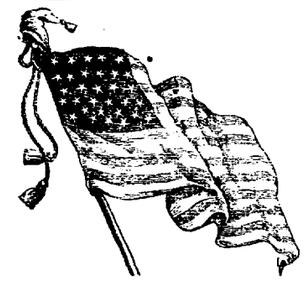
Gazette and Democrat.

READING, PA.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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!

THE $300 COMMUTATION—SETTLED AT LAST.—The question as to whether the payment of $300 commutation money exempts a drafted man for three years or only for the pending draft, which has been all along a disputed point, has been at last authoritatively settled. Provost Marshal General Fry, in a dispatch to the Provost Marshal General of New-York, dated Washington, November 1st, says:

"The President has ordered that every citizen who has paid the $300 commutation shall receive the same credit therefor as if he had furnished a substitute, and is exonerated from military service for the time for which he was drafted, to wit, for three years."

The people are indebted for this decision, to the desire of the Administration to make capital for the New-York election. Had it not been required for that purpose, they would doubtless have continued in the far from "blessed ignorance" that the conflicting opinions of Government officials upon this question, had led them into.

HEAVY ROBBERY AT ALLENTOWN.—The Ticket Office of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and the Store of Keck & Saeger, at Allentown, were robbed of about $4,000 in money, and a number of checks and valuable papers, on Friday last at noon, while the clerks in charge of the places were at dinner. The thief was arrested the same evening at Bethlehem, and on being searched, all the stolen money and papers were found on his person and in his carpet bag. He made a full confession of the robbery, and gave his name as Edward Brown, and Berks county as his residence. We learn that he is an old offen der, and that his real home is Baltimore, but that he has been occasionally about this neighborhood during the last few years. He is now in prison at Allentown.

Brown, after his arrest, implicated three young men, said to be from Reading, as his accomplices, and stated that they would arrive in Bethlehem in the 6 o'clock train from Easton. The officer who arrested Brown accordingly laid in waiting for them, and, by the description given, arrested the whole three, and took them before a magistrate, where, it is alleged, a quantity of counterfeit money was found upon them. The whole party are now in the Easton jail. As they have respectable connections here, who are confident that they have been wrongly accused, and can make their innocence clear, we suppress their names.

☞ THE NEW FRACTIONAL TREASURY NOTES, authorized by Congress to take the place of the postage currency, are now out, and the most miserable failures that were ever attempted in the way of a circulating medium. We saw a specimen in the shape of one of the 25 cent notes a few days ago, and we confess it surprised us to believe that any sane man in the Treasury Department could have been imposed on to such an extent as to accept such stuff for decent paper money. They look more like the fancy labels for Perfumery and Quack Medicines, than anything else, and would be very poor affairs for even those purposes. If Mr. Chase cannot do better, let him hold on to the Postage Currency—it is infinitely preferable to these new apologies for notes.

NEW JERSEY ELECTION.—"Faithful among the faithless," New Jersey remains true to the Constitution and Union, by casting her vote in favor of the Democrats. The result of the election in this State on Tuesday last, is briefly summed up as follows:

Senators holding over—Abolitionists, 4; Democrats, 9. Newly elected, Democrats, 5; Abolitionists, 3. In the House the Democrats elect 39, the Abolitionists 20, and one is in doubt in Burlington county.

The Legislature will now stand—Senate, 14 Democrats, 7 Abolitionists; Assembly, 39 Democrats, 20 Abolitionists. On joint ballot, 53 Democrats and 27 Abolitionists, and one doubtful.

There were no State officers elected this year.

NEW YORK ELECTION.—The Administration has achieved "another great victory for the Union," not in the field, where such victories ought to be gained, but in—New-York. As we anticipated, the election in that State last Tuesday, was carried by the Abolitionists, who have a majority of about 30,000 on the State ticket, and both branches of the Legislature by 10 majority in the Senate and 27 majority in the House. The Democratic majority in the city of New-York is about 20,000, which elects all the City Judges, &c.

A SHERIFF ROBBED.—A young man named Joseph Wood, hailing from Reading, was arrested in Philadelphia yesterday morning upon the charge of the larceny of $79 from Herman Fetter, Esq., the Sheriff of Lehigh county. Mr. Fetter was stopping at the Bald Eagle Hotel, on Second street, and the money was taken from his room some time during the night. The accused had a hearing before Alderman Kennedy, and was committed in default of $1,000 bail to answer at Court.

RARE FREAKS OF NATURE.—An apple tree on the farm of Benjamin Moyer, in Upper Bern township, has blossomed and borne fruit twice this year. The second blossoming took place in July.

The same thing has occurred in Colebrookdale township, in the orchard of Daniel Gilbert, who sends to the editor of the Boyerstown *Bauer* two handsome red apples, the fruit of a second blossoming of one of his trees.

