The Press.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1862.

WE HAVE rarely printed anything which will be read with more interest than the account of the meeting of Pennsylvanians in Washington printed on our first page. We recognize in the efforts of our brothers in Washington one of the noblest sentiments which can characterize the people. It is not so much the mere effort of men to provide for the sufferings of fellow-men, for that is at all times commendable and proper. It is the old love of State and community and association which we see here manifested. It is a noble thought that when our brethers leave us for other scenes of action they carry with them the love and the fondness with which home and home associations always foster. And when we see them turn aside from the exacting cares of business, or the attractions of an ambitious and political life, to counsel together without regard to political feeling or partisan relations, we feel that whether we belong to one creed or another creed, whether Republicans or Democrats, of different feeling or antagonistic interests, they still cherish, with a fondness far beyond all other affections, their love for our grand old State.

We have no suggestion to add to those named by the speakers on this occasion. They understand the work before them, and they have set about its accomplishment in an energetic and practical manner. The policy which is carried out by this association is similar to the policy which was instituted by Pennsylvania in the beginning of the war. When our State gave its quota of soldiers to the national army, it formed them in a separate organization, commissioned its volunteer officers, sent agents into the camps to provide for their wants, and protected the families at home. Governor CURTIN having done well thus far was anxious to complete the task. In the saddest and most sacred duty, that of alleviating the miseries of the wounded, he now finds himself assisted by eminent citizens of his State now residing in Washington. We have no doubt but that there will be incalculable good arising out of the efforts of this association. It does not confine itself to Pennsylvanians in one army or another army, but it designs to pour the balm upon the wounded limb, whether in the extreme South or the distant West, on the Shenandoah or the Mississippi. And as Mr. BARCLAY so very pithily intimated, no distinction will be made betwixt the soldiers from Maine and the soldiers from Pennsylvania, but wherever a loyal man is in want, or in misery, the effort will be made to relieve him.

This work must not be left to the Washington organizations alone. We must assist them in the labor, and in Philadelphia, in Harrisburg, in Lancaster, and in Allegheny, in every town and township, measures should instantly be taken to organize and systematize efforts for the relief of our suffering soldiers. Our brothers in Washington can only investigate and direct; they can say what is to be done; they can take means to do it; but we, here in Philadelphia and elsewhere, must give of our substance and store to enable them to carry out their designs. We need only remind our friends of the duty which is now devolving upon them. No words of exhortation are necessary—it is a holy task, and the people will vie with each other in performing it.

"THE WAY in which the heart of man is carried off by war," wrote one whose mind was always strong and true except when blindly surrendered to the dictates of a too tender soul, "is by the splendor of its deceitful accompaniments." The fallacy of the proposition is plain enough: the "accompaniments" are assumed as always "deceitful," and all the rest of the brilliant essay, of which this sentence is the opening, has its arguments falsified and its pleadings in favor of universal peace rendered nugatory by a similar mistake—the incidental adjuncts of war receiving that consideration which should be given only to its necessary results. Men are *not* carried off to war by its pomp and showy splendors. The sharp whistling of the fife may fill the courses of our blood with eagerness to do and dare, with willingness to die; drum-beats may thrill our nerves into unison with their strong pulsations; banners may enwrap our reason with their blazoned folds; the gleam of steel may dazzle and bewilder our sight; but all these find their charm not merely in what they are of themselves, but in what they hint beyond themselves; and it will be time enough to scold us for children when it is shown that we yield to the childish, and are convicted of being led away by tinsel and show. Why, the raggedest boys throng after a marching regiment not for its music and the glitter of its accoutrements, but because all the impulses of incipient manhood throb out firm and full and free as the tramp of a thousand feet echoes through their young imaginations. It is not to sound struck from stones that they are listening, but to sounds that ring up from their own souls as the glorious *purposes* of the men march over them in the rythmic tread of courage and patriotism. They feel the majesty of a manhood that can sacrifice life to honor. They picture, dimly and unconsciously, it may be, the scenes of the battle-field. They feel the struggle; in it they put forth their own power; they suffer but they never yield; they conquer and wear victorious wreaths. These are the causes—these ideas of greatness, and power, and sacrifice and noble daring—that powerfully arouse the enthusiasm of the boy and inspire the devotion of the man.

We do not, therefore, hesitate flatly to contradict the assertion that military details constitute the chief charm of war, or even enhance its interest; on the contrary, it is not till the sickening array of details is forced upon us by the practical emergencies of war that our imaginations are called in from their wide sweep over principles and purposes to realize the terrible expense at which these are effected. We neglect the minutiæ of a battle-field; we care nothing for the positions of different regiments or commands as far as they carry forward their separate functions only. Our eyes are fixed on movements conducted upon a grand scale; our reason is occupied with vast strategic ideas; we want to see the unity of the general plan, and feel out the underlying thought that gives vitality to the whole. It is the deep game of checks and counter-checks, advances and retreats, feints and counter-feints, played on the board of military tactics that engrosses us; and we gaze, as if fascinated, upon this labyrinthine complication of wheels within wheels, and wonder to see them so evenly balanced in kind where disproportioned in size, or finding compensation in velocity for what is lost in power. We like to watch the processes and effects of military machinery without letting our thought get actually crushed in its working.

