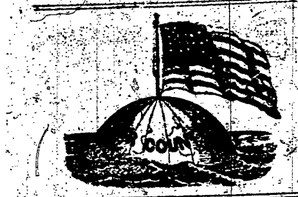
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1864.



NATIONAL CURRENCY—FOREIGN COMMERCE.

A Few Suggestions.

In consequence of the defeat of the National Currency Bill in Congress, which was loaded down with unwise amendments, a new bill has been introduced, which we hope will meet with a better fate. *The people are determined to have a National Currency*, and if the present Congress does not pass such a bill, it will be demanded of the next Congress.

The only objection to a paper currency, which is absolutely necessary in all commercial countries, is its want of security, and liability to over-issues. Based on National securities, the first difficulty is removed, and the latter can also be easily obviated. Under the State Bank Systems there is no limit to the issues; nor could a National Bank check the issues of the State Banks, because the same causes which would produce an over-issue by these institutions, would also influence a National Institution. With a National Currency, having one point of issue at the Treasury Department, this difficulty can easily be remedied, while, at the same time, all the wants of the business community can be supplied, as population and business increase, without disturbing the just equilibrium that always ought to exist between the value of property and currency.

Our plan is this:—Base the issue of National Currency on the value of the property of the country, in proportion to one dollar in currency to thirty dollars of the value of property. This would give a volume of about five hundred millions of currency. If this amount should be too much—say one dollar to $35 or $40 in property. We have not the data at hand, but we believe that one dollar to $35 in property, would give about $400,000,000 currency—a sum sufficient for all purposes. The value of the property is enumerated every three years, and by limiting the issue to this basis, an effectual check is provided against over-issues and over-trading, the relative value of property to currency is secured, and all the expansions and contractions which have periodically swept the country, scattering ruin and desolation everywhere, will be effectually checked. The average annual increase in the value of property can easily be ascertained from the increase in former years, by the Controller of the Currency, and he could be governed accordingly, in issuing National currency. With such a limit to the issue, it would inspire great confidence among the business, as well as all classes of the community, and would soon prove to be the best currency in the world.

Our foreign commerce also requires a more effectual regulator than can be secured by the mere passage of a Tariff Bill. In European countries it is regulated by National Banking Institutions, which raise the rates of interest when the balance of trade is against the country, and lower the rates when they desire increased importations. We have no National Institution to regulate commerce; and it has been suggested that this power be given to Banking Institutions located in the Atlantic cities. Such a proposition is preposterous.—It could not be carried out, and we, therefore, respectfully suggest to Congress the passage of the following supplement to the Tariff Bill, after it is revised and the duties largely increased on luxuries of every description, which, of course, Congress will do before it adjourns:

Be it enacted, &c. That, leaving out of view both the export and import of Gold and Silver, no merchandise or goods do not exceed the imports in value twenty per cent. during any fiscal quarter of any fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to raise the duty on the value of all articles of foreign import (excepting such articles as have been exempted from the provisions of the act) 10 per centum, within thirty days after the expiration of each and every fiscal quarter during which the exports as aforesaid do not exceed the imports as aforesaid twenty per cent.

Such an Act would regulate the foreign commerce of the country more effectually than any other method that could be devised. Even the knowledge that the Secretary of the Treasury possessed this power, would have a tendency to check importations by importers, when they were in excess of exportations.—Of course, duties must be kept high to protect our industry at the enhanced rates of production, and also to produce revenue to meet the interest on our large public debt. But prices fluctuate so rapidly, that even the present high rates might not prove sufficiently protective, keep the balance of trade in our favor, and check a heavy drain of coin to pay for excessive importations.

On the other hand, should the Rebellion collapse and prices recede, the tariff might prove to be too high, importations fall off, revenue from that source diminish, and our drain on the coin of the world become so great as to destroy the markets abroad for our surplus productions. In either case, this power, guarded by law, could be better exercised by the Secretary of the Treasury, who has all the figures in his possession, than to trust to the uncertain legislation of Congress on all questions connected with duties on foreign goods. And besides, these fluctuations might occur at a time when Congress was not in session.

We respectfully submit these views to the consideration of Congress, and to our readers generally.

THE LATE DISASTROUS FLORIDA EXPEDITION.—Gen. Gillmore's report of the Florida expedition is published. It demonstrates *First*: That the plan of the expedition was Gen. Gillmore's, and that it had three distinct and sufficient military objects, to which a fourth, not military, was at a later period adjoined by the President. *Second*: That the battle of Olustee was fought in consequence of an advance by Gen. Seymour, not only without, but clearly against, Gen. Gillmore's orders. The effort of the latter to countermand it was frustrated by a storm, which delayed his messenger.

