Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1861.

RALLYING WITH TEXASES.

If some men were as bold and zealous in acting for the honor and welfare of their country, as they are in attempting to impede the operations of the Government, and thwart its efforts to crush the Rebellion, they would merit and receive the warmest commendation. Take this County for instance. We are quite sure that we will not startle our readers when we say that there are scores of men here, petty Democratic politicians, with some office or other in the dim, uncertain future, which they wish to fill, at this moment urging men not to enlist. Why? These men are necessary to assist those aspirants to the positions they covet, and the Capital may be threatened; the honor of the State may be called in question, as her regiments tardily reach the seat of war, but it matters not. These partizans have their selfish purposes to subserve, and country is sunk in self. It has been brought to our notice that men in this County who are idle, and who would be benefitted by entering the service, have been persuaded not to enlist, on the plea that this war is a Black Republican contest; that its sole object is to release the slaves, and so on.

Now, we desire to ask the men, the despicable partizans engaged in this work, whether they are aware that they are playing with edged tools, in thus dallying with treason?—Are they aware that in persuading men not to enlist, they are placing their precious persons in jeopardy, and their purses in danger of being depleted to the tune of thousands? Perhaps not. We will therefore, for their good, because we should grieve to see any citizen of this County walk deliberately into trouble, for want of information on this point, state that Judge Pearson of the Dauphin and Lebanon district, charged last week, that any person or persons who persuaded a man not to enter the service of the United States, came under the provisions of the following Act of Assembly:

Act of April 18, 1861.—Pam. Law 403.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:* That if any person or persons belonging to or residing within this state and under the protection of the laws thereof, shall take or combine, or commissions from any person, state or states or other the enemies of this state or of the United States of America, or who shall levy war against this state or government thereof or knowingly and willingly shall aid or assist any enemies in open war against this state or the United States by joining their armies, or by soliciting or procuring or persuading others to enlist for that purpose, or by furnishing such enemies with arms or ammunition, or any other articles for their aid and comfort or by carrying on traitorous correspondence with them or shall form, or be in any wise concerned in forming any combination or plot or conspiracy, by betraying this state or the United States of America into the hands or power of any foreign enemy or any organized or pretended government engaged in resisting the laws of the United States, or shall give or send any intelligence to the enemies of this State or of the United States of America, or shall with intent to oppose, prevent or subvert the government of this state or of the United States endeavor to persuade any person or persons from entering the service of this state or of the United States, or from joining any volunteer company or association of this state about being mustered into the service, or shall use any threat or persuasions or offer any bribe, or hold out any hope of reward, with like intent to induce any person or persons to abandon said service, or any volunteer company or association already organized under the laws of this commonwealth for that purpose; every person so offending and being legally convicted thereof, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be sentenced to undergo solitary imprisonment in the penitentiary at hard labor, for a term not exceeding ten years, and be fined in a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, or both at the discretion of the Court; *Provided*, That this act shall not prohibit any citizen from taking or receiving civil commissions for the acknowledgment of deeds and other instruments of writing.

We need say nothing further. The men are known who have violated the provisions of this Act, and they will be speedily enforced if the cause of the country is further retarded by their acts. Everything must yield to the stern necessity that now devolves upon us, of quelling Rebellion—partizan matters among the rest. Let us have no more dallying with treason, even indirectly. If men will not respect the laws cheerfully and willingly, they must be compelled to obey them. Such is the voice of the times.

"THE DEMOCRATIC STANDARD."

The Rebel organ of this Borough has made itself amenable to the law. It has by its publications against the Government, prevented hundreds of men who are idle in this community, from enlisting in the service of the Country. In some sections of this County recruiting officers have been threatened if they attempted to enlist men, and we also learn that calls have been made upon leading Democrats of this Borough, by citizens of the districts, to induce them to visit these districts where a large number of men are out of employment, and would enlist if their minds were disabused of the effect of publications, and verbal assertions that the war was waged against the Democratic party.

We undertand the people are determined to call on the United States Marshal to suppress every paper that inculcates this doctrine, and also indict every individual, whatever position he may occupy, who uses language calculated to prevent men enlisting. Let the testimony of such persons be taken down by those who hear them, and we will guarantee that the laws shall be enforced.—This is no time to dally with traitors to their Country.

The following is an extract from the charge to the Grand Jury of Dauphin County, by Judge Pearson, delivered a few days since, which points out clearly the character of the law on this point:

Our nation is now engaged in a fearful, bloody, and as we apprehend, protracted war, forced upon it without cause or reason by the so called Confederate States.

It is the bounden duty of the Federal Government to use every possible exertion, and strain every nerve, to suppress the rebellion, restore the Union, and reestablish the Constitution over the whole United States, and it is equally the duty of every citizen to contribute towards the support of a beneficent, paternal and most indulgent government, in every way that his circumstances will permit; aiding it in the good work to the utmost of his power, and most carefully abstaining from uttering a word, promulgating a sentiment, or doing an act which may tend to create disorder or anarchy, or in any way strengthen the hands of the enemy, or weaken the power of the government.