☞ HARVEY BIRCH & BROTHER, the enterprising *News Agents*, are punctual to the minute in the delivery of the papers—Daily and Weekly—for which they have the agency. They have now ready for their subscribers the New-York Illustrated Papers for November 14, and all the other periodicals of the day.

BURNED ALIVE.—On Sunday week a horse attached to a cart used in hauling hot cinders from Lucinda Furnace, near Norristown, was backed over an embankment on the cinders which had just been dumped and was burned to death before he could be rescued.

POLITICS IN THE CHURCH.

It has been the pride and boast of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania, that, from its earliest organization—which was coeval with the formation of the civil government of the United States—and under the administration of the pure and godly Bishop White (the contemporary and spiritual pastor of Washington) and his learned and pious (*if* for a brief period erring) successor—it has stood calmly aloof from all the disturbing political controversies that have from time to time arisen, and confined itself exclusively to its only proper mission of "preaching Christ and Him Crucified." But, at last, it must be confessed with regret and mortification, the contagion which had its origin amid the pharisaic cant and semi infidelity of Puritan New England, and was not long in spreading its baleful influence among the other religious societies of the North, has seized and defiled this once really conservative and spiritual Ecclesiastical body. To reflecting men—those who deduce effects from obvious causes—such a degradation of the Episcopal Church into a politico-religious cabal, occasions no great surprise; for the danger was to be apprehended, and might have been foreseen ever since the adoption by the laity of the mistaken policy of overlooking the merits of our own native clergy, and seeking for "preachers" to fill our highest dignities and chief parishes from among the nominal Episcopalians who have been trained in the *ism*-atic atmosphere where the dogma that "the times demand an anti-slavery Constitution, an anti-slavery Bible, and an anti-slavery God," has become a fixed article of religious belief.

Our readers will of course understand that these remarks have reference to the recent political performance of Bishop Potter and some eighty or a hundred of his clergy, in issuing an electioneering document of the most offensive partizan character, with the evident design of influencing the votes of their people in the State election. We intended to have noticed this gross outrage upon the traditional pure and undefiled posture of the Episcopal Church, at the time it was committed; but purposely refrained, lest our remarks should be ascribed to political prejudice, aroused and heightened by the excitement of a warmly contested canvass. Now, however, that the excitement has passed away, and we can calmly review the events from which it sprang, we claim the right of an humble layman of the Church that has been thus degraded by (may we not say with truth?) an apostate priesthood, to record our "indignant reprobation" of their act. In doing this, a brief recapitulation of the circumstances will be proper.

In January, 1861—three months *before* the rebellion began, and when the purest and best men of the country were earnestly engaged in attempting to arrest the demon of sectional strife by peaceful measures which all good citizens hoped and prayed would, under the Providence of God, prove successful—the venerable Bishop Hopkins, of the Diocese of Vermont, now the senior Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States—a man eminent among his brother prelates for piety and learning—published a letter, setting forth what, in his opinion, was the "Bible View of Slavery." This "View" contained nothing new—for the subject-matter did not admit of it—but was merely a concise, argumentative and logical statement of a fact which has been proved over and over again by theologians, and which is patent to every dispassionate student of the Scriptures, that the existence of the relation of master and slave is recognized by the Bible, and regulated by precepts, but nowhere condemned as a sin, or forbidden. This letter was before the public for over two years and a half, and we may infer that its contents were not regarded as either novel or dangerous in a social, moral or political sense, or heterodox in a religious sense, from the fact that during all that time it elicited no reply, in controversion of its arguments and conclusions. It was not until September, 1863, a few weeks only before the Pennsylvania election, that Bishop Potter and a number of the Philadelphia Clergy suddenly discovered that it was "an effort to sustain, on Bible principles, the States in rebellion," (or in the words of the partizans whose dirty work they were doing, a "disloyal" and "treasonable" document) which called for a denial of their "complicity or sympathy" with it, and challenged "their indignant reprobation." This "Protest," as it is called, is published on our outside page," and we think our readers will agree with us that a more partial, rude, malevolent, uncharitable or unchristian paper, never was penned. It exceeds, in intemperate words and vindictive spirit, the vilest electioneering bulletin that ever was issued. In what admirable contrast do the language and temper of the assailed and misrepresented Bishop's reply appear?—which we copy, immediately following the "Protest."

A portion of the secret history of this "Protest" has come to light since the election; and from it we learn that Bishop Potter was not its author, as has been generally supposed, but that it originated with two or three "imported" clergy of the Wendell Phillips school—abolitionists by education, and agitators by instinct and habit; and that the Bishop's signature was withheld until, at his own suggestion, the names of over one half the city clergy had been obtained—by which he betrayed a degree of truckling timidity that will place him, among his new associates, in the very lowest order of political tricksters. But, having headed the list, and thus given to the paper all the authority of his official position, he has made himself responsible for its contents, and their consequences to the Church of which he is the head.

