

THE AGITATOR.

HUGH YOUNG, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR. WELLSBOROUGH, PA. WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAR 19, 1862.

THE CAUSE.

It seems almost absurd as well as ridiculous to refute the pro-slavery newspaper assertions, that this war was brought upon the country by abolitionists.

The cause of the rebellion is thus noted by no less a personage than the Hon. George Bancroft, the well known historian and a life long Democrat in oration delivered by him at New York on the 22d ult., in which he said: "For myself, I was one who desired to postpone, or rather hoped altogether to avoid, the collision which has taken place, trusting that society, by degrees, would have worked itself clear by its own innate strength and virtue and resolution of the community. But Slavery has forced upon us the issue, and has lifted up its hand to strike a deathblow at our existence as a people."

LATEST WAR NEWS.

The publication of the recent Military Orders of the President of the United States, directing a vigorous advance on the Rebels at all points, reorganizing the several Military Departments, and placing John C. Fremont at the head of one of them, relieving Gen. McClellan from the command-in-chief of the armies of the United States, and resuming it himself, directing all the independent Generals to report directly to the War Department, and dividing the Army of the Potomac into five distinct army corps, under the command respectively of Gen. McDowell, Sumner, Hintselman, Keyes, and Banks, Gen. McClellan retaining the command.

The responsibilities suddenly devolved on Gen. McClellan, were too vast and his duties too multifarious for any untried man. They would have overtaxed the intellect and power of endurance of a Napoleon. Had he been originally called to the command of the Army of the Potomac simply, we believe he would have avoided some grave errors which his multifarious and complex duties have occasioned. Now that he is relieved from an enormous and excessive burden, we trust that his future triumphs in the field may efface all memory of his past shortcomings; and that a grateful country will be enabled to inscribe his name high on the roll of her patriotic soldiers who have served her with eminent fidelity and success.

The news from New Madrid is still meager, but highly satisfactory. The place is ours; though the South lost that it was impregnable, we took it with little trouble. No rebel flag now waves in Missouri. After several days' fighting, and a number of ineffectual attempts on the part of the gunboats of the enemy, to dislodge Gen. Pope, the rebels evacuated the place in a panic on Thursday night, leaving their tents, arms, ammunition, everything. The spoils are valued at over \$1,000,000. Our heavy battery was established during the night of the 12th instant, within eight hundred yards of the enemy's works, and we opened fire at daylight on the 13th instant, just thirty-four hours after the guns were delivered from Cairo.

During the whole of Thursday our lines were drawn closer around the works of the enemy, under a furious fire of sixty pieces of artillery. The fear of an assault upon their works at daylight induced them to flee precipitately during the night. Many prisoners were taken. Our loss is about 50 killed and wounded. Hollis, who was in command of the Rebel gunboats, has once more gone down the river—New Madrid being below Island No. 10, should the Rebels attempt to retreat that way before the expedition of Com. Foote, they will be cut off by the forces of Gen. Pope. Com. Foote was at Hickman at 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, with his gunboats and mortar rafts, and probably ere this has made an attack upon the Rebel stronghold below, that is supposing they have not effected another evacuation. Should they attempt to reach the Tennessee shore to escape Foote and Pope, our forces at Paris may come up in time to cut off their retreat: Thus the Mississippi is practically clear to Memphis, as Forts Randolph, Pillow, and Harris will probably not long retard the progress of our victorious flotilla.

Latest advices from the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, state that as near as could be ascertained, our loss was 600 killed and 800 to 1,000 wounded. The Rebel surgeons, who came to dress the wounds of their fallen, acknowledge a loss of 1,000 killed, and from 2,500 to 3,000 wounded. We took 1,000 prisoners, and 13 pieces of cannon; 10 of which were captured at Pea Ridge, and 3 by Col. Pat.

terson's Brigade. The Rebels fought desperately, using stone in their cannon when their shot gave out. The force is stated at 35,000, including 2,200 Indians under Albert Pike. The Rebels were utterly defeated, and put to rout.

Gen. McClellan has issued the following address to the army of the Potomac: HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE, Va., Mar. 14, 1862.

SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC: For a long time I have kept you inactive, but not without a purpose. You were to be disciplined, armed and instructed. The formidable artillery you now have had to be created. Other armies were to move and accomplish certain results. I have held you back that you might give the death blow to the rebellion that has distracted our once happy country.

The patience you have shown, and your confidence in your General are worth a dozen victories. The preliminary results are now accomplished. I feel that the patient labors of many months have produced their fruit. The Army of the Potomac is now a real army, magnificent in material, admirable in discipline and instruction, and excellently equipped and armed.

God smiles upon us! Victory attends us! Yet I would not have you think that ours is to be obtained without a firmly struggle. I will not disguise it from you, that you have brave foes to encounter—foemen well worthy of the steel that you will use so well.

FROM HARRISBURG. Harrisburg, March 14, 1862. Two of the ablest discussions that have occurred in this Legislature for many years, have just closed, and votes last evening were taken upon the questions.

State politics begins to agitate the public mind here, but no one pretends to know the future political operations. An effort will be made to unite the Union Democrats, composed of such men as Judge Shannon, Speaker Rowe, P. Frazer Smith, John W. Forney, and many others, with the Republicans upon a State ticket, pledged to a vigorous prosecution of the war against the hard-shell Democracy.

The Congressional proceedings of the week have not been marked by many salient features; the only occurrence of great importance being the transmission to the House on the 6th, of President Lincoln's very remarkable message, recommending the passage of some resolution similar to the following:

Resolved, That the United States ought to co-operate with any State which may adopt a gradual abolition of slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such a State in its discretion to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such a change of system.

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and on the 10th, Mr. Browning opposed it quite as earnestly. Mr. Wilson offered in the Senate on the 10th a resolution for an inquiry into the naval contest at Newport News, and charged the Government with being responsible for the disasters of that occasion.

President Lincoln's late message appears to be well received, and the entire press of the country approve of his views. I cannot imagine why any true, loyal man, can object to Slavery, all must admit, is the sole cause of this accursed rebellion, and why should not the States have pecuniary aid to rid themselves of this cancer upon our body politic?

FROM A TIOPA BOY. FRIEND AGITATOR. Notwithstanding the rude buffeting of the wind, double rations of rain, and a delightful state of the "Sacred Soil," the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry still survives.

We are quite used to hardships, but must confess that our optical nerves gave way, in a measure, when our late Orderly Sergeant (now Capt. Victor A. Elliott) laid us good bye. He said, (in parting with us), "boys, I go, but not to lay aside my armor! No, never again shall this sword (pointing to the weapon at his side) be sheathed, until the last rebel is driven into the Gulf of Mexico."

Who are the true friends of the country? Mr. Forney, in a letter to the Press, in discussing the question of the future policy of the Government, in relation to the settlement after the war, speaks of the attempt of the Breckinridge Democracy, to effect such reconstruction as will bring back into power their late secession associates.

Special Notices. Importances to Females! The Health and Life of Woman.

DR. CHEESEMAN'S PILLS, prepared from the same formula which the inventor, CONELLUS L. CHEESEMAN, M. D., of New York, has for twenty years used successfully in an extended private practice—immediately relieve without pain, all disturbances of the periodical discharge, whether arising from relaxation or suppression.

DR. CHEESEMAN'S PILLS are offered as the only safe means of renewing interrupted menstruation, but Ladies must bear in mind That on that very account, if taken when the interruption arises from natural causes, they will inevitably prevent the expected event.

Spring Fashions. S. P. QUICK, HATTER, No. 135 Water Street, Elmira.

DEACON SKINS WANTED.—Thirty to Forty coats will be paid for a sound skin and free from cuts or holes, at the Brooker's Tannery near Tioga.

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TREES! TREES! FOR SALE, THE FOLLOWING APPLE, Price, 20 Cents. Summer Apple—Early Harvest, Early Strawberry, Large Yellow Rough, Golden Sweet, Red Astrachan, Autumn Apple—Gravenstein, Fall Pippin, Foxst Juneting, Rambo, Jersey Sweeting.

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