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## The Reading Matter on this Page is from Yesterday's Evening Edition.

### Letter from the President---An Admirable Vindication of His Emancipation Policy.

The following letter from President Lincoln has just appeared in the Frankfort (Ky.) *Commonwealth*. It was written at the request of Col. Hodges, the editor of that paper, and addressed to him with permission to publish it, that the people of Kentucky might hear from the President himself what were the actual grounds upon which he based his policy of emancipation;---so much misrepresentation and vituperation on the part of most of the newspapers published in Kentucky having hitherto kept the people in ignorance, and so succeeded in fostering a feeling of wrathful discontent throughout the State respecting that policy. Col. Hodges having accompanied Governor Bramlette and Senator Dixon on their late visit to Washington, to consult with the President touching the draft in Kentucky, heard this admirable vindication of his policy addressed in the course of conversation to Governor Bramlette, Senator Dixon and himself,---and was immediately struck with the thought that the publication of such a convincing summary of facts and arguments could not but have a most beneficial influence in Kentucky at the present time. He, therefore, requested the President's permission to publish what he had said, and having taken the matter into consideration, the President consented, and himself addressed the following letter embodying the conversation to Col. Hodges:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, Washington, April 4

"*A. G. Hodges, Esq., Frankfort, Ky.:*

"MY DEAR SIR:---You ask me to put in writing the substance of what I verbally said, the other day, in your presence, to Gov. Bramlette and Senator Dixon. It was about as follows:

"If I am naturally anti-slavery. *If slavery is* not wrong, nothing is wrong. I can not remember when I did not so think and feel. And yet, I have never understood that the Presidency conferred upon me an unrestricted right to act officially upon this judgment and feeling. It was in the oath I took, that I would to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. I could not take the office without taking the oath. Nor was it my view that I might take an oath to get power and break the oath in using the power. I understood, too, that in ordinary civil administration this oath even forbade me to practically indulge my primary abstract judgment on the moral question of slavery. I had publicly declared this many times and in many ways. And I aver that, to this day, I have done no official act in mere deference to my abstract judgment and feeling on slavery.

"I did understand, however, that my oath to preserve the Constitution to the best of my ability imposed upon me the duty of preserving, by every indispensable means that Government, that Nation, of which that Constitution was the organic law. Was it possible to lose the Nation and yet preserve the Constitution?

"By general law, life and limb must be protected; yet often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb. I feel that measures, otherwise unconstitutional, might become lawful, by becoming indispensable to the preservation of the Constitution, through the preservation of the Nation. Right or wrong, I assumed this ground, and now avow it. I could not feel that to the best of my ability I had even tried to preserve the Constitution, if to save slavery or any minor matter, I should permit the wreck of Government, Country, and Constitution, all together. When early in the war General Fremont attempted military emancipation, I forbade it because I did not then think it an indispensable necessity. When a little later, General Cameron, then Secretary of War, suggested the arming of the blacks, I objected, because I did not yet think it an indispensable necessity. When, still later, General Hunter attempted military emancipation, I again forbade it, because I did not yet think the indispensable necessity had come.

"When, in March, and May, and July, 1862, I made earnest and successive appeals to the Border States, to favor compensated emancipation, I believed the indispensable necessity for military emancipation, and arming the blacks would come, unless averted by that measure. They declined the proposition, and I was, in my best judgment, driven to the alternative, of either surrendering the Union, and with it the Constitution, or of laying strong hand upon the colored element. I chose the latter. In choosing it, I hoped for greater gain than loss; but of this I was not entirely confident. More than a year of trial now shows no loss by it, in our foreign relations; none in our home popular sentiment; none in our white military force---no loss by it, anyhow or anywhere. On the contrary, it shows a gain of quite a hundred and thirty thousand soldiers, seamen and laborers. These are palpable facts, about which, as facts, there can be no cavilling. We have them in hand, and we could not have had them without the measure.

"And now, let any Union man, who complains of the measure, test himself, by writing down in one line, that he is for subduing the rebellion by force of arms, and in the next line that he is for taking these hundred and thirty thousand men from the Union side, and placing them where they would be, but for the measure he condemns. If he cannot face his case so stated, it is only because he cannot face the truth.

"I add a word, which was not in the verbal conversation. In telling this tale, I attempt no compliment to my own sagacity. I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events controlled me. Now, at the end of three years' struggle, the nation's condition, is not what either party or any man devised or expected. God alone can claim it. Whither it is tending seems plain. If God now wills the removal of a great wrong, and wills also that we of the North, as well as you of the South, shall pay fairly for our complicity in that wrong, impartial history will find therein new cause to attest and revere the justice and goodness of God.

"Yours truly, A. LINCOLN."