The object of this politico-clerical "Protest"—put forth on the eve of the election, and attempted to be justified on the basely false plea that Bishop Hopkins's argument applied to *a state of affairs that had no existence when it was written*—is too palpable to escape notice. It was got up premeditatedly, with the intention to influence the votes of the laity in the Episcopal Church against the Democratic party. This intention will be more apparent when we state a fact which every Episcopalian knows, that the Bishops of that Church are as independent of each other as the Governors of the several States—that none of them has any authority, in matters of doctrine, discipline or worship, outside of his own Diocese, nor within it, except in obedience to the established articles, creeds and formularies of the Church. The writings, therefore, of any of its Bishops or Clergy, upon any subjects, theological or secular, are no more than expressions of individual opinion, with no official sanction, and entitled to no greater weight than the character of the author, for learning and piety, may adventitiously give them. Bishop Hopkins's opinions in regard to the "Bible View of Slavery" are no more binding upon Bishop Potter and his Abolition Clergy, than are theirs upon Bishop Hopkins. Each is at perfect liberty to entertain and express what views he pleases upon a subject of this sort. The attempt, therefore, of Bishop Potter, to set himself up in judgment upon a brother prelate, and to not only virtually excommunicate him, but actually to *unchristianize* him, was not only impertinent, but a wanton and unjustifiable attack, which could have originated only in political passion and partizan malignity.

There is an old and vulgar adage which says "It's a dirty bird that fouls its own nest." It may be considered rude and irreverent in us to apply it to gentlemen who are invested with the odor of sanctity; but, if they will persist, with their eyes open, in wading into the lowest depths of the miry pool of party politics, they must not complain should their robes be soiled and bespattered with filth. By lending the weight of their influence to the unscrupulous opponents of a layman of their own communion, who has held a distinguished place in its councils, whose personal character and professional reputation are irreproachable, and who is, in spite of all his revilers have said, as pure a patriot as lives; and casting it, by a publication of the unfairest and most offensive kind, in favor of a candidate whose religious antecedents and associations have no affinity with their own, and who has been proved, by the confession of his own partizans, to be thoroughly venal and corrupt, Bishop Potter and his clergy have acted the part of the "dirty bird." It *may* afford them a *malicious gratification to know that they have* succeeded in dragging the once pure, stately and conservative Episcopal Church down to the low level of the bickering religious sects whose preachers have become politicians and thoroughly abolitionized their congregations—they may take to themselves the unenviable credit of having given a shove to "the vigorous prosecution of the war" (*not* for the Union but) for the extinction of slavery—but we can tell them, in all soberness, and much more in sorrow than in anger, that they have, by thus sinking the Priest in the Politician, done their Church an injury that years of prayer and penance, and repentant effort in their only proper sphere as Ministers of the Gospel, will not repair.

It is some consolation for Episcopalians who prefer the old paths to know that the Assistant Bishop of this Diocese, and some sixty of the Clergy, refused to be led into or to countenance this unseemly and inexcusable political performance. Let us hope that they may constitute the "salt" that will ultimately save their Church from the corruption which the leaven of political abolitionism is now working within it.

THE FRAUD PROVED.

That the State of Pennsylvania was carried by fraud at the recent election, no one can doubt, who candidly examines the returns, and compares them with the vote given at previous elections. The figures to prove it are thus clearly summed up by a correspondent of *The Age:*

The number of votes cast in the fall of 1860, for Governor, were	492,606
Add to this number ten per cent. for natural increase, &c.,	49,260
Total,	541,866
Pennsylvania has sent to the field about 232,000 volunteers, &c.: of this number, we suppose, at least one-half have been killed, wounded in hospitals, and in the army, &c., which is deducted from the vote,	116,000
The vote of 1863 should not exceed	425,866
Of this number the Democratic party polled for Judge Woodward,	254,171
Leaving the actual Abolition vote of 1863	171,695
Instead of which they *pretend* to have polled	269,496
Excess of fraudulent votes,	97,801

If these figures are correct, they show that, had a fair vote been given, the State of Pennsylvania would have been carried by the Democrats by a majority exceeding 82,000.

