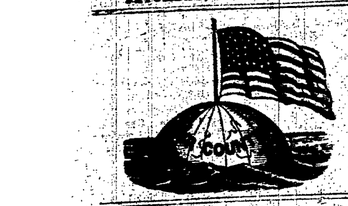
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1861.



Letter From Fort Washington.

(WRITTEN BY OUR ASSOCIATE.)

FORT WASHINGTON, MD., *June 16, 1861.*

DEAR JOURNAL:—So, the Confederate forces have evacuated Harper's Ferry, leaving a small body of their troops, to guard the place. It was not unexpected. This move is either a retreat, or a concentration of the rebels, with a strong force of active hostilities to Manassa Junction, twenty-six miles west of this post, in Virginia. A large force is collected there, under Beauregard, and the conjunction of the Harper's Ferry troops with them, if they can succeed in effecting it, will make the position not only strong, but threatening, as far as Alexandria and Washington are concerned. The Government however, is strengthening those points by entrenchments, and fortifications, and those points by entrenchments, and fortifications, using those points by entrenchments, and fortifications, to an extent which must with proper force, repel any attack which might be made in that direction. It seems probable that the first fight of importance, will be at the Junction, provided that the enemy does not, thinking discretion the better part of valor, fall back on Richmond, their Capital (which will be if they succeed). There will evidently, be stirring times within the next fifteen days, and there may be within that time, a battle, decisive as to the fate of the mushroom Southern Confederacy.

Gossip cannot fail to fall on the rebels, and injure them still more in the eyes of the world, for their destruction of private property, before leaving Harper's Ferry. They seem to be actuated by no malice only worthy of bandittii, and which should not find sequence into civilized warfare.

As far as this post is concerned, we still remain in statu quo. Every thing now is in "apple pie" order, and the men are in the best of health. Commanding the Potomac as we calmly await the course of events which may drive the clash of arms hotly into the Capital. Commanding the Potomac as we calmly await the course of events which may drive the further from the Capital, we are not idle. We are at work, and being at this time an advance post, it is important, and I do not think the Government will lessen the force now here, but have to hold it. I have no confidence in the people surrounding us. They are quiet it is true, but only because they are in the grip of the strong hand of the Government, which could crush them in case of an uprising. There are unquestionably, sincere Union men among them; but their number is far from legion, I can assure you. If this question of the right of a portion of the people to break up the Government as was must be settled only in the manner which has been adopted, namely, by the sword. It is the only argument which will reach the understanding of the men engaged in the desperate work of treason. I hope the Government will make the struggle short but decisive, by means of an overwhelming force. It may cost hundreds of millions of dollars, but it will in the end be economy, while an unnecessary effusion of blood will be spared.

During the past week we have had not only quite a number of visitors from Schuylkill County; but have received four beautiful swords for the officers of this command, presents from Messrs. Taylor, Patterson, and Company, presents from Messrs. Taylor, Patterson, and others, and also havelocks, etc., a present from the ladies of Pottsville to the Company.

Upon the reception of the havelocks, the Company adopted the following:

Resolved, That the kindness of the ladies of Pottsville, in making and sending to Company H., 25th Regiment, Penn. Vol., havelocks, bandages, needle cases, etc., is highly appreciated by each member of the Company, and will long be remembered with gratitude.

Resolved, That the action of the women of Schuylkill, in generously providing with their own hands, for the comfort of the troops from that County, proves that they are warmly enlisted in spirit in the cause which has blessed their husbands, sons and brothers, in the field, in defence of the Union.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the papers of the Borough of Pottsville.

Upon the reception of the swords, the officers tendered the same to their host retired in Pottsville, to the effect that in Company H., Cpt. Wren's, which were accepted.—Capt. Smith and the commissioned officers of his command, then held a meeting, at which the following resolutions were adopted:

FORT WASHINGTON, MD.,
June 12th, 1861.

TO MESSRS. REES T. TAYLOR, WM. F. PATTERSON, AND OTHERS OF OUR FRIENDS IN POTTSVILLE, *instrumental in presenting us with your beautiful swords.*

GENTLEMEN:—At a meeting of the undersigned, commissioned officers of Company H., Advance Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, held this day, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Messrs. Reesh T. Taylor, William F. Patterson, and other respected citizens of the Borough of Pottsville, whom we are proud to call friends, have in the most generous manner, pre-ented us with four beautiful and serviceable swords, therefore

Resolved, That we appreciate the gift so highly that it shall be our earnest endeavor in whatever position we may be placed, to allow no stain of dishonor or dereliction of duty, to sully their blades, the brightness of which should be typical of the soldier's character, the keenness of whose edge should be excelled only by the warrior's zeal in his country's service.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be furnished to the donors, and that they be published in the papers of the Borough of Pottsville.

