

# Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

## TOWANDA:

Thursday Morning, May 8, 1862.

### A GLANCE FORWARD.

We look upon the address put forth by the Union Republicans and Democrats of New York as marking a new and important era in the political history of the country. The political skies are rife with signs of favorable change. On every hand we can see the workings of a new and powerful heaven, through the influence of which such of the constituents of the two great parties as have in the past been moved by considerations of the common good, are to unite for the rescue of the country from the perils which now environ it. Under what name this new organization may labor we do not at present know, nor do we consider it essential. It is enough that the clearly expressed object is one that must be cherished by every patriot as high and holy above all others. We therefore hail these signs of change as omens of hope, and trust that the proposed union may be no less fraternal than it is political.

A movement similar to that just inaugurated in New York is about to be set on foot in Pennsylvania. That we have not been the advocates of the ill-conceived, and worse executed fusions which have marked the politics of the State for the last six years, these columns bear ample witness. Those fusions were proposed at a time when the safety of the Government seemed to depend upon the triumph of the principles of the Republican party, and when that party, nearly full grown and lusty in surrounding States, was desperately pushed for a separate and distinct existence in this Commonwealth. We saw a vital need of its firm establishment on a distinctive platform and labored earnestly to that end. In the proposed fusions we recognized only delays of the triumph desired, and if we yielded at all it was in deference to the opinions of numbers not less earnest in their desire for that victory.

That triumph finally came. The Republican party achieved a distinct and vigorous existence, and is now in a position where it may properly make treaties of friendship, of alliance and of policy with other organizations. In unity, as in strength, it exceeds any other organization in the State, and still it cannot claim to be a majority party in the State. But its power as an organization is such, that by an earnest co-operation with the truly loyal of other parties it may now contribute largely to the salvation of the country. In past years we have had to labor for the organization of a liberal and progressive party. The issue now presented, is the defence of the Government against the machinations of traitors. This defence would not be perfect without a loyal legislature and a loyal congressional delegation, both to be elected the coming fall. To accomplish this no one party in the State is sufficient as now organized, and it is plain that if we would succeed we must combine the truly loyal of all parties not only in the State at large, but especially in those localities where the prevalence of faction renders the issue of the election doubtful.

The democratic party that was, is now irrevocably divided. The larger portion call themselves "Douglas Democrats," in contradistinction to the remnant left, which only differs from Jeff Davis democracy inasmuch as it is a covertly traitorous organization, instead of being an open and manly foe to the Government. Its generals are renegades, like Wm. B. Reed and Robert E. Randall, aided by what, in the palmy days of the democratic party, were known as the fifth-rate politicians of the party. By the mutations of politics the sterling excellence of the party has gone off, either into the Republican organization, or by itself, and these fifth-rate men, like ruffians, have come to the surface. It is against treason as propagated by such leaders that loyal Pennsylvania has to contend. Their hope is in the continued division of loyal men. They will exhort Douglas men to stand to their principles, (praiseworthy and will, as they do already, deprecate any disposition to alliance between their former partisans and the Republicans. In brief, they hope to "divide and conquer."

We regard the coalition of all true Union men, without respect to party, as of the highest importance. Did the coalition involve any sacrifice of principles on the part of either party to the agreement, the case would be different. But it involves nothing of the kind as we understand it. It appears that divided we cannot secure the State for the Government. That the legislature, which next session is to choose an U. S. Senator, ought to be unconditionally loyal, no reasonable man will deny. That our congressional delegation should earnestly co-operate with the Administration in its conduct of the war, all will admit to be vitally necessary. Through such a union as is now taking place in New York, and which has already taken place, and borne fruit in Connecticut, these great objects can be secured. The question then is simply: shall we, by a wise and catholic treaty with all loyal men, rout treason forever in the State, or shall we by a narrow and bigoted creed, suffer treason to gain a partial triumph through our domestic division?

We need not wait for the answer of the Republicans of "the northern tier." As in the past they have looked forward to the redemption of the Government from the hands of traitors, so in the present and in the future, they will labor earnestly for the same end until it be attained.

## THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

Sunday afternoon we received a dispatch from the Supervisor of Telegraphs at Fortress Monroe, announcing that Yorktown was evacuated on Saturday night, and that they left a large amount of equipage, which they could not destroy for fear of being seen. A subsequent dispatch from Gen. McClellan, says: "We have the ramparts, with guns, ammunition and camp equipage. We hold the entire line of the works, which the engineers report to be very strong." Gen. McClellan further reports that the whole of his cavalry force and horse artillery are in pursuit; that our gunboats have gone up York River, and that Franklin's division has also been moved up the river, with as many more troops as transports could be found to convey. Our forces have also taken Gloucester, and to this is added a promise by the commanding General that he will push the enemy to the wall. A later dispatch says the evacuation commenced on Thursday last, the rebels fearing that with the aid of the river fleet our forces might get into their rear and thus cut off all means of retreat. This dispatch sets down the number of guns captured at 75.

Gen. Pope telegraphs from near Farmington to Pittsburg Landing, under date of May 3d, that a reconnoissance sent toward Farmington found the enemy 4,500 strong, with four pieces of artillery and some cavalry occupying a strong position near the town. Our forces advanced at once to the assault, and after a sharp skirmish carried the position in fine style. The enemy left thirty dead on the field, with their tents and baggage, our cavalry pursuing them. The enemy fled in wild confusion. Some regiments of cavalry, sent through to Booneville, took possession of the town, tore up the railroad track, and destroyed two bridges. Gen. Pope says he has a good many prisoners, but cannot tell how many yet. The national loss is two killed and twelve wounded. By way of Memphis we have a report that Gen. Beauregard is moving large bodies of troops Southward; some go by railroad, and others afoot. A few have gone west. It is generally understood that he is evacuating the place. He says that President Davis understands his movements. Purdy was evacuated on Wednesday last, and has since been burned. Every building is said to be destroyed.

The additional news we received from New Orleans is from rebel sources, and is to the effect that the telegraph operator from the Bay St. Louis has telegraphed to the Mobile office that the stores in New Orleans were being emptied of sugar and molasses, which were thrown into the streets and the river. The city was to have been formerly surrendered on the 20th ult., but the time was extended. Some of the national vessels have gone up the river.

The Merrimac on Monday made her appearance off Sewall's Point and remained there up to 4 o'clock p. m. It is presumed her object is to prevent any advance of our fleet up the James River which would enable Gen. McClellan to flank the retreating rebels.

The latest dispatches from Gen. Halleck says he has advanced his headquarters twelve miles from Pittsburg Landing, and is pressing close upon the rebels.

It is reported from Washington that the bill proposing to limit the number of brigadier generals to 200, and of major-generals to 26, in all probability will become a law.

A dispatch from Cairo announces the capture of Baton Rouge. It will be remembered that there is a United States Arsenal at this place, which was taken possession of by the rebels more than a year ago, early in the rebellion. It is evident that the fleet from New Orleans is moving up the river. Another dispatch announces important movements near Corinth which are not yet permitted to be made public. Purdy, however, which is between Corinth and Pittsburg, and which was occupied by the left wing of the enemy, has been taken possession of without opposition, and it is intimated that an attack is to be made somewhere in conjunction with the fleet. The most rational conjecture is that Beauregard has fallen back upon Memphis, and that the people of that city are expecting an attack, as they have resolved, in public meeting, to burn the town in the last extremity.

**UNITED STATES TREASURY NOTES AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR GOLD.**—An important case has been decided in the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County. An execution was issued against certain real estate, which was sold by the sheriff, and the proceeds (seven thousand nine hundred and sixty-two dollars and fifty cents) handed to the probrothonary. The party who had issued the execution demanded the payment of the amount in gold, and positively refused U. S. Treasury notes issued under the act of Congress of July 17th. At the time of the sale, gold was at four and a half per cent. premium. An attachment was asked against the probrothonary to compel him to pay gold; but the court rules that inasmuch as the act of March 17th made not only the new but the old issue of notes a legal tender, it was only necessary to offer the treasury notes, which the plaintiff was obliged to take.

**THE RETIRING REBELS.**—The rebels in lower Virginia during Saturday night hastily evacuated their strong line of fortifications at Yorktown retreating up the peninsula toward Richmond. Of course, they carried off many of their guns and stores, but left a number of heavy siege pieces, with a considerable amount of camp equipage and ordnance stores. We presume they have retreated to a new and stronger line of defence which they have been constructing.