It follows, therefore, that the Copperhead charge against the President of having caused an expedition into Florida for political purposes is refuted by the testimony of Gen. Gillmore; and that the responsibility for the disaster at Olustee is removed alike from the President and from Gen. Gillmore, and now rests fixedly upon Gen. Seymour. As the latter has been relieved from his command, though tardily, and summoned to Washington, it is presumed that he is to go before a Court-Martial, and receive a just penalty for his crime.

COPPERHEAD PAPERS IN A DILEMMA.—We copy the following from the Nashville Union:

> We have before us four newspapers of the date of the 24th, all of which claim to be genuine exponents of unadulterated Democracy; they are the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, the Chicago *Times*, and Chicago *Post*. The *Enquirer* reads the *Plain Dealer* out of the party; the latter declares that the former is already outside the pale of the party organization; the Chicago *Post* declares that the *Times* does not speak the sentiments of the Democracy, and the *Times* calls the *Post* "Black Republican." Gentlemen, do decide this little matter, won't you?

The poor devils don't like the thundering of the Union folks through the ballot boxes. It makes them awful shakey about the knees.

HARTFORD REDEEMED.—On Monday last Hartford, Connecticut, elected Union Charter Officers in place of Copperheads—a gladdening change. In April, 1863 T. H. Seymour (Copper) had 358 majority; last week, O. S. Seymour (ditto) had 48 majority. On Monday Allyn S. Stillman (Union) was chosen Mayor by 43 majority, and our side carried four of the six Wards, making it a clean sweep. Hartford has not gone this way before for years.

GOOD IDEA.—A friend suggests that as prices of coffee and sugar are kept up by speculators and not in consequence of scarcity; that as the Government is a heavy consumer of these articles for the army in the service; that as there is a surplus of gold in the Treasury, a portion of that gold be used to import direct from Brazil and other ports cargoes of coffee and sugar for the use of the army and navy, convoyed by armed vessels. The Government would save by the operation; importers lose control of the market, and the prices be reduced to the general consumers who now feel the burden very heavily. It is evident that the surplus of gold in the Treasury could not be used in a better way. It is to be hoped that the Government will take the matter into serious consideration.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE LIFE, SPEECHES, PROCLAMATIONS, ACTS AND SERVICES OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN, is the title of a new and popular work just issued by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia. It contains a full history of his *Life*, his career as a lawyer and politician, his Services in Congress, with his Speeches, Messages, Proclamations, Acts and Services, as President of the United States up to the present time, with his Portrait. One large volume, price 50 cents. For sale at Bannan's Bookstore, Pottsville, wholesale and retail.

Local Affairs.

Weekly Almanac.

'64.—April.	SUN RISES.	SUN SETS.	MOON'S CHANGES.	
16 SATURDAY....	5 21	6 28		
17 SUNDAY.....	5 19	6 29		
18 MONDAY.....	5 18	6 30	New M.	6 43 morg
19 TUESDAY.....	5 17	6 31	First Q.	12 7 12 eve'g
20 WEDNESDAY..	5 16	6 32	Full M.	21 8 22 eve'g
21 THURSDAY....	5 14	6 33	Last Q.	28 11 38 eve'g
22 FRIDAY.....	5 13	6 34		

To-morrow.—Sixteenth Sunday of the year, and third after Easter. Day's length, 13 hours and 17 minutes.

The "Old York Store" in Morris Addition, is being removed. Mr. Charles M. Atkins is about erecting on the spot a residence.

China, Glass, Crockery, &c.—Mr. J. B. Trexell has a fine stock of these articles at his store in Centre street above Norwegian, which he sells at City prices. For particulars see advertisement.

Confirmation.—Bishop Potter will hold a confirmation in Trinity Church, on Thursday evening, April 21st. Service begins at half past seven.

New Society.—The membership of the "Anti-Bank Evading Society" is becoming quite strong. People object to paying fifty cents a pound for butter. Hence the Society.

New U. S. 10-40 Loan.—This loan is beginning to go off rapidly. The interest is payable in Gold, and it is a better investment than any other that can be made at the present time. Mr. L. F. Whitney sold upwards of $20,000 of the loan the present week, in Pottsville.

The Enrollment for the Draft of 1862.—Persons in this County, having claims against the Government for making the Enrollment of 1862, will make application in person to Wm. A. Field, Schuylkill Haven, who will furnish the necessary blanks and information.

Departure of the Band.—The Band which has been organized by Mr. Wm. J. Foger, for the Forty-eighth Regiment, P. V. V., left town on Wednesday morning last for Annapolis to join the Regiment. When Bill the leader will oblige us by furnishing us with a complete muster roll.

Removal.—Mr. Jacob F. Embardt has removed his shoe store from East Norwegian to Norwegian street between Second and Third. Mr. Embardt has earned an excellent reputation for making a good book or shoe, that we presume his old customers will not only follow him, but that he will gain additional patronage in his new location.

