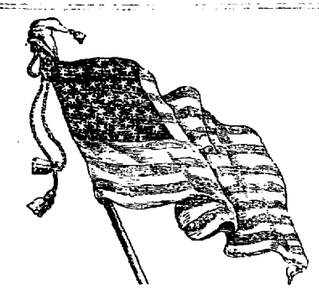
Gazette and Democrat.

READING, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1863.



HAIL! brightest banner that floats on the gale.
Flag of the country of Washington, hail!
Red are thy stripes with the blood of the brave,
Bright are thy stars as the sun on the wave;
Wrapt in thy folds are the hopes of the Free,
Banner of Washington! blessings on thee!

☞ TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Several Army letters, communications, and other matters, intended for this week's paper, are unavoidably crowded out.

☞ HON. S. E. ANCONA has our thanks for a copy of the President's Message and Diplomatic Correspondence. We are also indebted to Mr. LIEBER, Doorkeeper of the House, at Harrisburg, for an official list of members of the House.

DEATH OF COL. KNODERER.

We deeply regret to announce that Col. CHAS. A. KNODERER, commander of the 107th Regiment Pennsylvania Militia, died at noon on Sunday last in the Regimental Hospital near Suffolk, Va., of the wound he received in the battle of Blackwater, on the 30th ult. Col. Knoderer was a native of the Grand Duchy of Baden, and educated in the Polytechnic School of that Government. After graduating, he entered its service as a Civil Engineer, and subsequently as a Lieutenant in the Army. When the Revolution of 1848 broke out, he abandoned his position and prospects as an officer in the Army of the Grand Duke, and joined the patriots of Germany in their struggle for constitutional liberty. He served with the gallant SIGEL throughout that short but disastrous campaign; and afterward, with hundreds of others who had taken part in it, fled from Europe, and found in America a home and a country. He came to Reading in 1849, and in 1850 entered the service of the Schuylkill Navigation Company as an Assistant Engineer, in which capacity he was employed until September, 1861, when a desire to aid his adopted country in the suppression of the rebellion took possession of his mind, and was gratified in his appointment as a Captain of Engineers on the Staff of Gen. Sigel. During his service in the short campaign of Maj. Gen. Fremont in Missouri, he distinguished himself by building the famous bridge across the Osage river. On the removal of Gen. Fremont, he found himself without a position, and returned to Reading, and resumed his connection with the Navigation Company. In the early summer of 1862, he engaged actively in the effort to recruit three Companies for a Regiment that was then forming at Pittsburgh, for Gen. Sigel's command. He was making satisfactory progress, when the organization at Pittsburgh suddenly broke down, and the effort had to be abandoned.

In September last, when the invasion of our State by the Rebels was threatened, and the Governor called out a force of Militia for its defence, Col. Knoderer marched with one of the Companies of our city as a private, and at Harrisburg was elected Colonel of the 11th Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia, in which position he earned the confidence and respect of the men under his command, and all with whom he became acquainted, by the knowledge and skill he displayed in military science, and the kind solicitude he exhibited for the comfort and safety of his men. When the Draft was made in this county, he was appointed Commandant of the Camp of Rendezvous that was established near Reading; and on the organization of the drafted men into a Regiment, he was elected and commissioned its Colonel. When the Camp was broken up, and the Regiment marched to Washington, it was ordered to Suffolk, Va., where it still remains. Col. Knoderer's abilities as a Military Engineer were early recognized by his superior officers, and frequently called into requisition.

Of the battle of Blackwater, early on the morning of the 30th ult., in which Col. Knoderer received his death-wound, full accounts have been published. He had ordered his men—who were exposed to a severe fire from the enemy's batteries, about 600 yards distant—to lie down, to protect them from the shells, while he remained standing. Subsequently, as he was mounting his horse, he was struck in the left hip by a piece of shell, and carried off the field. The following Orders were issued by Gen. TERRY, on the day of his death. They attest the estimation in which he was held by the Army:

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 4.

H. G. TERRY'S BRIGADE,
SUFFOLK, VA., Feb. 15, 1863.

The General Commanding this brigade announces with sorrow the death of Col. Charles A. Knoderer, of the One Hundred and-Sixty-seventh Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry. He died at the Regimental hospital this day, at 12 o'clock, M., of a wound received in the late action at the "Deserted House," near the Blackwater river, Va., on the 30th ultimo. In the death of Colonel Knoderer, the officers and men of this command have lost a good officer and a worthy man, and the country is again called to mourn the death of a soldier and a patriot. Let his sacrifice be an occasion for every soldier to renew his vows of fidelity to the Constitution and the Union, and an incentive to sustain with new vigor the "old flag" wherever it may be borne. The funeral ceremonies which are to take place on Tuesday morning, will be under the direction of Col. Alfred Gibbs, of the One-Hundred-and-Thirtieth Regiment New York Volunteers, which Regiment will form the escort.

