subsequently admitted that he used a club with his left hand.

No doubt is entertained by those who have been in closest communication with him since his imprisonment, that he was the murderer of Dr. Burdell, as well as of others before and since. He said that when he "travelled on the Mississippi steamboats, if any poor devil who lost his money by gambling said a word, he was soon done for, and a fellow could make a $10,000 at a pop down there." He was married in 1843. Just previous to the Burdell murder he drew a revolver on his wife, threatening to shoot her if she would not give up his little girl, now living. To save her own life and that of the girl, she told him that the child was dead. From that moment he had not been seen by either his wife or his child. When asked if he would accept a respite, owing to the day of his execution falling upon Good Friday, he replied:—"No. G——d d——n it, no, I intended to leave Jersey on Friday, and I'm bound to leave it on Friday."

On Thursday Mr. James and Mr. Dumphy, his counsel on his trial, who have been exceedingly attentive to him since his sentence, saw him for the last time. The following conversation took place between Mr. James and the doomed prisoner:

Mr. James: I have come to see you for the last time, and to ask you if you are desirous of making any provision for your child? Your wife and little girl called upon me last night to ask that I should see you to this purport.

Lewis: Its —— —— nonesense, I have no wife; my wife died in New Orleans.

Mr. James: Lewis, I hold in my hand your wife's daguerreotype, and photograph likeness of your child.

Lewis: That's the —— —— bro't me to this. My wife is a ——, —— ——; and my child is a ——, —— my wife, and —— my child.

This was his dying message to his wife and daughter. His language to the officers who have had him in charge since his sentence has been uniformly indecent and wicked beyond all precedent. When asked if a Methodist minister, Mr. Monroe, might pray for him before execution, he said: "He may if he likes; I don't care a d——n;" and while prayer was being offered, he sat in a chair in the most unconcerned manner. He walked to the gallows with the same ease that he used to walk into Court during his trial. Not a nerve in his powerful frame seemed to pall in view of the awful penalty he was about to pay for his crime.

He failed to make one sympathizing friend during his whole imprisonment. Indeed he invited no sympathy, but embraced every opportunity of repelling friendly approach. His language was exceedingly offensive, so much so that in what has been quoted of his conversation with his counsel names are inserted for the abominable words he used.

Although he made no formal confession of his crimes, yet he made important admissions of the details of guilt, such as justifies the sentence which was executed upon him at the gallows.

Lebanon Advertiser.

WHEN DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES CEASE TO LEAD, WE CEASE TO FOLLOW.

WM. M. BRESLIN, Editor and Proprietor.

LEBANON, PA.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1863.

☞ Rev. P. H. Burkhortt, Chaplain to the first regiment of U. S. Dragoons has been dismissed from the service *by the President* for alluding in a sermon, in Schenectady, N. Y., to Gen. McClellan's high military qualities. About the 4th of March, 1865, some one will be dismissed from the White House, at Washington, by Gen. McClellan, for worse sins than possessing high military qualities.

☞ The *Courier* of last week tells its readers that the "rebels have furnished to their sympathizers in the North a large sum of money to enable them to foment discord in the North." So it seems the rebels still have plenty of money, and that they are not yet on their "last legs" financially.

☞ The Committee appointed by the Legislature to investigate the charges of bribery made by Mr. Boyer, a member of the House, against Simon Cameron, made a report last week, accompanying it with a great deal of evidence. They conclude by expressing the opinion "that unlawful means were employed to secure the election of Simon Cameron to the Senate of the United States, in last January." A resolution was also offered in the House, instructing the Governor to institute criminal prosecutions against Simon Cameron, William Brobst, John J. Patterson and Henry Thomas, which however, on consultation, was withdrawn for the time.

SWEARING.—The Philadelphia lawyers have a reputation for smartness but some of them make a poor use of the commodity. In examining Lyon, Mr. Coffey asked him "did they *swear* to these obligations?" Lyon answered "yes, they answered *yes*." Coffey then takes it for granted that they *did swear*. How very smart.—When a man says *yes* he swears!

Voting by Proxy.

The Senate of Pennsylvania has an abolition majority, many of whom are as arrant hypocrites as ever made long faces. Last week, to curry favor with the soldiers, they passed a bill allowing them to *vote by proxy*. If it were not for the unconstitutionality of the thing we would wish it to become a law, for every nine out of ten soldiers would be sure to vote the Democratic ticket, and our majority next fall instead of tens of thousands would be hundreds of thousands,—that is, if the soldiers would be allowed to vote as they pleased. But when officers are dismissed from the service as in New Hempshire for circulating Democratic tickets we confess that we fear that their would be poor chance for the soldiers exercising the right of free citizens.

The abolition Senators evidently think that they have played off a very clever political trick upon the Democrats, in compelling them to record their vote against confering the elective franchise upon the soldiers, but they have overshot the mark.—In their anxiety to catch the Democrats in a trap they have placed their names on record in favor of a bill which will be pointed to in all coming time as evidence of the extent to which the Republican party were willing to corrupt the ballot-box, to secure a political victory.

