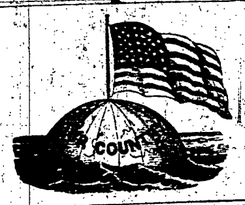
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1862.



THE ACKER LIBEL PROSECUTION.

In our last we noticed the fact that the Grand Jury of this County had ignored the bill of indictment preferred by Henry L. Acker, editor of the Democratic *Standard*,—a Breckinridge organ of the County of Schuylkill—charging the senior editor of the MINERS' JOURNAL, with perpetrating a libel upon the fair fame of the said Henry L. Acker. As the public is deeply interested in this prosecution, and in the manner of its termination, we esteem it our duty to lay the case in its important details, before the taxpayers and friends of the Government.

The alleged libel consisted in publishing the fact, that it was rumored that the said Henry L. Acker was a defaulter to the Government, while holding the position of Postmaster of the Borough of Pottsville, under the Administration of President Buchanan. That publication was made upon the authority of persons who had been commissioned by the Post Office Department at Washington, to investigate the accounts of the said Acker, and facts connected therewith; and the truth of the statement made by us, was not doubted by any. It was known at the time of the publication, by Acker's leading abettors in the subsequent prosecution, that his bail had been called upon to make up the amount of the alleged defalcation, and they resolved to attempt to muzzle the press, and intimidate its editors from noticing the fact of the alleged fraud upon the Government. The prosecution was unquestionably, deliberately urged by the supporters of the Breckinridge organ. Who else possessed motives for such a prosecution? That the senior editor of the JOURNAL, incurred inconvenience and expense, in preparing a defence necessary, to so grave a charge as a libel upon a fellow-editor, is true; but we hold that no editor can fully discharge his duty, and shrink from giving to the public what is proper for its information, from apprehension that guilty parties will institute legal proceedings that might at least, put him to the expense of a defence. Such shall never be the position of the editors of this journal.—In the case under notice, in preparing his defence, the senior editor of this paper was obliged to have recourse to the records and amounts as they stand in the Post Office Department at Washington. Those accounts as inspected by us, show a balance due the Department, by Henry L. Acker, late Postmaster of the Borough of Pottsville, of $1,390 38, with interest from April 20, 1861.—In addition thereto, there is the following significant entry in those accounts:

> This sum being stamps erroneously credited in account for first quarter, 1861, per order of Third Assistant Post-master General, bearing date Feb. 21, 1861, and now re-charged per order of said Third Assistant Post-master General, and dated Oct. 8th, 1861, revoking said erroneous order of the 21st of February, on account of fraud. ..... $1060 00.

This entry constitutes a direct charge of fraud against Henry L. Acker, in procuring a credit of $1000 for stamps alleged to have been burned. But this entry would not, and did not cover the defalcations of this official. He stood in the Post Office Department, at the time of the alleged libel, and still stands a culpable defaulter to the Government, and apparently, intends to remain in that position, else instead of expending his forces and means in unfounded prosecutions against the unshackled freedom of the press, he would foot up the amount of his defalcations to the Government.

Why does this man not pay up to the Government, in this time of need, what he is fraudulently detaining from it? The reason is plain. The supporters of the Breckinridge organ, extol him for the act, because this is one of two effective modes of destroying a Government. One is to rob a Government of its means of defence; the other, to subdue it by force. Who are more extolled by the Breckinridge party of the South, than the robbers of the Government in the Buchanan Administration, headed by that Prince of Thieves, Floyd? Why should the same party in the North, not extol acts which subtract from the means of the Government the money to pay the defenders of the country? This Breckinridge party clamors incessantly against war taxes, while it robs the public treasury, thus rendering taxation the more urgent. Characteristic! As a reward for the clever act of the ex-Postmaster and editor of the *Standard*, the party will no doubt, take him to its bosom; nurse him tenderly, and, finally, place him where he can have greater facilities to repeat the operation on a more extensive scale. Already he is spoken of for promotion.

This party saved him from the payment of the costs of his unfounded and malicious prosecution, and put those costs upon the tax payers of the County. If the prosecution was unfounded, as was certainly, determined, the costs of such a prosecution should not have been put upon the tax-payers. It is not evident that his supporters approve of his taking and keeping the funds of the Government, and that it is their purpose to support him or any one else of their party, who may be reckless or bold enough in the future, to do the same thing?

Tax-payers, spurn these miserable partizans from your presence, with loathing and contempt. When they prate to you about taxation to carry on this war, point them to the acts of the men of their party who stole the arms of the Government, and fired on our dear old flag at Fort Sumter: point to the money stolen by their partizans, and resolve like a patriot to support the Government, and cheerfully to contribute your quota to pay those noble men who have gone forth, with their lives literally in their hands, to defend the best form of government in Christendom.

THE SYMPATHY OF NORTHERN BRECKINRIDGERS WITH THE REBELS.

