# The Tioga County Agitator:

The Tioga country agreemen:

BY M. H. COBB.

Published every Wednesday morning and mailed to succribers at ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS per year, always IN ABVANCE.

The paper is sent postage free to county subscribers, though they may receive their mail at post-offices located in counties immediately adjoining, for conven-

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Ponnsylvania.

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#### [For the Agitator.] MANSFIELD FORMAL SCHOOL.

MANSFIELD GORMAL SCHOOL.

Mr. Editor: Will you allow me to express a few thoughts to your readers in regard to this Normal School enterprise? It support some persons are not rightly estimating what is requisite for its succees. I hear the idea prevails in some localities that they have only to send their alloren here and they will be educated free of cost; it suppose they think free as in the District schools. It is true provision is made by the Legislature for, It think, one to be sent from each School district free if tuition charges, on certain conditions to be complied with by vote of the Directors of the several town lips. Yet we are told that the two Normal Schools at Millersville and Edinboro, receive but very file, students in this way. I think it doubtful if may are sent in here, having their tuition paid by put, c. tax. For if they come in free this must be the way. The school must be made, if possible, self-supporti g. And how can this be done without payment furtuition. This Spring term the teachers are engagil on the express condition that they receive the tuition as their wages, running their own risk as to the abount. They do run a risk, for it is expected the at endance will not be large. (Yet I may remark by the way, it is hoped such estisfaction will be given and inverest raised that the attendance will be increased as the term advances. attendance will be increased as the term advances For students can enter at any time; and if intending to continue the fall term, they can enter the last half

stiendance will be increased as the term havances. For students can enter at any time; and if intending to continue the fall term; they can enter the last half term with good profit.).

Another mistaken impression I fear is abroad is abroad in regard to the enterprise: an impression that the Seminary having been adopted as a Normal School, and so being under the patronage of the State; that, having been allowed an appropriation of \$5,000, and more being gnaticipated hereafter, why surely, the institution wie now be a success. "Uncle Sam is rich; he will now not all bills on the Seminary; and we can get the lighest price for every thing we furnish there hereafter." Precisely here is one great danger in regard to his institution. I fear that old creditors, whose claims were incurred upon the old building which was hurned, and who failed of their pay because \$3,000 fineurance was not received, and all creditors will indige the idea that now they may claim the full amouse of their bills. Numbers offered to deduct 50 perfecent of their claim last year; some more and one less than this; while a few did not report their chaims at all.

This mistaken view of the ownership and responsibility of the State perfaming to this Normal School, is much like the mistakes which some persons have made in regard to the Bishops of the Methodist Church owning all the chirch edifices and parsonages. The Bishops do not own the Church edifices and parsonages; the State does be own the Normal schools. The people pay their money for the property in both cases, the Bishops and the State ewing just so much as they pay in an personal and no more; and in both cases, the Bishops and the State ewing just so much as they pay in an personal and no more; and in both cases, the Bishops and the State eventual parsonages to be occupied according to bules and parsonages to be occupied according to bules and parsonages to be occupied according to bules and parsonages in the trustees; and the trustees and usages in stituted by the Legislature. Stockhold

have the same gener I responsibilities now as under the old chafter.

The public have frieed me in a position where I think I am able to give an enlightened opinion in regard to the best interest of those old creditors and all creditors I have named and the best interests of the institution. My opinion is these creditors should extle on just as easy terms as they would have done if this Seminary had not been accepted as a Normal School. It is yet the people's institution. The State does just enough to save is to the people. The best economy needs to be exertised in settling accounts, and in managing its affairs; With this economy, and by every one who deals with it being moderate and patriotic in their claims, it will be a great blessing to Northern Pennsylvania.

Northern Pennsylvania.

Unless this course is urisued the institution will be no better off, financially than to have remained under its old charter—under hopostering care of a Christian church instead of the State. Every person who does a chore or service for this Normal School must does a chore or service for this Normal School must be think he may charge the highest price: nor must be who sells it anything feel that be may make a great bargain out it because "Uncle Sam has it in charge." It will not do to have any official leeches here. If that course is prisued the institution will surely be crippled. Where is the "People's College" of New York State? It understand its doors are closed it is doing nothing: on I see it heccurse the

closed, it is doing nothing; as I see it, because the people have thought: The State has it in charge, and of course it will go out.

