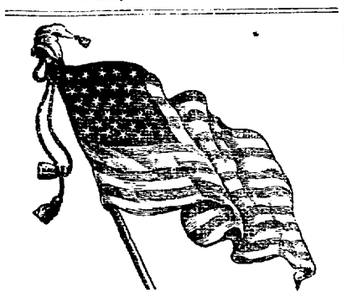
Gazette and Democrat.

READING, PA.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 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!

☞ HON. S. E. ANCONA has our thanks for an early *official* copy of the President's Message.

☞ WE ARE INDEBTED TO FRED. LAUR, Esq., for a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Third Convention of the United States Brewers' Association, lately held at Cincinnati—reported in the German and English language.

DARING ACT OF PIRACY.

The steamer Chesapeake, of the Cromwell line, bound from New York to Portland, on her regular trip, with a large cargo, valued at $180,000, was taken possession of on Monday morning, about one o'clock, by a party of rebels numbering about sixteen, who were apparently unarmed and inoffensive passengers. The captain was put in irons, the second engineer shot dead, and thrown overboard, and some others of the officers wounded. The astonished passengers were then notified that they were prisoners of war to the Confederate States of America. This extraordinary proceeding took place about twenty-one miles northeast of Cape Cod. The captured officers and crew, together with the passengers, were landed by the daring pirates at Partridge Island, and the steamer then started off to sea. When last seen she was lying alongside another vessel, apparently taking in coal, and it was thought that she would make for Wilmington, N. C., and endeavor to run the blockade. Quite a fleet of Union vessels, both from Portland and from New York have started off in pursuit of the Chesapeake.

☞ A LITTLE PARAGRAPH of five lines in reference to Parson Brownlow's late "skedaddle" from Knoxville—which we innocently clipped from one of our exchanges, with the addition of only a few words of our own—has aroused the ire of an anonymous correspondent of *The Times*, who, skulking under the distinguished name of "DIX," bawls lustily for somebody "to rebuke this abusive and unwarranted attack upon this heroic patriot." He says:

"Every paper in this city with a spark of magnanimity or patriotism, should spring to his defence, and every loyal man, be he a Republican or a Democrat, should protest against this outrage upon decency, truth and justice."

"DIX" was evidently on a high "rampage" when he wrote that appeal for recruits to avenge the Parson's wrongs; but, as attempts to inflame the passions of the people against Democratic newspapers and their editors, have become every-day matters in these intensely loyal times, the present outburst does not alarm us very much. We will not yet—in the classic language of the great American humorist who performs at the White House, or in imitation of Parson Brownlow's Falstaffian example—"turn tail and run."

As for the Parson himself, he *is* a valiant hero—in words, but we have yet to learn of any heroism he has exhibited in action. We are now, and always have been, willing to accord him all the credit he deserves for his unflinching Unionism; but there are many other Tennessees who have suffered quite as much as, and sacrificed a great deal more than he, in their devotion to the Union; and have proved their sincerity by bearing all in silence, instead of roaming about the country, like the Parson, retailing a catalogue of his wrongs, intermixed with a multitude of strange oaths that would be denounced as blasphemy if uttered by any other man or any other Parson. His loyalty *may* be genuine; but, like that of some folks, near at home, who are among the loudest brawlers, it is of the kind that *pays*.

CONGRESS AND CONSTITUTIONAL LAW.—The action of Congress, in the cases of the Senators and Representatives who were elected in utter disregard of the Constitution and Laws, proves that the Abolition majority are ready to go to any length in violation of their oaths, at the behest of party. In the House, the members from Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Missouri and Kansas, were admitted by a vote, over the head of the Clerk who, in obedience to the law of the last Congress—passed by the radicals themselves, to serve their own purposes—had omitted their names from the roll on account of informality in their credentials. And in the Senate, two persons claiming to represent a State called West Virginia, were admitted, flatly in violation of the Constitution; and yet, only *five* Senators recorded their votes against this flagrant act, to wit:—Messrs. Buckalew, Davis, Hendricks, McDougall and Powell.

The *Boston Post*, in commenting upon the revolutionary course of Congress, at the very opening of their session, says:

"We are glad to see the first vote of the able and accomplished Senator Buckalew, from Pennsylvania, on the side of the Constitution. This shows where he will be found. Every word from him since his election, marks him the fearless defender of his country, and the well furnished statesman."

☞ EAST TENNESSEE is once more free from rebel invasion. Longstreet raised the siege of Knoxville on the night of the 4th instant, retreating towards Bristol. His retreat was on both banks of the Holston river, Foster following him on the south and Sherman on the north bank. Longstreet had thirty six hours' start of our troops in his retreat, but could not get off without great loss. It is evident that the rebel force in East Tennessee is utterly broken. The rebel accounts admit the retreat of Longstreet towards Virginia.

