Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1862.

☞ Copies of the Miners' Journal can be obtained every Saturday, at the following places:
HENRY BAKER, Minersville;
MRS. HOLMES, St. Clair;
LOUIS H. KOCH, do.
HENRY A. BOYER, Ashland;
G. B. SCHNEIDER, do.
W. R. DEEN-INGER, Tamaqua;
PETER MOORE, Port Carbon.

☞ Ten Dollars Reward will be paid by the subscriber for the name of any person caught stealing the *Journal* from the doors of subscribers. B. BANNAN.

Our acknowledgments are due to the Hon. James H. Campbell for a copy of the Eighth Census of the United States.

The "Old Public Functionary" replies to Gen. Scott's last. It is so lame that it is not worth the room it would take in our paper.

Gen. McClellan declines a public reception in New York. His toadies can glean a profitable lesson from McClellan's discretion and good sense.

The southern journals not only complain that the rebel army is destitute of clothing and shoes, but that it will have to be disbanded in less than eight months, for want of provisions, unless the distilleries are closed.

The Hon. Luther Hanchett, member of Congress from the 2d District of Wisconsin, has just died from brain fever. Mr. Hanchett was reckoned at the recent election to represent the 6th District. He was a Republican.

John J. Merritt, wholesale stationer, 18 Beekman street, New York, has the reputation of possessing one of the largest and best assorted stocks of stationery in the United States. We refer the reader to his advertisement in another column.

Tickner & Fields have issued a neat edition in blue and gold of Holmes's Poems, including the "Metrical Essays," "Miscellaneous Poems," and "Songs in Many Keys." A welcome publication for the holiday season, to the admirers of a favorite American poet.

The St. Joseph Journal intimates that the seats of most of the Emancipationists elected to Congress from Missouri will be contested. Oh certainly! What business has a Slave State to send Abolitionists to Congress? It is manifestly "contrary to the usages of the party."

Secretary Chase's forthcoming report to Congress will contain an urgent recommendation to Congress to take measures for the substitution of Government for bank currency, by taxing the latter and making provision for the circulation through the banks of the former.

Important Facts for Advertisers.—The circulation of the Miners' Journal is nearly *three-fold* greater in Schuylkill County than that of any other English paper published here; while out of the County the circulation of the Journal is five times greater that that of any other paper published in the County. These facts are of importance to advertisers.

The Boston *Post* goes out of its way to state that the great frauds in the New York Custom House were committed by Republican officials. The real facts are, that the principal delinquent was appointed fifteen years ago by Polk's administration, and every one of the clerk's implicated were appointed before the Republicans came into power.

What it Means.—People have sometimes wondered why Democratic journals placed a rooster at the head of their papers as an emblem of victory. But Parson Brownlow fully explains the matter as follows:

"As the crowing of the cock followed the betrayal of Christ by Peter so again the cock crows after the Democrats have attempted to betray the Government and surrendered the power of its enemies."

Robert Dale Owen, one of the ablest Democrats in the West, has written a letter strongly advocating the abolition of slavery. He considers the destruction of slavery very essential to peace and to a permanent restoration of the Union. The fact is, the most prominent Democrats of the North are becoming the strongest advocates of emancipation.

The Philadelphia Sheriff Case.—On Tuesday the Supreme Court, sitting at Pittsburg, delivered an opinion quashing the writ of certiorari remitting the record and dissolving the injunction which had been granted to restrain Mr. Thompson from interfering with Mr. Ewing in the occupancy of the office. The effect of this decision is to give Mr. Thompson the office of which he has for so long a time been deprived.

Pardons.—The President has given Brig.-Gen. Edwin R. Price, son of Major Gen. Sterling Price, both of the rebel army, a full pardon of all treasonable or other crimes and misdemeanors against the United States, committed up to the 18th of November. Gen. Price was taken prisoner some time since, paroled and afterward exchanged for General Prentiss. Subsequently he resigned his commission in the rebel army, and his friends applied for his pardon. While on his parole and residing in Charlton county, Mo., he is said to have exerted himself to maintain peace and order by driving out the guerillas, and it is thought by some of the Union men of Missouri that his pardon will have a beneficial effect in Missouri.

A Cool Performance by a Rebel Cavalry Regiment.—A correspondent, writing from Fredericksburg under date of Nov. 21, says:

"The rebel artillerists, or sections of batteries, are in full view and about sunset this evening, a full regiment of cavalry walked their horses leisurely along the crest of the river, wheeled them and then walked off as if on the Grand Review of the Potomac army. This was within pistol shot of the rebel artillerists, and within easy range of many miles of them. The crowd of soldiers standing on this side could have pelted them with stones, and I don't much include the Yanks, but we had positive orders at the outposts of the officers to offer them no insult. Some rebel artillerists walked along, starting us in the direction of them, and we then walked the election of Secretary of War—what we thought of the late change, and whether Seymour was coming down to see Jeff. Davis! and if he would make him a Major General. For nearly half an hour questions of a similar character were fired over to us, and our soldiers were gratified to find that they considered the late election a victory for them, and a rebuke to our generals for their inactivity. It was with great difficulty they were restrained from wading through the river and chastising them on the spot."