Fearing this style of insatment, I feared to have this Sominary constitution Normal School. I judged it would be petter careful for, and more economically ed it would be lietter carell for, and more economically managed, while a religious denomination had the chief responsibility for its success. Evidence may yet appear that by Eminiuing that relationship the public of Northert Pennsylvania would have been as highly beneatted as in its present relations. But some creditors, and spany citizens, thought a change of relation desirate, and work to bring it about. I thought it would be better to make it a Normal School than to lifew it to pass into private hords. Butter than that night phases creditors should bands; better than that nighy honest creditors should get nothing; and A have beartily joined in the effort to pass, it along It is done. It may be made in this way a great! blessing; but in order to this, it caust be well worked. A contract was arranged this week between the trusteus and the heaviest creditors, which makes its financis laffairs so plainly manage able that I do not expect the rangem to see the Seminary advertised for sale by the Sheriff. But to succeed well, old creditors and new dealers, must be kind to the institution actiney would, be to an individual friend, as if have above urged. No one religious denomination or class of people have now any special care or responsibility for its success. All should be friendly; and those who do its business must see to its interests; Will not all who can, for the sake of the public glod, help, them; and all refrain from throwing difficulties in their way?

Mansfield, May 2, 1865. which makes its financial affairs so plainly manage

Mansfield, May 2, 186 W. COCHRAN.

LIST OF JURGES—MAY TERM.

GRAND JURORS. GRAYD JURONS.

Bloss—Reuton F. Pasterson; Charleston—D. Boom; Thatham—Han ey Lea h. Crimpton—Holland Clemons; Delmar—Geo, B. glight; Deerfield—E. Bowen; Clymer—C. F. Buttin augh; Farmington—W. Case; Jackson—O. Ir scho; Jackson—H. Middnugh; Middlebery—J. El erett, A. Adams, Jacob Hymes, J. E. Losingor: Michaeburg—A. Webster; Liberty—John Ault; Richmighd—William Powers, Rulland—W. W. Bentley; Tooju Borongh-William Garretson; Troga Tourship—Jas. A. Hathaway; Union—Benj. Irvin, W.M. Wilber; Willeword—Befferson Harrison.

Travense Juntas—First Week.

Charleston—Elijah Jepuings: Covinaton Tourship

Thavense Lythens—First Week.

Charleston—Elijah lespings; Covington Township—C. Clesmons, Stephen S. Richards; Covington Boro—J. Hagenbaugh; D. Bidg,—O. Bleir, Wm. D. Harris; Farmington—Jas. Beebe; Galues—Russell M. Smith; Jockson—Ed. Everett, E. bit Tilingshast; Liberty—J. Frick, Sr., Courad Kind, Wm. Merrill; Hiddlebury—Morris Keisey, Williams Hack; Morris—R. Custard; Nelson—J. A. Hammang & Richmond—Wm. J. Browster, Wm. Day, Ruel Fries, S. L. Hakes, P. S. Ripley, Sumner Wilson; Ruless—Eli Bartlett, G. M. Van Allen, John G. Barnes R. Rose; Tioga Borough—O. B. Lowell; Tioga Township—R. Mitchell; Ward—J. D. Hill, Thos. Morgai; Westfield—Zena Atkins, J. Craig, Barton Hunt.

J. Craig, Barton Hunt.

Secon Week.

Bloss—W. Binsmorg, Jr.; Brookfield—Chas. Mascho; Chatham—Oliver Chappell, Charles Howland, Moses Lee; Charlestor—Lacob B. Merrick; Covington Tornship—Oliver Ellick, Jr.; Covington Boro'—L. B. Smith; Delmar—Calvi L Dibble, William A. Taylor; Eltiand—Rich'd Colff as "Gaines—Jas. S. Watrous; Knoxville—Wm. Mark aci; Liberty—U. S. Dieffenbach, Chas, Furgerson J. M'Cracken, Burditt Wilson; Middlebury—Luther E. michtt, John Brown, Wm. Roe, Jacob Briggs, C. A. Cole; Massfield—L. Beach, Wm. Holland; Relson—Sainti Bryant; Richmond—A. Holland; Nelson—Salaris Bryant; Richnond—A. Cleveland, O. M. Patchin: A. Sherwood; Rutland—H. Oldroyd, Charles Sarman; Sullivan—Sanford Strait; Togar Boreugh—H. Fish; Union—E. Griswold; Ward—Benjamin Justin; Westfield—Chester Pride, James Secor.

