Norristown Union League, which was addressed by Mr. J. R. Flanigen, Wm. B. Mann, and others.

A similar gathering took place near the court house, and eloquent speeches were delivered, which were received with great enthusiasm.

David Paul Brown, Esq., made some remarks at one of the stands. We were unable to obtain even a synopsis of his address.

At a late hour the meeting adjourned, and the several delegations took up their march homeward.

Governor Curtin's Tour—His Reception in Lehigh—Enthusiasm of the People.

[Reported for The Press.]

CATASAUQUA, LEHIGH co., Sept. 19, 1863.

A large Union mass meeting was held in Catasauqua, Lehigh county, to-day. It was the largest political gathering of the people which ever assembled in this county. Extra trains were run on the railroads for the accommodation of delegations from the surrounding districts. The people came pouring in from Tamaqua, Hokendauqua, Quakertown, Allentown, Bethlehem, and other places, and early in the day the streets of this highly enterprising and beautiful town were filled with thousands of the honest, hardworking, and patriotic sons of the far-famed Lehigh valley. The Lehigh river, as if partaking in the general enthusiasm which prevailed, got high and came roaring and surging with a power—like the will of the people—irresistible and majestic in its onward and triumphal course.

A procession was formed of the several delegations which arrived in the cars at the upper bridge, and marched down to the lower bridge to receive and welcome the Governor of Pennsylvania. Here the ranks were augmented by numerous other delegations, and when the Governor arrived in the cars from Harrisburg, by way of Reading, he was met by some five thousand people, who greeted him with the most unbounded enthusiasm. Each delegation had a band of music, and flags and banners waved in profusion along the line. On one of the banners were inscribed the words "Curtin, Agnew, and the President's last proclamation;" on another, "Soldiers wont vote for Judge Woodward;" while the inspiring words "The Soldier's Friend" were conspicuous and proudly borne aloft on numerous banners. The procession was formed in four ranks, and with the noble and honored Governor of the Old Keystone in their midst, drawn in an open carriage, the men marched steadily and proudly to the soul-inspiring music of our national airs. There were quite a number of soldiers in the procession, whose measured tread and earnest look gave evidence of their determination to stand by and support the soldier's friend as he had stood by them, and as they had on the battle-field supported the Government, and stood by the glorious flag of the Union. The procession marched through the principal streets to the grove, where a large stand had been erected for the speakers, and hundreds of benches provided for the accommodation of the people. The benches, numerous and extensive as they were, were all occupied by citizens, who came on their own hook, singly and in squads, before the procession arrived on the ground, and when the different delegations came pouring in, the whole woods were soon filled with the vast multitude.

John H. Oliver, Esq., of Allentown, was chosen chairman, and a number of vice presidents and secretaries were elected, from various sections of the county.

Before the arrival of the Governor on the stand, Captain Edward Rouh, of Carbon county, addressed the audience. He was utterly surprised at the magnitude of the meeting. He had been in the army, and had seen large crowds, but he had never beheld, in his district, such an outpouring of the people. "Great God!" said he, "where did you all come from? How did you all get here, anyhow?" While the Captain was entertaining his hearers with an eloquent speech, the tall, manly form of the Governor was seen passing through the crowd, and when he reached the stand the welkin rang with cries of "Curtin! Curtin!" and the gallant Captain, like the morning star, gracefully paled before the rising orb of day.

Governor Curtin delivered a splendid and powerful address. He was listened to with that deep attention accompanied with that steady earnest gaze which betoken the all absorbing interest felt by the hearers in every word spoken. He told the people of the peril of their country, assailed by open, traitorous, and rebellious foes in the South, and weakened by opposition to the administration of the Government by partisan prejudices and sympathy with rebels at the North. There was but one issue now before the people, and it absorbed all others in its magnitude. That issue was the life or death of our republican form of government. It involved the cardinal principles which lay as the foundation of our civil liberties. For if this rebellion succeeded—if the States should be destroyed, and the noblest government ever vouchsafed by God to man—then he firmly believed that anarchy and ruin would follow. The principles of secession peacefully admitted, or permitted to be carried out by force of arms, then there was an end to all vitality and stability in our republican form of government; it would be but a rope of sand. The interests of rival sections, the personal designs of ambitious men, would all have full scope, and separation and disintegration would speedily follow, until at last all semblance of government would be obliterated, and the people plunged into a condition of hopeless anarchy. He wished that this present political contest involved other issues; mere party questions of political policy, as heretofore. But the times had changed, and such considerations were now too insignificant to weigh a feather in the balance at this moment trembling with the destinies of our country. He believed that our Government was better and greater than anything contained within it. The Government was the central power of a great nationality, and everything else gravitated to that centre. He could not understand that sort of loyalty which professed to stand by the Government and yet opposed the President, its visible head. We had only one President, we could now have no other President than Abraham Lincoln. He alone was charged with the execution of the laws, and while exercising the functions of his office, his high position as the visible head of the Government, demanded the candid and willing support of every man who loved his country better than rebellion, and who was truly loyal to the Government. He was for the Government, and would support it with all the powers of his office. Some people talked of peace while armed rebels were striking at the heart of the Government. There could be no peace until the rebellious lay down their arms, and returned to their allegiance to the Government. If they would do that, peace could be declared as soon as the electric spark conveyed the intelligence over the telegraph. He was in favor of peace, but on no other terms than entire submission to the Government. While an armed rebel remained in the field he was in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war as the only means of securing a speedy, honorable, and permanent peace. The Governor spoke eloquently of our brave soldiers in the army. He believed if the ranks were filled up by the means now provided by law, that the war would soon be over. He had been charged with some conspiracy to bring the soldiers home to vote. There was no conspiracy about it; it was as plain and open as the light of day. He believed the soldiers had a right to vote. Who had a better right than those brave men who were periling their lives in support of their Government, and preserving those institutions which we at home were enjoying? But the Supreme Court had decided that soldiers, absent from the State in defence of their Government, could not vote. He was in favor of bringing as many home to vote as could be spared without detriment to the Union cause, and let them vote for whom they pleased.

The Governor spoke of the platform upon which he stood; it was as broad and comprehensive as the Union itself. He exhorted the people to stand by their Government; to give it all their support and encouragement. The position of Pennsylvania was at this time of the highest importance; if she, by her vote at the next election in October, declared in favor of the Union party, it would destroy the hopes of the rebels in Richmond, who hoped and expected sympathy from political friends in power. It would strengthen the hands of our Government, encourage our soldiers in the army, and restore the Union in all its fair proportions.

At the conclusion of his speech, which embraced all the topics which the condition of the country suggests, but to which a mere synopsis cannot do justice, he was loudly applauded by the people.

Judge Shannon, of Pittsburg, was the next speaker. He was listened to with marked attention by the audience, while he delivered a powerfully effective speech.

Mr. Matthews, of Baltimore, concluded the speaking, and his fervid eloquence and excoriating remarks on the Copperheads were received with unbounded applause.

After the adjournment of the meeting at Catasauqua, Governor Curtin went to Allentown, which is three miles distant, on the other side of the Lehigh river. And although it was nearly dark when he arrived there, yet such is the enthusiasm manifested by the people wherever he goes, that an impromptu meeting was organized in the square, and very soon a crowd of over two thousand were gathered to see the Governor and hear him speak. The Governor spoke for over an hour at this meeting in a strain of masterly and convincing argument, to which the people listened with profound interest.

Hon. A. K. McClure delivered an eloquent and telling speech at this meeting. Mr. Matthews, of Baltimore, also spoke at this meeting in his usual gifted and fervent eloquence.

Altogether, it was a big day in Lehigh county, and if she don't do better after this it will not be the fault of the friends of Governor Curtin. But by the token of this day's proceedings Lehigh has pledged herself to do better—to do her whole duty on the second Tuesday in October next, to swell the great majority in the State for Andrew G. Curtin, the present and the future Governor of Pennsylvania. Nobody, even in this stronghold, doubts the result of the election. They give it up. Some of them are exceedingly bitter; but it is the bitterness of despair, like the writhing of the copperhead, which strikes himself with his own fangs that he may die of his own poison. They have agreed to throw off a thousand of the majority against Curtin in 1860, and the sequel will prove that the rapidly growing loyal sentiment of the intelligent and independent Democrats of the county, who love their country better than party, will add still another thousand to the cause of the Union.

The Voice of the Army.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: At a meeting of the officers and men composing the 138th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, held on the banks of the Rappahannock, Virginia, September 14th, 1863, for the purpose of giving expression to their feelings and sentiments in reference to the contest for Governor of their native State, Pennsylvania, on motion, M. R. McClennan, colonel commanding said regiment, was called to the chair, and Lieut. E. B. Moore appointed temporary secretary.

Colonel McClennan, upon taking the chair, made a few brief and pertinent remarks, in which he stated that he did not wish this meeting to be considered, in its literal sense, a political meeting. We were soldiers in the field, and by the decision of Judge Woodward, who was now the Copperhead candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, we had been deprived of the privilege of participating in the selection of the civil authorities of our own State. But it was patent to every mind, that while we were battling with the foe in front, there was also a powerful enemy in our rear that should claim a portion of our attention. That it was of vital importance to the soldier, whether the civil powers of his own State were controlled and wielded by his true and steadfast *friends*, or by his *enemies!* That it was in this view of the case that this meeting had been called, to urge upon our friends at home to be vigilant in the support of Andrew G. Curtin, the present Governor of Pennsylvania, who is the true and tried friend of the soldier. That there was no compulsory measures to be used; those who did not sympathize with the meeting need not participate. That a copy of the resolutions which would be adopted, would be furnished each company after the meeting was over, for the purpose of securing the signatures of the men; but that it was not the wish or desire that any man should sign them, that did not fully, unqualifiedly, and of his own free will, endorse the sentiments they might express.

