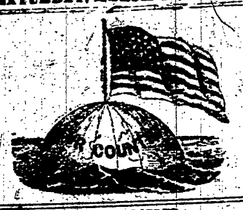
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1864.



A CRUEL SLANDER.

But few respectable persons either take or read the Copperhead organ of this Borough, for its atrocious publications against the Government and the soldiers, long since disgusted the decent, loyal people of this community. There is no falsehood too glaring, no slander too horrible to find exclusion from its columns. It reached the acme of its infamous course, recently, when it republished from *The New Hampshire Patriot*, a Copperhead Democratic paper, with exulting editorial comments, the following cruel lie affecting the reputation of a number of philanthropic, Christian ladies of New England:

"Private advices from Port Royal say the female Abolitionists who went to Port Royal to teach the little niggers how to read and pray, have been obliged, within the past few months, to open asylums for all their own. An officers informed us recently that no less than sixty-four spinsters had contributed to the population in and about Port Royal Harbor. The information furnished us by the officer concerning the sixty-four miss*tresses has been confirmed by the testimony of the Rev. Liberty Billings, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st South Carolina Regiment, who is here in consequence of ill health. He says it is a sad truth."

The story is so absurd and so wicked that neither the officer—if any such there be—who first coined the lie, nor the Rev. Liberty Billings, who is said to have confirmed it, nor *The Patriot*, which first printed it, nor any one of the many Copperhead papers which have lately circulated it, nor any one blindest negro-hater who has read it, can possibly have believed it to be anything but an infamous slander without a shadow of foundation or excuse.

The women who are so grossly libeled by the friends of Slavery and the enemies of Freedom are natives of New England, graduates of the common schools and seminaries of that section of the country, and members of some of the most respectable families in Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. Each teacher, now employed in the Department of the South under the auspices of the Freedm*n's Society, was required to furnish a certificate of character from the pastor of the parish to which she belongs, and to appear before the Auxiliary Clergymen's Committee for examination as to her character and qualifications. That Committee consists of the following gentleman: Rev. O. B. Frothingham, Rev. George Whipple, Rev. Prof. John W. Lindsey, Rev. Nathan Brown, Rev. J. R. W. Sloane, Rev. Prof. Henry B. Smith, and the Rev. Henry Blanchard. The schools to which reference is made are under the immediate supervision of the Rev. Mr. French, the Rev. Mr. James, and Rev. Dr. Barrows. A number of the teachers are the wives, daughters, sisters and near relatives of the clergymen in charge of the schools. Not one word of complaint in relation to the moral character of the teachers has ever been made to the Examining Board. It is not even true that there are sixty-four teachers employed at Port Royal, or on the adjacent islands. The number is forty-six. And in addition to the names given, Francis George Shaw, President of the National Freedmen's Relief Association; Edgar Ketchum, Corresponding Secretary, and Joseph B. Collins, Treasurer, indorse the character of these teachers.

If any one thinks this matter is treated too seriously, and that a libel so transparently false and malicious deserves no refutation, let him consider the cruel wrong done to these innocent, pure, Christian women, who took upon themselves the labor of educating the emancipated blacks, who have made all sacrifices in the humane and generous efforts for a despised race, and who are nevertheless held up to scorn by these unprincipled and unmanly slanderers. It is difficult to believe that even the conductors of the journals who have printed the story can reflect on their conduct without shame and regret. To wantonly make such a charge against women, to give it the publicity of a newspaper circulation—it is a new revelation of the baseness of human nature, which we should like to forget as soon as possible. Meanwhile the sentiment that honors the women of the country for the sacrifices they have made in this contest, demands that those who have done the wrong shall do what they can to atone for it by a prompt and unequivocal contradiction.

