

From this table it will be seen that the refined oil is by far the cheapest and best burner in the list, and must, sooner or later, supersede all others. In Philadelphia, where gas lights have been introduced at a very heavy cost, many prefer the light of Petroleum, it being a steady, pure, and mellow light, while that proceeding from gas burners is tremulous and injurious to the sight. It will eventually be used to light towns and cities.

2. The use of one of its elements as a drier to supply the place of turpentine is of great consequence, especially at the present time, when a supply of that article is not within our reach.

3. As a lubricator, it is unsurpassed when heavy oil is used. It is cheap and durable, and the cost is trifling, compared with that of other lubricators, and will be used for many years, come into very general use for that purpose.

4. Its heating properties must vastly increase its utility. It will in its crude state, as a generator of steam, supply the place of coal on the ocean steamers. It is used for many other purposes which the length of this article forbids me to name.

ABUNDANT SUPPLY.

Associated with its utility is the idea of quantity. Can a quantity, sufficient to supply the demands of the present age, be obtained? On this point we all have our conjectures, founded more or less on observation. My opinion is, that it is as exhaustless as coal. It was evidently intended by its Creator to subserve the interests of man in his highest state of moral and intellectual refinement. If this view be correct the supply will be sufficient to subserve those interests, as well as all others intended. What evidence can be adduced to show the vastness of the supply. If it be true that Petroleum, wherever found, has a common origin, more or less evidence can be brought forward. In Persia, wells have been producing oil for two hundred years, and there are no indications of exhaustion. The same is true as to amount in India, and in northern Italy. The evidence of an abundant supply is found in our own land. The oil wells in Venango, Co., Pa., afford proof of an immense quantity within reach of capital and enterprise. On Kanawha, near the Ohio river above Marietta, at Horse Neck and vicinity, on Duck creek, Muskingum, Wolf creek, Federal creek, Sunday creek, and in many other localities, we have sufficient reason to conclude that the supply will equal the demand, and that this may continue for centuries.

VAST PROSPECTS OF THE OIL BUSINESS.

It is true that Petroleum, valuable as it can never fail of an abundant supply, when we conclude that the oil business is destined to assume a magnitude beyond anything to which it has ever attained, these points at some future time, I conclude my present notes.

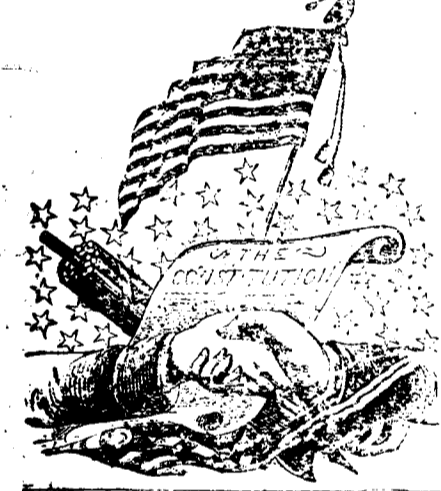
J. P. WETHERS.

MOUNT AUBURN Athens co., O.

The Messenger.

R. W. JONES, JAS. S. JENNINGS, Editors.

"One Country, One Constitution, One Destiny."



WAYNESBURG, PA.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 11, 1865.

MONEY! MONEY!!

The current expenses of a newspaper office in these war times are enormous, and can only be met by prompt payments on the part of patrons. We are now paying over THREE TIMES as much for paper as we did three years ago, and corresponding advances have been made in the price of other printing materials. In addition to all this, the wages of labor are higher than ever before since the establishment of the paper, while the necessities of life command equally extravagant rates. Under these circumstances, we must insist on our subscribers remembering us in a substantial way, by making prompt payments. Will every patron who knows himself to be in arrears on our books immediately call and settle his account? It will relieve us from embarrassment and give us some heart for our work, which at best pays but a trifle and nothing like as well as any other business pursuit.

Friends, lose no time in SETTLING UP.

Shoddy Morality and Abolition Patriotism.