By command of Brigadier General H. D. Terry.

F. S. ADAMS,
Lieut. and A. A. Gen.

Col. Knoderer was about 36 years of age. He was a man of rare attainments, both in his profession as a Civil Engineer and in Military Science. Had he lived, he doubtless would have won distinction by deeds for which his country would have been ever grateful; but Providence had otherwise ordered, and we can only remember the patriotism which prompted his actions, and shed a tear of regret that the Army of the Union should have lost his valuable services at so early a period of his career.

The body of Col. Knoderer is expected to arrive to-day, and his funeral will take place as soon as the proper arrangements can be made, of which due notice will be given.

☞ WE COPY, in another column, from the York *Gazette*, a letter from Harrisburg, in which the qualifications and prospects of our State Senator, the Hon. HIESTER CLYMER, as a candidate for Governor, are presented, in highly complimentary terms. Mr. CLYMER's friends in this county will be pleased to hear so good a report of him, from a stranger.

☞ NICHOLAS LONGWORTH, the great Western wine grower, who died in Cincinnati on the 10th inst., leaves property valued at fifteen millions of dollars. Mr. Longworth was eighty years old.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL.

Mr. Wilson's bill, which passed the Senate on Monday night, provides in substance as follows:

All able-bodied male citizens, and those who have declared their intentions to become such, or have exercised the right of suffrage, between the ages of 20 and 45 years, constitute the National forces of the United States, and are liable to perform military duty when called out by the President. The exempts are those who are physically or mentally unfit, the Vice President, heads of Executive Departments, United States Judges, Governors of States, only son of an indigent widow, or infirm parent, or one such son, where there are two or more, to be selected by the parent, also the only brother of orphan children under twelve years, also the father of motherless children of the same age; and where two of a family are in military services the remainder of such family, not exceeding two, shall be exempt. No person convicted of felony shall be enrolled or permitted to serve.

The National force not now in service is to be divided into two classes, the first class embracing all between 20 and 35 years of age, and all unmarried men between 35 and 45 years of age. The second class embraces all the others and will not be called into service until after the first class. For convenience of enrollment, districts are made corresponding with the Congressional districts; in each of which the President shall appoint a Provost Marshal with the rank and pay of a Captain of Cavalry, or he may detail an officer of similar rank who shall have a Bureau in the War Department, and shall make the needful rules and regulations for carrying out the provisions of this act. These Marshals are to arrest deserters, report treasonable practices, and detect spies, &c.

In each district there is to be a Board of Enrollment, consisting of the Provost Marshal and two other persons, appointed by the President, one of whom is to be a physician and surgeon. This board shall divide the district into convenient sub-districts and perfect an enrollment once in each year, each class to be enrolled separately. Persons thus enrolled are subject for two years to be called into service to serve for three years or during the war, on the same footing with the present volunteers, advance pay, bounty money, &c., included.

When necessary to make a draft, the President shall indicate the number for each district, taking into consideration the number already furnished since the beginning of the war, so as to fairly equalize the burden; the enrolling officers shall then make the draft with 50 per cent addition, and within ten days serve notice upon the drafted men.

Substitutes may be furnished, or commutation made not to exceed three hundred dollars, at the discretion of the Secretary of War. Any person drafted and failing to report, or furnish a substitute, or pay his commutation, shall be deemed a deserter, and subject to immediate arrest.

The bill provides for the proper surgical examination of drafted men, and the punishment of surgeons who receive bribes.

When the draft is finished, all those not taken are allowed traveling pay to their homes. Those who furnish substitutes are exempt for the entire time of draft, and the substitute has the same pay, &c., as though originally drafted.

The bill also provides that volunteers now in service who re-enlist for one year shall have a bounty of $50, one half paid down; those who enlist for two years receive $25 of the regular $100 bounty.

There are also provisions for the consolidation of skeleton regiments; also that Generals in the field may execute court-martial sentence against spies, deserters, mutineers, or murderers, without reference to the President; courts-martial may reduce absentee officers to the ranks; clothing, arms, &c., shall not be sold, pledged or given away, and may be taken wherever found in illegal hands; persons who entice soldiers to desert, or harbor them, or buy their arms or uniforms, and ship captains or railroad conductors who knowingly convey deserters, may be fined $500 and imprisoned from six months to two years.

Any person who resists a draft, or counsels others to do so, or dissuades them from performing military duty, shall be summarily arrested, locked up until the draft is finished, then be tried by a civil Court, and fined $500 or imprisoned two years, or both.

The President, on the passage of this act, shall issue a proclamation recalling absentees from the army, who may return without punishment within the time indicated, except the forfeiture of pay for the time of absence; those who do not return will be deserters.

Officers absent with leave, except for sickness or wounds, receive half pay; officers absent without leave, no pay at all. There are other provisions, but chiefly of details not particularly important.