Greenhouse Plants, Roses, &c.—The stock of Greenhouse Plants, Roses, &c., at Greenwood Nursery, has been doubled this season by the erection of a new Greenhouse. They are in splendid condition and will be sold wholesale and retail. Dealers supplied at wholesale prices.—Call at the Greenhouses and see them.

Fruit Trees, &c.—Now is the time to plant Fruit and Shade Trees. A fine assortment of all kinds, both standard and dwarf, remain unsold at Greenwood Nursery. About 50 Apple Trees extra size, yet quite small, to be sold cheap, as they must be removed. Also extra sized Pear and Cherry Trees. These trees can be taken out of the ground as wanted.

Fire Damp Explosion.—On Tuesday morning an explosion of fire-damp occurred in the mines of Wm. H. Starr, a short distance above Minersville, by which some five men and one boy were severely burned, but not in such a manner as to endanger their lives. The explosion, we understand, was the result of carelessness on the part of one of the operatives.

Deaths of Soldiers.—Alonzo Martz of Co. I, 7th Penna. Cavalry, died in Harrisburg on the 13th instant.

Wm. H. Smith, of Co. D, 48th Reg., P. V. V., died in hospital at Annapolis, Md., on the 7th instant.

John Deitrick, of Co. D, 48th Reg., P. V. V., died at his home in this County, on the 22d ult.

Interesting to Holders of Treasury Notes.—A Philadelphia banker recently received in the way of business a Seven Thirty Treasury Note, dated December 1, 1863, payable two years after date, with interest at five per cent. per annum, the latter payable semi-annually. The interest coupons had been detached from the note. The United States Treasurer at Washington was consulted as to the effect on the value of the note by the detachment of the coupons. The reply was as follows:—"The coupons having been detached, the note ceases to be a legal tender until the 1st of June, 1865, at which time it will be received for its full face value." This may be of interest as a precedent in like cases.

Coroner's Inquests.—On Monday last the Coroner held an inquest on the body of Richard Lewis, Co. A, 48th Reg., P. V. V., which was found on the woods near Mt. Laffee. The last time he was seen alive was two days before the Regiment left for Annapolis. He was a single man; an Englishman, and boarded while here at Woods's. The jury rendered a verdict of "died from intemperance and exposure."

On Tuesday the Coroner held an inquest at Mine Hill Gap in Cass Township, on the body of Michael Curran, a young Irishman, who had been shot. From the evidence it seems that while Curran was on the day previous, helping a neighbor to plant potatoes, a man named John Britt, another young Irishman, with whom he had previously had a difficulty, approached him with a double-barrelled gun in his hand. About 30 yards off, Curran he leveled the gun and shot Curran, the ball passing through the body of the latter, killing him instantly. A verdict was rendered to the effect that Curran came to his death by a gun-shot wound inflicted by Britt. Constable Kennedy a warrant was issued for the arrest of Britt.

Seven Sons in the Service.—Recently the Philadelphia *Press* alluded to the fact that a citizen of Ohio had five sons in the United States service, fighting to crush the wicked and unprovoked Rebellion. That is indeed, noteworthy. But Pottsville has a citizen who beats the Ohioan in this matter. Mr. Daniel Christian of this Borough, who was himself a soldier in the War of 1812, for a period of three months, has had seven sons in the service. The honor roll of Mr. Christian's contribution to his country, is as follows, and we think that we can safely challenge the country to furnish a more patriotic individual record:

Charles Christian was in the Sixth Regiment, P. V., three months service, in Capt. Tower's company. Before the war he was three years and four months on board the United States ship Independence as a sailor.

Daniel Christian, Jr., was in the three months service, and enlisted February, 1862 in the 67th Regiment, P. V., in Capt. John S. Carpenter's company, and is now a re-enlisted veteran volunteer for three years or the war.

Benjamin Christian, was also in the three months service, and has re-enlisted veteran in the same Regiment and Company in which Daniel serves.

John Christian; the same.

George W. Christian enlisted August, 1861, for three years in Capt. Hinkle's company, 48th Regiment. He now is re-enlisted veteran volunteer.

William A. Christian was, with the men furnished by the draft of 1862, a 1st Lieut. in the 173d Regiment.

Henry F. Christian enlisted in February, 1864, for three years in Capt. Hinkle's company, 48th Regiment.

The father of this interesting little company of patriots, merits some testimonial for the sacrifices he has made. He is a poor man, and the Government would do a just act if it made him a handsome gift.

"Leaves have their time to fall;
And flowers to wither at the North wind's breath;
But then—thou hast all.
Seasons of glory, O, Death!"

These lines are trite, but truthful. We see the aged sink asleep calmly, in death, and are resigned, because decayed and withered, they fall as it were, naturally, as the acorn Autumn leaf descends to mingle with the kindred earth. But when the bud just blossoming into the flower of womanly grace and beauty, or of manly strength and vigor, is nipped by the Icy King of Terrors, and perishes, we are likewise resigned, but it is mingled with a feeling of deep, heartfelt grief that so much that is promising should be taken from us, leaving but a—Blank.

