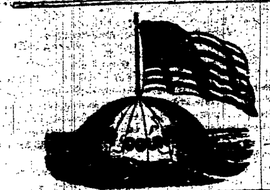
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1861.



Letter from Fort Washington.

(WRITTEN BY OUR ASSOCIATE.)

FORT WASHINGTON, Md., June 30, 1861.

DEAR JOURNAL:—I have really had little time to write to communicate to you, while armed hosts are marshalling for the fray, nothing more important than firing on pickets, and attacks by the United States steamers now on the Potomac, on rebel batteries, attract public attention. The placing of Baltimore under martial law, has created some feeling in this State; but it cannot be questioned that the Government has acted wisely in the matter. The idea seems to obtain that Gov. Hicks really be safe, only while the treasonable element is subdued, and the old proverb that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is now applicable to this case. It is not to be supposed that the Government, while it is pushing its forces forward slowly but surely, into the heart of Virginia, will permit an enemy to assail it in the rear. If Baltimore, which is the Paris of Maryland, will still persist in an attempt at open rebellion, but consciousness can be pursued—she must be compelled to be loyal, at least in act. Should she still prove stubborn, after raising the very judicious Proclamation of Gen. Banks, her fate will be sealed. She will be destroyed; and the only regret would be, that the property of good and loyal citizens, would suffer in the conflagration. For, with Baltimore! She is led by the will o' wisp idea that she would be the principal commercial city of the Southern Confederacy, and seems ready to stake her very existence on the hazard of the die.—Well, in my opinion, when Washington is in the hands of the rebels, which is not likely soon to be the case, then Baltimore can more boldly for treason. A moment's glance at the map will suffice to convince you of the fact. Suppose Washington, the City where the Monumental City once stood, as great object of curiosity, as Pompeii or Herculaneum, at the present day. If Baltimore is wise, she will ponder this question, calmly, if not in a patriotic spirit.

We had monthly inspection and muster this morning. The reviewing and inspecting officer was Major Haskin. Each of the companies appeared on the parade ground fully equipped from musket to knapsack. Our boys had their new dress coats on to-day, for the first time, and looked well.

The Patrol as passed here on Friday morning for Washington, with her flag at half-mast, for the death of Capt. Ward, of the Freeborn, who was shot the previous night during an engagement with the rebels at Matthias Point, forty miles below here. She had his body on board. He was a brave and able officer.

We had hell pretty hot this last evening, confined however, to a single 24 pound shot, fired at a steamboat which had passed, and was about a mile and a half down the river, when the order was given to stop her. The boat was the James Guy, bearing dispatches to the Freeborn at Acquia Creek. Shortly after she passed the Fort, a stream fog was observed coming down in a rapid manner, while the steamboat in the dark of the night was blowing continually. Seeing that the tug was endeavoring to signal the Guy, which kept on her way, apparently not noticing the effort, a blank cartridge was fired from a 24 pounder in the water battery. This failing to stop her, the first revealing vessel, one of the bell dogs on the ramparts, having a 32 pound ball in his mouth, was trained on the distant vessel, and fired. We heard the ball whizzing in its course, until it was at least a mile from the Fort, and finally saw it drop into the water about two hundred yards ahead of the boat, passing first completely over it. This invitation to return, expressed in so warm and pointed a manner, was immediately accepted by the Captain of the Guy, and he proceeded to his port of destination. The tug met him, handed him later despatches, and returned to the Fort, while the Guy continued on her way. The Captain of the Guy expressed himself highly satisfied with the dexterity of our gunners, and thought the last ball close enough to warrant the erection of the capillary ornaments of the human cranium.

Parties who reached here last evening from Washington, state that the portion of the 25th Regiment stationed yesterday in that City, marched over to Gen. Scott's command, which is several miles up the Potomac. We are not in possession of particulars; but learn that Lieut. Col. Sullivan was in command at the time the Regiment was moved, and that Major Campbell accompanied it.

Yesterday about noon, three large steamers having on board Maine and Connecticut regiments, passed here on their way to Washington. They cheered vociferously, as they passed, which was returned quite as heartily by our men who thronged the ramparts. The Maine boys, especially, were so hundreds of caps waving in the air, while hundreds of manly faces were turned towards us, as the vessels swept majestically by. The steamers and forces are being strengthened daily. If there should be no movement before the middle of next month, there will be a hundred thousand troops in and around Washington.