### Education a Luxury.

The Syndic of Melle, in the jurisdiction of Mussac, having received an invitation from the provincial council to send a young woman from the commune to follow the course of instruction given in the new Normal School just opened in the city, returned the following answer: "The commune of Melle does not recognise the utility of female education, inasmuch as its women are for the most part employed in tending cattle and in providing for the wants of daily life. Education is an article of luxury, admirable only in great cities, and never in poor and miserable communities. Even if the government insisted on giving us a schoolmistress, she would eventually die of starvation. At all events the commune is unable to meet the charge of educating a young woman to become a schoolmistress, consequently the council has unanimously decided that the commune wants no teacher, and that the application made to it by the provincial authorities be rejected accordingly."---*Gazette of Mussac.*

GOVERNMENT FLOUR CONTRACTS.---A Washington dispatch of Monday says: Proposals for furnishing the Government with flour were opened to-day. 30,000 barrels were offered, at prices ranging from $8,15 to $9,18. Contracts for only 1,000 barrels were awarded, at about $8,40.

### Queen Victoria to the English People.

The following is the full text of the official declaration from the English Court, which appeared in the London *Times*, of the 6th inst., and is reported to have been written by the Queen herself:

"An erroneous idea seems generally to prevail, and has lately found frequent expression in the newspapers, that the Queen is about to resume the place in society which she occupied before her great affliction; that is, that she is about again to hold levees and drawing-rooms in persons, and to appear as before at Court balls, concerts, &c. This idea cannot be too explicitly contradicted.

"The Queen heartily appreciates the desire of her subjects to see her, and whatever she can do to gratify them in this loyal and affectionate wish she *will* do. Whenever any real object is to be attained by her appearing on public occasions, any national interest to be promoted, or anything to be encouraged which is for the good of her people, her Majesty will not shrink, as she has not shrunk, from any personal sacrifice or exertion, however painful.

"But there are other and higher duties than those of mere representation which are now thrown upon the Queen, alone and unassisted---duties which she cannot neglect without injury to the public service, which weigh unceasingly upon her, overwhelming her with work and anxiety.

"The Queen has labored conscientiously to discharge those duties till her health and strength, already shaken by the utter and ever-abiding desolation which has taken the place of her former happiness, have been seriously impaired.

"To call upon her to undergo, in addition, the fatigues of those mere state ceremonies which can be equally well performed by other members of her family, is to ask her to run the risk of entirely disabling herself for the discharge of other duties which cannot be neglected without serious injury to the public interests.

"The Queen will, however, do what she can---in the manner least trying to her health, strength and spirits---to meet the loyal wishes of her subjects, to afford that support and countenance to society, and to give that encouragement to trade which is desired of her.

"More the Queen cannot do; and more the kindness and good feeling of her people will not surely exact from her."

### Interesting from the Army of the Potomac.

The Washington *Star* of Monday evening says:

"Information from the rebel lines as late as Friday morning last is to the effect that Lee was not, as has been reported, moving toward the Shenandoah Valley, but was at that time in his old position on the Rapidan. Such movements of his cavalry as were going on seemed to be in the nature of reconnoissances to ascertain Grant's purposes, and the fact of Grant having sent out unusually large picket forces seems to have mystified the enemy on various occasions. Lee's army was preparing for a sudden move, but was seemingly disposed to wait for Grant to open and develop his game.

"The movement of our gunboats up the Rappahannock had raised the alarm in Richmond that Burnside was effecting a landing there, and a new alarm had been raised among the rebels of a movement by the Unionists up the south side of the James river. The rebels are divided between the fear that Lee may be invested in Richmond, should he fall back there, and the fear that he may be outflanked by Grant should he remain in his present position."

"Two weeks ago Lee's forces amounted to 40,000 men, and it is believed now that, with the reinforcements he has been able to bring up, they do not amount to over eighty-five thousand."

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A CURIOUS work on cosmetics, recently published, strongly condemns rouge and pearl powder, but informs the ladies how they may give color to their cheeks without danger. Thus: Take a fragment of bright crimson silk, dip it in strong spirits of wine and rub it over the cheeks till a moderate tint appears. This defies detection and is harmless.

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A WESTERN paper tells this story: A farmer prosecuted his mother, ninety-one years old, for the cost of her board with him for nineteen years past. She had been living with him, taking care of his children, eight or nine in number, knitting stockings, &c. The judge dismissed the case and reprimanded the hard-hearted son.

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MRS. CORNELIA H. RICHARDSON, wife of United States Senator Richardson, died at Quincy, Ill., at 1 o'clock forenoon, Friday, the 22d inst.

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THE Odd Fellows in Maryland number over ten thousand members.

## SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES

THOMAS PARRY, Plain and Ornamental Slate Roofer, and dealer in Pennsylvania and Vermont slate of the best quality at low rates. Office at Alex. Laughlin's, near the Water Works, Pittsburgh, Pa.