☞ One of the abolition papers of Philadelphia in speaking of the meetings in this section, says, "by those mysterious agencies known to the profession, Mr. Lyon obtained his knowledge of the meetings," &c. How mysterious! The meetings were no secret, either at Reading, where Lyon resides, or any other place in this section of country.—The abolition papers at Reading, Lebanon and Harrisburg have been fussing about them for weeks.—Some of them were even *called by public notice in the newspapers*, and yet Mr. Lyon detected their existance by "mysterious agencies known only to the police." Pshaw.

☞ It seems that Constitutions of the "Loyal Union Leagues" have been sent to the army for the soldiers to sign. It may go with some of them as it did with the Johnstown. The League, in that place, sent on the "paper" to one of their companies for signatures, when the following reply was received from a member of a fel-

"Not quite—d man of company B would sign the Traitorous paper. They had more sense than we had, or else had no Hevyr to influence them. Bully for company B."

Prof. Charles R. Coburn, County Superintendent of Common Schools of Bradford county, has been appointed Superintendent of Common Schools of Pennsylvania, in place of Hon. Thomas H. Borrowes, whose term will expire on the 4th of June.

☞ The war is still "vigorously prosecuted," by treasonable abolition journals and orators, against northern democrats. The administration also displays an unusual amount of "vigor" in that capacity at present.

☞ It is feared that Gen. Foster's forces near Newbern, North Carolina, have been obliged to surrender, owing to the want of provisions. They were 1100 strong.

RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERING IN IRELAND.

Speech of Gen. McClellan.

An immense meeting was held at the New York Academy of music on Tuesday night, under the auspices of an association styled the Knights of St. Patrick, for the purpose of raising funds to alleviate the sufferings caused by the famine in Ireland. The Academy was crowded to excess, for to the inducements of patriotism and benevolence, was added the expectation that General McClellan would be present. This expectation was not disappointed. Before the regular opening of the proceedings, General McClellan entered one of the private boxes on the left side of the stage.—His presence was made known to the assembly by Mr. John Butler, President of the association, who called for "three cheers for General McClellan." That was the signal for one of the most enthusiastic outbursts of popular admiration and love that were ever seen within the same walls. Loud and long, and heartfelt were the cheers that rang again and again throughout the building, the whole audience standing all the while, the ladies waving their handkerchiefs and clapping their hands, and the band playing "The Flag of Our Union," while the General, who had come to the front of the box, bowed gracefully and modestly in acknowledgement of the honor. He was in plain clothes, but he looked every inch the soldier. For some minutes it appeared as if the acclamations were to continue all the evening. Again and again, when there seemed to be a lull in the storm of enthusiasm there would be another call for "Three cheers more," which would be responded to as hearfily and vociferously as the first. This scene was intermitted with calls for a speech. The General, however, strove to avoid the necessity of a response, and took the first opportunity which offered of withdrawing to the back part of the box, in which direction the eyes of all were strained, people in the galleries hanging over to get another look at him. The audience continued clamorous for a speech, and at last the General could no longer resist the demand so determinedly made upon him, and again he came forward to the front of the box, and the cheers, and clapping of hands and waving of handkerchiefs were renewed with increased vigor. In a clear, gentle voice, and with easy manner, and amid profound silence, the General spoke as follows:—

My Friends—I came here to-night as a listener and spectator, not as a participant in the proceedings of the evening. I came to hear the ablest and best of the friends and sons of Ireland plead her cause to-night. I have departed from my usual rule to avoid large assemblies, because I knew that this meeting had neither partizan nor political purpose. (Cheers.)

I know that you have assembled for the noblest of all purposes, that of charity towards suffering brethren in a distant land. I came here simply to evince my sympathy in your cause, for I have strong and peculiar reasons for feeling an intense sympathy for and interest in all that relates to Ireland and the Irish. (Great applause.) I sprung myself from a kindred race. I have often seen the loyalty of the Irish to their government and to their general proved. I have seen the green flag of Erin borne side by side with our own Stars and Stripes through the din of battle. (Cheers.) I have witnessed the bravery, the chivalry, the devotion of the Irish race, while I was a boy, on the fields of Mexico, and in maturer years on the fields of Maryland and Virginia. (Loud cheers.) It has often been my sad lot, pleasant withal, to watch the cheering, smiling patience of the Irish soldier while suffering from disease or ghastly wounds, and I have always found the Irish heart warm and true. (Cheers.) I feel then, that I have a right to sympathize with your cause to-night. It is most unfortunate that there are so many in Ireland who need our sympathy, but at least we should thank our God that he has given us the means to extend our hands to them. (Enthusiastic cheering.) It is perhaps unfortunate for Ireland that laws, in the making of which the Irish have had but little to do—that a government in which perhaps they have been but little represented—should have induced so many to have left their native land and sought foreign climes; but what has been the loss of Ireland has been the gain of America. (Cheers.) It has given us some of the proudest intellects that have adorned our history, countless strong arms who have developed our resources, and soldiers innumerable, who, on every field, from those of the Revolution to those of the present sad rebellion, have upheld the honor of their adopted country. (Wild cheers.) And so, I repeat, we have gained what Ireland has lost. (Continued cheers.) One thing more before I close. We come here for no political purpose; but no true friend of his country can, in our present crisis, repress altogether the thoughts that will crowd upon his brain. What is it that enables us now to extend our hands to your brethren across the Atlantic? What is it that our fathers and we have worked for for generations? It was to establish on this broad continent one nation, one free Government that may be the refuge of all exiles from foreign lands; and I know that I express the thoughts of every one who listens to me here, when I say that all our energies, all our thoughts, all our means, and if necessary the last drop of our blood should be given to uphold that unity and nationality. (Enthusiastic cheers.) But I did not rise to make a speech, but simply to express my warm and most cordial thanks for the greeting with which I have been honored to-night. I thank you, and shall now make way for the able and eloquent men who will plead the cause of your brethren to night.