The President, upon the receipt of this news, issued a proclamation announcing that East Tennessee is clear of the "insurgent forces," and recommending that the people shall, upon receipt of this intelligence, assemble at their places of worship, and "render special homage and gratitude to Almighty God for this great advancement of the national cause."

☞ JOHN K. CALHOUN, Esq., a member of the Bar, and Representative of Armstrong county in the State Legislature during the sessions of 1857 and 1858, died at Kittanning on the 5th inst., in the 39th year of his age.

☞ THE REPORTED death of the rebel Gen. Breckinridge, is not confirmed. He was lately serenaded at Dalton, Georgia.

THE MESSAGE.

President Lincoln's third annual Message was read in Congress on Wednesday—a day later than usual. We print it to-day, from an *accurate* copy, and not from that transmitted by telegraph to the daily papers, which contained innumerable errors. It is a characteristic document—bearing intrinsic evidence, in the only point presented that will command any considerable degree of public attention—we mean the war policy of the Administration—of being a direct emanation from the brain and pen of "A. Lincoln." As might have been expected, it goes to the full length of the radical programme, and proclaims to the world that so long as the executive power of the Government continues in its present hands, the anti-slavery measures it has initiated—the illegality of which is openly confessed by the President—shall not be retracted or modified, not even if the whole people of the South were to lay down their arms to-morrow, and offer to submit to the Federal authority in strict obedience to the requirements of the Constitution; but that henceforth the war is to be prosecuted primarily for the abolition of slavery, in defiance of law, in disregard of the declarations of the Inaugural Address made under the solemn sanction of an oath, and in violation of the almost unanimous pledge by Congress in July, 1861. The recent State elections—carried as they notoriously were, by the interference of the military arm of the Administration—are cited as evidence that the people approve these radical measures, and will support them to the end. And so, the prediction long ago made, but, up to a very recent date, stoutly denied, that it was the ultimate design of the Abolitionists to usurp the power to wipe out slavery in the States that, when the Union was formed, had, by the consent of all, reserved to themselves the exclusive control over it, is literally fulfilled. Let us not omit to note here, the important admission by Mr. Lincoln that the exercise of this power by the General Government is *unlawful*. True, he attempts to qualify it by drawing an imaginary distinction between "a matter of civil administration" and "a military measure." But, can any one tell us whence the President derives his right to do in the one case what is clearly not conferred in the other?

The plan proposed for the reconstruction of "loyal State Governments" in the States now in rebellion, could not have originated with any one but Mr. Lincoln himself. It is certainly original, and ingenious enough, too; but it wants the very important requisite of practicability. Is it at all likely that any considerable number of the people of the South will consent to take an oath of submission to the very measures which they considered, when merely threatened by a political party organized in hostility to them, so gross an invasion of their constitutional rights as to justify secession from the Union? And, it may be pertinently asked, where does the President get his authority to prescribe this or any other form of oath as a test of loyalty? There were, at the time when the whole country believed, and the President and Congress declared, that the war was to be prosecuted for the sole and single purpose of preserving the Union, a large number of men in the Southern States—in some of them a majority, and in all of them except, perhaps, South Carolina, a strong minority—who remained faithful to the Union, and opposed the act of secession with all the influence they possessed; but who, by the force of circumstances that they could not control or overcome, were compelled to submit to the domination of the Rebel Government. There are, even now, as we firmly believe, not a few such men left in the South, in spite of the studied efforts of Mr. Lincoln, and his radical advisers to drive them over into the rebel ranks. These men have done nothing voluntarily to destroy their status as citizens of the United States, or to forfeit any of their constitutional rights. They stand ready to resume their relations to the Federal Government, and with them the performance of all their duties, as soon as that Government is able to perform *its* duty, by extending to them its protection. Is it not, then, a monstrous assumption of arbitrary power, to proclaim that men of this class shall not be restored to their rights as citizens of the States in which they reside and of the United States, unless they swear to support measures whose direct purpose is to destroy some of those very rights?

Viewing this last specimen of "proclamation-made law" by the light of availability, of reason, and of justice, we are almost forced to believe that it is not proposed in seriousness; but merely to delude a too credulous people into the belief that a plausible effort has been made to restore the Southern States to their proper place in the Union, in order that its rejection, foreseen and *fore designed*, may afford a pretext for the prosecution of the war for abolition unto the bitter end—or, at least, until another Presidential election, controlled and carried by military intimidation, shall have passed.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL.—The bill reviving the office of Lieutenant General, of which notice was given in Congress on Tuesday by Mr. Washburn, of Illinois, is intended to give Gen. Grant the position to which his talents and his victories are generally thought to entitle him. General Grant's best friends at Washington speak of this as a fitting reward for his services, and deny that he, or they in his behalf, have ever thought of making him President.