We have just risen from the perusal of the proceedings of a trial in one of the New York city courts, between Thurlow Weed and George Opdike, ex-Mayor of New York. The latter sued the former for libel, in a publication recently made, reflecting on the integrity, or rather want of integrity of Mr. Opdike. These men are distinguished as political leaders in the Republican school of politics. Weed is ex-editor of the Albany Evening Journal, from which he retired some time ago, because he could not go the lengths which his party required in support of abolitionism, whose principles he regarded as inimical to the speedy restoration of the Union. He and Greely head opposing factions

among the supporters of the administration in New York and Mayor Opdike is one of Greely's lieutenants. Weed has the reputation of great sagacity as a political leader and party manager and what is rather unusual in a veteran politician, his integrity is without stain. He believed the abolitionists were by their policy, rendering the restoration of the Union an impossibility, and he has not hesitated to say so, and has thus rendered himself obnoxious to the hostility of such windy patriots as this Opdike seems to be. Opdike was a wealthy cloth merchant and government jobber in fat contracts, from which according to Mr. Weed, he gorged his pockets without conscience. In the publication alluded to, Weed charged Opdike with monopolizing the cloth market at the commencement of the war, when the government was compelled to buy from him at whatever price were asked. He thus forced the government into giving him large contracts for the soldiers, in which he took advantage of the necessities of the government and made exorbitant profits. He also charged him with being a secret partner in various contracts with the government amounting to some five millions of dollars in which he plundered the government to the amount of some hundreds of thousands of dollars. He also charged that while Mayor of New York, he made up a fraudulent charge against the city for the destruction of a gun factory by the mob; in the late riots in the city, and passing and conveying him large contracts for the soldiers, in which he took advantage of the necessities of the government and made exorbitant profits. He also charged him with being a secret partner in various contracts with the government amounting to some five millions of dollars in which he plundered the government to the amount of some hundreds of thousands of dollars. He also charged that while Mayor of New York, he made up a fraudulent charge against the city for the destruction of a gun factory by the mob; in the late riots in the city, and passing and conveying him large contracts for the soldiers, in which he took advantage of the necessities of the government and made exorbitant profits.

Letter from the Senior Editor.

GIRARD HOUSE, PHILADELPHIA, PA., January 6th, '65.

My Dear Colonel:—I am still here and busy, though weary and homesick. The bustle and hurry of a great city are not to the taste of a rural Editor, whose life has been chiefly retired and meditative, but who yet can submit to any infliction in the way of business cares, perplexities and anxieties in the hope of improving his fortunes. The Oil excitement in the East is gradually abating. The vast amount of capital already invested in lands and leases renders additional and heavy investments improbable, especially in our country, until further developments are made. A few yielding wells on Dankard, Whiteley, Ten Mile and other streams would have the effect to firmly establish our region in the confidence of Eastern capitalists, and lead to the liberal outlay of their money in purchases and developments. Until then, however, they will be cautious, and properties cannot be sold at the extravagant prices many of our "oil struck" people at home feel like demanding and are sanguine enough to hope for.

The holiday season passed off most delightfully in this city to old and young.—Every attraction was presented at places of amusement; the shop windows were filled with every imaginable article of utility or amusement that could tempt the taste or appetite of buyers, and the streets were crowded with old and young, grave and gay. It was a season of fun and festivity to every body, while the humble poor, the widow and orphan, and the sick and wounded sailor and soldier, were remembered kindly, gratefully and humbly. Speaking of this Christmas season and this Christmas rejoicing, by the way, reminds me of a beautiful little poem I have in my pocket written by Miss Fannie Galbraith, a pretty, precious and interesting little lassie of only twelve summers, daughter of my friend, W. A. GALBRAITH, Esq., of Erie, who, in connection with Col. KERR, of Venango, (if I may be pardoned for mentioning the fact in this connection,) has done more than any man of prominence and enterprise in the State to direct public attention to the Dankard Oil Region. The "Governor" (as I familiarly term Mr. G.) and Col. KERR are both courteous and high-toned gentlemen, and conspicuous for their worth, not less than their ability. But I digress. The verses, which I append below, are not only beautiful in conception and naturalness, but indicative of real poetic genius, which I doubt not will ultimately give the bright and lovely little girl who wrote them a high position in the world of letters. But here is the poem, letter and all:—

ERIE, December 24.