Among our visitors the past week, I have the pleasure of noticing, Wm. A. Hammer, Esq., Judge Riley, Capt. Lawrence, of the Ringgold Rifles (now in the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, stationed at Alexandria) and Messrs. Knabb and Siemer of Minersville. Mr. Hammer and the Judge spent a couple of days with us, and appeared highly pleased with what they saw. They were courteously received by Major Haskin, who by the way, has I think, gained the esteem of all visitors to this post, for the invariable kindness and attention which he always tends to them. Major Haskin is in fact, a model officer. He has not his superior in the army, in point of fidelity in every respect, to the interests of the Government. He is closely observing of everything that transpires at this post; observes true economy; enforces strict discipline, and is ready at all times to impart information in relation to military matters, to the volunteer officers at this post. I do really believe, that it is the Major's intention to turn out three as well drilled companies, during the coming month, as there be in the State. The skirmishing drill will be commenced this week; also target practice at a range of five hundred yards. If we do not learn this Fort pretty respectable soldiers, it will not be the Major's fault I assure you.

The new surgeon at this post is rapidly becoming a general favorite.

The health of the men at this post, continues as a general thing, good. We have but three that may be considered unwell, and they are able to be about. There is nothing serious the matter with them.

The weather during the past day or two has been refreshingly cool, and to-day we are having a steady rain, which was much needed, for the pasture for our cattle was almost burned up for want of moisture.

About the most sociable little thing in the animal line which we have (although the birds hop around us continually, without fear), is a squirrel, who has been named "Dick." He lives in the men's quarters, and springs from one to another, in his lively moods, with perfect confidence. If such it be with him, he will climb up the donor's arm, perch upon his shoulder, and these all until the precious morsel has been eaten.—When he wants another, he will go from bed to bed, until he gets it. Sometimes when he is wearied, he will creep into the bosom of a man's blouse, or into a convenient pocket of sufficient capacity, and curl up for a nap. Dick is a pet with all, and I doubt whether he will remain behind when we leave. He may see Pottsville yet, and receive an introduction to some of the Schuylkill County gents.

With the hope that all of the readers of the JOURNAL may have spent a pleasant Fourth of July, which will be past before this appears in print, I am

Ever yours,

F. B. W.

GERMAN VOLUNTEERS.—We have been informed that the Rev. Mr. LAMPE, of this borough, stated in the pulpit on Sunday last, that the Germans who volunteered in the service of the country, had been, or would be, neglected by the Government, and but little attention would be paid to their wants. That he had also been informed by a gentleman in Pittsburg, that such was the case.—We are not acquainted with the Reverend gentleman—but such statements in the pulpit are calculated to create a wrong impression in the community. Everywhere the Germans are rallying to the standard of the Union. No portion of our citizens are more loyal. In Missouri half the army for the Union are Germans, and every Regiment formed in the West, contains a large number of Germans among the volunteers. To treat these Germans badly or even with indifference would be a great outrage, and we therefore think the Reverend gentleman must be laboring under some mistake. It has been suggested to call upon him for the data on which this charge has been made, and if true, every effort will be made to remove the cause. If not true, that he have an opportunity to retract it as publicly as it was said.

THE HUNDRED DOLLAR BOUNTY.—It may not be generally known that those of our volunteers who enter the service for three years, will be entitled, at the termination of their term of enlistment, to a bounty of one hundred dollars. In general order number fifteen, issued by the War department May 4th, the fact is distinctly set forth. The order provides that "every volunteer non commissioned officer, private, musician and artificer, who enters the service of the United States under this plan, shall be paid at the rate of fifty cents; and if a cavalry volunteer, twenty-five cents additional in lieu of forage, for every twenty miles travel from his home to the place of muster—the distance to be measured by the shortest usually traveled route—and when honorably discharged, an allowance, at the same rate from the place of discharge to his home, and, in addition thereto, the sum of one hundred dollars. Any volunteer who may be received into the service of the United States under this plan, and who may be wounded or otherwise disabled in the service, shall be entitled to the benefits which have been or may be conferred on persons disabled in the service, and the legal heirs of such as die or may be killed in the service, in addition to all arrears of pay and allowances, shall receive the sum of one hundred dollars."

LAST week a Convention of Democratic Editors of the State of New York, was called by the Editors of the *Day Book* and *Daily News*. Only *thirteen* attended, all supporters of Breckinridge, and like Jeff. Davis's conspirators, sat with closed doors. Sufficient however has leaked out for us to know that they denounce the present Administration and the war, and favor immediate compromise with the traitors. The Democratic Editors of the Douglas stripe, refused to have anything to do with it.

NORTHERN STRATEGISTS. Shoot Them Up.