It is made highly penal by our laws to carry on any traitorous correspondence with enemies of the United States, or of this State; to furnish them with any article whatever which may aid in the war, whether it be men, money, military stores, food or clothing. It is also a high misdemeanor to endeavor to dissuade any person from entering into the military service of the United States, or from joining any volunteer company or association of their State about to be mustered into service; or to persuade any one to abandon his flag or withdraw from any volunteer company or association already organized under the laws of this Commonwealth. Although freedom of speech and liberty of the press are secured by our constitution and laws, and great latitude is allowed to the one and the other, yet at a time when the abuse of either may tend to destroy or weaken the Government of the country, both are very properly curtailed by legislation. *Therefore, if any one by printing, writing or speaking, should create disaffection among the soldiers, and induce them to desert their duty, or endeavor to prevent persons from entering the service, they would render themselves amenable to the law.*—Should they assist in levying war against the United States, or adhere to the enemy, giving them aid and comfort, even by furnishing any information, they would be guilty of high treason.

In a moral, political and legal point of view it is the duty of every good and loyal citizen, and especially of those conducting the newspaper press, to abstain from doing that which may distract the public councils or lead the enemy to believe that we are divided in opinion on the subject of the war, or the necessity of carrying it on with vigor to a final consummation.

We understand that on Friday night last, about 9 o'clock, the Editor of the Rebel *Standard*, of this borough, called on the Sheriff and asked him to protect his office.—He had evidently become alarmed at his own acts. He swore that he had been informed that his office would be attacked. The Sheriff promptly told him that he was the violator of law—that if his office should be attacked that he had provoked it by his conduct—and in order to prevent such a catastrophe, he had better cease pursuing his present course. It is supposed by many, that having failed to sell his paper, he seeks violence in order to compel the public to pay for the establishment. We therefore, urge upon the people, under no circumstances to touch his establishment—for there is sufficient testimony of the pernicious effect of his publication, for the people to demand its suppression by the United States Marshal, unless its tone is materially altered. His brother who publishes a Norristown paper, is of the same stripe, and has rendered himself equally as obnoxious to the public—but latterly he has changed his tone to some extent, only waiting for an opportunity to ventilate his treason more fully.

The Deputy Sheriff watched the *Standard* office last Friday night, but no person attempted to molest it, nor was found near it during the night, which shows that it was nothing but a consciousness of guilt that seized hold of the cowardly aider and abettor of treason.

THE SLAVE QUESTION.

This question in connection with the Slave holder's Rebellion, is beginning to be very freely discussed throughout the country.—Many think that the Government ought to free the Slaves, as a military necessity in all the Rebellious States as our army advances, and make the slaves allies, which would paralyze the power of the enemy, and not make enemies of them by refusing to free them. This policy is also regarded as the most humane, because with the Army present, it would prevent serious insurrections and massacres. As soon as freedom to the slaves was decreed, the Army would act as a party between the slaves and masters, and put both on their good behavior, and then let the master re-enslave the negro if he can. It would also destroy all the power of the slave-holder, and the rebellion could be crushed out with one half the blood and treasure that it will require if slavery is permitted to continue in the Rebel States.

We append some extracts from various papers on the subject:

From the New Bedford Mercury.

We must Fight them or Free them.

As this rebellion ripens, and the fierce, vindictive hatred of armed traitors toward the men who love the Union, and toward the institutions of freedom takes shape and becomes concrete, the feeling all over the free States is becoming fixed and crystalized into conviction that the time is drawing nigh when we must "fight them or free them." Let us look this alternative in the face for a moment. There is nothing in it unnatural; indeed, is it not a fact that there is logic in the alternative, which will vindicate itself? The Southern rebel has educated his slave into the belief that the people opposed to him and his treason are the bitterest foes that the slaves can have. We have farther to believe that in every State there are on plantations and in cities many men who are in bonds—but who know a good deal about the causes which underlie secession and which have developed into rebellion and rank treason. But the great body of slaves may, for aught we know, so far trust their masters as to fear and dread what they call the "Abolitionist." If that be so, their must anticipate armed opposition from the slave unless he shall be undeceived as to the end attainable by this war. Why should he not oppose us? He sees no good to himself in our march through the South. Indeed, he has understood that it was the office and the vocation of the "Abolitionist" to worry and capture the black race, and, of course, he is prepared to fight against us. There is no doubt that we shall have armed slaves against us. Our people are conservative—rightfully so. Law and loyalty are necessarily conservative, and it is said that we must be careful of the Constitution and all guaranteed rights. All that is well enough. But we need not stultify ourselves. If slaves are made to oppose us or to help their masters oppose us! If these millions of men are compelled to work to our injury! then, what? Why then the alternative presents itself! We must fight them or free them!