CONGRESS OF BREWERS.—The National Congress of Brewers held its annual session in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 28th and 29th ult. All the Northern States, and the Border States of Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, with the city of Washington, were represented, and among the members present were many gentlemen of liberal education and ability in parliamentary debate. FREDERICK LAUER, Esq., of Reading, Pa., occupied the chair as President; and, the proceedings being conducted in German and English, his knowledge of both languages enabled him to discharge the duties of presiding officer with facility and efficiency. A series of resolutions were adopted, instructing the Executive Committee to prepare a memorial to Congress setting forth that after 15 months' trial of the Internal Tax system, they are satisfied with its main features, but, in consequence of the advanced prices of hops, malt, coal, and labor, since the 1st of April last, they would suggest a reduction of the duty on malt liquors to 50 cents a barrel, but under no circumstances should it be increased; and also asking that the tax paid upon Lager Beer brewed prior to the 1st of September, 1862, which was collected of them through the mistaken officiousness of Collectors, and contrary to the intention of the law, be refunded. A resolution was proposed, offering a premium of $500 for the discovery of a substitute for rosin, with which to "pitch" the beer-barrels and kegs. A long debate ensued, during which a Mr. Kleiner very appropriately remarked that a premium should also be offered for a General who could bring the war with the South to a speedy close, for then the two Carolinas would supply them with plenty of first-rate pitch; whereas now they were likely to "stick fast" in taxes and other expenses, and yet be without pitch. The resolution and amendment were adopted, amid loud applause.

Mr. LAUER was re-elected President, and also made Chairman of the Executive Committee; and the Congress adjourned to meet next year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin—the "German Athens."

For the Reading Gazette and Democrat.

THE CORRUPTIONS OF THE TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 27th, 1863.

MR. EDITOR:

It is related of the celebrated Roman General, Emilius Paulus, who conquered the barbarians in Spain, and made himself master of two hundred and fifty cities, that "he did not enrich himself a single drachma by the war." How noble must this Roman appear to us at the present time. How pure, how spotless, must his character shine forth! We are led at once to compare his conduct with that of some of our own Generals. As a consequence resulting from such a comparison, we despise those military officers who have made this present war a means for filling their pockets. In ancient times, "the conqueror of two hundred and fifty cities," did not lay his hands on a "single drachma,"—in our modern days men ranking as Generals, put forth all their energies for the vile purpose of robbing the Government. It makes us sick of the war when we read of men like Curtis,—like Butler,—like Fremont; who, though they have done nothing whatever in the great cause, yet fatten upon the treasures, which the people have contributed towards carrying it on. We despair of the result, when we not only find the military, but also the civil officers engaging in this wholesale robbery. And yet, it is a notorious fact, that almost every one who is connected with the present administration, makes the most strenuous efforts to lay hold of some portion of the public funds. Generals, Congressmen, Provost Marshals, Department Clerks, Contractors and a host of others "gobble up" everything they can find in the shape of money. "Clothed with power, honors, titles, and gorged with sinecures and wealth obtained from the plunder of the people," the whole pack rushes on, utterly disregarding law and justice, and wholly unconcerned as to whether the Constitution is blotted out or the Union destroyed.

J. H. M.

☞ HUGH BELLAS, Esq., a distinguished Lawyer of Sunbury, Pa., died at that place on the 26th ult., aged 83 years and 6 months. He was a native of Ireland.

City Affairs.

☞ EPISCOPAL SERVICE AT THE COURT HOUSE.—Divine service will be held at the Court House, to-morrow (Sunday) morning, at 10 o'clock; also in the evening at 7 o'clock.

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

☞ SERMONS TO THE LADIES, IN ST. PETER'S M. E. CHURCH, South Fifth street. Subject for to-morrow night, 7 o'clock:—"*Esther, Queen of Persia.*"

☞ BANK DIVIDENDS.—Our Banks have just made their half-yearly dividends, which show a profitable business, to wit:

Farmers' Bank,	4 per cent.
Union Bank,	5 " "
Savings Bank,	3 " "

☞ FUNERAL OF A SOLDIER.—The remains of Corporal John B. Eisenbeis, (son of Matthias Eisenbeis, of this city) a Volunteer in the Sea Coast Artillery, who died at Fortress Monroe on the 22d of June last, have been brought home, and will be buried to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon, at 2 o'clock, *from the residence of his widow*, Tenth street, below Franklin, in the Lutheran Cemetery, on the Neversink. He was 27 years and 3 months old.

☞ INSTALLATION OF A PASTOR.—The Rev. Benjamin Bausman, of Chambersburg, who was recently unanimously chosen Pastor of the First German Reformed Church of this city, was formally admitted a member of the Lebanon Classis on Saturday last, and his election by the congregation confirmed. The installation of the new Pastor took place on Sunday. The sermon in the forenoon was preached by Rev. Mr. Wolf, of Myerstown, in the German language; and that in the evening, by Rev. Mr. Harbaugh, of Lebanon, in the English. The installation ceremonies were performed after the evening sermon, by Rev. C. F. McCauley, of the Second German Reformed Church; of this city, and Rev. Wm. A. Goode. The attendance on the part of the congregation was full both morning and evening, and the services were of a *solemn* and impressive character. We trust that the Rev. gentleman's residence among us may be permanent, and that his ministerial labors will be acceptable and profitable.

