

# THE TIOGA COUNTY AGITATOR.

## THE AGITATOR.

HUGH YOUNG, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.  
WELLSBOROUGH, PA.,  
WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 11, 1861.

that all laborers be either hired laborers or what we call slaves; and further it is assumed that when a man is once a hired laborer is fixed in that condition for life. Now there is no such relation between capital and labor as is assumed, nor is there any such thing as a free man being fed for life in the condition of a hired laborer. Both of these assumptions are false, and all inference from them are groundless. Labor is prior to, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration. Capital has its rights, which are as worthy of protection as any other rights. Nor is it believed that there is, and probably always will be, a relation between labor and capital producing mutual benefits. The error is in supposing that the whole labor of the community exists within that relation. A few men own capital, and that few avoid labor themselves, and with their capital hire or buy another to labor for them. A large majority belong to neither class—neither work for others, nor have others working for them. In most of the southern States, a majority of the whole people of all colors are neither slaves nor masters, while in the northern a large majority are neither hired nor hired. Men with their families—wives, sons, and daughters—work for themselves in their farms, in their houses, and in their shops, taking the whole produce to themselves, and asking no favors of capital, on the one hand, nor of hired labor, or slaves, on the other. It is not forgotten that a considerable number of persons mingle their own capital—that is, they labor with their hands, and also buy or hire others to labor for them; but this is only a mixed and not a better class. A principle stated is distinguished by the existence of this mixed class.

Again, as has already been said, there is not of necessity a such thing as the free hired laborer being fixed in that condition for life. Many it depends not everywhere in these States a few years back in their lives, were hired laborers. The prudent, penitent, begin in the world labors for wages awhile, saving a surplus with which to buy tools and load for himself, then labors on his own account another while, and at length hires another new beginner to help him. This is the just and generous and prosperous system which opens the way to all, gives hope to all, and consequent energy and progress in the improvement of their condition to all. No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty; they are less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned. Let that beware of surrendering a political power which they already possess, and which, if judiciously used, will surely be used to close the era of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon the rest of liberty shall be lost.

From the first king of our national census to the last, a few years, and we find our population at the end of the period eight times as great as it was at the beginning—the increase of other things which now seem desirable has been greater. We thus have, at this view, what the popular principle, applied to government, through the machinery of the States and the Union, has produced in a given time; and also what if firmly maintained, it promises for the future. There are already among us those who, if the Union be preserved, will live to see it contain 250,000,000. The struggle of to-day is not altogether for to-day. It is for a vast future also.

With a firm reliance on Providence, all the more firm and earnest for our present troubles, let us press on in the great task which events have devolved upon us.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, Dec. 3, 1861.

**LISTEN, Boys! Listen!**—The Frankfort (Kentucky) Commonwealth says:—"The rebels have two full regiments in Louisiana. They have half a dozen or four regiments of Indians in the field, armed with tomahawks and scalping knives, in addition to the ordinary weapons of warfare. They have battalions of Nashville (Tennessee) State Prison convicts in the field, (the Bull Pups,) commanded by a beast (R. D. E.) that served ten years in our Penitentiary. What do the professed Union men, who are so shocked about the contingency hinted at by John C. Breckinridge, say to these facts? They approve them, of course. The confederates can do nothing wrong. If they violate the Constitution, the rules of decency and the laws of civilized warfare, it is all right, because they have no Constitution, no decency, and no civilization. But the Government must adhere strictly to the Constitution, and throw its protecting arm around the traitors who are trying to destroy it. Out upon such hypocritical pant-say we. A straight out, open, and avowed rebel is infinitely above Union men."

**THE DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT'S FRIENDS**—Alas for the dead hours of honest friendship! the kindly fellowship of noble spirits! Where are the good fellows who were friends at Springfield in the happier days? Herdson's spirit went up through the murky canopy whose doubtful shadow hung over the battling legions at Buena Vista; Bassel passed from lingering pain to Paradise, honored in the highest by the State that he had honored; Douglass lies under the prairie soil in the dear State, whose half-strangled heart burred with more than the old love for him before he died; Baker rests glorious, in death a precious offering to the spirit of Freedom to which through life his worship was paid; and Lincoln stands, lonely in his power, a louder, silent, greater man than of old, at the beginning to sift its early known upon the thicknesses of his hair, his heart heavy with the thoughts of nation, his mind and soul pledged to a man and self-abnegating effort to keep freedom in his hands the costly treasure of institutional government.—*Hay's Sketch of G. L. Baker.*

**SIZE OF OUR ARMY.**—The Boston Journal says that, if the army of the Potowmack was in line, moving on a narrow country road, with cavalry four abreast, and men in file of four, accompanied by all the wagons and ambulances and ammunition trains, it would reach from Boston to Oxford—not far from one hundred and fifty miles.