But we must not fight them! Such warfare as that we cannot engage in. We are men for their masters! Then the alternative is left and we must free them! And so surely as these blind rebels shall strengthen themselves by slave labor, using their "chattels" to our destruction, so surely we shall vitalize their property and convert it into men and women! Why not? Why shall we not convert the slave whom his master compels to be hostile into the freeman who is ready to be friendly! It is wholly absurd to suppose that this rebellion can continue and that slave labor can be turned against us without a proclamation from our headquarters of deliverance and freedom to those that are enslaved.

And we say, in God's name, be it so! If slavery is to be thus turned against freedom, slavery had better be turned into freedom quickly! If the owners of men and women under the name of chattels shall madly use their property as *instruments of war* and turn it to our destruction, then we prefer that those men and women shall belong to themselves and give us the benefit of their skill and their experience and their strength and their new freedom.

There are other and higher views to be taken of this whole question. But this will answer for now. And when the time comes that must compel us to fight them or free them we say—Let them go free!

The following is the conclusion of an able article on this subject from the *Anti-Slavery Standard*:

"But the subordinate, or rather, the antecedent, question arises, whether such a conquest of the Southern country as the scheme of the Administration must include, be possible; without the help of the black nation encamped all over the plains of the South? They are now understood to be full of hope of deliverance to come from us. If given reason to believe that we have this purpose, their very presence and the irrepressible symptoms of their discontentment and excitement of expectation would create a diversion in our favor in the rear and in the midst of the enemy, without their lifting a finger themselves, which would be equivalent to victory. The numbers that must be drawn away from the army of attack on us to act as an army of observation on them, would be a most serious weakening of their effective force, while the uneasiness and uncertainty inseparable from such a state of things must have a powerful moral effect by way of discouragement. How much more irresistable would be the appeal of this element should the government openly proclaim the Emancipation of the Slaves as a Military Necessity, arising under the Constitution, and throw a strong disciplined black force—which could soon be had—into the heart of the cotton country? That slavery has certain guarantees in the Constitution few deny. Still fewer, we should think, will affirm that these guarantees are to be observed at the expense of the Constitution itself. The part is less than the whole; the specific thing to be maintained by government, than the government itself. When the alternative is presented to the nation of the abolition of slavery or the abolition of itself, who can doubt how it will decide?

But, in the meanwhile, time is rapidly passing away and giving new shapes to passions and to events. It may be a question of a brief time only what action the government can take in this matter of its own free choice. We believe that the Divine Justice has given over this nation into the hands of this bound and despised race, to be delivered by its deliverance, or defeated in its defeat. The government must very soon elect whether it will have these four millions of black men for allies or for enemies. If for allies, its success is certain. If for enemies, its disgrace and defeat are written in the book of Destiny. If the action of the government make it plain to the slaves that they have nothing to hope from them, that this war is freighted with no change for the better in their condition and is only urged to make their bondage more sure and the more bitter, they will no longer have any sympathy for our successes, but the contrary. No hope should be derived from the ignorance of the slaves or their want of communication with each other. They are ready enough to learn what concerns their hopes of deliverance, and their means of intelligence among themselves all that their words require. Abandoning all hope from us, they would have nothing to look for except from their masters, and it would take but a little encouragement, false or real, to make them effective auxiliaries in the field. We know that black soldiers have been employed against us, and there is no reason why fifty thousand should not be opposed to us, as soon as they are convinced that we are as much their own enemies as their masters'. The negro must be thrown into the new scale or other of this great battle, and his weight in either will make

"The other quick up fly and kick the beam!"

The issues of this conflict, like those of every other armed collision of ideas, must reach much farther than it was given to them that opened it on either side to discern. We can see but two events possible to it. The idea that the state of things before the war can be restored again we regard as a delusion and a snare. The sweetness of that old prolalavery alliance is too mortally infected with the jealousy aroused on both sides for that. If, by the proclamation of emancipation and the summoning to our help of the black race, we match triumphantly over the South, abolishing slavery as we go, protecting the weak from violence and preserving property from devastation, we shall achieve the greatest conquest on record. For it will be a conquest for the benefit of the conquered, as well as for our own. The confiscation of rebel estates and the absolution of military rule will give us the opportunity of reconstructing Southern society on the basis of freedom. It is only by some such external agency that the South can be delivered from itself and brought up from barbarism to civilization. If we let this opportunity slip, its deliverance must be deferred for the interposition of foreign conquest or of domestic insurrection. A harsh and inadequate remedy for ills which we might have beneficently healed. Should our weakness or crime refuse to accept the duty which is the condition of victory and leave the means of winning it in the hands of the adversary, then the other alternative is inevitable. After a conflict in which we shall, on the whole, have the worst, we shall purchase peace by consenting to the dismemberment of the nation. For years, slavery in the border States, and their sympathy of interest with our enemies, will be an intestine thorn in our side. And we shall still have a party of slavery at the North, domestic foes, polluting by their touch, like Harpies, those of the fruits of our prosperity which they cannot destroy. It will be a continual border and internal war, instead of the universal and uninterrupted peace which we might have conquered. Truly the responsibility of the government, and still more of the people, is great indeed!"