Involuntarily we are led to these reflections upon the announcement to us of the death of a young man—one who, a short sixteen months since laid his patriotic heart on the altar of his country; one who did his duty nobly throughout the siege of Vicksburg; one who while in the discharge of that duty contracted the disease that infected his system, and rendered him peculiarly susceptible to the attack of the disease—typhoid fever—that sent him to his last home. He was a member of the Mercantile Battalion, and enlisted from this place in the Navy in the most patriotic time in the history of the country, when the first naval engagement at Middleton's Bend, in which the prowess of the Union arms was exhibited.

Before concluding this sincere tribute to the memory of a young, gallant, patriotic heart now cold in death, it is proper to say that the sympathy of this community is extended to Mr. Campbell who within the short space of two months has lost by death, his two eldest sons—boys who gave promise of a useful future, and whose departure has left a vacuum at the household hearth difficult to fill. May "He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," comfort these parents in their affliction.

Payments of the Pennsylvania Militia of 1862.—The following circular is interesting to many in this County.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PAYMASTER, BALTIMORE, (Md.,) April 11, 1864.—Arrangements for the payment of the Pennsylvania Emergency troops, called into service by the Governor, in September, 1862, will shortly be completed. To facilitate the work I have divided the State into three districts, with a supervising paymaster for each, viz:—

First District, Major David Taggart, 4th Philadelphia, embraces the counties of Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill and Wayne.

Second District, Major D. H. McPhail, at Harrisburg. The counties of Adams, Blair, Bradford, Cambria, Centre, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union, Wyoming and York.

Third District, Major Russell Errett, at Pittsburg. The counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Crawford, Erie, Fayette, Indiana, Lawrence, Warren, Washington and Westmoreland.

These, as appears from the returns to the Adjutant General of the State, are all the counties in which were organized any of the troops in question.

Any information desired by parties interested will promptly be furnished on application to the proper supervising paymaster.

Each of the named supervising officers will arrange the details within his district, looking to the convenience of claimants and the finishing of the work assigned him with the least practicable delay. He will designate the points and dates of rendezvous, and the paymaster to officiate at each. These, at the proper time, he will have announced in the newspapers of the district.

That which the absence of soldier cannot be present at his designated place of rendezvous, to sign the rolls, the payment may be made to his attorney upon power duly executed.

Form will not be required. The simple authority from the soldier, to sign and receive, will be sufficient. But in all cases the power must be acknowledged before a notary, justice, or other magistrate. If the latter, his seal must be affixed. If the others, the accomplication under the seal of a court of record.

These conditions are indispensable to protect the government against fraud.

D. W. BIDDLE, Chief Paymaster.

As the above circular is a matter of general interest, the newspapers throughout the first subdistrict are respectfully requested to give it publicity through their columns. DAVID TAGGART, Paymaster U. S. A.

Philadelphia, April 14, 1864.

Beautiful Present to Mrs. Shearer.—While the companies of the Invalid Corps were stationed here, the men experienced many kindnesses at the hands of the residents of the Borough. Prominent in the work of attending on the sick and relieving an interest which is so acceptable to men who are away from home and friends, was Mrs. Eliza Shearer, an estimable lady of Pottsville. Company A, on its departure, resolved to present to Mrs. Shearer a photograph album, as a testimonial of his high regard the members entertain for her as a friend of the soldier.—The album was made to order in Philadelphia, and received by Mrs. Shearer on Monday last. It will contain two hundred pictures of the kindly inclined and benevolent actors in the drama. One side contains a plate set in velvet, on which is engraved, "*Mrs. Eliza Shearer.*" The other side contains this inscription: "*Presented to Mrs. Eliza Shearer by Co. A, 14th Reg., U. S. Invalid Corps. 1864.*"—On the gilt edge of the cover leaves are representations of the Union arms, and the inscription, "*To the Soldier's Friend.*" This work has been artistically executed.

Accompanying the gift, were the following copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Company held at Alexandria, Va., on the 6th inst., and letter of presentation:

HEAD-QUARTERS CO. A, 14TH REG., V. R. C.,
RENDEZVOUS OF DISTRIBUTION, NEAR ALEXANDRIA,
VIRGINIA, April 6th, 1864.

MRS. SHEARER:—In behalf of Co. A, 14th Reg., V. R. C., we present to you this Album. In presenting it, we feel that it is but a slight remuneration for the kindness bestowed upon us at your hands. We present it to you for the attention you have paid us while far away from kindreds and friends, and the sweet surroundings of home comforts; while we were sick and wounded and languishing in the hospital, and we cannot forget your cheering words that came to us in camp, and bowed us up in the performance of our arduous duties in enforcing obedience to the laws of our old Government, in the riotous sections of the Old Keystone State—districts where civil law was set at naught, and hurled back with defiance to the strong arm whence it came. We feel confident of seeing and knowing that this state of things had passed away, and law and order restored to its proper standard.