☞ NATIONAL CEMETERY AT GETTYSBURG.—The grounds of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, will be consecrated with appropriate solemnities, on Thursday, the 19th inst. HON. EDWARD EVERETT has accepted an invitation to deliver the address for the occasion. It is expected that the President of the United States, the Governor of Pennsylvania, and other distinguished public functionaries, will be present.

The several Lodges and Encampments of Odd Fellows in this city, have resolved to attend the consecration ceremonies, and will turn out in a body, in full Regalia.

We are also requested to state that the Reading Railroad Company will issue Excursion Tickets, at *half fares*, from Reading to Harrisburg and back, to all persons who desire to visit Gettysburg on the occasion of the Cemetery Dedication—these tickets to be good from Tuesday, the 17th, to Saturday, the 21st inst.

☞ WORKINGMEN ON A STRIKE.—The mechanics and working-men generally, of our city, are on a strike for higher wages. The movement was commenced by the journeymen Shoemakers, on Monday, and was followed on Tuesday by the employes in the Reading Railroad Workshops, and afterward by the Tailors and others. In some instances the increase demanded has been acceded to; in others not, and the workmen are therefore out of employment. The present are critical times for the adjustment of the mutual relations between employers and employed. With the fact before us that fuel and all the necessaries of life have advanced from 50 to 100 per cent., and that the increase in the wages of labor will scarcely average 20 per cent., it is plain that the working man must have a hard job to make both ends meet; and, if his family happens to be large, an impossible job. But, on the other hand, the employers' expenses have advanced in proportion to the increased cost of living, without any corresponding increase of their incomes; except in a few cases. It is only the few branches of manufactures, whose products the Government buys for the support of the war, that are now prospering, and the persons engaged in them are very few, compared with the great mass of people in the various branches of trade that require the services of mechanics, &c. On all these, the times are just as hard, as on the working-men. And it is to be feared that until "this cruel war is over," and the daily heavy addition to our burdens of debt and taxation, and to our enormous issue of paper money, are stopped, things will get no better, but rather grow worse.

☞ DOINGS OF COUNCILS.—Our City Councils, at their last meeting, passed an Ordinance making the following appropriations for the improvement of several streets, the contract for which was previously awarded to Col. H. R. Hawman, to wit:

For grading and macadamizing Kissinger street, North of Lebanon Valley Railroad,	$1550 00
For grading and macadamizing Sixth street, from Washington to the Askew Bridge,	2,100 00
For grading and paving Eighth street, from Walnut to Buttonwood,	2,200 00
Total,	$5,900 00

This leaves Fifth street entirely out in the cold, although its improvement is really more needed than that of either of the streets above provided for.

An appropriation of $1255 was also made to pay the expenses incurred by the War Committee in raising troops for the State defence during the Rebel Invasion in June last. This is the whole sum that was expended by the War Committee out of the fund of $3,000 set apart by Councils at the time for this purpose.

An appropriation of $1500 was also made to pay the interest on the coupon loan due 1st inst.

A number of smaller appropriations, to pay salaries, &c., were made at the same meeting.

☞ KILLED ON THE RAILROAD.—George Hoffman, a repairman on the Reading Railroad, was killed by the engine of the Reading Accommodation train, on Friday morning last, near Douglassville. In consequence of a break-down on Thursday night, on the down track, between Douglassville and Pottstown, the passage of the Accommodation train was obstructed, and it was compelled to run down on the up track. Mr. Hoffman, who was at his work, or on his way to it, on this track, unaware of the change, was caught and thrown upon the bumpers of *the engine, where he lay unnoticed until the train had* almost reached Pottstown, when he was discovered in a dying condition, and soon breathed his last. When the train came into Pottstown, he was still lying on the bumpers, apparently asleep, in so natural a position had he been thrown up by the cow catcher of the engine. He resided at Douglassville Bridge, and was a very worthy man. He leaves a wife and three children, and an aged father and mother, all of whom were dependent upon his *labor for support.*

☞ DRAFTED MEN REPORTED.—Quite a number of drafted persons who had failed to present themselves at the Provost Marshal's office, according to the notices delivered them, have reported during the past week. All drafted persons who have failed to report, are now considered as deserters. A detective and a squad of Cavalry, started on Friday morning to arrest deserters, and all who can be found will be brought before the Provost Marshal and receive the punishment due them. It will be doing great injustice to those drafted persons who have reported, if any delinquents are allowed to remain at large.

☞ NEW COUNTY COMMISSIONER.—George Kurtz, Esq., the new member of our Board of County Commissioners, elected on the 13th of October, was sworn into office on Monday last. He succeeds Paul Wenrich, Esq., of Bernville, who has made one of the most attentive, faithful and popular Commissioners our County has ever had. The Board, as now constituted, is composed of Messrs. George K. Lorah, of Amity; H. R. Hawman, of Reading; and George Kurtz, of Carnarvon.