How anxious the Breckinridge leaders and journals of the North are, to cherish in every way, the fidelity and the utility of the rebels to the Democratic party and cause. The integrity of the country; its unsullied honor; peace in the future; strength at home, and respect abroad, are matters of secondary importance to these partizans. They see the rebellion in its death-throes, and their energies in and out of Congress, are devoted to attempts to save their Southern friends from the punishment they merit, and their party from dissolution. How hollow their professions of loyalty, when their practices are so palpably at variance with them. We will give an instance.

In the House on the 4th inst., Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, reported from the Judiciary Committee, a substitute for House bill No. 371, declaring traitors ineligible to office under the Government. This bill as reported and acted on—and the material provisions of which had been prepared by Mr. Maynard of Tennessee—a border State slaveholder) substantially provides

> That any person elected or appointed to any office of honor or profit under the Government of the United States, either in the civil, military, or naval department, shall, before entering on the duties of such office, and before being entitled to any of the salary or other emoluments thereof, take and subscribe an oath that he had never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States since he had been a citizen thereof; had voluntarily given no aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility thereto; had never sought, accepted, or attempted to exercise the functions of any office whatever under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the Government of the United States; that he had neither voluntarily renounced his allegiance to the Government of the United States, nor yielded a voluntary support to any pretended government, authority, power, or constitution hostile or inimical thereto; that he will support and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States, and all laws made in pursuance thereof, against all enemies, foreign or domestic; bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that he takes the obligation without any mental reservation or evasion; and that he will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which he is about to enter. This oath is to be preserved among the files of the Court, House of Congress, or Department to which such office may appertain; and any person falsely taking such oath shall be guilty of perjury, and on conviction thereof shall, in addition to the penalties now prescribed, be deprived of his office, and rendered incapable forever thereafter of holding any office under the Government of the United States."

The bill was passed by the following vote:

YEAS.—Messrs. Aldrich, Alley, Arnold, Ashley, Baker, Baxter, Bingham, Buffington, Chandler, Clark, Colfax, Frederick A. Conkling, Roscoe Conkling, Corwin, Davis, Dawes, Delano, Duell, Dunn, Edwards, Ely, Fessenden, Frank, Frelinghuysen, Goodwin, Granger, Gurley, Hale, Harrison, Hoover, Horton, Hutchins, Kelley, Francis W. Kellogg, William Kellogg, Lansing, Lovejoy, Loomis, McKnight, McPherson, Maynard, Mitchell, Anson P. Morrill, Justin S. Morrill, Nixon, Timothy G. Phelps, Pike, Pomeroy, Porter, Potter, Alexander H. Rice, John H. Rice, Riddle, Edward H. Rollins, Sargent, Sedgwick, Shanks, Shellabarger, Sloan, Spaulding, Stephens, Stratton, Train, Trowbridge, Upson, Van Horn, Van Valkenburg, Verree, Wall, Walton, Washburne, Albert S. White, Wilson, Windom, and Worcester—73.

All Republicans but MAYNARD.]

NAYS.—Messrs. William J. Allen, Ancona, Jacob B. Blair, George H. Brown, Calvert, Casey, Cobb, Corning, Cox, English, Grider, Haight, Harding, Holman, Jolt or, Kenyon, Knapp, Law, May, Menzies, Noble, Noell, Norton, Nugen, Pendleton, John S. Phelps, Richardson, Robinson, James S. Rollins, Segar, Shiel, Smith, John B. Steele, Stiles, Benjamin F. Thomas, Francis Thomas, Vallandigham, Ebhard, Voorhees, Wadsworth, Ward, Chilton A. White, Wickliffe, and Woodruff—47.

[All Democrats and Border-State men but Thomas of Massachusetts.]

The provisions of the bill which, in the eyes of every loyal man, are just and proper, are voted against to a man, by the Democrats in Congress, and their course is applauded by the organs of the party.

Pennsylvanians—citizens of Schuylkill county—your relatives and fellow-citizens are being shot down by the enemies of the country, yet in your midst miserable partizans and papers apologize for, and sympathise with the rebels. Shun these men as unworthy of association with you, and their views as unpatriotic and disloyal. Set it down as a fact, that the man who opposes adequate punishment of the slaveholders who have involved this country in civil war; caused the destruction of thousands of precious lives, and an expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars, is one who is himself, "fit for treason, stratagem, and spoils."

LINCOLN AND LABOR.

This is peculiarly a war of the slaveocracy against the dignity and rights of free labor, and it is a fortunate circumstance that at the head of the Administration of National affairs there is a man who sprung from the laboring classes. President Lincoln is honest, is able, is firm, is courteous and graceful in his intercourse with men, and among his good qualities is his sympathy with free labor. In his hands this war will be conducted to a successful termination, and one of the great results will be the permanent ennobling of free white labor.