# AGTATO

Devoted to the Extension of the Area of Freedom and the Spread of Healthy Reform.

WHILE THERE SHALL BE A WRONG UNRIGHTED, AND UNTIL "MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN" SHALL CEASE, AGITATION MUST CONTINUE.

VOL. IX.

WELLSBORO, TIOGA COUNTY, PAL, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 20, 1863.

#### Story of the War.

[For the Agitator.]

## COMING HOME.

BY GRACE LEE.

Yes! Charlie H--- was coming home! Two years before, when President Lincoln called for seventy-five thousand loyal union men to put down the Southern Rebellion, he was among the earliest volunteers, and acquitted himself nobly, all the while he was in the service, winning the respect of both officers and privates in his regiment.

At the battle of Dranesyille the Reserve Corps was called for but his regiment did not arrive in time to take part in the action; and writing home afterwards he says: "It is one of the greatest disappointments I have met with since I entered the army; that of not being able to send a bullet to some rebel heart on this hotly contested field."

He was engaged in the seven great battles before Richmond, in July 1862, and on the day of the last-battle was taken prisoner and carried to the rebel capital, where he was kept for three long, weary months, because he would not take the oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy. Said he to them, "I entered the army to fight against your Confederacy, and not to take allegiance to it!"

While imprisoned in Richmond he, with a prisoner comrade, determined not to be wholly conquered by the traitors, sang the "Star Spangled Banner," and made the walls resound with cheers for the glorious old flag, under which the brave Northmen are fighting. For this act, they were kept upon bread and water two days; and when the offence was repeated, only half rations were given to them for three days. At last he was exchanged, and rejoined his regiment which was engaged in the battle of Fredericksburg, Va.

Howanxiously loving friends looked over the lists of "killed and wounded," and came, by and by, to the terrible sentence "Charlie H-Co. -, - Reg't P. V. R. C. severely wounded and a prisoner." Two weeks of anxious suspense to those at home passed by, when a letter came, saying he had been sent to Annapolis, and was better.

Soon there came another letter and this time from Charlie, himself. "I am better, and the physician who ettends me thinks I shall recover. After I was wounded, I lay forty-eight hours upon the wet ground before I was captured, and when I was taken to Richmond, the rebel surgeon said he did not think I could live thirty minutes. It was a dark time to me then: it seemed so hard to die all alone among strangers, and I thought if I could but see home and its loved ones once more; I could die contented; knowing that my life would never be given in a nobler cause than the one for which I have fought. But the surgeon's predictions did not prove true, and now I am at Annapolis, and am coming home on a furlough, as soon as I can travel. There were glad hearts in the family circle that night, and they laid many plans for happiness "when 'Charlie comes."

Oh! how sad it is, that in this life of ours, where joy and sorrow are so strangely blended, the shadow should always follow the sunshine. If we could only read the future before the page is unrolled before us, we would gather so much gladness into our hearts to have it ruthlessly destroyed by Fate, but we would live as if, each day, we expected all which we loved to be m us and then when the trial came tensions of grief, would not be so rudely broken, but would dilate and contract like the strings of a musical instrument.

Only a week passed by when the surgeon wrote that Charlie H- had been taken suddenly worse and could live but a few days; and if his father wished to see him while living he must come immediately. The sands of life were nearly expended when Mr. II-

"Father, I knew you would come," and the invalid reached out his white, wasted hand. Oh my son! my son!" and the strong man bowed his head and went, as he saw his eldest son lying before him, with the Brown hair brushed away from the white forehead where

the death dews were slowly gathering. "Tell them at home, father, that I thought of them, ob, so often, and looked forward with such delight to the time when. I should join them again in the home circle. Tell my brothers and sisters to remember Charles, and sometimes in the long summer twilights to go to my grave-for you will carry me home, father, and lay me in the old grave yard on the hill-and leaning over the grassy mound, talk to me for I shall get lonely, lying there alone, so long, waiting for the Resurrection angel."

