

THE AGITATOR.

HUGH YOUNG, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR. WELLSBOROUGH, PA. WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 22, 1861.

New Advertisements. List of Letters.—Wellsboro P. O. List of Letters.—W. T. Urell, P. M. Religious Notices.—Rev. W. Bullard. Buggy for sale.—Bingham Office.

George M. De Pui, of the Woodward Guards, Williamsport, has been chosen Second Lieutenant of the Keyston Guards of the same place.

The Potter County Journal is now offered for sale owing to the ill health of its present proprietor. Price \$1000, upon easy terms—provided the purchaser has a good character.

We learn from the Towanda Reporter, that Seth H. Briggs, who was convicted of murder at December session, in Towanda, has just had a new trial. The prisoner pleaded guilty. He was convicted of murder in the second degree, whereupon the Court sentenced him to undergo an imprisonment of twelve years in the Eastern Penitentiary.

The Harrisburg Telegraph has a very timely caution to the Volunteers against their worst enemy—Drunkennes—which commonly kills more in war than the bullet or fever. A special rule should be made against officers drinking, by which battles are often lost, and thousands of lives sacrificed. A sober army and sober commanders save precious lives and immense properties.

FIRE.—The mills in Lawrenceville, Pa., known as the Ford Mills, consisting of a Flouring Mill, Shingle Mill, and Grist Mill, were destroyed by fire on Saturday, May 18th, about 1 o'clock, P. M. The fire originated from a heated gudgeon in the Shingle Mill. There was about 300 bushels of grain in the Mill, and 60 sacks of flour, at the time. The loss is estimated at \$11,000. \$4,500 insurance.—Addison Advertiser.

Our friend, Dr. John McIntosh of Towanda, is raising a company in Bradford County, "to serve for three years or during the war." Dr. M. is an old experienced officer, and as such has been appointed by Gov. Curtin to this important duty. A sufficient number of men under command of Capt. Gore, and Lieut. Means started last Tuesday morning for Harrisburg to fill up the vacancies occasioned by the return of those who refused to serve for three years. Good for old Bradford.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Troy, under date of May 13, says: "A company of the Tioga volunteers arrived here this evening, having been honorably discharged by the governor. They report that nearly all those who went from that county were here to-morrow evening, and that the 'Bradford boys' will soon follow them home. They all express themselves ready to return as soon as they can arrange matters for a three years' absence.

The 'Troy Guards,' Capt. R. D. Gustin, will start on Wednesday morning for Harrisburg, and offer themselves for three years. The Company is not quite full, but will go with about sixty men and leave some one behind to recruit, and thus fill up the Company, Nothing more of note."—Argus.

Our paper to-day, will be found more than usually interesting. On the outside, we give a true statement from the Harrisburg Telegraph of the "buck-tail" affair, so much talked about for a week or two, from which it will be seen that the "buck-tails" were not in fault, whilst the rascally officers of Harrisburg were very much to blame. We direct the reader's attention to an able article from the Tribune on the Union, and one from the Herald, bearing on the doom of cotton.

On the inside, we give one of the most perfect pen-pictures of life at Fort Pickens, which we have yet seen. It was written by a member of the engineer corps, to his sister, and at our request, was kindly furnished us for publication. Although not intended for the public eye, this letter will be found interesting as a reflex of the life and spirits of the best type of the true American soldier. Do not fail to read it. Our correspondence from Harrisburg, did not reach us in time for this week's paper. We had a rumor that but one company (Sherwood's) will be accepted from Wellsboro, and but two from the County, for three years. This will disappoint many of our brave boys, but it cannot be helped.

The Lewisburg Chronicle, in speaking of the letters written from Camp Curtin to its exchanges, shows up in a happy vein, wherein the accounts agree and also wherein they differ. We make room for an extract for the truth of which many of the Tioga boys will speak: "All the writers agree in one thing—and that is, that Harrisburg fleeced them handsomely, charging the highest prices for everything: while those passing Sunbury and other points on the way down, were treated, gratuitously, to the best of everything. At Chambersburg, West Chester, &c., the ladies furnished 'lots of goodies' for 'the boys'—both for the outer and the inner man.