This bill, it will be observed, confers new and extraordinary powers upon the President. In effect, it establishes martial law over the whole Union. It over-rides the constitutional and statute authority of the State Governments over their citizens, in respect to military service, and consolidates the supreme power in all things pertaining thereto, in the hands of the President. It would be useless to discuss the constitutionality of this or any other measure, in view of the present policy of the Administration; but we may be permitted to question the necessity for so radical a change in the established Militia System of the country, in consideration of the fact that every requisition heretofore made by the Federal Government upon the State authorities, has been promptly and patriotically answered; and in no case, except that of Massachusetts, has there been the slightest indication on the part of the Governors of any of the loyal States, of an intention to withhold from the President the support of any portion of the whole war power of the nation in the effort to suppress the rebellion, and restore the constitutional relations between the seceded States and the Federal Government. The conscription bill, in view of the manifest tendency of the measures of the present Congress toward absolutism, may well excite suspicion and distrust, if not a stronger feeling. It has yet to pass the House. The vote on its final passage in the Senate, is not given.

CLERICAL CHANGES.—Rev. Geo. N. Latimer, of Schuylkill Haven, has accepted a call to the rectorship of Christ Church, Pottstown, and will enter upon his new charge on Sunday, the 1st of March.

Rev. Joseph H. Dubs, of Allentown, has been unanimously elected pastor of the German Reformed Churches at Pottstown, Limerick and New Storeville (the latter in Amity township, Berks county,) recently under the charge of Rev. N. S. Strassberger. Mr. Strassberger has been chosen pastor of Zion Church, at Allentown.

THE TAX ON TAVERN KEEPERS.—Mr. Killinger writes to the *Lebanon Courier* from Washington, that the Committee on Ways and Means of the House have adopted an amendatory clause which will in future obviate the difficulty in regard to the double tax imposed on tavern keepers by the Internal Revenue laws. The license for retailing will not henceforth be required, and the tavern keeper need not pay more than one license.

THE WAR.

We have no war news of interest this week, except a report from rebel sources, that an immediate assault is to be made on Charleston and Savannah. Gen. Beauregard, as military commander of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, issued a proclamation on the 18th inst., declaring it to be his solemn duty to announce to the citizens and authorities of Charleston and Savannah that an attack by the land and naval forces of the United States is about to be made upon either or both cities, and warning those who are not able to take up arms for their defence to retire to some place of safety. He urges, however, upon every one who can join in the struggle at "this hour of trial" to do so without regard to the kind of weapons they may have in their possession. Pikes and scythes, he says, will do for the destruction of their enemies, and spades and shovels for the protection of their firesides, altars and the graves of their fathers. General Beauregard is evidently alarmed at the anaconda grip which is closing round him.

YEARNINGS FOR PEACE.

It is the fashion now, with Abolition journals in the pay of the Administration, to denounce every one who ventures to express a wish for peace, as a traitor. These "shoddy" patriots dread the thought of an end of the war, for then their occupation will be gone, and they will not be able to live any longer on Government plunder. If anxiety for peace be indeed treason, we may safely set down a large majority of the Northern people as traitors; because it is evident that the desire for a speedy peace is prevalent among all classes of the community, and it is becoming so strong that many are beginning to cry aloud for peace at any price. We mention this, simply as a *fact*, without wishing to be understood as favoring any peace movement that has not for its basis the restoration of the Union, upon the compromises and guarantees of the Constitution. But such a feeling exists, and those who "don't see it," are wilfully blind. It is not confined to men of any party, as the "shoddy" patriots would have the people to believe; but is even shared by many Republicans; such of them, for instance, as are not possessed with the mad idea that the freedom of the Negro must be achieved at the cost of national ruin. A late letter from Washington to one of the leading New York journals, says: "Prominent Republicans have been heard to announce themselves in favor of peace upon any terms, and to say that that platform is the only one that can be successful in the next Presidential canvass." There is a good deal of truth in the last declaration. War must be successful to be popular; and, however patriotic a people may be, they will become tired and disgusted with a war that has been waged for two years, at an enormous waste of blood and treasure, with no satisfactory results. And, what is worse, the abolitionized policy of the Administration, which it seems determined to pursue to the fatal end, leaves but little hope that the future conduct of the war will be any more efficacious. Nothing but decisive victories will arrest the growing yearnings for "peace at any price."

[COMMUNICATED.]

"DISLOYALTY" AND "TREASON."

The editor of the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal* has been, for some time past, rampant in denouncing newspapers and individuals, who refuse to approve of, and say *amen!* to, all the acts and measures of the Abolition Administration at Washington, and says: "Let every loyal man and woman cease wrangling about the Government," &c.