☞ SHOW YOUR TICKETS!—The Reading Railroad Company have adopted the plan of requiring all passengers to purchase their tickets before entering the cars. Men are accordingly stationed at the doors of each car, on the arrival of the passenger trains, and no one is allowed to enter until he has exhibited his ticket. We presume this order has been issued in consequence of the recent alleged embezzlement by certain conductors.

☞ A VALUABLE CARGO.—Our townsman Frederick Lauer, Esq., has just unloaded at Chestnut street Wharf, the most valuable cargo that has arrived in this city the entire season. It consisted of 8,370 bushels of Canada Barley, and a lot of Staves, and was valued at $17,000. This will show our citizens how large an amount of money it costs to keep the brewing business *afloat* in these times of enormous prices for all kinds of products.

☞ HORSE THIEF QUICKLY DISPOSED OF.—John Gross, a hired man in the employ of Mr. Jacob Boyer, in Amity, stole a horse from the stable of his employer last Saturday night, was arrested next day, indicted in the Quarter Sessions on Monday, brought up for trial on Wednesday, plead guilty, and was sentenced to a fine of $5, and two years' imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary.

☞ FIRST LIEUT. HENRY QUIMBY, of Company A, 88th Penna. Volunteers, has returned home, having been honorably discharged from the service of the United States on the 20th October.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

The November term of our Court of Quarter Sessions commenced on Monday last, before Judge WOODWARD and his Associates SCHALL and STITZEL. Levi J. Smith, Esq., of Reading, acted as foreman of the Grand Jury.

The Judge, in his charge to the Grand Jury, adverted to the fact that it has often been declared, in open Court, that the law prohibiting the sale of liquor on Sunday was habitually and openly violated, and stated that so long as the law was upon the Statute Book such a state of things was discreditable to the administration of justice.

The Grand Jury, after having acted upon 41 bills of indictment, of which 30 were found true bills, were discharged on Thursday afternoon, having discharged their duties with promptness and efficiency. Before their discharge, they made a presentment to the Court on the subject of the violations of the law prohibiting the sale of liquors on Sunday. The Grand Jury set forth that, in their opinion, the evils resulting from infractions of this law, failed in a great measure of abatement in consequence of its being made imperative upon the Court to pass sentence of imprisonment in all cases of conviction. The Community, considering the law unnecessarily severe, it has produced a disposition to prevent prosecution, and violators of the law, therefore, frequently escape punishment. If the law were so modified as to give discretionary power to the Court, in regard to sentencing this class of offenders and also power to control the granting of eating house licenses, the execution of the law would be more perfect. They also suggested that if the subject were brought to the notice of the Legislature they would doubtless see the propriety of altering the law. These views they also applied to the Acts relating to the sale of liquor to minors and to persons of intemperate habits.

The indictments tried were, with few exceptions, petty assault and battery cases, of no interest but to the parties concerned, and which would not be worth the space required for a report of them. The only case of importance is now on trial, to wit:

Commonwealth vs. Jacob Dampman.—Homicide.—The defendant is arraigned for the murder of Solomon Siegfried, by shooting with a pistol. The affair occurred at Reuben L. Spangler's tavern, in Lower Heidelberg township, near Werner-ville, on the 24th of April last, and originated in a quarrel between Dampman and a man named Joseph Fox, in which Siegfried interfered as a peace-maker; but, without success and fatally to himself, for Dampman suddenly drew a pistol, and fired it at Fox, the ball of which hit him in the side, glanced off and entered the stomach of Siegfried, inflicting a wound from which he died three days afterward. The following are the names of the Jurors who have been impanneled to try the case:

Philip Zieber,	Mahlon G. Spears,
Peter Deysher,	Samuel Edelman,
John Snyder,	Lawrence Fix,
Frederick Yoder,	Michael Hank,
Samuel Achey,	John Hungerford,
Samuel Moyer,	John Heller.

Action of the Fiftieth Regt., P. V., on the Death of Lieut.-Col. Thos. S. Brenholts.

HEADQUARTERS 50TH REGT., P. V.,
COVINGTON, KY., Aug. 23d, 1863.

At a special meeting of the officers of the 50th Regt., P. V., held 23d inst., the following preamble and resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted:

It having pleased Almighty God in the dispensation of his Providence to place a fatal termination to the wound received at Jackson, Miss., July 13th, 1863, and thus remove from our midst in the prime of his manhood, our late commander and friend, Lieut.-Col. Thomas S. Brenholts, of Reading, Berks County, Pa.; we deem it proper to give some slight expression to our feelings on this sad occasion, moved as we are by the many lessons such as Providence has designed to teach, by the character and the sorrow we feel at his loss.

