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HARRISBURG, PA., MONDAY, JUNE 1 1863.

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MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 1, 1863.

LETTER FROM LONDON. THE WAR NEWS-BRITISH VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS - THE DRAMA-CHAS. KEENE-FECHTER-A SCANDAL CASE BETWEEN AMERICAN ACTORS-DOWN

IN THE LONDON DOCK VAULTS, ETC.

Correspondence of the Patriot and Union.

The War News-" Manhattan," etc.—W. Cornell Jewett-British Volunteer System. To-morrow or Monday we expect to receive news of the result of the Rappahannock battle. People are speculating as to the possible event. with thrilling interest. It is not commonly believed that the Federal arms will be successful; but with John Bull this thought is probably fathered by the wish. We hope and fear all things, are holding down our hearts, though they beat low of late; and if disaster happen we can only do as we have had to do before-receive the coarse taunts of our cousins here and pray God not to ruin us utterly. Little has been said, within a month, of the issue across the Atlantic. The letter writers from the other side, some of whom are Americans. continue to forward their columns of lies The worst of this class is one Scovill, a New Yorker, and formerly a proprietor of the comic Picayune. He writes the papers upon the "Old Merchants" in the Leader, New York city, and wrote also the scurrilous letter in the New York Herald, published some years ago, above the signatuee of " The Man what Nominated Frank Pierce." Scovill is the correspondent of the London Standard, (Tory,) where nis fulminations appear over the name of "Manhattan." They are disgraceful things, and I mention them to show that it is not sim-

LONDON, May 16th. 1863.

ply the Russells and Mackays who do us wrong, but our own renegade countryman, who are willing, for a few ignominious shillings, to dishonor the fame of their land and its rulers. A good book upon America has Edward Dicey, a very able literary gentleman, who went to the war as the accredited delegate of MucMillan's Magazine. It gives fair views of our manners, sentiment and institutions, and has gone through several editions already. Books, in general, are more justly criticised here than in America. The same remark applies to matters of art. A painting of tolerable merit will always be recognized and applauded by the reviews, while the undue influences which with as secure praise to paltry things, do not operate here to so great a degree. Many young American artists now dwell in London, and some of them do well They have come away from our republic to avoid the war. The Arts are cosmopolitans, and they are frightened by gunpowder. Among the late American arrivals is that of Wm. Cornell Jewett, a "traveler," whose mission is a a self-imposed one, and directed to securing mediation by European powers. Jewett was formerly an auctioneer in New York and Chicago, and he has been concerned in some questionable speculations. I think him liable to moon influences, though he is a good sort of fellow to know. Judge of my astonishment to find him, one night last week, on the floor of the House of Peers, enlightening a crowd of dukes and earls upon the condition of trans-Atlantic matters. This war has taught John Bull some measures of note, particularly with reference to volunteer troops. He has perfected a fine volunteer system-better. I think. than our three months' system, and in some respects better than our volunteer organization to-day. Every parliamentary borough has its corps of armed volunteers, and they are very well equipped and instructed. United, they make a large defensive army, and the best families furnish their members, while noblemen command. A few nights ago I was going

down the Thames, when I looked ashore at Temple Gardens. The barristers and solicitors and the young limbs of the law, were going through their marœuvres in first class style, and with as much enthusiasm as could be exhibited in time of invasion. Now, these fellows have been drilling in the same way for

six years, and they should, in the due course of things, be capital soldiers now. The Drama-The London Theatres-The Play-The war is so old a story that it is quite a relief, at this point, to drop it for some pleasanter theme. Let it be the drama. Your readers probably imagine that the London theatres are very ornate and colossal-far superior, in fact, to anything that we have in the West. On the contrary, the theatres of the Empire City are in every respect better than these .-The two largest theatres here are Covent Garden and Drury Lane, but neither of them pay the interest of the money invested in them; the former is used for opera only, and the latter is closed half the time. They are only a stone's throw apart, and they are both large, though Covent Garden has somewhat the advantage. They are both famous for their Christmas pantomimes, and that is the only time of the year when it will pay to attend them. The Haymarket is a dingy, cooped-up affair, famous of late for playing a bad version of the "American Cousin." Buckstone, the playwright, is its lessee, and in so far as I can judge him, he is a stupid comedian. His Asa Trenchard was an anodyne which worked to a charm upon me three times. The three theatres which rank highest, are the Adelphi, the Lyceum, and the Princesses. The former has a particularly clever: Paul Bedford and J. L. Toole. But it is a pigeon-box, and I am so reminded, when I stop there, of a hackney cab, that I im give myself rolling down the Strand

Hamlet, two years ago, gave him a reputation in both continents. Fechter is a Frenchman, and he is essentially an innovator. How he overcame the traditional scruples of John Bull with regard to the treatment of Shakspeare, is a mystery to me. The obstinacy of the natives in this respect, is however, the best eulogy upon his genius; for he is thoroughly domesticated here, and has changed the name of the Lyceum to that of the Prince of Wales theatre. John Brougham is a permanent member of his stock company, and an adaptation of a French play called the "Duke's Motto," made by John Brougham, has had a run of a hundred nights,

Fechter sustaining the principal part.

