Pittsburgh Gazette.

D. P. WILLIAMS.....D. L. BATCH.....S. RIDDLE.....EUGENE BERRY

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PITTSBURGH:

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 10, 1858.

THE MILITIA BILL.—The last legislature did some good things—the best of which the Governor hesitates to approve; they also passed some very poor bills, all of which the Governor signed promptly; and the meanest act of this entire lot is the Militia bill. It covers some 48 printed pages of the legislative calendar, and for that reason is not likely to be generally published and still less likely to be generally read. Some ambitious aspirant may perform the task of conning its multitudinous sections; but the chances are ten to one he will not have the brains to comprehend it. Efforts will doubtless be made to put it in operation, and the public may obtain, by degrees, in that way, some idea of the outlines of the cumbrous concern. We are not so sure that, after they have become acquainted with it in its practical workings, that they will like it very well. For one, from our knowledge of its contents we are constrained to regard it as a very unwise, oppressive and mischievous piece of legislation.

It revives the old and exploded system of militia trainings, dooming us to the reaping of continual crops of colonels, majors and captains without end, and compels every man between the ages of 21 and 45 to train either in a militia or volunteer company, or pay a commutation tax of 50 cents per year, excepting persons in the army and navy of the United States, ministers of the gospel, professors of colleges and school directors, and Judges of the Courts, together with all persons regularly and honorably discharged in pursuance of any law of this State, and all persons having served seven years in a uniformed company.

The Assessors are to return every person subject to this tax in their annual assessments, the tax to be collected as other State taxes and paid into the State Treasury, for the benefit of "the military fund." Out of this fund is to be drawn the expense of militia trainings, and all volunteer companies are allowed to train six days in the year and draw one dollar and a half a day for each man on duty, and two dollars a day for each horse used by them.

The attempt to revive militia trainings will, we think, be a failure; and in view of this fact, the effect of this bill will simply be to levy a poll tax of 50 cents on nearly every man in the commonwealth who is in the prime of life, for the benefit of militia officers and volunteer companies. If the State were to be the gainer by the levy of this poll-tax upon the already overtaxed people of this commonwealth, there might be some reason for submitting to it quietly; but it does not benefit the State a jot. Not a cent of it will go to the reduction of the State debt or towards paying the expenses of the government. All of it that will not be swallowed up by fifers and drummers, Brigade Inspectors and Brigadier Generals, will go into the inexorable maws of the thousand-and-one military companies of the State, whose members, generally, as past experience has proved, make excellent soldiers in times of peace, but prefer the retiracy of citizens in times of war.

This poll-tax will fall equally upon the poor and the rich. The poor laboring man, who works for fifty cents a day and earns a precarious existence, will have to pay as much as the richest nabob in the land. And for what? Will it bring more security to his poverty-stricken fireside or render him a whit better off as a man or as a citizen? Nay. The laws own him all the protection he can get and the attempt to extort this tax from him will be as much an act of tyranny as the forced levies of the veriest despotism in Europe.

We have not a word to say in derogation of our volunteer companies. We take a just pride in them, and they excite our admiration by their military bearing and perfection of discipline. But the State can provide for their encouragement without resort to this questionable method of taxation, and can do it all the better by abolishing at once and forever the cumbrous and worthless, yet terribly expensive, militia system. This bill is a step backward instead of forward.

LECOMPTON LITERATURE.—The Hon. James Foley, Lecompton member of Congress from Indiana—the individual who occasionally boasts of his *four*-fathers—seems to be so much pleased with his official duties at Washington, and the *et ceteras*, that he is making arrangements to have himself re-elected. Among the letters sent to his constituents, announcing this intention, is the one which we publish below. He seems rejoiced that he is reinstated in full fellowship with other "poor devils" who are now booked in the service of the administration. This scion of *four*-fathers will discover, before he is many months older, that the people will exercise their "rite to select" their representatives, and that his "fellowship" with dough-faces, his quartette of papas, and his "principles of non-interventions," will not save him from the fate in store for him. The "masses" will not dispute his right to be a "candudate," but they will nevertheless "chuse for themselves," when the election day comes. The complacency with which he speaks of his personal popularity and his ability to bring the people up to the "poles," is about as refreshing as his orthography is original. Hear what this "poor devil" of a Lecompton tonite has to say for himself in the epistle to which reference has already been made:

WASHINGTON, April 22 58.