**PLAYED OUT.**—Charleston S. C. and Augusta R. I. have, within one year ago used 120 locomotives, now less than four.

### LATEST WAR NEWS.

By way of Cairo we have intelligence of a reported battle at Morristown, East Tennessee, on Sunday last, between the Union forces under Parson Brownlow and the rebels, in which the latter were totally routed. The story comes from the Memphis papers, and they admit that it was a Union victory. Brownlow is said to have a force of 8,000 men, but the number of the rebels is not stated.

An order has been just issued by General McClellan, directing that all officers and enlisted men of the volunteer service now prisoners in the hands of the enemy, or reported as missing in action, or that may hereafter be taken prisoners or reported missing in action, be transferred to skeleton regiments, to be formed by the Governors of the respective States, and to consist entirely of such missing officers and men.

Major General Halleck has issued an important order to his commanding officers in Missouri, directing them to arrest and hold in confinement every one found in arms against the government, or those who in any way give aid to the rebels; and ordering that all persons found within the lines of the army, in disguise as loyal citizens, and giving information to the enemy, and all those taken from the ranks of the rebels in actual service, shall not be treated as prisoners of war but as spies, and shall be shot. He further orders that the Provost Marshals of St. Louis shall take in charge the numbers of Union families who are crowding into that city—having been plundered and driven from their homes by the rebels—and quarter them upon avowed secessionists, charging the expense of their board to them on the ground that, although they have not themselves plundered and driven forth these unfortunate people, they are giving aid and comfort to those who have done so.

Ben McCulloch with his army, has gone into winter quarters on Pear Ridge, near Bentonville, Benton county, Ark. The Rebel, Hays, with 300 men, made a dash into Independence, Mo., on Monday, and seized all the horses belonging to the Pacific Stage Company, beside making a general confiscation of all property belonging to Union citizens. On Friday a party of exasperated citizens of Sedalia, Mo., attacked a gang of returned rebels from Price's army, under Capt. Young and Wheatley, at a place about twenty miles west of the place mentioned. Ten of the rebels were killed or wounded. Among the killed was Captain Young. The latest from Price is that he has moved a short distance from Osceola with a part of his force.

The expedition which has recently been fitting out from Port Royal was to sail on Monday last. Much impatience is felt by the troops because they are not allowed to take Savannah and Charleston. The destruction of cotton by the rebels, in order to prevent it from falling into our hands, is wide spread.

The Richmond papers of Monday contain a dispatch, dated Savannah, the 4th inst., which says that sixteen Union vessels were inside of the bar, and that an attack on Fort Pulaski had commenced.

The Richmond Dispatch of Monday says that it is currently reported that Gen. Floyd's command has been ordered to another important post for duty. A telegram, dated Nashville, 3d inst., says Gen. Floyd has fallen back to within 30 miles of the Virginia and East Tennessee railroad.

**STRIKING COINCIDENCES.**—On the 7th of November, 1837, Elijah T. Lovejoy was murdered at Alton, Illinois, by a pro-slavery mob, for publishing, in a free State, the moderate doctrines of anti-slaveryism. Last year, the twenty-fourth anniversary of Lovejoy's death was celebrated by the cheers of a nation rejoicing over the election of a President from the same state of Illinois, chosen for his adherence to principles identical with those of which the martyr fell. This year, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the same event has been commemorated by the glorious capture of the forts at Port Royal and the planting of the Union power in the heart of the stronghold of treason and slavery.

**THE UNION FLAG UP IN ALL BUT TWO STATES.**—The National flag now floats over every second State, except Alabama and Arkansas. In Virginia over one third of the State; in North Carolina, at Hatteras Inlet; in South Carolina, at Port Royal and neighboring islands; in Georgia, on Tybee Island; in Florida, at Key West, Santa Rosa Island, and other Points; in Mississippi, at Ship Island; in Louisiana, at Catadore Island; in Texas, at El Paso; and in Tennessee, at Bristol, Elizabeth, and other points in the eastern part of the state.

**MEMBERS OF CONGRESS IN THE ARMY.**—Among the members of the present Congress now in the active service of the United States against the rebels, are Hon. John H. McClellan and Hon. Owen Lovejoy, of Illinois; Kellogg, of Michigan; Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts; Senator Sherman, of Ohio; Hon. John S. Phelps, of Missouri; Hon. James S. Jackson, of Kentucky; Hon. McKeen Dun, of Indiana; Senator Lane, of Kansas, and Edward McPherson, of Pennsylvania.—Col. Curtis of Lane, resigned his seat to accept the appointment of Brigadier General.

