Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1861.

GENERAL FREMONT.

It is announced authoritatively, that the removal of General Fremont is certainly, postponed for the present, which to our view, is wise, considering that he is on the flying footsteps of the rebel Price, "horse, foot and dragoon." To remove him now would be injudicious, in view of the possible demoralizing effect of such a step on the *morale* of the Western army. However, that is a matter for the President to decide, and when he does decide either for retention or removal, the country will acquiesce in the decision cheerfully, for it has great confidence in the wisdom of the Chief Magistrate, and an abiding belief that he acts alway with an eye single to the general welfare.

While the matter of removal is pending, a report of Adjt.-Gen. Thomas on the affairs of the Western Department appears, which if correct in every particular, may well cause the friends of Gen. Fremont to wonder how these serious charges against him will be met. They have not been met yet. Gen. Fremont busy in the face of the rebels, has had no time to attend to them in detail. He is silent. Now we entertain that old fashioned, it may be at this time unfashionable, sense of justice, which refrains from passing judgment on a man until all the evidence in his case has been adduced. We want to hear the charges. We most certainly, desire to become acquainted with the nature of the defence. To condemn an accused person in a court of civil practice, on *ex parté* evidence, would be considered unjust, yet many spring hastily to a conclusion in this matter of Gen. Fremont, on equally one-sided premises. Is it right or proper? Do we treat a certainly brave and honorable man justly, by the hasty procedure? Hardly.

As to the charges, they are in brief,—first, that Gen. Fremont has surrounded himself with dishonest men. The foundation of this serious charge is, according to Gen. Thomas's report, that "it is the *expressed belief* of many intelligent gentlemen in St. Louis" that such is the fact. As an offset to this, most respectable authority states "that is is the expressed belief of many intelligent gentlemen in St. Louis," that the charge in question is altogether unfounded. In connection with this charge, fraud is alleged in connection with the purchase for the army, to enable it to "pursue Price, of hay, corn, oats, mules and blankets. The latter article as our readers know, has been difficult to procure, for Government use, either good or bad. Second, that a pontoon bridge was erected across the Ohio, where a ferry-boat would have done as well. But isn't it, after all, better to have such means of transportation sometimes provided, even by an excess of caution, rather than to suffer such consequences of being without them, as we did the other day on the Potomac? Third. Gen. Fremont is accused of peculation or carelessness in the purchase of arms in Europe. This is on hearsay evidence meandering through three parties, one in San Francisco, one in St. Louis and one in Europe. There appears to be some mistake in this which we presume Gen. Fremont can explain, and which at present is untrustworthy as proof of fraud. Fourth, Gen. Fremont is accused of mismanagement in the command of the army. As this is the most serious charge made against Fremont, we much prefer to hear his statement in reference to his ability to aid the lamented Lyon, and to raise the siege of Lexington, without interfering with the plan he had matured of getting in the rear of Price, and cutting off his retreat. Fifth, the order to march now is complained of in very strong terms, as many of the regiments of the army of 40,000 men are "badly equipped, with inadequate supplies of ammunition, clothing and transportation." But to have compelled Price to raise the seige of Lexington would have required this same army to be gathered together and moved forward in this incomplete condition. If he is imprudent now, wouldn't he have been even more so then? Or if he ought to have acted then, is he to blame for acting now, with a month for preparation, against the same man and the same force? We confess here that "we don't see it." Sixth, he had no right or authority to assemble around him his bodyguard, who made that dashing charge at Springfield, Missouri, last week. Well probably he had not; but history's brightest page will record in glowing language, the gallant charge of two hundred and fifty cavalry on two thousand rebel infantry, and the utter rout of the latter. A few *regular* charges of similar brilliancy, would immortalize the name of the American army.

We have but little more to say on this subject. We find no fault with the authorities. If they think that Gen. Fremont should be removed; that the great cause in which we are engaged, would be benefitted by it, let it be done. But we *know* the rivalry which exists between officers of the regular and volunteer service, and therefore, receive with grains of allowance, mutual charges. We will not judge a case until after due investigation by the legally constituted authorities, and therefore, respectfully decline at this time to prejudge one whom we consider a true, loyal, gallant soldier.

Since the above had been placed in type, a communication in reference to Gen. Fremont's purchases in Europe, published in the New-York *T. ibune*, has come under our notice.—It is completely exonerates Fremont from blame in this matter of arms, that we give it place in justice to a much abused if not persecuted man:

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune.—

SIR: The arms which Gen. Fremont bought in Europe were: 2,000 rifled cannon, 10 revolvers, 10 cannon, with shot and shells, and 2,000,000 percussion caps. The rifles were new and of the precise pattern of the best standard rifle now in the French army, and were made at Liege in Belgium. After Gen. Fremont's return to the United States, the Secretary of War, Mr. Cameron, sent an order to Mr. Adams and Mr. Dayton to purchase 20,000 more rifles of the same kind as those purchased by Gen. Fremont. Still later, Mr. Schuyler, sent to Europe as a special agent to procure arms, offered to buy rifles of the same pattern to the number of 100,000. And it seems that the offer made by him for 20,000 rifles absolutely, and for 25,000 more if they could be furnished. And the rifle is the same in every respect as the 2,000 purchased by Gen. Fremont, and also that Gen. Fremont's were, made in Belgium, and the others in France.