My Dear Papa:—I think you must be getting tired of my letters, so I will send you, by way of variety, a little Christmas poem, of my own composition, entitled

MET'S VISION.

Early one Christmas morning,
Through the streets all bare and dreary,
A little child was straying,
Ragged, poor and very weary.

Her large dark eyes were humid,
And her hair streamed in the wind,
And she was sobbing sadly,
Mother, why left you me behind?

At length she reached a spacious gateway,
Which led to a mansion grand,
And she sat down in a corner
Resting her cheek upon her hand.

Her thoughts were not of the present,
They were of the sorrowful past,
And she drew up her tiny feet
To shield them from the piercing blast.

Then she thought of her mother's death bed
And she heaved a long, sad sigh,
Then she heard a sweet voice saying,
Little girl, why do you cry?

And she saw before her
A child with beauty rare,
With large, pitying blue eyes,
And streaming, golden hair.

Then she fell upon her knees,
With folded hands, and said,
"I know thou art the Christ child,
Pity me, for my mother is dead."

Then said the Christ child,
"Wilt thou come with me
To my heavenly mansions
And thy angel mother see?"

When the Christmas bells were pealing
Forth their merry, holy sound,
In the gateway of a mansion
A little frozen child was found.

Her dark eyes were uplifted,
And clasped were her little hands,
She had gone to join her mother
In the Christchild's angel bands.

FANNIE.

I wish your readers many returns of the holidays, and every good thing that Fortune can bring them.

Ever, my dear Colonel,
Yours sincerely,
R. W. J.

The Parrot Gun.

In the late attack on Wilmington, by Commodore Porter, we see it stated that some five or six of the Parrot guns burst in the course of the attack, killing and wounding some sixty or seventy persons; but the quiet of civil life, will, as the spring opens, long for the excitement of war again. Would it not be a judicious movement for the townships to raise local bounty to add to the government bounty, and thus secure volunteers to be credited to their quotas? and if so, had not efforts been

made, promptly, to effect this object? Many of the townships, in the last draft, had to submit to large sacrifices, in consequence of delay.

Another obvious duty, is, to see to the correction of the enrollments, that no names are there which should not be. Every name taken off the enrollment, lessens the quota of the township. On the other hand, every name left off the enrollment, which should be there, not only relieves persons thus situated, but throws additional burdens upon those already there.

Wendell Phillips Speaks!

Mr. Wendell Phillips let off one of his characteristic speeches, a few evenings ago, to a New York audience. He thinks President Lincoln is too slow a team for him in the race of abolitionism. Sen. Banks too, in his recently constructed State of Louisiana has come far short, according to Wendell's opinion, of the perfection which modern abolitionism has attained. Banks has antiquated notions of the natural inferiority of the negro to the white race—doubts his fitness, at once, for the intelligent enjoyment of the elective franchise and social equality, generally, with the whites. Not so however, Wendell. He is for doing up the whole thing at once, by receiving his negro brothers and sisters (for he avowed himself, plumply to be a convert to the new philosophy of "miscegenation") to his bosom as equals in every respect. All distinct races, according to Wendell's philosophy, have been improved by admixture with other races. This is his reading of the world's history on this subject, and hence he sees in the judicious mixture of the Saxon and Negro blood a glorious prospect, nay a certainty, for the decided improvement of the white race.

Wendell predicts, among other things, that the Democratic party is destined to come into power at the next Presidential election.

A Favorable Sign.

We publish in another column, the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Savannah, Georgia, which furnishes evidence to us that the people of that region are coming to their senses,—becoming satisfied that their leaders make a mistake in pushing them into the troublesome and crooked paths of rebellion. The resolution they adopted asking the governor of the State to call a convention of the people to consider the question, if return to the Union, is a hopeful sign. If the people of the Union—both North and South—could have been consulted, the precious lives and treasure which have been so lavishly destroyed in this terrible war, would have all been saved.