As the General closed his remarks and bowed his adieus, he was again greeted, as he had been on his entrance with prolonged applause.

The Attack on Charleston.

The Keokuk sunk, the Nahant disabled, and the Ironsides unmanageable.

The vessels comprising the fleet, advanced upon Charleston on the 7th, in the following order: Weehawken, Capt. John Rodgers; the Passaic, Commander Turner, with Admiral Dupont, and his staff, on board. Next followed the Catskill, Capt. Geo. Rodgers; Nantucket, Capt. Fairfax; Nahant, Capt. Downs; Keokuk, Capt. Rind. In this order they proceeded up the main channel, arriving within seventeen hundred yards of the main forts. The Ironsides became unmanageable, owing to the tide and the narrowness of the channel, and she was, therefore, obliged to drop anchor, to prevent drifting ashore. Owing to these circumstances, she signalled her consorts to disregard her motions.

The remainder of the squadron continued at its course, and soon came within the range of the rebel fire from all points. The obstructions in the channel, from Sumter to Fort Moultrie, interfered with the progress of our ships. In consequence of this, and the position of the Ironsides, as above stated, the plan of operations for the battle was deranged, and the space for manœuvering being only from five hundred to one thousand yards, the vessels were obliged to prepare and at once engage the forts and the adjacent batteries.

The signal had been made for action at half past three o'clock in the afternoon, by the Ironsides, but the rebels had previously opened fire upon the leading vessels. The contest is represented as in the highest degree exciting, presenting a fearful scene of fire belching from all points on the water and the land—a continuous roar of cannon.

In the course of thirty or forty minutes, the Keokuk was in a sinking condition, and was obliged to withdraw from the fire, and seek an anchorage below the rang of the enemy's fire. A few minutes afterwards, all the vessels withdrew on a signal from the flag-ship, it being deemed impracticable to continue further hostilities. The Keokuk was within five or six hundred yards of Sumter, and was completely riddled, being struck from all the batteries within range at least ninety times in thirty minutes. The shot were from rifled cannon of the heaviest calibre. Capt. Rind, her commander, received a contusion on the leg from a flying fragment of his vessel, which only slightly lamed him. Twelve of the men were wounded, together with Acting-Ensign McIntosh, who had charge of one the guns. His injuries are supposed to be fatal.

The next morning, finding it impossible to save the vessel, Capt. Rhind called a tug, which took all his men on board. A few minutes thereafter the Keokuk sunk. The persons belonging to the ship lost all their personal effects.

On Wednesday the squadron remained at anchor in the main ship channel. It is said the men in our fleet only numbered about 1000, with thirty guns; the enemy, it is supposed, had at least 300 guns, the best in the world.

The injury to the vessels, excluding the Keokuk, are represented to be of such a character as will require but a short time for repair. The casualties among our men were remarkably few, including one killed, and three wounded, on the Nahant.

The Nahant had five shot holes in her chimney, and it was reported that she had five hundred shots fired at her by the rebel batteries at Charleston, but was not severely injured. Some of the rivets had been started in her turret, which prevented her guns from being worked to advantage.

The Keokuk had been sank, and one man lost in her.

The quartermaster and six men on the Nantucket were killed.

As regards future movements the reports are conflicting. It was positively stated by one of the pilots who boarded us that the Monitors would withdraw over the bar, and that further action would be suspended. This was subsequently corroborated by a reporter of one of the New York papers.

An officer from the James Adger who previously boarded us, stated that the engagement would be renewed about 1 o'clock P. M., and added that the Admiral expressed his belief of their success. The channel above the Fort was obstructed. No torpedoes were reported to have been exploded.

Rebel accounts from Charleston.

CHARLESTON, April 8, 8 o'clock, P. M.—All is quiet here to-day. The people and troops are in high spirits at the result of yesterday's fight. The Keokuk is certainly sunk. The fighting yesterday was chiefly at a distance of nine hundred yards.