A Marked Change.—On the first day of the present session of Congress, the Democrats of the House mustered *eighty-nine* votes against Mr. Colfax, the Republican candidate for Speaker, and rallied for some time that force to oppose every measure to aid the Government. How dwindled has that sturdy phalanx of "the unterrified" become. A few days since when the Enabling act for the Territory of Colorado was under consideration, Mr. Mallory, of Kentucky, moved to strike out that part of the bill prohibiting slavery, and thus virtually to re-affirm the disused principle of "squatter sovereignty," but *eighteen* votes were mustered in behalf of the old battle-cry of Democracy. Strouse dodged. From this it is evident that the world moves, and that the Democrats are willing to stand and see these "dangerous precedents" established. It is but ten years since "Squatter Sovereignty" was strong enough to break up the Missouri Compromise. It is hardly four years since it was a great power in Congress. Now there are only *eighteen* found so poor to do it reverence.

Again, on Monday last while the House was in Committee of the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill, Mr. Harding of Kentucky, offered an amendment, that no part of the money appropriated by the bill shall be applied or used for the purpose of raising negro troops or paying the negro soldiers now in arms, which was rejected—yeas, 18; nays, 81. Strouse again dodged—not voting. Come, come, if this continues, we shall soon be enabled to publish a notice of dissolution of co-partnership between the members of the Copperhead firm of Ancona, Strouse & Co., heretofore wholesale dealers in comfort for the Rebels and in acts against the United States Government and the soldiers. How is it, Strouse? *Can* you cut Ancona?

General Meagher on Politicians who cry Peace.—General Meagher delivered a lecture at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, on Monday evening last, on "The Life and Character of General Corcoran, the True Irishman, the Loyal Citizen, and Brave Soldier," in the course of which he said:

As for the miserable politicians who cry for habeas corpus and for peace while the liberties of the country are endangered, with these Corcoran had no sympathy. The Irishman who feels otherwise in relation to the Government of the United States, and the war that has been forced upon it as the most sacred duty that ever devolved upon any Government to prosecute, that Irishman is utterly unworthy to be here, and ought to forfeit that right. If such an Irishman had a spark of decency left him, he should do one or two things, either pack up his traps and betake himself to the security of the British Constitution, or run the blockade, and like a gallant traitor take his chance in open war with those with whom he sympathizes. The public life of Corcoran was dwelt upon, in his career as a soldier of the Union. The grave never closed upon a more loyal soldier. None loved the country more sincerely or more throughly, and at the same there was no Irishman so attached to the land of his birth. His highest ambition was to be, one day a citizen again of his own regenerated country. The darling object of his life was to have his native country reestablished among the nationalities of the world.

Minister Dayton has served a written notification upon the French Emperor, that if the rebel cruiser Rappahannock, now at Calais, is allowed to proceed to sea, the French government will be held responsible for all damage she may do to American commerce.

THE WORKINGMEN AND PEACE MEN.

No President of this Republic ever sympathized more wholly with the efforts of workingmen to advance themselves in all that constitutes true nobility of manhood, than Abraham Lincoln. He is peculiarly their representative, for he rose from their ranks to his present position, and he is never happier nor more at home, than when he can grasp their honest hands. The Copperhead enemies of President Lincoln may scheme, and devise, and concoct falsehoods about him, seeking to affect him in the estimation of the loyal workingmen of the country, but all their infamous plans will fail, for he rests secure in the affection and confidence of the people.

We are led to these reflections by an incident which happened in Washington on Monday last. A Committee on behalf of the New York Workingmen's Democratic Republican Association waited on the President to inform him that their Association had elected him an honorary member. The object of the organization is to advance the workingmen of America in morals, position and loyalty; it binds them together in support of the Union, and indorses them at all sacrifices to sustain it. They requested Mr. Lincoln to give his views on the subject matter of which their address treated.

The President, in reply, said the honorary membership so generously tendered was as gratefully accepted. They comprehended that the existing Rebellion meant more and tended to more than the perpetuation of African Slavery; that it was in fact a war upon the rights of working people. Partly to show that the view had not escaped his attention, and partly because he could not better express himself, he read a passage from his Message to Congress of December, 1861, and he then concluded as follows:

"The most notable feature of the disturbance in your city last Summer was the hanging of some working people by other working people. It should never be so. The strongest bulwark of any government, and particularly of a free one, is the habit of its people, in all parts of it, of naturally opposing and readily suppressing violence, initiated by any of them against any others, even though the latter be fanatics, or enemies. In this case the sufferers were of the latter class. Those who wish them dead, or hurt, for opinion's sake, are unworthy to live, and are sure sometime to die, or be hurt, by some one. But this is only a merited fate to them. It is not immediately from their violence that danger comes to the country. The extreme danger is, that violence, developing the habit, will turn, and has already turned, in part, against the friends of the country. To state a case easily understood, if a mob hang a man for opinion's sake to-day, others may, and probably will, hang for opinion's sake to-morrow. Thus violence, beginning with the guiltless victim, soon turns to agitate the whole community, and ends by destroying the security of everybody, even of the mobbists themselves. Nothing can be more certain than that it is the duty of all good citizens to stand by the laws of the land, and all persons found violating them, or resisting their execution, to aid in bringing to prompt punishment. Let this be done, and dangerous combinations will hardly be formed. Let it be done, and the man who attempts to get up a mob will be hard to find."

"Mr. President—I accept this commission with gratitude for the high honor conferred. With the aid of the noble armies that have fought on so many fields for our common country, it will be my earnest endeavor not to disappoint your expectations. I feel the full weight of the responsibilities now devolving on me, and I know that if they are not fully met it will be due to those armies, and, above all to the favor of that Providence which leads both nations and men."

After a brief visit to the south-west Gen. Grant has returned to Washington, and will at once commence the work of reorganizing the Army of the Potomac, preparatory to a vigorous offensive Spring campaign. Two weeks will be required for the work. It is thought that Gen. Grant will take the field in person at the head of that army, and direct its first movements in this Spring.

The Catholic Press and Slavery.—At the outbreak of the Rebellion, Brownson's Quarterly Review was almost the only advocate of an Anti-Slavery policy among all the Catholic journals. The great majority of them were violently opposing every Anti-Slavery measure of the Government, and acting in concert with the ultra Peace faction of the Northern Democracy. But the progress of the war has wrought among them several conversions. *The Cincinnati Telegraphe* the organ of Archbishop Purcell, was the first to come over to the Anti-Slavery party, and to admit even to urge the necessity of abolishing Slavery throughout the United States. Its example has recently been followed by *The Universe*, the Catholic paper of Philadelphia, hitherto a violent Democratic and anti-Administration sheet. In a late issue, this paper admits that the peace of the Republic demands the abolition of Slavery; that the national current in favor of abolition grows steadily stronger and has become irresistible, and that it would be absurd to attempt to oppose it. It therefore gives to the Irish Democrats the sensible advice to accept cheerfully what they are unable to undo. We note the conversions as signs of the times.

Some Western papers in the interest of McClellan for the Presidency, are attempting a diversion in his favor, by bringing forward the name of Gen. Fremont seriously, as a candidate for the Presidency. The animus of the movement is apparent in the following incongruous, ludicrous emanation from a Democratic paper of Cincinnati, styled the *Volks Freund*. In a recent issue, after placing the name of Gen. John C. Fremont at its head, it says:

"Abraham Lincoln must be beaten, at all hazards—totally, overwhelmingly beaten. General McClellan was our first choice. We were determined to exercise the influence of our paper in favor of General McClellan, but in order to beat Abraham Lincoln, McClellan is not strong enough in the west. Influential leaders of the Democratic party argue, if Fremont shall stand up against Lincoln, we, shall, perhaps, be able, by cutting through between both, to effect the election of a Democrat of our color, who will recognize the south. Abraham Lincoln must be beaten at all hazards. This is the leading thought to the steps we have taken to-day."

No true friend of Fremont can approve of such a plan. The McClellanites are certainly becoming desperate.

How the Copperheads love the Soldiers.—The Copperheads in the New Jersey Legislature lately attempted to pass a law forbidding any soldier to approach the polls on election day, under a severe penalty. This, of course, was intended to prevent them from exercising the election franchise, if any of them should happen to be at home. When the question was taken in the House of Representatives, the bill was defeated by a tie vote—27 to 27. A few of the Democratic members refused to aid the malignant designs of their disloyal colleagues. The soldiers will be likely to remember the kind intentions of the New Jersey secessionists.