The following is an abstract from a Washington letter, published in the *N. Y. Tribune:*

"Still referring to the tone of opinion here, though on a very different topic, I would remark that I have been surprised to hear the bold utterances of some members of the Democratic party in favor of the Government using the Slavery question, or, rather, I should say, the Slavery system, in every justifiable way, and with the most extreme rigor, to crush out the rebellion. Nay, more—they express the decided conviction that, unless the Government does this, it cannot be successful in thespending struggle. I have heard these opinions from men of high position in the Democracy, hailing from various parts of the country, but more especially from the West. Indeed, not being restrained by party considerations, they are wont to characterize the action of the Government on this subject as far too timid and fastidious to suit them. Of course, there are exceptions to this rule—discordant notes in the general tenor of Democratic opinion—eddies and cross-currents in the drift of the tide of sentiment. But I have been surprised at the unanimity of views on this delicate topic, among Democrats who are heartily and unequivocally *for* the Union, and *against* the rebellion.

In other political circles the opinion I have indicated is quite dominant. It is especially so among those who clearly understand the origin and objects of the Jeff. Davis conspiracy, and who know how persistent and determined the conspirators are in their efforts to break up the Government, and how large and varied are their resources for carrying on the unholy work.

I know, too, that the sentiment I have mentioned exists to a large extent among the intelligent and patriotic young men who have come here from all parts of the North and West, to lay down their lives, if need be, for their country. Some of them have said to me, in so many words, that while the foe boasts of having raised a regiment of creoles and mulattoes in Louisiana to shoot them down, and while he keeps negroes employed in raising earthworks and mounting cannon to destroy them with consuming fire, they do not see why our forces should not be allowed to use this class of population for the like purpose, so that at least negro might offset negro.

Some military men, of large experience, have recently told me that negroes carefully selected and properly drilled and gayly uniformed and well officered, would be most valuable auxiliaries to the main army as it drops down deep into the land of Dixie."

THE FAMOUS NEGRO REGIMENT.

Washington, August 16, 1861.—To-day a negro arrived in our lines, and was brought to Gen. Mansfield's office. He is one of the celebrated negro regiment. He fought at Bull Run, and made his escape with a servant of Beauregard, after the battle, and succeeded in reaching Point of Rocks after great privation. He states that a regiment of one thousand slaves were brought from the cotton States, and the perfection of their drill led to the organization of two regiments of negroes from South-eastern Virginia. Before the battle they were compelled to drill three hours a day, and for several hours beside were put to work in the entrenchments. At night they were penned up in the rear, and a strict guard placed over them. The Virginia negroes were nearly all anxious to escape, and would do so when the opportunity occurred. Those from the cotton States, however, were fearful of doing so, having been made to believe that their lives would be in danger among our troops.—*Times.*

In conversation with a gentleman last week who had just escaped from the South, he stated that the Slave-holders tell their Slaves that the Northern Army want to capture the Slaves of the South, and sell them to Cuba, to help pay the expenses of the war. The negro has a great horror of being sent to Cuba, and as he is made to believe that this is the intention of the North, it will arouse a deep feeling of hostility among the slaves.

THE DESIGN OF THE REBEL LEADERS.—Whatever doubt may have been entertained of the real design of the rebel leaders, is set at rest by the Governor of Georgia, who bears testimony as to its nature. Georgia was a State whose interests were in the Union, and it would never have gone out but for the violence of the secession leaders. The Governor may be presumed to know what the intention of these leaders is now that he has been acting with them in confederate counsels. He has recently had a misunderstanding with Davis, and has disbanded an entire brigade of Georgia volunteers. He says:

"We have now, as then, two classes of *statesmen, each sustained by many followers.* The one class 'desirous of a *strong central Government probably preferring, if, they did not fear to risk an avowal of their sentiments,* a limited Monarchy, similar to that of Great Britain, or other form of government which will accomplish the same object under a different name: the other class desiring and advocating the Democratic form established by the patriots of 1776, retaining to the States their sovereignty, and delegating to the General Government only such powers as are necessary to transact their foreign affairs as a confederation of States, and such internal affairs as cannot be conducted by a single State confederated with sister States.

"The preservation of the rights of the States was all that had saved the South, and enabled her to escape from the subjugation and degradation which awaited her in the old Government, which was fast becoming a consolidated empire. He warned the people of Georgia and of the South to watch with jealous eye, and to oppose with determined hostility every effort, whether by construction or by bold usurpation of powers, which may be made by those in authority, or by those seeking position, to consolidate the power of the people in the hands of the few, or to destroy State sovereignty and build upon its ruins either a monarchy or a consolidated aristocracy."