The monitors cannot pass Sumter without coming within five hundred yards.—The impression is very general that the enemy will renew the attack after repairing damages. Seven monitors and the Ironsides are still off the harbor.

10 o'clock, P. M.—The latest official intelligence from the bar states that only two of the iron-clads have gone South, leaving seven remaining besides the Keokuk, which lies sunk about a thousand yards from Morris island.

The Yankee machine called the "Devil," designed for the removal of torpedoes, has floated ashore and fallen into our hands. The enemy is constantly signalling, but no renewal of the attack is anticipated before to-morrow.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

CHARLESTON, April 9, A. M.—All is quiet this morning. The Monitors are still in sight. Yesterday evening, many pieces of the Keokuk's furniture, with a spy glass, etc., were washed on Morris Island beach.

Many of these articles were covered with clotted blood. The impression prevails at our batteries that the slaughter on board the Keokuk was terrible.

[From the Reading Gazette of Saturday.]

POLITICAL ARRESTS.

Great Excitement in Reading.

RIOTOUS PROCEEDINGS.

On Thursday last, a man named Philip Huber, a resident of Lancaster county, (near the border of Berks) was arrested in this city by Wm. Y. Lyon, who styles himself a Government Detective Officer, under a warrant issued from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, charged with being engaged in getting up secret societies of a treasonable character in this and adjoining counties. On Wednesday morning, Messrs. Gabriel Filbert, Augustus F. Illig and Harrison Oxenrider, were arrested at Stroudsburg, in Marion township, upon a similar charge, by Deputy U. S. Marshal Sharkey and Schuyler, from Philadelphia. The accused parties were taken to Philadelphia on Wednesday afternoon, in the custody of the officers named, for a hearing upon the charges against them.

The news of their arrest soon spread through the Western section of the county, and on Thursday morning, it was rumored that eight hundred to a thousand men, said to be members of these secret organizations, were on their way to the city, to effect, as was alleged, the release of their confederates! But, as rumor's thousand tongues have been so busy of late, almost daily, in circulating idle and false reports, little or no credence was attached to the story, and few persons took the trouble to inquire as to its truth. Between 10 and 11 o'clock, however, some two or three hundred men, principally from the Heidelberg and Spring townships, crossed the Penn street bridge, and in a sort of procession walked leisurely and quietly up Penn street to Sixth, and up Sixth street to the Court House, in front of which they halted. A crowd of citizens soon followed, and in five or ten minutes, several thousand persons had gathered in Sixth street around the Court House, and stood there perhaps for fifteen minutes. During this time, the men from the country remained quite and orderly, and neither by word or act indicated that their visit to town was for any riotous or unlawful purpose; although there was some excited talk among the townspeople, and a few were heard to utter threats of personal violence if the crowd was not dispersed forthwith. While this was going on, we accosted several of the country people, and inquired their object in coming to town. One replied that they had heard Huber was arrested, and came in to see what was to be done with him, as they supposed he was in prison in Reading and would have a hearing here. Another said that they had understood there was to be a meeting in the city in regard to the arrest, and that they had come to attend it. Another said that they were informed that Huber was to be brought before Judge Woodward on Thursday in the Reading Court House, for a hearing, and that they would be wanted as witnesses. This was the substance of all the information we obtained; and from it we inferred that the men had no definite object in coming to town other than to learn the result of the investigation in Huber's case, which they supposed would take place. The idea that they were bent upon any act of lawlessness, or meditated any violent resistance to the authorities, is refuted by their very appearance—being plain men, evidently just from their ordinary farmwork; many of them aged and some crippled, and to all appearance unarmed—and by the quiet and unoffensive manner in which they conducted themselves. The only thing like "arms" that could be seen among the whole crowd, were two or three sticks not larger than ordinary walking-canes. After they had stood for some time in front of the Court House, Mayor Hoyer ascended the steps, and stated, in a few words, in the German language, that Huber and the other persons named had been arrested by due process of law, that they were now in Philadelphia where they would have a fair hearing before an officer of the United States Court, that their friends had sent counsel to defend them; and concluded by advising the crowd to disperse, go home, and not provoke a disturbance of the peace by their presence in a mass. John S. Richards, Esq., followed the Mayor in a few remarks of similar import. He said that he understood the object of their coming was to ascertain what had become of Huber and the others. He thought they had a right to know this; they had been arrested by authority of the U. S. Court, for organizing a secret association to oppose the laws, and were now in Philadelphia. Their lawyers had gone with them, and they would have a full hearing and a fair trial.