The question of European intervention in our affairs is settled, for the present at least, if not altogether. The steamship *Arabia* which arrived this week from Liverpool, brings intelligence that the new French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Drouyn de L'Huys, has actually made to England a proposal for mediation. Earl Russell, in his reply, eulogizes the "benevolent intentions" of the French Government, but declines to join, for the present, the mediation proposal, principally for the reason, because Russia, "whose concurrence would be expressly desirous," had not yet agreed to actually co-operate.—Earl Russell thinks that the Federal Government would not be likely to accept the proposal, and therefore advises to wait for a change in public opinion which he hopes will take place. *The London Times* approves the policy of Earl Russell, whose arguments it says, had been anticipated by the public.—*The Paris Moniteur* expects that both Russia and England will soon adopt the French proposal, and that a majority of the next Congress will not decline to listen to it. We simply hope before the meeting of the next Congress, that the question of mediation and intervention will be effectually put to rest by the suppression of the Southern Rebellion.

☞ At Memphis, bar keepers have to take an oath of allegiance before they are allowed to dispense cocktails, cobblers, juleps, &c.

☞ The St. Louis *Union* states, apparently on authority, that Governor Gamble of Missouri will become an emancipationist.

To the Representatives, Press, and People of the Northern States.

From the Missouri Democrat, Nov. 20.

Missouri in her recent election of Senators and Representatives, has declared in favor of *Free Soil*. Her people have become convinced that Slavery is an evil—a weight upon her spirit, seriously impeding her progress in the race she is making with her sisters of the Union, and with which she can well dispense. Hence their decision.

To us it may appear an easy task for a sovereign State to free herself from a purely local institution, like Slavery. The you may suppose Missouri can do, as other States have done, by a legislative act of emancipation, providing either for its immediate or greatest abolition. If so, you are not advised of the obstacles to such action contained in the organic law of this State. The Constitution of Missouri contains the following provision:

"The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws for the Emancipation of Slaves, without the consent of their owners, or without paying them, before such emancipation, a full equivalent for such Slaves so emancipated."

It will thus be seen that the power of our Legislature to abolish Slavery, is limited to the alternatives of first procuring the consent of the owners of all the Slaves, or second, of paying them a full equivalent for their slaves, before Emancipation. To procure the assent of all the owners of slaves in the State, to their liberation upon any terms, might be without compensation, may be set down as an impossibility. The authority of the Legislature is therefore practically reduced to the passage of an act of liberation, which will become effective only upon the means being procured and applied to payment for the slaves set free.

Owing to the utter prostration of business in Missouri, occasioned by the rebellion, and the heavy losses of property citizens have sustained from the same cause, it is out of the question for her, either at the present time, or in any comparatively short period in the future, to make compensation for all her slaves, out of her own resources. Left to herself, therefore, with the public debt already hanging over her, she is powerless to relieve herself from the burden which is weighing her down. Her people have, nevertheless, not despaired of accomplishing Emancipation, and have by their votes decided in favor of employing all the instrumentalities within their reach to that end. Their chief reliance has been placed upon the provisions of assistance from the General Government, contained in the special message of the President to the last Congress, and the favorable action of that body upon its recommendation.

The question now is, whether the people of the Free States will, through their representatives in Congress, the President concurring, render such national aid as will enable the constitutionally to rid our State of the incumbrance of slavery now and for all time. The opponents of emancipation among us deny that you will. As a charity we have no right to ask such assistance, and that ground alone would we. Have we no claim upon your liberality? Missouri has been the first State to respond to the generous offer of the President and of Congress. She has accepted the proposition they have made, and is not, therefore, without show of claim on the ground of contract. Upon the score of mutuality of interest, however, is not her case an exceedingly strong one?

Missouri, although at no time probably having a population the majority of which has not been loyal, has been cursed with a most persistently rebellious element, to subdue which has cost the nation immense amounts of treasure, and to keep it in subjection is likely to involve heavy continued expenditure, so long as the original cause of the rebellion exists in the States. That cause is Slavery. On the score of economy, would it not be wise policy for the Government to remove this source of expenditure, by the purchase and liberation of the slaves of Missouri, rather than to continue armies upon her soil, as she has been doing? To assist in the solution of this problem we will state that, as a matter of fact, from the best evidence we can collect, the number of slaves yet remaining in Missouri does not exceed 50,000. Of this number, one-half can safely be said to belong to disloyal owners, and to be entitled to their freedom under the act of confiscation. The slaves now remaining in the State are the least valuable of the kind; as a general thing, such only as were not considered sufficiently valuable to take South, or have not possessed sufficient energy to escape North. The amount requisite, therefore, to make purchase of the entire lot, at a fair valuation, cannot be so considerable.