This remarks the Philadelphia *Ledger*, is probing the secession conspiracy with a sharp thrust. It shows the original intention, and the inevitable tendency of the usurped powers of the leaders, and the future that is opened before us with such Government established by our kids upon this continent. The men who can establish one Government without asking the consent of the people, can very easily establish another such as they want when they get the people manacled to the first usurpation.

A GLORIOUS SPEECH FROM A DEMOCRAT.—Not wishing that so patriotic a speech as that recently delivered in Tuskhannock, this State, by Daniel S. Dickinson, of New York, should escape from one of our readers, we publish it to-day. It will be found on our First Page. It will be observed that Mr. Dickinson, speaking as an American citizen, while in politics always a Pro-Slavery Democrat, declares it to be the duty of every man in the land to support the federal authority in its efforts to suppress this rebellion, while he is equally emphatic on insisting that every man who refuses to do this is a traitor and deserves a traitor's doom. This is the argument of Mr. Dickinson. He holds that this government is of more value than mere party organization—that its principles and their preservation are paramount to party creeds or partizan discipline, and therefore no man has a right to pause in his differences with an administration before he agrees to yield his adhesion to its policy of suppressing a rebellion. This is the true doctrine—the doctrine of life and liberty in an hour like this, from which traitors only will dissent. We commend a calm, careful perusal of this at this time to those who seek partizan success, before the welfare of the common country. Mr. Dickinson puts to the blush the apologists of treason, the defenders of those who seek the destruction of the best and most liberal government on the face of the earth. The speech is rendered stronger still from the fact that Mr. Dickinson was a great favorite of the South, and favorably spoken of for the Presidency by that section.

A FRIEND desires us to publish the following gem. It has an echo in thousands of throbbing hearts:

The Brave at Home.

BY T. BUCHANAN READ.

The maid who binds her warrior's sash,
With smile that well her pain dissembles,
The while beneath her drooping lash
One starry tear-drop hangs and trembles,
Tho' Heaven alone records the tear,
And Fame shall never know her story,
Her heart has shed a drop as dear
As ever dowed the field of glory.

The wife who girds her husband's sword,
'Mid little ones who weep or wonder,
And bravely speaks the cheering word,
What time her heart is rent with anguish—
Doomed nightly in her dreams to hear
The bolts of war around him rattle,
Hath shed as sacred blood as e'er
Was poured upon the plain of battle!

The mother who conceals her grief,
While to her breast her son she presses,
Then breathes a low brave words and brief,
Kissing the patriot brow she blesses,
With no one but her secret God,
To know the pain that weighs upon her,
Sheds holy blood as e'er the sod
Received on Freedom's field of honor!

BOSTON, July, 1861.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1861.—Sept.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.
31 SATURDAY,...	5 26	6 34	D. H. M.
1 SUNDAY,.....	5 27	6 33	New M. 4 5 17 m
2 MONDAY,.....	5 28	6 32	First Q. 11 8 20 m
3 TUESDAY,.....	5 29	6 30	Full M. 18 9 6 ev
4 WEDNESDAY,...	5 30	6 29	Third Q. 25 1 28 m
5 THURSDAY,....	5 31	6 27	
6 FRIDAY,.....	5 32	6 26	

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

P. R. & P. TELEGRAPH OFFICE, *Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.*

	6 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.	
Aug. 24—Saturday,	62°	73°	71°	clear.
" 26—Monday,	63	71	68	"
" 27—Tuesday,	65	72	69	cloudy
" 28—Wednesday,	67	74	72	"
" 29—Thursday,	67	74	72	"
" 30—Friday,	70	73	69	clear.

The Wetherill Rifles of St. Clair, will be attached to Col. Cake's regiment.

Miss Allen's School.—Miss Allen will resume her school on the 9th of September.

Promoted.—Lieut. F. Farquhar has been promoted brevet captain. Lieut. F. has been promoted rapidly, but not more so than he merits.

Fire at Fountain Spring.—On the 23d inst., the barn of Mr. Peter Seltsinger, at Fountain Spring, was destroyed by fire, with all its contents.

It is Colonel Nagle's intention to keep his Regiment together, after its return from the war. That is one of his reasons for wishing to get into it all Schuylkill County companies.

Renewed Operations.—Reppler's breaker, which was burnt to the ground on the night of the 11th of February last, has been rebuilt, and commenced operations on Monday last.

The wife of Benjamin Howard of St. Clair, was found dead in bed on Sunday morning last. The *Sentinel says* she did not complain of any illness when she retired the preceding evening, and the cause of her death is unknown.