Dear friend:—your Kind favor of the 14 Inst. is to hand. I was glad to here from you the indication is the Kansas trobles will be settle to day by the democrat party. Which will be a time of rejoysing the administration has all Redy recentated me in full feleraship—if my friend John L. Robinson will consent I will be Permitted to act with the democratic party agine the Settlement will be on the Great Principles of noninterventions so you will see wo poor devels have held our ground well I See from your letter I will have plenty of competitors in the convention well it is a free country they have a rite to be candudates And the people have a rite to Select the one that will suit them best and if they want a man that will labor for the interest of the m asses they will chuse myself so I leave them perfectally free to chuse for them self

any favor you can render me will be taken Kindlys and I feel certin I can carry the District—turn me loose in the district I will bring them up to the poles certin. I will help the fold ticket some hundreds in the district.

I will be home by the 10 of june and will have a chance to see my friends before the convention comes off and will write my friends on the subject from the custom and circumstances I think I ought to have a chance of the next race—you will do me a kindness by seeing as many of the friends as convenant and Enlist them in my favor I have been quite unwell the last week I feel much better to day—I hope this will find you and family well your friend

JAS. B. FOLEY.

COTTON.—Citizen Bigler has been making a speech in the Senate on the "Uses of Cotton." One use which he did not refer to, although he must have known all about it, is to stuff it into the ears of doughfaces so that they may not hear the voices of their constituents. Has Citizen Bigler heard from Philadelphia?

A VAST amount of nonsense is being circulated over the country in the shape of startling stories of the Mormons, purporting to be related by a Mr. Frederick Lobs, who claims to be an "escaped Mormon Priest." This Lobs is at Fort Leavenworth, and his talk is reported by a correspondent of the New York Times. He seems to have been impressed that the country had a strong appetite for enormous lies about the Mormons, and he has given us a dose that will certainly test its capacity. Among other things he says that two thousand two hundred Mormon emigrants attempting to cross the plains with hand-cart [illegible] perished. That there was great suffering [illegible] deaths in crossing the plains is known, [illegible] multiplies the dead by twenty at [illegible] with the rest of his stuff.

VIRGINIA.—A letter from Va., says:

"[illegible]op is a sight at once [illegible] We have never [illegible] healthy shade [illegible] with the first [illegible] account of [illegible] must be [illegible]

BERNARD'S TRIAL has been very expensive to the British government, owing to the large number of foreign witnesses in attendance. The London correspondent of the *North American*, (Philadelphia,) thus alludes to the costs of prosecution:

"The costs of this prosecution must be enormous. Upwards of eighty witnesses were secured, most of whom were brought from Paris and Brussels. All of them were paid liberal traveling expenses and maintained in excellent style at Morley's Hotel, Charing Cross, or the Bedford Hotel, in Bedford street, Convent Garden—hotels well known to Americans visiting London. John Bull, though he has acquitted the prisoner, and is rejoiced at it, has to put his hand in his pockets, and pay the costs: a fact which, when it occurs to him, gives him a fit of reflection. What the effect in France has been, you will doubtless learn through the medium of your Paris correspondent. If we may judge here by articles in the *Univers*, *Constitutionnel*, *Patrie*, and other Paris journals, it has been received with rage and indignation; but a friend of mine, a Frenchman, with most extensive business transactions in both capitals, who arrived in London yesterday only, assured me last night, that the bulk of the Parisians are as much pleased at the result as the English people are."