The 500 revolvers purchased by Gen. Fremont were highly approved that Mr. Schuyler sought to buy 10,000 more of the same kind.

The rifled cannon, eight in number, were 12-pounders, and were six to be order, and there is no better rifled cannon if its size in the service.

These were all the arms purchased by Gen. Fremont in Europe. He desired to purchase a larger quantity, at a time when arms could have been had at low prices; and if he had been furnished the means, the very arms which Mr. Schuyler is contracting for now, to be here at some future time, would have been already in the hands of our soldiers.

Gen. Fremont paid for these new rifles $18 each. He could have had 50,000 or 100,000 at the same price, and one lot of 10,000 French rifles was offered at $13 each, but I have always been told by other parties to the War Department in Washington for $27.

Gen. Fremont thought at the very first that while the country would get forth its soldiers for the war, there would be an absolute impossibility to arm them, and he sought to send to the United States at once 100,000 small arms and 100 rifled cannon, together with sabres and cavalry equipments for 25,000 men. But he is said to have failed to do so, and the result is that Government is buying to-day the very rifles he proposed to buy, and at higher prices, and is getting $6 and $7 for sabres which he could have had for $2, and is procuring neither the rifles nor sabres fast enough. For this reason, in some parts of the country whole regiments of cavalry and infantry await arms and equipments. But this is not the work of it. The very few arms which Gen. Fremont did buy, amounting only to $250,000 or $60,000, though approved by the Government, and made the samples for other purchases which a special agent is directed to make, are pronounced utterly worthless, and the impression is sought to be created that he purchased and sent over all sorts of good-for-nothing trash, to which all sorts of speculators made any amount of money.—And this, too in face of the fact that the Administration expressed great satisfaction with the few purchases Gen. Fremont did make, and wrote to Mr Adams and Mr. Sumner to use similar care, and the men of his company will be sure of good treatment, while it will be his highest ambition to have them effective, well drilled and ready to do their country good service in the field.

A Commission has been appointed by the Governor to attend to the interests of the Pennsylvania volunteers around Washington, and in Kentucky, and agents for allotment rolls for remitting a portion of their pay to their families.

It appears from official data that Pennsylvania has 70,000 men in the field, and 20 additional regiments organizing, a portion of which are ready to move. All will be in service within a month, making a grand army of over 100,000 men, besides having material for 50 additional regiments, if needed.

Assistant-Surgeon R. L. Weber of this Borough, is on board the gun-boat *Umbrella*, one of the fleet comprising the great Naval expedition to the South.

Col. Wynkoop's cavalry regiment, at Camp Cameron, Harrisburg, has been thoroughly uniformed and supplied with nearly the requisite number of horses. They expected to receive their arms and marching orders this week.

The 96th Regiment, encamped on Lawton's Hill, this Borough, is under marching orders, and will move as soon as it is equipped. The Regiment will go to Washington. The lettering and number of men in each company, are as follows:

Company A, Captain	L. M. Hay,	101
" F, "	J. A thony,	99
" D, "	J. T. Boyle,	62
" E, "	T. M. Sike,	55
" C, "	E. Smith,	73
" H, "	Chas. Hipple,	92
" B, "	S. Bowden,	52
" G, "	— Badd.	60
" B, "	P. S. Filbert,	100
Good Intent Light Artillery, Capt. W. Lemig,		57
Total,		837

The Regiment has slightly increased in strength since the above was prepared. The number of rations given out this week, including the Band, was over nine hundred.

The system of remittances by which the volunteer is afforded an opportunity of providing for his family while he is in the service, like all other operations in which money is involved, is attended with risk and imposition. The imposition and risk also fall on those least able to bear them, and in many cases the good intentions of the volunteer are frustrated by the sharks who infest Washington city for the purpose of robbing the soldier when they fail to rob the government. In order to protect the interests of the volunteer, and afford him every facility for remitting a portion or the whole of his pay to his family, or such other persons in whose support and comfort he is interested, Governor Curtin has appointed a commission, whose duty it will be to see that the soldier is guarded in this purpose as well as protected from any imposition by speculators and shavers. This commission consists of Hon. Edgar Cowan, E. C. Humes and T. E. Franklin, who are now in Washington city engaged in providing facilities for the accommodation of the soldier in this particular.