SPECIAL NOTICE.---The attention of our readers is directed to the brilliant assortment of Spring and Summer Goods just received by our friend Mr. John Weber, No. 126 Federal street, Allegheny. His stock comprises a great variety of Fancy French, English, Scotch and American Cassimeres and Cloths, and fine Silk and Cashmere Vestings,---all of which will be made up to order in the latest styles and in the best manner. A choice selection of Furnishing Goods also on hand and for sale, together with a full stock of Ready Made Clothing, well and fashionably made.

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WIVES mothers and sisters, whose husbands, sons and brothers, are serving in the army, cannot put into their knapsacks a more necessary or valuable gift than a few boxes of Holloway's Pills & Ointment. They insure health even under the exposures of a soldier's life.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment are now retailed, owing to the high price of drugs, &c., at 50 cents, 75 cents and $1,10 per box or pot.

For sale in Pittsburgh by B. L. Fahnestock & Co.

For sale also by George A. Kelly, Allegheny city.

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OUR readers can see by an advertisement elsewhere, that Mr. J. M. Archbald has just received his third arrival of new goods from the east. The stock is complete in its variety. He offers for sale beautiful grenadines, fancy silks, and plain black heavy silks. His assortment of calicoes, muslins, Irish and table linen, is all what a person could desire. Our word for it, the stock of goods that can be found in Mr. Burchfield's store, corner of Market and Fourth streets, is one of the largest and handsomest of the city. Go and see it and judge for yourselves.

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RENEWAL.---Samuel Graham & Co., Merchant Tailors, have removed to 73 Smithfield street, and would most respectfully call the attention of their friends and the public generally to their new stock of Spring and Summer goods, which they have just received. Their stock is of the very finest quality of English and French cassimeres, cloths, cassimeres and vesting. Also, a very extensive assortment of Scotch cassimeres. Don't fail to give them an early call. Every garment warranted to give full satisfaction.

GRAHAM & MCCLELLAND, 73 Smithfield St.

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EDGEWORTH SEMINARY opens May 2d. Prof. Beckwith has been engaged as teacher of Piano and Singing, also of French, German and Italian.

Lessons in Dr. Dio Lewis' system of *Light Gymnastics* will be given by the Misses Haskell. Applications for admission may be left at the bookstores of Davis, Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh, and H. C. Cochran, Allegheny, or Address Rev. A. WILLIAMS, Sewickleyville, Penna. apr26:1w

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WATCHES, JEWELRY, &c.---J. M. Roberts, No. 17 Fifth street, is now opening the most choice stock of fine Gold and Silver Watches, Jewelry, Silver ware and Fancy Goods ever displayed in this city, and is selling them at remarkably low prices.

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OMNIBUS and carriage calls will be taken at the Omnibus office, No. 619 Penn street, day or night. All orders left at the above place will be promptly attended to. All calls must be paid in advance.

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THE public are invited to inspect the beautiful assortment of confectionaries kept by George Beaver, at his Brass Rod candy stand in the Allegheny New Market House.

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EDGEWORTH SEMINARY opens May 2d. Address Rev. A. WILLIAMS, Sewickleyville, Pa. 1w

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LADY'S, misses' and children's hoop skirts, at McClelland's 52d Auction House, 55 Fifth street.

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JOSEPH M. GAZZAM, Attorney at Law, 59 Grant street, Pittsburgh, will attend to all the duties appertaining to his profession.

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G. SCOTT, Dentist, 339 Penn street, will attend to all the duties appertaining to his profession.

## CITY AND SUBURBAN.

### Arrivals and Departures of Trains.

PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL.

| Departs. | | Arrives. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Thro' Acm'n..... | 5:50 a m | Balt're Exp's... | 12:50 p m |
| Thro' Mail..... | 2:50 a m | Phila. do ..... | 7:20 p m |
| Thro' Express.. | 4:25 p m | Fast Line..... | 1:20 a m |
| Fast Line..... | 8:35 p m | Thro' Mail..... | 1:00 a m |
| Johnst'n Acm'n | 3:00 p m | Johnst'n Acm'n. | 10:05 a m |
| 1st Wall stat'n.. | 6:30 a m | 1st Wall sta'n.. | 6:25 a m |
| 2d do ... | 11:50 a m | 2d do ... | 8:35 a m |
| 3d do ... | 3:50 p m | 3d do ... | 1:55 p m |
| 4th do ... | 6:30 p m | 4th do ... | 8:05 p m |

The Church Train leaves Wall Station (on Sunday) at 9:35 a m; returns at 12:45 p m.

