do it. Who can interpret this drizzle?

Some of the shipmasters now in circulation if closely scrutinized will be found payable in goods not in current bank notes. The Rochester Union gives an account of one made payable at Utica next July, in strawberries, if the crop does not fail, and says such trash is taken and circulated. A shocking abortion case has just been revealed in New York. A betrayed girl, of good family, after horrible suffering from the hands of an abortionist, was taken from her death-bed, given some gin, hurried into a carriage, and pushed into her father's drawing room, where she fell exhausted, and was soon a corpse. The doctor, the nurse, and the seducer, are under arrest.

The New York World says: "Of all the political and military lumbags extant, Fremont is the greatest; and his restoration to command would be a calamity to the country, and a disgrace to the Administration." The speculation in coffee, if it keeps on at the rate of the last month, bids fair to run up prices to a mark quite beyond the reach of all save the army, navy, shoddy and horse contractors.

MARTIN VAN BUREN'S WILL.—The will of President Van Buren has been admitted to probate at Hudson. It is dated January 18th, 1860, and commences as follows:—"I, Martin Van Buren, of the town of Kinderhook, county of Columbia, and State of New York, heretofore Governor of the State, and more recently President of the United States, but for the last and happiest part of my life a farmer in my native town, do make and declare the following to be my last will and testament, &c."

Gen. Anderson, of Fort Sumpter fame, has been assigned to the command of the troops and fortifications surrounding Covington and Newport, Kentucky. Notice.—Whenever the Courier or any of its dirty correspondents say that we gloried in the disfranchisement of the soldiers they knowingly lie.

The destination of Gen. Banks' expedition, the whole of which is probably by this time at sea, is unknown. It is the most formidable of the kind that has ever left the country, comprising at least 200,000 land soldiers.

A man in Dauphin county was fined, last week, ten dollars for trapping partridges and selling them in market.

White or Black?—The Senate of the United States, on Wednesday last, presented to the world a most remarkable scene. It should be premised, lest the fact has been so long concealed as to be overlooked and forgotten, that the United States is a country inhabited chiefly by white men, with a government founded by white men for white men. This important truth has, indeed, some significance in our day, and ought to be taught in our common schools as one of the truths which errors seek to hide. The Senate of the U. S. is one of the bodies administering the legislative powers of the government of white men, and it is, or once was, currently believed that it had a special interest in the white race. The following extract from its proceedings on Wednesday is, therefore, curious and instructive:—

Mr. Scaulbury, of Delaware (Dem.) offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War to inform the Senate whether Dr. John Lane and Mr. Meredith (white men, citizens of Delaware, had been arrested and imprisoned, what charges were made against them, and all the papers relating to their arrest, &c. laid over.

Mr. Sumner offered a resolution that the Secretary of War be requested to turn the Senate with any information which he might possess with reference to the sale into slavery of freedmen (black men) captured or seized by the rebel forces, and state what steps have been taken to redress this outrage on human rights.

These were simply resolutions of inquiry—one relating to the fate of white men under "American rights," the other relating to the fate of black men under "human rights." The former was rejected (for "laid over" implies as much), and the latter was adopted.

There are two candidates claiming the office of District Attorney, in Butler county.—Mr. Kirker, the Republican candidate, received a majority of sixty-eight, including the army vote; and excluding it, Mr. McLure, the Democratic candidate, had sixty-eight majority.

The Supreme Court of Philadelphia, on Tuesday last, decided the Philadelphia Sheriff question in favor of John Thompson, who has now taken possession of the office.

All Right and No Pay.—Chaplain Robie, writing to the Christian Advocate, from Warrington, Va., says:—"The health of the boys is quite good—but the seventh month has commenced since they have been paid by the Government! Too bad! What inconveniences we all suffer!"

We are informed that counterfeit fifty cent postage notes are in circulation. The front side is not a good imitation of the genuine, and on the reverse the figures "50" are up side down. The "50" in the corners of the front side have been stamped on separately, and the green ink used strikes thro' to the back and shows on the white paper.

New York City Municipal Election.—The election for City Controller, Corporation Counsel, and for Aldermen in nine wards, took place on Tuesday last week, and resulted, as anticipated, in a complete Democratic triumph. Brennan, Democrat, was elected Controller by 13,636 majority; Devellin, Democrat, Corporation Counsel by 23,022. The vote was much smaller than in November.—The Aldermen elected are all Democrats.

The Secretary of War has ordered the discharge of all the Quakers who were drafted in Ohio, the laws of which State did not exempt them. General Hooker has sent in to the War Department, asking that General Stone be given a command in his corps. It was returned to him, endorsed "not granted."

Struck in the Mud, and No Money.—The Toronto Globe says:—"A man, now in Virginia: 'In camp, somewhere—, in mud up to the knees. We are stuck in the mud, and can't move—hungry, no money—and can't get credit. Send me \$19 as soon as possible, to relieve, yours, &c.'" [This officer has not been paid in seven months—and has to borrow money from home to live. Why is this? Why are Secretaries, or even Presidents, paid—when soldiers thus suffer in the field? Mud, too, we see, exists, even though Gen. McClellan is removed.