"One other fact struck us as very curious—and that is, that the Governor, the Generals, the Ladies, and the people, invariably pronounced every Company to be 'the very best,' the 'best looking, and the hardest set of fellows that have been in Harrisburg.' Yes, each one was (privately, and as a special favor) assured that his was a No. 1 Extra! Of course, No doubt. No soft savor. Fact. 'Tell to you confidentially.' Undoubtedly. The home, the sinew, and the flower of the Army. Undoubtedly so. The highest authority. Entirely superior. 'The very best.' No plus ultra. O, susceptible youths! how easily flattered by the Capitulations!

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The war news this morning is not definite, but the movements foreshadowed are of great importance. Large bodies of troops are rapidly concentrating at Fortress Monroe, where will be the headquarters of Gen. Butler, and whence by the Government will set out. The establishment of the new Military Department of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee creates a fresh excitement at Washington, and of course throughout the country. The Massachusetts 5th and 8th Regiments received orders yesterday to prepare for instant departure. They were in readiness for marching in half an hour. It appears now that Gen. Wool is to find active service at some other point than Fortress Monroe; Gen. Butler is to have chief command there. A letter from the Minnesota states that she had made captures of \$300,000 worth of vessels and cargoes; she is expecting that the Rebels will attempt to fortify Sewall's Point, in which case they will be forced to desert at once. A deserter from Harper's Ferry declares that up to Thursday night the Rebels had there only 12 pieces of cannon. They are continually committing depredations on the property of private citizens in their vicinity, causing great alarm and much ill feeling. Reports from Richmond represent Gov. Letcher as being badly frightened, and as confident that there will be no fighting; if this prediction of his means anything it means that the rebels will withdraw from the contest; an act of prudence which they are probably hardly wise enough to perform. Spies are daily detected in Washington; they come from Virginia, under one pretext or another, observe the course of military preparations there, and then return, unmolested, with their information. Some rockets were seen on Saturday night from Baltimore, and a detachment of troops was sent out to learn from what place they came and for what purpose they were discharged. When the detachment reached Perryville, it was discovered that the rockets came from some point between that place and Belair, but nothing further is now known; the soldiers, while there, arrested three men, suspected of being bridge-burners. Reports from Mississippi say that active military movements are taking place to establish an efficient Home Guard for protection against servile insurrections; so it seems that the boasted confidence of the slave owners is not thoroughly genuine. It is said that on Saturday a thousand Minnie rifles found their way from the North to Harper's Ferry for the rebels. A traveler states that he last week passed 15,000 troops in Tennessee, on their way toward Virginia.

FROM FORT PICKENS. FORT PICKENS, FLORIDA. Monday, April 22d, 1861. My DEAR SISTER ELIZA: You will find this letter rather a disconnected affair before you conclude the reading of it. I am writing it, only as I can snatch a few moments each day for there is no rest for us here, night or day. I can at best only give you a synopsis of affairs here. I've commenced to write you a letter to-night, but there is no certainty when I will be able to send it to you. From the newspapers and pictorial publications you probably know of the situation of Fort Pickens, and I will only add that it is a tolerable strong work, and occupies a strong position in reference to an enemy's fleet entering the harbor of Pensacola. Furthermore I've nothing to say, especially in reference to its relations to the forts and batteries in the hands of the Secessionists in this immediate vicinity. Their guns are all of the heaviest calibre, (10-inch Columbiads and 42 pr. siege guns) abundantly supplied with ammunition, the latter material of which they are constantly manufacturing and being supplied. They have, as nearly as I can learn, about five or six thousand men to oppose to us.