The *lucubrations* of the Administration with the Rebels, and the many terms upon which they have been released from the very clutches of Federal power, have emboldened the Northern Copperheads, thieves to a degree, in some instances, hardly believable by the true friends of the Union. Those apologizing for treason being, for the most part, to the same degree of positive, that was really to be "spotted" in every community, where they dare to exhibit their true colors. The Harrisburg *Telegraph*, in the following pertinent extract, names many of these unbelieve parties. Pass them around:—it is well to know who and what they are:

The last phase of treason in New York city—and it deserves no better title—is the effort of the ex-Buchanan Breckinridge press to humble the nation and the loyalty of the people of this country, by proposing terms of peace and compromise with traitors. The plan was broached in a meeting of a portion of the editorial fraternity, which name—E. G. Reeves, of the Greenpoint *Watchman*; O. N. Pine, formerly one of the Chicago *Herald*; D. J. Holstead and G. W. Gray, of Syracuse, and one or two others. Every man here mentioned, signed as an active advocate of John C. Breckinridge for the Presidency, and when the rebels were cutting off the provisions of Anderson and his gallant companions in Fort Sumter, rejoiced at the prospect of their starvation, and became jubilant when the flag of the country was lowered at the command of rebels, robbers and assassins. The resolutions passed by the traitors were of course in consonance with their projectiles and purposes. They denounce the administration of President Lincoln, for defending the federal authority—charge him with inaugurating a war, in the face of the fact that our military organization was to suppress a rebellion in existence before Abraham Lincoln became President. That the assault on Sumpter was the act of treason—that the seizure of public property was the result of secession, and that the life and treasure now in jeopardy by reason of this rebellion, constitutes the loyalty and the wrath of the nation, no trash, as the New York *Journal of Commerce* says daily. But the Breckinridge Democratic organ of the north do not consider such to be the facts, and therefore they are advocating terms of peace, such as will enable traitors to escape the punishment they deserve, and still further humiliate the principles of self-government in the eyes of the aristocracy and tyranny of the world. In this batch of resolved nonsense, a declaration is made that the Morrill tariff is one of the principal causes of the difficulty, thus proving that the object of the rebellion and its sympathizers is to crush free white labor. If it does not prove this, it attempts to hasten the bankruptcy of the nation by cutting off its resources and the protection to its industry, a measure which has been one of the cardinal principles in every Democratic platform erected since George M. Dallas sealed his prejudice for slavery in a casting vote against the free labor of the country, in the Senate of the United States.

The effort of the editors of the Breckinridge Democratic organs in New York, are the reflex of the hopes and desire of the entire phalanx of the same order throughout the country. They constitute a systematic plan, having its origin among the rebels, to procure peace at the expense of good government, and are worthy of denunciation in as severe a way as any which has ever been hurled against the traitors of rebellion themselves. The loyal people of the north must watch such assemblages, and they must place a ban upon those who thus represent treason in their midst. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

SERENADE TO HON. F. P. BLAIR.

Dodsworth's band serenaded the Hon. Frank Blair, jr., of Mo., one evening last week, in New York. After some excellent music, Mr. Blair's friends called for a speech, which he gave them. After introductory remarks, he proceeded to say that,

He did not pretend, to military knowledge or experience, but, perhaps, had some right to speak of the late events of the war, and of sending the army with vigor, because he had lived in a slaveholding State, and knew that the majority of the citizens of that and other slaveholding States, were borne down under the rule of this minority by a corrupt, and imbecile administration, the most corrupt and factious which we would ever know. He proceeded to speak of sustaining the Government in that of defending the people of the South from oppression. East Tennessee, for example, surrounded by Jeff. Davis's myrmidons, although giving 25,000 majority for Union, might be crushed, unless the Government furnished arms and troops, which he believed it would do. The result in Missouri, so soon as the Union men were furnished with arms, showed what other States were ready to do. Nine out of ten men there were for Union, but they could do nothing without arms against Rebels furnished with stolen ones. Mr. Blair went on to say that he was in favor—for its prosecution until not one enemy, State, or person, raised a hand, and against any and every compromise. This part of the speech was frequently interrupted by the wildest applause.

A government that compromises is forever disgraced. Compromise will breed worse wars. [A Voice—No compromise—none wished.] The country will accept it soon. The Administration never will make a compromise or a peace. But there are men who favor it. They are little worse than those who bear arms against the country, for they secretly give aid and comfort to open Rebels. Gen. Lyon is a brave soldier, who acts on the Irish motto: "When you see a head strike it." Other Generals seem to act on different principle. The country is impatient for the victory which we all know General Scott can gain for us at any time. The sooner it comes, the better. This is the way we all feel about it. The sooner the better. The overwhelming of the Union men of the South the better. We are all anxious for the long promised advance movement.

Senator McDougall of California was next called out. He said,

That he had only come to do honor to the gallant Frank Blair of Missouri. After what he had said, he could only add his sympathy of a junior Judge—The opinion of the Court is written out. I concur."

The Hon. John Hickman of Pa., followed.

If he were to say anything it would be to express a few of the decided opinions which he held and which might be offensive in certain quarters. He regarded the rebellion as one of the most unnatural causes, and he could not understand the delay in putting it down. Why an army of 200,000 or 300,000 men stood inactive before less than one hundred thousand men. Why fifty thousand men are needed to be kept under arms at night in the streets of Washington, and 50,000 more to throw an intrenchments on the other side of the Potomac, which would never be attacked; he could not understand. The people couldn't understand. If the war were to be settled by diplomacy, and not by force, why was Congress called together? Only a little stationery and a few pens, and ink would be needed. ["And red tape," a malicious voice in the crowd cried out.] But if the rebellion was to be put down by force, Congress was properly called together, to vote men and money, which it would vote with the intention of having them used at once.