☞ C. GODFREY GUNTHER, the Mayor elect of New York, is the eldest of four brothers, sons of Christian G. Gunther, who for the last fifty years has been a leading fur merchant in that city. The Mayor elect is forty-two years of age, having been born in New York city, April 7th, 1822. All the sons are native-born Americans, and the parents natives of Germany. The new Mayor received his earliest education at the Moravian Institute, at Nazareth, Pa.

GENERAL SCOTT'S OPINION.—It is stated that General Scott, in a recent conversation on the developments of the war, remarked that the real hard fighting was yet to take place. He also added that the administration had fooled away nearly every golden opportunity, and thus, instead of ending the rebellion, as they could have done long since, have extended it to the distant future.

A REBEL GENERAL PARDONED.—The President has issued a pardon for E. W. Gantt, of Arkansas, from the penalty of treason, which he incurred by accepting the position of a Brigadier General in the rebel army. The pardon reinstates Mr. Gantt in all his rights of property, excepting those relating to slaves.

CONTESTED SEATS IN CONGRESS.—The memorial of C. W. Carrigan (Dem.) contesting the seat of M. Russel Thayer, and that of John Kline, (Dem.) contesting the seat of Leonard Myers, who are all of Pennsylvania, were presented on Tuesday in the House by Hon. S. J. Randall, and referred to the Committee on Elections.

☞ HARVEY BIRCH & BROTHER are again ahead of time, in the receipt of the Illustrated Papers for December 19; and all the other periodical publications of the day. They also continue to keep up the time with to New York and Philadelphia Dailies.

CONGRESS.

The XXXVIIITH Congress organized on Monday, without any unusual delay. In the House, the radical Abolitionists have elected all their caucus nominees by a vote varying from 20 to 32—the so called "conservative" majority which the *New York Herald*, with its usual disregard of truth, persisted in figuring out, (and which any one might have known to be false, after observing that it classed Hale and Tracy, of this State, among the "conservatives"), having been found nowhere. The following is the vote for Speaker, in detail. It will be seen that the Democratic members divided their vote, the Pennsylvania delegation supporting their colleague, the Hon. John L. Dawson:

For Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana.—Messrs. Alley, Allison, Ames, Anderson, Arnold, Ashley, Jno. D. Baldwin, Baxter, Beaman, Blaine, Blair, Blow, Boutwell, Boyd, Brandagee, Broomall, Brown, Ambrose W. Clark, Freeman Clark, Clay, Cobb, Cole, Cresswell, Davis, Davies, Dawes, Deming, Dixon, Donnelly, Driggs, Dumont, Eckley, Eliot, Farnsworth, Fenton, Frank, Garfield, Gooch, Grinnell, Hale, Higby, Hooper, Hotchkiss, A. W. Hubbard, John H. Hubbard, Hulburd, Jencks, Julian, Kasson, Kelley, Francis W. Kellogg, Orlando Kellogg, Littlejohn, Loan, Longyear, Lovejoy, Marvin, McBride, McClurg, McIndoe, Miller, Morehead, Morrill, Morris, Amos Myers, Leonard Myers, Norton, Chas. O'Neil, Orth, Paterson, Perham, Pike, Pomeroy, Price, Wm. H. Randall, Alex. H. Rice, John H. Rice, Rollins, Schenck, Schofield, Shannon, Sloan, Smith, Smithers, Spaulding, Starr, Stevens, Thayer, Thomas, Tracy, Upton, Van Valkenburgh, Elihu B. Washburne, William B. Washburn, Webster, Whaley, Williams, Wilder, Wilson, Windom, Woodbridge—101.

For Samuel S. Cox, of Ohio.—Messrs. James C. Allen, Wm. J. Allen, Aug. C. Baldwin, Bliss, Brown, Cravens, Dawson, Eden, Edgerton, Eldridge, English, Fink, Harrington, Harris, Herrick, Holman, Hutchins, Johnson, Kalbfleisch, Knapp, Law, Le Blond, Long, Marcy, McDowell, McKenney, Middleton, Morris, Morrison, Noble, John O'Neill, Pendleton, Perry, Robinson, Rogers, Ross, Steele, Sweat, Voorhees, Wheeler, Chilton A. White, Joseph W. White—42

For John L. Dawson, of Pennsylvania.—Messrs. Ancona, Baily, Coffroth, Cox, Dennison, Johnson, Lazear, McAllister, William H. Miller, Samuel J. Randall, Stiles, Strouse—12.

For Robert Mallory, of Kentucky.—Messrs. Brooks, Grider, Harding, Harris, King, Rollins, Stuart, Wadsworth, Ward, Yeaman—10.

For Austin A. King, of Missouri.—Messrs. Chanler, Hall, Mallory, Radford, Scott, Fernando Wood—6.

For Henry G. Stebbins, of New York.—Messrs. Ganson, Griswold, Kernan, Nelson, Odell, Pruyn, Steele, Winfield—8.

For Francis P. Blair, jr., of Missouri.—Messrs. Cottman, Field—2.

