ITEMS.

—In the South an able-bodied negro is worth a thousand dollars. In the North an Abolition Congress has rated a free white man at three hundred.

—The Pennsylvania Abolition State Convention will assmble at Pittsburgh on the 1st of July, instead of the 15th, as previously reported.

—When you hear a young Leagueite boasting that he is down upon making peace with the rebles on any terms, set it down that he is also opposed to shouldering a musket on any terms, and that either he or his daddy has $300 to pay the Government in lieu of his services.

—The following is the clause in the Will of Stephen Girard, excluding Ministers of the Gospel from Girard College and its grounds: "I enjoin and require that no ecclesiastic, missionary, or minister of any sect whatsoever, shall ever hold or exercise any station or duty whatever is said College; nor shall any such person ever be admitted for any purpose, or as a visitor, within the premises appropriated to the purposes of the said College."

—A Wheeling dispatch states that on Monday 30th, ult seven hundred rebels under Gen. Jenkins, captured Point Pleasant, Va. Subsequently the town was retaken. Our loss, one killed and one wounded.

—A Cincinnati telegram is responsible for the report that the rebels are retreating from Kentucky rapidly. Pegram, at last accounts, was south of Stanford, hotly pursued, and is said to have abandoned his cattle train. Polk's corps is reported to have advanced within nineteen miles of Murfreesboro'. Scouts affirm that the rebels must fight or fall back on account of scanty subsistence.

—No mention is made of any attack having been made on either Charleston or Savannah, though active operations were going on in the naval squadron.

—Savannah is suffering for provisions. Even salt is twenty dollars a sack.

—The negro troops had driven the rebel forces some eight or ten miles out of Jacksonville, Florida. According to the Savannah Republican an engagement had occurred between the confederate light batteries and the Union gunboats, resulting without harm to the former. The negro raid seems not feared, but rather courted.

—In compliance with the request of the Senate the President has designated Thursday, April 30, as a day of national humiliation, fasting, and prayer.

—A Cairo dispatch gives particulars of the attempt to run the Vicksburg batteries made April 1st. The rams Lancaster and Switzerland underwent a severe fire. The Lancaster was soon sunk, turning a complete summerset as she went. The Switzerland being disabled, and in a sinking condition, was towed off by the Albatross. The crew of the Lancaster escaped, except two. The loss on board the Switzerland was not ascertained. The Hartford and Albatross on their way up encountered a battery at Grand Gulf more formidable than those at Port Hudson. Both vessels were injured. Three men were killed on the Hartford. Gen. Sherman's Sunflower river expedition is reported to have returned to Young's Point. Some guerrillas captured a train between Memphis and Grand Junction on Saturday. A federal force started in pursuit.

—The Harrisburg Patriot and Union says Governor Curtin has gone on an electioneering tour to the Army of the Potomac. It is estimated that the Governor has made no less than three thousand speeches since the war began. It is expected he will be the Abolition candidate for re-election. If His Excellency could manage to extend the term of service of the nine months' men until the first of next November it would materially improve his chance of success.

—It seems to be very well understood, writes a Washington correspondent, that as soon as the provost marshals are selected and an enrollment secured, that a draft will be first ordered in those States that have not filled their quotas under the old allotment, for men enough to fill up deficiencies. This will put at least forty thousand men in the field, with prospects of a call ere June of two or three hundred thousand additional.

—Democratic victories seem to knock down the price of gold. But they also increase the demand for copper! There are so many new heads to be coppered that the metal is going up. The Democratic ship in addition to being "copper-headed," seems to be copper-bound, copper-fastened, full rigged and full sail to the port of victory! Note the recent victory in New Hampshire, and the triumphs at municipal elections elsewhere throughout this and other States during the past month.

—One of the most significant signs of the terror that has seized upon this guilty administration, is seen in its employment of all the principal criminal lawyers of the country to defend it before the bar of public opinion. Prince John Van Buren, James T. Brady, and Spencer and Butler of New York are for the defendants.