Parrot Guns in the Navy

In the recent official dispatch of Commodore Porter, of the attack upon Wilmington, is contained the extraordinary statement that seven Parrot guns burst, and that not only were they rendered useless, but were killed or wounded in this way:—that the principal damage done to our forces on that occasion, was caused in this way. We should think such results ought to lead to a prompt abandonment of their use, and that there could be no difference of opinion on such a question.

A Railroad through Greene County.

Messrs Editors:—I see in your last issue a communication setting forth the practicability of a railroad from Waynesburg through the valley of Big Whiteley to the river. Since that time the subject has been freely discussed by the enterprising and wealthy citizens along said route, and many are confident that almost the entire stock can be sold in this county. There is no route that could so fully satisfy the oil interest of little Greene, from the fact that said road would meet the wants of half the Dankard oil region, all the Whiteley valley, as well as three fourths of Ten Mile. The immense cost of iron at the present fabulous prices, will render it impossible to make three roads, so that the only prospect of even making one is to run it diagonally through the county so as to secure the interests of all. Indeed no other route could secure enough freight to justify such a great expenditure. Let the attention of the Pittsburgh and Conneville Railroad company be called to this subject, and have their charters extended to Waynesburg through the George's creek valley in Fayette county where promising indications of oil have been found, and they may secure a valuable extension of their road through Greene county. MONONGAHELA.

New York, Jan. 5.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 2d says: A gentleman arrived from the vicinity of Columbia, Tenn., states that Hood has arrived in Central Tenn., and is recruiting his army largely. He has driven Southward over 10,000 hogs some 6,000 beef cattle. He also secured a large quantity of flour, and corn enough to last his army three months. In order to secure his retreat across Duck river, he had posted twelve or fourteen cannon to keep the river cleared. He crossed his main force, when the enemy attacked his rear guard, and they were unable to bring off the pieces. Hood has conscripted all the able-bodied men from 17 to 50 years of age.

The Examiner has a furious military review of Davis' management of the war. It says it is the duty of Congress to take some decided steps to prevent our means of defence from being thrown away any longer at hap-hazard, and at worse than hazard, through the fancies especially of one unlikely man. The common place expedients for filling up the ranks are more than useless, and must be controlled by more judgment and better sense. Although the condition of these affairs is not now what we had a right to expect they would be, they are not irretrievably lost. The Confederacy is still able to make a resistance and successful defence against all its enemies, on condition its efforts are guided by some calm wisdom and conducted on a consistent plan.

The Army of the Potomac.—Attempted Opening of the Dutch Gap Canal.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Parties who arrived here this morning, by mail boat from City Point, report that the Dutch Gap canal explosion took place on Sunday afternoon. The earth was blown out but descended into the canal again, blocking up the communication.

Gen. Grant was walking on the quay at City Point a short time since apparently absorbed in thought, with the inevitable cigar in his mouth, when a negro guard touched his arm, saying, "No smoking on the dock, sir." "Are those your orders?" asked the General, looking up. "Yes, sir," replied the negro, courteously but decidedly. "Very good orders," said Grant, throwing his cigar into the water.

News.

THE NEW SENSATION.

Exciting Rumors of Approaching Intervention in American Affairs.

England and France to Recognize the South on March 4th.

BOLD MOVE OF REBEL LEADERS.

More Important Utterances of the Richmond Press.

ENGLAND PREPARING FOR WAR.

Troops Held in Readiness to Embark for America.

THE CANADAS IN ARMS.

The Prompt and Circumstance of War as Seen in the Provinces.

ORGANIZATION AND STRENGTH OF THE MILITIA.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.

If stories which are obtaining wide currency here are to be believed, there is at least real danger to be apprehended of intervention in our affairs by England and France. It is known here, and is said to have been known by the State Department for several days, that England has been quietly organizing a large force of men, to be held in readiness for some important duty. An order, moreover, is known to have been issued, temporarily refusing leaves of absence to the officers of several of the best regiments of the English army, and the recent marvellous promptness of the Canadian authorities in raising men, even at the expense of an enforced draft, under the pretext of an apprehended invasion by the Fenians, is thought to point clearly to the fact that they had been instructed to seize the first opportunity of organizing all available forces for any emergency.