For John D. Stiles, of Pennsylvania.—Mr. Ben. Wood—1.

Absent or not voting.—Messrs. Colfax, Blair, jr., Chandler, Segar, Stebbins, Kitchen—6.

Emerson Etheridge, of Tennessee, Clerk of the last House—who was considered "a loyal man," a year ago, even according to the radical standard—has been kicked aside for his audacity in questioning the Abolition policy of the President, and Edward M'Pherson, an ex-member from Pennsylvania, is elected Clerk in his place. N. G. Ordway, of New Hampshire, is elected Sergeant-at-Arms; Ira Goodenow, Doorkeeper; and W. S. King, of Minnesota, Postmaster. So, from Speaker down, it will be seen that none but a Northern man has been found worthy to receive the patronage of the House.

Notice has been given, in the Senate and House, of bills to repeal the fugitive slave laws, to abolish slavery, to punish slaveholders, to raise the pay of negro soldiers, &c., *but not one to save the Union!* So we go!

Both branches of Congress adjourned over from Thursday to Monday.

IMPORTANT FROM HARRISBURG.

A CALL ON THE PEOPLE TO AVOID THE DRAFT.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 10.—Governor Curtin, today, received a communication from the War Department, announcing that the Government declines to adopt his suggestion, made some weeks ago upon the subject of recruiting.

No new organizations are allowed to be formed, except at a few companies to fill incomplete regiments.

A general order has been issued from the office of Adjutant-General Russell, defining the plan of recruiting adopted, and calling upon the people of the several enrollment districts and sub districts of the State to offer bounties to volunteers.

The deficiency of Pennsylvania being, in proportion to her population, less than that of any of the adjacent States, it is hoped that by a vigorous support her quota may be filled by volunteers, and the draft thus be prevented.

☞ PROBABLY no remedy for the cure of coughs and colds has become so popular, in so short a time, as Dr. Wishart's Pine Tree Tar Cordial. Physicians of every school have long been convinced that the pine tree contained great healing properties, yet nearly all were opposed to the use of common tar, being aware that it contained injurious properties. This objection Dr. Wishart, of Philadelphia, claims to have overcome by a peculiar process in the distillation of the tar of which his cordial is prepared; and if we are to judge from the many testimonials that are constantly brought to our notice of its beneficial effects, it must certainly be considered a great medical discovery. See advertisement in another column.

THE $300 COMMUTATION.—The Provost Marshal General Fry, in his report, recommends to Congress the repeal of the $300 commutation clause in the Conscription Act. It is thought this will compel every drafted man to furnish a substitute or to take his place in the ranks. A curtailment of the list of disabilities which now exempt persons from military service, is also urged on Congress. Notice has already been given, in the Senate and House, of bills to repeal the $300 clause.

TIRED OF THE WAR.—A Chattanooga correspondent, who talked with the rebel pickets, says they expressed themselves heartily tired of the war, and cherished the (vain) belief that it would end this winter. When asked whether they would not rather be back in the old Union again, one of them—the principal spokesman—replied: "The old Government was good enough for me." There was no dissenting voice to this candid confession.

CAN THIS BE LAW?—An edict from the Provost Marshal General proclaims that incipient consumption is not a disability that exempts a conscript from military service. Was there ever such an outrage on humanity, medical rule, and common sense? To condemn a man with the seeds of consumption in his lungs to the hardship, privation, and exposure of a soldier's life, is simply to commit official murder.

LATEST FROM GENERAL GRANT.—A dispatch from Chattanooga Dec. 7, says that Gen. Hardee, who has superseded Bragg, is slowly falling back from Dalton with Bragg's whipped men. The mountains of East Tennessee are said to be filled with deserters and stragglers from Bragg's army.

HIGH PRICES IN "DIXIE."—Flour is only one hundred and seventy-five dollars a barrel in Richmond.——Beef of the most inferior quality is two dollars per pound in Richmond, and almost unobtainable at that price.——Substitutes get $1000 and $1100 in Richmond, but then it is rebel money, worth six cents on the dollar.

THE SIEGE OF CHARLESTON.—Rebel dispatches from Charleston state that Gillmore was mounting more guns on Fort Wagner, bearing on the city, and that he had unmasked a new battery.

City Affairs.

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

☞ REV. RICHARD EDDY, pastor of the Lombard Street Church, Philadelphia, will preach in the Universalist Church of this city, to-morrow (Sunday) morning and evening, at the usual hours.

☞ GO TO THE LADIES' FAIR at Aulenbach's Hall, next week.

☞ RESIGNATION.—Rev. E. A. Toriat has resigned his charge as Assistant Minister at the Episcopal Chapel of St. Barnabas, and accepted a call to the rectorship of the Episcopal Parish at Minersville, Schuylkill county. He preached his farewell sermon at St. Barnabas on Thursday evening.