The Second John Brown Raid.

The Portsmouth, New Hampshire, *States and Union* says:

"We have often times wondered at the unanimity with which the Democracy have supported the present war, not that we ever had the shadow of doubt as to the unswerving patriotism of the Democratic party, for that is proverbial the world over, but because every Democrat knew, or ought to have known, that it was no motive of patriotism or love of the Constitution and the country, which actuated the leaders of the party dominants in the instigation, inception and management of the war. It is true, they started with high sounding words of fidelity to the Union and to the oaths they had taken to maintain it. But their acts have since shown that the basest of deception and treason were the all-inspiring power which moved them in spite of their loud protestations of patriotism. Their falsehoods beat Munchausen himself, and are vastly more numerous than the smells which Coleridge found in the city of Cologne, and of a worse character.

"Eighty-seven different stinks,
All well defined; and several stenches."

"We have not been deceived. We never had any faith in the sudden ebullitions of patriotism bursting forth from the lips of those whose whole lives are a continuous record of perfidy to the country and violations of constitutional obligations. We had no confidence in the honesty of the men who madly, infamously refused to avert impending ruin by rejecting a proposition in the winter of 1860—'61, which would have saved us from all the present calamities.

"We knew their record. We have heard their teachings. We have seen the process by which a generation in the North have been educated to hate the contemporaneous generation of the South. We have read the history of Abolition through the bloody scenes of 1790—'95, in the butchery of innocent women and children, and the conversion of beautiful regions into barren wastes, the abodes of indolence, crime and debauchery.

"We have watched the black and treasonable trail of the insiduous monster for twenty five years in America. We have seen the accursed reptile intruding his slimy presence into every channel not barred with God's eternal truths against his impious presence. We have long known him to be a miserable, false and perjured miscreant, unfit for the abodes of common civilization, much less the refined habitations of enlightened American society.

"Well might we wonder at the popular unanimity in support of a war instigated by such a villainous enemy to our government and our race. That the great mass of the people have been actuated by purely patriotic motives, is an undoubted fact. That they have been basely deceived and betrayed is equally true.

"But there is a tremendous waking up all over the land, to a realization of the awful situation of our affairs.

"The war is now avowedly 'a John Brown raid on a gigantic scale,' as we said the Abolitionists intended it should be at the start. All the facts now prove it. The originally declared purpose is repudiated, and the leaders are openly and unreservedly pledged to separation and final disunion. Greeley, the head and front of the administration party, is for 'the best attainable peace' after three months more of 'fruitless efforts' to subdue the South. No Democrat can support such a war, acknowledged, all round, to be nothing but a negro crusade, to end in disunion and anarchy, or a Northern Abolition despotism."

Prayers for the Clergy.

A lady sends us the following: The faint whisper of peace, which a few months since scarcely breathed aloud, are now boldly proclaimed in the halls of legislation, and re-echoed in many parts of the land. Although but the feeble glimmering of light amid the thick darkness that enshrouded us, God grant it may be the dawn of a new era in the political aspect of our country. But whence, we ask, do these sentiments so in accordance with the precepts of the Bible and the teachings of Christianity emanate? Can we point to this or that minister of the gospel as the first to welcome the glad sound, and proclaim it far and wide?—Alas, no! we must look to the men of the world as the promulgators of this heart-thrilling word, not to those who still profane the sacred desk and bring reproach upon the blessed Master they profess to serve. It is a melancholy fact that the Church has lowered its high standard by allowing these unworthy servants to minister at her altars, and that instead of keeping herself from the world, her pulpits have been taken to delude the minds of the people, and to infuse into their hearts a spirit of war and bloodshed. The respect once felt for the sacred profession is gone, and the bad effects of this departure from the Gospel standard of preaching is being sensibly felt. If the house of God is no longer thronged with eager and willing listeners, if the prayer meeting is neglected, the holy Sabbath day desecrated, they must turn to themselves as the authors of all these sad changes. Had they served their God as faithfully as they have served the wicked leaders of party, we should not now behold such a melancholy picture. Although the injury done the Church and the cause of Christ in the world seems irreparable, Infinite Wisdom, no doubt, for wise and inscrutable reasons, has permitted the evil designs of the wicked one thus to triumph for a time. We earnestly ask the prayers of all the Christian men and women of our land for the ministers, (especially those styled Congregationalists,) that they may be brought to see the error of their way and repent. A day has been set apart for colleges, and we respectfully suggest that one may be set apart for the clergy also.

