

Communications.

LETTERS FROM THE HILLS.

To the Editor of the Lewistown Gazette:

Having completed my labors incident to this season of the year, such as chopping wood, mending fences, and thrashing grain, I will again devote an occasional leisure hour to thrashing the locofoco...

comes to the practice, it is a good deal like the Mexican war, wherein they could shake the Town Hall with their blood and thunder speeches...

THE GAZETTE.

LEWISTOWN, PA. SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1850.

TERMS: ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE. For six months, 75 cents.

Notices of Advertisements. The Cumberland Valley Mutual Protection Company of Dickinson township, give notice of an assessment of 6 per cent. on the premium notes.

The Applebaugh property, a very desirable location, is offered for rent.

School Taxes. For the information of taxpayers, we deem it proper to state that the duplicate for School Taxes for the present year will remain in the hands of G. W. THOMAS, Esq., Treasurer, until Saturday next.

More Fires. Painful as is the conviction, there can no longer be a doubt of incendiarism being rife in our town. Life and property are now at stake, and where all are so deeply interested, the question may well be mooted whether it is not time to adopt some municipal regulations...

Congress.—The only matter of note that has transpired in the House is the election of Mr. Campbell, whig, as clerk, over the "talented Forney" of the Pennsylvania.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—We learn by letter that a sad accident occurred near Boalsburg, Centre county, on Saturday last.

On the 10th instant, the Legislature of Maryland elected ex-Governor Pratt U. S. Senator, for the unexpired term of the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, and for six years, commencing with the first session of the thirty-second Congress.

EDITORIAL CONVENTION.—The convention of editors, held at Harrisburg on the 1st inst., adopted a series of resolutions recommending that papers should be allowed to circulate free of postage within the congressional districts in which they may be published, and urging upon the legislature the benefits which would accrue to the people...

EXPLANATORY.—W. R. BEALE, conductor of the burthen train that came in contact with the passenger train week before last, has published a card, in which he alleges that the accident was caused by a difference of ten minutes time in their watches.

ARRESTS.—Three young men were arrested on Tuesday evening, on suspicion of having fired Shull's bowling alley, and after an examination before a Justice of the Peace committed for trial.

Under the head of expenditures and miscellaneous matters, are the following: William H. Irwin, Adjutant General. Salary, \$300 00; Disbursements, 371 09; \$671 09.

Auditor General's Report.

Table with columns for item, amount, and total. Includes items like Centre and Kishacoquillas Turnpike Road, Company, tax on stock, Nathaniel Fear, treasurer, tax, John C. Sigler, late treasurer, Lewis Hoover, farmer, Nathaniel Fear, tavern licenses, etc.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD RECEIPTS.—No less than fifty cars were received in one day last week, at the depot of Messrs. Craig, Bellas & Co., agents of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, with 152 tons of produce, consisting of flour, butter, eggs, poultry, &c.

DROWNED.—On Saturday last Miss CAROLINE MILLER, aged about 17 years, fell from the foot-log crossing Stone Creek at the Warm Springs, and was drowned.

Thomas C. McDowell, late Consul to Brazil, has been elected State Librarian.

FIRE.—A stable owned by Francis M'Clure, Esq., on Water street, near the stone bridge, was fired on Sunday morning last, about 2 o'clock, and a horse belonging to an old gentleman named M'Alister, on a visit to a relative, taken therefrom.

At one o'clock on Tuesday morning, a fire broke out in a new two story frame building on Wayne street, opposite the Pioneer Company's stables, which was totally consumed.

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PITTSBURGH ELECTION.—The election for municipal officers in Pittsburgh last week, resulted in the choice of JOSEPH BARKER, the street preacher, who was recently imprisoned by Judge Shaler for uttering some strong language against the Catholic priesthood.

From the following paragraph it would appear that Barker will prove a troublesome customer to some: He entered on his duties, on Saturday last, and during the morning disposed of a number of cases of rowdiness, &c.