Mr. Hickman closed his speech, to which our slight sketch does injustice, by saying that he feared it might become more offensive were he to go on to express his decided opinions. He would, therefore, only add, If anyone should be killed in Virginia and buried in New York or Pennsylvania, I should not have the utmost confidence in the chicken that came out of that egg.

WHITE LABOR IN THE SOUTH.—There are many who believe that white labor cannot be used in the South. This is entirely a mistake. In all the Cities in the South a large portion of the labor is done by white people. In New Orleans the draymen, builders and those engaged on the levee, &c., are generally white men, and these are the most exposed situations in that city. A considerable quantity of Cotton is raised in the South, by poor whites who cannot hold slaves, and we have the following in the Cincinnati *Gazette*, a few days since, which shows that Cotton can be raised with profit within a short distance of Mobile, with the use of white labor exclusively. We omit all with regard to the state of affairs in the South, because it is a mere reiteration of what has already been published from other sources, and give his own experience with regard to labor:

An old gentleman, named John E. Farrier, just one week from his residence, thirty miles from Mobile, Alabama, on the Bigbee river, called upon us yesterday for the purpose of relating some facts in regard to the present condition of affairs in that State. Mr. Farrier is a member of the Baptist Church, and has been a professing Christain for over twenty years. He was raised near Big Eagle Bridge, Scott county, Ky., and emigrated to Alabama over thirty-six years ago, where he has raised a family whom he left on his farm upon coming thither. He is in independent circumstances, yet his crops of corn, cotton, tobacco, &c., have always been raised by white labor, he holding slavery to be a curse. For this belief, and his practical adherence to it, he has been persecuted in divers ways for a length of time, but with a determined will and steadiness of purpose he has succeeded, even in his unpopular course, to place himself beyond pecuniary want of any kind.

This is important testimony in favor of the introduction of white labor in Cotton planting in the low lands of Alabama.

CONTRABANDS TO GO TO HAYTI.—It is probable that Congress, at its approaching session, will place means in the hands of the President, for the colonization of Hayti and other parts, of such of our colored people as may desire to emigrate. Such a measure seems to be demanded by the new exigencies. As it would only contemplate the aiding of volunteer emigration, it would be desired by the blacks, while it would quiet any sensitiveness in relation to a too sudden and great increase of our free negro population. No question of constitution, likely can be raised, as the war power covers the case.

Of course, large discretion must be left to the President as to the, place, or places, to be colonized. Available places are numerous and not remote. Hayti alone would perhaps be able to receive all the colonists who would offer themselves.

The expense would not be formidable. From military "lines" established at Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans, &c., into which the contraband negroes would flock, they might be "colated off" to St. Domingo, or Central America, with great rapidity and economy.

This is upon the supposition that it becomes necessary to carry this war to the Gulf, as must be the case if the traitors continue obstinate. But even if the war terminates on the subjugation of Virginia, the number of negroes desiring to be colonized must be large enough to require national interposition.

The above is from the Washington *Republican*.

The Administration ought to acknowledge the independence of Hayti, and open commercial intercourse. This would greatly facilitate the emigration of the free negroes, as well as the contraband articles from this country to Hayti, and points in Central America.

GEN. PATTERSON, after the engagement and victory of Tuesday morning, moved forward to Martinsburg, Va., which town and vicinity are now occupied by our troops.

We observe the Pennsylvania Fourth and Fifth regiments mentioned with great commendation as to their appearance and correct drill, are undergoing inspection by Gen. Mc. Dowell, with a number of other troops, at Alexandria, some days ago.

Local Affairs.

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

P. R. & P. TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., Pa.

July—		8 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.	
1	—Monday,	70	77	72	clear.
"	1—Monday,	66	79	67	cloudy.
"	2—Tuesday,	61	85	69	"
"	3—Wednesday,	64	88	69	clear.
"	4—Thursday,	71	86	76	"
"	5—Friday,	72	81	74	"

Gift Ambrotype Gallery, only for a few days. 50 cent Ambrotypes for 25 cents, Corner Centre and Market sts. Prof. Leamnia, Operator.

Unreasonable.—Last Tuesday was quite winterish—fire and thick clothing were very acceptable, indeed almost indispensable to comfort. The weather, like the times, somewhat out of joint.

Divine Service was held in Trinity (Episcopal) Church of this place, on Thursday morning, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Potter, contained in a circular addressed by him to the Rector of every parish throughout the diocese.

Boys be careful!—Rowland, son of Mr. Peter D. Lothey, of Morris Addition, had his left hand injured by the accidental discharge of a pistol with which he was amusing himself on the morning of the 4th. The fleshy portion of the lower part of the hand was shot away. It is not considered dangerous.