After this, the crowd separated, the country people going down arcst toward the Plough and Harrow Hotel, in separate groups. Some however, remained about the corner of Sixth and Penn street, engaged in conversation. During the excitement that prevailed at this time, Mr. George Lash, a well known and respectable citizen of Spring township, who had come to town with the others, was arrested by order of Samuel L. Young, Esq., a commissioner of the United States, on a charge of being connected with the secret organization alluded to, or of having uttered seditious language, we could not accertain positively which, and taken to Mr. Young in his office, who demanded bail of him in the sum of $10,000. The bail was given, and Mr. Lash was released. This proceeding drew the crowd together again, and as Mr. Lash and his friends were leaving the office, they were hooted at with the cries of "rebel," "traitor," hang him" &c., and one or two of the country people were struck at and had their hats knocked over their eyes by persons in the crowd. At this time the excitement reached a pretty high pitch, and a serious riot was apprehended; but we are glad to say, for the credit of our usually peaceful city, that the personal interposition of the Mayor, assisted by law-abiding citizens of both parties, proved effectual in suppressing the angry passions of the multitude, and in preventing further violence on either side.

By noon, quiet seemed to be restored, and the greater portion of the country people had crossed the bridge on their way home. A few remained about the Plough and Harrow Hotel until after dinner, when a party of men, said to be from a Foundry up town, went down, and got into an altercation with some of the countrymen, the result of which was that two or three of the latter—one of whom was intoxicated—were badly beaten. What was the provocation to this attack, we did not learn, but heard it said that one of the persons beaten had "hurrahed for Jeff."—Iron knuckles and slung shot, it is said, were used by one or more of the assailants. At the request of the Mayor, Mr. Geiger, proprietor of the Plough and Harrow, closed his bar room; and in the course of an hour or so, all the country people had left town, the crowd had dispersed, and the usual quiet in our streets was restored.

This is a plain and impartial account of the occurrences on Thursday, of which highly exaggerated and in many particulars erroneous accounts appeared in the Philadelphia papers of yesterday

Huber, the reputed leader of these alleged treasonable societies, and Messrs. Filbert, Illig and Oxenrider, had a hearing on Thursday afternoon before U. S. Commissioner Heazelitt, of the District Court. They were arraigned on the charge of conspiracy against the Government. George A. Coffey, Esq., United States District Attorney, appeared for the Government, and the Hon. J. Glancy Jones, of this city, as counsel for Messrs. Filbert, Illig and Oxenrider. John P. O'Neill, Esq., appeared for Huber. He expected Mr. Jones would defend him, but that gentleman declined. Preliminary to the examination the affidavit upon which the warrant of arrest was issued, was read. It was made by William Y. Lyon, "United States Detective," April 6th, 1863, and sets forth—

That there have been organized, in various parts of Berks county, Pennsylvania, seditious and treasonable combinations, lodges, or societies, the object of which is to create dissatisfaction against the Government of the United States, to prevent and resist the execution of the United States laws, and particularly the act of Congress providing for a conscription or draft of soldiers; the said lodges meet at night time, pay an initiation fee, and are bound together by an oath; said societies have from fifty to eighty and a hundred members each; that one was organized at the house of Jacob Zeller, near Stoudsburg, Pennsylvania, and other places. The affidavit further sets forth the names of some of the members of said association, including parties who have not been arrested.

The following report of the testimony taken before the Commissioner, is from yesterday's *Press*. We deem it proper to premise that there is nothing in all this testimony to implicate Messrs. Filbert, Illig, or Oxenrider in any unlawful act, and that Lyon's testimony against Huber is, so far, unsupported by other evidence.—As an offset to it, we may state that we have the solemn assurance of men in whose word the most implicit reliance can be placed, that the secret associations which have aroused such a bitter feeling have no treasonable or improper object, and that the only obligation its members are required to take, is one TO SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, AND LABOR FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE UNION AS IT WAS.

THE HEARING.

Philip Huber, Augustus F. Illig, Gabriel Filbert, and Harrison Oxenrider were arraigned on the charge of conspiracy.

George A. Coffey, Esq., United States District Attorney, appeared for the Government.

Hon. J. Glancy Jones, ex member of Congress, appeared as counsel for the last three named defendants.

John P. O'Neill, Esq., appeared for the first named.

Mr. Huber is the prime mover in organizing the alleged treasonable association. He expected Mr. Jones would defend him, but this gentleman declined. After settling some uninteresting preliminaries the affidavit was ready, by the counsel for the defence, upon which the warrant of arrest was issued. This was made in April the 6th inst., by William Y. Lyon, United States detective, and it sets forth that there have been organized, in various parts of Berks county, Pennsylvania, seditious and treasonable combinations, lodges, or societies, the object of which is to create disaffection against the Government of the United States, to prevent and resist the execution of the United States laws, and particularly the act of Congress providing for a conscription or draft of soldiers; the said lodges meet at night time, pay an initiation fee, and are bound together by an oath; said societies have from fifty to eighty and a hundred members each; that one was organized at the house of Jacob Zeller, near Stoudsburg, Pennsylvania, and other places. The affidavit further sets forth the names of some of the members of said association, of parties who have not been arrested.

THE EVIDENCE.

William Y. Lyon sworn.

Mr. Jones, counsel for defence, now cautioned the witness to say nothing but what he knew to his own knowledge.