D. A. SMITH, *Captain.*
F. B. WALLACE, *1st Lieut.*
PHILLIP NAGLE, *2d Lieut.*
HENRY C. RUSSEL, *Drv. 2d Lieut.*

On Thursday Lieut. Brumm, of the 5th Regiment, now encamped at Alexandria; Mr. Richards, and several other citizens of Minersville, paid us a visit, and remained until Friday. On Friday evening, Major Campbell and Dr. Owen, Surgeon of the Regiment, dropped in" on a visit from Washington, and returned the following day. We were pleased to see them, and put them through in the most approved style.

Last evening, the transport Josephine, bound for Annapolis, anchored in the stream, and we had a visit from three officers of the New York Sixth Regiment—Up top, clever fellows. Directions, in the army, are unnecessary, that is to say, when an officer is a stranger in a strange place. So they walked into our quarters; said "What and how are you?" and informed us that we had the honor of addressing Major Stafford, Adjutant Mason and Captain Grimm. After looking over the Fort, and being introduced to Major Haskin, they returned to their vessel, apparently well pleased with their visit.

I am sorry to say that our mail facilities as far as receiving is concerned, are bad at present. Last night we received the first mail for a week, and I do not doubt that letters for us are lying at the Navy Yard in Washington. I would advise all who write to matters of Capt. Smith and Capt. Wren's companies to direct their letters to the care of those gentlemen at this post. There is greater certainty of their reaching here more quickly.

If we should be here on the 4th of July, the boys propose doing up that anniversary in grand style. Of course, there will be a national salute from the Fort, fired at meridian, and then Company H. proposes to have a national song sung: benediction; reading of the Declaration of Independence, oration, grand dinner, etc., etc., ther programme has not been arranged yet; but will be shortly.

The Marshall House in Alexandria, where Ellsworth was killed, has been almost cut to pieces inside, visitors being anxious to carry away relics of the spot where the gallant Colonel fell. The flag staff is gone, and the stairs are almost to the same condition. The most curious relic he was heard of by one of our men—who was in Alexandria a few days since. It was a piece of one of the hoops of Mrs. Jackson's (wife of the owner of the Ellsworth) skirt. Queer idea that. But I do not question that he considers it valuable, and will exhibit it with gusto on his return home.

Our drum corps each evening at "retreat." (sunset) is quite creditable to the volunteer companies here. They begin to gain the precision in movement and in handling the musket, of regulars, and really, in line it is difficult for the unpractised eye to distinguish between them. Our force here may be considered in good condition. There is little or no sickness, and the men are in first class fighting order.

I have been somewhat interested lately, in examining the composition of the banks of a rivulet which flows into the Potomac through a ravine east of the Fort. They are composed almost entirely of shells, fossil clams, etc., in all stages, from some soft as mud to those solidified into a condition approximating to the hardness of the conglomerate of our Region at home Shut in as the place is by precipitous and high banks on either side, with the little stream rippling at the bottom, it is about as pleasant a spot, in the rural line, as one could wish. In fact in peace times, this is a favorite resort for pic-nic parties from Washington, in consequence of its beauty, and convenience of access by means of steamboats.

As I have nothing more to communicate, which would be of the slightest interest to you or your readers, I will subscribe myself as usual. Yours Ever,

F. B. W.

THE TARIFF.

Few of our readers are aware of the herculian efforts now making in England, and among the Free Traders at home, to destroy our Protective Policy. Nothing but the voice of the people poured forth in tones of thunder into the ears of their representatives, and the Government at Washington, will crush out these efforts. Committee after Committee of Foreign Agents, in the shape of money lenders, are conferring with the Government at Washington, offering means to carry on the Government, provided our Tariff policy is changed. Among the late committees we find the name of Agusts Belmont, the Agent of the Rothchilds in this Country, trying to shape the policy of this Government to suit these foreign interests. The last Anti-Slavery Journal, published in New York, also had a communication of upwards of two columns, from the celebrated Harriett Martineau, the authoress, all of which was directed against our Morrill Tariff, from which we take the following extract, which shows the drift of the whole article:

"It is true, the English people, and most of their neighbors, agree with the South in the matter of free trade; as true as that we agree with the North in regard to slavery. The Northern States have emancipated their slaves; and the Southern have emancipated commerce. England has done both. She has freed both person and industry. There is not a slave within her dominions; and there is not a penny of protective duty in her financial schedule."