Whatever credit of the Veteran Reserve Corps, is entitled to, for the bringing about of this state of things, we feel that the generous hearted, Union loving, loyal citizens of old Schuylkill will freely grant to it; they, your self will ah hearty co-operation in the cause for which we labor—"The preservation of the Union, the Constitution and the Laws," of this, the best Government the God of the Universe ever smiled upon.

We request you to accept this as a slight token of our respect and esteem for your disinterested kindness to us, while sick and unable to take care of, ourselves. We present it to you as a secret token, merely to show our appreciation of your uniform kindness and urbanity of manner, while in the discharge of your self-imposed duties.

May the blessing of God, and nature's choicest blessings, long life, prosperity and happiness, attend you.

We subscribe ourselves, dear madame,
Your most obedient servants,

ALEX. H. GIBSON,
ALEXANDER REED,
WM. E. BOWEN,
CHAS. D. ELLIOTT,
B. F. KECK,
} Com. of Presentation.

The following is the letter of Mrs. Shearer acknowledging the reception of the gift:

POTTSVILLE, April 13, 1864.

GENTLEMEN:—I have just received the letter of express through you to Co. A, 14th Reg., V. R. C., the pleasure and pride I experienced upon the reception of your most beautiful gift. Its value is enhanced by the knowledge that it comes from one whose lives have been exposed upon many battle fields in defence of the liberties of our country and the blessing of self-government, and many of whom bear upon their persons marks of honor received in the field in fighting bravely for our sacred cause. A gift from men like you is more to be prized by the patriot-heart than rich testimonials from princes.

I hardly feel that I have merited this testimonial. I endeavored in an humble way, to discharge what I considered a duty to the sick and suffering among those of our volunteer defenders stationed at our fields, and I should have esteemed it a blessed privilege to have extended my labors even beyond the limits of our Mountain City, in so sacred a cause. I only regret that my means would not permit me to do more for our gallant soldiers than I have been able to accomplish.

The citizens of Schuylkill County recognize with gratitude, the valuable services rendered in preserving the majesty of the law in this Region, while in the discharge of your duty here; appreciate your uniformly gentlemanly deportment, and trust that when this unnatural war is over, that all of you will have been spared to re-visit the spot where you have gained many warm friends.

I thank you gentlemen, from my heart, for your beautiful gift, and for the kind wishes you express in your letter accompanying it. That God may bless and keep you in safety and health, to enjoy many happy years after this wicked Rebellion has been quelled, is the sincere prayer of

Your Friend,
ELIZA SHEARER.

To Messrs. Alex. H. Gibson, Alexander Reed, Wm. E. Bowen, Chas. D. Elliott and B. F. Keck, Committee of Presentation.

The recipient will unquestionably, highly prize a testimonial of which she is richly deserving, and be long retained by her posterity as an interesting and valuable memento of a portion of the kind and benevolent acts done by the women of the country in the great American Rebellion.

Relief for East Tennessee—Meeting in Pottsville—Eloquent and touching Address of Hon. N. G. Taylor, late Representative from East Tennessee—Organization to obtain Contributions.—Our citizens having been made aware of the important mission with which Hon. N. G. Taylor, former Representative from East Tennessee, is charged, under the approbation of the Governor of Tennessee, namely, the relief of the suffering Union men of that State, recently appointed a committee to correspond with Mr. Taylor and desire him to make a statement of his mission and of the condition of that loyal and unfortunate population to the people of Schuylkill County, to the end that they may be enabled to participate in the wide movement which is now making to alleviate their sufferings. Mr. Taylor responded, naming Monday, 11th instant, as the time when he would have the honor of addressing the citizens of this County.

Not being able to obtain the Court House for the meeting, the Pastor and trustees of the English Lutheran Church tendered the use of their building which was gratefully accepted and used.

On Monday Mr. Taylor, Gen. Hiram Walbridge, of New York, and Col. Peyton of Haddonfield N. J., reached here.

The meeting in the evening organized by calling Chas. Frailey, Esq., to the chair.

Gen. Walbridge was introduced, and said that in the 35d Congress he had the pleasure of first meeting Mr. Taylor, who was a representative of a State that had given the President who said that the Union must be preserved. When I met him again after a lapse of ten years he was the representative of the suffering people of East Tennessee. I felt an interest in the work, and am here to assist him in the effort to obtain relief for the loyal people of that State. In New York the cause will get $200,000. Boston will give $100,000, and other cities in proportion. The same persecutions, soft and sweet; same eloquence, dropped like the dews of Heaven into the ears of our people of the mountains, and our boys were promised exemption from the battle-field if they would only acquiesce and let the rebels roll on. Well, fellow-citizens, the August election came, for a Governor, members of Congress, and representatives to the State Legislature. By this time, the bayonets of the Southern Confederacy decided all over the State of Tennessee. Our great men in the middle and western portions of the State had felt the force of the storm—among them, the man whom I was proud to serve in 1860, as the representative of the Union sentiment of our State in connection with my illustrious friend Mr. EVERETT—I mean JOHN BELL. He, and the Ewings, Cave Johnson, Neal Brown, and a host of men whose hearts had been true to the Union until the storm rose, slunk deaf to the claims of humanity or the ties of consanguinity. This, however, need not excite surprise. A people who have voluntarily determined to overthrow the fabric of constitutional government, in advance, have qualified themselves for every species of atrocity known to human annals.