WHEREAS: In his devotion to his country, in his desire to excel in the knowledge and performance of the duties of the soldier in which his life became a sacrifice, in his strength of character and in his warmth of heart we had a bright example, which we shall ever cherish it as such in our memories and learn: therefore,

Resolved, That by the death of our lamented commander and friend, we have sustained an irreparable loss, having found in him those characteristics which ever adorn the character of the true soldier, and fitted him for the quiet intercourse of camp, and the arduous duties of the field of combat.

Resolved, That true to the noble impulses which induced him to exchange the comforts of a home and the peaceful walks of civil life, for the onerous duties of a soldier's life, he ever stood bravely at his post in the hour of danger, and sealed his devotion to free principles with his blood.

Resolved, That while we sincerely regret and condole with the bereaved family and friends of the deceased, we earnestly hope that they may, in this hour of trouble find in that God in whom they have trusted, that consolation which the world cannot give, and be resigned to this most severe dispensation.

Resolved, That we wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days, and that a copy of the above be forwarded to his family, and to the press for publication.

Lieut. G. W. BRUMM,
Lieut. HORATIO N. ADAMS, } Committee.
Lieut. RICHARD KAHN,

LADIES' AID ASSOCIATION.

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

Through Miss M. E. Ermentrout, *Bern tp*, 6 bottles blackberry syrup, 24 do. grape shrub, 2 quarts quince jelly, 7 pair socks, prepared from $5,55 collected for the soldiers at a celebration of the Cedar Hill Sunday School. A half barrel sour kraut, the cabbage cultivated in part by the children of the same school. Also from *Bern*, previously noticed as from *Penn tp*, a quantity of onions, collected by the children of Cedar Hill Sunday School. Mrs. Edward Huin, 1 crock quinces and dried elderberries, Mrs. Aulenbach, 1 crock of currant jelly, soap, dried fruit. *From Reading*—Mrs. E. Anderson, 1 crock of currant jelly, Mrs. Nicoll, 1 crock quince jelly, Miss R. Griscom, 1 pair woollen socks and 1 pocket handkerchief, Miss A. Dundore, 1 pair wadded slippers, Miss A. Miller, 1 pair do. Having received a call from the U. S. Sanitary Committee for Pickles, the ladies of the Association wish to send to them if possible next week, and will be thankful for any contributions to that article; to be sent to the house of Mrs. G. A. Nicolls, until next Thursday evening. All vessels containing them will be returned to the owners, as they will be sent in a barrel.

C. C. GRIES, Secretary.

☞ MURDER!—SOLDIER KILLED BY A COMRADE.—On Monday morning last, about 10 o'clock, six members of Company G, of the Continental Cavalry—a Philadelphia Company of six months' volunteers who have been on Provost Guard duty in this city for some weeks past—together with a little boy, entered the William Penn Hotel, kept by Mr. Bertolette Grant, corner of Tenth and Penn streets, and, after taking a drink, they got into a quarrel among themselves. One of Mr. Grant's sons, who was in the bar at the time, interfered, and peace was apparently restored. They had hardly reached the sidewalk, however, before they again got into a quarrel, when one of the party, named James L. White, a Mississippi "Tiger," who professes to have served two years in the rebel army, deliberately drew his revolver and shot one of his comrades dead in his tracks; the ball entered the left breast and caused death almost instantly. The name of the murdered man is Frederick Weaver, and his residence was Philadelphia. The alarm was immediately given at company headquarters, and Lieut. Marks, with a squad of his men, started in pursuit of the murderer, and overtook him on the turnpike. When surrounded by his captors he fired three shots from his revolver at them, and he was twice shot at, but none of the shots took effect. Lieut. Marks then ordered him to surrender, and he threw down his arms and gave himself up. At 3 o'clock he had a hearing *before the Mayor, and the charge being fully made out* against him, he was committed to Prison for trial.

☞ KILLED IN THE TUNNEL.—On Saturday morning, the 24th ult., as a squad of substitutes were being taken to the rendezvous at Philadelphia in the down passenger train of the Reading Railroad, one of them sprang through a window of the car, while in the Black Rock Tunnel, at Phœnixville, and falling under the cars, was run over and instantly killed. The name of the man we have not learned. He had formerly been in the Southern army, was taken prisoner, and afterwards took the oath of allegiance, and was mustered into our army as a substitute for a drafted man from Schuylkill county. He was, we understand, a Virginian by birth.—*Pottstown Ledger.*

☞ AMOUNT OF COAL transported on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, during the week ending Thursday, November 5, 1863,

	Tons.	Cwt.
From Port Carbon,	27,327	15
" Pottsville,	1,335	19
" Schuylkill Haven,	21,899	04
" Auburn,	5,330	01
" Port Clinton,	9,759	08
" Harrisburg,	1,952	11
Total for week,	67,604	18
Previously this year,	2,649,208	16
TOTAL,	2,716,813	14
To same time last year,	2,093,275	10

☞ ARRESTED.—Samuel Babb, of Earl township, was arrested on Wednesday last, on the charge of misguiding and interfering with the Provost Marshal's Officers while engaged in the duty of arresting a deserter from the U. S. Army. He was taken before the U. S. Commissioner, Col. S. L. Young, and after hearing the evidence of several persons, he was bound over in the sum of $1,000 to appear at the next term of the U. S. Court at Philadelphia.