PITTSBURGH, FT. WAYNE & CHICAGO.

| Departs. | | Arrives. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fast Line..... | 1:45 a m | Chicago Exp's... | 2:20 a m |
| Express..... | 1:45 p m | Philla. do ... | 2:10 p m |
| Mail Train..... | 6:30 a m | Cle'd do ... | 7:05 p m |
| Alliance Acm'n. | 2:15 p m | Crestline Mail... | 7:00 p m |

The New Brighton Accommodation leaves Allegheny Station at 9:15 a m, 12:05 m, 4:30 p m, 5:40 p m. Returning, leaves New Brighton Station at 6:50 a m, 7:00 a m, 12:30 p m, and 2:50 p m.

PITTSBURGH AND CONNELLSVILLE.

| Departs. | | Arrives. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mail..... | 7:55 a m | Mail..... | 6:00 p m |
| Express..... | 2:00 p m | Express..... | 10:00 a m |
| 1st M'Keesport.. | 11:00 a m | 1st M'Keesport. | 7:00 p m |
| 2d do ... | 6:15 p m | 2d do ... | 2:05 p m |
| Port Perry..... | 7:00 a m | Port Perry..... | 8:20 a m |
| Braddock's..... | 6:15 p m | Braddock's..... | 5:40 p m |

The Sunday Train to and from M'Keesport leaves at 1:00 p m, and arrives at 10:a m.

ALLEGHENY VALLEY.

| Departs. | | Arrives. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mail..... | 7:00 a m | Mail..... | 7:00 p m |
| Express..... | 3:00 p m | Express..... | 9:35 a m |
| Accommodation | 4:00 p m | Accommodation | 8:10 a m |

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH.

| Departs. | | Arrives. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cincinnati..... | 1:45 a m | Mail..... | 3:50 p m |
| do ..... | 1:45 p m | Cincin. Ex'ps.. | 8:05 p m |
| Wheeling..... | 6:30 a m | do ..... | 2:10 a m |
| Steubenville.... | 3:00 a m | Steubenville Ac | 10:00 a m |
| Cleveland..... | 1:45 a m | | |
| do ..... | 1:45 p m | | |

### Terrible Explosion of a Steam Boiler.

Another frightful explosion of a steam boiler occurred in Philadelphia, on Monday last, killing five persons, and badly wounding eighteen or twenty others. The boiler was in the factory of Messrs. Cornelius & Baker, manufacturers of chandeliers and gas fixtures, Cherry street, below Ninth.

At the time of the explosion, the factory was in full operation. Hundreds of the working people, finding that the usual place of egress was obstructed, became panic-stricken, and several jumped from the windows and escaped with slight bruises. In a few minutes, Chief Ruggles, who resides in the vicinity, was upon the ground, and under his direction, ladders were obtained, iron windows were smashed in, and by this means many of the hemmed in and affrighted operatives were released from their temporary imprisonment. The windows of the manufactory which overlook the yard are one hundred and fifty in number. Every pane of glass was smashed, and even some of the iron frame work that formed the sash was twisted into different shapes or entirely removed. The boiler (the being of brick, six or seven feet wide, two feet thick, and perhaps eighty feet high, was reduced to a shapeless pile in less time than it takes to write about it. Bricks and other missiles were forced through the windows with as much velocity as though they had been fired from a big gun. A number of workmen were wounded by these death-dealing missiles.

The explosion was attended with fatal, curious, and interesting effects. A piece of the boiler, forty inches in diameter and seven or eight feet in length, was projected in a due west direction. Incredible as it may appear, it reached a distance of at least 1,300 feet. In falling it crushed through the roof of the mineral-water manufactory of Messrs. Johnson & Co., in Cherry street, west of Twelfth, and instantly killed a fine, healthy, robust man, named John Porter. He was loading a wagon with mineral water. The piece of boiler struck him on the back part of the head, crushing the skull. Five boys and a man were engaged in bottling within ten feet of the spot where the piece of boiler lodged. One of the boys was struck on the head with a splinter, and received a slight laceration of the scalp. What seems singular, is that this piece of boiler, after passing through the roof, bounded as it struck the ground and then fell again, on or near the wagon that killed the unfortunate Mr. Porter was loading. He leaves a widow and child.

Another piece of the boiler flew off in an easterly direction, and fell in Eighth street, near Cherry, twisting an iron awning post. The steam drum, 20 feet long, attached to the boiler, was forced with great velocity in a southerly direction. In descending it crushed through the roof and floor of the William Penn stables, killing one horse instantly, and so much injuring one or two others that they will probably have to be killed.

The William Penn stables are located seven hundred feet from the place of explosion. Mr. Albertson, was fatally injured at the stables. At the time of the crash there were about fifty men at breakfast in the building on the opposite side of the yard, within forty feet of the place where the steam drum fell.

The engine from which the machinery derives its motive power was not much injured. Though frightful as the explosion may seem to be, much of the work in the factory will be resumed at once.