Mr. F. Alstatt, Mahantango street, frames photographs, engravings, etc., in unexceptionable style. His assortment is worth inspection, while his prices suit the times. We can cordially commend Mr. A. as a man who thoroughly understands his business.

Committed.—Yesterday, Thomas Stinson was arrested at Silver Creek, on a charge of being concerned in the murder of Patrick Burns, on the 17th of March last, at Windy Harbor. After a hearing before Squire Chrisman, the accused was committed for trial at the next term of Court.

Appointment.—Dr. Henry Chester Parry, son of our esteemed fellow-citizen, Edward Owen Parry, Esq., has received the appointment of Assistant Surgeon in the regular army. Dr. Parry is a young gentleman of decided ability, and we congratulate him heartily, upon his appointment.

Woolen Band.—This is an important article to every soldier. In all cases of bowel complaints and Fall diseases its value is indispensable. It is worn next to the skin over the stomach, and should be about sixteen inches in width. In the Prussian service, an army order compels its use by the soldier. No soldier in our service should be without it.

Edward M. Jones, formerly a resident of Tamaqua, is engaged in New Orleans, in furnishing cannon and howitzers, mounted and ready for effective service in the field, caissons, with extra pole and wheel, army wagons, gun carriages, grape, canister and solid shot, &c., for use in the Confederate service. Pleasant employment truly, for a Northern man.

Forward.—As the companies are forming, the following lines by David Bayer Brown, which we copy from the Philadelphia *North American*, are spirited and appropriate:

Forward! Let the word be given;
Onward! let the banners plain:
Let the bolts of war be driven
Bravely once more home again.

No more honored words from traitors,
No more counting on the cost;
Wait we yet, and wait we longer?
Wait, we until all be lost?

Forward! Let the word be given
'Tis the sublimest of the Words!
'Neath the smiles of God and Heaven
Pour your countless legions forth.

No more fearing, no more doubting,
When shall all this turmoil cease?
Let the bullet's swift careening
Be our messenger of peace.

Wait we for the morrow morrow?
Leaving still to traitors breath?
Lag we till the general sorrow
Equals an immortal nation's wrath?

Who shall rear again the structure,
Who shall guide the helm of State?
Who the priceless gem shall restore
From the grasp of each to fate?

By the martyrs whom they slew!
Rouse the fears, parent of our sires,
Freemen, patriots, soldiers, sworn!
Forward to the crystal plain!

Philada., August 26, 1861.

The Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will have a pic-nic on Wednesday next, at the reservoir.

Painful Accident.—On Saturday last Mr. John Hudan had his right hand mutilated in consequence of the premature discharge of a pistol. He was in the act of loading the pistol, and while pushing the ball down the pistol was discharged, the ramrod and ball passing entirely through his hand. It is feared that a portion of the muscles of the hand will be destroyed.

Ill.—We regret to state that Capt. D. A. Smith is quite ill. Having been tendered and we believe, accepted the Lieut.-Colonelcy of Col. Nagle's Regiment, we trust that he may be speedily restored to health to assume his duties. We speak from personal knowledge of Capt. Smith's military capacity, when we predict that he will make a useful, industrious and able officer.

Lieut. G. W. Brumm is now recruiting in Minersville, to fill a Company now quartered at Harrisburg, for Colonel Christ's Regiment. The Company will be commanded by Capt. Brumholts, an officer who has seen service in Mexico, and still more recently in Virginia. We learn that Col. Christ's Regiment is rapidly filling up, and will be mustered into the United States service during the coming week.

Appointment Declined.—Unsolicited, Major J. M. Wetherill was recently appointed Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers. Of course the Major appreciated the compliment highly, but respectfully declined the appointment, in consequence of the refusal of his regiment to part with him. The Major therefore, retains his position in Col. Williams' splendid regiment, which is almost filled up, and ready to take the field.

On the 22d inst., says the Ashland *Mountaineer*, an accident happened on the branch of the Mine Hill Railroad at Locust Dale, caused by the cars running away from the brakesmen, on account of the wet rails, heavy grade, and large train. Mr. J. A. Schlaseman, had one of his arms broken in two places. Another brakeman, named Lewis Reed, was also slightly bruised.—The cars running off the track, these men were thrown from the train.

Important, if True.—As turpentine is contraband now, and has advanced from 30 cents to $1 25 per gallon, a substitute is wanted for mixing paint. It is now stated by painters who have tried it, that the naptha, or benzine, as it is generally called, taken from the Petroleum oil, is equally as good, and on some accounts better than the turpentine, and we observe by the Pennsylvania and Ohio papers, is in general use by all painters. In the car works at Cleveland and Pittsburg it is used entirely.

Promoted.—We are pleased to learn that Major Nichols has been promoted to Lieut. Col., in the Adjutant General's Department, and is now in charge of the department at Troy, N. Y. Col. Nichols's services will be invaluable at his new post, and we feel that he is "the right man in the right place." Although the Col. has not the opportunity at present, of taking the field, it is satisfactory to know that his ability is of great service to the Government in the important Department to which he now acts.