On motion, the meeting proceeded to nominate vice presidents and secretaries, as follows:

VICE PRESIDENTS.—Major Lewis A. May, Adjutant J. W. Cress, Captain John W. Feight, Franklin Ramsey, Dr. Charles E. Cady, Sergeant Major Henry C. Grossman, Captain Simon Dickerhoof, Lieutenant Charles P. McLaughlin, Lieutenant William B. Lovett, Captain G. W. Guss, Lieutenant George A. Ernshaw, Quartermaster Sergeant James W. Kennedy, Lieutenant J. T. Rorer, Lieutenant George W. Mullen, and Lieutenant John Getty.

SECRETARIES.—Lieutenant George W. Wilson, Commissary Sergeant D. L. McKenzie, Orderly Sergeant David M. McKnight, Orderly Sergeant Samuel W. Cloward, Orderly Sergeant Nicholas G. Wilson, Corporal A. J. Schrack, Orderly Sergeant Reuben W. Cook, Orderly Sergeant A. G. Rapp, Orderly Sergeant C. P. Calhoun, Corporal G. W. Gray, and Orderly Sergeant Simon C. Stuckey.

On motion of Lieut. E. B. Moore, a committee of nine were appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

The Chair announced the following as said committee: Lieut. E. B. Moore, Capt. R. T. Stewart, Chaplain J. W. Curry, Capt. J. W. Feight, Capt. A. G. Feather, Capt. C. Y. Fisher, Capt. L. C. Andress, Capt. J. H. Walters, and Captain John S. Stuckey.

Col. J. Warren Keifer, 110th Ohio Volunteers, commanding the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 3d Corps, being present, was, on motion of Capt. R. T. Stewart, invited to address the meeting. Col. Keifer occupied the attention of the meeting for about half an hour, in which he showed, if we would speedily end this war, how essential it was to have officers at the head of our State Governments who were friendly to the National Government. His remarks were well received and were frequently interrupted by enthusiastic approval.

At the conclusion of Col. K.'s remarks, Lieut. E. B. Moore, on behalf of the committee, reported the following resolutions, which were *unanimously* adopted, amidst the most deafening applause:

Whereas, It has pleased the judicial authority of the State of Pennsylvania, from whence we hail, to deprive her sons who are absent as soldiers in the field, of the privilege of directly participating in the choice of those who are to preside over and govern her destinies; and,

Whereas, While we as good citizens, humbly bow to what we consider an unjust disfranchisement, until it shall otherwise be lawfully determined, yet at the same time we cannot avoid giving expression to our feelings in reference to those peaceful contests, and the magnitude of the issues therein involved: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That by the renomination of Hon. Andrew G. Curtin for the high and honorable position of Governor of our dear old State, a just and well-deserved tribute has been paid to a sincere and ardent friend of the Union, and a most vigilant and efficient public officer.

Resolved, That in Andrew G. Curtin the soldier has had a most devoted, vigilant, and self-sacrificing friend; that, amidst all the arduous and perplexing duties with which his administration has been surrounded during the last three years, he has never, for a single moment, lost sight of the many wants, sufferings, and privations his soldiers were obliged to endure, who were nobly battling for and gallantly upholding the standard of the Union in the field.

Resolved, That the lives of hundreds and thousands of poor, sick, and wounded soldiers have been preserved to comfort and bless their little families as well as the cause they served by the vigilance, care, and forethought he has displayed in promptly providing for their comforts and many necessities.

Resolved, That we would be recreant to our duty as men and soldiers, but more than all, to the Government we are now periling our lives to defend, did we not thus publicly acknowledge our manifold obligations; and while the laws of our own State will not permit us to give force and effect to these convictions, by casting our ballots for him at the coming election, the least that we can do, is openly and forcibly to appeal to our friends at home to do their duty earnestly and well; to rally in support of one who has proven himself equal to any and all emergencies that have befallen the country; and whose unflinching loyalty challenges the respect, and should command the sympathy and support of all who love their country, and have any desire to preserve and perpetuate her institutions.

Resolved, That the real issue involved in the coming election in Pennsylvania cannot, nor should not be concealed. It is plain, palpable, and unmistakable. *It is one of loyalty or disloyalty to the General Government.* With the people rests the responsibility, whether one who is a patriot at heart, efficient and faithful in support of the present national Administration and the means it has devised for crushing this fiendish rebellion, shall fill the gubernatorial chair for the ensuing three years, or whether one who sympathizes with the enemies of the Government, backed by a political organization whose only object and aim for the last three years has been to thwart the objects of the Government, paralyze its efforts, and thus render aid and comfort to the rebels in arms.

Resolved, That we cannot but regard the election of George W. Woodward to the gubernatorial chair of Pennsylvania, at this critical period of our nation's history, as fraught with more danger to the welfare of the nation than would be the temporary defeat of this army, and we therefore earnestly exhort and urge upon all friends of the Union to be active and vigilant, and leave nothing undone that would tend to avert a result so calamitous to us as a people.

Resolved, That there are none to whom peace would be more acceptable than those who are enduring the perils, privations, and hardships of a soldier's life in the field; but we unhesitatingly discard and reject the disgraceful terms which the peace-shrieking, Vallandigham-worshipping crew, of which George W. Woodward is the chosen leader, would force upon the country. We regard all such characters, no matter to what political organization they may belong, as enemies to the dearest and best interests of our common country, *and are therefore enemies of ours.*

Resolved, That words fail to express our contempt for that numerous class of individuals to be found in every community, who are enjoying all the pleasures and comforts which home and family bring with them, and who, while professing to be lovers of the Union, and in favor of sustaining the war and the Administration, *are yet either too* COWARDLY, *or not sufficiently imbued with the true spirit of loyalty and patriotism*, to cast aside old party ties and associates, and openly give the weight of their influence and support to men who ably and manfully represent the principles they *profess* to entertain. Such individuals are more contemptible, in the estimation of every true soldier, who has willingly staked his all in the contest, than he who appears in the garb of an open and manly foe.

Resolved, That we fully and heartily endorse the *Emancipation Proclamation* of President Lincoln as a wise, discreet, and politic measure, and as the only means by which the rebellion can be thoroughly crushed, and a permanent peace established on the only basis worthy of consideration.

Resolved, That the public newspapers throughout the State, favorable to the election of Hon. Andrew G. Curtin, are hereby respectfully invited to publish these proceedings.

Capt. R. T. Stewart, 138th Regiment P. V., being called upon, took the stand and delivered a most fitting, able, and eloquent speech. He was not a party man, but he had voted all kinds of tickets for the sake of getting a good one. The position of the Democratic party was that of antagonism to the war and the Administration, and which was, in effect, opposition to the union of these States. Were the principles adopted which are advocated by their press and party leaders, the war would either be *indefinitely prolonged*, or a *disgraceful and humiliating peace* would be the result. To both propositions the loyal soldiers in the field were bitterly opposed. We wanted no patched-up peace. The rebellion must be thoroughly crushed, and, if necessary, those who originated and upheld it must be subjugated, and the pretext for its commencement entirely eradicated. These were the only terms of peace which the soldiers desired, because they were the only terms upon which a permanent peace could be secured to the country. We are sorry that we cannot give a full report of Captain Stewart's speech, as it was replete with historical facts connected with the rebellion, and represented clearly and distinctly the true position and sentiment of the soldiers in the field. He took his seat amidst the most enthusiastic applause.

He was followed by Rev. James W. Curry, chaplain of the regiment, and others. At a late hour the meeting adjourned with three rousing cheers and a tiger for Andrew G. Curtin, the next Governor of the Old Keystone State.

While the men composing the regiment were appending their names to the resolutions, an order to *march* was received, which put an immediate stop to the proceedings. Since that time the men have been constantly on the move, and no opportunity has been afforded to fully complete the signing. They would have been signed by fully nine-tenths of the men in the regiment—some companies being unanimous—and we can only regret that circumstances have prevented the original intention from being fully carried into effect. These proceedings have been written at different periods on our march, and will be mailed at Culpeper Court House.

I am, sir, yours truly, M.

HEADQUARTERS 138TH REGIMENT PENNA. VOLS., on the banks of the Rappahannock, Sept. 11, 1863.

THE WAR DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN THE FIFTH WARD.—Last evening, the War Democrats and Union men, generally, without distinction of party or birthplace, held a meeting in Library street. It was largely attended, and, at times, decidedly enthusiastic. At half past seven o'clock, Mr. Robert P. King, one of the oldest residents in the ward, was called to the chair.

John W. Baer, the "Buckeye Blacksmith," of Ohio, was the first speaker. He gave the Copperheads many a "ten pound ten" on the Union anvil, with the hammer of liberty and free speech. He was most enthusiastically applauded.

John Davis Watson, Esq., the Union candidate for the Legislature in the Fifth and Eighth wards, also delivered a beautiful, forcible, and patriotic address, during which the greatest enthusiasm prevailed.