On Tuesday a portion of Col. Cake's regiment, 440 men, made a street parade, under command of Lieut.-Col. Frick. From the Philadelphia *Press* of Tuesday we extract the following in reference to this Regiment. It is contained in a despatch from Washington:

"Col. Cake is here on business connected with his regiment, which is now encamped—one thousand strong—in Schuylkill County. He says that his regiment has been filled since the 15th inst., and is under almost perfect discipline. He is now waiting for his arms and overcoats, and expects to have his regiment here in the course of ten days. Col. Cake formerly commanded the Twenty-Fifth Pennsylvania in the three months' service. Gen. Patterson remarked that they were the most orderly, and best drilled and disciplined regiment in his division. Col. Cake's regiment is to be called the Ninety-sixth, and he has in his ranks, besides a majority who served with him in the old Twenty-fifth, a number who did good service in the Mexican war."

Gov. Curtin, in accordance with instructions received from the War Department, has issued marching orders to the following regiments:—Col. Hartranft's, 51st; Col. Dodge's, 52d; Col. Brooks', 53d; Col. Coulter's, 11th; Col. Davis', 104th; Col. Cake's, 96th; Col. Gust's, 97th, and one regiment from Camp Cameron, which is near Harrisburg.

A lady of Philadelphia has made a "waddled boot," which is intended for the use of the soldiers on cold winter nights. It is made in a very simple manner. The material used is twilled muslin, lined with heavy Canton flannel. The sock is intended to be worn after the wet stockings and boots are taken off. The note accompanying the specimen says that many ladies who are unable to knit stockings can make several pairs of "waddled boots" in a day.

On Wednesday afternoon last, a fine sword belt and sash were presented by his friends in this Borough, to Capt. Budd, of Company G, 96th Regiment. The Captain has made considerable sacrifices in recruiting for his regiment, and his friends thought him entitled in an eminent degree, to the testimonial. We think so too. The sword was presented by Lin. Bartholomew, Esq., and received for the Captain, by Hon. James H. Campbell.

Letter from a Son of Hon. Robert M. Palmer.—Annexed is a letter from STRANGE J. PALMER, son of Hon. ROBERT M. PALMER, Minister of the U. States to the Argentine Confederation, South America, to his brothers, dated

ON BOARD BARK "L. D. CARVER,"
At Sea, 11° 22' N. 30° 10 W., June 21, 1861.

MY DEAR BROTHERS:—As we have now been thirty days at sea, and have probably accomplished half our voyage in time and distance, I will endeavor to give you some account of our ocean experience to this date.

You are already informed that we left the Battery, New York, about noon of Tuesday, May 21, in the tug boat, two miles and same time to go aboard this vessel, then lying in the Hudson River, where it enters New York Bay.

The "L. D. Carver" is an American Bark, built in Rockland, Maine, in 1856, at a cost of $21,000, and named after her builder, Lorenzo D. Carver. The difference between a Bark and a Ship is, that the Ship has three masts, all square rigged, while the mizen or third-foremost mast of the Bark is rigged like a Schooner, with a boom or spanker sail. Ship is 136 feet long, 30 feet wide and 19 feet deep, the lower hold being 12½ feet deep, and the space between decks, 6½ feet. Of the extreme length there is first, in front, about 46 feet occupied by the forecastle, where the sailors are quartered and the cook's galley located. There is a little house, or forecastle, about 24 feet long and sixteen feet wide, and in this are the sailor's quarters and the cook's galley or cooking place. The top of this house is occupied by the long boat, turned upside down and covered with canvas, to protect it from the weather, and securely tied on either of it, are boards and other lumber, that may be necessary. On each side of the bow hangs a heavy anchor, and down on the main deck, alongside of the forecastle house are casks of fresh water.

Back of the forecastle commences the poop deck, about eighty feet in length, covering the cabin, 32 feet in length, and leaving the stern which is ten feet in length, about three feet below the level of the poop deck. On the stern are the wheel, by which the vessel is steered, the binnacle, in which two mariner's compasses are placed, with a lamp to steer by in the night, and also a stair passage way into the cabin, and under its deck are the ship's stores and a portion of the passengers' baggage.

The whole length of the cabin is divided by a cross partition containing two doors. The front is our dining room, and has a permanent table with slats fastened lengthwise upon it, to prevent our dishes from sliding off when the vessel rolls.

The rear is our sitting room, and contains a table, sofa, looking glass, carpet, chairs, &c. On the right hand side of the cabin are four bed rooms, or state rooms as they are called, and a pantry. Of these state rooms two are for the use of the captain, one is occupied by papa and myself, and the other by our servant, and a portion of our baggage and private stores. These rooms are each six feet in length, six feet high, and four feet three inches wide. Ours contains two berths, each two feet wide and two feet six inches apart. The other side of the cabin has the same number of state rooms, with a wash room, &c., and are occupied by the passengers and the officers of the ship. The cabin is surrounded by an iron railing, and the whole length of the poop deck on both sides, is also protected by a wooden railing. One one side hangs suspended from its irons over the water the gig or row boat, about 22 feet in length, and alongside the wooden railing two spare spars are lying. Two skylight affords light and air to the cabin, and there is a straight stairway into it from the poop deck.—Small oblong pieces of glass set square in the deck furnish light to the state rooms. On this deck are also the closed hatchways to the hold, the ships pump, and two casks of fresh water.