☞ A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Court House on Tuesday evening, Dec. 15th, at 7 o'clock, under the auspices of the U. S. Christian Commission. The meeting will be addressed by the Rev. E. C. Ambler, lately released from the Libby Prison, Richmond, who will give an account of his imprisonment, after which a collection will be taken in behalf of our suffering soldiers in Southern prisons. Will the Pastors of Reading please notice in their congregations?

☞ NEW YORK EXPRESS TRAIN—*Change of Hours.*—On and after Monday next, December 14, the New York Express train, coming East, will leave Harrisburg at 6.30 A. M. (instead of 3 o'clock) and pass Reading for New York at 8.45 A. M., (instead of 5 o'clock). No change of time in the train going West, which leaves New York at 7 P. M., and passes Reading at 12 Midnight.

☞ TELEGRAPH OFFICE.—The American Telegraph Co. have now opened their new office in the Express Office, Penn street, above 5th. Hereafter all public messages will be received and transmitted from the new office. There will be no more public business done at their former office, in the East Penna. Railroad Building, 6th Street.

☞ 438 WEST MARKET SQUARE.—The Number of the "New-York Store," at the head of the advertisement, is erroneously printed 483. It should be 438. See advertisement on the first page of to-day's *Gazette*.

☞ WOUNDED SOLDIERS.—We regret to see, in the list of wounded in the late battle at Campbell's Station, during the siege of Knoxville, the names of several men of the 50th Pennsylvania Regiment, and among them two from our own county, to wit: Sergeant H. Gechter, of Company H, (Capt. Cleaveland), a son of the late Capt. John Gechter; and Alfred Gift, of Company E, (Capt. Lantz's), a son of Mr. Peter H. Gift. Emanuel Faust, of Company A, same Regiment, was killed.

☞ THE LADIES' FAIR.—Contributors to the Ladies' Fair for the benefit of the Washington Hose, will please send their articles to either of the Managers, or to the stores of Wm. G. Von Nieda and F. P. Heller, between this and Monday evening, or to the Hall during Tuesday, the Managers being desirous of having them as soon as convenient in order to mark and give proper credit therefor. Large Cake, Confectionery, and perishable articles, need not be sent before Tuesday. If more convenient, the articles will be called for upon notice being given. Donations of all kinds desired, and a liberal patronage to the Fair solicited, as the object is one in which every citizen is interested.

☞ THE SCOTT FOUNDRY.—In the report of the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, which accompanies the Report of the Secretary of the Navy, the Scott Foundry of Messrs. Seyfert, McManus & Co., at Reading, is mentioned in terms of commendation as one of the sources of supply of the IX-inch, X inch and XI inch Dahlgren guns for the Navy. The report says:

"In procuring cannon for the Navy the same conditions have been exacted from all these foundries, as regards the character of metal and every other element necessary to constitute good and reliable guns. No gun has been accepted, as a standard, which has not been subjected to the ordeal of one thousand rounds of service charges. With this standard thus established, all the guns of a contract must coincide in their composite elements."

Capt. John S. Chauncey, of the U. S. Navy, who has been stationed at Reading for over a year past, to superintend the work at the Scott Foundry, has been lately relieved, and his place supplied by Lieut. Commander R. L. May.

☞ MEDALS OF HONOR.—In October last and after the more arduous and dangerous duties before Charleston had been concluded, General Gillmore issued an order announcing his intention to award medals of honor for gallant conduct during the siege, to three per cent. of the enlisted men engaged. Candidates for this honor were to be nominated by a board consisting in each case of the company officers, which nominations were to be forwarded through the proper channels to the headquarters of the Department, the several intermediate commanders to express their approval or disapproval thereof. In accordance with the order, Maj. Rogers commanding the 104th, forwarded the names of fifteen candidates from that Regiment, among which we are pleased to see two non-commissioned officers of Company H, of Reading, to wit: Sergeant WILLIAM STRAWBRIDGE and Corporal JOHN P. HOUSUM, (son of Daniel Housum). A written statement of the conduct and service of each man recommended, accompanied the names. The die is being cast in New-York, and will be destroyed as soon as the medals are made, so that unworthy persons cannot procure them. The rarity of the medals and the circumstances under which they are awarded will give them great value.

☞ THE ESCAPED PRISONERS.—$100 *Reward for their Arrest.*—The County Commissioners have offered a reward of $100 for the arrest of Wm. Henry Dyer (colored), and Charles H. Bartlett, who escaped from the Berks County Prison last Friday night. The manner of their escape was in this wise:

They were confined in cells 28 and 30, cell 29, unoccupied, being between them. Each broke a hole through his cell wall, and thus gained an entrance into the unoccupied cell, the lock of the outer door of which they picked, and got out into the corridor. From the corridor they passed into the yard through the front corridor door. By means of a rope, which they obtained in the warping-room, and to which they attached a coal-screen, thrown over the wall, Bartlett, with Dyer's assistance, was enabled to scale the prison-wall. Dyer then came back into the front part of the building, rang the door-bell, concealing himself in the passage to the parlor, until the front door was opened, when he rushed out suddenly unrecognized, and before his exit could be prevented. Their escape was evidently preconcerted; and it is said that the partition walls between the cells are built of such poor material, that breaking a hole through them is by no means difficult. If this be so, it is a serious defect in the Prison which should be instantly remedied. Dyer and Bartlett are both old "jail birds." It is doubtful whether they will be caught.