Scandalous.—Wm. A. Richardson, of Illinois, is proposed as a successor to Mr. Browning in the Senate of the United States. Alexander Ramsey will probably be chosen in Minnesota as successor to General Henry M. Rice, unless Senator Rice declines the Generalship tendered him.

New Jersey, it is said, raises more potatoes than any other State by two bushels to one.

Trouble with Conscripts.—We learn that a general skedaddling of the drafted men in camp at Chambersburg, occurred on Friday and Saturday, who were not properly provided against the "pellings of the pitiless storm" that suddenly came upon them. On Saturday they broke ground and fled in every direction.

A Missing Man Restored.—A St. Louis correspondent of the Columbus (Ohio) Crisis writes as follows:—"The man for whom General McNeil shot some time ago, has returned home alive and well, and his wife, before the execution of the man, went to him (General McNeil) and pleaded with him to wait and see if he had been killed before he executed those men, and the brute spurned her."

While this statement may be correct, it is not absolutely reliable.—In any case, the fact does not mitigate or aggravate the offence of General McNeil in ordering the summary execution of his prisoners.

The 93d Regiment P. V., when last heard from, was at Stafford Court House, Virginia. The health of the Regiment was good.

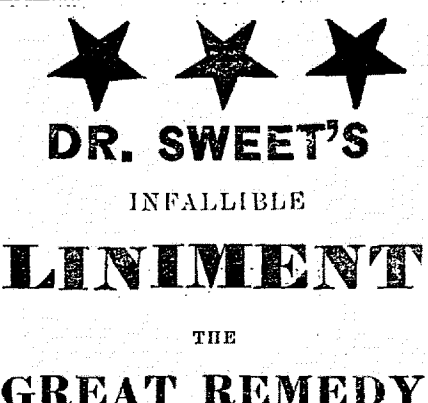
It is rumored that Beauregard has pronounced Charleston indefensible and that the inhabitants are moving their property from the city.

A very gallant and skillful officer in the army, from Michigan, was asked, the other day, why he had not received the promotion which was long since his due. He replied, "Because I have had no opportunity yet to make an abolition speech."

SPECTACLES. DR. LUDWIG BEHNINGER, the celebrated OPTICIAN, 45 N. 4th St., NEW YORK, respectfully informs the citizens of Lebanon county that he has appointed D. S. BARBER, Dispenser, his agent to sell his celebrated

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MAYORS OF THE Great Cities.

We, the undersigned Mayors, hereby certify that the Druggists, Apothecaries, and Physicians of our several cities have signed a document of assurance to us that AYER'S SARSAPARILLA has been found to be a remedy of great excellence, and worthy the confidence of the community.

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HON. E. W. HARRINGTON, Mayor of MANCHESTER, N. H.
HON. JOHN ABBOTT, Mayor of CONCORD, N. H.
HON. A. H. BULLOCK, Mayor of WORCESTER, MASS.
HON. NATH'L SILSBEE, Mayor of SALEM, MASS.
HON. F. W. LINCOLN, Jr., Mayor of BOSTON, MASS.
HON. WM. M. RODMAN, Mayor of PROVIDENCE, R. I.
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HON. H. M. KINSTREY, Mayor of HAMILTON, C. W.
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HON. JAMES S. BEEK, Mayor of FREDERICTON, N. B.
HON. WILLARD NYE, Mayor of NEW BEDFORD, MASS.
HON. J. BLAISDELL, Mayor of FALL RIVER, MASS.
HON. W. H. CRANSTON, Mayor of NEWPORT, R. I.
HON. FRED SPAHL, Mayor of GALENA, ILL.
HON. JOHN HODGREN, Mayor of DUBUQUE, IOWA.
HON. THOMAS CRUTCHFIELD, Mayor of CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
HON. ROBERT BLAIR, Mayor of TUSCALOOSA, ALA.
HON. E. D. BAUGH, Mayor of MEMPHIS, TENN.
HON. GERRARD STITH, Mayor of NEW ORLEANS, LA.
HON. H. D. SCRANTON, Mayor of ROCHESTER, N. Y.
HON. DE WITT C. GROVE, Mayor of UTOIGA, N. Y.
HON. GEO. WILSON, Mayor of PITTSBURG, PA.
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HON. HEMAN L. PAGE, Mayor of MILWAUKEE, WIS.
HON. W. W. VAUGHN, Mayor of RACINE, WIS.
HON. A. FARR, Mayor of KENOSHA, WIS.
HON. JOHN C. HAINES, Mayor of CHICAGO, ILL.
HON. M. J. A. HEATH, Mayor of SELMA, ALA.
HON. A. J. NOBLE, Mayor of MONTGOMERY, ALA.
HON. W. S. HOLYBAD, Mayor of COLUMBUS, GA.
DON ESPARTERO MANUEL, Mayor of VERA CRUZ.
DON PIETRE DE CABALLO, Mayor of MEXICO.
DON ESTEPHANE RODRIGUES, Mayor of HAVANA.
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