**CAPT. JOHN BROWN AGAIN.**—The Grand Rapids (Michigan) Eagle contains an advertisement from Capt. John Brown, Jr., the son of the well known Osawatomie Brown, of Virginia antecedents. Capt. Brown is raising a company of sharpshooters, to be attached to Col. Montgomery's Regiment, and Gen. Lane's Brigade, Kansas. A company of sharpshooters, under such men Brown, Montgomery and Lane, will do good service against the rebels, and the hunters and lumbermen of Northern Michigan are precisely the kind of men to do it.

**GEN. PATTERSON'S DEFENSE.**—The most striking feature in the defense of himself offered by Gen. Patterson, is that it has been delayed four months, and men in file of four, accompanied by all the wagons and ambulances and ammunition trains, it would reach from Boston to Oxford—not far from one hundred and fifty miles.

Having thus answered its queries, will that paper give us its views on the present aspect of the slavery question? Now then, let us hear from you.

### FROM THE BUCK-TAILS.

**Biddle's Letter.**—What Crochet thinks of it and its writer.—The skirmish at Drainsville.—The dead and wounded.—The prisoners don't admire Buck-tails.—The name of the Buck-tails discharged on account of its health.—How the boys passed Thanksgiving day.—The prize turkey, and who won it.—George Krieger of Company E, Dead.—Under marching orders.—The Camp Chimney a failure in bad weather, &c., &c.

Correspondence of the Agitator.

**CAMP PIERPONT, VA.**, Dec. 1, 1861.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of Nov. 28th is before me, and I have read with wonder and a feeling of regret, the letter of our once beloved and honored Colonel, Charles J. Biddle, as he declares his determination to resign his commission in the army, and leave a regiment that would have died for him, to mingle his voice among the councils of the nation. I do not wonder that Col. Biddle is about to leave the cold and muddy battle fields of old Virginia, to spend a gay winter among the festivities of a great city, and mingle with the masters of America in the halls of Congress; but I do wonder that he did not come out like a true statesman, and let party spirit be buried among the reverses of the past, which he so unjustly heaps upon the weakness and shortsightedness of the black Republican Administration which now rules in Washington. I do wonder that he loses his party, or the ruins of what was once a party, more than he does his country. Col. Biddle well knows that when the full of Sumter awakened the sleeping millions of the North to a true sense of their condition, and the dangers which threatened them, they arose with a voice that astonished the world, irrespective of party ties, or the names they had learned to love, and said: "Let us go forth to battle, and crush out forever this unholy rebellion, forced upon us not by the Republican party, but by a band of disappointed politicians." This is no time to harp politics, or the cause of the war; it is upon us and it is our business to put a stop to it in the shortest possible manner. He has wounded hearts that he can never heal, for nine-tenths of the regiment that he has commanded so ably and so long, once belonged to the Republican party, but to-day they belong to no party but the party that would fight and die for the Union. I read it with feelings of regret, because he took us when an "awkward squad" of mountainers, and all that we are, owe to him; he has toiled with us faithfully during the long, hot, summer months, until we, to-day, as a regiment, stand second to none in all the vast army of the Potomac, and as a colonel, I have never yet seen his superior. He is just the man we want. He is no coward, but is a true soldier, and I honor and respect him as a military commander, but this does not deprive me of the privilege of differing with him in politics, or in opinion as to the causes of all our troubles. Colonel Biddle is very much missed by this regiment, and without him, we feel like a ship's crew tossing upon a stormy sea, without a captain.

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**THANKSGIVING.**—Last night was kept in this section of the army the soldiers enjoyed themselves eating oysters and shooting at target. Our regiment shot for prizes, a turkey, two bales of apples, and twelve pairs of socks, which had been presented to Colonel Kano by an old lady ninety years old. Private Herrick, of Company A, won the first prize, the turkey. Privates Cyrus Wetmore of Company E, tied, and took each a bbl. of the apples, one half for their own use, and one half for some of their clothes were very poor; one of them was a Lieutenant, and a deserter from the regular army—another was a Lieutenant Colonel—an other an old gray-headed Surgeon. With permission, I passed the guard where I could get a good sleep at them; as I approached within a few feet of the pen, one of them, an old hard one, caught sight of my buck-tail and spoke to one of his comrades near him, and said: "There is one of them d—d buck-tails." One of them was a man that sold us groceries when we were out on our last skirmish; then he was a good Union man, now he is a traitor. The fact is simply this—"It is good Lord or good devil" just as the case happens to be.

The Tioga boys discharged are (Co. A) Uriah Brimble, George Kimball, James Vashendorf, (Co. E) James McCabe, J. R. Ogden, (Co. G) Simon Benson. There are more that ought to be discharged, for the army is no place for sick men.

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