Query.—Will the Jefferson (Davis) Democrat and the other Rebel sheet of this Borough, contradict the falsehood they recently copied in reference to several Christian ladies of New England? If they will not, they earn the contempt of every man in Schuylkill County, who would scorn to assail the character of virtuous women. Shame on ignoble Copperheads whose highest ambition seems to be to brutally attack philanthropic, Christian American women. Such men are very properly, the advocates of pro-Slavery chivalry.

Maryland and the Question of Slavery. The loyal members of the Maryland Legislature have issued an address to the loyal people of the State, congratulating them on the progress of Emancipation, and exhorting them to be watchful that the cause take no step backward. In the Constitutional Convention to be held it is believed the language of the Legislature will be adopted: "We are in favor of Emancipation, final, unconditional, unfettered by negro serfdom." Her freedom loving citizens look for the speedy coming of the day which shall consummate the work of Emancipation, the day when Maryland shall be absolutely and forever a Free State.

Harrisburg proving an exception to other places in the loyal States, has just elected a Copperhead Treasurer by a majority of 167. It is indeed, no wonder that the Capital of this State had last year to be protected from Gen. Lee by soldiers from other sections of Pennsylvania, and other States—her own people, at least such as vote, seem to be on the side of his Excellency Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America.

A grand ball will be given in Washington on Tuesday evening next, at the hall in the Patent Office building, in honor of the ladies of the late Fair held there, the proceeds of which will be applied to the benefit of the families of the soldiers of the District of Columbia. In the list of managers, which embraces many distinguished names, military and civil, we observe that of Capt. W. T. Hartz of this Borough.

The Danish Conference.—The English papers agree that the Conference proposition will not be carried out. It is absurd to negotiate when the parties negotiating are in the field, and England's timorous policy will result in no good. The Danes hold a position of great advantage, and every day adds to its value, as delay exposes the invaders to revolution at home or a combination of military powers against them abroad.

Gen. Hurlbut made a speech to the City Council of Memphis on the 17th, giving them to understand if they did not clean the streets and establish a sanitary condition, take measures to improve the sanitary condition, he would stop their collection of taxes and do the work himself.

Colonel Ulric Dahlgren, who lost his life in the recent bold raid on Richmond, was born in Bucks county.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

United Service Magazine.—The March number of this Magazine is out. The contents are, Missouri; Military Organization of the United States of Switzerland; Volunteering and Conscription; Soldiers of America; the Chase; Eligibility of Medical Officers of the Army as Members of certain Courts-Martial; Horsemanship, and the Methods of training the Horse to Go with his Rider; Railroads in War; Three Months around Charleston Bar; or, the Great Siege as we saw it. (No. II.); On the Military Topography of Europe. (Second Paper.); The Siege of Charleston; The Battle of the Dead Cid. (Poetry.); Literary Intelligence and Notes on New Books; Editor's Special Department; Official Intelligence: The Army—Regular Navy—Volunteer Navy. Published by Charles B. Richardson, 596 Broadway, New York. We have not space to give even a brief review of the many and merits of the articles and interesting articles in the present number of the *Service*. This Magazine is in our opinion, destined to have a useful and vigorous career. It fills in American periodical literature, a niche too long unoccupied. In the Army and Navy its circulation is steadily increasing.

The publisher will confer a favor if he will send us the February number. By some accident it failed to reach this office. We are desirous of preserving all the numbers.

Godey's Lady's Book.—The April number of this popular magazine contains a large number of embellishments, prominent among which are, a fine steel engraving, "Keeping Company," and a colored fashion plate of six figures. Among the engravings of fashion, some sixty in number, are a dinner-dress, Elegante, different styles of head-dresses, etc., in which the ladies fool an interest. A model cottage, original music, and the juvenile department, are also attractive. The literary contents which we have not space to enumerate, are choice. Copies of the April number can be obtained at the publication office of E. Banman, in this Borough. Godey's Lady's Book is unquestionably, the most complete publication of the kind, published in America.