## Republican Convention.

Pursuant to a call of the Republican Standing Committee a Convention assembled at the Court House, in the borough of Towanda, on Monday evening, May 5th. The Convention was organized by calling H. LAWRENCE SCOTT to the Chair, and electing DUMMER LILLY and S. W. ALVORD, Secretaries.

The following delegates appeared and presented their credentials:—

Athensboro'—H. W. Patrick, C. Brooks, Asylum—R. David, B. Laporte, Burlington—C. F. Nichols, J. Soper, Burlingtonboro'—Geo. C. Hill, Burlington West—A. Greeno, John Ballard, Canton—M. B. Case, J. Vandye, Jr., Columbia—J. C. McKean, D. Lilly, Columbia West—J. Taylor, Volney Taylor, Herick—Wm. Nesbitt, Cyrus Fisher, LeRoy—R. McKee, H. W. McCraney, Littlefield—Silas B. Grammer, W. H. Walker, Monroeboro'—S. S. Hinman, A. Mallen, Orwell—W. P. Shaw, H. M. Ross, Pike—J. H. Marsh, P. H. Buck, Ridgebury—B. Harmon, S. Squires, Springfield—S. G. Harkness, B. P. Strong, Steuben—E. P. Shaw, W. H. C. Sebuse, South Creek—Ira Crane, J. K. Sefuse, Standing Stone—C. Taylor, J. S. Vannest, Sylvaniaboro'—F. H. Barrett, H. M. Ross, Towanda West—W. P. Davis, S. W. Alvord, Towanda West—H. L. Scott, J. L. Bowman, Towanda North—E. Rutty, G. H. Granger, Troy twp.—J. M. Smith, H. A. Fisher, Chiles—Albert Nowell, E. Lockwood, Windham—H. Sherry, Benj. Ellsbee, Warren—John Beardsley, Wyalsburg—H. Camp, J. G. Keeler, Zanesville—C. B. Lamb, G. T. Granger, Wilnot—John Morrow, H. Horton.

The following resolutions were adopted: Resolved, That we approve the course pursued by President Lincoln in the administration of the Government of these United States during the dark and stormy period which has elapsed since his inauguration, and which, since the adoption of our National Constitution, there have been no twelve months so fraught with danger, so pregnant with peril to our Republic as institutions, as the last, and to no living statesman are we so much indebted for their preservation and vitality, as to Abraham Lincoln.

Resolved, That in the history of the human race we have no record of a war so senseless, so wicked, so atrocious as the one we are now waging with the Southern States. Since the adoption of our National Constitution, there have been no twelve months so fraught with danger, so pregnant with peril to our Republic as institutions, as the last, and to no living statesman are we so much indebted for their preservation and vitality, as to Abraham Lincoln.

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## THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

### EVACUATION OF YORKTOWN!

### THE CAPTURE OF FORT MACON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, May 4, 1862—7 P. M.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Sir:—Our cavalry and horse artillery came up with the enemy's rear guard in their intrenchments about two miles this side of Williamsburg. A brisk fight ensued. Just as my Aid left, Smith's Division of infantry arrived on the ground, and I presume carried his works, though I have not yet heard. The enemy's rear is strong, but I have force enough up there to answer all purposes.

We have thus far 71 heavy guns, and large amounts of tents, ammunition, &c. All about the lines their works prove to have been most formidable, and I am now fully satisfied of the correctness of the course, I have pursued. The success is brilliant, and you may rest assured that its effects will be of the greatest importance.

There shall be no delay in following up the rebels. The rebels have been guilty of the most murderous and barbarous conduct, in placing torpedoes within the abandoned works, near wells and springs, and near flag-stuffs, magazines, telegraph offices, in carpet bags, barrels of flour, &c. Fortunately, we have not lost many men in this manner—some four or five killed, and perhaps a dozen wounded. I shall make the prisoners remove them at their own peril.

G. B. McCLELLAN, Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, NEAR WILLIAMSBURG, May 4—P. M.

The advance of the forces under command of Gen. Stoneman, with the view of ascertaining the position of the enemy, reached this place, two and a half miles from Williamsburg, about two o'clock this afternoon on the road from Yorktown. The country in most instances was laid desolate, and but few of the houses were occupied.