Who is not now talking of Corinth and of Richmond? Whose conversation is not enlarged by such phrases as *The division of the West*, or *The army of the Potomac?* Who does not like to identify himself with stupendous movements, and speak complacently of HALLECK's pushing forward a hundred and fifty thousand men, or MCCLELLAN's siege operations extending over fifteen miles? It is so pleasant to give our thought full swing, and talk of the Mississippi as in our possession, or of maintaining the blockade along two thousand miles of coast. Yet all the while we are overlooking movements of less magnitude, but, perhaps, of more real significance.

One such movement has just occurred. It is telegraphed in the simple words "Cumberland Gap is ours." The public read it to-day, and let "skirmishes before Richmond" blot it out to-morrow. Well, the public is only doing as the Secretary of War has been forced to do. He has known all along, as we have known, that the Unionists of Eastern Tennessee and Kentucky have been suffering unspeakable things in defence of their devotion to the old flag. We knew that guerilla robbery was making Union men homeless, that worse than guerilla murder was making Union women unprotected. Burnings, mobbings, assassinations, rapine, outrages of all kinds, and in the most monstrous degrees, were going on, but neither did Secretary STANTON send a force there adequate for their suppression, nor did we urge him to such a course by our clamor. We sympathized with the patriotic sufferers; we felt deeply for them; our very blood boiled in our veins when we read some fresh account of wanton barbarity, and we raised our voice in behalf of the unhappy loyalists. But the first force of the pity was soon blunted; Manassas and Columbus absorbed it, as Richmond and Corinth absorb it now.

Our forces in Tennessee have been increased, and General MORGAN was able to march down, a few days since, upon the great rebel stronghold—Cumberland Gap. It was a march even more severe than that of FREMONT from Franklin to Winchester. All that disheartening array of obstacles incident to mountain travel had to be overcome. Roads had to be cut through forests on precipitous mountain sides, where the axe had not yet rung. Bridges had to be built, and an army pushed through trackless passes and defiles. Cannon were actually hauled up by pulley. No wonder that the enemy, learning what indomitable energy was threatening them, evacuated the Gap a few hours before our men reached it.

"Cumberland Gap is ours." What is its value? It is on the northeastern boundary of Tennessee, where the extreme southwestern point of Virginia touches it. It is, as its name indicates, a great gap in the Cumberland mountains, and through it is the grand route from Kentucky to Tennessee, and so to Alabama and Georgia. This makes it a strategic point of the utmost importance, and rebel shrewdness did not overlook it. Its possession by the enemy put all Eastern Tennessee under their subjection; but now the way is opened for our avenging arms to enter and to reinstate loyal families in their homes. But these devoted patriots have lost, alas! more than their homes, and life cannot be restored to their dear ones who so nobly sacrificed it. This thought, it is said, and the knowledge of the awful martyrdom endured by that people, have so maddened the Union army, that it will be difficult to restrain it from the excesses of revenge.

While this work is being done on the northern border, MITCHELL is doing his share on the southern. The movement on the Chattanooga threatens to cut off the rebel retreat; at any rate, it surrounds East Tennessee with our arms, and makes its restoration to the Union a certainty.

All honor—more, homage to the loyal sufferers. They never faltered in their day of probation, and now comes their reward. Let them not think that because we were silent we did not feel for them. The emphasis of the people's attention has, indeed, been given to those operations of the war that seemed physically grand; but the moral grandeur of Tennessee's heroism is not forgotten. We know its catalogue of agonies, and wreathe it with votive garlands of gratitude and praise.

WE CONGRATULATE Mr. WM. L. HIRST, attorney-at-law, upon having obtained what promises to be a very extensive and lucrative practice. He seems disposed to conduct the case in which he is engaged upon the well-established principles of Jarndyce and Jarndyce, and, unless there is some providential interference or spontaneous combustion, there seems to be nothing in store for plaintiff, defendant, judges, tipstaves, and attorneys but a dreary old age, amid overburdened dockets and daily exhibitions of virtuous indignation. We always feel tranquil and resigned after reading the newspaper accounts of these performances. We know that honor and justice have found a resting-place and a refuge at the bar of the Court of Quarter Sessions. However wickedly inclined we may be, or to whatever excesses our sadly-neglected education may lead us, we can look for counsel and admonition to Mr. HIRST and his colleagues. We are only surprised at the moderation of this pious counsellor. He should not have stopped where he did. We are astonished that he did not make a motion to dispense with cakes and ale and ginger hot in the mouth. The whole mind of Philadelphia, he says, has been poisoned by the newspapers, and the court should adjourn to enable Mr. HIRST to administer an antidote. The court did not think the case a fatal one—refused to adjourn—and Mr. HIRST's remedies remain to be administered. He carried his point, however. A day was consumed—and his retainer seems to have been granted for the consumption of time. Every day occupied by this investigation is so much revenue in the pocket of Mr. EWING, and additional gain to Mr. HIRST and his associates. If he can drag the inquiry into an endless future, and keep Mr. EWING in place until his term expires, his aim will be accomplished. Thus far, he must allow us to say he has succeeded most admirably.