Allow me to ask the editor: Did he or any of the fraternity attached to his party, during the Mexican War, ever condemn, or even as much as *find fault* with the course of his party friends in Congress. Mr. *Delano*, from Ohio, said:

"Send your armies, in the prosecution of this ILLEGAL, UNRIGHTEOUS and DAMNABLE WAR, to the mountains of Mexico, and disease and the foe will sweep them off in thousands. The passes and mountains of Mexico would become a charnel house for our people and their bones would be scattered all over its vast territory before this peace would be conquered. * * So far the amount of the appropriations was about $15,000,000. *If the people had any common sense*, they would hold responsible the authors of this war, which was *conceived in fraud* and was to be *consummated in iniquity*." * *

This was plain and bold language, and at a time, too, when we were engaged in a war with a merciless foreign foe. Provost Marshals were not in vogue then. The reason why is, because the Government was in the hands of the Democratic party. Did the immaculate editor of the *Journal* AT THAT TIME publish a single word in condemnation of sentiments, which, if uttered AT THE PRESENT TIME, he would denounce as *treasonable?* I doubt it very much. Again, what did Mr. Ashmun declare, upon the floor of Congress?

"The pages of history furnish no instance of an executive officer so *utterly imbecile* and *unfit* for a post of honor as the present President of the United States. *Could the ghosts of the hundreds and thousands*, who have lost their lives by sickness and the sword in Mexico speak, they would *shout that their murderer was James K. Polk, and his wretched Cabinet.* When we are done with this war, and the amount of blood of free born Americans shed through his mismanagement is known; when the *immense debt brought upon us is set forth in dollars and cents*; then will his fellow citizens bewail that day upon which they cast their suffrages *for such a man.*"

Such were the opinions and sentiments of the party, which the editor of the *Journal* supported during that war. Neither President Polk nor his Secretary of War, ever even *threatened* to arrest, much less *send to a bastile*, fort or prison, any of the enemies of the Administration or Government for uttering them. The editor of the *Journal* will probably say, that the above quotations were merely the sentiments of individual members of his party. Such a reply will, however, not suffice. It is extremely doubtful that he ever denounced them, although he was aware of their guilt; and *he dare not even now* declare those sentiments to have been treasonable at the time they were put forth. He is afraid to do so at the present time, because he might be removed from *office*, which he holds under an Administration, the members of which, during the Mexican war, gave "aid and comfort" to the enemy, as this Abolition editor terms it now, when any Democrat has sufficient boldness to declare against its unconstitutional acts.

X.

LEBANON AFFAIRS.—Seidel's Forge, in Lebanon, has been purchased by a Mr. Mitchell, of Baltimore, for $13,000.——The Donaghmore Furnace, in Lebanon, has been in continual blast for four years and twenty days, and during that time has averaged 119¾ tons of iron a week, with a consumption of but 1½ tons of coal to each ton of iron made. Donaghmore is a 12 foot furnace ——Isaac Ditzler, a member of Company D, 93d Regiment, P. V., died at his home in Heidelberg township, on the 15th inst., aged about 45 years.

THE COST OF CLOTHING AN ARMY.—Speaking of clothes, the Philadelphia *Inquirer* calculates that an army of three hundred thousand men will require an outlay of eighteen millions of dollars for each new cloth uniform, exclusive of overcoats. The overcoat cannot be supposed to cost less than thirty dollars. This will be an additional sum of nine millions.

City Affairs.

☞ THE REV. MR. CUMMINS will (by request) preach upon "The Christian Duty of Citizens in time of Rebellion," to morrow (Sunday) evening at Christ Church. Divine service will begin at a quarter before 7 o'clock.

☞ UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.— Rev. W. N. Barber will preach next Sunday evening, the 22d inst., from the text; "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Services morning and evening at the usual hours.

☞ THE UNION PRAYER MEETING will be held to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon, in the Baptist Church, Chestnut street, above Fourth, at 3 o'clock. The public are respectfully invited to attend.

☞ WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—The Washington Hose Company's celebration of Washington's Birthday, will take place this evening, in the Court House, commencing at 7½ o'clock. Addresses will be delivered by the Hon. J. Glancy Jones, J. S. Richards, Esq., and Col. Samuel L. Young. Several appropriate pieces of Vocal and Instrumental Music will also be performed, for the programme of which, see advertisement.

☞ SUNDAY SCHOOL EXHIBITION.—An exhibition by the children of the Sunday School of Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church, South Fourth street, will be given on Monday evening next. A variety of select pieces, comprising Hymns, Anthems, Choruses, Quartettes, Trios, Duetts, and Solos, will be performed. Also, a number of Interesting Dialogues and Recitations. Admittance 15 cts.

☞ *LOCAL LEGISLATION.*—A Supplement to the Act revising the Charter of the city of Reading, passed the State Senate finally on Thursday. We learn that this bill relates to the manner of voting at our municipal elections, but we have not yet seen a copy of it.