On emerging from a cover of woods we came in view of Williamsburg and the enemy's earthworks. At the time no guns were visible on the enemy's works, but a regiment of cavalry could be seen approaching about one mile off, in line of battle.

Capt. Gibbon's reserve battery was then ordered to the front to open on the enemy's approaching cavalry while a portion of the 6th Cavalry were deployed as skirmishers to the right and left.

The fire from the battery was very effective on the enemy's cavalry, but never changed their course. About 200 yards to the right of Gibbon's battery was an earthwork, which had all the appearance of being deserted, when all of a sudden our troops were opened upon by a deadly fire from artillery posted behind the works. At the same time the rebel cavalry continued advancing, until they were checked by a charge made by a portion of the 1st and 6th Cavalry, which was performed in a most admirable manner.

In more instances than one it was a hand to hand encounter with the enemy, but, strange to relate, none of our men were made prisoners while we captured about 25 of the enemy, among whom is Capt. Frank Lee of the 3d Florida Infantry. Capt. Gibbon had four men killed. Lieut. DeWolf was mortally wounded. One man was lost by sticking in the mud. Lieut. Benton of the 1st Cavalry, and ten men of the same regiment, were wounded.

Lieut. McClellan of the 6th Cavalry was slightly wounded, as were also 12 others. Lieut. Colonel Krass of the 1st Cavalry had his horse shot under him while engaged in a hand to hand encounter with two of the enemy. He escaped with a few slight bruises. Private Noble (Irish) of Major Barker's McClellan Dragoons had his horse killed, and was severely wounded in the leg by the explosion of a torpedo while passing through Yorktown.

The rebel cavalry was forced by our men to abandon their position, but the want of infantry prevented our men from advancing on the enemy's works. It being evident that it was useless to attempt further operations, the troops fell back about 200 yards to await the arrival of infantry.

Gen. Hancock's brigade soon after arrived but it was deemed advisable to defer further operations until to-morrow. We have information that the enemy are still on the retreat beyond Williamsburg. The rear guard of the enemy is very strong, as was shown to-day.

PITTSBURG LANDING, May 3, 1862.

The following dispatch, dated near Farmington, has been received at headquarters: A reconnoissance sent toward Farmington found the enemy 4,500 strong, with four pieces of artillery and some cavalry, occupying a strong position near the town. Our forces advanced at once to the assault, and after a sharp skirmish carried the position in fine style. The enemy left thirty dead on the field, with their tents and baggage, our cavalry pursuing them. The enemy fled in wild confusion. Some regiments of cavalry, sent through to Booneville, took possession of the town, tore up the railroad track, and destroyed two bridges. We have a good many prisoners, but cannot tell how many yet. Our loss is two killed and twelve wounded.

JOHN POPE, Major-General.

PITTSBURG LANDING, May 3, 1862—9 P. M.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Gen. Paine's division made a reconnoissance to Farmington to-day; found about 4,500 of the enemy; drove them in handsome style, killing 30, wounding many, and capturing some prisoners, their tents, camp equipage, &c. At dark, our cavalry was in pursuit of their artillery and baggage train, beyond Farmington, in the direction of Corinth. I witnessed the fight. Our men behaved splendidly.

Our artillery reconnoissance went to Glendale this morning, and destroyed two trestle bridges, and some track of the Memphis and Charleston road.

It has been a splendid day's work for the left wing.

The weather is clear, and the roads are becoming good.

THOS. A. SCOTT, Ass't Sec. of War.

PITTSBURG LANDING, May 3—9 P. M.

Six deserters arrived yesterday and ten to-day. They all confirm the capture of New Orleans.

A few days ago one Tennessee and one Mississippi regiment of twelve-month men stacked their arms and refused to serve longer, though required to do so by the conscript law. Beauregard put two regiments to guard them.

There were twenty deserters yesterday, and numbers are leaving their ranks daily.

All rumors of a battle here or in this vicinity are unfounded in fact.

The weather is clear and the roads will be passable in a day or two, so the army can advance.

Hospital stores and boats are arriving daily. Gen. Finnell of Kentucky, with surgeons and nurses, arrived to-day.

WASHINGTON, May 3, 1862.