The men who would degrade that labor and reduce the white workman to the condition of a slave, with no rights beyond that of the animal, have thrown down the gauntlet at the feet of free labor, and the present contest is between the two systems. That the result will be a vast step of free labor toward the Gulf we do not doubt. As the fertile lands of the sunny South are thrown open invitingly to our brawny sons of toil, and free institutions take the place of slave, that section of the country will enjoy a degree of prosperity never before experienced.

Every intelligent workingman knows that the assertion that the negro if emancipated and permitted to make his choice, will come North, is but a partizan falsehood framed for effect. The history of the negro proves that he will remain if allowed, in a warm climate—that a cold region has no attractions for him. A few from curiosity might come North, but the mass will either remain south or emigrate to Central America, Hayti or Liberia. It is certain that as free labor moves south it will almost entirely supplant negro labor.

What a prospect for the future, is held out to workingmen, if they maintain a position of firm support of their great, representative, Abraham Lincoln. He knows, intimately, the wants and wishes of the working classes; he has an interest in their prosperity, and no man would rather see the fertile lands and immense resources of the South in their hands, than the President. If his Administration shall be distinguished for no other policy, it will be great for its fostering care of free white labor as against the assaults and Rebellion of the Southern Slaveholders, who declare that white workingmen have no rights they are bound to respect.

"THE CHRISTIAN BANNER."—We are indebted to Lieut. J. A. Bonawitz, of Co. K, 6th Regiment, P. R. C., for a copy of this paper published at Fredericksburg, Va. The number before us is printed on brown paper, of bad quality at that, and the proprietor announces a threatened suspension, if he cannot obtain means to purchase paper and ink. For want of advertisements, and to save labor, he republishes his editorials of the week before.

From the copy before us we make the following editorial extracts, which are strong and to the point:

> Did not secessionists ignore their own principles when they tried to force their Army into the State of Maryland for the avowed purpose of coercing her out of the Union? Did they not ignore their own principles, when they tried to force Kentucky and Missouri out of the Union? Strange consistency! A party of leaders seize the public arms, and arm themselves to the very teeth, and thus armed, force the unarmed masses of the people to submit to their lordly behests and when the proper authorities of the country attempt to carry out the laws of the Constitution according to their sworn obligations, those leaders raise the hue and cry, there must be no coercion, when to force, or coerce all others in the enjoyment, systematic labor of their lives. Secession leaders are the men who inaugurated the system of coercion, and they are determined to keep it up until they force out and kill out every poor man in the South—the Confederacy, to save themselves from infamy and death.

> AFRICAN SLAVERY.—The fact can be no longer disguised that this war result as it may, African Slavery in Virginia is already virtually swept from her territory. If she would lay down her arms and return to the Union, her citizens might receive some remuneration for their servants from the Government. If the State would adopt a system of gradual emancipation. But unless this action is taken by Virginia, and that speedily, the slave population of the State will in a few years, under the most favorable circumstances, which can possibly be conceived, all be free. It requires no prophetic eye to see that this will be inevitable.

> If the war should continue in Virginia twelve months, or two years longer, there will scarcely be a slave in the whole State. Nor is this all; there will be but very few sons of Virginia left, to read the history of her woes, after the war shall have closed.

> Is it possible that Virginians are so blinded and prejudiced, as to be willing to sacrifice their children, their whole State, everything that is near and dear to a true patriot, for no better purpose than to try to establish a *negro oligarchy* in the Gulf States? And, are the poorer classes of the people, so profoundly ignorant as not to see, that the establishment of such a government would inevitably and forever, seal their own religious, social, and political degradation? Great God! What *white* man? What *freeman*? What *American citizen*, can tamely, meanly, and cowardly submit to be one the dupe of a system, so shockingly revolting to all the noble instincts of free-born, American citizens?

PROGRESS OF EMANCIPATION.—The Dutch have decided to abolish slavery in all their colonies by progressive emancipation. All the slaves in the Dutch American possessions are to be free on the first of July, 1863. We hope that before the date specified the same consummation will have been reached in the United States.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

ANNOUNCEMENT.—Just published, The Historical Pocket War Map, showing at a glance every battle field up to the present time. Likewise, in good plain type on the margin, is given a comprehensive authentic record of each battle, and the name and number of regiments engaged, from what State, &c., &c. Also, the number of killed and wounded, and which army was victorious.

The Map is in every respect complete and reliable for the entire Southern States and coast.