Mr. HIRST's immediate cause of grief is with the newspapers. They have been guilty of a bold attempt to ruin the community, and, were it not for this counsellor's vigilance, there is no knowing where we would be on this pleasant June morning. It seems that during the hearing on Thursday a witness testified that he had deposited a fraudulent vote. After the adjournment, a citizen who was in attendance went before a magistrate and testified to the statement he had heard the witness make. The witness was arrested, and, after a hearing, was bound over to answer the charge at court. One of our reporters was in attendance at the alderman's office, in the pursuit of his calling, took a note of the case, and printed a paragraph in relation to it next morning. Other reporters heard of the circumstance, and also printed paragraphs. There was no word of comment or criticism—the item modestly appearing as thousands of other items appeared before it. Mr. HIRST, however, went into court in a state of irrepressible indignation, and asked the court to interfere in the outrage which had been perpetrated by making a decree that all people in the community, who had voted illegally, might come into court and testify to their fraud, and have the sanction of the court as an immunity from all punishment! He also desired that the court might then adjourn to enable the community to perfectly understand that the court had thus made itself a sanctuary for criminals. He felt that this was nothing more than a grand design to prejudice the court and intimidate the witnesses of Mr. EWING, and nothing would satisfy him but that the court would declare its purpose not to be intimidated by releasing the fraudulent voter from arrest, and preventing any other arrests.

Let us look at this for one moment. According to the theory of Mr. HIRST, the province of the court is not to punish crime, but to protect those who are guilty, provided their testimony may be made available for Mr. EWING. So that worthy gentleman is retained in his place, it is of no moment whether the abuse of the elective franchise is punished or not. Men may commit crimes—they may admit their shame in open court—but the very fact of making this admission protects them from all consequences. The end of law is not to preserve its own integrity and rebuke every abuse of it, but to enable Mr. HIRST to gain his case, and when newspapers chronicle the facts concerning frauds they are liable to censure. We must confess that our notions of right and wrong are far different from those of this anxious and eccentric counsellor. When a man commits a crime he should be punished. Whether it is proven against him or admitted by his own lips, it is still a crime and answerable to punishment. There can be no such thing as condoning a felony, even to gratify Mr. HIRST or assist his case. This is reason and justice, and we believe it is law. We are glad the court thought so, and made the decision recorded. In doing so it vindicated its own majesty and refused to throw its protection over any attempt to violate the sanctity of the elective franchise.

THE *Independance Belge* announces, what seems too good to be true, that King WILLIAM of Prussia, beaten in the struggle between Might and Right—between the Powers of Royalty and the just claims of the People—has resolved to retire from public life, and abdicate in favor of his son, Prince FREDERICK WILLIAM, who is son-in law of English VICTORIA. If his Majesty will do such a wise action as this he will merit the good wishes of his countrymen.

It was expected when he became King, eighteen months ago, that, warned by the evil example of his late brother—who was at once a scholar and a fool, a pietist and a drunkard, a tyrant and a perjurer—he would carry out his promise of becoming the Father of his People. He has continuously violated that promise. At his coronation, last year, were revived all feudal ceremonials, and his own declaration was quite in the feudal style—to the effect that he considered the Prussian nation as in the old condition of serfdom, and that their ruler's will was to be absolute, entirely overriding the law. A few months ago his Parliament refused to be dictated to by his Ministry—that is, by himself—and he immediately dissolved that body, but not one of his Ministers was re-elected, and he finds it impossible to prevail upon any statesman who values his character and life to accept the unpopular position of Prime Minister.

Prussia has been unfortunate in most of her sovereigns. FREDERICK WILLIAM I. disgraced himself, through Europe, by his bad morals and cruelty to his son and successor. FREDERICK THE GREAT was one of the scourges of Europe, as a conqueror. His son, FREDERICK WILLIAM II., was one of the trinity of crowned robbers who seized upon Poland and divided it between them. FREDERICK WILLIAM III., so neatly crushed by NAPOLEON, and subsequently a member of the infamous "Holy Alliance," promised a liberal constitution to his subjects in 1814, and left his promise unfulfilled at his death in 1840. FREDERICK WILLIAM IV., in like manner, "kept the promise to the ear and broke it to the hope," and played fast and loose with liberal principles during the revolution of 1848, at one time swearing fraternity with freed Germany, at another directing his troops to shoot down the patriots as rebels; finally becoming notorious for his constant inebriety, (hence the sobriquet of "King Clocquet,") until, deprived of reason, he "expired, a driveller and a show." His brother, the present King, except that he eschews intemperance, has shown himself worthy of the family.

