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THE Weekly "Patriot & Union," THE CHEAPEST PAPER PUBLISHED IN PENNSYLVANIA! AND THE ONLY DEMOCRATIC PAPER PUBLISHED AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT!

The Patriot & Union. FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 27, 1863. DICKENS'S CRADLE SONG OF THE POOR. Hark, I cannot bear to see thee stretch thy hands in vain; I have got no bread to give thee.

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PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED, BY O. BARRETT & CO. THE DAILY PATRIOT AND UNION will be served to subscribers residing in the Borough of Harrisburg, and to those who are unable to call, by the carrier, at the rate of five cents per copy, payable to the carrier.

Miscellaneous.

PENSIONS, BOUNTIES, BACK PAY, War Claims and Claims for Indemnity.

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AT THE LOW PRICE OF ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS! WHEN SUBSCRIBED FOR IN CLUBS OF NOT LESS THAN TEN COPIES TO ONE ADDRESS!

We have been compelled to raise the club subscription price to one dollar and fifty cents in order to save ourselves from actual loss. Paper has risen, including taxes, about twenty-five per cent., and is still rising; and when we tell our Democratic friends, candidly, that we can no longer afford to sell the Weekly Patriot and Union at one dollar a year, and must add fifty cents or stop the publication, we trust they will appreciate our position, and, instead of withholding their subscription, will go to work with a will to increase our list in every county in the State.

We have endeavored, and shall continue our efforts, to make the paper useful as a party organ, and welcome as a news messenger to every family. We flatter ourselves that it has not been without some influence in producing the glorious revolution in the politics of the State achieved at the late election; and if fearlessness in the discharge of duty, fidelity to the principles of the party, and an anxious desire to promote its interests, with some experience and a moderate degree of ability, can be made serviceable hereafter, the Weekly Patriot and Union will not be less useful to the party or less valued by its friends.

The same reasons which induce us to raise the price of the Weekly Patriot and Union will not be less useful to the party or less valued by its friends. The additional cost to the printer will be but trifling; and, while we cannot persuade ourselves that the change necessarily made will result in any diminution of our daily circulation, yet, were we certain that such would be the consequence, we should still be compelled to make it, or suffer ourselves upon the generosity, or, rather, the justice of the public, and abide their verdict, whatever it may be.

The period for which many of our subscribers have paid for their paper being on the eve of expiring, we take the liberty of issuing this notice, reminding them of the same, in order that they may RENEW THEIR CLUBS.

We shall also take it as an especial favor if our present subscribers will urge upon the friends of the paper the fact that the Patriot and Union is the only Democratic paper printed in Harrisburg, and considering the large amount of reading matter, embracing all the current news of the day, and TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

From wherever it is to the moment the paper goes to press, political, miscellaneous, general and local news market reports, is decidedly THE CHEAPEST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THE STATE!

There is scarcely a village of 1000 in the State in which a club cannot be raised if the proper exertion be made, and quickly there are few places in which one or more energetic men cannot be found who are in favor of the dissemination of sound Democratic doctrines, who would be willing to make the effort to raise a club.

Let us hear from you. The existing war, and the approaching session of Congress and the State Legislature, are invested with unusual interest, and every man should have the news.

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WEEKLY PATRIOT AND UNION, Published every Thursday. Single copy one year, in advance.....\$2 00 Ten copies to one address.....15 00 Subscriptions may commence at any time. PAY ALWAYS IN ADVANCE. We are obliged to make this imperative. In every instance cash must accompany subscription. Any person sending us a club of twenty subscribers to the Weekly will be entitled to a copy for his services. The price, even at the advanced rate is so low that we cannot offer greater inducements than this. Additions may be made at any time to a club of subscribers by remitting one dollar and fifty cents for each additional name. It is not necessary to read as the names of those constituting a club, as we cannot undertake to address each paper to club subscribers separately. Specimen copies of the Weekly will be sent to all who desire it.

O. BARRETT & CO., Harrisburg, Pa. N. B.—The following Law, passed by Congress in 1860, denotes the duty of Postmasters in relation to the delivery of newspapers to club subscribers: (See Laws, Brown & Co.'s edition of the Laws of 1860, page 32, chapter 32, section 1100.)