At this time the Historical Map will be found of great importance, as each battle-field is distinctly marked in colors, accompanied by the date and particulars. Its accuracy and convenience bespeak for it an immense sale. The publishers, Messrs. Asher & Co., Indianapolis, Ind., request us to say that the Map will be sold principally by agents, to whom liberal inducements will be given by applying to them immediately. Also, a sample copy will be sent, post paid, on receipt of 30 cents.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1862.—June.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.
			D. H. M.
14 SATURDAY,....	4 28	7 31	
15 SUNDAY,.....	4 28	7 32	First Q. 6 9 47 m.
16 MONDAY,.....	4 28	7 32	Full M. 13 1 21 m.
17 TUESDAY,.....	4 28	7 33	Third Q. 18 10 16 m.
18 WEDNESDAY,..	4 28	7 33	New M., 27 1 56 m.
19 THURSDAY,...	4 29	7 34	
20 FRIDAY,.....	4 29	7 34	

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

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

	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	
June 7—Saturday,	67°	75°	68°	clear.
" 8—Monday,	60	67	65	"
" 10—Tuesday,	57	65	60	cloudy.
" 11—Wednesday,	58	61	60	"
" 12—Thursday,	64	76	73	clear.
" 13—Friday,	74	78	76	"

☞ *Mim H. E. Sears*, M. D., who visited this Borough professionally, some years since, died in Hollidaysburg, Pa., on the 6th instant.

☞ *William Maize* and Frederick Brown have been honorably discharged from the service, and have returned home.

☞ *Fine Fresh Strawberries* for preserving can be obtained by sending orders to Greenwood Nursery, or leaving them at Bannan's Bookstore.

☞ *Frank Pott of*, this Borough, has been re-elected a director of the Lycoming County Mutual Insurance Company.

☞ *The Odd Fellows' Cemetery.*—A lot of ground for the interment of deceased soldiers, has been given gratis by the managers of this Cemetery, located in this Borough.

☞ The pipes of the Pottsville Water Company which were damaged at St. Clair by the late freshet, have been repaired, and the Borough has again a full supply of water.

☞ *The Mount Carbon Railroad* which was injured considerably in this Borough, by the late freshet, has been repaired and is again in running order. The work was expeditiously done.

☞ *A Truism.*—"Editors are never arrested for telling lies."—*Ex.*

Precisely. But tell some intolerable scoundrel the *truth*, and you'll soon have a "libel case" to answer.

☞ *At Work.*—The Breckinridge wire-pullers are getting themselves into working order for the fall election. The leading strings will be "Taxes," "Abolitionists," "War Debt," "Peace," and "Compromise."

☞ *Patriotic Orwigsburg.*—The little village of Orwigsburg, this County, containing about 800 inhabitants, has sent as volunteers to fight for the Union, 29 men. Three cheers and a tiger for Orwigsburg!

☞ *The Fourth of July* will be observed with great enthusiasm throughout the country this year. Pottsville should move at once in the matter. Let us have the Declaration read, an Oration delivered, patriotic songs, etc. It is now less than four weeks to the time.

☞ *The Reading Railroad* roadway at the freight and passenger depots in this Borough, which was injured to some extent by the freshet, has been repaired. The cars were detained but a day or two, from reaching the Borough. The work of repairing was promptly attended to, as it always is on this well managed road.

☞ *On Monday* next, afternoon and evening, Gardner & Hemming's Circus will exhibit here. The company is said to be excellent; the clown we know to be funny; the horses and ponies are well trained, and the entire performance will it is said, be fresh and interesting. Of course the spacious tent will be crowded on Monday.

☞ *Returned Prisoners.*—The following members of the 15th Regiment, P. V., who were captured at Falling Waters, on the 2d of July, 1861, have been released. Some of them belong to Minersville, this County, and have reached home. They do not give the most flattering description of rebel accommodations:

J. Wooley, J. Thomas, G. Went, C. Schlotterbeck, H. Sharkey, A. Saylor, G. W. Walters, G. Thresto, J. Wilson, J. Williams, D. S. Sibert, G. W. Threkeld.

☞ "*Can you* tell me," asked a blooming lass, of a suitor, "what ship carries more passengers than the Great Eastern?" "Well, madam, I really don't think I can." "Why, it is courtship," replied the maiden, with a conscious blush.—When that lass is launched on the sea of matrimony, we'll wager that she will give another proof of her smartness by ordering all her glass and queensware from the store of Mr. Houghton, Arcade Building, Centre street, because he sells a good article cheap.

☞ *Explosion of Fire Damp.*—On the 4th inst., an explosion of fire damp, caused by incautiously opening a safety lamp, took place in the mines of Llewellyn & Clark, in Norwegian Township. Mr. Llewellyn Llewellyn, one of the proprietors, was seriously injured on the face and head, but it is thought, will recover. A miner named Thomas Lewis, and a boy named William Mead, were also injured, but not badly. A horse harnessed to a wagon in the gangway, was also injured.

☞ *Wounded During the Retreat of General Banks.*—Lord B. Overbeck, son of Jacob B. Overbeck of this Borough, a private in the 46th Regiment, P. V., Col. Knipe, that distinguished itself greatly, during the recent masterly retreat of Gen. Banks to the Potomac, was wounded during a fight which the retreating column had at Winchester, with the Rebels. Mr. Overbeck was wounded in the thigh. He arrived here on Monday last, and is now at the residence of his father. He expects to be able to rejoin his regiment in about a month.