These facts, however, only augment our responsibility to contribute whatever lies in our power to alleviate their sufferings, and restore them to their original condition as it existed before the rebellion began.

After speaking of the contest as one in which the principles of free government are concerned, the General presented Mr. Taylor to the audience.

Address of Hon. N. G. Taylor.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, GENTLEMEN, FELLOW-CITIZENS.—I am here to-night, at the instance of kind citizens of this County, to address you in reference to East Tennessee, whose representative I have the honor to be on this occasion. I regret that it is not my privilege to congratulate myself, and you, upon the prosperity and happiness of my people; that I cannot tell you, our homes are undisturbed and quiet; that the peace and tranquility, and integrity of the family circle is still unbroken; and that there are no sad signs of sorrow, no grating sounds of distress and war echoing among our mountains and valleys. But such are the desolating fruits of rebellion; such the blighting results of treasonable war, that I tell you no such pleasing stories.

I do not come here as a beggar, nor as a representative of beggars; for a population that has always been too proudly patriotic to bow the will to the lawless tyranny of a despotic oligarchy, is still too proud, although beggared by this war, to cringe, as a beggar, and solicit alms of Northern brethren. If you will cast your eye upon the map of the United States, and draw a line upon it from Cincinnati to Charleston, S. C., and another from New York city to New Orleans, I think you will find that that intersection will be near the centre of East Tennessee, which is that portion of the State of Tennessee lying east of the Cumberland Mountains. It comprises thirty-one counties, and contains 10,000 to 15,000 square miles, and a population of 300,000 persons. This is a mountain region essentially, and is one of the most elevated within the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. It is almost surrounded by lofty mountains, which isolate it from other sections, and make it territorially a State of itself. East Tennessee is indeed a most interesting region. Rich in productions of your warmest sympathies, and your kindest regards, if not profoundest admiration. "It consists of the broad valley of the magnificent river (Tennessee and its tributaries) which traverses it, running southwestward, with a width of from two hundred miles, "with a varying width of from fifty to seventy-five miles—and of the slopes of the mountains, which separate it, on the north from Kentucky, on the west from Middle Tennessee, and on the southeast from North Carolina and Georgia—a beautiful valley—between beautiful enclosing hills, fertile, many of them, to their summits; sparkling with a hundred tributaries to the noble stream which forms its principle feature." From northeast to southwest this region is traversed, for most of its length, by Powell's Clinch, Bays, and House Mountains, whose transverse spurs and ridges reach far down into the intervening valleys—giving variety and boldness to scenery, unsurpassed in the rich and beautiful beauty on the American continent. Our streams are fed by ten thousand clear, brigh, pebbly bottomed rivulets, whose cool, laughing waters gush from perennial fountains, on the right edge of the mountain ridges, to refresh the Union farmer, awaking the echoes with the melody of their sweet voices. The axe has cleared many thousands of fertile acres in the valleys, and along the slopes of the hills—which yield their generous fruits to the hardy farmer—till the rich mountains still shade themselves with a boundless profusion of forest verdure, as if to shut out, and hide from man's obtrusive gaze, the wilderness of rich grasses and flowers, that flourish within. Here, fellow-citizens, is the great wheat-field already rich with the verdure of spring; beyond is the forest, ever-green, and the young cotton-field, where the sable negro, for a hundred years; above the forest, there, before you a mile or more away, is the first ridge of the mountain, behind which is the cascade whose silvery waters have nourished whole generations of corn-fields over the hundreds; the kindness and benevolence of the dusky denizens, the grand old mountain itself; on its sides and slopes the primeval forest still spreads its giant arms, as if to shield the millions of beautiful, wild flowers, that flourish at its feet; while on its summit, at an iron belt of mist, 6,200 feet above the sea, a green grassy prairie meadow, fringed with fir trees, spreads its beautiful bosom to the caresses of the sun. In this mountain-girt realm, there are no dismal swamps, and stagnant, putrid lakes, whence malaria springs to poison man—no miasm taints the air—these find a home in less congenial climes. The pestilential winds from the damp low fields of the south and northland, chilled and cooled as they sweep over the lofty crests of our mountains, breathe life and health on all our sunny valleys. Our mountains abound with ores of lead, zinc, copper, silver, and iron; bituminous coal, and many varieties of salts, are found in various localities. Salt has been discovered, and there are mineral waters, of great medicinal value, in almost every county; and we have water-power enough to operate all the machinery of the continent.