The carrying capacity of our bark is 441 tons, although her registered tonnage is only 413 tons, and her draft of water is 12 feet. The present cargo consists mainly of about 340,000 feet of pine lumber, boards, scantling, &c., of assorted qualities and sizes. This lumber cost in New York, say from $16 to $30 per M.; the freight from New York to Buenos Ayres is $21 per M.—It will be worth in the Buenos Ayreas market from $40 to $60 per M.—in large quantities, and more by retail.

Our officers and crew number eleven, and comprise men of many different nationalities. The Captain, Mason Damon, is a Yankee, from the town of Hampden, in the State of Maine, the town in which Vice President Hamlin lives; the first mate, Barquin, is a Swede; the second mate, Brown, is a Hollander. Of the six sailors, two are Americans, one Englishman, one Irishman, one Norwegian and one Swede. The Steward is of Irish birth, reared in Charleston, South Carolina; the Cabin boy was born in Boston, and reared in New York. The pay of the Captain is probably $1000 per annum; the first mate receives $30 per month; second mate, $20; steward, $20; sailors, $14; cabin boy, $5 per month.

Our fellow passengers are a Mr. Walker, with his wife, three children and niece, going to reside at Monte Video, the chief city of Uruguay, on the Banda Oriental, and intend to carry on the tanner business in connection with the New York firm of Rogers Hayes & Co. Mr. Walker has resided in Buenos Ayres for several years, was married there, and there his children were born. He was formerly engaged largely in the business of sheep farming in Buenos Ayres, but meeting with a large loss by a severe drought, which killed nearly all his sheep, and destroys to and butter facilities for the education of his children, he left Buenos Ayres last Fall, and sought a home in New York. Reaching there at a time when the political troubles of our country had greatly disturbed all kinds of business, and finding no suitable employment, he resolved to return to South America. He is a very intelligent, pleasant gentlemen; both himself and his wife speak Spanish, and he will doubtless succeed well in his new business.

Our passage was $100 each, the children half price, so that the owners, Messrs. H. D. Brockman & Co., of New York, in addition to the freight on the cargo, received $750 passage money. This included the cost of our provisions, which being merely ordinary ship's fare, are not very luxurious; but, as I do not like complaining about trifles, the less said on this subject the better.

Although we went on board our vessel in the afternoon of May 21, the wind being unfavorable, we did not weigh anchor until the next morning, Wednesday, May 22, when we were taken in tow by a steam tug and proceeded to sea. As we passed the Narrows, a boat from a Revenue Cutter reached us, and we were boarded by a Government officer, who, shortly after examining the vessel's papers, clearance, &c., in a very quiet and gentlemanly way, bade us adieu and returned to his station.

For some time after putting to sea, we felt some anxiety about the possibility of falling in with vessels bearing Jeff. Davis's piratical letters of marque, but if there were any afloat on so poor and raically a business, we were so fortunate as not to meet with them.

For several days after leaving New York, I felt but little like observing what was going on. The new sensations caused by the rolling and pitching of the vessel, and the consequent sea-sickness, can only be imagined, not described, to one who has never experienced them, and I can only assure you they are exceedingly unpleasant to the new beginner in ocean navigation.

On the 26th May, in latitude 39° 19', we entered the Gulf Stream, and had our first experience of rough water. The course of this stream is probably marked on your Atlas, and you can find it described in your books of geography. Since leaving the Gulf Stream, which we were about three days in crossing, we have had, at this time, with scarcely any exception, delightful weather and with smooth sea. At first, we had light but steady southerly winds, the vessel running southeast, until the 14th June, when we entered the northeast trade winds, in which we still remain, and by the assistance of which we have made rapid progress on our voyage.

You may be curious to learn how the time is passed on board by the officers, crew and passengers. By the former, the day is divided into watches of four hours each, commencing at 12 o'clock, noon, with two dog watches, as they are called, of four hours on deck and four below.

Every half hour is struck by the helmsman on the bell which hangs in front of him, and "eight bells" —one strock for each hour—marks the end of one division of time and the commencement of another "watch" of four hours. The man at the wheel is relieved by another every two hours. The first and second mates relieve each other every four hours. Every morning, when the sun appears so as to make it practicable, the first mate with the quadrant takes observations of its altitude, and announces the result to the captain, from which he calculates our longitude, and at noon the sun's meridian is noted by the same instrument, from which our latitude is calculated, and the ship's clock regulated accordingly.