Witness. Yes, sir.

Question by United States District Attorney Coffey. Do you know the defendants?

Answer. I do; I know Philip Huber, Dr. Augustus Illig, Gabriel Filbert, and Harrison Oxenrider; I received information within the last two months that there was a man named—(object to by Mr. O'Neill, who said, never mind about receiving the information; just state what you know of your own knowledge.)

Witness. Well, then, to suit you better, I will say from information that I received, I set myself to work to find out whether there was anything in this matter; I "piped" for it; there were complaints coming to me every day.

Mr. Jones here interrupted the witness by saying that he had understood, that Mr. Lyon had had some conversation with the defendants, and anything they said to him, unless voluntarily made by them, cannot be admitted as evidence.

Mr. O'Neill further said that admissions could not be received unless the conspiracy is first made out. Let us substantiate this first, and then proceed.

Witness. I came here to tell the truth, and nothing but the truth; I am a stranger here.

By Mr. Coffey. Tell what you saw and heard.

Witness resumed. On Saturday morning, the 21st of March, 1863, I received information there was to be a meeting; I proceeded to the place where the meeting was to be held; I went on foot in Marion township, and concealed myself in the barn of Jacob Zellar, under the straw; Mr. Huber told the men who were there; I think Mr. Filbert was there; Mr. Huber was there of course; he told them—

Mr. O'Neill objects that what Mr. Huber said is not evidence until the defendants first be conducted in the charge of conspiracy. When this is done, than any admission of what Mr. Huber said, may be given in evidence.

Commissioner Heazlett replied—"Well, we must commence this investigation somewhere, and we might as well commence now."

Mr. Jones said, after the evidence has been heard then the Commissioner can exercise his own judgment.

With this understanding the witness made another attempt to give in his evidence. He said, there might have been a hundred men in the barn, altogether; before they proceeded to business Mr. Huber told them to search the barn, to see if there were any spies concealed in it; I cannot name the parties whom he was addressing; he directed them to run a dung fork or hay fork into the straw, to see if there were any spies concealed under it; after this was done, he ordered pickets to be thrown outside the barn: this was, as near as I can judge, between eight and nine o'clock; the men went out, then the men inside too the obligation; Mr. Huber did the talking; he denounced the war as unholy and unjust; he said that the society was a million strong; he stated that it first was organized in the South; that the society had *signs, passwords, and grips*; he administered the obligation; whether the men swore on a Bible or not, I cannot say; there were eighty-three men, to the best of my knowledge, who joined on that occasion by taking the obligation; the obligation was given verbally; he said the men would swear; I don't know whether they kissed the Bible or not, as I could not exactly see; they all answered yes after the obligation was spoken to them, he advertises a meeting to be held at a certain place—a *man's house*—and after this they go into a secret organization; the members sign a list and pay one dollar each in the first place; then those who sign go into secret; those who do not sign go away; I heard him give the obligation.

By Mr. Coffey. Now just think, and be careful, and tell us what the obligation is.

"Are you in favor of the abduction of Abraham Lincoln?

I heard this, "by force, if necessary."

"Are you in favor of a Northwestern Confederacy?"

Huber here interrupted the witness by saying: "It's a lie."

Commissioner Heazlett told Huber to keep silence.

By Mr. Coffey. Well, sir, go on. Did you hear anything else?

Witness. *Yes sir I heard him say: "Are you in favor of resisting the draft or the Conscription act?"*

Here there was some sensation among the crowd, and the windows were opened to let in a little fresh air.

By Mr. Coffey. Well, sir, did they swear to these obligations?

Witness. Yes, sir; they answered yes.

Question. Can't you name some of the men who were there and who thus swore? How about Mr. Illig, Mr. Filbert, or Mr. Oxenrider.

Witness. I cannot swear positively that any of them were there; Mr. Gilbert and Illig were at the house before the party went into secret session, and I cannot swear positively that they were in the barn; I am sure that Mr. Huber was in the barn; am not mistaken about him; he was the only man in that spoke at the meeting in the house; there was more or less talking among those who composed the meeting; $83 were collected at the private meeting; Huber said he was the treasurer; he took the money; I have had some talk with him; I asked him some questions, and told him he might answer them if he chose; there was no compulsion I know the rights of a prisoner when in custody; I asked him what the association was banded together for—was it to overthrow the Government? He said it was, and this could be done under the Constitution; he said the money was raised to fee lawyers if any one of the members was arrested; also, to try the constitutionality of the conscription act, and if this would not do they would use force, but did not say what kind of force; I believe this is about all I know of the affair; I am a Government detective, and since the 20th of March have been deputy provost marshal at Reading.