"And my mother, O if I could only feel her kiss once more upon my forehead, I could go out into the great unknown with every wish satisfied. Tell her, that her son did not forget the Christian precepts she taught him in early life, and that through the changes of camp-life her memory was the golden chain that bound him to virtue. I am not afraid to die, for I know in whom I have put my trust, and had I my life to live over again, I would give it for my country's sake, just as I have done now. Father, I am going now; when you lay me in my coffin wrap the old flag, I have loved so well, around me and it will make my death-

sleep sweet. Dear, dear father, good bye." Just one moan and the life-barque of Charlie II- was loosed from its fastenings to the shores of time and was drifting out upon the silver-crested waves of the sea of eternity.

\* \* \* \* \* \*
Yes! Charlie H—— had reached home, at last, but how different the coming from what it had been dreamed to be. There were no warm hand-pressures, and joyous greetings and passionate kisses at the threshold; only, the low sobbings of grief from the half-broken hearts, as strong arms bore the coffin into the little parlor, and uncovering the face let the weeping frinds look upon their precious dead. -

"Oh! are not meetings in this world of change Sadder than partings oft?"

But deep as was their grief, like a soothing balm came those words "I am not afraid to die, for I know in whom I have put my trust,"

them into that land of light and beauty where loves are never broken; and, that by and by, when the life-work was all completed, they should meet him.

So, with that truest in their hearts, they buried him, and winter dropped his white mantle over the mound, an emblem of the purity, and virtue of him who sleeps beneath.

Oh! the sad "comings home," when will they cease? and when will there be no more home-circles draped in mourning for loved ones who gave their life on Southern battle-fields. Mansfield, 1863.

#### Select Miscellann.

#### LOYAL OR DISLOYAL.

I lately dined in company with one of those insane young gentlemen who, as Theodore Winthrop says in "Cecil Dreeme," praise slavery and think they are aristocratic. The young gentleman went for some time, when Mrs. - said to him, politely:

"If you sympathize with the rebels, why don't you go and join them?".

"I, madame? I assure you I am perfectly

"Indeed?"

"Why certainly, I only stand by the government, not by the administration."

"So Vallandigham says." "I mean I am no abolitionist." " So Brooks says."

"That is, I am afraid we are alienating the South."

"So Tom Seymour says." "In other words, I am a Union man but I lont think war can restore it."

"So Toucey says." "But, my dear madame, the war is unconsti-

tutionally carried on."

"So George Ticknor Curtis says." "I mean that our liberties are in danger."

"So Fernando Wood says." "Well, but isn't the war fratricidal?"

"So Ben Wood says."

"Come, then, isn't it hopeless?" "So the London Times says." "Yes my dear madame, but what on earth

do *you* say ?'' "I say that whoever stands against the administration in this war stands against the government. I say that whoever says he is no abolitionist means that he intends to embarrass the war. I say that whoever is afraid of

alienating the South is afraid of irritating a snake that has already stung him. I say that whoever says that force cannot restore the Union does not know that union is the most irresistible instinct of the American people. I say that whoever says the war is unconstitutionally carried on is in danger of being split by the tempest in which he is trying to split hairs. I say that whoever says our liberties are imperiled by the government and not by the rebellion, works and prays for the suc-

cess of the rebellion and the annihilation of all calls the war fratricidal has no more conception of national honor than lottery dealers are said to have of honesty. I say that whoever considers the cause of the United States hopeless hates that cause in his heart, and is utterly ignorant of the character of the people and the facts of the situation. That is what I say, and that is what every truly American man and woman says and believes."

The young gentleman made no reply the heart chords, being disciplined by different the next day, at the club, he said to a friend, Brigade listening to eloquent addresses and ing hours of the night encumbered with our "I dined yesterday at Mrs. ——'s. What an awful abolitionist she is!"—Harper's Weekly.