The temperature of the air and water is regularly noted by the thermometer, and, while the thermometer in the cabin ranges, I am certain in his calculations of our locality, the barometer hangs ready to give notice of approaching storm or change of weather. But of this last, up to this time, we have had little need. With these operations, and the necessary orders to the sailors in working the vessel, and in assisting when necessary, the captain and mates are occupied. The steward is cook, the cabin boy waiter in the table and on the captain, keeps the cabin in order, and is butt in general for captain, mates and steward. Indeed, taking everything into consideration, the cabin-boy appears to be hardest worked and poorest paid, although I believe it is not altogether unusual in the world for those who do the most work to get the least pay. Besides working the sails and keeping the vessel, the sailors are variously employed. Early in the morning, before the passengers are up, the decks are thoroughly washed, and Papa takes advantage of this time to have a large tub of salt water placed on deck, alongside of the entrance to the cabin, into which he can step from his berth, for an early bath. At other times they are mending old sails, repairing rope, painting irons, making sordage from rope yarn, washing and mending their clothes, pumping water from the ship, spreading or furling the awning under which the passengers sit, or, when not on duty, sitting together in the forecastle singing songs, or "spinning yarns" for each other's amusement. Reading, conversation, and pacing the decks for exercise, with the usual routine of eating and drinking, make up the time of the male passengers, while the ladies are engaged in various womanly employments with the needle, and in teaching the children from their books; and these, when relieved from study and recitations, amuse themselves in a thousand childish ways, in fancied games and incomprehensible sports; and whenever an interesting object appears, or anything occurs to vary the general monotony, all hands gather together to share in the enjoyment of the new excitement. And so, in the general, passes time on our vessel.

But I have neglected to explain to you the operation by which the rate of the vessel's progress through the water is measured, which is performed every day, and is called "heaving the log." The "log" is a thin, flat piece of wood, triangular in form, with a lead sinker attached to it, in such a manner as to keep it perpendicular when in the water, and to this piece of wood is fastened the "log line," which is a cord rolled on a reel, from which it is readily unrolled, and marked at proper intervals so as to divide it into what are called "knots." The "knots" on our log line are twenty-two and a half feet each in length. In "heaving the log," the men engaged go to the stern of the vessel, on the leward side, to prevent the coming of the wind, and while one man holds the reel, another unwinds the line and casts the "log" into the water. The line is unwound as rapidly as the progress of the vessel leaves the "log" behind her. In the meantime, a third man stands by with a glass shaped like an hour glass, containing a small quantity of sand, enough, in our case, to run from one end of the glass to the other in fourteen seconds. As soon as the "log" is cast into the water, and has run out a proper length of line, the officer having it in charge, as he reels out the line, calls to the man holding the glass, "turn," and he turns the empty end of the glass downward, and the sand commences to run. When the sand has run through, the man with the glass cries "stop," and the line is stopped running; the number of "knots," which have run from the wheel in fourteen seconds is noted, and it is announced that the vessel is sailing that many "knots," or nautical miles, per hour. If I have made this operation of "heaving the log" intelligible, your knowledge of mathematics will perhaps enable you to ascertain the rule by which the rate of a vessel's sailing in hours is ascertained. The length of a sea mile is 6120 feet.

In my next, which I will endeavor to make up as we progress on our voyage, I will describe to you the "rights" and other matters of interest in our experience from New York to Buenos Ayres.

Affectionately, your brother,

STRANGE J. PALMER.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

WASHINGTON CITY, October 30th, 1861.

The disaster at Leesburg still continues to make up the principal theme of discussion, and however untrue and exaggerated the accounts may be, enough has been learned from impartial participants in this unfortunate engagement, to establish a charge of either incompetence or wilful neglect against the officer in command, gifted, and intrepid Baker was sensible of the inadequacy of the force he led into the fight, is pretty well established by the singularly prophetic language he used on the eve of *before* entering upon the perilous duties of the expedition. "In a few friends he remarked, after examining the order to cross the river, *"I'll do it, but it's my death warrant."* Common prudence dictated the necessity of the importance of military discipline to a closer order; and when, in the midst of the fight, while the "iron hail" fell fast and thick among the ranks of his brave, fearless little band, his voice was heard, high above the din and roar of the conflict, encouraging his men to press onward and forward, and not to run until he did." One of the orders found in his hat after his death, deeply stained with blood, may throw some light on the question, which was as follows:

"TO GEN. BAKER—P. M.—SIR:—Soon as you get your forces in position make a dash at Leesburg; and shoot down any line of resistance that may be in the road. Gen. Gowman is moving up on the left, and I expect to be in possession of Leesburg to-night. STONE."

There is certainly a mystery connected with the management of this affair, and whether it was premeditated or not, those who are deeply interested in the valuable lives of the brave men contributed to help restore the supremacy of this government, and thus explore its repetition will never occur again. The effects of disasters of this kind are incalculable; they are not only likely to discourage the rank and file of the army, but reschake the efforts of our enemies. Our cause is a just, Godlike one, and of its eventually being triumphant, none but the traitorous and fearful will doubt. Our capability is ample to establish the supremacy of our this rebellion, if properly brought into action, and is ready to-day, to march successfully on to Richmond," and from there to the Rio Grande, if our officers but have the requisite ability and direct it. With the entire energy manifested by officers of all the different grades of the army, that there is at the head of the civil and military departments of government, these mistakes would not occur, but the backbone of secession would have been broken long ago. I am not disposed to criticise, nor to find fault, but at the same time, cannot refrain—as other true loyal citizens have already done—expressing my suspicion of the loyalty and patriotism of man; who are wearing the "epaulette" before they shouldered the musket.