Thomas Fitzgerald, Esq., a Democrat, whose intelligence would not let him be led astray by men under the name of Democracy, was the next speaker. Mr. Fitzgerald has served the Democratic party for twenty-two years. There was evidently great anxiety to hear him. He addressed his remarks particularly to his Democratic friends. The following is an epitome of his remarks:

SPEECH OF COL. FITZGERALD.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that for more than twenty years he had voted the Democratic ticket, but that at the coming election, ignoring party, he would vote for the Union. Heretofore, he had been a faithful party man, but now allegiance was due only to country. He had honestly voted against Mr. Lincoln, but when he found that the lawyer of Springfield was striving to be the President, not of a party, but of the whole people; when he saw him, with all his might, holding the old flag aloft, he felt it to be his duty to rally to his support. He was not singular in this matter, for many of the best men in the Democratic party had done likewise. Stanton, Cass, Butler, Dix, Forney, Grant, Rosecrans, Van Buren, Brady, Dickinson, Halleck, and hundreds of others, all true and accepted leaders, had declared for their country, in this, her sorest hour of trial. They desired to save their country first; after which, they would look to the interests of the Democratic party.

While these good Democrats were actively struggling to maintain the Union, other Democratic leaders were doing their utmost to destroy the Union. Breckinridge, Davis, Slidell, Mason, Buchanan, Wigfall, Floyd, Cobb, Yancey, Thompson, Reed, Ingersoll, Wharton, Wood, Vallandigham, McCall, Hughes, and many others, belonged to the latter class of Democrats. Some of these men were in open, armed rebellion to the Government; others, too cowardly to take up their guns, were constantly spitting out the vilest and meanest slanders—misleading the stolid portion of their party, and instigating to violence and outlawry. They can make no allowances for a Cabinet most sorely tried.

The momentous occurrences of the last two years are treated as commonplace events. This gigantic rebellion, the apprehension and danger of foreign war, the adjustment of our financial system, the outbreak among the Indian tribes, the terrible demoralization and treason discovered in every department of the Government, all these trials are counted as nothing by Democratic leaders in sympathy with rebellion. Read Democratic newspapers, listen to Democratic orators, and, do you hear one word of commendation for the brave soldier in the field, one word of sympathy for the wounded in our hospitals, one word of regret for the thousands who have died for their country? Do these false leaders of the Democracy subscribe money to equip new regiments? Do they contribute to our hospitals, to our refreshment saloons, to the hundred and one charities awakened by this wicked and calamitous rebellion? Not a dollar; not a penny. On the contrary, they discourage those who would give; they fill the minds of the simple and doubting with misgiving; they would prevent voluntary enlistment, and they would nullify the conscription act; they rail at the suspension of the habeas corpus, and scold at the curtailment of our liberties, in language false, licentious, treasonable; thus giving the lie to their most solemn asseverations.

Can I, can any good Democrat, follow such leaders? I cannot do it. These men are not Democrats. Many of them never were Democrats. Is William B. Reed a Democrat? Why, he does not know the letters of the Democratic alphabet, and what is most lamentable, he is unfitted, constitutionally, for ever accomplishing that mental result. Is Charles Ingersoll a Democrat? If there is a hard-working, hand-soiled Democrat in this vast crowd to-night, I want to ask a favor at his hands. I want him to stop Mr. Ingersoll in the street to-morrow, and offer to shake hands with him! See what a shudder will pass over the nice gentleman's body as he attempts to take the hard and brown hand of his Democratic friend.

Why, fellow-citizens, you know as well as I do, that neither Reed, nor Ingersoll, nor Wharton, nor McCall, are Democrats. These nice gentlemen have a *horror* of Democrats, and I don't blame them, for they can't help it. But, my friends, mark what I say to you—they are quite as good Democrats as Jefferson Davis, as Mason, Slidell, and all the other Southern leaders of the Democratic party, who would build up a vast slave oligarchy upon the ruins of the Republic. These are the men who have made LABOR—that is to say, FREE WHITE LABOR, disreputable at the South;—so much so that mechanics, there, are regarded as "poor white trash," wholly unfitted for decent society, and inferior even to their slaves.

Now, I have lived at the South, and I know what I am saying. Such men may call themselves Democrats, but I, for one, shall decline to follow their lead any longer. In the free North labor is respected—it is honored—and here we have a better exposition of true Democracy than they have at the South. Now, the false Democratic leaders have been trying to make the Northern workingman believe that the moment the slave is made free he would hasten North, and, filling up all the avenues of industry, crowd out the white workman. The fallacy of this notion has been fully exposed, but not until wholesale and appalling murder had been done in New York, Chicago, and elsewhere. It now appears that the poor negro does not want to come North; in fact, he asks, as a favor, to be permitted to stay in the South. Recently, as an experiment, at Norfolk, a gentleman offered to provide two hundred negro women with places, at good wages, if they would come to Philadelphia, and they all refused.

So, this immense bugbear no longer stares the poor workmen in the face, making them faint at heart with apprehensions for the future. Now, slavery may go, as go it will, along with the barbarism of the past, and the poor white laborer need not fear for his daily bread. Indeed, the abolition of slavery will open up the whole South to the determined and untiring industry of the North, and millions will find new cause for gratulation at this auspicious result. This is democracy—this is genuine, heart-reaching, brain-stimulating democracy. This is the old boast of Democracy, "the greatest good to the greatest number." And, in this connection, as the father of the emancipation policy, and the author of that grand utterance, the letter to the Springfield Convention, the President of the United States must be regarded as the greatest of all Democrats—as one who has done more to elevate the downtrodden, and dispel the pretensions of the inflated, than any other man living. As such, I honor him.

Nor should I omit to say a timely word for the brave and good men in his Cabinet—Chase, Seward, Welles, and the others—who helped to fill his heart with courage in the gloomy days of '61 and '62. Especially is "well done good and faithful servant" due to Mr. Stanton, the honest, kindly, generous man, who loves country better than self—the best-abused and hardest-worked officer in the nation, the fearless patriot, who, in the last days of Buchanan's unfortunate Administration, nobly threw himself into the breach, and dared to oppose Southern insolence and rascality. Remember, friends, what I say to-night. We have yet to hear definitely from Chattanooga. If that battle should prove disastrous to the North, there will be no end to the howling about Mr. Stanton's incompetency. If, on the other hand, it should prove as I trust it will prove, a great victory for the Union, not one word of praise will be given by the Copperheads to the Secretary of War. My friends, let us emulate the example of the President and his Cabinet. Let us stand by the Constitution and the Union, and try to keep up with the beneficent progress of the age.

We have not room for a full report of this judicious and warmly-received speech. The sincere and heartfelt respect paid by the speaker to Gov. Curtin awakened the hearty applause of the audience. This was the most important election ever held in Pennsylvania, and it was of the first consequence that Curtin should be re-elected. Woodward belonged, body and soul, to the slave-drivers, the woman whippers, the traffickers in their own flesh and blood. If we defeat this political trimmer, we shall give a moral blow to the rebellion which will nearly kill it. Curtin is for the Union, he is the friend of the soldier, he is a wise man and an honest one. Every man who loves his country should vote for him.

Mr. Fitzgerald alluded in handsome terms to Mr. Bumm, the Union candidate for City Treasurer, who, most emphatically, was not "tired of being a white slave at the North." Nor did he slight Mr. Watson, the Union candidate for the House of Representatives, whom he had known for more than twenty years, and who was an honest, educated, much respected gentleman, in every way fitted for the office. Mr. Watson had not sought the nomination. Of his triumphant election not a doubt need be entertained. He would carry the Fifth ward as well as the Eighth, and he would prove a wise and honest legislator. If the Union party remained firm, united, and resolved, all would go well in October.

Mr. William Nicholson, and others, delivered speeches, and about ten o'clock the meeting adjourned, with great cheers for the old flag, the Union, Curtin, and the whole ticket.

MEETING OF THE NINTH WARD NATIONAL UNION ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Ninth Ward National Union Association was held last evening at the hall, southwest corner Twelfth and Filbert streets. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with. After a few remarks by the president, Sheriff John Thompson, he introduced to the audience Colonel Philip S. White, who said: When there is a party opposing a Government they must undoubtedly have a reason for doing so; but the Democrats who have arrayed themselves against our Government urge as a reason that the platform of the Republican party was sufficient evidence to them of the intention of Mr. Lincoln and that party to free the slaves and inaugurate the Abolition doctrine, and from these weak reasons he believed the rebellion was brought on without a cause, and it was the intention of the Government to crush it, as the President was sworn on his oath to support the Government and enforce the laws. It is the duty of every loyal and patriotic man throughout the land to assist the Administration in carrying out the laws.

The speaker here referred to what the policy of Democrats would be if they were in power, no doubt to offer peace to Jeff Davis; but that person would spit upon such an offer. He said these Democrats did not expect to save the Union by any peace proposition that they might make, but for the purpose of getting into power to obtain the spoils of office.

Governor Curtin is our standard-bearer, and it is our duty to assist in his election. The speaker here made allusions to the patriotic acts which the Governor has performed, and of the backwardness in Judge Woodward's not coming forward in the time of his country's danger. It is a prima facia evidence that to be a Democrat in the present emergency, is to be a traitor to the best interests of the country, as the object of that party is to throw obstructions in the way of the present Administration. He then made reference to the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, which he said met with his entire approval.