Charles Keene has just finished a farewell engagement of eleven nights at the Princesses. This is a pent up place on Oxford street, remote from the other theatres. I saw this best of English tragedians play in the part of Louis XI. He is a small man, with an expressive face, and his rendition was noted for its easy. subdued scholarly diction-so different from the current style of delineators-and the calmness and consistency of his manner. Keene is hard student, and he stands at the head of his profession. His wife-whilom Miss Ellen Tree -has grown stout and coarse, and she has lost the power which formerly distinguished her. So far as I am able to see, New York is a hetter place for dramatic people than London. Their salaries are higher and their social rank is better. Since the death of Knowles, there is scarcely a dramatic writer of note in England. Old Dean Milman, of St. Paul's, the author of Fazio, still exists, and Tom Taylor and Boucicault are here. Henry J. Byron, a fair writer of burlesques, is more prolific than ever. and there is a class of hungry fellows who seize upon the new novels and make "Spectacles" of them. Boucicault has leased Astley's old horse show, across Westminster bridge, and goes to law with all sorts of people, as he used to do in New York. His last appearance in legal roles resulted from his intimacy with Mrs. George Jordon, an American actress, whose husband, George Jordon, was driven out of | floating upon it." New York for his connection with the New Orleans "Cocktail Guard," a rebel organization. recently appeared on this side from the pen of | Jordon and lady separated, and Boucicault and wife, it is rumored, will follow suit. Both Boucicault and Jordon are licentious, false-

hearted, and otherwise reprehensible. Down in the London Dock Vaults: The latest domestic intelligence from this side is the reduction of spirit and tobacco duties. The other day, in the prosecution of some inquiries, I visited the famous London docks, where most of the wines entering Great Britain and the United States are stored. The Thames, you know, is only a large sort of canal, and slime, if all craft were anchored in the stream. efore bread, artificial estuaries are onene inland, and ships are floated through locks into them. These docks are centrolled and owned by companies, and they are very spacious and of eleven millions of dollars and enclose seventy one acres of land and water. Five hundred of the largest sized vessels can harbor in them at one time, and twelve hundred houses were obliged to be pulled down to construct them. The tobacco and wine ships which discharge their cargoes here may place them in spacious receptacles. The tobacco warehouse alone covers five acres and contains twenty-four thousand hogsheads. The wine vaults are immense excavations, undeground, capable of containing twenty five thousand pipes of wine. To visit them it is necessary to obtain what is called a tasting order from a wine merchant. which is simply a card, authorizing the cooper of a certain vault to tap a cask or more of a certain kind of wine and give you as much as with due informality to the cooper-a short set man, wearing a leather apron-and when he had ticketed us in a great book, he told "Joe" to get lights for the gentlemen. To this "Joe" responded by producing a number of small, pyrimidical oil-lamps, fastened to the end of ferules, and the cooper told us to march down a dark aisle, between hecatombs of casks, which seemed to lead nowhere.

"Stoop, gentlemen," said the cooper, "you

are now entering the 'waults.' That is Wapping

running over your heads. One of our party here got a whapping for not minding his eye, and he struck his head against a low archway, producing a severe contusion which caused him to see several thousand oil lamps. When we passed under Wapping safely, we beheld one of the most grisly scenes which the present writer has had the honor to record. An immense hall, or passage, stretched to the right and the left of us, exhibiting a perspective of dim lanterns, whose tapers streamed upon innumerable casks of wine, piled one above the other from the sandy floor to the groined ceiling, and at a glance we could see thousands of them, battalioned like as many bulging coffins, their faces turned out, and the chalk marks and bung holes in their heads resembling so many mysterious eyes and noses. Imagine the Mammoth cave-black, unfathomable, mysterious-filled with an infinity of hogsheads.-Imagine for the dripping stalactites which burnish its roof, a hanging mass of fungus, the aggregations of a half century of wine fumes, accending perpetually. The columns which sustain these enormous vaults also resemble the stalagmite pillars of the great cave, and when you wave your torch—to the great detri- | end. ment of your companions' coat collars-the councless arches leap into life, and become peopled with shadowy and grotesque things. Down some of the inferior or radiating passages will come two stolid slaves, wheeling heavy good stock company, two of its comedians being | puncheons of the juice. As they pass you, the wine beats against the staves, as waves ripple under your bulwarks at sea, or, more perceptibly, as if it would like to wreck you. You walk a half mile underground in this way, till Market street, below Third, has received a large | The Lyceum theatre is now controlled by he solemnly pauses and sets down his lamp. which he Charles Fechter, whose advent in the part of He drives a gimblet into the head, and sud- ordinary times be safely indulged, must now

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Connected with this establishment is an extensive JOB OFFICE, containing a variety of plain and fancy type, unequalled by any establishment in the interior of the State, for which the patronage of the public is solicited.

denly withdrawing it, the red blood spirts out

like a ghastly testimony. As he catches it in two unique goblets, you half imagine that he is the abjured angel, binding you to his service by some unhallowed rite. He looks up like a ghoul, with red eyes, and holds the bright wine before his torch till it hisses and glitters wondrously. He smacks his Mps; he tosses it to and fro that the fumes may rise into your nostrils and intoxicate your soul.