The Potomac is still controlled by rebel batteries, so as to obtice all the vessels bound for this port, to return and discharge their cargoes at Annapolis and Baltimore. This is a rather humiliating, in view of the fact that in forty miles of the blockade, our army of very near three hundred thousand men. This interruption of trade on the Potomac, is having a very bad effect, and is operating very injuriously upon the business in this district. Our means of importation are now limited to the one horse railroad, between the point and Baltimore, those especially in sufficient to be devoted to the business of the Government. Provisions and other necessaries of life are not only becoming scarce, but commanding the most exorbitant prices. Fine wood, is selling at $12½ per cord, a cold cord at $10 per cord.

Our advices from Missouri and Western Virginia as well as from Kentucky, are of the most encouraging character. Fremont is doing good service, and from the movements, assuring his friends, that he is far from if left alone, to meet their expectations of him. General Kelley's brilliant victory at Romney, reaches us with the most welcome effect, and they inspire confidence in our brave army, wherever it is encamped. From Kentucky, the accounts are very favorable; the home and seat vesting place of the immortal Clay, will soon be rescued from the treacherous grasp of secession; the control of such men as Crittenden, Holt, and the brave Senator Andrew Johnson from Tennessee will soon be gloriously reinstated. As long as their clarion voices are heard in defence of this Government, our hopes for the restoration of this Union will never be dispelled. Long live such brave, self-sacrificing patriots as these. Politicians may forget them, but the great heart of the American people never will.

Capt. John Wideman, of Lebanon, Penna., reached this city last week, with a fine company of cavalry, intended to join Col. Campbell's 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, which is now encamped near the city. Capt. Wideman has had some military experience, and is all respects, is made of the right material to make an efficient officer. No braver man will draw a sword in this war, and besides with the best of abilities. His big, magnanimous heart, will, under all circumstances, be constantly alive to the wants and comforts of his men. I predict a brilliant career for Capt. Wideman's company.

The President has issued his proclamation to the Marshal of this District, for the seizure of certain property belonging to some of the chivalry, formerly of this city, now to the Rebel army; this step is taken in accordance with the late confiscation act. This is right. The best way after all, of reaching the consciences of men is through their pockets.

The head of Col. Ricket has been unclaimed, and placed in a fine bronze metallic case, which will be sent to New York to-day, and thence to California.

Nothing of importance up to this date from the other side of the river.

TREMONT.

The Slavery Question.

Action of Religious Bodies.

[The General Synod of "The United Presbyterian Church"—a large, wealthy, and influential body—at its recent meeting in Allegheny City, Pa., adopted the following among other resolutions:]

Resolved, That while as Christian men and patriots we unhesitatingly support our National Government in the effective administration of its laws, and our military measures, that we trace our present national difficulties mainly to slavery; that by this, and our other sins, . . . we have offended God, and there is no hope for us but in repentance and return to Him; that we recognize that our repentance cannot be acceptable to God, unless we, as a nation, break off our sins, unless we acknowledge Him and His law and providence, and ceasing to countenance the accursed system of slavery, endeavor by all means in our power to carry into effect the law of the Bible, "to loose the bands of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that we break every yoke," and remembering that "righteousness exalteth a nation," and that "sin is a reproach to any people," in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of our National Independence, seek to vindicate every man in the enjoyment of his rights as a man.

Resolved, That the Slave Power, by inaugurating this wicked rebellion against the Government has forfeited all claim to any protection or toleration of its peculiar institution; and as the most speedy way of establishing justice, insuring domestic tranquility, and suppressing the rebellion, we approve of the manumission, by military proclamation, of the slaves; and the confiscation of all the property of those found in arms against the Government; if in all the military districts in which our commanding officers now have, or may hereafter have, military jurisdiction.

[The Reformed (Germanic) Presbytery of Pittsburg, at its recent meeting, adopted the following resolutions:]

Resolved, That whatever may be its present complexion, Slavery is the primary cause of the war which is now distracting our country—prostrating its commercial, and every other interest.

Resolved, That this war is the infliction of the just chastisement of God upon our country and upon our government, for their aiding and abetting the nefarious sin of human bondage.

Resolved, That American slavery is radically and essentially wrong, and "no possible contingency can ever make it right;" that it involves the horrid crimes of robbery, oppression, concubinage, and murder; and stands alone in antagonism to the love of humanity and the laws of God.

Resolved, That we pledge our support to the government so long as it conducts the present war on the principle of hostility to slavery, believing, as we do, that as long as slavery exists we never can have peace.