Three bodies were so horribly mangled that they could not be identified except by their friends. They were recognised as those of Wm. Bartholomew, Albert Shaffer and J. Fry. The wounded were conveyed in ambulances to the hospital. Two or three of them will probably not recover.

The cause of the explosion is unknown A jury of scientific men has been empannelled to investigate the facts.

### United Presbyterian Intelligence.

At a recent convention held in Xenia, Ohio, for the purpose of considering the propriety of adopting certain proposed amendments to the National Constitution, it was resolved that we cordially approve the action of the Allegheny Convention of January last, and of the form of memorial to Congress to secure amendments to the Constitution, so as to give a distinct expression of the Christian nations character." The organization of the National Association for the Amendment of the Constitution was cordially approved, and Messrs. Whitters were appointed to canvass for signatures to the memorial to Congress.

At a late meeting of the Presbytery of Indiana, Rev. A. S. Montgomery, of the Associate Reformed Synod South, applied for admission, and it appearing that he heartily embraced the views of the church on Slavery, he was admitted.

The congregation of Slippery Rock, Butler county, has extended a call to Mr. B. Atkins, a probationer of Indiana Presbytery. Mr. Atkins has not yet decided upon its acceptance.

At the last meeting of Conemaugh Presbytery, Mr. M. S. Telford delivered trials for ordination, and arrangements were made for his installation over the congregations of Ebenezer, Millville and Crete at the next meeting. A call has been ordered by the Indiana congregation to Mr. Fulton, of Wheeling Presbytery. Rev. J. C. Truesdale was released from this charge, and enters the army as a chaplain. Rev. J. Tod was released from the charge of Upper Piney. Rev. J. C. Grier tendered the resignation of his charge. It lies on the table till next meeting.

### United States District Court.

TUESDAY, April 27.---Before Judge McCandless.

Our readers will remember that, at the January term of this court, Martin Van Buren Baker, Lewis Powelson and James B. Robertson, were indicted for obstructing the draft in Cross Creek, Washington county. Powelson and Robertson were tried and convicted, but Baker was not arrested. He appeared in Court to-day, and plead guilty to the charge. Powelson and Robertson, who have been lying in jail since January last, were then called up for sentence. Dist. Attorney Carnahan remarked that all was "quiet in Cross Creek," and in view of the imprisonment already suffered by Powelson and Robertson, he asked the Court to impose a light sentence. Witnesses were heard as to the character of each of the defendants, after which Judge McCandless passed sentence as follows: Baker, to six months in the county jail, and to pay a fine of five dollars and costs. Powelson and Robertson, twenty-four hours each in jail, and a fine of one dollar and costs. These defendants may congratulate themselves upon their good fortune, and when the next draft comes off they should be careful not to throw any obstructions in the way of the officers.

In the case of Harriet M. Stewart, late postmistress at Tyrone, the jury found a verdict against her sureties, Samuel Brady and Dr. J. T. McVay, for $600, to be released on payment of $203.

Lewis Aurin, indicted for wilful perjury in swearing that he was the only support of an aged father, residing in this city, with a view to securing his exemption from the draft, was acquitted, it appearing that the oath had been subscribed to through ignorance of the requirements of law.

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DONATIONS.---The Iron City Bank yesterday voted a donation of seven hundred and fifty dollars to the Pittsburgh Sanitary Fair and five hundred dollars to the Christian Commission.

### Letting of Mail Contracts.

The Post Office Department has completed the great spring letting of mail contracts for the ensuing four years from the 1st of July next. In Pennsylvania, 580 routes were let, with 2,418 bids---four bids to the route. We give below the lettings for Western Pennsylvania, so far as they have been published:

2633. From Pittsburgh, by Etna, Dorseyville, Butler, Bridge, and Culmerville, to Saxenburg; 27 miles and back, twice a week. Levi Lefever, $165.

2630. From Pittsburgh, by Buchanan, O. mals' and Hope Church, to Street's Run, 12 miles and back, twice daily, except Sunday, to Buchanan, and twice a week residue. James Little, $270.

2 37. From Greensburg, by Harrison City, Manor Dale, Morrs ville, Sardis and New Texas, to Parnassus, 28 miles and back, twice a week. F M Johnston, $305.

2633. From Greensburg, by New Alexandria, Harvey's Five Points, and Salem Cross Roads, to Greensburg, equal to 13 miles and back, six times a week. Johnson Job, $380.

2629. From Mount Pleasant, by Pennsville, to Connellsville, 10 miles and back, three times a week. J. H. Leighty, $269.

2640. From McKean's Old Stand, by New Stanton, 22 miles and back, five times a week. James B. Kelly, $294.

2641. From Ligonier, by Oak Grove Furnace and Hillview to West Fairfield, 11 miles and back, once a week. Samuel Galbreath, $60.