☞ *The 7th Penna. Cavalry.*—A despatch dated Nashville, Tenn., June 8, states:

Six hundred of Stearns's rebel cavalry attacked sixty scouts of Lester's Third Minnesota, while breakfasting near Reading, twelve miles from Murfreesboro', killing six and capturing all the rest but five. The rebels afterwards murdered several of their prisoners. The scouts belonged to Wynkoop's Cavalry.

We learn that about twenty of Wynkoop's Cavalry were captured; but it is thought none were from this County.

☞ *A Noble Act.*—During the retreat of Gen. Banks, Brigade Surgeon Peale of this County, voluntarily surrendered himself to the enemy in the hospital at Winchester, for the care of the sick and wounded placed under his charge.—Several other surgeons did the same thing. In the language of Gen. Banks in his official report, "It is seldom that men are called upon to make a greater sacrifice of comfort, health, and liberty for the benefit of those entrusted to their charge. Services and sacrifices like these ought to entitle them to some more important recognition of their devotion to public duty than the mere historical record of the fact." Very true.

☞ *Melancholy Occurrence.*—On Saturday last, Stanley, son of John W. Roseberry, Esq., of this Borough, aged 10 years, was accidentally drowned while bathing in the lower dam at Tumbling Run. A son of Mr. Womelsdorf who was in the vicinity, made an effort to rescue the lad at some risk to himself. It seems that Stanley who could not swim, was paddling near the bank on a small raft; that it got, before he was aware of it, some distance from the shore in deep water; that he became alarmed, and jumping in was drowned. Stanley was a remarkably intelligent, promising lad, and the stroke upon his parents is severe. They have our sympathy in their bereavement.

☞ *Presentation of a Flag.*—The Gov. Curtin flag which we recently described, was presented to Capt. Wagner at Schuylkill Haven, in the Collector's office, on the 3d inst., by Mr. John H. Guerlier. Mr. W. A. Field made an eloquent and patriotic address, receiving the flag, and replying for C. Wagner. He eulogized the fervent patriotism of the illustrious and eminent Chief of the armies of Pennsylvania. All present were highly pleased and gave repeated cheers for the President, the Governor, and for the Union. Mr. Wagner invited his friends to partake of a collation at the Washington Hall. Everything passed off pleasantly.

☞ When we viewed the Mill Creek Road above St. Clair, last week, after the freshet, we considered that it would take pretty sharp work to put it in running order again throughout its entire length, in two weeks. But the active Engineer of the Road, Mr. H. K. Nichols, has succeeded in doing it in considerably less time. He commenced work on the Road on Thursday of last week, and to-day it can ship coal from Mr. Reppler's mines. When it is considered that six hundred and thirty feet of bridging and cribbing were constructed in five days, the fact becomes still more creditable to the exertions of the Engineer of the Road.

☞ *Three trains* run daily on the Schuylkill Valley Road, morning, noon and evening, to Tuscarora, and will continue until the Little Schuylkill Road which connects the Reading and Catawissa roads, is again in running order. The Schuylkill Valley road, is now the only connection for passengers, between the Reading and Catawissa roads.

☞ *Eclipse of the Moon.*—A total eclipse of the moon, visible over the whole United States, took place on Wednesday night last. The weather here was not favorable for a view, clouds and rain being the order of the night. We presume however, that it came off according to the programme. In Philadelphia they had a clear sky, and enjoyed the performance hugely, according to the papers.

☞ *Soft.*—It was reported last week that Mr. Peter Bowman, coal operator, formerly of this Borough, had with his family, been drowned below Mauch Chunk last week, during the terrible flood. We are really very happy to correct the rumor. Mr. Bowman and his family are safe and entirely uninjured. Mr. B.'s nephew, Oliver, had however, a very narrow escape. He was in his store at Parrysville, when he was washed away, but succeeded in getting out on the furnace bridge uninjured. The news of the safety of this interesting family, the members of which have many friends here, will be received with pleasure.

☞ *Opinion Abroad, of the Recent Breckinridge Meeting in this County.*—"Occasional," the able Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*, writes under date of June 10, as follows:

Painful as it was to contemplate the false and disloyal spirit that pervaded the late meeting of the so called Democratic Convention of Schuylkill County, headed by the Hon. F. W. Hughes, who, as a delegate to the Charleston National Convention in 1860, gave all his energies to the men who were even then plotting the overthrow of the Democratic party as one of the means to consummate the overthrow of the Union, I rejoice that there is another tribunal before which the great issues involved in this fearful struggle are to be tried. A convention is not an election, and the chiefs of the Breckinridge organization in the loyal States must prepare to render an account of their stewardship to an indignant people.