Should the nation become interested in the restoration of a permanent peace in Missouri, is interested, as well as her own people, in the question of emancipation upon her soil, we see no mutuality of interest stop here. The locality of Missouri is such that, as a Slave State, she stands directly in the path of Northern colonization, and the expansion of Northern free institutions. How serviceable Missouri as a Slave State located as she is did become, was fairly demonstrated in the memorable contest between Freedom and Slavery, when the soil of Kansas was the debatable ground. Every day readers her position as a Slave State a more formidable obstruction to the free North, as its free population spreads Westward; for ere her will must run the principal channel of communication between the East and the West. How essential, then, to the North that the institutions of Missouri should assimilate to her own.

But these are, by no means, the only inducements Missouri offers the North for co-operation in her struggle for freedom. As a Free State, Missouri will furnish in return to the North for the aid she may now render, millions of acres of the richest soil upon which the sun looks down, for homes for her children, from which they are now excluded by the barrier of Slavery. These alone are worth many times the entire amount of treasure necessarily to come in the present issue in this State.

Missouri, therefore, asks of the loyal States of the nation in the present crisis of her affairs, nothing which she will not largely repay. With you of the North will rest the decision of the question. In view of the facts presented, and all other considerations involved, we appeal to you for its full and fair consideration. To Northern Representatives in Congress it is immediately presented. Of the Northern press we ask for it such a discussion as its importance demands. To the people of the North, in whose hands, after all, the power is lodged, we can only recommend the views we have urged, as being honest, and, in our judgment, worthy of adoption.

The Legislature of Missouri will meet in a few weeks; and upon the response which this and similar appeals will elicit from the representatives, press, and people of the Free States, will depend the decision of a question largely involving the interest of the whole nation.

Terrible Losses of the Rebels at Sharpsburg.

The Savannah *Republican* publishes a letter from an officer of the Fifteenth Georgia regiment, giving a spirited account of the battle of Sharpsburg, in Maryland.—The previous reports of the terrible losses of the rebels in that engagement are confirmed by the statements of this letter writer. He tells this story:

"On arriving on the ground we found it already occupied by the enemy in large force. Our brigade made a desperate effort to form in line under a tremendous fire of musketry, which we successfully executed in doing so find ourselves completely outflanked on either side, while the brigade who were to have supported us had not yet made their appearance. The Fifteenth were pointed to a narrow path washed out into a narrow gully and were fired into by the enemy from the front, rear and left flank. The men stood their ground nobly, returning the fire until nearly two-thirds of their number, dead or wounded in that lane. Out of two hundred and ten carried into the fight over one hundred and twenty five were killed and wounded in less than twenty minutes. *The slaughter was horrible.* When ordered to retreat I could scarcely extricate myself from the dead and wounded around me. A man could have walked from the head of our line to the rear on the bodies.

"The survivors of the regiment retreated very orderly back to where Gen. Anderson's brigade rested. The brigade suffered terribly. James' South Carolina battalion was nearly annihilated. The Fiftieth Georgia lost nearly all their commissioned officers. Phillips's Legion at one time was nearly completely surrounded, and became a living token. Next morning, or rather that night, the army retreated and fell back to the heights around Sharpsburg.

"Toombs' brigade, on our left, fought until their last cartridge was expended. Lieut.-Col. Kearse, of the Fiftieth, finding his position untenable, and ascertaining that the enemy in strong force were passing the river on our right, and having no support on that side, drew his line of pickets back some three hundred yards from the river, just in time, as it proved, as our right was flanked and fired on by the enemy's skirmishers as we passed them. Here we were thrown into Toombs' brigade, and double-quicked off to the battle-field of Sharpsburg, where we arrived just in time to save one of our batteries from capture by the enemy. I shall never forget the scene that met my gaze as we reached the top of the hill. There stood the four guns naked and desolate, no living soul about them, no caissons or cannoneers; the ground lay strewed with dead horses and men.

"The gunners, who had worked their pieces until the enemy were within fifty yards of them and their infantry supports had given away, implored us as we charged past them, to save their battery. 'Don't let it go, boys,' cried General Toombs, as he rode rapidly past. We were quickly formed in the rear of the guns, the Fiftieth charging on the left, and soon as I glanced, we saw the Yankee line, in splendid order advancing on the guns.—We left them at within sixty or seventy yards of us, and pouring in a withering volley, that made their whole line reel and waver under the dreadful effect of the fire, as if they were drunk. Again and again, with murderous aim, we poured into them volley after volley, until nature was unable to bear such terrible punishment, their whole line broke and sought shelter of the hill.—The Fiftieth leaped a wood fence in front, charged to the base of the hill and pursued the flying foe for nearly a mile, when we halted, and soon as I glanced, we saw the Yankee line, in splendid order advanced