☞ INTERNAL REVENUE.—We learn from A. P. Tutton, Esq., Assessor of Internal Revenue, that the amount of United States tax assessed in Berks county for the month of January, 1863, and returned to Dr. Diller Luther, Collector, was $28,952 51.

☞ THE RINGGOLD BAND, re-organized, will give a Party on Tuesday evening next, in Keystone Hall. Tickets 50 cents, to be had of any of the members.

☞ NEW POST OFFICE.—A new Post Office called "Alsace" has been established at Gechter's tavern, on the line of Exeter and Alsace townships, Berks county, and Capt. John Gechter appointed Postmaster. The office is located on Mail Route No. 2259,—from Reading to Manatawny, or Pleasantville, and is supplied by a semi-weekly mail, leaving Reading at 2½ P. M., on Tuesday and Saturday of each week.

☞ DEATH OF THE CITY TREASURER.—Peter Shaneman, Esq., Treasurer of the city of Reading, since the Spring of 1861, died on Friday, the 13th inst., in the 57th year of his age. His funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, and was attended by the Mayor, Councils and City Officers, together with a number of mourning relatives. Mr. Shaneman was for many years an acute sufferer from rheumatism, which confined him to his house, and disabled him for active employment. He was an upright citizen, and performed his duties as Treasurer with the strictest accuracy.

The City Councils, at a special meeting on Wednesday evening, elected PETER HAIN Treasurer, to fill the vacancy, until the next municipal election (March 20th), when a Treasurer will be elected for the regular term of two years.

☞ JEWELRY STORE ROBBED.—On Thursday morning, between 1 and 2 o'clock, the show-window of the Jewelry Store of Mr. George Heller, in North Fifth street, was broken into, and robbed of watches, jewelry and silver ware to the value of $200 or $300. The burglars secured their prize by forcing the shutter-bolt from its socket, and breaking one of the panes of plate glass in the window. The night was highly favorable for such an operation, being dark and rainy, and not a street-light burning; the false economy that rules our city requiring the public lamps—by far the best and cheapest night-policemen, so far as burglars are concerned—to be extinguished at 12 o'clock, or just about the time they become really necessary.

This is the third time that Mr. Heller has been robbed, since he set up business—once in the corner room of the old State House, now occupied by the Post Office, and twice in his present location.

☞ DEMOCRATIC CITY CLUB.—The regular monthly meeting of the Democratic City Club will be held in the club-room, Eben's City Hall, on Saturday evening next, February 28th, 1863, at 7½ o'clock. An election for officers for the ensuing year will take place. The following are the candidates that were placed in nomination at the last meeting:

For President—J. Lawrence Getz.
For Vice Presidents—Samuel M. Filman, 1st Ward.
Frederick Lauer, 2d Ward.
Levi P. Knerr, 3d Ward.
William Ebert, 4th Ward.
Jacob H. Hain, 5th Ward.
For Secretaries—Wharton Morris,
John Ralston.
Edward H. Shearer.
For Executive Committee—Edward Schmeck, 1st Ward.
Levi Moyer
Joseph Harvey } 2d Ward.
Jacob Young, 3d Ward.
E. M. Clymer,
Francis Roland, } 4th Ward.
Jesse G. Hawley
Wm. Arnold, Jr
E. Armstrong } 5th Ward.
Wm. Rosenthal
For Treasurer—George W. Bruckman.

☞ THE PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES.— These veteran troops have been re-brigaded and assigned to their respective posts near Washington, as follows:

First Brigade—Consisting of the Bucktails, First, Second and Sixth Regiments, Colonel McCandless, commanding brigade, at Fairfax Court House.

Second Brigade—Third, Fourth, Seventh and Eighth Regiments, Col. Sickle, commanding brigade, at Upton's Hill.

Third Brigade—Fifth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Regiments, Col. J. W. Fisher, commanding brigade, at Miner's Hill.

A letter from a member of the 3d Reserves, dated February 5th, 1863, says:

"We have but one General in the division, namely Gen. Doubleday, who has been assigned to command us. He is now in Washington. Our Colonel, the gallant Sickel, is in command of the division during his absence. Col. McCandless, of the Second, is in command of the First Brigade, Col. Cummings, of the One Hundred and Forty-Second, is commanding our Brigade, the Second. Col. Fisher, of the Fifth, is in command of the Third Brigade. Many of the Regiments are under the charge of Captains. Our Regiment, the old Third, is now commanded by Capt. Jacob Lenhart, Co. A, of Reading. Our whole division, leaving out the 121st and 142d, would not make two good Regiments. Out of nine hundred and sixty men that we mustered at Pierpont, twelve months ago, we now have but three hundred doing duty."

☞ THE 104TH PENNA. REGIMENT.—A letter from Col. W. W. H. Davis, to the Doylestown *Democrat*, dated "Beaufort Harbor, S. C., Feb. 5, 1863," informs us that the 104th Pennsylvania Volunteers, which forms part of the expedition under Maj. Gen. Foster, was then encamped on Helena Island, in the harbor of Beaufort, South Carolina. It is supposed that this force is intended to operate, in combination with the Naval forces near that point, against the city of Charleston. We may therefore expect stirring news from that quarter soon.