Resolved, That, in time of rebellion, military authority takes the places of all municipal institutions—*slavery among the rest!* That the President of the United States, taking advantage of the enemy unless of war, has power to order the manumission of the slaves held by the rebels, and that in doing so he would be acting for the "general welfare," in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution; that military commanders possess the same power in their respective districts, and that we deprecate any Executive or official interference that would go to nullify any such proclamations which have been, or may be made.

[The Philadelphia Baptist Association, at its recent session adopted the following resolution, among others of true ringing patriotism:]

Resolved, That in our present national troubles we recognize the judgment of Heaven upon our national sin, and, while we loathe the cause, we confess that in all of human slavery, and earnestly pray for the time when, in some wise and just way, the last vestige of the evil shall be banished from our land.

The Tribune View of the Matter.

The *Tribune*—by the pen, it is supposed, of Mr. Greeley himself—sets forth its view of the war in its relations to slavery, as follows:

Our own views of the matter may be succinctly set forth as follows:

1. Slavery is the primary and animating cause of this atrocious rebellion, which has not a single partisan who is not also a devotee to slavery; while very few devotees of slavery are not also partisans of the rebellion. But for slavery, there would not now be a seceded State nor a regiment in arms against the Union.

II. The white opponents of the rebellion in the States which claim to have seceded from the Union are practically silenced—temporarily dumb. Thousands of them have been drafted or dragooned into the rebel armies; hundreds of thousands more have been made to contribute largely of their substance to sustain these armies. The Union has scarcely one open advocate within the territory claimed by the rebellion.

III. Now it will be found exceedingly difficult—we do not say impossible, but very difficult—to conquer ten million of people who, to all practical intents, are unanimous in upholding their cause. That, at a decree of emancipation go forth from the National Capital, and four of these ten millions are at once transformed into slaves and servile allies of the hostile republic. They will all hear of such decree within a fortnight after its issue, and will know how they are affected by it; and from that moment the monstrous rebel lie that the Federal troops mean to kill them, will have to be believed them as slaves in Central America, etc., will be as the idle wind. They will be constantly planning escapes to points occupied by the Union forces; the dominant race will be compelled to be distrustful and watch them, and will be paralysed by fears of servile insurrections. In short, from the hour in which the decree of emancipation shall go forth, the four million slaves will be ranged on the side of the Union, and will have become an element of positive and alarming weakness.

IV. These facts and considerations being patent and palpable to us and our most intelligent Hankers who still love the Union more than slavery having been swept by the current to the point of saying, "If the rebellion cannot be put down without emancipation, it shall be by emancipation," we are utterly indisposed to hurry matters. We do not judge the government; we prefer to follow and support it. The rebels may see fit to succumb in season to save slavery; or they may possibly be conquered without the aid which a decree of emancipation would inevitably bring to the national side. If not, and two or three more defeats are necessary to educate the loyal mind of the country up to the decisive point, we may regret the necessity, but shall defer to it. It suffices us for the present that the most blood-red Hunkerism at length sees that we can have four millions of the rebels' slaves against them, and will be paralysed by fears of servile insurrections. In short, from the hour in which the decree of emancipation shall go forth, the four million slaves will have ceased to be an element of strength to the rebellion, and will have become an element of positive and alarming weakness.

V. These facts and considerations being patent and palpable to us and our most intelligent Hunkers who still love the Union more than slavery having been swept by the current to the point of saying, "If the rebellion cannot be put down without emancipation, it shall be by emancipation," we are utterly indisposed to hurry matters. We do not judge the government; we prefer to follow and support it. The rebels may see fit to succumb in season to save slavery; or they may possibly be conquered without the aid which a decree of emancipation would inevitably bring to the national side. If not, and two or three more defeats are necessary to educate the loyal mind of the country up to the decisive point, we may regret the necessity, but shall defer to it. It suffices us for the present that the most blood-red Hunkerism at length sees that we can have four millions of the rebels' slaves against them, and will be paralysed by fears of servile insurrections. In short, from the hour in which the decree of emancipation shall go forth, the four million slaves will have ceased to be an element of strength to the rebellion, and will have become an element of positive and alarming weakness.

A Short War or a Long One?

We wish merely to present a practical question. We address the people—the future tax payers for this war. The question is, will we have *a hundred millions of dollars*, or shall we have seven hundred or a thousand millions? Will you have a war of one year—perhaps even of less time, or a war of two, three, or more years? Shall we have a doubtful issue? It is not a question of theory; it has nothing to do with political contests; it is a simple question of fact and figures. All you—farmers, mechanics, merchants, clergymen, lawyers, and others—you have a national debt which can be easily paid, or will you load yourselves and all your posterity with immense burdens? Will you have thriving industry and commerce? Shall it be checked, industry discouraged, and blood and treasure poured out for one year, or for many years? Shall fire and sword ravage our fields? Shall ships haul up our exports? Shall privateers consume our commerce? Shall war and civil wrath burn between one State and another for twelve months, or shall all these things be extended for an indefinite period? Shall we be able to cope the pity and the decision of all nations for a short season, or for an undetermined length of time? A short war or a long one!—that is the question.