The abdication of the King, and the substitution of a liberal régime, would be a great boon, a great blessing to the Prussian people—the most enlightened of the whole German family. Should the King persist in attempting to override Popular Rights and National Laws by his own single, arbitrary Will, the result may be the overthrow of his dynastic race and rule.

WILLIAM I., of Prussia, was born on the 22d March, 1797. His only son, the Crown Prince, was born on the 18th October, 1831, and is said to have vainly remonstrated with him on his unjust and unwise policy. In the event of his resignation—for Prussia must cast off her present ruler—it is more than probable that England would not resist a proposition to place the Crown Prince on the throne of Prussia, but would decidedly oppose the establishment of a Republic. The Prussians, however, are monarchical—as yet. The abdication of WILLIAM I. would probably save Kingship in Prussia.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, June 20, 1862.

The summer campaign may be said to have fairly opened with the prospect of a protracted and stubborn resistance by the rebels. They are strong in Virginia, South Carolina, and in that part of Mississippi now occupied by Beauregard. Their guerillas threaten and harass large districts in Missouri and Tennessee. The Federal authorities, with these facts before them, have again called for more troops, and it is to be hoped that there will be no pause until every column of the army is increased and strengthened. During a recent visit to Philadelphia I was surprised at the crowded streets and general prosperity, evidences, as they were, of the enormous resources of our people; and when to this feature is added the great enthusiasm of all classes in support of the Government, it seems certain that little difficulty will be encountered in obtaining any number of volunteers for the service. What is true of Philadelphia is also true of the other great cities of Northern population. One of the contrasts of these novel times is the fact that enlistments in the loyal States are voluntary, and in the seceded sections forced. Our people go forth to fight with confidence and hope—the rebels with desperation and hatred. The defenders of the old flag strike for Liberty and Law—the defenders of the rebellion for Slavery and Spoliation. It is heart-cheering to note that nothing daunts or dampens the friends of the Union. A reverse excites their indignation, and fills them with new determination. The death of their relatives and friends is only another invocation to sacrifice, and every rebel boast another stimulant to exertion. The appeal of the Government for additional regiments will, therefore, be warmly responded to. Let our young men, ambitious for distinction, await themselves of the new opportunity presented to them to serve the country and to end the rebellion.

Our military hospitals are objects of great interest to visitors and scientific men. Many touching scenes are there presented. The Union and rebel sufferers can easily be recognized by the calm and unmurmuring patience and content of the one, and the uneasy and complaining spirit of the other. The latter are nearly all conscripts, who have been compelled to take up arms against their country. A large proportion are very young men, indeed mere boys. A gentleman who visited the hospitals on the Peninsula a few days ago conversed with one of these striplings, who had been shot through the lungs, and was, strange to say, slowly recovering. "Why did you go into this bad cause?" was the question put to him. "Because," he answered, "I could not help it. Mother told me to hold off as long as I could, to wait till I was drafted; but then I was talked to and laughed at, and so, to save myself from ridicule, I volunteered." "Do you want to go back into the army?" "No," he quickly replied; "Oh, let me take the oath of allegiance to the Union, and then I can see my dear mother with a good conscience when the war is over." Another fine fellow, who was stretched by the side of a Union soldier, and like him was convalescing, became very much attached to his companion, shared the delicacies sent to him, and shed tears as he talked of the way the South had been ravaged and ruined. Sickness, like the grave, makes all men equal. In the agony of that sad hour, prejudices pass away, and anger is succeeded by remorse and affection. A few days ago, in one of the adjacent hospitals, as one of the visitors walked in with some refreshments for several of his friends, he was passing by a cot where lay stretched a splendid prisoner, who had been terribly wounded. The visitor stopped, to look at him, and then laid some fruit at his side, which the prisoner took, with grateful looks and swimming eyes, and added, "How good you are to all of us! If God gives me back my health I will never more strike at my country. I will never return if you will only let me stay with you." These are lessons that revive the instinct of a common humanity, and teach us the glorious lesson of Shakspeare, when he exclaims,

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin."

Last evening Clement C. Barclay was warmly welcomed at the meeting of the Pennsylvania Relief Association. He had just returned from the sick and wounded in the column of General McClellan. Modest and retiring, the few words he said were suggestive of his whole character. He does not seem to be over thirty, and bears himself like a well-bred gentleman. He is one of the many moral heroes of this great war, giving himself and his time to his country, and glorying in a work which has no compensation beyond the satisfaction that results from good deeds to his fellow-beings. Profoundly loyal, regarding the rebellion with conscientious horror, it is nevertheless a part of his self-selected mission be kind to both classes of sufferers, equally, those who fight for and against the Republic. "I tell you, my friend," he said, "when I get near one of those deluded men my heart melts within me—and I forget the wrong he has done to my country; and I know that every word of kindness and every act of charity to them, is seed sown in a willing soil, and must bring forth precious fruit." This noble philanthropist is a Pennsylvanian, and his name is the theme of praise in men of "wisest censure." His great services reflect undying lustre upon himself and upon his native State. He appeared before the Board of Surgeons to-day, and was honored by a special commission; and he visited Congress this afternoon, where he was the observed of all observers. He returns to the field of his labors this evening or to-morrow morning. Long may he live, that, in his old age, his friends may say of him, in the words of the Roman poet:

"In strength elate, in fame and conscience clear,
Antonius numbers now his eightieth year;
Joys o'er the past, and sees without a sigh,
The inevitable step of fate draw nigh;
No memory of dark days, but pleasant all—
Not one but willingly he would recall.
Thus is life's stage prolonged: thus he, blest man,
Lives twice who can enjoy Life's former span!"

OCCASIONAL.

PETERSON'S NEW NOVELS.—This morning, T. B. Peterson & Brothers publish *two* new works of fiction, which we noticed on Thursday—"Love's Labor Won," an American story, by Mrs. Southworth, with the scene chiefly in Virginia, and "The Flirt," a story of English society, by Mrs. Colonel Grey. They ought to have a large sale, and are to be had either in boards or very firmly bound in muslin, neatly ornamented.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to "The Press."

WASHINGTON, June 20

Important Interview with the President—He is Asked to Issue a Decree of Emancipation—His Views on Slavery and the Present Troubles.

This morning a delegation of the Religious Society of Progressive Friends, composed of THOMAS GARRETT, of Wilming-on, Delaware; OLIVER JOHNSON, of New York; ALICE ELIZA HAMBLETON, DINAH MENDENHALL, WILLIAM BARNARD, and ELIZA AGNEW, called on the President and presented a memorial soliciting him to issue a proclamation of emancipation of the slaves.

Senator WILMOT, of Pennsylvania, introduced the delegation, accompanied by Representatives KELLEY, DAVIS, and CAMPBELL, of the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania. Senator W. stated the object of the visit, and the President replied that he would listen with pleasure to the delegation.

Mr. OLIVER JOHNSON said:

MR. PRESIDENT: We appear before you, by your kind permission, not to solicit office either for ourselves or our friends, nor to ask for any party or personal favor, but in the interest of the country and of humanity. Our clients are the four millions of slaves who cannot speak for themselves, but only lift up their chained hands in agonizing supplication for the freedom which it is in your power, in this solemn crisis of the country's fate, to confer upon them.

Mr. J. then read the memorial, as follows:

Memorial of the Religious Society of Progressive Friends.

To Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States:

The Religious Society of Progressive Friends, in yearly meeting assembled, at Longwood, Chester county, Pa., from the 5th to the 7th of Sixth month, 1862, under a solemn sense of the perils besetting the country, and of the duty devolving upon them to exert whatever influence they possess to rescue it from impending destruction, beg leave, respectfully but earnestly, to set forth for the consideration of President LINCOLN:

That they fully share in the general grief and reprobation felt at the seditious course pursued in opposition to the General Government by the so-called "Confederate States;" regarding it as marked by all the revolting features of high-handed robbery, cruel treachery, and murderous violence, and therefore utterly to be abhorred and condemned by every lover of his country, and every friend of the human race.

That, nevertheless, this sanguinary rebellion finds its cause, purpose, and combustible materials, in that most unchristian and barbarous system of slavery which prevails in that section of the country, and in the guilt of which the whole land has long been deeply involved by general complicity; so that it is to be contritely recognized as the penalty due to such persistent and flagrant transgressions, and as the inevitable operation of the law of eternal justice.

That thus heavily visited for its grinding oppression of an unfortunate race, "peeled, meted out and trodden under foot," whose wrongs have so long cried unto Heaven for redress—and thus solemnly warned of the infatuation as well as exceeding wickedness of endeavoring to uphold liberty and unity while leaving millions to clank their chains in the house of bondage—the nation, in its official organization, should lose no time in proclaiming immediate and universal emancipation on the ground of rightful offence to the Blood-bought cause, liberty be established, and a permanent reconciliation be effected by the removal of the sole cause of these dissensions.

That in his speech delivered at Springfield, before his election to the office of Chief Magistrate, the President expressly declared: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. *I believe this Government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free.* I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. *It will become all one thing, or all the other.*"

That this Society, therefore, urgently unites with a wide-spread and constantly increasing sentiment in beseeching the President, as the head of the nation, clothed with the constitutional power, in such a fearful emergency, to suppress the rebellion effectually by the removal of its cause, not to allow the present golden opportunity to pass without the decree of a mutin abolition of slavery throughout the land, as a measure imperatively demanded by a due regard for the unity of the country, the safety and happiness of the people, the preservation of free institutions, and the maintenance of justice, mercy, and peace. Otherwise, we have fearful reason to apprehend that blood will continue, to flow, and fierce dissensions to abound, and calamities to increase, and fervent supplications to be poured out that the work of national destruction is consummated beyond hope of recovery.