When we entered this fort, it was in a bad state of defence, in comparison to what such a work should be, but still the greatest credit is due to Lieut. Stlemmer and his command for the state in which it actually was in. The fort is a pentagon in shape, with strong outworks on the land side. Its armament consists of some one hundred and ninety odd guns, in two tiers. The lowest tier are 24-pr howitzer guns, and intended principally for the defence of the work against assault by storm. They are mounted in bomb proof casemates and sweep the ditches of the work completely. The upper tier of guns are mounted in barbette. The sea front of the work is arranged for a battery of twenty 10-inch Columbiads three only of which are mounted, one in each bastion of the sea facing the enemy's works. We are now mounting another of these guns in a bastion, so as to fire on the Navy Yard, or in any direction we choose; this will make four Columbiads. Our other guns are 42's, 32's, 18's and 12's. Our heaviest guns are toward the enemy's works. It is calculated to mount every good gun in the fort as soon as we can make suitable carriages for them, the old carriages being useless from age and the want of proper care. Our force in the fort at this date amounts to about eight hundred men, consisting of Engineers, Ordnance, Light Artillery, Foot Artillery, Infantry, and Sailors from the fleet. The whole available force, counting the sailors and marines of the fleet would probably amount to two thousand fighting men. We are all busy from morning to night, at hard labor, strengthening, repairing, and putting the work in a complete state of defence, and at night the whole command are on duty either on the regular guard, picket guard, or watching at the guns on the barbette or in the bastion casemates. The gunners sleep at the guns each one of which is double shotted with grape or canister, and in each battery in each bastion is a man looking out through the embrasure, each man having to take his turn at this watch once during the night. A surprise of the work would be impossible, for there is the picket guard on the shores, the regular sentry on the ramparts and the men at the embrasures, and at a moment's notice every gun can be manned and fired, and half a dozen rifles and muskets to defend each embrasure while the guns are being loaded again. As a specimen of each man's duty, I will give you a day's duty for myself.

HOW THE SOLDIERS LIVE. I've not taken off an article of my clothing

since I entered the fort but once, while I went to bathe on the beach. At 5 o'clock the Reveille sounds, and we leave the guns and go to our quarters. We may have time to wash and we may not. Breakfast comes next. We take a tin cup and get about a pint of coffee. This coffee is burned, ground, and boiled in an iron pot, and some sugar put in it. This is our drink. To eat we get two or three sea-biscuits; they are about the shape and size of a soda cracker, but are as hard and as tasteless as chips, and those we are now eating are three years old, musty and full of weevil—this is breakfast. At 7 o'clock we go to work, and work till 12 M. Then comes dinner which consists of a very scanty supply of bean soup, or boiled rice and the mousy crackers or perhaps only a couple of crackers and a small piece of shabby, fat, boiled pork. At 2 P. M. we re-sume our labors and continue until 4 1/2 minutes before sunset, when we wash and prepare for evening parade which takes place at sunset, and this over we take supper, which meal is the same as breakfast. At 8 o'clock Tattoo is beaten and we fall in under arms and each detail marches to its battery, where we watch in turns until Reveille. Our bed is the brick pavement of the casemate upon which we lie rolled up in our blanket, with our knapsack for a pillow, our belts and our side arms on, and our rifle by our side, and thus we sleep, until woke up to take our turn in watching at the gun, or until mosquitoes torment us beyond the power of endurance. You will imagine this too hard for mortal flesh to bear without great murmuring, but let me tell you, hunger makes our food taste good, and fatigue converts our brick beds into couches of down, and as long as the Stars and Stripes float over us we will endure all and remain true.

ABOUT THE SAILORS. April 26.—When I commenced this letter, it was my intention to write a portion of it each day. I've been prevented from resuming it until now. We still continue our labors, and our watches. The engineer company and their officers, directing and assisting in all the defensive and offensive operations. Bales and bales of sand-bags filled with sand, are being carried to the ramparts, where they are built into traverses to protect the gunners and the guns from the enemy's shot and shell, which we daily expect to see flying into our works. If you have ever watched the operation of ants at their labors, it will give you some idea of what can be seen at Fort Pickens—and the enemy who we can see with our glasses, seem to be equally busy. To-day I am engaged laying platforms for three siege mortars, which I am to plant so as to shell Ft. Brancas, and the Navy Yard. Every possible means is being taken to render our work as strong as possible, and as destructive to our opponents as the nature of circumstances will permit. Our food is improving, and supplies constantly coming in; among which I notice lots of Hospital Stores, and two cases of improved surgical instruments. We receive two gills of whiskey per man, each day, for the good of our health. Every man wishes the ball to open as soon as possible. They had rather fight than work, a great deal, particularly the jack tars, or men-of-war-men, who are decidedly the best appearing, most patriotic, and dare-devil set of men I ever saw. Fine, noble looking fellows, ready, willing and anxious to undertake anything that man dare do faithfully to each other, and true to their colors: a hundred of them would as lieve attack a thousand, as to fight less than that number. They are men too, of much more than ordinary intelligence, and should be the pride of our country. I was never so much surprised as I was to see the class of men our navy is manned with—and there are now in the vessels hereabout, one thousand of them. The following is a list of the vessels now here, and their crews and armaments. The frigate Sabine, 500 sailors and Marines, 68's and 32's.* The Steam Sloop War, Brooklyn, 400 Sailors and 50 Marines, 23 9-inch Paikhan guns. (Note.—When we say a 9-inch, or 10-inch gun, it means the diameter of the bore of the piece. A 9 inch gun throws a solid shot, of probably 100 lbs. weight—a 10 inch Columbiad, throws a shot of 152 lbs. weight, and the weight of a 10-inch Columbiad gun is about 15,200 pounds, or over 7 1/2 tons.) Sloop of war, St. Louis, (not here at present) 250 Sailors and Marines—18 guns, 68's and 32's. Powhatan, 250 Sailors and Marines—9 inch guns. Gun Boat, Wyandotte, 50 Sailors, 4 32-pr. guns.