Col. Wm. H. Maurice was then introduced, who said, in such times as these we must all be Abolitionists, and we must go in for the destruction of our Government, or the destruction of slavery. He was for the compromise that is made at the cannon's mouth, and he would proclaim peace throughout the land, when every rebel knee was bended, and heart subdued. Every vote which is cast in the October election for Judge Woodward is a bullet aimed at a loyal soldier's heart.

His remarks were received with much enthusiasm.

The president then introduced Isaac O'Harra, Esq., the present candidate for the Legislature in the Sixth district, who said that he was not a speech-maker, and could only thank them for the honor which they had conferred upon him.

Short and eloquent addresses were then delivered by Daniel Steinmetz, Esq., and Hon. Charles O'Neil, urging those present to sustain the Government against the plotters of treason, by casting their votes for Andrew G. Curtin at the next election.

The Canvass in Schuylkill.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: A very large and enthusiastic Union meeting was held in St. Clair, Schuylkill county, on Saturday evening last. Griffith T. Jones presided, assisted by many vice presidents and secretaries. Addresses were delivered by Hon. Charles W. Pitman, Lin Bartholomew, and George Martz.

Yours, respectfully, M. A.

ST. CLAIR, Schuylkill co., Pa., Sept. 22.

The Press.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1863.

Shall it be Peace or War?

Throughout this war England has been quibbling. In form she has refused to recognize the Southern Confederacy; in fact, she has given it almost all the recognition it could wish. So delicate are the international questions involved; so careful has England been not to break the letter of the law, that the United States has not yet had legal cause to resent the violation of the spirit. Yet we have felt, and all the world knows, that the United States has just cause of complaint, and that the British Government is to ours in an attitude of hostility. We feel the offence, but cannot reach the offender. Such a condition cannot continue. We are vexed, injured, humiliated, by the wrongs inflicted by this ancient foe, whom vainly we have sought to make a friend, and the time is rapidly approaching, perhaps it has already come, when England must reluctantly yield justice to the United States, or the United States must reluctantly enforce it. We have parleyed long, and debated earnestly and calmly, but in vain. Answer have we had none; evasion is the constant reply. It is time to dispense with an answer, if none will be given; to cease arguing about our rights, and to assert them.

We hardly regret, therefore, that in the Mersey two rebel steam rams are being built, and that the English Government is forced either to detain them at the demand of our Government, or, by permitting them to put to sea, acknowledge that she is the enemy of our Republic. Words will not avail; protestations of friendship and declarations that British law gives no right to the Government to hold these vessels, can no longer be accepted. England must be judged by her action, and we have a right to judge her so only. The injury inflicted on our commerce by pirates build in English ship yards, armed, manned, and provisioned in English ports, is too great for American patience. If a mad dog, dangerous to us, is kept by a neighbor, who declares that he is ignorant of the dog's madness, and is unwilling, therefore, to kill the animal, should we not protect ourselves—as we think best? If England's law is not broad enough to punish or prevent this evil of piracy, is not our own right sufficient? It England keep mad dogs of the South in her kennels, unchained and unmuzzled, feed them and protect them, let her not complain if we hold her accountable for our injuries. It is the leading argument of the London journals, that if England's law does not justify her in detaining these vessels, she will not change it at the bidding of any foreign Power. If this argument is expressed in action, we refute it by the only logic which our enemy will respect. But England is not openly our enemy; in profession she is our friend and ally, and her perfidy is, therefore, doubly perfidious; she possesses double power to work us injury, and her hypocrisy is doubly mean. Affirming her friendship, she complains that her laws forbid her to expel our enemy from her shores. Far more honorable would it be for the British Government at once to recognize the independence of the Southern States. We could not then complain that her policy betrayed our interests.

Is it, then, peace or war? The *Times* asserts that "if the ministers detain these vessels they would not be justified in doing so." Their justification depends, it argues, upon the evidence that they are being built for the use of the rebels. Is evidence wanting? No one dares to doubt they are rebel rams, and in the face of universal admissions, the strongest circumstantial evidence, the glaring and notorious fact, it is not the part of an ally to quibble. The *Times* itself admits that "it is the very common belief that those vessels, to whatever order they were originally laid down, to whatever nation they may be intermediately passed, are destined in the end for the service of the Confederates against the Federals. It is the universally general impression." And this is our sufficient reason. All the United States demand is, that these rams shall not leave English waters until English courts have decided whether they are being built for the service of the enemy of England's ally. Let them loose to prey upon our commerce, and our cause of war is just. But, we trust, nay, we believe, that the British Government will do us this simple justice, which not only the stipulations of sacred treaties demand, but the self-respect of England requires. At all events, we can no longer be baffled by quibbles, and deceived by professions of friendship, accompanied by acts of enmity.

The Democracy and the War.

As Mr. CHARLES J. BIDDLE belongs to a class of men who entered into the service, and obtaining their reward in advance, saw proper to leave it before the labor paid for could be said to have been performed, it is fitting that he should take upon himself to instruct the soldiers of the Democratic faith as to their duty in the coming election. The fact that a Democratic State Central Committee should in any way recognize the army except as the enemies of their "brethren of the South," is an illustration of the salutary effect of the Union canvass. This recognition was refused months ago, because the extreme leaders had a fancy that the platform of VALLANDIGHAM might be fastened upon Pennsylvania. They thought that their vituperation of the war, and their success in breathing suspicion of the Administration into the minds of the ignorant and unthinking, had prepared them for an open avowal of sympathy with treason, and so the avowal was made, and as a representative of disloyal sentiment, Mr. Justice WOODWARD, a man whose flimsy record does not contain a single evidence of hearty sympathy with the cause, was made the candidate for Governor. VALLANDIGHAM, with all his infamies, was endorsed, and such men as Mr. REED, Mr. HUGHES, and Mr. INGERSOLL, took it upon themselves to assume command of the Democratic party and to marshal it on the side of treason. They took it upon themselves to say that the Confederacy was virtually dissolved—that Pennsylvania, as an independent Commonwealth, should unite itself with the South, and become a dependency of JEFFERSON DAVIS, and that the Democratic party should be the instrument of this great humiliation. They now see that they have counted beyond the cost, and that however easy it might be to arrange such a plan upon paper, and defend it in speeches, the people could not be induced to sanction it. From June to September they have attempted it, and now, terrified by the indignation that everywhere greets them, and the thousand evidences of defeat that darken their hopes, they come forward at this late day of the canvass, and attempt to deceive the people by a false show of sympathy with the soldiers and hollow professions of devotion to the Union. The address of the State Central Committee is the first attempt. If it fails we shall probably have an address from Mr. Justice WOODWARD himself, making a full confession of his sins, and asking the people to give him the absolution by an election to the Gubernatorial chair.

Mr. BIDDLE assumes, in addressing the soldiers, that "it is a scheme for elevating the negro that now protracts the war." This is the text of the whole address, and we have all the foolish and deceptive arguments that have been so plentifully scattered, to the effect that the "Abolitionists have been the recruiting officers of DAVIS"—that Abolition has stimulated and strengthened Secession;" that when the Abolitionists are driven from power Secession will die. In other words, Mr. BIDDLE desires the soldiers to believe that the war was brought on by the Administration; that it is protracted to secure negro equality; that to secure this equality the authorities are endeavoring to oppress and disfranchise the people, and establish a military Government. These assertions are too absurd for consideration. There is not a soldier in the armies of the Union who would be deceived by such nonsense, and it only shows the extremities to which the cause of the rebels has been reduced, that Mr. BIDDLE should bring himself to use them. When he tells the soldiers of the American armies that they are the instruments of an Administration which has no other ambition than to elevate the negro to an equality with the white man, he states what is untrue, and we should hope, for the credit of his intelligence, if not for his honesty, what he knows to be untrue. All his clamor about Emancipation changing the purpose of the war is the mere catch-word of the politician. Long before Emancipation was adopted, even when the policy of the Administration was against its adoption, Mr. BIDDLE and his friends opposed this war. Then, in his own courtly phrase, it was a "Black Republican job," and at that time his beloved "McCLELLAN and McCALL," the Pennsylvanian soldiers who have been so badly used by Government, were engaged in the "job." Long before the war had really begun, even when the guns of the rebels were almost within range of Washington, this harmless and accomplished soldier saw fit to throw his sword aside, and, speaking of the cause of his country in words of contempt and bitterness, to enter into Congress and endeavor to bring dissension into the councils of the nation. This is the man who pretends to teach the soldiers of an American army what their duty should be, and who would degrade his country in the eyes of the world to serve a petty partisan purpose. The Republic can afford to be assailed by one who served it so shamefully in the hour of peril.

We appeal from this hero of a hundred dress parades, to the heroes of a hundred hard-fought fields; from the martinet of Langley's camp, to the soldier of the Chickahominy and Gettysburg. We appeal to such men as those of the 138th Pennsylvania Volunteers, who met on the banks of the Rappahannock and expressed the feelings that reigned within them. What they said and did is elsewhere printed, and Mr. BIDDLE will find among them Democrats like the gallant Lieut. MOORE, of Montgomery, who believes the Union of more value than their party. The men who are now fighting the battles of the Union know the purpose of the war. They have seen treason with their eyes, and they know that it still exists with unrelenting and bloody purposes; that it is thundering at Wagner, murdering our friends at Chattanooga, and quietly preparing for another invasion of Pennsylvania. They propose to strike it down, and to strike it again and again until there is no more of life, and if Mr. BIDDLE and his friends suppose that any misrepresentation or remonstrance can change that purpose, they sadly mistake the prowess and the loyalty of an American army.