In France, what the people think is no longer a matter of much consequence. Under the Emperor those who do indulge in the luxury of having an opinion of their own, take more pains to conceal it than to give it expression. And should there be, perchance, any of his Majesty's subjects who are disposed to give their countrymen the benefit of the light which dawns upon them, care is taken to prevent such an exercise of the intellect. The man who now occupies the French Throne does the thinking and the talking for his people, and will continue to do so until—the next revolution. The French journals speak for the government, and are not presumed to reflect the sentiments of the masses. The people have no "organs" in France, and consequently the press is powerless for good or evil—a mere machine in the hands of a tyrant. If France had a freer press she would have fewer revolutions and a better government; for popular indignation must have a vent. If that vent is not found through the pen and the tongue, then the torch and the sword are brought into requisition.

"AN ENCOUNTER BETWEEN FREE STATE MEN AND U. S. TROOPS—ONE OF THE SOLDIERS KILLED—Our Kansas correspondent, writing from Lawrence under date of April 26th, gives us the particulars of an encounter between a body of free State men and a company of U. S. troops, near Fort Scott, Kansas. It appears, according to his account, that these free State men had good reason to believe that the pro-slavery men were making preparations for an attack upon them, in continuation of the outrages of a few weeks previous, when two free-State men, named Fenton and Hendricks, were killed, and a man named Davis was wounded. The pro-slavery men in the vicinity of the fort had taken refuge there under the protection of the U. S. troops, but upon the information reaching them that rifles further South, they have remained upon their lands, though many of them were quite obnoxious. Of what occurred at this place our correspondent gives the following account.

Last Wednesday, in the forenoon, a company of between fifteen and twenty mounted and armed men called upon three or four pro-slavery men, and advised them to leave immediately. No violence was attempted upon any of these men, and after giving the above orders the party moved on from place to place, wherever pro-slavery men were known to reside. This company of visitors were all strangers to the parties on whom they called, and no one has yet been recognized.

But a sadder chapter follows. These pro-slavery men sent immediate word to the fort, about eight miles distant, for aid. About one o'clock in the afternoon Marshal Little, with about twenty-five U. S. troops, appeared riding in the direction of the first party. As soon as Little saw them he gave chase, and a race of some miles ensued. At length the first party—supposed to be free State men—faced about and ordered the troops to "halt." They refused, and kept on. The order was repeated, with a threat that, if they approached nearer they would not spare them. Marshal Little, sulking behind the troops, then rushed on, when a volley opened upon them from the first party, cutting and scattering them in every direction.

One soldier was mortally wounded, and died that night. The Captain was wounded and his horse was killed. Several others were wounded, and two or three horses killed. The troops then turned the fire, but gave only one round and retreated. No free State man was injured by them. The troops then crossed to the opposite side of the river, where they again formed a line, and after looking across upon the other party for a while, they sent to the fort for reinforcements. About fifty troops soon joined them, accompanied by Brekets, the midnight assassin and murderer. They all consulted together an hour or two, and without attempting further hostility, returned quietly to the fort. Meanwhile some twenty other free State settlers assembled privately in the ravines near by, and were preparing for a *fire in the rear*, had an attack been made.

This, says our informant, has astinged the Missourians very sore of one error in their calculations. They had usually believed that the Missourians would stand about *one round*, and the troops *about two*, but they are now satisfied that the troops will only stand *one*, and the Missourians are sure to keep beyond the reach of even that. This is the first instance where the federal army has been deliberately fired upon in Kansas.—*Boston Traveler.*

THE CONFLAGRATION AT CHRISTIANA, NORWAY—CHRISTIANA, April, 13—The great fire which has taken place here broke out in Skipper Gase, about 1 o'clock in the morning, in the very centre of the town, and in a few hours about 60 houses, some of them among the largest in the place, were reduced to ruins. Although it may be said to have occurred in the very kernel of the town, there were still some old wooden constructions in the back yards, among some of which the fire originated, and spread with a rapidity which defied all the exertions of the firemen, with the imperfect appliances at their disposal. No doubt had these been more ample, and the organization generally more complete, the devouring element would have been kept within bounds, and the calamity the inhabitants are now visited with have been far less extensive; as it is, about 1,000 people have become houseless, and although the visitation chiefly affects the middle classes, still there are a number of poorer individuals who have lost their whole substance.