The above memorial, after thorough deliberation and discussion, was unanimously adopted by the Society; and Thomas Garrett, of Wilmington, Delaware; Alice Eliza Hambleton, of Chester county, Pennsylvania, and Oliver Johnson, of New York, were appointed delegates to bear the same to Washington and present it to the President of the United States. It was also agreed that any other members of the Society, wishing to do so, might join these delegates in the discharge of their duty.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Religious Society of Progressive Friends.

OLIVER JOHNSON,
JENNIE K. SMITH, Clerks.

REPLY OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

The President then said, that as he had not been furnished with a copy of the memorial in advance, he could not be expected to make any lengthy remarks. He was pleased that the delegation had not come as office-seekers, for they were the source of his greatest troubles and perplexities. The next most troublesome subject was slavery. He agreed with the memorialists, that slavery was wrong, and differed from them only in respect to the ways and means of abolishing it. The extract from his Springfield speech in the memorial was incomplete, not including a sentence in which he had indicated the course he would pursue to effect upon slavery itself the resistance of its extension. If a decree of emancipation would do the work, JOHN BROWN would have done it at Harper's Ferry. The Constitution is binding upon the people of the South, but cannot be enforced at present. Do you think a decree of emancipation would be any more effective?

Mr. JOHNSON. True, Mr. President, the Constitution cannot now be enforced at the South, but you do not for that reason give up the struggle. The memorialists believe that the extinction of slavery is necessary as a means of the attainment of your object.

The President replied that he felt the importance and magnitude of the task before him, and hoped to be rightly directed in the very embarrassing circumstances by which he was surrounded.

WILLIAM BARNARD then made a few remarks, expressing his sympathy for the President, and his ardent desire that he might be guided by Divine wisdom in the exercise of the power placed in his hands for giving freedom and peace to the country.

REPLY OF THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. LINCOLN replied in an impressive manner, for he felt very deeply his need of Divine aid and guidance in the discharge of his solemn duties. He had sometimes thought that he might be an instrument in the hands of God for accomplishing a great work, and he certainly was willing to be. The war had accomplished one thing, as one which the memorialists have in view is different from theirs. At any rate, he should endeavor with a firm reliance on the Divine Arm, and, seeking for light from above, do his duty.

The delegation then retired.

The Tariff Bill.

The committee of conference upon the bill to provide internal revenues have nearly completed their report. The bill reported to-day, increasing temporarily the duties on imports, in effect makes a compensation to manufacturers for losses which will be sustained by them under the first-named measure. The two bills harmonize in some of their provisions as to an equality of duties compared with the internal tax. Three per centum on the home valuation is considered equal to three per centum on the foreign valuation, and this principle is characteristic of the bill. The duties on drugs and medicines have been changed to specific. With an ordinary revenue of fifty or sixty millions per annum under the present tariff, an addition of ten millions will, it is supposed, be realized under the proposed act.

The following are the main provisions of the bill:

First. In lieu of the duties heretofore imposed on syrup of sugar, or sugar cane, or concentrated molasses, 2 cents per lb; sugars from 2¼ to 10 cents per lb; on molasses, 6 cents per gallon; cigars of all kinds valued at $5 or less per thousand, 25 cents per lb; valued at over $5 and not over $10 per thousand, 60 cents per lb; valued at over $10 and not over $20 per thousand, 80 cents; valued at over $20 per thousand, $1 per lb; and an additional tax on all cigars valued at over $10 per thousand, ten per centum *ad valorem*; snuff 30 cents per lb; tobacco in leaf, unmanufactured, and not stemmed, and tobacco manufactured of all descriptions not otherwise provided for, 35 cents per lb.

Second. In addition to the present duties, there is levied on foreign brandy, first proof, 25 cents per gallon; on other spirits manufactured or distilled from grain or other materials for first proof 25 cents per gallon; cordials and liquors of all kinds, and arrack, absynthe, Kirschen-wasser, ratifia, and other similar spirituous beverages, not otherwise provided for, 25 cents per gallon. Beer, ale, porter, beer in bottles or otherwise, 5 cents per gallon. All spirituous liquors not otherwise enumerated, 16⅔ of one per centum ad valorem.

Third. In addition to the present duties, $3 and $5 per ton on bar iron, rolled or hammered, each according to width and thickness. Boiler-plate iron $5 per ton; additional duties on other kinds of iron and all manufactures of iron and steel not otherwise provided for, five per centum ad valorem. Bituminous coal, ten cents per ton of 28 bushels. 80 pounds to the bushel; on all other coal, ten cents per ton of 28 bushels, 80 cents to the bushel, and on coke and calm of coal five cents per centum ad valorem.

Fourth. Additional duty on copper rods, bolts, plates, etc., and other sheets and manufactures of copper not otherwise provided for, 5 per centum. The same on brass, zinc, spelter, and lead.