2642. From Ligonier, by Stahlstown, to Donegal, 15 miles and back, once a week. Joseph Sloan, $60.

2645. From Belleville by Livermore, to Saltsburg, 12 miles and back, six times a week. No bid.

2646. From Indiana, by Shelocta, Elderton, Whitesburg, Blanket Hill, Kittanning, Worthington, and Oyleyville, to Butler, 48¾ miles and back, twice a week. John H. Morrison, $600.

2647. From Indiana, by Hayes' Home, Brady's, Marchand, Cowden, Punxsutawney, Offerburg, Cush Spring and Stanton, to Brockville, 49¾ miles and back, three times a week. William M'Quaide, $700.

2648. From Indiana, by Chambersville, Willetts, and Plumville, to Smicksburg, 32 miles and back, twice a week. Martin F. Jamison, $460.

2649. From Indiana, by Penn Run, Mitchell's Mills, Stone, Newman's Mills, Pearl Mineville, Burnside, New Washington, Ostend, Chest, Bower, and Grampian Hills, to Curwensville, 62 miles and back, twice a week. Samuel Way, $850.

2650. From Indiana to Brush Valley, 7 miles and back, three times a week. Thompson M'Crea, $150.

2651. From Indiana, by Kent, Ebenezer, Clarksmont, and Tunnelhill, to Indiana, equal to 20 miles and back, three times a week. George Daly, $703.

2652. From Saltsburg, by Coalport, Blairsville, Apollo, and Leechburg, to Shirley station, 27½ miles and back, three times a week to Apollo, and six times a week the residue. Thomas M'Crea, $780.

2653. From Saltsburg to Perrytop, 3 miles and back, once a week. No bid.

2654. From home, by Glen Oak and Mahoning, to Smittton, 13 miles and back, three times a week. David Henry, $273.

2655. From Mahoning, by Decker's Point, Purchase Line, and Hillsdale, to Newman's Mills, 21 miles and back, three times a week. A. Donahay, $323.

2656. From Cresson, by Munster, to Portsmouth, 12 miles and back, twice daily except Sunday, by railroad, and by a schedule satisfactory to the Department. A. S. Barker, president E. & C. Railroad, $600, including messenger.

2657. From Cresson to Loretto, 4 miles and back, six times a week. J. F. Dorbin, $150.

2658. From Loretto to Chess Springs, Saint Augustine, Fallen Timber, Homestead, and Usahville, to St. Augustine, 29 miles and back, three times a week and Fallen Timber to Usahville, and twice a week the residue Phillip Herzog, $270

2656. From Ebensburg, by Carrolltown, Plattsville, and East Ridge, to Newman's Mills, 23 miles and back, three times a week. Jos. R. Estris, $486.

2660. From Ebensburg, by Bethel Station, Nolo, and Bethel, to Indiana, 20 miles and back, once a week. Martin F. Johnson, $300.

2661. From Clearfield, by Curwensville, Forest, Lutherburg, Jeffer-on Line, Reynoldsville, Brockville, Corsica, and Strattonville to Clarion, 59 miles and back, six times a week. E G Taylor, $2,970.

### Another Challenge.

The following appears in the N. Y. *Daily News* of the 25th:

"The present champion oarsman of America, James Hamill, of Pittsburgh, having been challenged by William Stevens, of Poughkeepsie to row a race of five miles on the Hudson River for $500 a side, with an allowance of $100 for expenses for the race to come off at Poughkeepsie, has elicited another challenge from the ex-champion, Joshua Ward, of Newburg, who offers to row the winner, in the event of the above match coming off, for $500 and the championship. In any case he is desirous of having another opportunity of measuring oars with Hamamill, and again testing his claimed superiority as an oarsman, and is willing to row on any river that may be mutually and satisfactorily agreed upon."

KILLED BY THE CARS.---On the express train west, which left Philadelphia at half-past ten o'clock on Monday night, were a number of recruits for a New Jersey Regiment on their way to the front. Four of these fellows, professional bounty jumpers, no doubt, managed to escape while the train was under way. One of them, who jumped off near Downingtown, was instantly killed. He had in his possession $800 in bounty money (a package of $500 and a package of $300), stolen from one of his companions. We did not learn his name.

THE FERRYBOAT ROBBERY.---Mr. McConnigle, of Freeport, whose store was robbed of a large amount of goods on Saturday night last, arrived in Allegheny city yesterday, and identified the goods recovered by officers Willard and Gabby as part of the stolen articles. Mr. Mc. was delivered over to Mayor Alexander this morning by Mayor Lowry, and is now confined in the Allegheny watch house. McCollum and Miner confess that they committed the robbery, but state that all the goods taken by them have been recovered. They will be committed to jail to-day for trial.