Such, fellow-citizens, these mountains, are the homes of 300,000 peoples, whose misfortune it has been to incur the displeasure of their Southern brethren. Not that they differed, essentially in their sentiments and feelings upon the great national questions that had heretofore, to a greater or less extent, sectionalized the opinions of the country; not that in their sympathies, interests, education, or associations, they were severed from their brethren surrounding them,—but that they cherished a different appreciation of the Government of the United States, which was committed to them in trust, for the benefit of posterity; not that they loved their kindred less, but their country more.

It is true that many of our kindred of the South are very angry with the people of East Tennessee, and they hate us with great bitterness, and of late have done us great injury. Yet, while the remembrance of this fact is a source of grief to the people of East Tennessee, they are consoled by the reflection that this animosity and hatred have been engendered by her devotion to the union of these States, by her adherence to the principles of the father of our country, and relief of our suffering people. The army of Gen. Bragg had been, just previously, compelled to evacuate Chattanooga, and Gen. Burnside occupied that extremity of the State; our young men at once sprung from their hiding places and the coverts in the mountains, and rallied to the standard of their country, under the lead of gallant and patriotic officers. Union companies and regiments were formed, and our mothers, sisters, wives, and old men, were left alone to occupy our homes. To-day, fellow-citizens, more than 25,000 East Tennesseans wear the uniform and bear the arms of your country and my country, and have been mustered into the service of these United States in its patriotism, I must say for my section, that in the midst of all their sufferings and trials, privations and perils, they have furnished to the support of our government more than in proportion to their population—more than two to one—than any other section of the country.

As Gen. BURNSIDE, in September, marched with his conquering hosts towards Upper East Tennessee, the rebel army retreated before him; but as they went, thinking, perhaps, that they were seeing the last of East Tennessee, they seized upon the property, the live stock, especially, of the Union farmers, all over the country, where they could find it, and carried off with them. From that moment the work of devastation went on with accelerated momentum. Many times have the Union and rebel armies traversed the whole length of East Tennessee, exhausting the country at every step, and leaving ruin, and, to every encampment, widening the track of ruin that they left behind them. In the track of the armies came robbers, who found convenient hiding-places and rallying points in the mountains that skirt our valleys, and came down and claimed their share of the property of our plundered people; and thus our barns and stables, our cribs and dwellings, were entered and robbed, and our people left utterly destitute. The very wearing apparel of our women and children was seized by these ruffians, and carried out of the house. Our blankets and bed-clothing, everything that was calculated to render the soldiers more comfortable, was seized by the strong hand, and carried away. Our tanneries shared the same fate. They had all been compelled, in the reign of the rebels, to contribute sixty per cent. of their leather to the government for the shoeing of their soldiers; but now, when they were retreating from the State, they seized all the leather in the vats, and bore it away, leaving our old men, women and children, to meet the rigors of the passing winter bare-footed, as well as almost naked.

Believe me, fellow-citizens, East Tennessee has drunk the full cup of suffering, and nothing seems left her now but to drain its bitterness to the very dregs. Her sacrifices, everything but her loyalty and honor, she has suffered everything but dishonor and death: and now destitution and famine, followed by despair and death, are trampling upon the threadbolls of her sad homes, are entering their very doors, ready to consummate the sacrifice and complete the sufferings. But, thank God, through all her sufferings she has been faithful. Persuasions, threats, insults, imprisonments, wounds, stripes, privations, chains, confiscations, gibbets, and military murders, the clash of arms, the "earthquakes of armies with banners," and all the combined and concentrated horrors of internecine war marshalled upon her battle-torn bosom, and hurling sorrow and ruin into all her homes, have never corrupted her loyalty, nor driven her a solitary line from her devotion to the government of our fathers. Disarmed before she could organize, she was seized and pinioned by a power that overrode all law, and trampled constitutional liberty under its feet. Choked down, under a reign of terror black as night, her proud heart has felt the heel of a despotism more heartless and crushing than the power of an autocracy. Her loyal people, because they could not do otherwise, have submitted, for more than two dreadful years, to a bondage to their direct heart-blood far more abhorrent—a bondage that fetters the soul, and seals the lips, and all but closes the door of hope. We have breathed but to live, and lived but to pray, "Oh, Lord, how long?" Thank God! the prayer of the oppressed is answered, and East Tennessee, in answer to our prayers, is almost free, and the grand old banner floats once more triumphantly, gloriously, over our mountain-girt home, and there may it float forever!

With this history of the people of East Tennessee before you, it is for you to determine whether this brave and patriotic population shall be suffered to fall and perish in their devotion to our common country, by the blighting hand of famine, or whether your philanthropy and benevolence shall interpose to shield and protect and guard and save them.