Brigade Instening to eloquent addresses and ing notes of the light section our arms. We had lain prayer by the there but a few moments when we were grous-

# Wanted to be in Season.

there was a revival, and a Merchant who was non! It was truly an impressive scene. How inight. noted for dishonesty, suddenly became pious many of our own friends at home now engaged and joined the church. He took to exhorting in the same holy devotion, praying God for our and one evening remarked that he had done safety, and for the success of the holy cause in than five hours it raged with dreadful fury. many things for which he was sorry, and deem- which the Nation is engaged! But all could ed it his duty to make full restitution to those not be saved : some must fall ; and as I turned as they charged repeatedly upon our lines, and he had wronged.

ed him from bed.

d him from bed. the Cro-Raising the window, he demanded the busi- heart.

"Is this Mr. W---?

"That is my name."

Why did you not wait until proper hours of conquest, and truly a pattern for all! and then call at my store?"

The window went down with a slam

main crop. Yet there are many who, from long suffer much loss. One shell killed 2-and wouncustom, continue to plant this month, and many ded 7 or 8 in our regiment. Another struck sure to be forming the bulb when our July der cover of the hedge along its side, where we varieties require different times to mature, and to be so unmercifully shelled without an opof course those requiring the longer time should portunity to return the compliment; in truth, edly one of the most valuable sorts, is one of ment and martial glory about a conflict, which enough for them.

October, John Milton, Canada West, inquires down to take up a pontoon bridge, which kept how to destroy the common milkweed. I will us there till late in the evening, and after it tell him how I have known them thoroughly was loaded upon the wagons we were ordered subdued in two years. Let them grow until to follow it, as a guard, to Banks' Ford. I they are in blow: then take a pole, like a bean escaped this tiresome march, and remained pole, and whip off all the flowers and leaves, with a few others, where the arms were left breaking down the stalks but little. Two, or with the brigade. In fact, there was no necesat any rate three such floggings will discourage sity of more than 100 men to accompany it. and remained over night. It was cold and his way into such narrow arrangements with and then they knew he had but gone before them .- Wn. Howe, North Almond, N. F.

### Letters from the Army. Frem the 136th Pennsylvania Regiment.

CAMP BELOW FALMOUTH, VA., May 8, 1863. FRIEND AGITATOR: Fatigued, lamed and depreesed with a very hard but unfortunate campaign of ten days from our old camp, I sit down once more to write a brief and imperfect

account of the important events which have

transpired within the last four days. I should have written sooner, but I have had no opportunity, and even now I do not expect time to finish this letter without interruption. On the 28th vitimo we bade adieu, as we had good reason to expect, for the last time to our old camp near Belle Plain. It seemed almost like leaving home. There we had spent many happy, or at least, contented hours. We went there entirely worn out by long marches of the late fall and early winter, and at last defeated at the unfortunate battle of Fredericksburg in December. We had recuperated our wasted energies, had seen a great and powerful army brought up into a most perfect state; and now

our hopes were high. Our time, it is true, was nearly out, and men who have families depending upon their daily toil, could but think of their needy families, and hope that they might come safely through the conflict at hand, and not lie for months wounded and maimed after the expiration of their time without pay. Yet we were soldiers; and though they were not anxious to risk their lives again, they believed that a victory was before, and were proud to march to the van to help gain it.

The day was warm and the march was brick. Eight days rations and the necessary outfit of a soldier, placed a heavy burden upon the shoulders of men who had become somewhat effeminated through the inactivity of the winter, and many of them were unable to keep up on the march. We halted just at night-fall, very near where we are now encamped, perhaps the distance of 4 miles below Fredericksburg, and 12 from the Rappahannock. In the morning we filed out of the wood into an open field, and remained there till mid-afternoon. During the day it was that the pontoon bridge was laid down, after a most gallant charge across the river in boats, by the Wisconsin Brigade in Wordsworth's Division. This was probably one of the most brilliant affairs of the war. I this morning had a detailed account of it from Lt. Pruteman of the 7th Wisconsin, who took part, but have not time or space to append it. They rushed across suddenly in boats, charged up a steep hill in the face of the rebels in riflepits, took 209 prisoners, killed 17, and wounded a large number, with a loss on our side of only 30. General Wordsworth swam the river

That night (Wednesday 20th als.) -- lay a plain by the bank of the river, where the bridges were across, some two miles below where we crossed in December. During the night a heavy rain set in, but we managed to make ourselves quite comfortable with what we had carried. The rebels could be seen upon civil liberty and order. I say that whoever the hills across, but there was no firing save an occasional exchange of the skirmishers, whom we could see away across the river on the large plain, which here stretches along. The next day passed without event of importance here (though we could hear heavy firing away up the river) till about 3 r. u., when the rebels opened their batteries upon us. It seemed to retaliate. I had been down to the first President.