We regret to state that this lady, in her anxiety to destroy our protective policy, does not tell the truth. The Rebels have established a Tariff of duties on imports, and so does England protect every article of her own production which requires it; but England, after building up and strengthing her enormous manufacturing system, by commanding the wealth of the world under almost prohibiting duties, and finding that her policy has been adopted by surrounding nations, makes a great display in favor of Free Trade by reducing duties which are no longer required, thus trying to hoodwink and humbug all other nations into this policy. But give us twenty-five years of uninterrupted protection under the Morrill Tariff Bill, which will not only develope our Country, increase its machinery and add to its wealth to such an extent, that we will also, like England, be able to compete with other nations, with little or no protection. But that man must be a fool that cannot discover that, with higher labor, higher capital, and with but few large capitalist engaged in manufacturing, that we cannot compete with the cheaper labor, cheaper capital, and the gigantic establishments, particularly of England, (where a large number can build a whole year's product without selling a pound, waiting for a more favorable market,) without adequate protection to our industry, until it is built up by the same means as other nations have built themselves up, and we are placed in the same favorable position. With protection for half the period it was enjoyed by Great Britain in building up her industry, and increasing her wealth, we will not ask any higher duties after that period than will be required to support our Government, levied with a view to revenue only, and we will guarantee that we will then outstrip that nation, not only in population, wealth and power, but in all the requisites that constitutes greatness in a nation.

There is also another important feature in the Protective policy, that must not be overlooked at this period. PROTECTION WILL ERADICATE SLAVERY, if it survives the present crisis. It will build up Factories in the South; draw thither a white working and mechanical population, which will soon elevate the poor whites of the South. It will soon out-vote the Slave-holding interests there, and drive the slave out of the towns and workshops, to the plantation; and slavery will gradually die out as the unprofitable character of slave labor, compared with free labor becomes apparent. We repeat, PROTECTION TO AMERICAN INDUSTRY IS THE PEACEABLE SOLUTION OF THE GREAT SLAVE QUESTION HEREAFTER, *if it should fail to be put in a position by which the people will be satisfied that it will gradually disappear, in the present crisis.*

Since the above was written, we find the *N. Y. Herald* and *Evening Post*, and other papers in that city of Foreign Traders, are also calling for a repeal of the Morrill Bill.—The *Tribune*, which is ignored by the Foreign interests in that City, is battling manfully for its preservation. Let the press and the people everywhere speak out in its defense. The Bill is moderate, and will produce all the revenue the Country requires under ordinary circumstances, but its specific features check the frauds and villanies which have heretofore been practised under the *adcalorem system*, which, more than any other cause, has called forth this hostility to it by the foreign interests.

A DASH AT THE ROGUES.—We rejoice to learn that the Grand Jury of Pitisburg, have indicted and found a true bill against the Messrs. Frowenfield, of Pittsburg, and Chas. M. Neal, of Philadelphia, for cheating the State and Volunteers, in furnishing the trashy Uniforms they did at full prices. Why dont the Grand Jury of Philadelphia also indict the parties connected with the Girard House Swindle? That was quite as shameful a transaction as the Pittsburg swindle. The people are determined to have this whole matter ferreted out, let the blame rest where it will—and it is proper that Criminal Courts of Justice should take hold of it and ferret out the whole truth, and expose and punish the guilty. The Grand Jury of Pittsburg took the matter into their own hands and made the presentment—the same evidence is within the reach of a Philadelphia Grand Jury, and if an indictment is not made, it will to taken for granted that the guilty culprits are in Philadelphia among those who furnished rotten shoddy, pasted shoes, and caps, &c., and who upheld the Girard House Swindle, even after Gov. Curtin became acquainted with the character of the work turned out of that establishment, and implored him not to close it up.

We know that great allowanees must be made under the pressing circumstances that then existed; and we know that nine-tenths of the charges of pecuniary corruption and peculation, are unfounded, and are trumped up by the friends of other functionaries who could not control the State in appointments; by disappointed office-seekers and contractors, and by the few Pro-Slavery demagogues, who still linger among us, sympathizing with treason, but who have been cut off and repudiated by the democratic masses, who so nobly rusbed to the defense of their imperilled Country; but we also know that there has been extensive swindling, and our Volunteers have suffered in consequence. We know that it has already been said, in our midst, notwithstanding the character of the Committee appointed to investigate these charges, that it is the Governor's Committee, and they will not implicate him. We know that the character of the Governor is suffering, and the reputation of his administration is assailed in consequence of these charges, however pure it may be—and we, as its friend and supporter, have a right to ask that all its acts may be submitted to the closest scrutiny. If found guilty, we will be among the first to condemn it, without fear, favor or affection—but at the same time we feel confident that Gov. Curtin will pass through this ordeal unscathed, while his unprincipled traducers will shrink back, covered with shame and confusion.