Cross-examined by Mr. O'Neill.—Huber resides near the Black Horse, in Lancaster county, not far from the line of Berks county; the public meeting was called at the house of Mr. Foust; I can't say that the notice of the meeting was published; I received my information of the meeting from Stouchburg; I was not in the house; I was in sight of it; this was of March 21st—Saturday; Huber made the speech at the house; all the doors were not shut; I was in disguise; I talked with no person; I listened against the shutter; I was pretty close; no one accosted me; I accosted nobody; I was rigged up for the occasion; I was blackened, and in disguise; I never spoke to Huber until April 7th. I have seen him sometimes; I did not see him speak; I knew his voice at the barn; I was secreted under the straw in the barn; I heard him speak at a meeting in Moorville.

Question. Well, sir, you must be in error, because you have said you never heard him speak until the 7th of April.

Witness. You are mistaken, sir; I said nothing of the kind; I said I never spoke to him until the 7th of April.

Q. Well, how did you recognize him by his voice, in the barn, if you did not see him while he was speaking in the house?

A. I did know his voice, and heard him distinctly.

Q. You have pretty big ears.

A. That's so.

The witness was now questioned at great and somewhat tedious length in respect to the oath taken by the alleged conspirators. The witness had made a memorandum of the oath, with lead pencil, in a small book in which he had written the word abdication, upon which mistake the learned counsel affected to be somewhat funny. The witness said I am not a good speller nor a good writer, but Mr. Huber said *abduction*; I made the memorandum, the witness continued, on Sunday morning after I got home; it was then fresh upon my mind; I did not make it on Saturday night, simply because I was tired; I went home in a coal train; felt sleepy; Am a poor speller; I arrested Huber in the iron foundry of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad shop at Reading; I searched him to see if he had any papers on him; I found one paper that he had fixed for another meeting to be held; that paper is now in the possession of Samuel M. Young, commissioner at Reading; when I asked him about the organization he said it was a Constitutional Union organization; said the dollar fee was for the purpose of testing whether the draft was constitutional or not; Mr. Huber, in administering the oath, said you do swear; etc!

Q. Was there not an obligation taken also to sustain the Constitution of the United States?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why did you not put that down in your memorandum book;

A. I put down what I thought was necessary.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jones.—I desired to find out whether there was anything in the organization; if there is anything illegal in it I want the members tried honorably, and honorably convicted if they are guilty; I live at Reading; I decline to name the party from my official capacity, and as an officer I promised not to reveal my informer; I will not tell it; I will tell you all he said if you desire to hear it.

Mr. Jones. No, sir, never mind that.

Witness. The meeting at the house was public and promiscuous, I suppose; it was after this the secret meeting was held in the barn; understand me, when he made a speech at the house, then the parties signed, then those who signed would go into secret meeting with those who had before signed; when I found they intended to go to the barn, I went there ahead of them, and secreted myself under the straw.

By Mr. Coffey. I am not positive they said at the meeting, to resist the draft by force; the obligations were spoken in English and German, or Pennsylvania Dutch.

The witness was now examined as to the character of the defendants. So far as he knew of Messrs. Illig, Oxenreider, and Filbert, he considered their character good; never had any cause to suppose they would do an illegal act; I certainly would not trust Huber; my impression is from what I know of these gentlemen; I have no reason to say that I think they would violate the law, but I would not trust Huber.—[Laughter.]

Frederick Printz was called to the stand. On being sworn he said he lived eight miles from Reading; he got acquainted with Huber at the meeting at the house of Mr. Foust; it was on last Friday two weeks, I think; Huber called the meeting; it was called by private means; the object was to take measures to resist the draft; Mr. Huber stated this at the public meeting; there were about 200 people present; he referred to the case of resistance in Indiana, and said this was the way it would be done here; that if any of the members should be taken and sent to Fort Warren that he would be rescued, even if they had to tear the Fort down; he said there were one or two millions of men belonging to the organization all over the South and North, and in the army; he said they knew each other by signs, and then stated the case of a soldier passing on the road, who gave him the sign, and he know him by it; he said that any one who paid a dollar could be sworn in; he spoke about one hour; I saw the crowd go into the barn; don't know what they did there; sixty-three dollars were paid at the public meeting; Huber did not say what the name of the association was, but outsiders called them *Copperheads*. (Laughter.); after the meeting I went towards the barn to get my horse; I was stopped by two men; I told them I wanted to get my horse and wagon, and they said all right, and went with me; I do not know what the members swear to; one of the members told me, afterwards, that they had searched the barn for spies, but found none; there was something said about a peace convention to settle the war.