At Last.

We see it announced that on Monday evening Mr. Justice WOODWARD made a speech to his friends in the Democratic club-room at Easton. We congratulate the taciturn jurist upon having at last opened his mouth, and although we cannot but regret for the honor of the bench that one of its members should so far forget himself as to carry the ermine into the precincts of a political club-room, our joy over the fact of his being prevailed upon to speak is so great that we can afford to overlook any humiliation we may feel. Our anxiety is to know precisely what Mr. Justice WOODWARD said. When he determined to make a speech, why did he go into a country town, away from the reach of reporters and newspapers? Why did he not announce his purpose, that the world might be present, and hear? We are sincerely anxious to have a speech from Mr. Justice WOODWARD, and two of the most accomplished reporters on our staff are under orders to follow him into any part of Pennsylvania, and print every word that may fall from his lips. Had they known of his intention to speak on Monday evening, they would certainly have honored him with their presence at Easton. Nor is this anxiety unnatural. We desire to know what manner of man this Mr. Justice WOODWARD is? Has he changed since December, 1860? Is he a repentant disloyalist, or is he disloyal beyond repentance? Does he still believe that "to think against slavery is a sin, and to speak against it a crime?" Did he tell the people of Easton of the "incalculable blessing" of slavery, and did he advise the slaveholders to fall back upon their "natural rights" and defend slavery? Perhaps he took inspiration from passing events, and pointed with pride to the slaveholders at Chattanooga, under BRAGG, and at Charleston, under BEAUREGARD, who are asserting their "natural rights" to murder our friends and kinsmen. He might have asserted the gift of prophecy, and spoken as never man spoke before, for he could have claimed every slaveholder in the South, from PILLOW down to DAVIS, as humble followers of his teachings. Mr. Justice WOODWARD, however, may have been too modest to make such appeals to his friends at Easton, and may have gone back to his former opinions about foreigners, and how he was so cruelly misrepresented by that "Whig reporter." It is hardly probable that any soldiers were present, and therefore no allusion was made to his decision in reference to their power to vote.

Happy Easton, to have heard Mr. Justice WOODWARD, and unhappy Pennsylvania, not to know what were the words he said! Is there no way to induce this man to make a speech in Philadelphia, or to announce a speech in some other town? We know it is a disgraceful thing for judges to be engaged in such a business—we are pained to see it—nor do we wish to encourage the practice; but as he has calmed his own conscience, it is hardly our business, and we may hope for a participation in the blessing vouchsafed to the people of Easton.

Something for Poland.

If the three remonstrant Powers—France, England, and Austria—which addressed Russia, some three or four months ago, on the subject of Poland, had done so in a single note, thereby showing their unity, great results might have been expected. But Austria, who profited by the partition of Poland, was undecided in its communication to the Czar. France, which desires a war, was threatening and saucy. England was didactic and undemonstrative, and Lord RUSSELL nullified all the effect of his writing by declaring, in the House of Lords, that, happen what might, England would not take up arms for Poland.

After this more impotent conclusion comes the news that the Czar is prepared, of his own accord, to do for Poland as much as the Three Powers could reasonably require. The Parisian journal, *La France*, states that it has information from Moscow relative to the scheme of a Constitution, according to which the Russian Government would become constitutional. "There would be a Senate of 300 members, and an Elective Chamber of 450. Independently of the central representation, the Provinces would receive special constitutions. The Kingdom of Poland would have a Diet, and a completely self-governing internal organization. Poland would, besides, send deputies to the Chamber of Representatives at St. Petersburg. Diets would also be granted to Finland and the other large Provinces of the Empire. The Court party is opposed to the project, but it is probable that the Emperor, who is animated by liberal intentions, will not allow himself to be influenced by this opposition." In a subsequent publication it announces that the Russian empire will be divided into ten great provinces, each having a Diet, or local parliament, and that the particular institutions of Poland would be greatly extended if the Poles refused to send deputies to the Chamber of Representatives for the empire. Their scruples would be respected, and the special Government of Poland would be conducted under the sole direction of the Diet at Warsaw. The Emperor's lieutenant would fill the post of Chief of the Executive power. If to this be added that the Polish shall be the official language of the State, in Poland, the concessions will be sufficiently ample to satisfy Europe that the Czar means well and will act humanely.

What he proposes to grant is far more than the three Powers pressed upon him, and, without ceasing to belong to Russia, Poland will be represented in the Imperial Parliament, also having an independent internal organization, and its own Diet at Warsaw, regulating its own affairs. In a word, the military organization of Russia, especially in Poland, will be abandoned and a civil administration substituted. This, if carried out, will introduce a just and humane constitutional government into Russia, for the nine other provinces which, with Poland, will then constitute that Empire, will equally reap the advantage. It was time for the Czar to do this, seeing how completely the Emperor of Austria is bringing constitutional government into all parts of his vast realm. The *Times*, treating of this subject, says: "For right or wrong, for good or ill, Poland has now been partitioned too long for it to be possible to undo the work. It is of no avail for the Poles to rush upon bayonets because they cannot get all they want. They must be content with anything in reason, and such a proposition by the Emperor of Russia as we have been discussing, would be more than reasonable. If they can secure a liberal representation, a tolerably free press, fair administration of the laws, and security for life and property, they have no right to convulse Europe for the shadowy advantage of a distinct Sovereign. We earnestly hope that it will not be their obstinacy which will prevent the Polish question from receiving so satisfactory a solution."

IT is with pleasure we learn that Hon. JAMES M. SCOVEL, of Camden, N. J., is about to canvass our State in behalf of Governor CURTIN, and of the Union cause. He will stump the counties of Snyder, Montour, Jefferson, Clarion, Armstrong, and Warren, and judging from the success which attended his efforts last winter in the New Jersey Legislature, in baffling the schemes of the Secession sympathizers, we are warranted in predicting that he will do effective service on his present mission.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE.—The October number, we received from Peterson & Brothers, has several articles of merit, foremost among which are "The First Cruise of the Monitor Passaic" and "Scenes in the War of 1812," both finely illustrated. There are a lively sketch of The Army Correspondent, the conclusion of "Romola," three new chapters of "The Small House at Allington," a couple of sketchy stories, and the Editor's Easy Table, (including a stupid episode on Summer resorts by the eternal and tiresome Gunney bags,) and a capital Editor's Drawer. On the whole, this is not a first-rate number. The General Index, we learn, will include references to the present (the 27th) volume, now approaching its close.

WASHINGTON.

Special Despatches to The Press.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 22, 1863.

Capture of Rebel Guerillas.

Several days ago Officers COLE and MEARS, of the Local Loyal Cavalry, crossed Harrison's Island to Leesburg, and captured fourteen of WHITE's rebel partisans in that vicinity. Four of them were at the time engaged in making cider.

Charge to the Grand Jury.

Judge Fisher, in his charge to the Grand Jury to-day, at the opening of the Criminal Court, said, "the readiness with which you have each taken the oath of loyalty prescribed by act of June 17, 1862, leads me to rely, gentlemen, with full confidence and faith upon your determination to bring to condign punishment, as far as you can, any traitor, if there shall be any in our midst, who has by his acts and conduct made himself obnoxious to the provisions of those statutes which have been enacted for the punishment of treason, the highest crime known to the law."

Deserters Returned to the Army.

Three hundred and eighty deserters were yesterday sent from the defences south of the Potomac, where they have been at work for some time past, to Provost Marshal Todd, who will return them to the various regiments to which they belong.

The Visit of Senor Cortez.

The importance of the visit of Señor CORTEZ to Washington has been highly exaggerated. He was a general in the Mexican Liberal army, and came hither merely as a private gentleman, without any credentials or official mission whatever.

The Bombardment of Port-au-Platte.

BOSTON, Sept. 22.—A private letter states that one hundred lives were lost in the bombardment of Port-au-Platte, St. Domingo. The loss of property was also quite heavy. The American consul remained at his post. The other consuls took refuge on board of vessels in the harbor.

Clearance of Blockade Runners.

QUEBEC, Sept. 22.—The steamer Burnsville went to sea last night, clearing for Havana, but it is expected she will take a cargo from Nova Scotia to run the blockade. The steamer Caledonia leaves to-day, on a similar business.

Boat Capsized.

NEW BEDFORD, Sept. 22.—A sailboat, containing eight persons, was capsized to-day, while on a fishing excursion. J. Tripp, of this city, was drowned.

Two Frigates Supposed to be Russian off Stonington.

STONINGTON, Conn., Sept. 21.—Two large steam frigates, probably Russian, are now lying off here waiting for pilots, evidently bound westward.

Railroad Collision.

TOLEDO, Sept. 22.—A collision took place near here this morning, on the Dayton and Michigan Railroad, between a passenger and a wood train. Two persons were killed and seventeen wounded.

THE WAR IN GEORGIA.

Further Details of the Great Battle Near Chattanooga.