CHEATING THE VOLUNTEERS.—It appears that Pennsylvania is not the only State where the volunteers have been cheated by the Contractors and others, by forcing on them the miserably imported foreign trash called *shoddy*, for uniforms, &c. A large number furnished in New York have been rejected at Fort Monroe and sent back and thrown upon the hands of the Contractors. Many of them in use were worn out in two, three and four weeks, and Col. Townsend of the Albany Regiment, has already made a requisition for new uniforms, in consequence of the wearing out of those in use. A writer says:

"The Brooks, Brothers, the tailors, have a heavy contract with the Government to furnish clothing. The value of their bargain is considerably over $200,000. They contracted to provide fulled woolen cloth for the soldier's outside coats, but in place of that material they have furnished goods made up of *cotton and shoddy*, that tumble into fragments as soon as they are put on.

"Another case, that Hawkins' Zouave regiment had a few hundred knapsacks furnished them, which were not stitched, together, but glued.—The moment they were packed and shaken they fell apart."

The amusing Washington correspondent of a New York paper, says:

"The Mackerel brigade have got their new uniforms, and they ain't the martial garments it would do to get fat in. High private Samivel Green put his on, partially, yesterday; but it's a positive fact, my boy, that by the time he got his coat buttoned, his pantaloons were all worn out. I managed to get on one of the uniforms myself, and the first time I went into the open air all the buttons blew off. If you know the tailor that made the articles, just pay "damn" to him once, for the sake of yours, truly."

A Committee of Investigation has also been appointed in New York, and the money is withheld from Contractors until this business is fully investigated.

CAMERON AND PROTECTION.—Secretary Cameron stands nobly by the cause of Protection. A second application had been made to him to permit coal to be admitted duty free for the use of a Military Academy, to which he promptly replied, as follows:

The Secretary of War cannot countenance this importation of coal by approving of this recommendation. A better article of coal of all kinds can be secured in this country than can be brought from Europe, and it is deemed due the great industrial interests of the country that the Government should foster and encourage its own resources instead of those of foreign countries.

This is the true doctrine, and if fully carried out by the Government, she will never be in want of either men or means to uphold the Union.

ARE WE A MILITARY PEOPLE?—It is stated on the authority of the *N. Y. Sun* that the number of troops tendered by responsible parties to the President, is 575,000 men.—The Proclamation calling for Troops was issued on the 15th of April, a little over two months ago.

PROTECTION AND THE LEDGER.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* is the only Free Trade paper now published in Philadelphia, and to judge from the signs of the times, it is rapidly going down hill, also. It is scarcely seen in the rail cars, and in the hotels, where it formerly was almost exclusively taken; and if it were not for the support of the working classes who patronize it, (although it is one of their bitterest enemies,) it would soon cease to exist. Many of these too, we learn, are beginning to discover its pernicious tendencies, and are also discarding it. Notwithstanding its Free Trade proclivities, it occasionally contains in its columns the refutation of its own doctrines.—Such was the case on Monday last, in an article on the prosperity of Belgium, from which we make the following extract:

"The present King of Belgium was, it will be remembered, Prince Leopold, a small German Prince, very poor, who visited England forty-five years ago, and married the only child of George III, the next heir to the British throne. His wife died, or he might now be occupying the very position in England filled by Prince Albert. In 1830 Belgium separated from Holland, to which she had been united by the treaties of 1815, and Prince L. became the Belgian King.

"His long residence in England had opened his eyes to the sources of her national prosperity, and he has studiously devoted his energies to the development of her manufactures, so that now she imports even food in large quantities, and exports her manufactures to Denmark on the one side, and France on the other."