The War Department has received messages from Gen. Halleck dated at Pittsburg Landing to-day. The army was well, in high spirits, and eager to meet the enemy.

Cairo, May 3, 1862.

The latest news from the Tennessee River, brought by a contraband, says that there was no fighting up to 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

CHICAGO, May 3, 1862.

The Memphis Argus of the 29th of April has the following dispatches:—

Gen. Beauregard is moving large bodies of troops Southward; some go by railroad and others afoot. A few have gone West. It is generally understood that he is evacuating the place, although he declines answering questions. He says that President Davis understands his movements.

Purdy was evacuated last night, and has since been burned. Every building is said to be destroyed. The Yankees are moving in that direction. Our outposts had a skirmish with their advance early this morning, capturing sixty prisoners, including nine commissioned officers.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1862.

The War Department at noon to-day received advices from Gen. Halleck, from which it is inferred that important events will take place in the neighborhood of Corinth within the next two or three days.

### THE CAPTURE OF FORT MACON

FORTRESS MONROE, Thursday, May 1, 1862.

To Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:—

Sir: Capt. Worden, of the navy, with despatches from Gen. Burnside, has just arrived. He reports Fort Macon taken after eleven hours bombardment. Four hundred prisoners were taken. Col. White, late of the Ordnance Department, commanded Fort Macon. Loss on our side one killed and eleven wounded.

Jno. E. Wool, Major-General.

### From General Halleck's Army.

PITTSBURG LANDING, May 2, 1862.

A general order was issued yesterday, transferring Major General Thomas's Division from the Army of the Ohio to the Army of Tennessee, and Major General Thomas takes command of the army formerly under Gen. Grant, of which the divisions of General McClelland and Wallace are to constitute a reserve, under General McClelland. Major General Grant will retain command of his district, including the army corps of Tennessee, but in the present movements will act as second in command under the Major General commanding the Department.

CINCINNATI, May 2, 1862.

The Commercial has from its correspondent with the army of Gen. Halleck, the following official figures of our loss at the battle of Pittsburg Landing:—

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
McClelland's	251	1,261	235
W. H. L. Wallace's	228	1,033	1,163
Wm. Wallace's	43	257	95
Hart's	313	1,449	225
Siecmann's	427	1,402	482
Prentiss's	196	562	1,893
Crittenden's	80	419	27
Nelson's	93	642	10
McCook's	34	596	4
Total	1,735	7,882	4,044

The total killed, wounded and missing is 13,661. About 300 of the wounded have since died.

Our burial parties report between 2,500 and 3,000 rebels found dead on the field.

The Commercial publishes passages of a letter from Gen. Grant in reply to a letter informing him of the nature of the criticism of his management of the battle of Pittsburg. Gen. Grant says:—

"I will go on and do my duty to the very best of my ability without praise, and do all I can to bring the war to a speedy close. I am not an aspirant for anything at the close of the war. There is one thing I feel assured of; that is, I have confidence in every brave man in my command. Those who showed the white feather will do all in their power to attract attention from themselves. I had perhaps a dozen officers arrested for cowardice on the first day's fight."

"These men are necessarily my enemies. As to the talk about surprise here, nothing could be more false. If the enemy had sent word when and where they would attack us, we could not have been better prepared. Skirmishing had been going on for two days between our reconnoitering parties and the enemy's advance. I did not believe, however, they intended to make a determined attack, but were simply making a reconnoissance in force."

"My headquarters were at Savannah, though I usually spent the day at Pittsburg. Troops were constantly arriving to be assigned to brigades and divisions, all orders to report to Savannah, making it necessary to keep an office and some one there. I was also looking for Gen. Bell to arrive, and it was important I should have every arrangement complete for his speedy transit to this side of the river."

The Commercial's correspondent, with Gen. Mitchell's army, gives the following explanation of the manner in which General Beauregard's dispatch was taken at Huntsville. The wires were broken at a point beyond Huntsville, and Beauregard's dispatch was received at Huntsville, and was being prepared by the operator there to be forwarded by locomotive to Chattanooga, and thence reported by telegraph to Richmond, when Gen. Mitchell surprised the town, and instantly seized the telegraph office.

Gen. Mitchell himself solved the cipher, after hours of study. There is no doubt as to the genius of the dispatch.