Continental Monthly.—We have received from the publisher, John F. Trow, 50 Greene St., New York, the April number of this ably conducted Magazine. The contents are, Sir Charles Lyell on the Antiquity of Man; By a Presbyterian clergyman; Enone; A Young Author's Dream; By Edwin D. Swinton; The Great Lakes to St. Paul. By Robert Dodge; English and American Taxation. By Egbert Hurd; Aphorisms. By Rev. Asa Colton; The Love Lucifer. By S. Leavitt; Sketches of American Life and Scenery. By L. D. Pychowski; The Government and the Blacks. By Wm. H. Kimball; Out of Prison. By Kate Putnam; Lies and How to Kill them. By Hugh Miller Thompson; Was he Successful? By Richard B. Kimball; Benedict of Nursia, and the Order of Benedictines. By Rev. Phi. Schaff. D. D.; Hannah Thurston; Glorious! By L. G. W.; The Isle of Springs. By Rev. Mr. Starbuck; The Development of American Architecture. By A. W. Colgate; Jefferson Davis and Repudiation of Arkansas Bonds. By Hon. R. G. Walker; Literary Notices; Editor's Table. An excellent number.

Local Affairs.

Weekly Almanac.

1864.—Mar.	SUN RISES.	SUN SETS.	MOON'S CHANGES.	
26 Saturday	5 53	6 19	Last Q.	1 8 16 mn'g
27 Sunday	5 52	6 20	New M.	7 11 3 ev'g
28 Monday	5 51	6 21	1st Q.	11 10 ev'g
29 Tuesday	5 51	6 21	Full M.	23 5 28 mn'g
30 Wednesday	5 49	6 22	Last Q.	30 5 24 ev'g
31 Thursday	5 47	6 23		
1 Friday	5 45	6 23		

Brigadier-General Jorris S. Fory of Volunteers, succeeds Gen. Sigel in command of this military District. His headquarters are here.

To-Morrow.—Thirteenth Sunday of the year and Easter Sunday. Day's length, 12 hours and 23 minutes.

The North-End Ward is moving to fill its quota under the last call, with volunteers. A little energy and it can be done.

Paper Hanging.—D. Nagle, Market street, having received a large and choice assortment of paper hangings, is prepared to receive orders for work in this branch of business.

The old forty-eighth Band, which returned some months since, is re-organizing to rejoin the Regiment. The members expect to leave in about a fortnight.

The First National Bank of Ashland.—The Directors of this Bank are: A. P. Spinney, James R. Cleaver, Wm. J. Mosser, Jos. S. Peck, Jas. J. Connor, George W. Parvin, Joseph W. Bancroft, William P. Brock and Robert Gorrell.

Arrival of Troops.—A company of the 1st Reserve Regiment, recently organized for provost and other duty, reached here on Friday night last from Philadelphia. It was sent to take the place of the Invalid Corps, ordered to the fortifications at Washington.

Departure of the Invalid Corps.—The companies of the Invalid Corps that have been on duty here since last Fall, left on Wednesday last for Washington. There they will go into the fortifications. The companies were escorted to the Depot by the Pottsville Cornet Band. Col. Olyphant being sick, did not accompany the command.

The Draft?—A meeting of the citizens of the South Ward will be held at Drumheller's Hotel, this evening, at 8 o'clock, to take action in regard to the last call of the President for troops. We are supposed to state that the quota for the South Ward can be filled by a very little exertion on the part of those liable to the draft. A full attendance is requested.

As a couple of deserters, Irishmen, were being brought in from Cass the other day guarded by three of the members of the Invalid Corps, a party of the friends of the deserters attempted their rescue. The guard came at once to an ominous "ready." The click of the locks of the muskets decided the brave rescuers. They skedaddled, making good time over the neighboring hills.

Capt. Edward H. Leib of the Fifth Regular Cavalry, was somewhat injured—we are glad to state not seriously—during the recent raid of Gen. Kilpatrick, while engaging the enemy. His horse stumbled, throwing him forward violently. The Captain reached Washington last week, on sick leave, and was ordered to recruiting and disbursing duty in Baltimore, where he is now stationed.