Fifth. Medicines, drugs, spices, paints, oils, chemicals, etc., to pay largely increased duties, including on patent medicines and cosmetics, 50 per centum ad valorem.

Sixth. A number of articles now on the free list pay 10 per centum ad valorem.

Seventh. Additional duties on chocolate and cocoa prepared, 1 cent per pound; coppiras, green vitroll, or sulphate of iron, ¼ cent per pound; on linseed, flaxseed, hempseed, rapeseed, and mustard seed oil 3 cents per gallon; on saleratus and bicarbonate of soda, ¼ cent per pound; salt in sacks or in bulk, 6 cents per 100 pounds; spirits of turpentine, 5 cents per gallon; starch, of all descriptions, ¼ cent per pound; white and red lead and oxide of zinc, 25 cents per 100 pounds.

Eighth. Among many other articles subject to new rates of duty are barley, 1 cent per pound; bonnets, hats, and hoods, 40 per centum ad valorem; books, engravings, 20 per centum ad valorem; candles and tapers, stearine and adamantine, 5 cents per pound. On spermaceti, paraffine, and wax candles and tapers, pure and mixed, 8 cents per pound; on all other candles and tapers, 2½ cents per pound; cotton, ¼ cent per pound; gloves, 40 per centum.

Tenth. Additional duties on carpets, velvet, and tapestry from 2 to 5 per centum; woollen cloths, woollen shawls, and all manufactures of wool of every description, made wholly or in part of wool not otherwise provided for, 6 cents per lb, and in addition, 5 per centum; flannels of all descriptions, 5 per centum; delaines, 3 cents per square yard, etc.

Among the remaining sections, the duties are increased on all manufactures of cotton, Russia sheeting, earthenware, china, glassware, porcelain, ready-made clothing, cutlery, prepared vegetables, and meats; in fact, nearly, if not all, articles of foreign importation.

A tax of duty is also imposed on ships of 10 tons per ton, in addition to any tonnage duty now imposed by law, the tax not to be collected more than once a year on a vessel having a license to trade between different districts of the United States, or to carry on the Bank, whale, or other fisheries, whilst employed therein, on any vessel to or from any place in Mexico, the British Provinces of North America, or any of the West India islands. All goods which now are, or may be, deposited in the public stores or bonded warehouses after this act takes effect, if designed for consumption in the United States, must be withdrawn therefrom, or the duties thereon paid, in three years after the same are deposited, and the goods designed for exportation and consumption in foreign countries may be withdrawn by the owners at any time before the expiration of three years after the same are deposited. Such goods, if not withdrawn within three years, to be regarded as abandoned to the Government and sold, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, and the proceeds paid into the Treasury.

Naval Orders.

Paymaster GEORGE LAWRENCE has been ordered to the gunboat Conemaugh; Assistant Paymaster EDWARD BELLOWS has been ordered to the gunboat Sonora. ALBERT G. PENDLE has been appointed acting first assistant engineer, and ordered to the steam-sloop Oneida.

Brigadier Generals Nominated.

The President has nominated to the Senate Col. JOHN COCHRANE and GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS SCROGGS, both of New York, to be brigadier generals of volunteers.

No News from the Armies.

No news of public interest has been received to-day by the War Department from any quarter.

Mayor Henry Here.

HON. ALEXANDER HENRY, Mayor of Philadelphia, visited both Houses this morning, and had satisfactory conferences with the Naval Committees in regard to the proposal to make League Island the site of the new navy yard. He was most actively assisted by our Senators and Representatives, and leaves to-morrow in excellent hopes that Congress will agree to the offer of the Philadelphia Councils before an adjournment is effected.

The Pennsylvania Soldiers' Relief Association, just called into existence, promises to be one of the most useful institutions in the country. Subscriptions are coming in from all quarters. JAY COOKE & Co. subscribed two hundred and fifty dollars this morning, and ALEXANDER G. CATTELL, of Philadelphia, sent a check for $100, through Judge KELLEY, to aid in the good work.

Rebel Attack on the Gunboats on James River.

Despatches have been received here to-day stating that on the 17th inst. the rebels opened upon our ships-of-war in the James river, from the bluffs at City Point, but the squadron returned the attack with shell and shrapnel, silencing and driving back the rebel force.

Major General McDowell.

General MCDOWELL, though quite seriously injured by being thrown from his horse, is at his post to-day. Several officers who arrived from FREMONT'S command, to-night, give a gratifying account. JACKSON is very quiet below Mount Jackson.

Gen. Buell's Movements.

A private letter received in this city announces that Major General BUELL, heretofore with Major General HALLECK in Mississippi, has started with his whole army for East Tennessee, by way of Huntsville.

Fort Morgan.

A private letter received here from New Orleans says that the report published in the papers of that city of the surrender of Fort Morgan, below Mobile, to Commodore PORTER'S fleet, was incorrect.

Miscellaneous.