☞ BUSINESS CHANGE.—Messrs. D. P. Greth and John R. Kancher, under the firm of D. P. Greth & Co., have succeeded Mr. A. H. Peacock as proprietors of the well-known Family Grocery Store, No. 104 South Fifth street, and will continue it upon the principle of "the best articles at the lowest prices," by which this Store has earned its wide popularity among our housekeepers.

Mr. Peacock retires from mercantile business to engage in the iron manufacture, as a partner in the Moselem Furnace, under the firm of Hunter, Peacock & Co. We hope his excellent business qualifications will find profitable employment in this new field of operations.

☞ AMOUNT OF COAL transported on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, for the week ending Thursday, December 10, 1863.

	Tons.	Cwt.
From Port Carbon,	22,360	12
" Pottsville,	1,104	06
" Schuylkill Haven,	20,666	04
" Auburn,	2,669	07
" Port Clinton,	9,207	01
" Harrisburg, and Dauphin,	2,933	03
Total for week,	58,970	00
Previously this year,	31,771	09
TOTAL,	90,741	09
To same time last year,	92,967	05

☞ BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS at the Ladies' Fair for the Washington Hose.

☞ RECRUITING AGENTS.—On the recommendation of Capt. Henry S. Kupp, Provost Marshall of this District, Capt. Cornelius Wise and Lieut. Bland, have been appointed Recruiting Agents for the 8th District of Pennsylvania, with authority to raise Volunteers for three years' service, in lieu of draft.

☞ NEW PASSENGER CARS.—Two large and beautiful Passenger Cars for the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company, have just been finished at the new Car Works of Evans, Fegeley & Co., at Pottstown.

☞ IT IS NOT OFTEN that we come in contact with an article that we feel justified in recommending to our numerous readers, but the article of Family Dye Colors, manufactured by Howe & Stevens, advertised in this day's paper, we feel we can heartily commend to all who may have use for dyes of any colors. For sale by all druggists

☞ REV. J. ISIDOR MOMBERT, Rector of St. James' Episcopal Church, in Lancaster, has resigned the rectorship of that parish, to take effect at Easter. The resignation has been accepted.

FORTY DAYS IN JERUSALEM;
Or, a Sketch of Palestine and a Description of Jerusalem.

BY REV. WM. WHITE WILLIAMS, A. M., OF NEW YORK.

[Who has traveled extensively in AMERICA, EUROPE, ASIA, and AFRICA, and lived in the CITY of JERUSALEM FORTY DAYS, during March and April, 1861. He describes what he saw and studied for himself. His Lectures are cordially recommended as PLEASING, INTERESTING, and INSTRUCTIVE, by REV. DRS. HOPKINS, SPRING, HITTON, BURCHARD, SMITH, RICE, HITCHCOCK, HAGUE, NEVIN, NEWMAN, EX-GOV. POLLOCK, and many other eminent authorities.]

This Lecture will be illustrated by new and large Maps and Pictures, and by the superb costume of a Syrian Lady and the costume of a Syrian Peasant, shown in Tableaux Vivants. The Peasant's dress shows the leathern girdle and camel's hair garment as worn by John the Baptist.

Persons dressed in Eastern style will walk through the audience, that they may see LIVING ILLUSTRATIONS of ORIENTAL COSTUME.

There will be exhibited a case of flowers from Palestine; specimens of the Jerusalem Marble; a case of Hebrew coins, two of them being widow's mites; a Phœnician coin 3000 years old; a Greek coin with the insignia of Alexander the Great; a writer's ink horn (Ezekiel, ix. 2); a tear bottle (Psalm lvi. 8); specimens of olive wood, and many other curiosities and relics; husks mentioned in the Parable of the Prodigal Son; Oriental Lantern (John xviii. 3); Honey out of the Rock, a Palm Branch and a "Crown of Thorns" from the Holy City.

[Mr. Williams has lectured repeatedly in New England, New-York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, and elsewhere. All can judge of his success from the testimonials which have been cheerfully given by some of the most eminent men in our beloved country.]

By his Lecture on JERUSALEM, given Saturday, Jan. 17, 1863, on a dark, cold night, in the scattered farming community of West Chent, after paying all expenses, $12 were realized for the Soldiers and Sailors, and so deep an interest was awakened that $25 more were afterward contributed for the same noble object.