A FOOT RACE.---We learn that Andrew Horn, a resident in this vicinity, has challenged "Butch" Bowmen, or the "Butcher Boy," as he is called, for a trial of speed in a foot race of 100 yards for $100 a side, the race to come off within two weeks after the acceptance of the challenge.

DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED.---First Lieut. John Walkinshaw, 62d Pennsylvania Volunteers, having tendered his resignation for the good of the service at the approach of the season for active campaigns, has been dishonorably discharged from the service by order of the President.

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CHILDREN'S shoes and gaiters, at McClelland's Auction House.

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CONGRESS, lace and balmoral gaiters, at McClelland's Auction House, 55 Fifth street.

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NEW CARPETS.---Several pieces to arrive, at McClelland's Auction House, 55 Fifth street.

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NEW CASTLE AND FRANKLIN RAILROAD.---Books of Subscription to the Capital Stock of the NEW CASTLE & FRANKLIN RAILROAD COMPANY will be opened on WEDNESDAY, the 27th of April, proximo.

In the City of Pittsburgh, at the Rooms of the Board of Trade.

In New Castle, Lawrence county, at the office of the New Castle and Beaver Valley Railroad Company.

In Mercer, Mercer county, at the office of William Stewart, Esq.

In Franklin, Venango county, at the office of the First National Bank.

BY ORDER OF COMMISSIONERS:

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| A. L. Crawford, | Samuel M. Star, |
| R. G. Brown, | J. Kelzer, |
| Wm. Dilworth, Jr., | G. W. Cass, |
| Wm. Stewart, | J. C. Murray, |
| J. D. Shaw, | George C. Reis, |
| Robert Ashworth, | Josiah King, |
| James Blakeley, | Springer Harbaugh |
| J. H. Robinson, | J. W. Blanchard, |
| James K. Kerr, | J. H. Smith, |
| David Courtney, | W. D. Kinnear. |

Pittsburgh, March 21, 1864. apr22:td

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SPORTSMEN'S HEADQUARTERS,

188 WOOD STREET.

JAMES BOWN

Invites the attention of Sportsmen and others to his splendid stock of GUNS, RIFLES, REVOLVERS, PISTOLS, GAME BAGS, POWDER FLASKS, SHOT BELTS and POUCHES, DRAM FLASKS, and ammunition of every kind. His stock is the largest ever brought to this market. apr22

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WALL PAPER.---Moving and cleaning by papering them for which call and see, from the largest Gold Embroidered, Silk Inlaid and Velvet Paper Hangings down to the cheapest Article in the market, at No. 107 Market street, near Fifth. apr26:1w JOS. H. BUSHBY.

## TELEGRAMS.

### OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

### FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, April 26, 1864.

THE BLAIR CASE AGAIN.

The Committee of Elections made an effort to decide Frank Blair's case on Saturday, but finally postponed it till to-day, when another effort was made. It is understood that the Committee was tied. Four voting for and against Blair's claim to his seat. One administration member was absent. It is not known when the case will be definitely decided. In the Committee, some members favor dropping it, since Blair, having gone to the army, has thereby vacated his seat, but this would be unjust to Knox, and the Committee will not agree to it. In the meantime Blair does not seem to think it expedient to continue the contest. He left Sunday evening to assume command of the 17th Army Corps, under orders from the War Department. Capt. Andrew J. Alexander, of the 3d Regular cavalry, has been appointed Adjutant-General for the Corps.

BURNSIDE'S TROOPS PASSING THROUGH WASHINGTON.

The town is full of excitement to-day over the passage of a large portion of Burnside's army, including several regiments of negro troops, and one western regiment containing two companies of Indian sharpshooters. The President and Gen. Burnside stood on the portico of Willard's and reviewed the troops as they passed. The negroes were loudly cheered, and the ladies waved their handkerchiefs to them, and the men shouted from the houses "Remember Fort Pillow!" Both Houses of Congress took a recess to see the sight.

SURRENDER AT PLYMOUTH.

It is believed at the War Department that our troops at Plymouth have surrendered.

THE REBEL RAM.

The Navy Department makes abundant promises that the rebel ram which has caused so much trouble shall be properly cared for.

THE GOLD BILL.

The Gold bill will be taken up as soon as the national tax bill is out of the way.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

The new tariff bill, now in Committee, will not be reported for a fortnight. The proposition of Mr. Morrill, of the Committee of Ways and Means, to consider his resolution to increase tariff duties twenty-five per cent. temporarily, while the Committee in Congress can prepare and pass a new tariff bill, is to be taken up this evening. It will probably pass.