"Provided, however, that where packages of newspapers or periodicals are received at any post office directed to one address, and the names of the club subscribers to which they belong, with the number of each copy in advance, shall be handed to the postmaster, he shall deliver the same to their respective owners."

To enable the Postmaster to comply with this regulation, it will be necessary that the club, and paid a quarter's (or year's) postage in advance. The uniform courtesy of Postmasters, affords the assurance that they will cheerfully accommodate club subscribers, and the latter should take care that the postage, which is but a trifle in each case, be paid in advance. Send on the clubs.

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Having received an agency for the sale of Trevorton Coal, I take pleasure in saying that the coal is of the best quality, and is free from all impurities and does not clinker. For domestic and steam purposes this coal cannot be excelled.

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FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 27, 1863. DICKENS'S CRADLE SONG OF THE POOR. Hark, I cannot bear to see thee stretch thy hands in vain; I have got no bread to give thee.

When God sent thee first to bless me, Proud and thankful, too, was I; Now my darling, I thy mother, Almost blind, and almost dead, Sleep, my darling—thou art weary; God is good, but life is dreary.

I have seen thy beauty fading, Thy strength sink day by day— I have seen thee grow so pale, I could make all my mother, I could make all my mother, I could make all my mother, I could make all my mother.

I am wasted, dear, with hunger, And my brain is sore oppressed; I have scarcely strength to press thee, Wan and feeble, to my breast. Patience, baby, God will help us, Death will come to rest us, He will take us to his heaven, Where no want or pain can be; God is good, but life is dreary.

EARTH-OIL IN AMERICA. From Chambers' Journal. Petroleum, or earth-oil, has long been known to exist in different parts of the world, under the various names and shapes of Barbadoes tar, Burgundy petroleum, Cuba chappote, and Trinidad asphaltum, which last seems to be merely petroleum of the thicker kind, hardened by exposure to the sun and air, and in many other conditions of density varying with location.

From the compact asphaltum of Trinidad to the light and volatile earth-oils, there appears a line of close relationship running through the tarry and viscid mineral pitch and the dense semi-fluid petroleum.

At Gaspé, Canada East, petroleum oozes out of a sandstone cliff, and in calm weather spreads itself over a large portion of the sea. In the fissures of this sandstone cliff, where the petroleum has been prevented from reaching the ocean, it appears hardened, like the pitch of Cuba, having parted with its lighter portions by evaporation. The petroleum, however, of which it is proposed to speak more particularly, is that of the American oil region, a district from which, within the past two years, large quantities have been procured, and from which there is a probability of a supply being derived for years to come, which will materially modify or change the business of people engaged in providing that prime necessity of civilized life—a safe and economical light.

The line of country along which, within a range of one to two hundred miles on each side, the earth-oil is obtained in America, can be best observed by placing a straight edge or ruler on the map of North America, with one end at Gaspé, Bay, Canada East, and the other at Houston, Texas. A line drawn the full length of the distance between these points will pass through the country drained by tributaries of the great rivers west of the Allegheny range, which consists of hills under various names, extending from the low lands of the Mississippi outlet through Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, the province of New Brunswick, and terminating in the rugged cliffs of Ship Harbour, Gaspé.

The line between Gaspé and the State of New York is as yet wild and poorly cultivated, with the exception of the valley of the St. Lawrence, and has not yet been explored for petroleum. When, however, we reach Seneca, in Seneca county, New York, we find petroleum under the name of salt-wells oil, obtained with the water of the salt-wells of that part of the State. This was probably the first petroleum obtained by white men in America. In Pennsylvania there are indications which show that the Indians long ago used it as a medicine, probably like the Barbadoes tar or British oil of the apothecaries.

The first discovery of petroleum in this country was made in 1859, at Plover, in the State of Pennsylvania. It was not long before it was being used as a remedy for stiff joints and aching limbs. It was not, however, until the discovery of the mode of extracting a marketable burning oil from coal, and the difficulties and expense of obtaining such had been fully understood, that those persons engaged in its manufacture in the western coal-fields began to consider the practicability of obtaining an oil already distilled, and of much better quality, directly from the earth. In 1859, Pennsylvania, which contains a portion of the Allegheny coal-field, upon which numerous works for distilling crude oil from the cannel coals and shales were located, was the scene of the first operations of the "oil borers," as they were called. Their attention was attracted to the earth oil as a means of supplying their wants, by observing that when the small "runs" or water-courses were dammed, or when the water had collected in stagnant pools in midsummer, an oily scum floated upon its surface, and could be seen oozing from the bed and sides of the stream.