Not Dead.—We are happy to state that the impression which existed that Wm. Brown, a member of the New York Fire Zouaves, and formerly a resident of this Borough, had been killed at the Battle of Bull Run, was unfounded, as Mr. Brown appeared among us this week, in *propria personæ*, uninjured, and as our "devil" says, not even "mortally scared." We congratulate Mr. Brown's friends on his escape from injury, and trust that if he goes in for the war, as he says he will, that he may always be as fortunate.

"ON THE WAR."—These lines although interesting in consequence of the authorship, do not possess sufficient merit to warrant their publication. We appreciate the sentiments, but do not think that we would do the author justice if we published his poem.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY FOR SEPTEMBER.—We have received from Messrs. Ticknor & Field, the *Atlantic* for the coming month. Among the numerous elaborate and well written papers we call special attention to "The Shakespeare Mystery;" "The Advantages of Defeat;" an interesting account of the "Aquarium," and the tale of "Agnes of Sorento." The literary notices are, as usual, sound and discriminating. The desire of the publishers seems to be that no depression like the present shall deter them from maintaining the high position which their periodical has assumed.

"ON THE WAR."—These lines although interesting in consequence of the authorship, do not possess sufficient merit to warrant their publication. We appreciate the sentiments, but do not think that we would do the author justice if we published his poem.

For the Soldiers.—The ladies distinguished themselves in providing havelocks, etc., for the three months' soldiers. A lady friend suggests that they call continue the good work, in view of the approaching rigors of winter, by each lady knitting a pair of woolen socks for the soldiers.—Also in preserving, to set aside a jar of preserves for hospital use. It may be a small matter individually; collectively it will be important. We trust that all our ladies in the County will take this matter into consideration, and devote a few hours to supplying comforts to the men now battling for the country.

An Improved Rifle Cannon.—We had the pleasure, on Tuesday last, of seeing the model of the Sevier & Lilley cannon. It was invented some time ago by the celebrated Mr. Sevier of England, formerly President of the Royal Society of Arts, and since honored with the order of Knighthood for his discoveries and scientific acumen. This cannon is, perhaps, the most remarkable discovery ever made in the science of Ballistics or of projectile forces. Although patents have been secured for it in England, France, Russia, and other European powers, it has never yet been formally introduced to the world. Its introduction in the United States, although stimulated by the necessities of the present war, has been somewhat delayed by the formal processes of the Patent Office, from which letters patent have now issued. It will, accordingly, soon be presented to the inspection of the Department of War, and if approved, it is to be hoped, steps may be taken without delay, to introduce it in all the forts, vessels of war, and field operations of the military service.

The great object with all guns, of whatever calibre, is to secure the longest range with accuracy and precision of shot. To this it is essential to give the ball a spiral motion. This is accomplished by boring grooves in the interior surface of the gun, ranging from a straight line sufficiently to make the ball rotate on its axis more or less revolutions within a prescribed distance—say one revolution for every twenty, fifty, or seventy feet. The rotary or spiral motion thus acquired, secures greater space-penetrating power to the projectile, as well as precision of force for a certain length. While nearly all modern cannon, thus grooved or rifled, will shoot a distance of from three to six miles, none of them will send their ball in a perfectly straight line a distance of more than a mile, or perhaps less. The reason of this is, that the specific gravity of the ball causes it to deviate, and to overcome the amount of such deviation, exact scales have to be devised, by actual experiment, in the case of each gun.

But the grooving or rifling of the gun's inner walls, while it is attended with extraordinary mechanical difficulties, has the almost overwhelming one of adapting the ball itself so as to fill the grooved spaces, as, if this be not thoroughly effected, the rotary motion necessary to secure velocity and accuracy is but indifferently accomplished. A purely metallic ball will not answer. If of cast iron, the substance is too hard to admit of compression into the grooves—while balls of any other material are out of the question.—To overcome this paramount difficulty, the ball is sometimes coated with a thin stratum of lead, gutta percha, or various other material. With these aids, however, the grooves of the cannon are filled up with the lead and softer material, and the gun is useless until thoroughly cleaned out—while, in many instances, the grooves are so much worn down as to completely destroy the cannon for use until re-rifled. In proportion as these difficulties multiply, the accuracy of the cannon is destroyed, so that it may be assumed of the thousands of rifled cannon, of various kinds now in use, none of them are reliably efficient after a service of a few hundred discharges.