☞ EXEMPTIONS ON CONSCIENTIOUS SCRUPLES. By a report from the Adjutant General to the State Senate, in reply to a resolution of inquiry, of the number of men who were exempted from military service under the late draft, in the several counties of this State, on account of conscientious scruples, we learn that there were 93 such exemptions in Berks county. We should like to see the names of these exempts "for conscience sake." Their publication would make an interesting record for present inspection and future reference.

☞ PROMOTIONS.—We are much gratified to hear that Capt. L. Heber Smith, of Co. A, 123d Regiment P. V., has been promoted to the Lieutenant Colonelcy of the Regiment; also that First Lieut. Francis R. Schmucker has been raised to the Captaincy, and Second Lieut. Hiester McKnight to the First Lieutenancy of Company A. Col. Smith, by the way, accompanied by Capt. Richard H. Jones, of Company I, same Regiment, have been at home on a short furlough. We learn from Capt. Jones that the officers and men of the 128th are, as a general thing, in the enjoyment of very good health.—*Journal.*

☞ MESSRS. HARVEY BIRCH & BROTHERS, the popular News Agents at No. 65 West Penn Street, are still driving on their News Agency with energy and success. They deliver all the Philadelphia and New-York dailies ahead of all competition. All the Weekly Monthly and Quarterly Newspapers and Periodicals are also supplied by them.

☞ AMOUNT OF COAL transported on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, during the week ending Thursday, February 19, 1863.

	TONS.	CWT.
From Port Carbon,	19,080	05
" Pottsville,	1,252	09
" Schuylkill Haven,	19,015	14
" Auburn,	1,613	09
" Port Clinton,	5,176	14
" Harrisburg,	2,410	06
Total for week	48,548	17
Previously this year,	490,436	12
TOTAL,	538,985	09
To same time last year,	324,624	11

☞ THE 88TH PENNA. REGIMENT.—The organization of this Regiment has lately undergone a complete change. The following is a list of the present field officers, and officers of the three Reading Companies:

Colonel—George W. Gile, of Philadelphia.
Lieut. Colonel—Louis Wagner, do.
Major—Benezer F. Foust, do.
Company A, (late Capt. F. R. Fritz's) with 36 men, is under command of Lieut. Whiteside.
Company B, (late Capt. H. R. Myers's) with 22 men,—Capt., Edmund A. Mass; 1st Lieut., George B. Rhoads; 2d Lieut., George W. Grant.
Company H, (late Capt. D. A. Griffith's), with 22 men—Capt. Frank B. Shalters, jr.; 1st Lieut., Henry Gaumby.

The Regiment now numbers only 160 men fit for duty, including 13 officers present. They were, at last accounts, encamped near White Oak Church, about 2½ miles from Bell Plains Landing, on the Potomac, in Taylor's (3d) Brigade, Robinson's (2d) Division, 1st Army Corps. The health of the Regiment is good.

The following deaths occurred in Company H, during December and January:

James M. Thompson, Serg't, of wounds received in action.
Lewis Humma, Private, do. do.
Adam B. Whitman, " do. do.
John Krebs, " do. do.

☞ MILITARY ITEMS IN BRIEF.—Capt. E. L. Smith, of the 19th Regular Infantry; Lieut. George S. Lauman, of the 16th Regular Infantry; and 1st Lieut. George R. Rhoads, of Company B, 88th Penna. Volunteers, have been at home for several days, on short furlough. They are all in excellent health.

Lieutenant Colonel Hammersly, of the 128th Penna. Regiment, who was severely wounded in the wrist at the battle of Antietam, and has suffered great pain ever since, is now, we are glad to learn, rapidly recovering. It is feared, however, that he will never recover the use of his hand.

A beautiful Sword, Sash and Belt were presented to Lieut. R. F. Kerr, of Company A, 128th Penna. Regiment, by the men of his command, on the evening of the 4th inst. Sergt. P. A. Lantz made the presentation speech, and took the Lieutenant quite by surprise with the gifts, which were entirely unexpected.

☞ READING RAILROAD SUPPLEMENT.—The following is a copy of the supplement to the charter of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, that was introduced in the State Senate a few days ago, by Mr. Reilly, of Schuylkill county:

"That it may and shall be lawful for the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company to construct branches, not exceeding 15 miles in length, to their railroad or to railroads secured, leased or controlled by them, and, also, additional tracks, sidings, stations, depots, shops, wharves buildings and telegraph lines on the main track or its branches as aforesaid, for the accommodation of the business thereon, and in projecting, constructing and using the same, the Company shall be entitled to all the privileges, and subject to all the restrictions, of the act of Assembly incorporating the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, approved April 4, 1833, and of the several supplements thereto."