The recent notice of the abrogation of the Reciprocity treaty, and the evident determination of the government to push work with all possible haste upon the gunboats intended for service in the northern lakes is also noticed by those who are now watching the signs of times with intense interest.

Additional excitement has been awakened by the important leading editorials in the Richmond Examiner and the Sentinel of the 2nd instant. These are believed to have been promoted by Louis Napoleon, and to have been put forward to prepare the minds of the southern people for the last bold move of the rebel leaders.

That the South is now harder pushed than at any previous time during the war cannot be denied, and the unwillingness of France and England to see the Union restored is well understood. They will never permit the South to be conquered. It is believed that the programme will be in effect as follows: Notice will be given, after the 4th of March, that England and France recognize Mr. Lincoln as President only of such states as are represented in the electoral college, which is tantamount to a recognition of the confederate independence. The course hinted at by the Richmond papers is believed to have been adopted some time since, and the Confederate States have already offered themselves as colonies of England and France, or at least asks those powers to assume a protectorate over them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

Startling Confirmations of the Report of Intervention.—The Disunion of the United States to be Officially Affirmed by Lord Russell.

[From Montreal Evening Telegraph, Jan. 3.] Rumors have been prevalent for some time of an increase to the imperial military force in Canada. It is now stated in military and other well-formed circles, that the Coldstream Guards and other regiments to the number of ten thousand men, have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to embark for Canada. The reason given in the same circles for this movement is the intention of the governments of France and Great Britain, on the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln in March next, to recognize him as the President only of those States for which he has been elected; thus officially affirming the disunion of the former United States spoken of by Earl Russell in his letter to the confederate commissioners.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Failure of the Expedition up the Roanoke River.—Rebel accounts of the Disaster.—Reported loss of Six Gunboats and 1,000 Men.—The Double-Ended Otsego Sunk.—Fort Branch Believed to have been the Destination of the Fleet.—Our Forces Return to Jimesville.—The Roanoke Expedition—Its Disastrous Termination.

[From the Richmond Sentinel, Jan. 3.] The Yankee gunboat movement up the Roanoke river resulted, as is known, very adversely. From an interview with a deserving and efficient officer from that locality we gather some interesting items, which we present to our readers. The expedition comprised twelve gun-boats and several barges, the latter of twenty oars each. Two of the barges, which went ahead as torpedo-hunters, were vigorously attacked by our sharpshooters, and lost thirty-one killed. The crews then displayed a signal of surrender; but before the barges could be secured a gunboat approached and shelled our forces so furiously as to compel the relinquishment of their prizes, which drifted down the river to the gunboats. The barges exploded several of our torpedoes, but failed to clear the river. The gunboats continued their progress, when several of them were blown up. Deterred by their losses, and by the hazard of still greater, they then beat a return to

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News.

Citizen's Meeting in Savannah.

The Governor Called on to Convene a Peace Convulsion.

[From the Savannah Republican, 2nd.] Pursuant to the call of Mayor Arnold a large meeting of influential citizens was held at the Masonic Hall, at 12 m. yesterday, for the purpose of taking into consideration "matters relating to the present and future welfare of the city." On motion, Dr. Arnold was unanimously called to the chair, and addressed the meeting.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to report resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, viz: Colonel Rockwell, Alderman Lippman, Dr. Willis, Alderman Villalonga, Martin Duggan, J. G. Mills, W. D. Weed, Alderman Lachlison and Alderman O'Byrnes, and after a brief absence, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, by the fortunes of war and the surrender of the city by the civil authorities, Savannah passes once more under the authority of the United States; and whereas, we believe that the interests of the city will be best subserved and promoted by a full and free expression of our views in relation to our present condition, we, therefore, the people of Savannah, in full meeting assembled, do hereby resolve,

1st. That we accept the position, and in the language of the President of the United States, seek to have "peace by laying down our arms and submitting to the national authority under the constitution," leaving all questions which remain, to be adjusted by the peaceful means of legislation, conference and votes."