It is 2 o'clock A. M., I am weary and sleepy, and will now lie down and rest till morning, and resume my letter to-morrow night. Good night, and God bless you. HOW THE SOLDIERS WASH THEIR SHIRTS. April 29.—Have been very busy for the last two days. To-day is the Sabbath. We rested from our labors till noon, that is, we did no work on the fort and its outworks; but busied ourselves washing our clothes, airing our blankets, and putting them in fresh fighting order. I put my cap up for a target, and had it well ventilated, a good thing in this hot climate. Our hands are as steady, and our eyes as keen now, as when we were practicing at West Point, and I am of opinion that our nerves and hearts will be as steady in firing at a living man of flesh and blood, as at the east iron ones at West Point. I washed three shirts, this morning; it was my first, and I think will be my last experience. I had rather buy new ones, and use the cast off, for gun-rags, when no more are to be had, I would vote shirts a nuisance altogether. Our style of washing might be something new to you, so here you have it. We have no tubs or wash-borads, but a scanty supply of soap and very hard water, rather brackish and salty, and not very clear either. We dig for this water in the ditch of the fort, and around the hole we lay old boards, soak our clothes, lay them on the boards and soap them over, then put your foot on one side, and your left hand on the other to hold the garment fast; scrub well with a horse-brush. I managed to get my clothes all of one color; not exactly white, except the wristbands and Collar, which when dry, appeared a little streaked; but as I am not over fastidious now, and don't go out in society as I used to do, I think they will do. "When needs must," you know.

THEY GET SUPPER. We had a good dinner to-day, of beef and gravy, dumplings in cans, hermetically sealed, and bean soup. Our fare is growing better daily; lots of nice molasses, whiskey, and twenty niggers, came in from the fleet yesterday. We are not going to feed the niggers, however; they are employed in unloading the vessels of their supplies for the fort. Those niggers are slaves belonging to Floridaians, who hired them to the government to work on the fort (Jefferson) at Tortugas. We brought them with us from that place. Here is an instance of—I don't know.

THEY HEAR OF SUMMER. April 30.—It has been raining, and very disagreeable to-day; up to 1 P. M., so my clothes did not dry as I anticipated, but old Sol came out gloriously this afternoon, and at evening parade I came out all dry except feet. My work at the Mortar Battery goes bravely on. This is the first of our offensive works. The officer in charge of its construction, yields almost everything to my direction, and rain or shine, we push the matter forward. To-day at evening parade, we had the particulars of the defence and capture of Fort Sumter "published in orders" with a patriotic appeal—to our love of country—glory, and our profession, which was greeted with three times three, for Maj. Anderson and his little band of heroes, after which, parade was dismissed and we all drank a half gill extra, to the health of the Fort Sumter heroes, whose gallant example we mean to emulate. The gentleman over the way" as Lieut. Balch terms Gen. Bragg and his command, had a glorious time, of some sort, to-day, if one could judge from their

cheering and drumming, the latter of which they kept up from early this morning after sunset this evening. Perhaps the justification over the capture of Sumter, may be a jubilee over that event under circumstances to be in very bad luck, never have a justification over the capture of Pickens, and if they ever attack the laugh will be on the other side of the mouth. From all appearances I think they were more in dread of our attack than we are of their attacking us. I would here state that there is a man in the fort or the fleet, who is not well liked against them, though we are very glad that they outnumber us three to one. From this letter, you may judge of life and what we think and do, and you not to forget, your brother Robert, he should not be able with his prevention of his existence, and should be killed and wounded ever inform, you are to see him, no more, you will see him in your memory, and rest assured true to his country and died like a man. Your brother and friend, Robert.