Beauregard lost not less than 20,000 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners, and the sick, used up, and panic-stricken, during his movement from Corinth upon Pittsburg Landing.

AN INCIDENT.—While the steamer Empress was on her way to Cairo, with the wounded from the battle field at Pittsburg Landing, the wife of a missing soldier who was in the fight at Pittsburg, gave birth to a female infant. The woman accompanied or closely followed her husband to Pittsburg, and on the second day of the fight, while the conflict was raging around her, was engaged in searching for him on the battle field. While thus employed, she received a gunshot wound—a flesh wound only—in the breast. Failing at last to find her husband, in despair she took passage on the Empress. Her child received the name of the steamer.

### Sketch of Farmington, Mississippi.

Farmington is the post village of Tishomingo county, Mississippi, and is situated about two hundred and sixty-two miles northeast of Jackson, the capital of the State, and contains some three or four stores. The nearest point of interest is Corinth, from which it is distant about five miles, and is located about twenty miles, in an air line from Jackson, the capital of the county, but about eight miles further from the county roads. It is about one hundred miles from Memphis, about forty-eight miles from Grand Junction (the railroad connection with New Orleans) about forty-seven miles west of Tusculum and the junction to Florence, ninety miles from Decatur, one hundred and fourteen miles from Huntsville and over two hundred miles from Chattanooga. It is near to the track of the main line running from Memphis to Chattanooga, although not on it—the nearest station being Corinth. It is distant from the Tennessee river about fifteen miles, either in an air line or by the county road leading through Monterey to Hamburg. It is about the same distance from Pittsburg by one other direct road. The county forms the northeastern extremity of Mississippi, at the point where it borders on Alabama and Tennessee, and has an area of fourteen hundred square miles, or about nine hundred thousand acres. The Tombigbee river runs into the county, the Tennessee river flows along its northeastern border, and it is drained by the Tusculum creek. The surface of the country is diversified by small hills, and the soil is fertile, especially in the valleys. It generally has a substratum of sand, and a large part of the county is covered with forests of oak, hickory, walnut and pine. The head streams of the Tombigbee river furnish valuable motive power. The county was organized in 1836, and its last returns of the population give a total for the county of 14,490, of whom 13,529 were free and 1,961 slaves.

THE PENNSYLVANIA TROOPS.—Gov. Curtis has ordered that "Shiloh" be inscribed on the banner of the 77th Pennsylvania Regiment, and "Falmouth, Va." on that of the 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry, in acknowledgment of their gallantry at the battles of those places.

The Governor has received the most gratifying intelligence from Yorktown in relation to the perfected arrangements for the care and prompt transportation of the killed and wounded Pennsylvania soldiers to points within the State. The floating hospital will accommodate over 300 patients, and can reach Philadelphia via the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal, avoiding the roughness of a sea voyage. Surgeon-General Smith says that Pennsylvania is the only State on the Peninsula fully prepared for every emergency.

Theodore Freelinghysen, who died at his residence in Newark, on Saturday, was one of the most eminent citizens of New Jersey. He was born in Somerset county, in this State, in 1787, and after practicing at the bar for some time he was appointed Attorney General. In 1826 he was elected by the voters to the United States Senate, where for nine years he filled his position with dignity and credit. His name was more prominently brought before the public in 1844, when he ran as Vice President on the ticket headed by the name of Henry Clay—Polk and Dallas, Clay and Freelinghysen. In 1850 he resigned the position as Chancellor of the University of New York, which he had held for several years, and was appointed President of Rutgers College, Brunswick, New Jersey. He has always taken an active interest in the religious and philanthropic movements of the day, and in his death we record the loss of a graceful scholar, high toned politician, and an accomplished school gentleman.—Morrison (N. J.) Democratic Banner.

THE WET WEATHER AND THE SPRING CROPS.—Much alarm begins to be manifested throughout Northern and Central Illinois, with regard to the coming crops of spring grain. During the last four or five weeks it has rained almost daily, till the soil is so thoroughly saturated with water as to preclude the possibility for some time of either plowing, sowing or planting. The danger of this shortening of the season is felt doubly at this time, in consequence of about 50,000 of our Illinois farmers being now withdrawn from the State to fight for the Union. In ordinary times when the