Killed on the Railroad.—On Saturday last the Engineer of the Saranac, Mr. Augustus Collier, fell from the bumper of the engine on the track, and was instantly killed by being run over, severing the head from the body. He resided at Pottstown, Montgomery county, Pa., and was buried on Sunday.

The Concert Fund.—The Committee having charge of the late concert, for the benefit of our soldiers' families, request us to state that their past receipts, after deducting certain necessary expenses, amount to $47 50, which sum they have paid over to the County Commissioners for the purpose designated. The difficulty in collecting the tickets distributed for sale, has caused their delay in closing the matter.

Fire—House burned.—A large frame tenant house, occupied by three families, at the "New Duncan" Colliery of Mr. I. P. Voorhies, on the West Norwegian, was accidentally fired about 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and entirely consumed. Not more than half of the furniture &c., of the tenants, was saved so rapid was the progress of the flames. The property was valued at about $900—mostly covered by insurance, (we believe) in the Franklin.

Improved Order of Red Men.—At an election held at their Wigwam, on the sleep of the 27th sun, Hot moon, Grand sun 5621, Seneca Tribe No. 21, elected the following Chiefs for the ensuing 6 moons:

S.—Wm. F. Hoffman; S. S.—J. F. Petery; J. S.—Henry Frantz; C. of R.—Jacob H. Ohlhouser; K. of W.—Geo. W. Mortimer; P.—Jacob D. Rice; Trustees—J. D. Rice, J. F. Petery and J. H. Ohlhouser.

The Yuengling Grove Pic-nic.—The Pottsville Cornet Band, N. J. Rehr, leader, after generously playing throughout the morning for the town celebration of the 4th., gave a delightful entertainment, at Yuengling's Grove, in the afternoon, which, we are glad to learn, was a decided success. The attendance was large, and the enjoyment universal. The Union String Band of Pottsville, numbering thirteen members, visited their Cornet friends, and assisted in the musical performance.

Sons of Temperance.—At a stated meeting of Enterprise Division, No. 341 Sons of Temperance of Tamaqua, held on Saturday evening, June 29, 1861, the following officers were elected for the 4th quarter:

W. P.—J. H. Pontius; W. A.—N. B. Reeber; R. S.—G. L. Reagan, re-elected; A. R. S.—Daniel Dunn; F. S.—E. M. Wheetone, re-elected; Treasurer—J. G. Hauser; Chap.—J. C. P. Schriner; Con.—A. S. R. Richards, re-elected; A. C.—Joseph Wood; I. S.—W. N. Brown; O. S.—Duncan Wier.

Accidents during the week.—Jno. Taylor severely injured at Milnes' mines, St. Clair, early in the week. Particulars not known.

At Brown's Mt. Lafee colliery, on Monday, the slope chain broke, precipitating the car, with two boys, Bowler and Duffy, to the bottom. Injuries comparatively slight.

A cow hooked a little child named Musket, at Pinkbuck, the other day.

Thomas Cuckler was caught by a passing car, in Voorhies' New Duncan Colliery, on Thursday morning, and several ribs broken, and otherwise much injured.

The Fourth at Swatara.—We have been kindly furnished with a detailed account of an interesting Celebration at Swatara; but the lateness of its arrival and want of space oblige us to print only its substance.

A pic-nic by the Tuckerville Union Sunday School, was held in a grove near by. The Star Spangled Banner was sung, the Declaration of Independence read, and patriotic speeches made by C. L. Pinkerton, Esq., and Messrs. Jeremiah Paine and James Durbig. A portion of the proceedings were in the Welsh language. The attendance was large, and the day passed most pleasantly by all.

Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.—The following statement shows the business of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company for the month of May. It will be observed that the net profits of the present month, as well as the net profits of the previous five months of 1861, is considerably in excess of the corresponding months last year:

	1861.	1860.
Received from coal,	$205,985 43	$180,541 83
Received from merchandize,	81,775 73	70,067 50
Received from transf. &c.,	26,189 87	30,653.55
	263,917 69	285,010 28
Transportation, roadway, dumpage, Renewal Fund, and all charges,	131,983 54	149,717 67
Net profit for the month.	131,934 15	115,293 04
Net profit for previous 5 mos.,	469,121 12	462,409 29
Total net profit for 6 mos.,	$601,055 27	$577,698 33

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Poor was held at the Almshouse, on Monday, July 1st, 1861. Present, C. Fochi, Dr. A. Schulze and Wm. Lerch. The Steward reported the following as the census of the House for the month of June:—Number in the House on the 1st of July, 269; same time last year, 283—decrease, 14. Of the above, 57 are in the Insane department, 50 in the nursery and 41 under medical treatment. Admitted during the month of June, 41; born, 2; discharged, 33; absconded, 1; died, 4; bound out, 6. Lodging and meals were furnished 127 traveling paupers during the month. Out door relief was granted to 5 families, amounting to $48 31.