Every word of this is true. The King did see the prosperity of Great Britain; he had "opened his eyes to the sources of her material prosperity," and abandoned the system of Free Trade, which had impoverished Belgium, and reduced the working classes almost to a state of starvation. In 1853, by Royal decree, he established the Protective Policy, which aided so powerfully in restoring the prosperity of the country, and giving comfort to the people, that in 1855 he again increased the duties on foreign products. To such a degree of prosperity was Belgium raised, in the short space of time that intervened after its adoption, that in 1857 she passed through the terrible financial crises, with less pecuniary suffering than any other nation in Europe. To show the character of this Tariff, we append some of the duties imposed on foreign articles, which come in competition with those produced and manufactured in Belgium:

On Cloths and Cassimeres,	220 lbs.,	$16 82
Manufactured Cotton, plain,	"	33 37
Do. Colored and Printed,	"	60 18
Do. Drills,	"	25 92
Flannels,	"	26 96
Cut Nails,	"	18 51
Cotton Hosiery,	"	27 77
Woollen Hosiery,	"	46 29
Skins, tanned,	"	5 26
Iron, cast,	"	2 73
Do. forged in Hoops,	"	5 09
Do. Nails,	"	2 75
Do. Castings in Kettles, &c.,	"	5 09
Do. Anchors,	"	2 73
Do. Bars,	"	834
Flour,	"	561
Hams and Bacon,	"	4 154

All the other manufactures of Belgium are protected in the same manner, while all the raw materials required from abroad are admitted free. She also charges an export duty on such of her own productions which are prepared and required at home to aid her manufacturers—and in some instances the exportation of these productions are prohibited.

It is this policy, and this alone, that has lifted Belgium out of the lowest depths of degradation to a degree of prosperity unknown to that country before; but the *Ledger*, in commending its prosperity, carefully conceals this feature from its readers, in order to cheat and deceive the people. This is evidently the object, because, in another part of this same issue will be found a rabid attack upon the Morril Tariff Bill, which was adopted by the last Congress, signed by James Buchanan, and the duties of which are not so high as those of the Belgium Tariff.

If the masses could only be brought to understand their true interests, and not give credence to the falsehoods of the Jeff Davis' and their support to Free Trade papers, which only mislead the ignorant, but crush them out at once by withdrawing their countenance and support, there would be more stability in our Government, and permanency in maintaining wholesome laws which advance the true interests of the country, by developing its industry, and giving employment to all its people at remunerating rates.

The *Ledger* is the Philadelphia organ of the Brokers and Shavers, as well as Free Tradists. This is natural, because the money brokers are also all *Free Traders*. They know that when the business community is prostrated, they flourish by exacting 2 per cent. a month, while under protection, abundance of money for business purposes could be obtained at 6 per cent. This is one reason why it advocates Free Trade. The other, and the most prominent is, because it enables the proprietors *to put money in their pockets*. They cannot reduce their subscription below one cent per copy, but if they can reduce wages, and also the price of the paper on which it is printed, say from 30 to 40 cents a ream, and on all the other materials used in its issue, they can put from *twelve to fifteen thousand dollars annually in their pockets under the Free Trade system*. We are not suprised therefore that the *Ledger* should support Free Trade principles; but what can be said of the stupidity of those who, knowing the destructive tendencies of such a policy on the labor and productive industry of the country, still continue to patronize it, and thus extend its evil influences.

ANOTHER UNFORTUNATE MOVE.

On Monday last Gen. Schenck of Ohio, started with the 1st Ohio Regiment to protect the London and Hampshire Railroad. Guards were stationed at the various bridges on the route, so that when the train reached Vienna, only about 180 men remained. Before the cars had stopped, fire was opened from a small battery and two field pieces upon a hill. Some of the Ohio men were killed at once, and others after they had disembarked from the train. At the first alarm the engine-driver, in affright, detached all but one car, and hastened back, leaving the men to look after themselves.

After a few discharges, the rebel force, estimated at about 2,500, consisting of infantry, artillery and cavalry, retired without attempting to pursue their advantage. They were all South Carolinians.

Our position was reinforced during the night, and is now held by the two Ohio Regiments, two from Connecticut, a part of the Sixty-ninth New York, a body of United States cavalry and others.

Our loss was six killed, four badly if not fatally wounded, and several others slightly.

The battery was planted at a curve of the road with high embankments on each side. It is said that notwithstanding the disparity of numbers the Ohio men showed great bravery on the occasion, which quite disconcerted the Rebels, who made no attempt to take them prisoners.

This is another unfortunate blunder made by our inexperienced military commanders; Gen. Schenck is said to be a very brave man—but it was a great want of foresight in running his force up a curve in the road, with high embankments on each side, without first reconoitering the ground. Such a blunder could never have taken place under an experienced officer.

THE ERIE RAIL ROAD.—We learn from the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, that an arrangement has been effected by which the Pennsylvania Central Railroad takes a permanent lease of the Erie. She endorses her bonds to the amount of three million dollars, which will secure its completion, and also the equipment. The rent under the lease, is a percentage of the receipts. The arrangement is to be submitted to the stockholders of both companies for their ratification. The arrangement is considered a good one for the interests of both companies, and the State at large.