It is plain to the mind of the least discernment, that a *Declaration of Emancipation* under the war power must make a short war. It secures *four millions of allies*—it strikes terror into every county and district, thus the Southern armies would dissolve like the snows in April—each company or regiment seeking its own homesteads to guard and protect them. If the negroes never struck a blow, emancipation would secure us victory, from the panic it would cause in the rebel ranks.

But we may be sure, by thousands of agencies, the fact of emancipation will be known to the negroes. Secret fugitives hired for the purpose, and especially by those unscrupulous means through which now the negroes of one district know so well what is going on in another. Upon the immediate consequences of such a proclamation—the employment of black regiments—would soon be trumpeted through all the dark regions of slavery. All foreign observers and all unprejudiced home observers, agree that such a course would speedily end the war. It is true that some loyal men in the rebel States might suffer through it, but that they must accept, even as we do at the North, who pay and suffer for the slaveholders' crimes. It is possible, also, it might strengthen for our cause in Kentucky. But the loyalists there would certainly be made to understand that the country will be generous toward the few faithful among the slaveholders, and fully compensate them for their share in the loss occasioned. But whatever the few loyal slaveholders in Kentucky may think, that our hard-working mechanics and farmers should take additional years of civil war, and pay increased taxes, and shed their blood by, or with their consent, they might protect their infernal property? What grand service to humanity or to this republic has Southern slavery done, that we should be willing to let our leaders lose the war for years, in order that its supremacy might be secured?

Let us have done with this timid, childish, technical policy, and understand the meaning of the times. Our people are ready—more than ready—to support with men and money the government up to the crisis. They must *demand*—in tones which cannot be misunderstood—a Declaration of Emancipation under the war power, for the sake of shortening the war. Let the Administration bear it through ten thousand presses and pulpits, from mass-meetings in the centres of commerce, from societies, and from legislatures. Let a grand public opinion be formed, which shall sustain our government in its momentous measure. Thus, and thus only, can we secure a speedy peace.—*Charles L. Brace, in the Independent.*

Efforts to break up the Slave Trade.

In concert with the government, Marshal Murray has recently perfected in Washington arrangements to baffle the purpose of those slave-traders, who, driven from this port, are attempting to establish a slave trade abroad. The recent condemnation of the Sarah and Augusta, and the safe-keeping of important witnesses in the new House of Detention, have thrown the merchants of Cuba into such a panic that they have virtually abandoned the business of outfitting in this country. As a last resort, they have determined to transfer their operations to ports like Marseilles and Havre, where the peculiar difference between the cargoes of whalers and slaveships is not so well understood as in this port. Each steamer to Havana and Europe for some time past has carried many of the piratical navy from the New Hampshire shores; and, if we may not have the satisfaction of seeing many of them vigorously punished for their crimes, we can rest assured that they are thoroughly watched by the energetic action of Mr. Murray, the pestilent crew have been driven out of the country. The government has recently sent instructions to all our consuls at Foreign ports to refuse clearances to vessels from this country whose legitimate cargoes may be discharged and replaced by others of a certain description. This it would seem, must be a death-blow to the most accursed traffic in which civilized or savage men have engaged.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

A gentleman just arrived from Cuba reports that every steamer from the Northern States brings persons heretofore engaged in the slave trade, whose business has been ruined by the United States Marshals. These men throng the cafés and the liquor houses, and express the strongest disgust at the name of Murray.

They declare that the entire prosperity of the American government has depended upon New York as one of her richest sources of wealth; that her first citizens had embarked capital in the slave trade and realized handsomely.

It is said that a slave brig, recently equipped at Liverpool, obtained a clearance, and without being detected by the authorities.—*Evening Post.*

FROM NEW MEXICO we learn that there are 3500 volunteers in service there.

THE Rebel steamer George Page is aground up the Quantico Creek.

GEN. MCCLELLAN has issued an order for the shooting of four soldiers found guilty of sleeping at their picket posts.

GEN. HEINTZELMAN of the Missouri State Militia, on Monday met 400 Rebels near Fulton, Calloway co., and compelled them to surrender without firing a gun.

THE Navy Department has just ordered 500 more rifled cannon, and immense quantities of shot and shell are in the course of preparation for the service of our fleet.

WE have cheering news from Missouri. On Friday, Gen. Fremont's body guard, 700 strong, attacked 2,200 Rebels in Springfield, drove them from the town, seized the National flag on the Court House, then retired upon their main encampment. They expected to fall on upon the town on Saturday. The rebels are feeble at all points in that State.

We cannot refrain from calling the attention of our readers to an advertisement in this day's paper of the "Hair Restorative" of Prof. O. J. Wood & Co., of St. Louis. It will be seen that he has numerous certificates from persons of the highest character, to the mer