The Sevier gun is constructed on principles altogether original, and combines the features of the *smooth bore and the rifle.* This is accomplished by simply introducing into the gun a smooth rod or tongue, upon which are two lines of spiral grooves. This tongue, in a thirty-two pounder cannon is about two and a fourth inches in diameter—the gun itself being about six inches. Now, the rifling being upon this tongue, the interior walls of the cannon itself remain smooth. The tongue is fastened to the breech end of the gun, and secured tightly to its place by a wedge or screw, which can be detached with celerity and facility, and replaced. Now the ball is elongated, and made conical at the front end, and, in addition, is *perforated so as to be made to fit on the rifled tongue or rod.* Its position on the rod is secured by two knobs or pins, which exactly fit into the grooves of the rod or tongue, so that, in moving over the rod, the ball is made to rotate around it at the rate of one revolution to every sixty feet. The cartridge, of course, is made circular, with interior space to be rammed home around the tongue.

We have thus a conical ball, with interior perforation, securing a spiral motion in a smooth-bore cannon. The ball is all metallic, unencumbered with lead, or any other inferior preparation. The loss of power experienced in other guns—such as Armstrong's or James'—in forcing the balls into the grooves, is in this cannon applied directly to *propulsion*, and while the perforation dispenses with perhaps one-fourth of the surface of resistance to the atmosphere, when in motion, so it also secures a *straight velocity by making the current of air pass through the centre of the ball.* The initial velocity of the Sevier gun is therefore, it is said, far superior to that of any other known projectile—that is to say, it will fly a greater distance through the air, in a straight line. Guns will throw balls five or six miles, but unreliably. The question is, or ought to be, how far will a gun shoot before the ball deviates into a curve or a parabola? What advantage is there in merely *shooting* along distances unreliably? A bird may fly to the hight of a mile in the air, and a gun may send its ball a mile or three miles *beyond* it; but what virtue or use is the gun if it cannot hit the bird? Accuracy is what we now require in our service, and must secure, by adopting whatever improvements embraces that desideratum.

That being the prominent characteristics of the Sevier gun, we commend it to the attention of the Government, in order that a scientific and critical examination of its merits may enable the country to profit by its use, if the powers which are claimed for it, stand the test of experiment.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

WASHINGTON, August 28th, 1861.—What a sublime spectacle this *war* presents.—How full of interest, and with what anxious solicitude, men everywhere, watch its progress.—The world are our spectators. Despotism smiles, with a faint hope of new conquests, and shakes its hoary head in expectation of realizing its long-cherished dream, that man is not born free and equal. Civilization trembles for the result, and pauses in its march to further triumphs; and while the picture is thus being contemplated, the poor downtrodden and oppressed, wherever the story of our greatness and renown has been whispered, by the loved messenger of Hope, will utter in silence their last prayer for the preservation of the only refuge and retreat left them upon earth. Citizens, freemen, of Schuylkill County, shall this be realized? Shall this "Ocean-bound Republic" be cut up into petty dynasties, and eventually merged into one grand despotic collosism? Shall posterity curse the generation into whose hands the keeping of this fair fabric of freedom was entrusted? No! No! The very thought is dawning, and at war with every instinct of our natures. Reason and true patriotism will yet prevail. What God has decreed no man can prevent, and if there is any truth in His inspiration, He will most assuredly lead this nation as He did the Children of Israel, to triumph and to victory; but like them, we must prove ourselves worthy of the great trust imposed upon us.

It is astonishing with what patriotic response the last call of the Government has been answered; regiment after regiment is daily arriving, and the cry is still they come.

"Every mountain hill and glen,
Sends down its living hosts to meet us:
To battle and to victory."

To arrive at the exact number of our force within the line of this command, is hard to determine, as information of this kind is not to be had. The fact is, scarcely any of the sensation telegrams with which you are daily treated by the New York and Philadelphia papers, are based upon any truth or authority. We, here in Washington, are frequently puzzled to understand the despatches purporting to have been sent from this City, particularly such as pretend to give "*startling rumors, &c., from the Seat of War.*" I noticed some of the kind in a work published in the Philadelphia *Bulletin* of this style:—"*Much feeling is manifested at the release, by order of the Secretary of War, of the rebel prisoners, who go to Norfolk to-day, under a flag of truce. Among them is one colonel, a captain is also of their number.*" I have selected this one, on account of its having come into other papers, and no doubt created injurious impressions against the War Department. First, the party who penned it, was either bamboozled or was influenced by some malicious feeling entertained against the Secretary of War, as it is without the slightest foundation, having gone to the trouble to inquire about it.—Matters of this kind, while they may never reach the parties they are intended to assail, are nevertheless calculated to do great harm among the people. Those, such as the present, call upon every loyal man in the country to put his shoulder to the wheel and help the Government to all its intricate and responsible duties. Remember that all efforts to annoy and create mistaken impressions against the Administration, is equivalent to giving aid and comfort to the enemy. If we want this Government sustained, and the present armed rebellion crushed out, we must, in good faith, fully arm and those entrusted with the administration of its laws. The President and his Cabinet are equal to the present crisis, only so far as the people are true to themselves.