In some places the petroleum escaped, accompanied by large quantities of carburetted hydrogen gas, which bubbled up in the pools, and often gave them the appearance of being boiling caldrons. These water-courses were followed up; and the places where the escape of gas was greatest were marked as the best "borings;" for the idea of those who were engaged in these explorations was to tap the source of the petroleum by means of artesian wells, and by the same appliances which are used for sinking those wells. "Boring for oil" was by no means so difficult a matter as manufacturing the fine oils from coal—a process requiring great experience and chemical knowledge; and therefore the number of wells which were begun by the speculators in petroleum stood in no danger of falling for want of skill. The first attempt was so successful as to lead numbers of people to plunge into the oil business with great ardor.

The farmers, reflecting that there was no probability of any one getting the petroleum without first boring through the soil, claimed large shares in the prospective profits of the wells, and in some instances demanded and received, as their portion of the proceeds, as much as one half of the oil obtained, and a round sum besides in yearly rental. Lots were staked off like mining claims in Australia. Wells of four inches diameter were sunk within a few feet of each other, and many disputes arose between the well owners, as each would declare that the other was tapping his own peculiar oil vat below. The "oil fever" increased with the number of wells, and in a few months the counties of Venango, Crawford and Warren became as lively as spectacles of speculation, enterprise and busy industry as could well be imagined.

The price of the earth-oil, when it was first obtained, was from forty to forty-five cents per American gallon, which is one fifth less than the imperial gallon; but the owners of the soil tried very hard to raise the price to seventy cents, and succeeded so far as to increase the speculative feeling. In 1859, the wells yielded not less than two million gallons, and their

number constantly increased. The proprietors of the large coal districts endeavored to moderate the yield of petroleum, and went so far as to say that the wells would soon be dry, pointing to several which had begun to fall as a proof of their assertion; but by the summer of 1860, the oil wells took a fresh start, some enterprising borer going deeper than his neighbors, having struck that great desideratum of the well-owner, a "flowing well," one in which the oil is forced up by the pressure of the gas below, and for a considerable time yields its oil free from water, without the assistance of a pump, as in the "pumping well," where water to the extent of fifty per cent. is brought up with the oil.

This flowing well gave a new impetus to the business, and if speculation in petroleum lands and privileges had been wild before, it was now stark mad. To strike the deep fissures of the rock below was now the aim of all. Many of the pumping wells which were hardly paying were sunk deeper, and often paid their own outlay by pouring out petroleum at the enormous rate of sixteen thousand gallons per day—the hither-to pent up gas below forcing it out, for days and weeks together, so rapidly that in many cases it was lost for want of vats or casks at hand in which to store it. The land-owners became still more exacting in their demands, and many stories are told of the effect of the sudden wealth which poured into the oil region upon persons unaccustomed to handle large sums of ready money; for although the American farmer may possess the means of a comfortable subsistence, yet, in the interior, cash is generally rare with him.

An instance of the effect of the prospect of sudden wealth upon a farmer's daughter is told with great unctious by the oil men. The father of the girl lived in a poor cabin by the side of Oil creek, and because he was not so prosperous as his neighbors, was not considered as of the best rank in country society. An oil well had been sunk on the opposite side of the creek, and had proved to be most successful, and had induced a speculator to offer the farmer a large sum of money and a large share of the oil for the privilege of boring on his land. The bargain was made and the work in progress. The daughter and her sister had not been well treated by the country swains, when they happened to meet at singing school or meeting-house, and the prospect of being as rich as their neighbors was, of course, most agreeable to them. After the well had been bored, one young fellow, who seems to have had an eye to business, became more attentive to her heroine, and after "meeting" was over, would offer his arm, or tender some other polite attention. These little evidences of interest were gratefully received by the hitherto neglected girl; and the people of the place at once set the pair down as "keeping company."