MARRIED. In Delmar, on the 15th inst., at the bride's father, by Charles Close, Esq., STARWEATHER, to Miss CATHARINE both of Delmar.

FOR SALE. A large FAMILY CARRIAGE, is for sale easy terms. Also a BUGGY. Enquire at Main Office. Wellsboro, May 22, 1861.

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ENJOYING LIFE UNDER DIFFICULTIES. April 29.—Worked hard to-day, erecting a traverse in the north east bastion—and this afternoon, in laying out and erecting a mortar battery on the shore opposite the Navy Yard. It rained very hard, (when it rains in Florida it rains) and myself and party got a thorough drenching. We got home to the Fort in time to get supper and attend evening parade, which we did without changing our clothes. I have no change of outer garments, my extras having been appropriated by some of the rascally merchant sailors or hands, on board the Atlantic steamer, on our way out here. I am enjoying the comforts of supping wet garments from my hat down to my socks, but if the sun comes out to-morrow I will be dry by eight o'clock, and as good as new again, but I hope to receive no constitutional damage from my moist condition.

We had a good supper to-night, and ate heartily of it. Cross discovered a leak in a barrel of rice, and caught a quart of it as it ran. Conklin procured some sugar by some means, and I borrowed a Dutch oven, in which we boiled the rice, stirred it with a stick, and put in water as it grew thicker. I find that rice increases, immensely as it cooks and requires more water than one would suppose. We put our sugar in a tin can which had contained hermetically sealed meat, added water to it and boiled it till it became syrup, and this we ate on our rice. "Wasn't it good neither?" Ah, how often do I think when toasting a piece of pork on my bayonet before our cook fire, on the parade, of the good things I have ate, with not a bit more relish, and how I laugh when I think of what a face you and some others would make if you had to eat some of the fancy dishes we get up with a spoon made of an old shingle—and off a tin plate in which the mess is made. When a man says he is hungry—or expresses a wish for something good—G-r-r-r, our first Sergeant, will send to him the bill of fare of Willard's Hotel, an old copy of which he always carries in his pocket for such occasions. It is awful provoking I can tell you, and makes one feel like the thirsty chap, on the desert, is supposed to when he sees the mirage of "the lakes which shone in mockery high, fading off untraced, untasted."

Cross at such times, consoles himself with the reflection that he always ate his fill of good things when he could get them, and consequently has nothing to reproach himself with at that score. I will fill out this page to-morrow if nothing happens to prevent, but to night good bye, and may the Lord take a liking to you and all your friends and mine.

READY PAY. All persons desiring to buy Goods for cash, do well to call and examine my stock of MERCHANDISE before making purchases elsewhere, as I shall be disposed of at unusually low prices. Tioga, May 8, 1861. T. L. BALDWIN.

APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSE. A. Looking persons have filed their petitions Court of Quarter Sessions of Tioga County for licenses to keep inns or taverns in their respective towns, and a hearing upon the applications had at the coming in of the Court in the afternoon of Wednesday, first week of June Court, next. Middlebury.—H. H. Potter. Bloss.—Daniel McVoy, R. H. Ball, Joseph Wallbridge.—James S. Campbell. Wellsboro.—J. W. Bigney, E. S. Farr. Jackson.—Giles Bird. Knoxville.—J. H. Spibbs. Gaines.—Benj. Barse, H. C. Vermylen. Delmar.—James S. Cole. Liberty.—Joel H. Woodruff. May 8, 1861. J. F. DONALDSON.

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UNION STORE. WELLSBORO, PA. J. W. BAILEY & CO., Proprietors. Dealers in STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS, STRAW AND MILLINERY GOODS, HATS, CROCKERY, GLASS AND HARDWARE, PAINTS AND OILS, CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES, HAMS, PORK, FLOUR, and all kinds of FARM PRODUCE at the lowest Cash Prices. Wellsboro, May 8, 1861.

NEW GOODS! VERY CHEAP FOR READY PAY. T. L. BALDWIN. Has and is now receiving a large and selected SPRING AND SUMMER MERCHANDISE. Composed of DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, HATS AND BOOTS AND SHOES, HATS AND READY MADE CLOTHING, WOODEN WARE, and in fact all Merchandise called for in the all of which will be sold at the PANIC PRICE.

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