On Feb. 9 Mr. Williams gave this Lecture—FORTY DAYS IN JERUSALEM—in a New-York City church, as the first of a Course of three Lectures, the second being by Rev. Dr. Hodge, the third by Rev. H. W. BEECHER. The audience unanimously voted to recommend the Lecture to other churches desiring to raise funds for benevolent purposes.]

[The Lectures are intended chiefly for adults, but the language used is so simple, and the illustrations are so ample, that children are interested and instructed by each Lecture.

On Friday evening, Sept. 25, the first Lecture was given in Washington Hall, in Morristown, N. J., to an audience of over six hundred persons. Many went away, unable to find even standing room. To avoid crowding hereafter no more tickets will be sold than there are seats. Mr. Williams has spoken to nearly EIGHT THOUSAND PERSONS at one time, many of them standing during the address, but he prefers to have his audience comfortably seated, that they may enjoy the Lecture to better advantage.]

☞ This Lecture will be delivered in the ODD FELLOWS' HALL in READING, on MONDAY EVENING, December 14th, at 7½ o'clock. Admittance 25 cents. Children under fourteen, 10 cents. Proceeds for the benefit of our noble Soldiers and Sailors. [dec 12-1t

LADIES' AID ASSOCIATION.

READING, Dec 10, 1863.

We hope the publication of the following letter received by the Ladies' Aid Society, will have the desired effect in inducing our citizens to continue their contributions for our sick and wounded prisoners and soldiers:

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8, 1863.

My Dear Miss Gries:

I have to acknowledge two boxes of apples received from your Society on 25th November. We are always very glad to receive apples, as they prove a most welcome luxury at the Hospitals. If you can send any apples or poultry at Christmas, they will be gratefully received. Perhaps you could get some of the Berks county farmers, who do not give you money, to make you donations of scrapple, ("pan-haus") sausages, &c. I am very anxious to increase the amount of our receipts at this office, this winter. I want Pennsylvania to be first in this, as she is in the number of men put in the field. Our State is fully capable of doing this, and the want of supplies was never so great as at present. Think what a vast army we have, and remember also our poor prisoners!

If you could send us some smoked meats, we could forward them to Richmond, as they will bear the delays of transportation; besides they contain much nutriment in proportion to the bulk. Reading has always done nobly,—but cannot your members exert themselves to rouse up all Berks county? Very truly yours,

MRS. M. C. GRIER,

U. S. Sanitary Commission, 1307 Chestnut street.

BRIEF LOCAL PARAGRAPHS.

——*Navigation on the Union Canal* has closed for the season.

——*The resignation of Rev. H. S. Miller*, as pastor of Salem Lutheran Church, in Lebanon, was accepted by the congregation, on Saturday last. Mr. Miller, we understand, has accepted a call to Berks county.

——*Almost a fire.*—On Thursday morning, about 10 o'clock, the roof of the Confectionery Shop of A. M. Souders, in rear of his store, caught fire, but was happily extinguished before doing any damage.

——*Michael Kraemer*, Esq., late Clerk to the County Treasurer, has been appointed Deputy Register, by M. S. Thirwechter, Esq., the lately elected Register.

——*Sudden Death.*—George Yerger, a well-known citizen, aged 70 years, fell dead on Wednesday between 12 and 1 o'clock, from a stroke of apoplexy, in the stable of Mr. David Levan, Liberty alley, between Seventh and Eighth street.

——*The First National Bank of Reading*, commenced business on Monday last, December 7th, in the Savings Bank building. Levi B. Smith, Esq., is President; and A. F. Boas, Esq., Cashier. Its capital is $100,000.

——*George Gross*, of Colebrookdale township, had his foot caught in the belting of a threshing machine, on the 30th ult., which whirled him against the machine, breaking his cheek-bone and seriously injuring him otherwise, that he was for some time insensible, and lay several days in a very critical condition. He is now recovering.

——*Two Children* of Jacob Moyer, of Pike township, (a boy 13 years old, and a girl 11 years old) were seriously burned in the face and hands on the 27th ult., by the explosion of a flask of powder, to which the boy applied a piece of hot iron, while the parents were at sent at a funeral.

——*The Glasgow Forge Property*, in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery county, belonging to the estate of James Rittenhouse, deceased, was not sold to Wm. Trexler, Esq., of Berks county, as stated a few weeks ago. The purchaser is Mr. James Hilton, of Manayunk, and the price paid $18,000. There are 224 acres of land, with forge, grist-mill, 16 dwellings, &c. The water-power is supplied from the Manatawny creek. Mr. Hilton is a large woollen manufacturer, and intends to erect a Woollen Mill on the premises.

——*Petty Thieving* is becoming quite common in the upper end of the county. During last week, in Hamburg, the chicken-coop of Charles Keller was robbed of a lot of poultry, and the house of Benjamin Meinder of a bag of grits; and a pocket-book containing $40 was stolen from the house of George Adam Zettelmoyer, in Albany township.