The value of the fixed property destroyed is estimated at £110,000, and about a similar amount in goods and moveables. The loss is about £220,000 which, coming so close upon the late monetary derangements, cannot but add somewhat to the general distress. At the same time, it will no doubt be the salvation of many shopkeepers who were tottering, as the unfortunate insurance companies will have to pay for their old stock, &c. Full two and a half quarters of the town have been destroyed; but it will be a great gainer in appearance, and at least two years work is cut out for a great number of artisans and laborers. It is not all impossible that the calamity may have arisen from incendiarism as the police had received several letters from the working classes to the effect that if work was not provided for them they would be compelled to take the initiative into their own hands. No witnesses have yet been examined. The Alliance, it is said, will lose about £20,000, but the bulk of the goods and chattels were insured in the German company and the Scandia. The houses, of course, are insured in the State organization, our system of mutual insurance

LIQUOR SELLING AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—In Mr. Beecher's church, in Brooklyn, the name of a gentleman was proposed on Sunday for membership who is a member of a firm that deals wholesale in liquors, to a certain extent. His partnership was for a term of five years, and he protested his inability to discontinue his connection, or the selling of liquor by the firm, but he had resolved that he would not partake of the profits of that branch of the business.—The question to be decided was whether his connection and business, under the circumstances stated, should disqualify him from being received as a church member. The discussion was interesting and well sustained, Mr. Beecher favoring the applicant, and the result was his reception as a member by a vote of 77 to 25

In many churches liquor manufacturers or venders are not received to membership.—*N. Y. Post.*

THE CREVASSE.—Nothing has been done to repair the break made by the waters in the piling driven down to close the crevasse, and the torrent now rushes through with an angry roar that might be heard at night for a mile. The gap has a decidedly ugly look. The whole country on the right bank of the river is flooded as far as the eye can reach, and the situation of things is by no means pleasant to contemplate. Great numbers visit the crevasse, and for once we have the sound of mighty, if not many waters in our ears. Were it not for the damage done we could, wish it might never be closed. To close it up a different plan, we think, will have to be adopted from that which has thus far been pursued.—*N. O. Bulletin, May 1.*

FRUIT PROSPECTS.—Hereabouts the prospect for fruit is very promising. The cherry and pear trees are full of flowers, and the peach trees show well. The severe winters, which preceded the last, severely injured the trees themselves, and they have not entirely recovered; but beside that, the prospect for peaches is good.—*Cleveland Herald.*

THE Zanesville *Courier* says that on the uplands of that section, the fruit is not all cut off.

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DR. DANNING'S LADY or BODY BRACE, for the cure of Prolapsus Uteri, Piles, Abdominal and Spinal Weaknesses.

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PILE PROPS, for the support and cure of Piles.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, for weak and varicose veins.

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SELF-INJECTING SYRINGES, also, every kind of Syringes.

DR. KEYSER also has a Truss which will radically cure Hernia or Rupture.

Office at his Drugstore, No. 140 Wood street, sign of the Golden Mortar. ap26:1aw

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Prepared only by Dr. Swayne & Son, Phila. 1000 bottles just received and for sale by the Pittsburgh Agent,

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GALVANIC BATTERY, OR ELECTRO MAGNETIC MACHINES, for Medical purposes, of a very superior kind, will be sent free of Express charges, wherever an Express runs, upon a remittance of Ten Dollars. Address Dr. GEO. H. KEYSER, No. 140 Wood st., Pittsburgh, Pa. ap26:1aw

FIRE BRICK, TILE & CLAY, of the best quality, on hand and for sale by A. A. HARDY.

New Advertisements.