Letters from Our Soldiers.

Every one has noticed the change of sentiments among soldiers in the army on the abolition question. It is alike all over the country. The Honesdale Herald has a long and interesting letter from an officer who formerly sent his letters to the abolition organ, from which we clip the following:

"When we left our homes, our firesides and our friends, we supposed we were offering our services to help support one of the best Governments the world has ever known. We supposed we were to assist in restoring the Constitution as our forefathers had framed it, and we were then willing to fight until the last drop of blood was shed in its defence. But a change has come over the spirit of our dreams; I believe the conduct of this war is running into a political channel, the current of which is drifting towards Emancipation, and if such is the object and end of the war our military ardor must decline. I have no doubt, in my own mind, but that Gen. McClellan was removed from political considerations and nothing else.

I care not what the press or others may say of Gen McClellan. I have conversed with old soldiers who have been under his command, and speak the honest sentiments of their hearts, and every one of them say that they would fight under him as long as they had a drop of blood in their veins, and when soldiers love their commander so much, he must be the right man to command the army. I care not what is said to the contrary, his generous and social qualities, both on the battle field and in the camp, endear him to his soldiers. His success at Antietam, gaining the hardest fought battle on the American continent, shows his competency to command.

Probably by the time this letter reaches you the Conscription bill will have passed and become the law of the land, and if the object of this war is to free the negro, I hope every negro-lover in Wayne county will be drafted and have to shoulder his musket and fight for the dearest object of their affections; but if the object of the war is to sustain the Constitution and laws, and show that we are capable of self-government, I hope every loyal man of Wayne county will offer his services for its defence. Let us suppose for instance, the negro was free and could roam where he pleased, would those generous abolitionists of your country give him employment and take him into their families on social equality? Not a bit of it, they would drive him from their presence. I tell you it is lip service, it does not come from the heart."

Yours, &c.
Lt. H. S. TALMADGE,
Co. K. 137th Reg't Pa. Vol's.

Another says:

"All of the old Army of the Potomac would wish to have McClellan back again, yet I suppose Mac. don't kill men fast enough to suit the Black party north. I think the people of the North will get enough of the war yet before it ends. I know I have, and I wish it may end soon; yet I don't want to give up to old Jeff. Davis. I know old Abe is not exactly right, but we will settle it with him in '64.

NEGROES IN THE REVOLUTION.—Extract from the Journal of the "Committee of Safety" of Massachusetts Bay, in the Revolution:

MAY 21, 1775.

Resolved, That the admission of any persons, as soldiers into the army now raising, but only such as are freemen, will be inconsistent with the principles that are to be supported, and reflect dishonor on this colony, and that no slaves be admitted into this army upon any consideration whatever.

Of this committee JOHN HANCOCK was Chairman.

Extract from a Circular,

Signed by Henry W. Bellows, President of U. S San. Com., having reference to the Women's Penn. Branch.