The President has recognized Baron VON DER OSTEN SACKEN, counsellor, etc., as consul general of Russia, to reside at New York.

General SAXTON, military Governor of South Carolina, will leave for Port Royal next week.

The President has approved of the bill securing freedom in all the present as well as future Territories of the United States.

The Secretary of War, in response to the resolution of the House, says he is directed by the President to inform that body that measures have been taken to appropriate for hospital purposes, for the benefit of our soldiers, General LEE's mansion house and premises.

Mr. STANTON has just decided that civilians, in certain cases, may be employed in the general hospitals, under pay, as cooks and nurses. This will be a great improvement.

The surgeon general intends to prepare a medical and surgical history of rebellions.

General DOUBLEDAY was on the floor of the House of Representatives this afternoon. He was cordially greeted by a large number of the Union members.

Vice President HANLIN left for Maine this morning. The nominating conventions will be held in a short time.

FROM MEMPHIS.

GENERAL LEW WALLACE IN COMMAND.

THE ARGUS SUPPRESSED.

MEMPHIS, June 18—Gen. Lew. Wallace has assumed the command of the city. His first official act was to take possession of the *Argus* office, which has been outspoken in its sympathies for Secession.

T. W. KNOX, of the New York *Herald*, and A. D. Richardson, of the *Tribune*, have been appointed to supervise all editorials which appear in the papers.

Threats having been made to tear down the Union flags flying over the houses of some of the citizens, the provost marshal has issued orders instructing the guard to shoot down any one attempting to haul down the flags, or offering to insult or molest the resident citizens who have thus manifested their devotion to the Union.

Orders have also been issued to imprison all citizens carrying concealed weapons.

Guerillas are prowling about the country. Five were arrested last night by the pickets in the suburbs of the city.

The next day he reached Winchester. It had been reported that the rebels were in considerable force in that place, and the 7th Pennsylvania cavalry made a dash into the town, but found the enemy had dispersed. They succeeded, however, in capturing Captain Trimble and three of his men, belonging to Starne's cavalry. This Trimble is a desperado, a bitter rebel, who has been assisting Morgan in capturing pickets and couriers, and denouncing Union men to the hangmen. He has been very enterprising in bringing up Union men, who were compelled to accept either one of two alternatives, viz: to go into the Confederate army or be hanged. He was also the principal of a large female seminary in Winchester, which seems to be still in full operation, educating the feminine youth of the place, leaving in the arts, sciences, and philosophies of the heresy of Secessionism. Trimble was subsequently sent to General Mitchell, at Huntsville.

Passing through Winchester, Gen. Negley encamped his forces at a place called Cowan, on the Nashville and Obattanooga Railroad, and on a branch of a tributary of the Tennessee river. The trestle work of the railroad bridge at this point was found to have been burned by the rebels; but the stream was easily fordable, and it was crossed on Wednesday morning, June 4, and the line of march resumed toward Lu. Tlagr, Marion county. Here General Negley caused several of the most prominent Secessionists to be arrested, and mulcted them in the sum of $200 each, which was appropriated to the relief of the Union people in Tennessee who had suffered injury at the hands of the rebels. This was the first practical illustration of the character and intention of General Johnson's declaration that rich rebels should be made to pay for Union losses incurred by rebel predatory bands. Passing through Jasper, Gen. Negley encamped at the foot of the first ridge of the Cumberland mountains, on the evening, at an old camping ground of the rebels. The following morning he commenced crossing the mountain, over a steep and rocky road, one which most persons would pronounce impassable for artillery. Over this rugged road the artillery and provision trains were passed with but trifling injury, owing to the efficiency of the equipments. Here General Negley drove a rebel picket, and took a prisoner. After a very abrupt descent through a thick forest, the road suddenly opened out into a beautiful cove, about six hundred yards wide, and stretching off in an easterly direction towards the Sequatonie valley. The road crosses to the south side of the cove, and skirts along the foot of the mountain about half a mile eastwardly; then crossing back to the north side; then eastwardly again towards the valley. At this point General Negley's advance, consisting of the 5th Kentucky Cavalry, Colonel Haggard, and two companies of the 19th Ohio infantry, under command of Captain Klein, encountered the pickets of the rebel General Adams' brigade of cavalry, which was encamped on the opposite side of the cove, at a point where there is a narrow defile through which the road passes. A brisk firing—the Union troops acting with the coolness of veterans, all the while—the rebel pickets fell back, and the main body of the rebel force learning there was a Union force near, came forward to the road in a body and let down the fences, preparatory to a charge. They were then at least eight hundred strong. By this time Gen. Negley had placed two six-pounder field pieces in position, and commenced firing on them with Shenbie shell. This was evidently more than the enemy expected, for at the first fire they turned in confusion and fled with celerity, leaving behind them, by our cavalry, led by Company A, of the 5th Kentucky, commanded by Lieut. Wharton. The enemy were pursued for two miles before they were reached, their horses being