☞ FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday night, the 4th inst., about midnight, William Reppert, of Molltown, a workman in the Scott Foundry, laid down to rest on a board near some cog-wheels, and fell asleep. Toward 5 o'clock next morning, he rolled off the board, and his legs were caught in the wheels and badly crushed. He was carried to the residence of his brother-in-law, Nicholas Heckman, Esq., where Dr. Ruedi was called to attend him. It was found necessary to amputate the injured limbs, but his system was so much prostrated that he could not rally from the operation, and died the following Tuesday. His body was taken to his late residence for burial.

☞ AMERICAN MECHANICS' CELEBRATION.—The members of Reading Council, Order of United American Mechanics, celebrated the anniversary of the institution of the Council, on Friday evening, the 13th inst. They met at their Council room, and went in procession to the Universalist Church, where an address was delivered by the Rev. W. N. Barber. The subject of the address was "Patriotism," and it was pronounced by all who heard it, an eloquent and able production. We learn that a copy has been requested for publication.

☞ HORSE THIEF ARRESTED.—A young man named John Bossler, was arrested last Tuesday, and committed to prison in default of bail, on the charge of stealing a horse from a resident of Ontelaunee township, which he brought to town on the Tuesday previous, and sold to Mr David Levan for $50. The owner came to town the same day, and re-claimed his horse; and Mr. Levan immediately set about to hunt up the thief, who had defrauded him of his money; and after a week's search, was successful.

☞ ADMITTED TO THE BAR.—Monday, February 9, 1863, at an adjourned Court of Common Pleas, on motion of Charles Davis, Esq., WILLIAM P. BARD was admitted to practice as an Attorney in the several Courts of Berks county.

☞ FREIGHT CARS.—Messrs. S. & M. Pennock, of Kennett Square, Chester county, are now engaged in building 200 Freight Cars for the Reading Railroad Company. They have just completed 125 cars for the U. S. Government.

☞ DURELL'S BATTERY.—We learn that the Ringgold Battery, commanded by Capt. Geo. W. Durell, which has served so long in the Army of the Potomac, has been ordered South, with the whole of the Ninth Army Corps.

☞ ORGANIZING.—The "no-party" Republicans of this city have organized a Club for the purpose of operating in the approaching Spring election. George J. Eckert, Esq, has been elected President.

LADIES' AID ASSOCIATION.

The following articles have been received by the Ladies' Aid Society, since their last acknowledgment:

From the Morgantown Aid Society—2 pillows and cases, 1 sheet, 14 pairs woolen stockings.

C. C. GRIES, Secretary.

From the 128th Pennsylvania Regiment.

CAMP NEAR STAFFORD COURT HOUSE, VA.,
February 9, 1863.

Mr. Editor:—

Allow me to correct an error which I saw in your paper some time ago. Lieut. *Widdifield*, formerly a Lieutenant of Company G, 128th Regiment, from Bucks county, who was severely wounded at the battle of Antietam, returned to his Regiment a few days ago, not with the intention of going on duty, for his wounds are of such a nature as to prevent him ever more from going into the service of his country; but he returned to bid farewell to his friends and comrades, and then resign. He has since tendered his resignation, which has been accepted, and receiving an honorable discharge, he returned to his home. As regards his taking offence because Capt. F. M. Yeager had been promoted to the command which he (Lieut. Widdifield) was justly entitled to, had his wounds permitted, it is a great mistake, as he is too much of a gentleman and a soldier to let selfish and avaricious ambition run away with that principle for honesty and integrity, for which he was always noted.

Yours,
ONE OF THE REGIMENT.

Reading Manufacturing Company.

At a meeting of the Stockholders of the Reading Manufacturing Company, held at Ganser's Keystone Hotel, in the city of Reading, on the 12th day of February, 1863, pursuant to a call of the Receiver, G. A. NICOLLS, Esq., was called to the chair, and WILLIAM M. BAIRD, Esq., was appointed Secretary.

H. H. Muhlenberg, Esq., stated the object of the meeting and the amount of funds in his hands.

On motion of E. Tyson, Esq., unanimously Resolved, That the proposition of Darius E. Mangum, to settle his claim against the fund in the hands of the Receiver, for the sum of Thirty-nine Hundred and Fifty-three Dollars be accepted, and that settlement be made with him by the Receiver on said terms.

On motion, Resolved, That the Receiver be directed to pay out the balance of the fund in his hands, after deducting expenses, as soon as practicable after the settlement is made with Darius E. Mangum.

On motion adjourned.

G. A. NICOLLS, President.

WILLIAM M. BAIRD, Secretary.