"New drink," he says; "port-stunning port, of the 'wintage' of 1844."

"Bless my soul!" we say, "that is almost as old as myself."

He plays with his torch, as the glass touches our lips. He looks into our eyes to glost upon the first drop that steems down our throats.

We yield! We falter! We imbibe! "Ha, ha!" laughs the cooper, "what do you think of my beverage ?"

Truly it is beautiful. The old Homerian days come back to us. when Parmian and Thracian grapes bubbled up rhymes for the blind minstrel, or the golden years of the Cæsars, when Virgil wrote to the inspiration of the wine of the Cyclades, and Ovid to the life blood of Falernia. This is port! Not the coaxed, wheedled, and adulterated concoction with which we have deceived ourselves, but the freeb, lusty, life-giving draft which is to-day, the only remaining pride of a once great kingdom. How it rises in incense to the brain! How it falls in thrills to the tips of the pedals! How it makes strange beings flicker upon the eyes, till the cooper becomes a great magician, each separate barrel begins to dance, and the black roof bursts away till the golden skies

break in. "Drink again!" says the fiend, removing his finger, while the blood ripples like an ebbing life: He leads us from spot to spot, refreshing us at each. How cunningly the knave descants upon the merits of his juices "Here is sherry," says he, "dry and glorious, from Cadiz the blessed. If you look at it closely you will see the bright eyes of Spanish girls

"We want some rare Amontillado," we say -"can you lead us to it?"

He plays coquettishly with his lamp. He shuts one eye. He rattles three half-pence in

his pocket eight times: "Your order, gentlemen, says nothink about it. But I have a friend who has an order. At least be has a friend who has a friend, who''-"Enough!" say we-"seest thou this image

and superscription ?" "It is a crown," he saith, "with the third George equinting upon it. The Amontillado,

geotlemen, is yours." Our agreement is mutual. We are disposed the shipping of London would stick fast in its of to him. He is purchased by us. We meander, rather than progress, from point to noint. We stray into dim nooke coowebs lie thick upon mountains of claret. We taste strange liquids of Greece and Hungary. We feel the sunlight straying with a costly. The London docks afone cost upwards | gurgle and a song through the porches of our body, and we are gladdened till we shout, and

the subterranean groves echo and re-ocho. Imperceptibly we are led away. The lights go out. The great light gushes in. It is day again. There spins the shipping and the grim warehouses. Here are the drays and the mighty-footed beasts that drag them.

BOUT DE LA VILLE.

MAJ. GEN. WM. B. FRANKLIN FOR

GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA. From the York Grzette. We take pleasure in taying before our readers the following communication received too late for our paper on Tured 4y last, from one of our most highly esteemed fellow citizens. In presenting it to the public, we cannot refrain from adding our beary approval of every word that is said of the gillant and heroic you like to drink. Our party was presented soldier named by our correspondent for the Gubernatorial chair. Gen. William B. Franklin is a native of York, and is at the present time a resident of this borough. He was appointed to West Point from this Congressional district, and the bigh honors be won at our National military school, and since he entered: the army, occasioned much unaffected pride in the hearts of hundreds of our citizens. He is a gentleman of unblemished character, a soldier of unquestioned ability, a citizen of the most thorough loyalty, and a Constitutional Democrat of the strictest and straightest school. Here, where he is known and lozed, we honor his name and respect his many virtues. His nomination, by the Democratic State Convention, would be the sure harbinger of success in October. His election would secure to the Commonwealth an honest and faithful Chief Magistrate, one who would protect the rights of the citizen and the rights of the States, and who would use all his effirts to maintain the Constitution as it is and restore the Union as it was. It is therefore with pleasure that we present the name of General

> sylvania! To the Editors of the York Gazetta: GENTLEMEN:-I am so deeply impressed with the importance of the approaching political campaign in Pennsylvinia, that I am tempted to beg you to suscend the rule against reference by name to candidates which, as you informed me verbally, you had ad pted for your guidance pending the contest for the guhernsterial nomination. I believe, with you, that upon the success of the Democratic party in this State, at the election in October next, depends the fate of our country-and, so believing, I cannot divest myself of a consciousness of the awful responsibility resting upon every Democrat who feels, or believes, that he can do something, anything, of whatever force or weight, whether of great moment or of comparative unimportance, to promote that great

Franklin, of this county, to the Democracy of

Pennsylvania, as the choice of "Old D mo-

cratic York," for the next Governor of Penn-

Mesars. Elitors, I believe that the masses of the people of Pennsylvania are far ahead of politicians in eager, intense desire to secure the election of a D mocratic Governor. They feel keenly the absolute necessity of such a result. And those who participate in this feeling are so overwhelmingly in the majority that they will accomplish this first wish of the heart of Pennsylvania, if the Democratic party present to them such a candidate as the people

anxiously await and the time demands. Sirs, this is no time for the consideration of anything that stands in the way of our c unand mistake the orchestra leader for the driver. the cooper comes to the mooted casks, when try's redemption Personal frien labip, party schemes preference for men, that might in