The American for "engaged." One Sunday morning as she came out of the meeting house door, the young man stepped forward, as usual, to offer his attentions, but, drawing herself up with the most scornful air in the world, she cut him dead with the words:—"No, sir, no; Dad, has struck her!" Which was the fact. Dad, as she termed her father, had struck oil the night before, and she was now the daughter of a first class oil millionaire, and could mate only with one of her own set.

With the influx of people engaged in the petroleum business, came the means of supplying their various wants, and towns and villages soon rose along the principal streams in the oil region. The labors of the oil well borers were now directed by experience, and many of them became very expert in their pursuit, and were able to explore the adjoining States with practiced eyes. The salt wells of the Great Kanawha river, in Virginia, had always yielded a small quantity of petroleum with the brine, and the country lying between that river and Oil creek, in Pennsylvania, and on the line of which mention has been made, in a short time was explored with good results. On the Little Kanawha and its tributaries numerous very fruitful wells have been discovered; one of them, the Bunning Spring, quite eclipsing the best of those of Pennsylvania. In Ohio, also, some very good petroleum wells have been opened. Southward, the petroleum is found in Kentucky, in various conditions; on the Big Sandy river in that State it has exuded from the face of a sandstone cliff, and formed a deep layer of pitch along the banks of the stream. Petroleum has also been found at various places in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama; and at the Sour lake, not far from Liberty, in Texas, it has been discovered in the shape of a thick pitch, not unlike that of Cuba.

The petroleum of the Southern States is not yet fully developed, but there is little doubt that they will yet supply the earth oil in abundance. If peace should again be established between the Northern and Southern States, and the Northern speculators be permitted to reside in the South unmolested, no doubt they will endeavor to develop the oil wells to as great a degree as those of Pennsylvania and Western Virginia.

The earth-oils, as at present procured, vary in specific gravity from 756° to 838°, at a temperature of 60° Fahrenheit; the average gravity being about 830°. The Ohio wells yield a heavier oil; in some cases, like that of Canada West, it is quite tar-like in consistency. The number of oil wells at present in active operation in America is over one thousand, and the extent to which they will supply the oil for the present year will not be much short of ten millions of American gallons. It is exported largely to Europe from the Atlantic ports of the Northern States; and, besides, is largely consumed in the States generally. One thousand dollars is the average cost of the labor and plant required for an ordinary well of one hundred feet or so in depth. The petroleum is delivered at the seaport at a price varying from twenty to twenty-two cents per American gallon. From these facts will be seen the importance of a business which, but a few years ago, was wholly neglected.

Regarding the origin of these earth-oils there have been many theories. One writer states that at a period when the earth was in a highly heated condition, asphaltum was volatilized and suspended over the earth in the form of a vast cloud; and that when the earth began to cool, the lighter portion of the asphaltum began to condense in the cooler latitudes, and descended upon the disturbed strata of the Allegheny coal-fields and the oil-producing States; and that the hard asphaltum of Trinidad is nothing more than the residuum which might be expected after distillation on so grand a scale! Another states that the great reservoirs of petroleum are the work of the coral insect, and that the earth-oil occurs in rocks far below the coal formation. Another believes the petroleum to be the bitumen of the anthracite coal, which has been extracted from it by heat on the east side of the Alleghenias, and ejected on the west side of those hills. Others suppose that petroleum is merely the gas from the deep coal-beds, which may be subjected to a low heat, condensed upon coming in contact with water which fills the fissures of the strata in the coal-fields; and that the gas which escapes so violently when the reservoirs are tapped, is merely the free gas which occurs when coal is distilled in retorts, and which is only condensed by artificial means. There is a very strong resemblance between

petroleum and the crude oil distilled from coal; but similarity of origin ought to have produced oils precisely similar, which it must be admitted they are not. As it is, there is a wide field for the conjectures of both the scientific and unscientific observer.

ABOUT DIAMONDS. The memory of man runneth not to the contrary—pearls, diamonds, ostrich feathers, and costly perfumes, have been objects of admiration since their first discovery. As such they are referred to in Holy Writ. For all this, the diamond is but a bit of charcoal—the pearl the product of disease in a shell-fish—an emerald will delight to adorn her head with appendages pulled from the body of an untidy bird—and chemistry establishes the fact that the elements from which the richest perfumes are produced are unmentionable for their filth and offensiveness.