Isaac S. Gerhart sworn.—This witness was so essentially Pennsylvania German that an interpreter was called into requisition. A gentleman well learned in pure German found himself at a loss to interpret Pennsylvania Dutch. Mr. H. H. Manderbach, ex-sheriff of Berks county, was called. The witness did not throw any new light on the subject. He knew nothing about the secret organization, not being a member.—We give the following condensed report of his evidence: Mr. Huber said it was a pity that, in a country like this, it is necessary to form a secret association; but before two months, or haymaking, he guessed it would be public; he then went on to say that we ought to support the Government, if it was from God, for so the Scriptures teach us; if the Government was from the devil, it ought to be trampled under foot; he said that Abe Lincoln and all his Cabinet had robbed the Treasury, and if there was only one simple letter left in it, they dig on up to their elbows to get it; he went on and said the war was too long in operation; a great many people had been killed, and the war ought to be stopped; that the last laws that came out from Lincoln and Congress were not favorable to the poor man; I saw money paid to Mr. Huber; he got a paper and put down the names; he said he had met a soldier near Fritztown, and he gave the sign, he went out and tried the soldier, and said, he had it all correct; he said the society was nearly two millions strong, and said something about the old Government; that so many had been slaughtered that no more ought to be killed; he did not think the last law was constitutional; after all this was said, the meeting went to the barn; Mr. Huber said in his public speech that five had deserted in Indiana; the Government sent after them, but did not get them; I saw several members after this, and they said that all the members who should be drafted, if they were taken to Washington at midnight, they would in an hour go over to Jeff. Davis; I heard others say they would be killed at home rather than be taken down there and killed; Huber said that it was the Copperheads that rescued the five men in Indiana; I can't recollect what Huber called the ir association.

The proceedings here closed.

Mr. Coffey, the United States district attorney, stated that he had a number of other witnesses who would make some other disclosures, and suggested that a time be agreed upon for another hearing.

Mr. Jones contended that his clients were all responsible men, and, as there was no evidence implicating them, they might be discharged.

Mr. O'Neill asked that his client be discharged, as there was no evidence of conspiracy.

Some time was spent in conversation on these points, and finally the district attorney agreed to hold Messrs. Filbert, Oxenreider, and Illig, in each other's recognizance, in the sum of $3,000, to appear at the next hearing.

Mr. Huber was required to enter bail in the sum of $4,000.

Mr. Huber, being unable to give the required bail for his appearance, was recommitted to Moyamensing prison, where he now remains.

The next hearing will take place on Monday afternoon, May 4, at 3 o'clock.

Connecticut Election.

This State has, as usual, gone for the Abolitionists, but by a much smaller majority than last year. Buckingham is elected Governor over Seymour by probably 2,500 majority.—Last year it was 9,148. The Abolitionists elect three members of Congress—Henry C. Deming in the first district, Augustus Brandagee in the Third, and John H. Hubbard in the Fourth. The Democrats elect one member, James E. English, in the Second distrie t. The Democracy of Connecticut have made a good fight, under all the circumstances, against the whole power of the administration concentrated against them. They did all they could, and more we did not expect.

THE DELAY AT CHARLESTON.—A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* says that the prime cause of the delay of the attack on Charleston has not been with the army, as many suppose—for it has been said from the highest authority that the troops have been waiting the word from the Admiral; nor has the delay been caused by the weather alone, but the presence in Charleston harbor of the torpedoes, with which it has been proved Monitors, unassisted, are unable to cope.

☞ The Harrisburg *Telegraph* announces a short time since, with a grand flourish, that Col. Wm. B. Fordney, "the eminent jurist" of Lancaster, had become a member of the "Union League." On the 25th ult., the Democratic County Convention assembled in Lancaster city, to appoint delegates to the Democratic State Convention, when Col Fordney appeared before the Convention and delivered a stirring address, in which he took occasion to say that the abolitionists had made an unwarranted use of his name, and that he believed that nothing but the ascendency of the Democratic party to power, would ever restore the Union as it existed previous to the advent of Lincoln's administration. Col. Fordney is an eminent lawyer; a man of unquestioned ability, and a firm and unflinching Democrat. These so called "Union Leagues" are useing the names of prominent Democrats in various sections of the State, for the purpose of entrapping Democrats into their secret oath bound organizations. That game won't work.

A National Guard.—An abolition paper quotes from the Philadelphia *Inquirer* to the effect that: "A project is on foot to form a National Guard; throughout the State and probably throughout the United States;" and tells us that: "membership in a regiment thus formed will relieve the minute men from the chances of the conscription;" and that: "the establishment of such an organization will tend not only to aid in crushing the rebellion, but also to prevent fresh out-breaks among the evil disposed." So this is the way provided whereby all cowardly Republicans escape the draft; and in this they are to be encouraged by the "State authorities," who are to place arms in their hands "to prevent fresh out-breaks among the evil disposed." And for this they are to get "an allowance of pay from the time they are enrolled, even though they are not engaged in active duty." This service will suit the *Dispatch* men exactly; they are too weakly in head and heart to go into the dominions of Jeff Davis, as loyal soldiers," but in the classic language of their great apostle Jim Lane, they would like to see "a copperhead, with a bullet through his heart, lying at every street corner." Come on with your "National Guard" then; we hope you will organize it before next fall, for we are anxious to see what the people think about it.

☞ A Yankee has just invented a skeleton hoop that so contracts on a lady's approach to water, that the moment she comes to a puddle it lifts her up and drops her on the opposite side.

☞ The Abolitionists advocate stump speaking in the army to cheer the soldiers. Good food and prompt pay would be much more acceptable.