LEGISLATURE.—We see nothing in the proceedings of the Legislature at Harrisburg that would interest our readers. A large number of resolutions of inquiry are daily offered, bills read in place &c., but it will take a week or two more before they will be brought to maturity.

Mr. Fraily reported as committed, the bill to incorporate the Cemetery of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Lewistown; which was taken up and passed through Committee of the Whole, McCaslin in the chair.

Mr. Trone, a bill to extend the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in certain civil and criminal cases, and to authorize juries before them.

Mr. Laird, a bill to amend the school law, so as to allow persons over 21 years of age to attend common schools.

Items of News.

An official census shows the population of Zanesville, Ohio, to be 7302.

A store was recently set on fire at St. Louis, by rats gnawing lucifer matches.

Miss Bremer, who is still in Boston, has a new novel in the hands of Mary Howitt.

Ripe strawberries, grown in the open air, were exhibited at New Orleans on the 29th ult.

Chickering, of Boston, the famous pianoforte maker, completed his ten thousandth instrument on New Year's day.

A large number of counterfeit ten dollar bills of the city bank of Columbus, Ohio, are in circulation in the west.

The people of Madison county have presented Gov. Crittenden a fat ox, weighing 2,000 lbs.

It is reported that the treasurer of the Cherokee nation, Mr. David Vann, is a defaulter to the amount of \$7000.

The small pox is raging to an alarming extent in some of the small towns in Kentucky.

A national christian anti-slavery convention is announced to be held in Cincinnati, on the 17th of April next.

Mrs. Thomas Elliott was burned to death at Harsimus, N. Y., on Tuesday night, by leaving a lighted candle beside her bed.

The dwelling of Mr. David A. Dickinson, in Carroll county, Md., was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday last.

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Alexander Irvin, as United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

A german girl named Mary Smaltz, committed suicide at Frankfort, Ky., on the 3d inst., by drowning herself in the river.

The St. Louis papers of the 5th instant state that during the previous week several cases of cholera had occurred in that city, some of which terminated fatally.

The Cincinnati Gazette says that the value of chewing tobacco sold in that market amounts to one and a half million of dollars annually.

The extensive soap and candle manufactory of Messrs. Sawyer & Co., at Allegheny, Pa., was wholly destroyed by fire on Tuesday night last.

The London papers of December 14th announce the death of Sir M. Brunel, the celebrated engineer and constructor of the Thames tunnel.

A young German druggist, Frederick Himmell, at Hoboken, hung himself near the Elysian Fields last week—as is supposed, in a fit of despondency, having neither relatives nor means.

There are now building for the American navy four steamers: Powhattan, Susquehanna, Saranac, and San Jacinto. The first at Norfolk, the second at Philadelphia, the third at Portsmouth, N. H., and the last at New York.

Millions of Pigeons have been filling the woods for miles around Franklin, Tennessee, for several weeks past. They have a roost several miles in extent in Hickman county, and with a torch and club the people sally forth at night, and bring home their game by meal bags full.

FREE SUFFRAGE.—At the recent election in Wisconsin, the question of free suffrage was voted upon, and decided in the affirmative; the vote showing 4090 for, 3603 against it. This establishes the right of every male citizen, of whatever color, over the age of twenty-one years, to vote at all elections in the State.

The first sale of precious stones, in New York, for five years past, consisting of diamonds, turquoises, topazes, garnets, rubies, chrysolites, pearls, sapphires, aqua marines, Oriental garnets, opals, amethysts, emeralds, Panama pearls, and rough diamond opals, took place on Friday morning. The proceeds amounted to about \$8,000.

The old Brewery, a den of infamy in the "Five Points," New York, was burned on Friday last, and although not entirely destroyed, was sufficiently damaged to render its miserable inmates more miserable for a time at least, during this wintry weather.

NOTICES. SARTAIN'S UNION MAGAZINE for February is one of the richest in embellishments that has yet been issued.