☞ *What is Wanted for the Wounded.*—The "Ladies' Aid of Philadelphia," at Fortress Monroe, have appealed as follows, by dispatch dated June 4th:

"Mosquito netting, by the thousand yards, is greatly needed; shirts, sheets, old or new; arnica tincture, and all kinds of stimulants demanded by the terrible exigency of the times. No time for loyal women to idle or indulge self, when our sons and brothers, by thousands, need their kind offices. You cannot know half; be assured that it is the time to tax every energy and all our resources."

Any of the above named articles, directed to the "Ladies' Aid of Philadelphia," and hospital supplies of every kind, will be thankfully received, on Friday, at the rooms, Twelfth and Walnut streets, between the hours of 9 A. M. and 6 P. M., or at 701 Walnut street, on any day of the week. Articles sent will be forwarded without delay.

☞ *Killed in the Battle of Fair Oaks.*—Benjamin Franklin Jones, of this Borough, who was in the three months' service, in Co. H, 25th Reg. P. V., and subsequently entered the three years service, in Captain Beaton Smith's Company, 52d Reg., P. V., Col. Dodge, was killed at the recent battle of Fair Oaks, in Virginia, by a musket ball through the body. His regiment distinguished itself greatly in the battle, and suffered severely, losing one hundred and nineteen men, killed, wounded and missing. Mr. Jones was 20 years of age at the time of his death; was a son of the late John J. Jones, school teacher, and brother-in-law of Capt. Smith, who feels the loss severely, as young Jones was 1st sergeant of the Company, an excellent soldier, and an exemplary man. We knew his worth well, as we had full opportunity of observing him during the three months' campaign.

☞ *Died from His Injuries.*—Mr. Lewis Rank an employe of the *Standard* office, who was burned by the explosion at the recent fire at Mr. Bright's store, died from the effects of his injuries, at the residence of Mrs. Busbar, in this Borough, on Wednesday evening last, aged 20 years. At first hopes were entertained that he would recover, and through the unremitting kindness and attention of the lady to whose house he was transferred after the accident, such a result was probable. This week however, a change for the worse, took place, and the unfortunate young man died as stated. On Thursday his remains were conveyed to Jonestown, Lebanon County, his native place, and were attended to the depot in this Borough, by the printers and many citizens. Mr. Rank had been a resident of our Borough about six months, and was highly esteemed by his friends and acquaintances.

☞ *The Rush for Office.*—At the County meeting of the *Breckinridgers* held on Monday of last week, the following *applicants* for office at the ensuing election were in attendance:—1 candidate for United States Senate, 3 candidates for Congress, 17 candidates for the Assembly, 5 candidates for Associate Judge, 13 candidates for County Commissioner, (including one *standing candidate* since 1853,) 4 candidates for District Attorney, 7 candidates for Director of the Poor, 4 candidates for Coroner, 2 candidates for County Surveyor, 3 candidates for Auditor, besides 7 standing applicants for Tip staves, 5 candidates for Court Cries, (in the place of Major J. H. Downing, who, we are happy to say, is rapidly recovering from his recent indisposition, and got as near his dissolution as some interested folks suppose him to be,) also several *defaulting* Ex-County Treasurers, a number of old democratic Tax Collectors, who collected the money from the people many years ago, but instead of paying it into the Treasury, put it into their own *pockets*, and a host of other *disinterested patriots*, who took to the party in future for nominations for Sheriff, Prothonotary, County Treasurer, &c.

☞ *The Sufferers at St. Clair by the Recent Freshet.*—At a meeting of the citizens of St. Clair, held on Tuesday evening last, to devise ways and means to relieve the sufferers in that Borough, by the late flood, Rev. Mr. Allen, and Messrs. Whitfield and Slobig were appointed a committee to investigate the extent of the damage to private sufferers, and the amount that will require to relieve them; and the Rev. Mr. Allen and Messrs Jones, Jenkin s, Yeo, and Hughes, were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions.

On Wednesday the committee of investigation discovered that over one thousand dollars would be required to enable the families that have suffered, to go to housekeeping—some having lost everything, and being dependant upon public charity. The people of St. Clair have resolved to do their utmost to relieve these distressed people, and the citizens of Pottsville are asked to help them also. We cannot think that the appeal will be disregarded by our proverbial, by wholesouled people. Next week some of the Committees named above, will visit this Borough to solicit subscriptions, and we trust that they will be welcomed. Those who wish to assist, and do not see the members of the Committee, can send their donations to any one of them, or to Mr. John Dawson, Treasurer.

The pastor of the Episcopal Church of St. Clair, has already received $27 77 from Rev. Mr. Washburn, it being the amount of the collection taken for this purpose last Sunday morning, in Trinity Church, Pottsville. We shall be happy to receive the reports of the Committee, upon the completion of their labors.