East Tennessee has sacrificed all she had for the country. Her horses, her mules, her flocks and herds, her cattle upon a thousand hills, have all been offered up; her corn and wheat are all consumed; her young men—all who have not fallen in the camp or on the battle-field—are now swelling the ranks of your victorious armies; and, now our matrons and maidens, our old men and little children, our soldiers' widows and orphaned babes, are all bound and upon the altar; already the sacrificial knife is uplifted; it trembles in the hand of Famine;—may God save my people, and avert the stroke, in this their day of sorrow and trial!

While the scourge of this cruel war has thus blighted and blasted, devastated and ruined East Tennessee, the land of the free, the home of the loyal and brave, if has scarcely been felt north of Mason and Dixon's line. On the contrary, a degree of prosperity, such as you have never experienced, has poured into the lap of the people of the North and West boundless wealth. The labors of your agriculturists have been succeeded by the blessings of a gracious Providence; your mechanics have received remunerative prices for all the labor they could perform; your merchants have scen a more prosperous business all parallel; your manufacturers have expanded and enlarged their operations in every branch of manufacture; and your mineral region is pouring forth, from the bowels of the earth, uncounted wealth.—Whether you will make this vast increase of wealth a source of blessing to yourselves, your children, your country, and the world, is a problem that is left for you to solve. The desolations and ruin of this unnatural and cruel war have opened a wide field for your philanthropy and benevolence. Will you enter it?—will you sow it? Will you cultivate it? If so, an abundant crop of blessings will fall upon your basket and upon your store, upon your homes and hearths, and above all, upon your hearts.

Now, fellow-citizens, do sympathize with my people, and that you are ready to open your hands for their relief, I cannot doubt; and especially when I remember that the appeal of the suffering and the sorrowful, the afflicted and the bereaved of earth, has never been made in vain to your magnanimous and benevolent people.—Sir, I do not believe you intend that these people shall perish. I will not believe it till I see their bones bleaching among their native hills. I believe that you have hearts that palpitate in unison with their hearts; I believe that you have hands that will open for their relief.

Sir, the very soil of East Tennessee, from the beetling crags of the White Top Mountain to the battle-scarred summit of the Lookout, is hence forth classic ground; every neighborhood has its glorious record; every village has witnessed the conflict of arms; almost every county has felt the shock of battle; and some of the most memorable, and bloody struggles that history will record, of any country, have been fought on her bosom. The red sea of war has rolled its fiery billows over all her valleys, and rivulets of blood from her slippery hill-sides have swelled the tide of battle, until it has run mad hearts and returns the salutation by the shore of the distant Pacific.

Mr. Taylor concluded by inviting the audience to come down to East Tennessee and visit the people. They would find the latch strings out.—If you can't bring your families, bring your sweethearts; if you can't bring them, come yourself, and you will see some of the prettiest girls who ever kissed the cheek of a man.

Mr. Peyton at the conclusion of Mr. Taylor's remarks, made some excellent practical suggestions in reference to the mode of contributing for the relief of the destitute people of East Tennessee.

On motion the following organization to obtain contributions, was adopted:

President—BURD PATTERSON.
Vice Presidents—William Milnes.
Secretary—A. K. WHITNER.
Treasurer—Andrew Boswell.

COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS.

Pottsville—John Shippen, John Bannan, Esq., James H. Campbell, John Clayton, J. M. Beatty, George W. Snyder.
Tamaqua—M. P. Fowler, Charles F. Shoener, Col. Henry L. Cake.
Cressona—Wm. A. Hammer.
Minersville—Seth W. Geer, Thomas Kear, Dr. Howell.
Ashland—J. B. Cleaver, Wm. G. Moodie, Malkin M. Mock.
Port Carbon—Aquilla Bolton, Chauncey Chilson.
Manayunk City—Edward Sillyman, Frank Carter.
Schuylkill Haven—Gideon Bast, Hugh N. Coxe, Dr. John G. Koehler.
Orwigsburg—Samuel H. Madden, Esq., Eli Hammer.
Port Clinton—George Wagoner.
Pinegrove—Daniel R. Miller, John Hoch.
Auburn—Daniel Frock, Samuel K. Moyer.
Tremont—Daniel B. Althouse, J. A. Dotter.
Donaldson—Capt. Adam Etten, Dr. J. W. Bird.
Ringgold—J. H. Pile, Capt. Daniel B. Kershner.
Saint Clair—Griffith T. Jones, Louis H. Koch.
Mahanoy—F. Kreeker, Joseph Wommer.
Eldred—George Boyer, Esq., Elias Hepler.
Hegins—Moses Dunkelberger.
Ringtown—William Davies.
Barry—Israel Reed.

On motion it was resolved that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the Pastor and Trustees of the English Lutheran Church of Pottsville, for their kindness in tendering the use of their