### FROM CHATTANOOGA.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

CHATTANOOGA, April 26.---On the morning the 23d the rebels made an attack upon our forts on McKaysack trace, near Leets' farm, in both infantry and cavalry. The infantry came over Taylor's Ridge, while the cavalry came from South Valley. They attacked simultaneously. The point attacked was picketed by the 92d Illinois. Our men attempted a fall back, but rallied again, as the rebel infantry barred the way

They then tried to get their way out, but of men, 34, fighting bravely, escaped. However, it appears that five of our men were killed, four mortally wounded, three severely, and 19 missing. Lieut. Scoville was wounded and taken prisoner. The rebel loss is as severe as ours, if not greater. Several of our men were killed by the enemy after surrendering. Some wounded were butchered as they lay on the field. The rebels, in the whole affair, were guilty of shocking barbarities.

### PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, April 27, 1864.

SENATE---*Morning Session*---The revenue bill reported favorably by Mr. Graham passed finally.

An act chartering the Orphans' Soldiers' Home was amended by the insertion of the names of four other corporators.

The Senate is progressing slowly upon the appropriation bill; consuming all forenoon in the consideration of it.

HOUSE---*Morning Session*---The Committee of Conference on the appropriation bill reported this morning through Mr. Henry, of Beaver, who made an able and lucid speech, vindicating the report. A motion to postpone indefinitely was lost by 43 ayes to 50 nays. The previous question was called, which was sustained. The bill passed finally---yeas, 51; nays, 43.

The special order on the resolution for the removal of the capital was called up, but was shoved aside by the report relative to the purchase of the Executive mansion which was presented. Resolutions authorizing the purchase were passed finally.

The Senate resolution for final adjournment was taken up and adopted by a vote of May 5th.

The resolution for the removal, again recurring in order, was defeated.

BILLS PASSED FINALLY.

One to authorize the appointment of additional notaries public in Venango county; a supplement to the Oil Creek and Ridgeway Railroad; a supplement to the Bank of Pittsburgh.

### From the Army of the Potomac.

NEW YORK, April 27.---A special dispatch to the *Times*, dated Washington, April 26th, says:

The latest intelligence from the front today left everything there quiet. A heavy reconnoissance into the valley developed the fact that no considerable body of rebels are this side of the Rapidan. The belief was general that Lee would not venture an offensive movement. A report prevailed to-day at the front that Lee was removing his heavy artillery to Richmond.

The reported advance of the enemy toward Warrenton was caused by the falling back of Gen. Gregg's division to three mile station, for military purposes.

There is no foundation for the current rumor that Longstreet's force is in Thoroughfare Gap.

Fitz Hugh Lee's division was reviewed today, by Gen. Stuart, at Hampton's Crossing, just below Fredericksburg. Wickham's, Lamar's and W. H. Lee's brigades were in line.

A special dispatch to the *Herald*, dated Harpers Ferry, Va., April 25th, says:

A very spirited engagement took place between a detachment of the 1st New York cavalry and a body of rebels, at Newtown, near Strasburg. We lost one officer and quite a number of men. The rebel force is reported to have been between three and four hundred strong. The strength of our party was one hundred men.

The contest, although a decidedly unequal one, was kept up with much spirit for some time. Superiority of numbers alone gave the rebels the advantages they gained. A detachment of the 1st New York cavalry thus engaged was out on scout, being detached from Waterbury. It is evident they scouted out the position of the enemy and subsequently scouted for the old position of winter quarters.

### French Steamers Embargoed.

NEW YORK, April 27.---The steamer Greyhound has been seized up the James River to City Point to order down two French steamers and two sailing vessels, which were after tobacco. The vessels would be back in Hampton Roads to-day without any tobacco.

### Maryland Convention.

BALTIMORE, April 27.---The Convention assembled at Annapolis at noon to-day. The organization is not yet effected, but it is generally understood that Henry P. Goldsborough, the Comptroller of the Treasury, and one of the first champions of emancipation in the State, will be elected President.

### Arrival from Europe.

NEW YORK, April 27.---The steamer City of Baltimore, from Liverpool on the 13th, via Queenstown the 14th, has been signalled below. She will arrive up at 1 o'clock. Her advices are three days later.

### From Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, April 27.---Col. Conrad Baker has been nominated for Lieut. Governor of Indiana to fill the vacancy caused by the declination of Gen. Kimball.

Volunteering in Indiana in response to the call for 20,000 one hundred days men is progressing favorably.

News from the interior of Ohio indicates that the National Guard turned out in large force on Monday.

Over 2,000 bales of naval prize cotton sold at Cairo yesterday at from 71 to 73¾.

A special to the *Gazette* from Chattanooga says the rebels attacked our pickets near Nickajack Gap, killing five, wounding seven and capturing nineteen. Some of our men were killed after surrendering and several of the wounded were butchered as they lay on the field.

### Tolls on