In the time of Ptolemy, the emerald was accounted more beautiful than the diamond; but it must be remembered that the art of cutting the diamond in brilliant was unknown to the ancients.

We lately went to see "the great American diamond," as it has been called, now exhibited at the store of Crosby & Hunnewell. It is a beautiful little jewel, of not more than twelve carats, very skillfully cut, and of great brilliancy.

In Dodsley's Annual Register, vol. 8, p. 154, we have an account of a valuable diamond found in the stomach of a woodcock. How it came there we know not, but we know well enough how valuable diamonds find their way into the stomachs and intestines of Brazilian slaves. Many describe the process in his travels. Those who work at the mines are sorely tempted to swallow the smaller pebbles. When they are suspected, they are looked up and subjected to emetics and cathartics, like the pearl fishers of Ceylon. When a negro, says Mr. Mawe, is so fortunate as to find a diamond of seventeen carats and a half, he obtains his freedom. If of ten carats; he receives a new suit, a hat, and a knife. While Mr. Mawe was at the mines, a stone of sixteen carats and a half was found, and it was pleasing to see the anxiety manifested by the officers that it might prove of sufficient weight to insure the negro's freedom, and their disappointment when it proved only one carat short of the weight prescribed.

The celebrated Pigot diamond weighs forty-five carats, and was sold at auction in London, May 10, 1802, for nine thousand five hundred guineas. It was valued at £16,200—\$31,000. These, however, may be set down as diamonds of modern pretensions compared with those which we are now to describe; and first of the Pitt, or, as it is often called, the Regency diamond. This splendid gem was purchased in 1701, by Thomas Pitt, then Governor of Port St. George, in India, of Jaureboud, a dealer in diamonds, for forty-eight thousand pagodas, or £20,400. Governor Pitt brought it to England, rough; in which state it weighed four hundred and ten carats, and when cut, one hundred and thirty-five. The cost of cutting it, in brilliant, was £5,000. The diamond dust employed in the process of cutting it cost £1,400. The chips yielded £8,000. Dr. Mead's model of this diamond, in its present state, gives one inch and a quarter in diameter, and thirteen-sixteenths of one inch in depth. Two years were employed in the operation of cutting. The weight is about one ounce and an eighth.

Sixty thousand pounds were offered for this pebble stone by a private individual. It was finally sold to the crown of France for £200,000, payable in installments; and the crown jewels, in corresponding packages, were pledged to Governor Pitt as collateral security. When an installment became due, his son-in-law, Mr. Cholmondeley, met the French messenger at Dover, received the amount, and delivered a package. It obtained the name of the Regency diamond, from having been purchased when the Duke of Orleans was Regent of France. It was reported that Gov. Pitt had wronged the Indian dealer, and gotten possession of the jewel unfairly. The charge probably arose from the fact that he bought it for a sum so much less than that demanded at first by the dealer. The price at which it was held by Jaureboud was 200,000 pagodas, or more than four times the sum paid for it by Governor Pitt, whose very clear and satisfactory account of the transaction may be found in Nichols's Literary History, volume 6, page 70, with an excellent engraving of the brilliant. On great occasions, the king wore it as a button in his hat. Governor Pitt is represented, in a portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller, bediamonded in a similar manner. Napoleon placed it in the belt of his sword of the battle of Austerlitz.

There is nothing exceedingly fantastical in the results of calculating the value of diamonds by carats. Let us furnish an illustration. In the Gentleman's Magazine for 1746, vol. 16, page 665, there is an outline of the famous diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 carats. This pebble stone is valued at £224,000,000, or at five dollars to the pound sterling, \$1,120,000,000—just about the sum of our national debt, as predicted by Mr. Secretary Chase, for July 1, 1863. The result of calculation by which the diamond fancier pursues his way to this result may interest the reader. The value of valuation laid down by Mr. Jefferies, but with certain exceptions, is to assume a rough diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal. It is four inches long, two inches and three quarters broad, and weighs twelve ounces and a half, or 1,680 car