Not many miles from Boston, some time since, and heaven resounded with the shock of canaway impressed with the eloquent solemnity of He therefore notified all such that if they the scene, in such a place, and at such a time, rould call at his store, he would certainly do so. memory carried me back to the home of my About 4 o'clock the next morning a gentle- childhood, where a kind mother first taught me man called at the Merchant's house and arous- to murmur a simple prayer, and to remember the Creator of all things in the devotion of the

ness of his visitor at that early hour in the mor- I stood beside Lt. Lindsay of our own regiment, but there was something strangely unlike . himself in his manner, and we passed but few words. It was but a few moments ere be was "Well, I understand that you offered to make wounded by a shell, a victim of the tyranny of restitution to those you have cheated. You war, soon, in a few hours, to look for the last will remember that upon one occasion I suffer- time upon the beauties of this world! He was ed to the extent of fifty dollars, and have called a model of manhood, a Christian, and a mere youth, not more than 18, with a mind capable

We had scarcely returned to the regiment "Simply because I thought if I did there before the shells began to scatter around, and would be such a rush there that I would not get we to realize that, though a river intervened, we were getting in danger. The firing was not so fearfully terrific as on the 13th of December, when we were lying on the ground under the Potatoes .- Any time in May is entirely too fire of so many hostile guns; and yet it soon early to plant potatoes, in our opinion, for the became evident that we must get out of that or who echo the opinion universally prevalent in in the 90th Pennsylvania, just in front of us, northern journals, that early planting is more and one to the right in the 12th Massachsetts, exempt from rot. In a certain condition of the killing and wounding several in each case. crop it is liable to be affected by the sort of Many struck in the ground all about us, and I weather that produces rot, and this may be folded up a half-read letter to attend to other early or late, but the early planted is almost duties. We were ordered back to the road undrouth comes one and to be cut short by it The were comparatively safe. It is not a pleasure be planted earlier. The peach blow; undoubt- it is no pleasure at best, but there is an excitethese, and the 10th of June is quite early one who escapes safely, reviews with pleasure? There were none from Tioga county killed or wounded that day. To Destroy Milkweed .- In the Farmer for In the evening our regiment was ordered

They marched all night, and it was mid day

when the regiment arrived. The day was very warm, and the men completely overcome with the fatigues of the march. This was the first of May. Beautiful May day! Bright, sunny, warm, and yet the scene of such terrible strife. Little going on down here, but away up on the right there was heavy firing all day.

NO. 40.

That night we bivousced again in the road. At daylight we cooked coffee, and were ready to march at any moment. About 7 o'clock we moved off up the river. We had scarcely moved away before the batteries were opened on both sides. Just back of us that night there were 20 pieces of rifled cannon, six 20-pound Parrot guns. Soon the sun shone down very warmly, and although we marched at a moderate rate, it was very oppressive. We halted occasionally, but some of the boys were unable to keep up. Just back of Falmouth, as we were resting, we saw a Secesh on the other side of the river plowing! "Think's I," to myself, " sir, you are pretty cool."