Bills were passed and orders drawn amounting to $955 62

Previous issue, 9,577 54

Total, $10,533 16

Almost a Fire.—About midnight of Wednesday, the roof of a house occupied by Mr. —— Thompson, back of 3d., near Minersville street, was discovered to be on fire, supposed to have caught from a fire-cracker. Fortunately a ladder stood near at hand, and assistance being called, the fire was extinguished before it had gained any serious headway.

Another.—The roof of the Messrs. Atkins' store, in Mauch Chunk street, between the York Store and the Orchard, occupied by Mr. James H. Bach, was accidentally fired on the Fourth; but being discovered in time, was soon extinguished without any material damage to the building.

Still Another.—The roof of the Messrs. Huntzinger's Store, in Centre street, near the Exchange, was also found to be on fire, about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, but was readily extinguished.

And Yet Another.—The Exchange Hotel roof caught from a large fire-cracker, late on Thursday afternoon, and a small hole burnt before the fire was put out.

The Comet.—This unexpected visitor is now attracting all eyes. He cuts quite a figure in the Northern heavens, and spreads himself with the air of a body of some importance. But whether he is of any material substance or not, is quite another question.

Among the speculations as to the identity of the Comet, we observe it suggested to be the one known as the Charles the Fifth Comet—the same that appeared in 1775, returning at intervals of about three hundred years, to 1264 and 1558, and now in 1861. Many calculations and predictions have been made by astronomers of this, its present return—seriously fixing the date from that or the back to 1843. The etherial appearance of which comets are supposed to consist, and the previous and many disturbing influences to which they are subject, in their long travels through indefinite space, render it very difficult to calculate the periods of their return or view, with accuracy—particularly in the case of them having lengthy orbits of motion, as the present visitor.—Hence his unheralded appearance at this time.

Borough Council.—A regular stated meeting of the Borough Council was held in their Chamber on Tuesday evening. Present, Messrs. Beveridge, Derr, Inness, Focht, Morris, Greasing, Pitman, Lucas and Boone, President.

The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

The Street Com., on the petition of H. W. Burkay and others, reported that Spruce Alley is not regularly laid out and curbed, and that the opening of an inlet to the alley could not well be made without interfering with passage, and would also be liable to obstruct the culvert by the accumulation of coal dirt which would be washed therein, and they respectfully reported against the petition.

The Com. on Markets and Market House reported that the Market House was repaired.

On motion of Mr. Focht the rules were suspended, and the Borough Auditors permitted to present their report on the several accounts audited by them.

On motion of Mr. Focht the report was accepted, and a vote of thanks passed to the Auditors for the very satisfactory manner in which they have made out their report.

The following Committees were continued:—The Street Com. to have crossing in Third St. to have crossing made in Prospect St.; to have crossing repaired over Lay's Alley; to have East Market put in safe condition; to procure opinion of the Solicitor in relation to liens for curbing, &c. The Survey Com. to ascertain the grade of East Market St., and also on the election of a Surveyor.

The Ordinance Com. on Market Ordinance.

The Lamp and Watch Com. to confer with the Gas Company in relation to the price of gas.

The statement of the Borough Treasurer was read and filed.

On motion of Mr. Derr, it was

Resolved, That the Street Com. be instructed to prepare a plan and specification for culverting Norwegian Creek, opposite the property of the Schuylkill County Lumber Co., and report at the next Stated Meeting.

On motion of Mr. Derr, it was

Resolved, That on account of the expressed desire of the citizens of the Borough of Pottsville to celebrate the Fourth of July in a manner appropriate to the present crisis, the Council grant the sum of One Hundred Dollars for the purpose of firing the National Salute and procuring Fireworks suitable for the occasion.

On motion of Mr. Derr, it was

Resolved, That Messrs. Morris and Beveridge be a Com. to see that the appropriation of One Hundred Dollars be properly applied.

On motion of Mr. Focht, it was

Resolved, That the report of the Auditors be referred to the Com. on Rules, Stationery and Fire Apparatus for publication.

On motion of Mr. Lucas, it was

Resolved, That the Auditors' Report be published in Extras, in the same manner as it was last year.

On motion of Mr. Inness, it was

Resolved, That the Market Ordinances enacted on the 18th day of December, 1855, be submitted to the Borough Solicitor, and he be requested to give his opinion on the legality of its several sections by the next Stated Meeting of the Council.

The bill of Geo. Evans & Co., amounting to $25 59, was referred to the Street Com.

The following bills were read and ordered to be paid:

Bernard Barr,	$10 00
Wm. Mortimer, Jr.,	64
L. P. Garrigues,	33
John L. Mennig and others,	88 80
Borough Auditors,	25 00
Wm. Biland,	8 00
H. Lindermuth,	27 00
Wm. Becker,	27 00
Wm. Stewart,	27 00
John M. Kienzle,	27 00
David Beveridge and B. Morris, appropriation for Fourth,	100 00
	$341 77
Previous issue,	767 71
Total,	$1109 48

Adjourned.