RAILROAD NOTICE.

THE PITTSBURGH, FT. WAYNE & CHICAGO RAILROAD COMPANY, with its ample Rolling Stock and equipment, and its through connections, is prepared to transport Passengers and Freight from Philadelphia and Pittsburgh to Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, and all places West and South west, with a great degree of regularity and expedition.

The fact that this road forms a direct and consolidated line between Pittsburgh and Chicago, is a sufficient guarantee that its Trains will make good time, as connections with Trains on other Roads.

PASSENGER TRAINS LEAVE

	Pittsburgh.	Crestline.	Ft. Wayne.
U. S. Mail	7.00 A. M.	7.07 P. M.	
1st Express	2.40 P. M.	10.00 A. M.	5.01 P. M.
24	2.15 P. M.	10.23 A. M.	4.50 A. M.

Reach Chicago—1st Express at 7.00 A. M., 24 Express at 1.30 P. M.

All Trains make close connections at Crestline for Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and St. Louis also, at Fort Wayne with Trains on Wabash and Western Railroad for Lafayette, Central Illinois and St. Louis; also, at Forest with Trains on the M. R. & L. E. R. R., and at Lima with trains on Day ton and Michigan Railroad.

RETURNING

From Chicago.	Ft. Wayne.	Crestline.	Arr. Pitsb'g
U. S. Mail	6.50 A. M.	12.40 P. M.	8.35 P. M.
1st Express	2.00 P. M.	9.12 P. M.	6.10 A. M.
24 Express		8.25 A. M.	1.15 P. M.

These Trains make close connections with Trains for Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York.

Trains from St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Columbus make close connections at Crestline with all returning Trains. At Ft. Wayne, Trains from St. Louis, Central Illinois, Lafayette, and intermediate places, connect with above Trains. At Forest, connections are made with Trains to and from Cincinnati, Springfield and Dayton. The U. S. Mail from Pittsburgh to Crestline, being a train for local business, is overtaken at Crestline by the 24 Express.

ACCOMMODATION TRAINS—Leave New Brighton for Allegheny at 6.40 A. M., 12.35 P. M. Leave Allegheny for New Brighton at 9.45 A. M. and 5.00 P. M.

Baggage checked through, and no charge for hauling.

For tickets and further information apply to GEORGE PARKIN, Passenger station, corner Liberty and Grant sts., D. F. PATRICK, No. 59 Dearborn St. opposite Tremont House, Chicago, or to the Agents at the Stations along the line.

To commence on MONDAY, 10th, inst., and continue until further notice.

J. J. HOUSTON, Gen. Pass'r and Ft'r Ag't.

D. W. ROSS, Pass'r Agent, Chicago.

J. H MOORE, Sup't. my10

Pittsburgh and Connelsville Railroad.

ON and after MONDAY, the 10th inst., Passenger Trains will run daily (except Sundays,) from the Pennsylvania Railroad Passenger Depot, as follows:—

Mail Train leaves Pittsburgh	7.00 A. M.
Express Train "	3.30 P. M.

RETURNING.

Mail Train leaves Connellsville	8.00 A. M.
Express " "	5.00 A. M.
Arriving at Pittsburgh	8.45 A. M.

Tickets to be had at Pennsylvania Railroad Ticket Office, Coaches for Uniontown Freetburg, Cumberland, etc., and at West Newton with coaches, for Mt. Pleasant, Somerset, Berlin, etc.

Freight to and from Pittsburgh and stations on the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, will be received and delivered in Pittsburgh, at the "Baldwin Depot," opposite the Duquesne Depot, excepting such as Pig Iron, Lumber, Stone, etc., which will be loaded or unloaded at the Outer Depot, or at the canal Depot, as may be arranged with Freight Agent, Pennsylvania Railroad, at Pittsburgh.

mr26—my10 H. HAMMONDS, Supt

A SPLENDID GOLD WATCH, warranted to be 18 carat gold, and a perfect time keeper, richly worth F