All day we hurried along, nor halted even long enough to cook a cup of coffee. The first division of our corps, which was across the river here, was ordered back, and followed us in the afternoon. It was just about sunset as we crossed the pontoons at United States Ford, and after we had marched about a mile we halted, as we supposed for the night. So we built little fires and got some coffee over, when in company with the Colonel and a few others, we walked out upon the rise of ground away in front of us, to listen to the terrific battle raging some 4 or 5 miles away. It was an hour fraught with great consequences; and we could but think it must end in our favor. But it was the hour when we suffered most up there, Saturday evening, when the 11th Corps was so vehemently attacked and driven in. Of this we then knew nothing. The moon shown down from the clear blue heavens in all her wonted splendor, illuminating surrounding objects almost with the brightness of day .-We hurried back for we saw an unusual commotion, and concluded that we were ordered

on. The coffee was just done, but it was too hot, and the time too short, to allow us to enjoy it. So we harnessed up again. The brigade was deployed into line, and faced to the front, with orders to allow no one to pass .-The was a great, humming, bustling noise in frent of us. What could it mean? We must have been repulsed; and for the moment, I could but tremble for the event of battle! Oh, it would be too bad now to be defeated. However, the defeat was not so general as we had feared, and as we approached the front, the ominous sounds died away

Our march was much impeded by bad places in the road, and it was midnight when we arrived up near the lines of battle. Just at this time there was very sharp fighting just in our front. It was almost as light as day, and the rebels undertook to break our center by repeated charges-a game which seems to be common with them during this series of engagements. But they were repulsed, and the firing soon died away. We were sent away out on the extreme right, and after waiting with our heavy loads upon our weary shoulders, for nearly an hour, we were thrown out into line, skirmishers were thrown out to the front, and we had reason to hope that our labors for the day were about ended. We had set out at early morn, had marched all day in very strange to me that we should be left there | the hot sun with no opportunity even to make so much exposed, when we had no opportunity | coffee, accomplishing the distance of 24 miles, and now we were to lie down for the remai April, appointed for fasting and prayer by the there but a few moments when we were aroused to make something of a breast-work for the Even while they spake the earth trembled night. Again we lay down, but were disturbed at intervals so short we got little rest that

> Sunday morning came. At 6 o'clock the battle was opened in the center, and for more We could hear the hideous cries of the rebels as often were compelled to fall back before the deadly-fire of our artillery and infantry. The 5th Maine artillery, in which we have four men, was engaged, and lost 36 killed and wounded, and 48 horses killed. With great regret I have to report Timothy Sullivan, of our company, killed, and Jas. Russell wounded, though not severely. They were both good soldiers and brave. The Irish Brigade drew the battery off by hand. Monday and Tuesday passed off without

much conflict near us, though we were very often called in, when the battle raged in our center, or there was skirmishing in our front. Monday afternoon the left wing of our regiment was sent out on picket. They were not relieved, and have just arrived in camp to-day. Tuesday evening we were ordered to pack up without noise, and be ready to march at any time. The artillery was hastened down toward the center. At about 2 o'clock we were again in line and marched off to the right, The recent heavy rain, which had been pour ing down all night in torrents, had made the roads very muddy, and our progress was slow. It was evident that we were to re-cross the river. It was daylight when we arrived at the bridge. The river was high, though it had fallen, as we could see by the appearances along the banks. The roads were crowdedthousands on thousands of soldiers had been led there, and were being hurried across the bridge as fast as possible. We could not see why that position, which had cost so much, should be given up. We had entrenched ourselves so that we could hold the position in opposition to all they could bring against us. Since learning of Sedgwick's reverse here, it is not so strange. The rebels could send a division across below here, and cut off our supplies, as we have but a small force along the railroad. Of these things I cannot form a sensible opinion from the slight knowledge I now have of the events of this campaign. But I know full well that my step was more weary when I learned, with great regret, that we had lost the heights of Fredericksburg.

All day Wednesday we were on the march back. I never saw men more overcome by fatigue. At night we halted near Falmouth, rainy. I was very fortunate in having a friend 'eyes open!"

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near by who gave me a good supper and a warm bed. He was kind enough to give me a nice pair of soft woolen socks to replace mine, which were worn out and wet, from the long marches of the past few days; and really I could not be more grateful for anything than for such a kindness. If every one of the many thousands tired soldiers could that night have met so good a friend who would not pass by "on the other side," I myself should have slept still better, and been even more refreshed the next morning. But all are not so kind. Few realize the great hardships which the weary soldier has to endure, and few, therefore, go so far to make him comfortable.