BRAGG REINFORCED FROM VARIOUS POINTS IN THE CONFEDERACY.

Troops Levied in Georgia.

The Enemy Repulsed on Both Days.

THE CAPTURE OF 20 GUNS CLAIMED BY BRAGG.

THE ENEMY'S LOSS GREATER THAN OUR OWN.

A SUBSTANTIAL SUCCESS.

Concentration of Our Troops on Chattanooga.

THE ENEMY STILL ACTIVE.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—The official information received to-day, which is several hours later than that published in the morning papers, confirms the leading points in the printed despatches. The fact that General Rosecrans was not sooner reinforced is not certainly the fault of the Government, but there is no doubt that every effort is now making to increase his strength by reinforcements from more than one direction.

LATER FROM GEN. ROSECRANS.

According to official despatches received here, dated as late as five o'clock yesterday afternoon, Gen. Rosecrans had information that Longstreet's corps had reinforced Bragg before the battle of Saturday, and it was subsequently stated by deserters from the rebel army that Ewell's corps had also come to his assistance.

A telegram was received here to-day from the officer in command at Chattanooga, speaking in the most encouraging terms of the general results of the actions of Saturday and Sunday, in which, according to his representations, the Union army achieved a substantial success, the enemy being most damaged in killed, wounded, &c. A prisoner taken from Bragg's army says that Mobile has been stripped of troops for Bragg, and that some troops have been sent to him from Charleston. Also, that some from Lee's army were in the late fights; in fact, that the whole Confederacy seems to be concentrated there for the attack on Gen. Rosecrans.

REBEL ACCOUNTS.

A rebel despatch has been intercepted on the extreme front of the Army of the Potomac, wherein the rebel commander of the Army of Northern Virginia is informed from Richmond that Bragg engaged Rosecrans on Saturday and Sunday, capturing 20 pieces of artillery and 500 prisoners.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS.

The *Star* and *National Republican*, in late editions this afternoon, have accounts evidently derived from official sources. The longer one, from the *Evening Star*, is as follows:

THE BATTLE NEAR CHATTANOOGA.

On Saturday, the 18th, a demonstration was made by the rebels in strong force, which appears to have been repelled by the force under General Thomas with advantage on the Federal side.

On Sunday an engagement commenced late in the morning. The first gun was fired at 9 A. M., but no considerable firing took place till 10 o'clock. Previous to this, General Rosecrans rode along the whole length of our lines. Soon after the battle commenced General Thomas, who held the left, began to call for reinforcements. At about noon word came that he had been forced to retire. The second line of reinforcements were then sent to him, General McCook's whole corps, which was on the right and as a reserve in the centre, was sent to his assistance. Wood, of Crittenden's Corps, and Van Cleve, who held the front centre, was also ordered to the left, when the fury of the cannonading showed that the rebel force was massed. Their places were filled by Davis and Sheridan of McCook's Corps. But hardly had these divisions taken their places in the line when the rebel fire, which had slackened, burst out in immense volleys upon the centre. This lasted about twenty minutes, and then Van Cleve, on Thomas' right, was seen to give way, but in tolerable order; soon after which the lines of Sheridan and Davis broke in disorder, borne down by the enemy's columns, said to have consisted of Polk's corps. These two were the only divisions thrown into much disorder. Those of Negley and Van Cleve were thrown into confusion, but soon rallied, and held their places, the first on the left, and the second on the right of Thomas' corps. Davis and Sheridan late in the day succeeded in rallying about 8,000 of their forces, and joined General Thomas, who, finding himself cut off from the right, brought his divisions into position for independent fighting, his line assuming the form of a horse-shoe along the crest of a wooded ridge. He was soon joined by General Granger, from Rossville, with a division of McCook's and Stedman's division, and with these forces firmly maintained the fight until after dark. Our forces were as immovable as the rocks they stood on. The enemy repeatedly hurled against them the dense columns which had routed Davis and Sheridan in the morning, but every onset was repulsed with dreadful slaughter. Failing first on one and then on another point of our lines, the rebels for hours vainly sought to break them. General Thomas seemed to have filled every soldier with his own unconquerable firmness, and General Granger, his hat torn by bullets, rode like a lion wherever the combat was the hottest. Every division commander bore himself gloriously, and among them, Generals Turchin, Hazen, and Parker, especially distinguished themselves. General Turchin charged through the rebel line with the bayonet, and being surrounded, forced his way back again. General Parker, also, had two horses shot under him on Saturday. Forming his men in one line, he made them lie down until the enemy was close upon them, when suddenly they rose and delivered their fire with such effect that the assaulting column fell back in confusion, leaving the ground covered with killed. When the night fell this body of heroes stood on the same ground occupied by them in the morning, their spirits being unbroken. Our losses are not yet estimated. Gen. Thomas telegraphed on Monday forenoon that the troops are in high spirits. He brought off all his wounded. Of the sick and wounded at Crawfish Spring, including one main field hospital, nearly all had been brought away.

The number of prisoners taken by the enemy will hardly surpass 2,000 besides the wounded, of which not more than 1,000 could have fallen into their hands.

Of the rebel prisoners, we have already sent 1,300 to Nashville. Of our losses in artillery, most of them were occasioned because the horses had all been killed.

General Thomas retired to Rossville on Sunday night, after the battle had closed.

General Rosecrans had issued orders for all his troops to be concentrated at Chattanooga.

In the last two assaults our troops fought with bayonets, their ammunition being exhausted.

The latest information that has reached this city from Chattanooga, up to last evening, was to the effect that General Rosecrans would concentrate on Chattanooga last night.

General Thomas had been engaged with the enemy prior to 5 P. M. yesterday, and it was, therefore, questionable if he would be able to reach Chattanooga last night.

There were indications that the enemy were contemplating a demonstration on another part of our line last evening.

A WHOLESALE LEVY IN GEORGIA.

A despatch from Pond Spring, Ga., 17th instant, to the Louisville *Journal* says:

"The Southern journals claim a largely superior force. I have just seen a late Chattanooga *Rebel*, now published at Marietta, Georgia. It contains a call from the Governor of the State for all who can supply themselves with arms to repair to their nearest railroad stations for transportation to Bragg's army. The Governor *informs the people that he has* already sent forward fifteen thousand men.

"The *Rebel* exults over the effects of the call, saying that the stations are alive with men who desire to be sent forward to Bragg. Lee's corps has already joined Bragg."

From Charleston.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—The steamship Mississippi reports passing Charleston at 3 o'clock on Sunday morning, and heard heavy firing.

The steamer Fulton reports that the work of mounting heavy guns on Battery Gregg as very slow, in consequence of the annoyances received from the rebel Battery Bee and Fort Moultrie, by shot and shell fired at intervals of about twenty minutes.

The Canada Fair.

KINGSTON, C. W., Sept. 22.—The Provincial Fair opened to-day with nearly 5,000 entries. The horse show was fine, there being nearly 400 entries of horses, 500 of sheep, and 400 of cattle. The weather is fine.

Arrival of the Steamer Fulton.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—The steamer Fulton, from Charleston bar, with dates to the 19th, has arrived, but brings no news. Among her passengers is Surgeon General Hammond.

The steamers Cossack and Mississippi, from Hilton Head, with dates to the 18th, have also arrived.

Sailing of the Adriatic.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—The steamer Adriatic has sailed.

FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Sept. 20.—The steamer C. W. Thomas left here at nine o'clock this morning, on a flag-of-truce mission to City Point, in charge of Gen. Meredith, having on board the rebel General Kemper.

The steamship S. R. Spaulding left to-day for Charleston Bar. Among her passengers was E. Fulton, Esq., of the Baltimore *American*.

The United States gunboat Sacramento, from the Wilmington blockading squadron, arrived to-day, and has gone to Norfolk for repairs.

Seven companies of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry have just returned from an expedition to Franklin and Zuno, and report only 700 rebel troops on the Blackwater.

FORTRESS MONROE, Sept. 21.—The steamer Forest City arrived at noon from Boston.

The transport steamer Guide leaves for New York to-night, and the John Brooks for New Haven, Conn., touching at New York.

The steamer Express will leave this evening for Cape Lookout, with 140 rebel prisoners from Fort Norfolk.

The flag-of-truce boat has not returned.

There has been no arrival from Charleston.

LATEST BY THE ETNA.

Polish and German Affairs.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 9.—The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, of to-day, denies the rumors published by the foreign press, concerning new arrangements by Russia relative to Polish and German affairs. Speaking of the alleged radical reforms and new alliances, it says: "The conclusions drawn from these pretended advices are as false as their premises. In Poland the Emperor, whose sentiments on the Polish question have not changed, considers his just duty to be the re-establishment of solid and material order, founded on the ground subverted by anarchical passions. From a diplomatic point of view, the Government remains determined to fulfil its international obligations, and at the same time to maintain the rights of Russia within the limits of treaties. As regards German affairs, Russia sympathizes with the Union of the strength of Germany, based on the interest of all the States of which that country is composed. Russia has no more reason to provide against dangers which might result to her from Germany, than Germany has to put herself on her guard against dangers coming from Russia. The rumors which are current have therefore no foundation, and evince extreme indiscretion or sad malicious premeditation."

ATLANTIC CABLE.

LONDON, Sept. 9.—Cyrus W. Field will return to America on Saturday next, in the steamer China. The contract for the manufacture and laying down, next summer, of a good submarine cable between Ireland and Newfoundland was signed on the 5th instant.