Resolved, 2d, That laying aside all differences and burying by-gones in the grave of the past, we will use our best endeavors once more to bring back the prosperity and commerce we once enjoyed.

Resolved, 3d, That we do not put ourselves in the position of a conquered city asking terms of a conqueror, but we claim the immunities and privileges contained in the proclamation and message of the President of the United States, and in all the legislation of Congress in reference to a people situated as we are; and while we owe our part a strict obedience to the laws of the United States, we ask the protection over our persons, lives, and property recognized by those laws.

Resolved, 4th, That we respectfully request his excellency the governor, to call a convention of the people of Georgia, by any constitutional means in his power, to give them an opportunity of voting upon the question, whether they wish the war between the two sections of the country to continue.

Resolved, 5th, That Major General Sherman having placed as military commander of this post, Brigadier General Geary, who has, by his urbanity as a gentleman and his uniform kindness to our citizens, done all in his power to protect them and their property from insult and injury, it is the unanimous desire of all present that he be allowed to remain in his present position, and that for the reasons above stated, the thanks of the citizens are hereby tendered to him and the officers under his command.

Resolved, 6th, That an official copy of these resolutions be sent to the President of the United States, the Governor of Georgia, General Sherman, and to each, the mayor, of Augusta, Columbus Macon and Atlanta.

The Secretaries were directed to furnish Brigadier General Geary with a copy of the resolutions.

From Washington.

The Electoral Votes of Rebel States. Louisiana and Tennessee will not be Counted.

Mr. Fessenden Re-nominated to the Senate.

His Successor in Treasury Department.

WASHINGTON, January 6.

Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, Chairman of the Judiciary, was to-day authorized by his committee to report to the house a bill prohibiting the counting of the electoral votes from any of the rebel States, including Tennessee and Louisiana.

The vote on the Constitutional Amendment will come off on Monday. The prospects are doubtful.

General Banks returned here to-day to engineer the fighting for the recognition of the Louisiana State Government. The decided indications now are that the efforts to embody a recognition of Louisiana in the reconstruction bill, will defeat the bill itself.

It is believed that efforts, centering at Savannah, will soon be made, under the highest authority, to organize the military strength of the slave population of Georgia.

Secretary Fessenden having been re-nominated to the Senate, rumor is busy selecting his successor. The names most prominent mentioned are Governor Boutwell, of Massachusetts; Gov. Morgan, of New York, and Judge McCullough, of Indiana, and the present Comptroller of the currency.

Another account—No Orders yet issued to the Troops.

[From the Montreal Gazette, Jan. 4.] A rumor has been current in this city for three or four days that a number of fresh regiments, including the Coldstream Guards, had had intimation that they might prepare or be in readiness to remove to Canada; and it was understood to be current in military circles—in fact so positively so that everybody believed it. We learn, however, upon inquiry in a quarter which leaves us no room for doubt, that it is not true that any order has been given on the subject, or any official intimation of such a movement of troops sent out to this country. This rumor was coupled with another, that on the 4th of March next, the day of reinstallation of Mr. Abraham Lincoln in the President's chair, Great Britain and France will only recognize him as the President of the states for which he is elected, and in that way make a recognition of the southern confederacy.

Resolved, 7th, That we respectfully request his excellency the governor, to call a convention of the people of Georgia, by any constitutional means in his power, to give them an opportunity of voting upon the question, whether they wish the war between the two sections of the country to continue.

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Resolved, 14th, That we respectfully request his excellency the governor, to call a convention of the people of Georgia, by any constitutional means in his power, to give them an opportunity of voting upon the question, whether they wish the war between the two sections of the country to continue.

Resolved, 15th, That we respectfully request his excellency the governor, to call a convention of the people of Georgia, by any constitutional means in his power, to give them an opportunity of voting upon the question, whether they wish the war between the two sections of the country to continue.

Resolved, 16th, That we respectfully request his excellency the governor, to call a convention of the people of Georgia, by any constitutional means in his power, to give them an opportunity of voting upon the question, whether they wish the war between the two sections of the country to continue.