☞ THE WYOMISSING WOOLLEN MILL.—This manufactory, which is considered one of the best of its size in the country, has recently changed hands—Mr. Fisher, its late proprietor, having sold out to Mr. M. Brooke, of Philadelphia, who intends to go into the manufacture of woollen goods upon an extensive scale. He is already in partial possession, and, when fully under way, will work the Mill to its fullest capacity.

☞ GUNNING ACCIDENT.—Joseph Schwenk, aged 18 years, son of Samuel Schwenk, living near Fritz's Mill, in Douglass township, was so severely wounded in the left arm by the accidental discharge of his gun while *out shooting on the 25th ult.*, that the amputation of the arm above the elbow became necessary. The operation was performed by Drs. Todd, of Boyerstown, and Van Buskirk, of Pottstown.

☞ COL. JOHN F. RITTER, of the 1st Missouri Cavalry, is at home on a short leave of absence, looking remarkably well after the active service he has seen. Col. Ritter is, as our readers know, a graduate of West Point, and a Captain in the Regular Army, but has for over a year past held his present honorable commission from the Governor of Missouri.

☞ THE CONTINENTAL OLD FOLKS, always welcome visitors to our city, gave one of their popular Concerts last night, to a crowded audience, in Odd Fellows' Hall. The favorite Songstress, Mrs. Emma J. Nichols, is still with them. They sing again to-night, and we are requested to say, will introduce the famous German glee, "*Johnny Schmoker.*"

☞ WE DIRECT the attention of our friends, who may wish to purchase Furs of any description, and have the privilege of selection from a large and splendid stock, to the advertisement of Messrs. CHAS. OAKFORD & SONS, Philadelphia, in another column.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

2nd Ward Democratic Club.

THE STATED MONTHLY MEETING OF THE Club will be held next Thursday evening, at 7½ o'clock, at their rooms, Chestnut street, below Third. All Democrats are invited to be present.
nov 7-1t] GEO. M. ERMENTROUT, Secretary.

$5 REWARD

WILL BE PAID FOR THE DETECTION OF any one removing the INDEX BOARDS from any of the crossings in Exeter township
nov 7-3t*] JOEL K. KINSEY, Supervisor.

FARMERS' BANK OF READING.

NOVEMBER 2, 1863.

THE FARMERS' BANK OF READING HAVE this day declared a Dividend of 4 per cent., clear of State and United States taxes, payable on demand.
nov 7-3t] H. H. MUHLENBERG, Cashier.

UNION BANK OF READING.

READING, PA., NOV. 3, 1863

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK HAVE this day declared a Dividend of 5 per cent. clear of all taxes, payable on demand.
nov 7-3t] C. B. McKNIGHT, Cashier

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Andrew Maurer, late of Colebrookdale township, Berks county, deceased.

THE AUDITOR APPOINTED BY THE ORPHANS' Court of Berks county, to make distribution of the balance in the hands of Henry H. Maurer, Executor of the last Will and Testament of Andrew Maurer, deceased, will meet the parties interested for the purpose on his appointment, at his office, No. 43 North 5th street, city of Reading, on Wednesday, the 2nd day of December, A. D. 1863, at 1 o'clock, P. M.
nov 7-3t] A. B. WANNER, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Benneville Mengel, late of Ontelaunee township, Berks county, deceased.

THE UNDERSIGNED, AUDITOR APPOINTed by the Orphans' Court of Berks county, to audit, re-state and re-settle the account of Jeremiah Mengel, Executor of Benneville Mengel, deceased, and make distribution of the balance in his hands, will meet the parties interested at his office, No. 43 North Sixth street, in the city of Reading, on Saturday, the 28th day of November, A. D., 1863, at 1 o'clock, P. M.
nov 7-3t] A. B. WANNER, Auditor.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

BERKS COUNTY, ss.

L.S. AT AN ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE County of Berks, held at Reading, on the 4th day of November, A. D. 1863, in the matter of the Estate of John Jacob Heckman, dec'd. On motion of H. H. Schwartz, Attorney for the Administrator, &c., the Court grant a rule, directed to Samuel Heckman, Benjamin Heckman, Adam Heckman, John Heckman, Charles Heckman, Jared Heckman, Elias Heckman, Daniel Heckman, Isaac Heckman, Polly, intermarried with Charles Old, Sarah, intermarried with John Lily, all children of the said deceased