NORTH CAROLINA.

An Important Article from the Raleigh Standard.

In a long article, from which we make interesting extracts, the editor of the Raleigh *Standard* replies to an appeal from the *Observer* to discountenance the anti-war meetings. He thus discusses the original position of South Carolina in the question of secession:

The *Observer* reminds us that when this State *seceded* (for they *would* pass Mr. Craige's *secession* ordinance,) from the old Government, that act was "final." So it was, to all human appearances, and so we hope it may be. We hope the State acted "finally," and we still think she acted "wisely." When two evils are before us, and there is no escape, true wisdom is shown in choosing the lesser evil. Our State did that. Her people did not desire to secede. They were willing to try the Administration of Abraham Lincoln, and to rely meanwhile on the great body of the American people to rescue the Government from sectional conflicts, to restore to it a national Administration, and thus perpetuate it, if possible, for all time. They felt that, having with them both branches of the Congress and the Supreme Court, President Lincoln could not seriously injure their property in slaves, nor deprive them of their rights in the Territories, even if he would. They intended, if he attempted such a thing, to resist him in the Union, aided, as they would have been, by 1,000,000 of national men in his own section. If, during the trial, he had driven our people with their slaves from the common Territories, or attempted in any way, by an overt act, to impair our right to our slaves in the States, they would have succeeded, with the help of their Northern allies, not only in checking him, but in punishing him for such maladministration and corruption in office. But the precipitate and wicked action of the Cotton States on the one hand, and the cruel and wicked policy of President Lincoln on the other, left us no alternative. We were obliged to fight our full brother of the South or our half-brother of the North. We chose to do the latter, and we acted "wisely." If we had not done so we should have been trampled by both armies—we should have had civil war among ourselves—the North would have despised us for our want of manhood, and the South would have regarded us as false to our own interests and our own blood. We repeat, our State was not a free agent; she was obliged to pursue the course she did. Thoughtful and sagacious men, while they trod unshrinkingly the path of duty, saw before them the fires of civil war, but beyond these fires all was darkness and uncertainty. "Acting, finally," as they hoped, they put everything on the arbitrament of arms. The Abolitionists of the North and the original Secessionists of the South, acting and re-acting on each other, have in all probability proved themselves the most skillful architects of ruin that any age has produced. *Slavery has suffered more injury during the last two years than probably would have befallen it in the long sweep of fifty years under the old Government.* The peculiar champions of the institution have placed it, we fear, on the high road to extinction. And just here, we beg leave to say to the *Observer*, is the source of one of the most serious apprehensions of our people. *The sudden emancipation of our slaves in our midst would be the greatest blow which could be inflicted on Southern society.* It would ruin this generation beyond redemption, and its effects would be felt for ages to come. Nor would this ruin be partial. It would include the non-slaveholder as the slaveholder, and finally the slave himself. Subjugation, if it should be in reserve for us, would be emancipation. Hence our people, while they are for continuing the struggle, and while they are still anxious, if possible, to make good their "final" separation, are nevertheless disposed to pry into the future, to see if, in the last resort, something better than subjugation can not be obtained. If the worse should stare them in the face, as it does not now, but as it may, they would have peace under certain circumstances; yet, if the worst should come, and they could see no honorable mode of escaping it, they would all die, together with their slaves and their little ones, fighting with a desperation which the world has never witnessed.

The *Observer* does us the justice to say that we are opposed to reconstructing the old Government. We are opposed to it, and have been from the first, whatever some of our correspondents may have been permitted to say to the contrary; but, having put the whole matter on the issue of the sword; having discarded reason under the pressure of circumstances we could not avoid; and having appealed to physical force, we do not hesitate to say, *before we would see our State permanently subjugated and trodden down, as Mississippi is, we would consent to the restoration of the old Government, or the establishment of a new Government, with all our rights guarantied, as the lesser evil.* But we would avoid this by all the means in our power, as a great political and social humiliation; and hence we are for fighting, and talking at the same time for some settlement which will leave at least a portion of the slaveholding States under a separate common Government. *If forced to choose between the two evils, we would rather live with than under the Northern people.* Our resentments are as strong as they can be against those who have carried fire and sword through the country, and many of whose soldiers have committed wanton and cruel outrages on our people; but we could not, as a rational being, sacrifice the happiness and the lives of both races in the South merely to gratify hatred and revenge.

We confess we are touched by the earnest appeal which the *Observer* makes to us to "discountenance" the meetings being held by the people; and if we thought their tendency as injurious as they are considered by the *Observer* we should not hesitate to beg the people to discontinue them. But we are not responsible for them. They had their origin in the policy of the Administration at Richmond, and in the great desire which exists for peace. The public press may be able to modify the accounts of these meetings in some respects; but the public man who denounces these meetings, or denies to the people the right to assemble and consult, and speak freely for the common good, will snap like a pipe-stem in the torrent.

TENNESSEE.

The Question of Reconstruction—Letter from President Lincoln.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, October 21, 1862.

Major Gen. Grant, Governor Johnson, and all having military, naval, or civil authority under the United States within the State of Tennessee:

The bearer of this, Thomas R. Smith, a citizen of the State of Tennessee, goes to that State, seeking to have such of the people thereof as desire to avoid the unsatisfactory prospect before them, and to have peace again upon the old terms under the Constitution of the United States, to manifest such desire by elections of members to the Congress of the United States particularly, and perhaps a Legislature, State officers, and a United States Senator friendly to their objects. I shall be glad for you and such of you to aid him and all others acting for this object as much as possible. In all available ways give the people a chance to express their wishes at these elections. Follow law and the forms of law as far as convenient, but at all events get the expression of the largest number of people possible. All see how much such action will connect with and affect the proclamation of September 22. Of course, the men elected should be gentlemen of character, willing to swear to support the Constitution as of old, and known to be above reasonable suspicion of duplicity. Yours, very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

In an address to the people of West Tennessee, issued by the Memphis committee and signed by Messrs. J. B. Bingham and J. W. Tomeny, the following passage occurs:

"Governor Johnson will issue no writs of election till the people of West and Middle Tennessee in some suitable manner shall have expressed *their willingness and solicitude to choose* legislators and commence in good faith the work of re-organization. Until then we must expect to remain under military rule." * * * The election of a loyal Legislature must precede the election of members of Congress, as the State will have to be re-districted under the new apportionment, agreeably to the census of 1860. When this is done, Senators may be chosen by the Legislature, and an election for Governor and members of Congress ordered. If this latter election can be held prior to the assembling of the next Congress, our representatives would doubtless be permitted to take their seats without opposition. By the last apportionment Tennessee will be allowed eight representatives only instead of ten as before, her comparative gain being much less than the average. It is altogether likely, now that the rebel armies are chased far beyond the border of this State and the whole of East Tennessee liberated, that renewed efforts will be made this autumn to elect a Legislature and members to Congress. To this end General Hurlbut might do much by prosecuting his work against guerillas with great vigor.

DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI.

Important Order from General Grant.

It would seem from the annexed paragraphs from General Order No. 50, issued by General Grant at Vicksburg, August 1, that he is determined to repress the guerilla system as much as possible within his department:

1. All regularly organized bodies of the enemy having been driven from those parts of Kentucky and Tennessee west of the Tennessee river, and from all of Mississippi west of the Mississippi Central railroad, and it being to the interest of those districts not to invite the presence of armed bodies of men among them, it is announced that the most rigorous penalties will hereafter be inflicted upon the following classes of prisoners, to wit: All irregular bodies of cavalry not mustered and paid by the Confederate authorities; all persons engaged in conscripting, enforcing the conscription, or in apprehending deserters, whether regular or irregular; all citizens encouraging or aiding the same; and all persons detected in firing upon unarmed transports.

It is not contemplated that this order shall affect the treatment due to prisoners of war captured within the districts named, when they are members of legally organized companies, and when their acts are in accordance with the usages of civilized warfare.

2. The citizens of Mississippi, within the limits above described, are called upon to pursue their peaceful avocations, in obedience to the laws of the United States. Whilst doing so in good faith, all United States forces are prohibited from molesting them in any way. *It is earnestly recommended that the freedom of negroes be acknowl... compulsory labor, contracts ... into between the former ... the latter and such oth... to give them employm... honestly followed, will ...* tage to all parties.

Scene in the Ohi...

To the Editor of The Press.

SIR: On my way through Ohio, a few days since, a scene presented itself to my view, which I think made such a pretty picture that it is worthy describing.

Mr. Brough, the candidate for Governor of the State of Ohio, was expected at Alliance. Thousands of people flocked there to greet him. Some came on foot, some in wagons, carriages, &c., but among all the mighty, moving throng, there was one scene peculiarly attractive, that made such a deep impression upon my very soul that the latest time will never erase it from my memory. There moved along the great highway a cavalcade fully five hundred strong. Nearly one half of the participants in it were young women, each carrying a staff, from which gracefully unfolded red, white, and blue ribbons—our national colors. What a scene for the painter or the poet! Such a number of fine, healthy, rosy-cheeked daughters of Ohio, whose very presence was a voluminous appeal in behalf of the Union, had such an effect upon the mind of a Kentuckian, who had already engaged his passage in the next train, that he resolved, at the loss of his fare, to remain and take part in the reception to the next Governor of the great Buckeye State. As I gazed in silent admiration upon such a soul-inspiring scene, I could not help feeling more patriotic than ever, at such an exhibition of love of country, such devotion to the cause of human liberty as evinced by such an array of female loveliness. I thought there was indeed something worth fighting for. I am, sir, yours truly,

PHILADA, Sept. 22, 1863. H. F. THORNE.