☞ *Extraordinary Performance of a Coal Burning Engine.*—We find the following in the Reading *Gazette and Democrat* of the 7th inst:

A MODEL ENGINE AND ENGINEER.—The superiority of the Mechinery, consisting of the Reading Railroad Company at their shops in this city, has recently been amply demonstrated. by the remarkable performance of the "Hiawatha," designed by and built under the direction of James Millholland, Esq., Master Machinist of the company.

This Engine burns Anthracite Coal and was built and placed on the Road to run between Philadelphia and Reading. On the 4th inst., on 4th trial, completed a daily run of ninety-five miles for three years, during which time she did not lose a single trip, for repairs or from any other cause. The total number of miles run during this period was 98,377.

Equally remarkable is the fact that her engineer, Mr. Benjamin Wagner, did not lose a single trip during thirty five months of the above time. We can therefore, safely challenge competition in behalf of Reading Mechanics, and assert, that no other Road in the country can produce a record similar to the above.

The "Hiawatha" is an eight wheel Engine, having four 67½ inch driving, and four 30 inch truck wheels, and weighs 25 tons. The cylinders are 15 inches in diameter, and stroke of Piston 20 inches.

The valve is worked with a shifting link and has a throw of 5½ inches. The total heating surface in fire-box and flues, is 945 square feet, and the Engine is provided with 2 inch water pipes for grate bars; and with a variable exhaust, varying in area, from 18 to 6 square inches.

The maximum grade of the Reading Railroad is 22.6 feet per mile, and the trains hauled by this Engine had an average weight of eighty-two tons; run at a speed of twenty-six miles per hour and making twenty-two stops during each trip.

A visit to the shops, and a ride over this Road is always replete with interest. The many specimens of mechanical skill and ingenuity that arrest the eye of the observer; the admirable system and order with which their business is conducted; the regularity in the running of all their trains, and the comfort and convenience of their Passenger Cars; all attest the superior management of its officers.

☞ *The Freshet at Tamaqua.*—The Tamaqua *Journal* of Saturday last, states:

On Wednesday night, our citizens residing on Pine street, fearful of a recurrence of the scenes of 1859, left their homes, and sought shelter and safety in some more elevated parts of the town; but fortunately, about twelve o'clock the rain ceased, and the swollen and angry torrent of the Little Schuylkill began to subside.

Within the limits of our Borough, the loss has been comparatively trifling; and beyond the destruction of bridges, and the inundation of cellars, the damage is slight.

The railroad bridge at the upper end of Railroad street, leading from the "High Mines" to the Little Schuylkill Railroad, although not swept away, is so much sunken and strained as to be useless.

The bridge across the Little Schuylkill near the Gas works, was entirely swept away; as was also the new stone bridge on Centre street, but redentered, at a cost of some $2000; and the bridge below, leading from "Greenwood Mines" to the Little Schuylkill Railroad.

The saw mill of Mr. George Cole, at the tunnel, two miles above town, has been much damaged, and we believe he also loses some cars and lumber. The river at this point made a clear breach through the railroad embankment, for a distance of about a hundred feet, and forming a new chan el.

Our townsman, Mr. Henry Huhn, has also suffered much damage at his powder mill, about a mile above town. The dry house, and other outbuildings were swept away.

The Stove Foundry of Mr. Francis Bright, immediately above town, was also damaged. The dam was swept away, and the building undermined and the machinery destroyed.

GENERAL BANKS'S RETREAT.

This stands prominently, as one of the most ably conducted movements of the War. From General Banks's official report of the march of the First Division, Fifth Corps de Armee, from Strasburg, Va., to Williamsport, Md., on the 24th and 25th days of May, 1862, we make the following extracts:

THE FIRST CONFLICT.

The head of the reorganized column, Colonel Donnelly commanding, encountered the enemy in force at Middletown, about thirteen miles from Winchester. Three hundred troops had been seen in town, but it soon appeared that larger forces were in the rear. The brigade halted, and the 46th Pennsylvania, Col. Knipe, was ordered to penetrate the woods on the right and dislodge the enemy's skirmishers. They were supported by a section of Clark's battery. Five companies of the enemy's cavalry were discovered in an open field in the rear of the woods, and our artillery, masked at first by the infantry, opened upon them. They stood fire for a few shells, but at length retreated, pursued by our skirmishers.

The 28th New York, Lieut.-Col. Brown, was now brought up, and formed a heavy line of infantry and artillery, the enemy were driven back more than two miles from the pike. Col. Donnelly, being informed at that point by a citizen in great alarm that 4,000 men were in the woods beyond, the most anxious concern to push the fight; but as this would have defeated our object by the loss of valuable time, with the exception of a small guard, they were ordered to resume the march.

This affair occurred under my own observation, and I have great pleasure in vouching for the admirable conduct of the officers and men. We lost one man killed and some wounded.