DEPARTED THIS LIFE, on Thursday the 17th inst., at Lewistown, Mrs. ISABELLA S., consort of Lewis T. Watson, Esq., in the 36th year of her age.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT. The following abstract of Adj. General Irwin's Report will be read with interest: The Adjutant General regrets that the last Legislature did not adopt more of the suggestions in regard to our Military affairs which were made in his Report last year.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.

The following abstract of Adj. General Irwin's Report will be read with interest: The Adjutant General regrets that the last Legislature did not adopt more of the suggestions in regard to our Military affairs which were made in his Report last year.

However incomplete the present law may be, it cannot be denied that by the abolition of the parades of the ununiformed militia, it had done more than was ever before effected for our military affairs. He wished to correct a serious mistake in such things as would render the law unconstitutional.

As to the effects of the law.—The demand for arms from August last—when the general and field officers were elected—up to this time, has been unprecedented. The Arsenal at Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Meadville, have been almost exhausted, and the Adjutant General has been compelled to anticipate, by an arrangement with the War Department, through the Governor, our quota of arms for 1850.

He takes ground against the re-establishment of the militia system recently repealed, as it would be repugnant to the feelings of a vast majority of our citizens, destructive to the military spirit of our people, and most pernicious to the honor and true interests of Pennsylvania.

One important error in the present system consists in the small number of rank and file—thirty-six rank and file necessary to constitute a company. This system of "skeleton companies" was attempted in the U. S. Army, and signally failed.

Another defect is, that the present law does not require an official bond from the Brigade Inspector. The 17th section of the Act of 2d April, 1822, requiring an official bond of \$5000, with sufficient sureties, should be re-enacted.

The expenses of many corps in Philadelphia, and in the larger towns and interior cities, are burdensome to active members, and are compelled to have contributing members to assist in paying expenses.

He calls the attention of the Legislature to the necessity of numbering the Regiments in regular order throughout the State, and assigning to each officer his regimental and lineal rank, and to each General officer his rank in the line of the ununiformed militia of Pennsylvania.

Some dissatisfaction is expressed by General officers of the ununiformed militia, whether, under the present law, they are entitled to staff officers. This should be ascertained by law.

No system of reports and returns as to the real strength and discipline of the militia exists, and the Adjutant General is denied the power to present a detailed statement of the militia such as the law requires.

During the past summer an arrangement was concluded with Brevet Brigadier General H. Stanton, Assistant Quartermaster General U. S. A., by which U. S. uniforms, both fatigue and dress, were furnished to the ununiformed militia at the same price charged the regular soldier, with the additional trifling cost of packing boxes and transportation.

The Superintendent of the Philadelphia Arsenal should be authorized and required to furnish the fatigue or dress U. S. uniform to companies upon their requisition direct to them.

The Adjutant General cannot meet many requisitions for military clothing which have been made upon him. Sales of old and useless arms and equipments, camp equipage, &c., have been made at the Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Meadville Arsenals.

That at Philadelphia Arsenal amounted to \$640 10; that at Harrisburg \$841 64. No return from Meadville. The money (excluding expenses) has been paid into the State Treasury.

A part (\$494 15) of the appropriation for repairing the Arsenals has been expended.

The Legislature should authorize the Adjutant General to inspect personally the arms, &c., issued throughout the State, or allow him to appoint some one to discharge the duties for him.

The State is suffering a serious loss by neglecting to give to the Adjutant General the power to collect and sell damaged arms, &c., the cost of transporting arms to certain points being very heavy and the supply being at but a few places, the market is soon glutted. It is unjust, also, for the citizens of the whole State should have equal opportunities to purchase.

The Adjutant General asks authority to exchange several pieces of ordnance for muskets, as the extraordinary demand for muskets will certainly exhaust our quota for 1850, long before the year expires.

Artillery corps, except when attached to a Battery, or organized into a Regiment, should not be encouraged, as they are expensive to the State, and with a few exceptions, give no attention to Artillery tactics or practice.

Every possible encouragement should be given to the formation of Batteries of Light Artillery, especially in the First Division.

A number of Carabines, in the Harrisburg Arsenal, which are perfectly useless, though in good condition, and a number of Pikes, an article