Reinforcing Gen. Bragg with Paroled Prisoners.

Reliable and decisive information has been received by the military and political authorities here that, in violation of the cartel and the laws and usages of war, Jeff Davis is reinforcing Bragg's army with the prisoners taken and paroled at Vicksburg and Port Hudson, without waiting to have them exchanged. Utterly desperate now, the rebel chiefs disregard every barrier of honor that stands in the way of propping up their fallen fortunes. When it suited the purposes of Jeff Davis he was a rigid stickler for the cartel and laws of war; but now, that the balance of prisoners is heavily and hopelessly against him, he flings to the winds all compunctious visitings of conscience, and is said to be everywhere forcing paroled men, who have not been exchanged, to resume their muskets and places in the ranks.

Already the rebel War Department is said to have numerous and serious difficulties with the higher and more honorable grades of officers captured at Port Hudson and Vicksburg, these latter refusing to bear arms or command their men to do so until duly released by exchange or otherwise from their paroles. Let it be known everywhere that all non-exchanged paroled prisoners captured with arms in their hands will be shot the moment their offence is made to appear. To this both Rosecrans and Burnside have pledged their honors, and the President promises that he will interfere with none of their drumhead sentences.—*Herald.*

Ship News.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—Arrived, steamer Continental, from New Orleans; ship West Point, from Liverpool; bark R. B. Walker, from Cardenas; bark Elizabeth, from Cumberland Harbor; brig J. J. Finlayson, from St. Domingo; brig Condor, from Neuvitas.

Markets by Telegraph.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 22.—Flour dull; Ohio Extra, $5.8[?]@6. Wheat active; Southern Red, $1.45@1.50. Corn advanced 2 cents. Whisky firm at 51½@52.

THE CITY.

[FOR ADDITIONAL CITY NEWS, SEE FOURTH PAGE.]

IMPOSTOR.—A man rejoicing in the high-sounding name of Lucius Otis Cottle, was arrested yesterday, on complaint of Lieut. W. B. Cushing, of the U. S. gunboat Monticello, now at our navy yard. The prisoner was charged with being an impostor. He had on a naval uniform, and pretended that he was commissioned by the Navy Department, to recruit for the Western navy. He could not show any legal document of authority. A number of papers were found upon him; among them an official envelope, directed to the Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy. He was committed in default of $2,000 bail to await another hearing.

ACCIDENT.—The Hon. Charles Gibbons, while riding in a carriage, near Easton, Pa., the horses took fright and ran away, and while attempting to leap from the wagon, fell and broke his left leg at the ankle. He was taken to his residence in Germantown, where he is improving rapidly.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE, STOCKS, &c.—Thomas & Sons sold at the Exchange, yesterday noon, the following stocks and real estate, viz:

$2,000 six per cent. bonds Lawrence county, Ky., 80 per cent.—$1,600.

4 shares Mercantile Library Company, $10—$10.

5 shares Academy of Music—$225.

Four-story brick store and dwelling, southeast corner Marshall and Callowhill streets—$5,700.

Three-story brick dwelling, No. 136 Diamond street, west of Second street—$850.

Three-story brick dwelling, No. 150 Diamond street, west of second street, subject to a yearly ground-rent of $33—$300.

Modern residence, No. 1436 South Penn Square—$7,750.

Farm of sixty-three acres, Delaware county, Pennsylvania—$74 per acre.

CITY ITEMS.

THE FUR SEASON.—The fine, crisp, au... tumn weather of the last few days, no less than the new advertisement of Mr. George F. Womrath, which appears in another column of our paper this morning, reminds us that the season for Fur pur... chasing is approaching. The respectable old Fu... establishment of Mr. Womrath, Nos. 415 and 41... Arch street, already begins to don its sumptuous *Sable* air of winter luxuriance and comfort. In a visit to Mr. Womrath's warerooms yesterday, we learned, from observation, what our readers, especially the ladies, will not be surprised to hear, that his stock of fashionable Furs is one of the most magnificent ever offered in this country. Some idea of its elegance may be inferred from the fact that the largest and most costly lot of Russian Sable Furs imported into the city of London during the past year was purchased in that city some months ago by a member of this house, and now constitute a portion of their attractive stock. We may state in this connection, that, as usual, Mr. Womrath offers a varied assortment of Furs, made up in the most fashionable manner, to suit purchasers of diverse circumstance, and already orders are flowin... upon them from the first citizens of this and othe... cities of the Union.

A TIMELY PRECAUTION.—There is n... more fatal mistake that a man can make than t... defer making the proper changes in his dress to me... the necessities of the weather. Acting upon th... principle, scores of our citizens are now wending the... way to the great Ready-made Clothing Establis... of Messrs. C. Somers & Son, No. 625 Chestnu... street, under Jayne's Hall, and supplying the... selves with comfortable and elegantly-fitting ne... suits from their magnificent new stock; or givi... their orders for garments made to measurement.

EFFECT OF THE WAR NEWS.—The ch... racter of the late war news has advanced the pr... mium on gold, and the prices of many classes ... merchandise. Mr. Wm. W. Alter, the well-know... coal merchant, Ninth street, above Poplar, was ove... whelmed with orders yesterday, under the same i... fluence, and the fact that he is determined to mai... tain his present low prices as long as possible w... give him a great stream of business for some da... to come. Orders for winter supplies should be se... in promptly.

FINE CARTE DE VISITE OF GENERA... HUMPHRIES.—Mr. F. Gutekunst, Nos. 704 and 7... Arch street, has just taken an excellent card pictu... of Major General Humphries, chief of Gene... Meade's staff, duplicates of which, for the albu... can now be had at his counters.

FINE BRAND OF OLIVE OIL.—Messr... Davis & Richards (successors to the late C. H. Ma... son), dealers in fine family groceries, Arch and Te... streets, have just received a fresh invoice of Sw... Oil, of the celebrated "Latour" brand, made fr... the pure olive, to which we invite attention.

AUTUMNAL CONFECTIONS.—With sing... lar good taste, Mr. A. L. Vansant, Ninth and Che... nut streets, varies his delicious Confections w... the season. His elegant Bon-bons, Sweet Jor... Rosated Almonds, Portuguese Secrets, Crystali... Fruits, French Mixtures, and fine Taffies, are n... particularly in vogue.

PREPARING FOR FALL AND WINTER.—Messrs. C. Oakford & Sons, under the Continen... Hotel, are preparing to offer a magnificent stock... goods in their several departments.

SPLENDID FITTING SHIRTS.—Mr. Geor... Grant, No. 610 Chestnut street, has now ready ... fall manufacture and importation of fashiona... Furnishing Goods for Gentlemen—the finest sto... in the city.

AN ELEGANT STOCK OF MILITARY FU... NISHING GOODS, for Army and Navy officers, w... be found at Oakford & Sons', under the Continent... at moderate prices.

QUEEN VICTORIA ABOUT TO RE-MARR... —The highest bit of gossip afloat is that Qu... Victoria is about to contract *a second marriage* w... ex-King Ferdinand of Portugal—he who, with c... racteristic Coburg wisdom, declined, not long sin... the proffered slippery throne of Greece. He is d... of royal business at present, and is uncle of the l... Prince Albert. The story gained currency from ... fact that it is known in high circles across the wa... that Ferdinand was discussing the propriety of se... ing to Philadelphia for the purpose of procurin... elegant suit from the Brown-stone Clothing Hall ... Rockhill & Wilson, Nos. 603 and 605 Chestnut stre... above Sixth. Gossip said it was to be his wedd... suit, and the widowed queen was to be the ro... bride.

By the latest news from Charleston ... see that Beauregard is about to assume the off... sive in that quarter. We were not aware bef... that he had ever ceased assuming the offensive. ... a Creole descent, one part French, one part Indi... and five parts African, he, to our minds, assum... the offensive early. Educated by the United Sta... at West Point, and the first one in that institut... to break the rules by sending a challenge, and aft... wards, when in Mexico, at the head of a clique... get President Polk to supersede General Scott... Gideon J. Pillow, and lately having the unenvia... notoriety of being in command at the attack on ... flag of his country at Fort Sumpter, all combine... our opinion, to class him with those who are pe... liarly offensive. Charles Stokes & Co., first-cl... Clothiers, under the Continental Hotel. Don't ... us hear any more about Beauregard *assuming* the... fensive.

AN OLD SAW NEW SET.—

"Come wife," said Will, "I pray you devote
Just half a minute to mend this coat,
Which a nail has chanced to rend."
"Tis ten o'clock," said his drowsy mate.
"I know," quoth Will, "it is rather late,
But it's never too late to *mend*."

We advise those who have been, or *are*, addic... to bad *habits*, to "mend," by procuring them he... forth at the palatial store of Granville Stokes, 609 Chestnut street.

GENTLEMEN'S HATS.—All the newest ... best styles for Fall Wear, in Felt, Silk, and O... mere, will be found at Warburton's, No. 430 C... nut street, next door to the Post Office. se17