The Glorious Fourth in Pottsville.—The weather of Thursday was especially propitious, clear and sun-bright, without being uncomfortably warm. From early morning till late at night, the whole town was alive, every one—men, women and children—seeming to be imbued with an extra spirit of patriotism, commensurate with the exigency of the times, and fully bent on giving expression to their loyal feelings in the most emphatic manner. The celebration of the day was almost exclusively confined to our own citizens, as but very few persons from the surrounding towns and vicinity came into town, as they are wont to do, upon similar occasions—being occupied, we presume, as our neighborhood reports and correspondence show, with their own home celebrations.

There were various slight fires and narrow escapes from destructive conflagrations, chronicled elsewhere in our columns, but, except the most untoward accident of the morning salute, nothing occurred throughout the day to present, or even mar the general jubilation of the memorable anniversary of our National Independence.

THE SALUTE AND ACCIDENT.

The ceremonies for the day's civic celebration, as programmed by the very efficient Committee of Arrangements, commenced at 4 o'clock in the morning, with the ringing of bells throughout the town, and the firing of a salute with the sixpounder of the Washington Artillerists, manned by a squad of their few home remaining members. And here we are sorry,—very sorry to begin the day with the record of a serious accident.

It is proper, and but justice to all parties concerned, to premise that, in the absence of those members of the Artillery,—the great body of which gallant Company are now in the service of the country—generally in charge of the cannon, the men on this occasion were selected and their respective places assigned them, with special references to their experience as cannoniers, their prudence and general carefulness. Peter Douty was placed at the vent, and Jacob Brill and Peter Buck took charge of the ramming. After firing some fifteen rounds, on the insertion of the next cartridge and in the act of ramming it home, a premature explosion took place—seriously wounding Brill under the right arm and close up to the arm pit, and tearing off the end of Buck's thumb, and severely burning and bruising his whole left hand. Brill was thrown a short distance, and falling on the ground rolled over once or twice, to some fifteen feet from his position at the cannon. Much of the direct force of the explosion seemed to strike Buck's hand, whirling him round to the left, when he fell but a step or two from where he had stood. Douty's face was considerably burnt by the powder from the touch hole.

No certainly known cause can be assigned for the accident, as everything necessary to prevent a premature explosion, was seemingly attended to. The previous firing had been slow—there was no excitement, no hurry, likely to cause confusion or neglect. Douty is positive that he was covering the vent at the time—he has frequently served in that capacity, and fully understood his business and his responsibility; and, besides, is a careful, reliable man. The gun was well swabbed after every discharge—the brush being dipped into a bucket of water and thoroughly wet by Brill himself, every time.

Medical aid was procured as quickly as possible after the accident, and the wounds of the unfortunate sufferers dressed—Brill had been removed, in the meatime, to the house of Mr. John Shoemaker near by; and Buck taken home.—Buck's left thumb was amputated at the middle joint. From more minute examination of their injuries subsequently, the confident hope is expressed by their physicians, that both will recover without further amputation being necessary.—They were both doing well, when heard from late last evening. They are both young and married men—of active, sober and industrious habits, well known in the community and highly respected. Brill is a saddler by trade—Buck was a salesman in George Bright's Hardware Store.

THE FLAG-RAISING AND THE PROCESSION.

Between 8 and 9 o'clock, the crowd began to gather in the lower end of Centre street, and at 9 o'clock, on the approach of the band (Pottsville Cornet), all moved toward the American House, where, according to the previous arrangements, the ceremony of raising the American Flag was to inaugurate the grand civic celebration of the day. This was most successfully accomplished—a beautiful streamer and flag being unfurled in true man-of-war style, amid the enthusiastic cheers of the crowd, and stirring strains of music from the Band.

Passing thence to the Pennsylvania Hall, a similar ceremony was performed, followed by the ringing of the Star Spangled Banner, in fine style, by a party of gentlemen amateurs.

Marshal Patt then formed the procession—the Committee of Arrangements, Orators of the Day, the Band, and a long line of citizens—and moved forward toward the Court House, halting at the Exchange to witness another flag raising.

THE MEETING.

Arriving at the Court House, at 10 o'clock, the Court Room was filled to its utmost capacity—all available seats about the building being brought into requisition, and still a great many persons obliged to stand.

The meeting was organized by the choice of the following officers: *President*, BENJ. T. TAYLOR; *Vice Presidents*, John Shippen, John Reed, James M. Beaty, William Wolff, William Fox, William Pollock, James Sillyman, Peter D. Luther, John P. Hobart, James Downing, Michael J. Seibert, Joseph Patterson, and Charles Doherty; *Secretaries*, CHRISTOPHER LITTLE, HENRY R. EDMUNDS, HENRY L. ACKER, JOHN P. BERTRAM, GEORGE P. LIPPE, and —— SHRADER.