This episode, with the change of front, occupied nearly an hour, but at that time the enemy had not seriously attacked our train while at the head of the column, it would have been thrown into such disconfusion as to have made a successful continuation of our march impossible. During this contest, Col. Brown of the 1st Michigan Cavalry was ordered to advance, and, if possible, to cut his way through and occupy Winchester. It was the report of this energetic officer that gave us the first assurance that our course was yet clear, and he was the first of our column to enter the town.

THE SECOND COMBAT.

When it was first reported that the enemy had pushed between us and Winchester, Gen. Hatch was ordered to advance, with all his available cavalry, from Strasburg, leaving the 2d Maryland to cover the rear and Fort Royal stores not provided with transportation. Major Vought, 5th New York Cavalry, had been previously ordered to reconnoiter the Front Royal road, to ascertain the position of the enemy. He soon encountered in force near Middletown, and was compelled to fall back immediately, followed by the enemy's cavalry, infantry, and artillery. In this affair five of our men were killed, and several wounded. The enemy's loss is not known.

After repeated attempts to forces a passage through the lines of the enemy, now advanced to the pike, Gen. Hatch, finding that Col. Buchanan's command had accomplished without great loss, and supposing our army to have proceeded but a short distance, turned to the left, and moved upon a parallel road, made several fine flank movements with the main body of the column. At Newtown, however, he found Col. Gordon holding the enemy in check, and joined his brigade. Major Collis, who had preceded Gen. Hatch, came into our camp with entire unconcern, supposing that their own troops occupied the town as a matter of course, and were equally confirmed in these sentiments, and added that an attack would be made upon us at daybreak. I determined to test the substance and strength of the enemy by actual collision, and measures were promptly taken to meet them. Before the dawn of day, we had taken up their positions on entering the town, after dark without expectation of a battle, and were at a disadvantage as compared with the enemy.

The rattling of musketry was heard during the latter part of the night, and before the break of day a sharp engagement occurred at the outposts. Soon after 4 o'clock the artillery opened on the town, which was continued without cessation till the close of the engagement.

The right of our line was composed of the Third Brigade, Col. George H. Gordon commanding. The regiments were promptly formed, and were the centre covered by stone walls from the fire of the enemy.

Their infantry opened on the right, and soon both lines were under heavy fire.

The left was composed of the Third Brigade, Colonel Dudley Donnelly commanding.

The line was weak compared with that of the enemy, but the Virginia and Maryland regiments behaved with a bravery that immediately improved their combat opportunity. The earliest movements of the enemy were on our left, two regiments being seen to move as with the purpose of occupying a wood which, if gained, would have given the enemy a decided advantage. A detachment of cavalry to intercept this movement, when it was apparently abandoned. The enemy suffered very serious loss from the fire of our infantry on the left. One regiment is represented by persons present during the action, and after the field was evacuated, as nearly destroyed.

The main body of the enemy was hidden during the early part of the action by the crest of the hill and the woods in the rear.

Their force was massed apparently upon our right, and their movements indicated a purpose to turn us upon the Berryville road, which, if happened subsequently, they had placed a considerable force, with a view of preventing reinforcements from Harper's Ferry. But the steady fire of our lines held them in check until a small portion of the troops on the right of our line made a movement to the rear. It is but just to add that this was done before the last and positive order to withdraw had been given. No sooner was this observed by the enemy than his regiments swarmed upon the crest of the hill, advancing from the woods upon our right, which, still continuing its fire steadily, withdrew toward the town.

The overwhelming force of the enemy now suddenly showing itself, making further resistance useless, orders were sent to the left by Capt. De Hauteville to withdraw which was done reluctantly, but in order. The enemy having greatly suffered in that wing. A portion of the troops, passing through Newtown in some confusion, but the column was soon reformed and continued its march in order.

This engagement held the enemy in check for five hours.

The forces engaged were greatly unequal. Indisposed to accept the early rumors concerning the enemy's strength, I regret to be disappointed that it was about 15,000. The cause of popular education can fail to advance, and prove the Common School System to be superior to any other in fitting its votaries, by practical instruction, for discharging the various duties of life.

Pottsville, June 11th, 1862. SPECTATOR.

To the Nervous and Consumptive of both sexes. A Retired Clergyman having been restored to health in a few days, after many years of great suffering, is willing to assist others by sending (free on the receipt of a post paid directed envelope, a copy of the prescription used. Direct the REV. JOHN M. DAGNALL, 186 Fulton street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 23-4m

To Consumptives.—The advertiser, having been restored to health in a few weeks, by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease, Consumption—is anxious to make known to his fellow-sufferers the means of cure.

To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used (free of charge), with the directions for preparing and using the same, which he will find a *sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis*, &c. The only object of the advertiser in sending the Prescription is to benefit the afflicted, and spread information which he conceives to be invaluable, and he hopes every sufferer will try his remedy, as it will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing.

Parties wishing the prescription will please address
Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON, Williamsburgh,
Kings County, New York.
May