☞ ANDY CURTIN killed the Dutchman's dog, and Cheap John has killed high prices, and is now going to bury them, and if you do not believe it go and visit his store and see the countless bargains to be had. There is not a man, woman or child, within fifty miles of Reading, but what knows that *Cheap John* has done more towards putting down high prices and selling for a small profit than any half a dozen of the Starchy quill drivers in this town. In his stock will be found Coal Oil lamps at from 35 cents to five dollars, Photograph Albums at half the usual prices, Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, Silver Plated Ware, Crockery Ware, Tinware, Woollen Goods of all kinds, and a thousand other articles too numerous to mention.

P. S. The following are a few of Cheap John's prices for Boots and Shoes: Goodyear's Gum Shoes, $1 10; Boys' Boots, $1 00 to $2 00; Men's Boots, $2 25 to $3 50; Home-Made Sewed Calfskin Boots, $4 50; Women's Calfskin Shoes, $1 00 to $1 10, and all other Boots and Shoes at equal low prices.

P. S. Look out for Christmas Presents, at

dec 12] CHEAP JOHN'S.

Gray Hair Restored, Baldness Prevented.

"London Hair Color Restorer and Dressing."
"London Hair Color Restorer and Dressing."
"London Hair Color Restorer and Dressing."

Restores Gray Hair without Dyeing.

This discovery for the preservation of the human hair is taking the lead of all hair preparations; besides restoring the color and making hair grow on bald heads, it is a beautiful dressing, keeping the hair soft, smooth and flexible, removes any eruptive diseases, Itching, Scurf, Dandruff, &c. Many who were bald and gray have had their hair permanently restored. Only one preparation. Large bottles, 50 cents; six bottles, $2 50. Sold at wholesale and retail, by Dr. Swayne & Son, 330 North Sixth street Philada. Sold by S. S. STEVENS, Penn street, above the Railroad, Reading. [nov 7

Have You Cough, Weak Breast?

Have you Bronchitis, Asthma, Sore Throat?
Have you Weak Nerves, Disturbed Sleep?
Have you Liver Complaint, Blood Spitting?
Have you Pains, Side, Breast, &c.?
Have you any symptoms of Consumption?

THE HARASSING COUGH, LOSING FLESH, SHORT BREATH, FEVER, PURULENT EXPECTORATION

Persons thus afflicted should resort at once to some reliable remedy, and from the testimony of thousands who have been cured by "DR. SWAYNE'S COMPOUND SYRUP OF WILD CHERRY," we firmly believe no other medicine has ever equaled its success in effectually curing all Throat, Breast, and Lung Complaints. It strengthens, heals, purifies, affording nourishment to the impoverished blood, and builds up the constitution. It soothes the irritation of the mucous membrane which lines the air passage, and which gives so much distress, causing tickling or itching in the throat, promotes expectoration, loosens the tough matter which clogs up the vessels of the throat and lungs, thus enabling the patient to breathe free and natural. It stimulates the power of digestion, and has performed very many cures, when to all human probability it could not be possible. Prepared only by Dr. SWAYNE & SON, No. 330 North Sixth street, Philadelphia. Sold by S. S. STEVENS, Penn street, above the Railroad, Reading, and all the principal Druggists. [nov 7.

GENERAL GRANT'S CAPTURES.—It is stated that Gen. Grant has captured from the enemy, since his campaign in the West commenced, no less than 472 cannon and 90,000 prisoners

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

CARD OF THANKS.

THE SUBSCRIBER HEREBY TENDERS HIS thanks to the Neversink Fire Company and the citizens generally for their kind and effective assistance in saving his premises from fire on Thursday morning last.

dec 12-1t] A. M. SOUDERS.

First National Bank of Reading.
NOTICE.

AN ELECTION FOR FIVE DIRECTORS OF the First National Bank of Reading, will be held at the Banking House, No. 511 East Market Square, on Tuesday, the 12th day of January next, between the hours of 10 A. M., and 3 P. M.

dec 12-4t] A. F. BOAS, Cashier.

STOUT'S FERRY BRIDGE COMPANY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION for officers of the Stout's Ferry Bridge Company, will be held on Thursday, the 31st day of December, 1863, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the public house of Gabriel Gehret, in Muhlenberg township, at which time also the accounts will be settled.

Those who wish to use the Bridge by the year, are notified to attend at the same time and place, to make contracts.

dec 12-3t] DANIEL BAUM, President.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Estate of Benjamin Wolf, late of Ruscombmanor township, Berks co., dec'd.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT LETTERS of Administration on the estate of Benjamin Wolf, late of Ruscombmanor township, Berks county, deceased, have been granted by the Register of Berks county to the undersigned. All persons indebted to the estate are