"One half of all our sick and wounded men are within the military lines at comparatively inaccessible points, and exclusively under a strict military and governmental care. They are not at or near Washington. They are scattered along the Cumberland and Tennesse rivers, in North Carolina and near Port Royal, down at New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and above Vicksburg. Here is the peculiar field of the Sanitary Commission. Its agents are with every column; its watchfulness and care the greater as the soldiers go farther from friends and home. Without diminishing anything from its devotion to the camps and hospitals nearer home, it looks after those whom no other body of care-takers can look after—*the National soldiers in the front, when he falls sick or wounded.*

Next to the Government, and in aid of the government, comes the San. Com:—We ask that the best system shall be permitted to prevail; that supplies should be allowed to go where we along know they are most wanted; that the loyal homes shall send their gifts to those who have the best and only facilities for reaching the greatest sufferers; to those who have *Government transportation*; and relations with the medical department, and an understanding with the Generals of the wild. Whatever you may hitherto been doing, from this time consider how you can best reach the suffering soldier, where he is most exposed, and most forgotten. Organize a circle in your church, your village, your town. Draw in as many loyal women as you can. You must enlist in the work for the war. It is the woman's part in the patriotic struggle we are in. As long as the men fight, the women must knit and sew, and the friends at home furnish means to alleviate the sorrows and wants of the camp and hospitals. Make up weekly, a small (or large) bundle or box, and forward it to Phila. whence it will speedily find its way to Washington or to Louisville, and be distributed in the shortest possible time, to those who need it most. Each box should be marked on the outside with the name of the Society, town and State from which it is sent. Boxes should be directed:

Women's Penn. Branch U. S. San. Com.
1307 Chestnut Street, Phila.

Appeal.

And now Ladies of Susq'a Co., as we would not be a whit behind in loyalty, neither let us be so in action! The Soldier's Aid Society of Montrose would gladly know what is being done by their sisters in Brooklyn, Harford, Gibson, Glenwood, Susquehanna, Great Bend, Franklin, New Milford, Friendsville, Brackney, Dimock, Springville, Dundaff, and other centres of business throughout the county, in the way of organization for systematic and energetic effort to mitigate the sufferings of the sick and wounded of the National army.

Since the freight (not express charges) on all boxes of Hospital stores will be settled for by the Philadelphia Agency of the Sanitary Committee, there need be no delay in forwarding by railroad or otherwise, according to the directions given above. Let us stimulate each other by correspondence, aim as much as possible at unity of method as well as of purpose. Societies or individuals will please address:

Emily C. Blackman, Cor. Sec., Soldiers' Aid Society, Montrose.

Thanks.

At a meeting of the Soldier's Aid Society, held March 26th, a vote to the following effect, was unanimously passed:

Whereas, the Printers of the County papers always cheerfully and gratuitously accord space in their columns for the frequent notices of the Society: Resolved, that we tender them our thanks, publicly, assuring them of our hearty appreciation of their sympathy in our work.

By order of the Society.

Montrose, March, 23, '63.

☞ The Ladies of the Soldiers' Aid Society, acknowledge, with thanks, the timely gift of 20 yards of unbleached Sheeting from Mr. Azur Lathrop.

By order of the Society.

April 2d, 1863.

Notice.—The Mite Society will meet Tuesday evening, April 7th, at the house of Mrs. D. R. Lathrop. April 14th at the house of Mrs. S. A. Woodruff, and on the evening of the 21st at the Rev. A. O. Warren's. K. E. SEARLE, Sec'y.

To the School Directors of Susquehanna County:

GENTLEMEN:—In pursuance of the 43d Section of the Act of 8th May, 1854; you are hereby notified to meet in convention, at the Court House, in Montrose, on the first Monday in May, A. D. 1863, being the 4th day of the month, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and select, *viva voce*, by a majority of the whole number of Directors present, one person of literary and scientific acquirements, and of skill and experience in the art of teaching, as County Superintendent, for the three succeding years; and determine the amount of compensation for the same; and certifiy the result to the State Superintendent, at Harrisburg, as required by the 39th and 40th Sections of said act.

A. N. BULLARD, Co. Sup't.

Montrose, April 6th, 1863. 3w.

Notice.

The Susquehanna Co. Agricultural Society will meet at the Court House, in Montrose, on Monday evening April 13th, being the 2d week of Court.

C. L. BROWN, Sec.