CAPTURE OF ONE OF JEFF DAVIS'S PIRATES.

The schooner Savannah, marked No. 1, of Jeff. Davis's sea-robbers *alias* Privateers, was captured off the coast of S. Carolina by the U. S. Brig Perry, last week. The Savannah had just captured the Brig Joseph from Cardenas, Cuba, laden with sugar, and towed her into Georgetown, South Carolina, after which she espied the Brig Perry, which had ports closed, supposing it to be a merchant vessel, she gave chase, and ran within hailing distance before she discovered her mistake, but too late. Both crafts fired—the shot of the Perry took effect in the rigging of the Savannah, while that of the Savannah entirely missed the Perry. The Pirate then attempted to run away, but was soon brought too by the Perry.

When boarded she was found to possess, in addition to her gun on deck, a number of muskets, pistols, bowie knives, cutlasses, &c., all scattered around in confusion, the precise number of which could not be ascertained.—Ten pairs of handcuffs, supposed to be for the use of the prisoners whom they might capture, were also found on board. All the paraphernalia of the bloody work which she was intended to accomplish, shone boldly out from every portion of the privateer, and a visit to her will at once give an idea of the murderous propensities and terrible resolves which characterize the movements of those traitors to the Constitution and the country.

The crew were taken on board the Minnesota, and the vessel sent to New York where she now lies.

As a curiosity in these times, we append the Letter of Marque under which she sailed:

"LETTER OF MARQUE."

"Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, to all who shall see these presents, greeting:—Know ye that by virtue of the power vested in me by law, I have commissioned, and do hereby commission, have authorized, and do authorize, the schooner or vessel called the *Savannah*, (more particularly described in the schedule hereunto annexed), whereof T. Harrison Baker is commander, to act as a private armed vessel, in the service of the Confederate States, on the high seas, against the United States of America, their ships, vessels, goods and effects, and those of their citizens, during the pendency of the war now existing between the said Confederate States and the United States; this commission to continue in force until revoked by the President of the Confederate States for the time being.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States at Montgomery, this 18th day of May, A. D. 1861. By the President, Jeff. Davis. R. Toombs, Secretary of State."

SCHEDULE OR DESCRIPTION OF VESSEL.

Name—Schooner *Savannah*.

Tonnage—53 41 95ths tons.

Armament—One large pivot gun and small arms.

Number of Crew—Thirty.

Indorsed on the back:

"Letter of Marque, No. 1."

She was also captured No. 1, and the people are determined that they shall be hung No. 1, also. The law is explicit on this subject. By the act of May 15, 1820, it is provided, that "if any person shall, upon the high seas, &c., commit the crime of robbery in or upon any ship or vessel, or upon any of the ship's company of any ship or vessel, or the lading thereof, such person shall be adjudged to be a pirate, and being thereof convicted before the Circuit of the United States for the district into which he shall be brought, or in which he shall be found, shall suffer death." And if this is not sufficient it is provided also by the act of April 30, 1790, that any citizen committing piracy or robbery upon the high sea, "under color of any commission from any foreign prince or State, or *any pretense of authority from any person*," shall, on conviction, suffer death.

If President Lincoln, with all his known feelings of humanity, should interfere to screen these blood thirsty hell-hounds, commissioned by Jeff Davis, and sent forth under the proposed bounty of $20 per head for every loyal citizen of the United States whom they might kill in their hellish work, it would raise a storm of indignation throughout the whole country. It is only to be regretted that the Chief Pirate, Jeff Davis, is not permitted to grace the gallows at the head of his petty murderers. But his time will soon come, also. Nothing but a premature death can keep his neck out of the hangman's noose.

A VOICE FROM THE CAMP.

We have received the second number of the *Pennsylvania Fifth*, published at Camp M'Dowell, Alexandria. Speaking of the unfortunate result at Great Bethel, the editor remarks:

While the result of the attack upon this point is to be regretted, we trust the lesson to be learned from its mismanagement will not be lost, or with out its beneficial advantages in the future. There is no disguising the fact,—and we speak respectfully of those at the head of our military affairs—that there is something wrong in the selection of men to command our brave volunteers. Instead of military ability being the test upon which our "Army" appointments should be established, we fear there is too much dependence placed upon the recommendation of influential politicians, and that favoritism is the rule, by which too many of these appointments are made.