The officers having taken their places, the proceedings were begun with prayer by Rev. Joseph McCool—invoking in the most earnest terms, Heaven's blessing upon our imperiled country, the preservation of the national unity, the establishment of Constitutional rights, and the speedy restoration of peace and prosperity within our borders. Divine wisdom was especially asked for the President of the United States, and Gen. Scott (by name) the hero of Lundy's Lane, and Chippewa, was most eloquently referred to—that his life might be spared, that health and strength at both body and mind might be granted him, to conduct—as all his campaigns heretofore had been victorious—this, probably, his last on earth, to a successful termination.

Hail Columbia was then played by the Pottsville Cornet Band, in their usual good style; followed by the Declaration of Independence read by Hon. C. W. Pitman. And, whether from the associations of the day, or the superior style of the reader—perhaps something of both—but certainly we never before so fully understood and appreciated the spirit and meaning of that immortal document, as upon this occasion.

"The Sword of Bunker Hill," by the Pottsville Glee Club, was announced next in order; but the Club being worn out, an impromptu party of musical amateurs sung the Star Spangled Banner instead.

The Band followed with "Our country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty;" when Hon. F. W. Hughes, Mr. Benjamin Haywood, and F. B. Gowen, Esq., were severally introduced in the order named, as orators of the day, and delivered most powerful and eloquent addresses, full—one and all—of the spirit of 1776; devotion entire, unqualified and forever to the Union, and the utter, uncompromising extermination of all traitors.

Learning that it is the intention of the Committee to solicit copies of these addresses for publication, we forbear giving any extended outline of them, although we took memoranda at the time for that purpose. Mr. Hughes, in a most logical and complete argument, disproved any and all right of Secession, as claimed by its advocates—denouncing it as but a convenient name for those who were unwilling to risk the penalties of open rebellion and rank treason. He counseled the upholding of the constituted authorities of the land, and implicit obedience to the laws, repudiating all mere geographical partizanship, and urged to strike down and crush out rebellion with every power we possess—even with the red right hand of war.

Mr. Haywood followed in one of his characteristic, telling, off-hand, out and-out Union speeches. The occasion seemed to inspire him—never had we heard him speak with such fire and force and genuine eloquence on the great national questions now at issue.

Mr. Gowen, the third speaker, delivered a chaste and eloquent address—sparkling with beautiful sentiment, and classical references. He referred to the vitality and power in our government, and the grand army called to its support, with enthusiastic pride; and lauded the old veteran, Gen. Scott, in the strongest terms, expressing and counseling the utmost confidence in his management of the present campaign, to crush out the existing rebellion. He closed with the most heartily received sentiment that the war had already cost too much treasure and too much blood, to be now stayed with hollow compromises!

The several speakers were again and again interrupted with the most rapturous applause. The meeting adjourned with three tremendous cheers for the Union.

Throughout the evening there were brilliant displays of every imaginable kind of fire works, from all quarters of the town, till near midnight—when we have neither time, nor space to particularize. So ended Independence Day, 1861, in Pottsville.

THE FOURTH IN SCHUYLKILL HAVEN.

DEAR JOURNAL:—The day was ushered in by the loud and continued booming of cannon, ringing of church bells and music of National Airs.

At early dawn the American Flag with its full complement of Stars and Stripes was triumphantly unfurled from the various staffs—public places—across the streets, &c.

According to an established custom, the citizens met in general at the Public School House for the purpose of hearing the Declaration of Independence read, and extempore orations delivered.

The audience was large, and a full attendance of ladies were present.

The meeting organized by calling the Rev. Geo. Lattimer to the chair. Dr. Rhea, H. B. Zulick, C. H. Yoder, and A. Hosser were appointed Secretaries.

The Declaration of Independence was read by John W. Keone, in a clear and forcible style.

Rev. Lattimer upon taking the stand, addressed the audience with his rare powers of eloquence and patriotism. His speech was full of meaning, and was well received. The Star Spangled Banner was then played by the band.

William A. Fields was the next speaker. His remarks were, very appropriate, and, as usual with this young orator, spirit stirring. Giving a *graphic* rendering as the only medium for traitors.

Music—Hail Columbia!

Wallace Guss followed with some well timed and prepared remarks, which were well received.

Dr. Bland was called upon. The Doctor did not forget the ladies in his most happy remarks. Complimenting them upon the interest they manifest in behalf of the volunteers already in the field. His remarks were freely applauded.

The following named gentlemen delivered very enthusiastic and patriotic speeches, Albert Hosser, I. Paxson and John Keone.

The meeting adjourned with three cheers for the Administration, three for "the Hero of Chepultepec," three for the Union Forever, and three