The cash receipts of the Reading Railroad for the two months ending Jan. 31, 1864, were $441,710, and for the two months ending Jan. 31, 1863, $391,703, showing an increase of $50,007. The Company are putting 150 new coal cars, of the capacity of five tuns each, on the road every month, and with the constant opening of new collieries and new lateral roads, the constantly increasing capacity of the road can hardly meet the demand for transportation. This road is now prepared for an increase of 500,000 tuns over last year.

Veterinary.—Dr. Thomas Davis, of this Borough, has been quite successful in his treatment of diseased Government horses. For instance, recently one was condemned to death, and actually shot with four balls. The Doctor saw the horse afterwards, extracted the balls, treated the animal; it was able for duty in three weeks, and is now entirely well. The Doctor is certainly very skillful in his peculiar line, and deserves credit for its successful exercise in many recent cases.

Go to Work.—Those liable to draft in the County should go to work at once and fill the quotas with volunteers, under the last call for men. Start liberal local bounties, and commence putting the men in. We cannot give the quotas of the different sub-districts until the enrollment lists are revised. But that need make no difference. If you furnish a few men over your quota, they will go to your credit, and be so much better for the Government, which in the coming campaign will need every man it can get.

Rev. C. I. Thompson, during the past two years Pastor of the Methodist Church of this Borough, is now stationed at Lebanon. Mr. Thompson's ministerial services here were of great usefulness. He invariably, on National occasions spoke fearlessly and faithfully, with a conscientious sense of the responsibilities resting on the people in this respect. Socially, Mr. Thompson gathered many warm friends who will long cherish him abundant health and happiness in the future.

Monday morning last was fraught with accidents to vehicles. A pair of lines attached to a carriage owned by Mr. Fannin, Centre street, started from the stable in Church alley, and ran furiously down the alley to Railroad street, breaking the vehicle to pieces. One of the horses was somewhat injured while running. Almost the same hour a wagon belonging to one of the breweries of this Borough, and having a top-heavy load of beer, upset while turning the corner at the Depot. Several of the barrels burst, the contents mingling with the placid waters of Norwegian Creek that flow near by. The Teutonic driver was anything but pleased with his sudden transfer from his elevated seat to *terra firma*.

Culture of Onions.—The extraordinary rise in the prices of onions, caused by the great demand in our camps and army hospitals for this most valuable of all culinary vegetable anti-scorbutic, has doubtless sufficiently indicated to intelligent farmers and gardeners that the onion crop will be one of the most profitable which they can cultivate this season. In order to assist them in this most promising work, we copy the following hint from the communication of a farmer to one of our western exchanges:

"The prevailing opinion is that to grow good onions, the sets grown the previous year should be planted. This is a error. Better onions and larger crops can be grown from seed than from sets. The seed should be first sown in a hot bed as thick as they can stand. As soon as the seed is up open the beds to the air and water freely. In April prepare your ground and plant the sets from the hot bed, singly, one by one, three inches asunder, in rows ten inches apart. If the ground is very good and they are well cultivated, you may have eight hundred bushels from an acre."

March Wind.—If there is any infliction conspicuously painful it is a March wind. We have had that infliction here for the past fortnight. The editors of the New York *Tribune* describe their experience of it so faithfully, that we transfer it to our columns as equally applicable to our sufferings:—"When you passed into the open air, you had—spite of close-wrapped robes—a chill like that of a suddenly-received shower-bath; and then the keen daggers of the north winds riddled you, and sent you shivering, almost howling, to the first sheltered cove in your way—and there you shrunk into a shapeless mass of congealing flesh, while the triumphant Demonio of the Air did his utmost to bury you under showers of dust. That cutting Wind met you at the corner, tossed your cloak, stole away your hat, set you to teeth chattering, and engendered a wished despondency into which the pleasures of life entered but sparingly. Your favorite Wind followed you to your work place, rattled the windows, choked the chimneys, banged the doors, and made "Misery and Wo" its battle cry to the world. That Wind followed you home. That persistent Wind followed you to your door, screamed in through the key-hole, swirled up the stairway, and sung through the crevices of your bedroom windows. Yoo-sniffs and blasts of Wind! Yoo-hoos! Yoo-hoos! Yoo-hoos