☞ A COUGH, COLD, OR AN IRRITATED THROAT if allowed to progress, results in serious Pulmonary and Bronchial affections, oftentimes incurable.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES

reach *directly* the affected parts and give almost instant relief. In BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, and CATARRH they are beneficial. The good effects resulting from the use of the Troches and their extended use, has caused them to be counterfeited. Be sure to guard against worthless imitations. OBTAIN only the *genuine Brown's Bronchial Troches* which have *proved* their efficacy by a test of many years. PUBLIC SPEAKERS and SINGERS should use the Troches. Military Officers and Soldiers who over-tax the voice and are exposed to sudden changes, should have them. Sold everywhere at 25 cents per box. [Jan. 24-3mo

The Confessions and Experience of a Poor Young Man.

A GENTLEMAN having been cured of the results of early error and disease, will, from motives of benevolence, send to those who request it, a copy of the above interesting narrative, published by himself. This little book is designed as a warning and caution to young men and those who suffer from NERVOUS DEBILITY, LOSS OF MEMORY, PREMATURE DECAY, &c., &c., supplying at the same time the means of self cure. Single copies will be sent under seal in a plain envelope,—without charge,—to any who request it, by addressing the author,

CHAS. A. LAMBERT, Esq.,
nov 29-3mo] Greenpoint, Long Island, New-York.

☞ GEN. BANKS lately proposed to the Massachusetts 47th, a nine months regiment, to enlist for the war and be converted into cavalry. This was rejected, and so was the proposition to re-enlist as infantry with large bounties.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL.—The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*—a paper that sustains the present Administration—in speaking of Senator Wilson's Conscription bill, says:

"The old regiments need to be filled up badly enough, no doubt, but there is a question whether the General Government has the right under our Constitution to take men by force from the States, without any reference whatever to the laws of the States, or to the Governors of the States, and put them into the army of the nation. Under the bill I am writing about, Gov. Andrew can be drafted as a common soldier into the service. He would be compelled with the Massachusetts Legislature to go into the army at once, or that portion of them who are under forty-five might."

Does not the *Republican* know that it is guilty of great presumption, if not something worse, in doubting the right of the Administration to do anything it pleases with the property, liberty and lives of citizens! Has it no fear of Fort Warren before its eyes?

A LONG-LOST SON RETURNED.—Mr. Samuel Krause, eldest son of Mr. John J. Krause, Sr., of Allentown, returned home unexpectedly last week from Lima, Peru, in South America, after an absence of 27 years. For the last 17 years no intelligence whatever had been received from him, and his parents and friends had settled down in the belief that he was dead. He returned to this country as Secretary of Legation from the Peruvian Government, and on Saturday left Allentown for Washington to assume his duties.

LIBEL SUIT.—Messrs. Prizer and Darlington, Editors and Proprietors of the Bucks County *Intelligencer*, published at Doylestown, have been arrested and bound over on the charge of Libel, at the instance of Col. Owen Jones and Captain Jacob R. Stadelman, of Lower Merion township, Montgomery county. The charge is based upon the publication of an article on the 9th of December last, charging the prosecutors with being concerned in an "underground" mail conveyance of letters to the Southern States.

☞ THE DEMOCRATS have carried the municipal election in Wheeling, Va., by over 500 majority, on the platform of opposition to the new State. That looks as if West Virginia had concluded not to become a State on the terms offered by Congress, which would put things in an awkward fix, after all that has been done to promote that object.

☞ PETER WAGER, one of the most noted men of his day, in Pennsylvania, died at his residence in Montgomery county, on the 10th inst., at the age of 81 years. He was a warm supporter of President Jackson, by whom he was appointed a government director in the old United States Bank.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

JOHN RALSTON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
OFFICE WITH A. B. WANNER, NORTH Sixth Street (above the Court House,) Reading, Pa.
February 21, 1863-1y

IVY INSTITUTE,
For Young Ladies.—Pughtown, Chester county, Pa.
THE NEXT TERM WILL COMMENCE THE 6th of April, 1863, and continue fourteen weeks. For Circulars, address
Feb 21-4t*] E. M. HAWLEY.

Estate of Henry Bernhard Habich, late of the city of Reading, deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT LETTERS of Administration to the Estate of Henry Bernhard Habich, late of the city of Reading, deceased, have been granted to the subscriber, residing in the same city. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, without delay, and all having claims against the same, are also requested to present them, properly authenticated, for settlement.
feb 21-6t*] ELI S. FOX, Administrator.

Estate of Solomon Gicker, late of Robeson township, Berks county, deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT LETTERS of Administration to the Estate of Solomon Gicker, late of Robeson township, Berks county, deceased, have been granted to the subscribers, residing in the same township. All persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make payment without delay, and all having claims against the same, will present them, properly authenticated, for settlement.
feb 21-6t] MARGARET GICKER, JACOB WICKLEIN, } Administrators.

VENDUE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.
ON SATURDAY, THE 14TH DAY OF MARCH, 1863, at 1 o'clock, P. M., will be sold at public vendue, at