Against this system we protest, and as we know and share the dangers with the volunteer's life, we appeal in behalf of the rank and file, that they may not, through bunting among the rubbish of worn out politicians, bankrupt merchants—hunting for sell, and pet-fogging lawyers, some of whom never shouldered a musket, much less are they competent to direct the movements of a regiment or brigade in time of battle; but that men like Gen. Pearce, would set upon their saddle, speechless, while the poor troops would be cut to pieces. In view of this, would it not be better, and encouraging to the volunteers, if the policy of Napoleon the First was inaugurated, and none called to command but those who have been tried, or are able to stand a military examination.

In uttering these sentiments, we are pleading, in high sacred duty, and are prepared to enter upon its performance without fear or favor, feeling at the same time a lively concern in-asmuch that every volunteer in the ranks will sustain us, and to strengthen our position still further, we clip the following from one of our Philadelphia exchanges:

"We say most emphatically that any man who will accept a commission under the Government to take command of a regiment, who does not suppose himself fully competent, is nothing more than a murderer, and in future if they should be found out, should be ridiculed and de-pised by the whole community. We say with as much force as we can muster for the occasion to all those who may hereafter form regiments to look well to the qualifications of all those whom they place in command of their lives, as all depends on the knowledge of the men who direct the movements, and who have the absolute power to lead with-ut or steer they will."

Every word true—but query—have not the volunteers, in selecting their Regimental and other officers, made quite as many blunders as the appointing power? Have they not also selected officers through favoritism, and only made the discovery after they were in the service? We make these queries, to show that such improper selections always will occur to some extent in emergencies like ours, but the evil is of such a character, that every effort ought to be made to prevent such mistakes, as far as it is possible hereafter, both in electing and appointing officers.

We extract the following also:

BENJ. HAYWOOD of Schuylkill; Jacob Fry of Montgomery; and Charles Abbott of Philadelphia, the three Commissioners appointed by Gov. Curtin to have the 4th, 5th and 25th Pennsylvania Regiments re-equipped, have performed their duty, and the clothes have arrived and been distributed. The gentlemen have performed their duty faithfully—having avoided the cheating propensities of contractors. The uniforms are of good stuff and well made.

CAPT. BRENNAN of Company C., returns thanks to Benj. Bannan, Esq., for files of the *Miners' Journal*. To the ladies of Pottsville, for Havelocks, Towels, &c. To John S. Graham, Mr. Wilder and Samuel Huntsinger for favors.

THE *Fifth* says that Capt. Brennan is a good officer, a perfect gentleman, and his company "ever ready for the fray."

The Second number of *The Pennsylvania Fifth*, in connection with other interesting news from the army, contains a spirited Song from the pen of Mrs. JULIET H. L. CAMPBELL, of our Borough. It can be had at Bannan's Book Store, where a few copies of the first number still remain unsold.

The material of which our army is can be gleaned from the following extracts, the first from the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, and the last from a Washington correspondent of the N. Y. *Tribune*:

Spiling for a fight.—One of the Michigan boys got very sick in this city and was unable to accompany his regiment to Washington. He was ordered home when convalescent, and furnished a pass to go, but that did not suit him at all. The other day, very unexpectedly to his comrades, he made his appearance in the camp at Washington. The Surgeon seized him in the ranks, and as he was really unable to withstand the hardships of the service, ordered him out. It was just as the troops were in column to march to Virginia, an alarm having been given. He left the column crying, and said, sobbing loudly: "Never mind, boys, you'll find me on the other side of the bridge. I'll be d—d if I don't be there." And if there had been a fight no doubt he would have kept his word. The brave fellow started for a fight and if there is a chance he is going to have it. That Michigander, if he lives, will return home covered with laurels.

A Heroic Ohioan.—A most patriotic and heroic spirit was displayed by one of the Ohio soldiers at Vienna. He was hit by a Minie ball, which shattered his arm, rendering it entirely useless. No longer able to use his musket on the Rebels, with his shattered limb dangling by his side, he threw it down and cried out, "I am for the Union forever—give me a pistol." This weapon being furnished by a private standing by his side, the brave fellow blazed away at the traitors until he sank to the ground from the loss of blood.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Press* gives the following interesting account of FORT CORCORAN:

I returned by way of Arlington Heights, where the impregnable Fort Corcoran loomed up in solid proportions, and the heavy "gr-wlers" were in position and ready for duty. This noble regiment have performed a work of industry, and have by themselves the defences, with not a soldier on the sick list. They were at supper. President Lincoln and Secretary Seward had but a few hours before left the camp from a recent visit to the fort, and a walk round among the men, apparently surprised and delighted at the progress of the works. The fortifications being nearly completed, a massive oak-walled block house is in progress nearer the river.