Yesterday we marched a very round-about way to get to this camp. We are encamped in a pine grove, and have to-day been marking out the streets and getting things in shape. We have had inspection to-day, and are ordered to supply all deficiencies immediately. So that I have written this in the midst of confusion, and interruption by my own duties, and it is intended only as a synopsis of the important events which we have so lately wit-

We have not been actively engaged, but we have done our share of the marching, and have no doubt much affected the balance of forces. 'Legs" constitute a great lever in the concussion of forces; and these Hooker knows how to use. It was by this sudden transition of forces that he intended to cross the river; and he did cross is successfully. And it was by the same kind of power that the Rebels com-pelled Sedgwick to retreat, i. e. by a sudden movement of the right of Lee's army, which swung around and drove him off before reinforcements could arrive. But of these things you know better than I. JNO. I. MITCHELL.

Respectfully yours, From the 149th Pennsylvania Regiment.

[The following relative to the famous march of the 149th Reg't is taken from a private letter. It will be found interesting by those who have friends in that Regiment .- Ep.]

CAMP NEAR BELLE PLAIN, April 24, 1863. \* At 3 o'clock, P. M., the 149th \* \* \* \* At 3 o'clock, P. M., the 149th Reg't P. V. started on their first expedition (and if they are all to be like this I hope their last). We marched without meeting any very serious mud holes until dark, by which time we were about six miles from camp, going we knew not where, and some of the boys pretty well tired out. We thought of course they would soon halt, but onward was the word and onward we went. About 9 o'clock we entered a piece of woods, or rather swamp hole, about two miles in length, through which the mud was half leg deep and some of the way over the top of our boots. It was so dark a person could not see where the next step would land him, whether on dry land or into the Rappahannock. After emerging from this we entered a cornfield in which between the rows of which ran a respectable creek. It was laughable to see the boys tumble around in the mud (or rather to hear the remarks made, for it was too dark to permit of seeing). But there is an end to all things, so there was to this. About 2 o'clock A. M., we were halted after marching about fourteen miles through the mud and fording several streams knee deep, perfectly exhausted, with no place to lie down but the kold. muddy ground, and no covering except a small rubber blanket. But the farms were very well fenced in this neighborhood, so we did suffer for the want of fire. As soon as it was light we were all stirring, some going off in search of water, while others replenished the fires. We scarcely had time to boil a little coffee when we were ordered forward. I now had an opportunity of viewing the country, and was surprised to see so fine a country. I expected to see all Virginia like the specimen I had seen around Bell Plains ... I was, however, somewhat mistakev. But the whole country wore a desolate and forsaken appearance, owing probably to the fact that a large portion of the population have taken advantage of Old Abes' proclamation and started business on their own hooks. I conversed with several of & the inhabitants, one of them told me that, at at the commencement of the rebellion, be had fourteen negroes, only six of whom remained : while his neighbor, out of thirty, had only seven or eight left. As we approached the river the country became almost level, the buildings were all miserable little log hovels, around which the peach trees were in full bloom and the gardens were as forward as ours are in June. After marching about 22 miles we came to the Rappahannock at Port Royal and halted in full sight of the town, and made arrangements for battle. The troops, numbering about 4800, under command of Maj. Gen. Doubleday, were marched down to the river and drawn up in line of battle. The pontoon boats were being constructed as fast as possible and every thing to our eyes looked as though the intention was to throw us across the river. The artillery, consisting of two six-pounders made of a pine log and covered with rubber blankets came dashing up, and took a position in front of our troops as if to cover-our crossing. Just & at night two boats were put into the river and all was excitement. Then the old General rode up and informed us that we were not to cross at all: that the movement was all a ruse, to attract the attention of the enemy while other movements were being made. Then for the first time the boys got out of patience. They thought it was too bad after suffering the hardships of such a night march, with the expectation of getting a chance of having a brush with the rebels, to be ordered back without being allowed to even see a rebel, was almost too much of a tax on their patience. As soon as it was dark we returned about two miles and

A. B. W. (Farmington.) "AMINIDAB, who is Cupid ?" "One of the boys. He is said to be as blind as a bat; but if he is blind he'll do to travel. He found his way into Aunt Nan's affections, and I wouldn't have thought any critter could have worked

encamped for the night, but I must close for

this time. In my next I will take you back to

camp and send you the order from Gen. Dou-

bleday congratulating us on our good behavior.