The interesting ceremony of christening a 64 pounder had been performed by Father Mooney, who said:

"It is with more than ordinary pleasure I come forward to perform the ceremony which is not only pleasing, to us all, but highly honorable—I should say a welcome prerogative to me, on this auspicious occasion, and that is a christening of the noble gun on Fort Corcoran. In the kind providence of God, it has been for me, as a priest during this lastnine years, to baptize many a fine blue-eyed babe, but never one before like this—such a large, quiet, healthy, and promising fellow as that which is now before me. Indeed, I must remark it has often happened when pouring the baptismal water on the child's head, he opened his little eyes and got a little more of the water than he wished. But on this occasion this noble son of a great mother, never winketh open, evidently indicating that he is anxious to speak, which I have no doubt he soon will, in a thundering voice, to the joy of his friends and terror of his enemies.

"I need not tell you that a most appropriate name has been selected by our esteemed colonel, and one that will be welcomed by you all, and that is the honorable name of the gallant young maiden of our brigade, Col. Hunter. Therefore the great gun shall hereafter answer to its name, the Hunter gun. Now, parents anxiously listen to the first lispings of the infant's lips, and when mother's heart swells with joy when she catches the first utterance of her cherished babe, these words, 'mamma,' 'mamma;' but here I shall guarantee to you that this promising boy will speak for the first time, in loud, clear accents, these endearing words, 'papa,' 'papa,' *Potrin mee*,' *Potrin mee*.' And in my name, and on yours, I shout 'Potrin mee' to all traitors from this fort, while the echo of his voice will be as sweet music, inviting the children of Columbia to share the comforts of his father's home, and thus may he soon speak, to the glory of the stars and stripes, honor for the name he bears, and lasting credit to the Sixty-ninth."

FOREIGN NEWS.

The latest Foreign advices announces the death of Count Cavour, one of the greatest statesmen in Europe. His loss will be severely felt by King Victor Emanuel in his counsels.

Our difficulties seems to be the all-absorbing question in Europe as well as at home. The interruption of commerce, and the great loss sustained by the inability of procuring a supply of cotton, is effecting almost as much distress in the manufacturing districts abroad as in our own city. England, however is making gigantic efforts to procure a supply from her own colonies, and other cotton producing countries.

The following is the order of Lord John Russell, prohibiting the entrance of prizes in any of the ports of Great Britain:

FOREIGN OFFICE, June 1, 1861.

To the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty:

My Lords: Her Majesty's Government are, as you are aware, desirous of observing the strictest neutrality in the contest which appears to be imminent between the United States and the Confederate States of North America; and with the view more effectually to carry out this principle, they propose to interdict the armed vessels and privateers belonging to the powers or States entering prizes made by them into ports, harbors, roadsteads, or waters of the United Kingdom, or any of her Majesty's Colonies or possessions abroad. I have accordingly to acquaint your Lordships that the Queen has been pleased to direct that orders in conformity with the principles above stated should forthwith be addressed to all proper authorities in the United Kingdom, and to her Majesty's naval and other authorities in all quarters beyond the United Kingdom, for their guidance in the circumstances.

I have, &c., J. RUSSELL.

The tone of the English Press still remains unfriendly towards the United States. The London *News* has an editorial of excellent temper upon our northern feeling in this crisis from which we extract the following:—"There never was in the history of every people which ought to claim the sympathies of every reasonable man. It is impossible to vindicate every expression which has been used by American statesmen here to this country. But considering the calamity which has fallen upon the American republic, and the sacrifices which the Americans of the North are called upon to make, it is not surprising that they should resent the heedless language which has been used in discussing these all important matters. Consider for a moment the effect which would have been produced in this country if an Irish or Scotch Indian mutiny or an Irish rebellion some American senator had backed up his place in Congress of the hypothesis from home; that a republican attempted to prove that failure of the Confederacy by the necessity of using force to restore the royal authority. It is not only unjust but grossly untrue to say that democratic institutions have proved a failure because a gigantic conspiracy has for a time succeeded in overwhelming the federal power. It may be that the north will try twenty millions of treasure and fifty thousand men, but they will fail in reducing the south. But the time has not yet come for proclaiming the success of so startling an enterprise. We can only indicate that it has its enemies to expose, which I have no doubt he soon will, in a thundering voice, to the joy of his friends and terror of his enemies.

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