THE DAILY PITTSBURGH GAZETTE
AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

ESTABLISHED IN 1786. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 25, 1862. VOLUME LXXVI--NO. 9.

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F. BETNER.....J. S. BETNER.....WM. D. BETNER. BETNER & BROTHERS, SUCCESSORS to Bettner & Anderson, Wholesale dealers in FOREIGN FRUITS, NUTS AND SPICES, CONFECTIONERY, SUGARS, FINE WINES, &c., Nos. 126 and 128 Wood street, above Fifth, Pittsburgh, Penn'a. jy2:dly

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NEW BOOKS.

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Eyes and Ears. By Henry Ward Beecher.
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Les Miserables. Cloth and paper edition.
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The Student Abroad. By Kimball.
Country Living and Country Thinking.
America before Europe.
New Gymnastics, for Men, Women and Children.
The Phantom Bouquet.
Philip—illustrated.
Oliver Wendell Holmes' Poems—blue and gold.
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Like and Unlike. By A. S. Roe.
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FOR 1863.

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The Manufacture of Vinegar. By Charles M. Wetherill, S. D., $1 25.
Pease's Art of Perfumery, $1 25.
The Maternal Management of Children, in Health and Disease. By Thos. Bull, M. D., $1.
Practical Mineralogy, Assaying and Mining. By Fred. Overman, Mining Engineer, 75 cents.
Physicians' Visiting Lists, for 1863.
Pocket Dose Book, 25.
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Diaries for 1863.
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EYES AND EARS—by Henry Ward Beecher; $1 25.
THE SLAVE POWER—by Professor Cairnes, of Galway, Ireland; $1.
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE—its Origin, History and Early Literature. By G. P. Marsh; $3.
THIRTEEN MONTHS IN THE REBEL ARMY—By an impressed New Yorker; 50 cts.
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LES MISERABLES—By Victor Hugo; 50 cts.
GRADED SCHOOLS—By W. H. Wells, A. M.; 75c.
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BOOKS! BOOKS!

Medical Uses of Electricity—Garrett;
Recreations of a Country Parson;
Queens of Society;
Spare Hours, by J. Brown, M. D.;
Men, Women and Books, by L. Hunt;
Titcomb's Books;
A Good Fight, by G. Reade;
Personal History of Lord Bacon;
Life of Sir Philip Sidney;
Songs in Many Keys—O. W. Holmes;
Poems, by Rose Terry;
Liberty and Slavery—Bledsoe;
Lecture on Apocalypse—Butler;
Life and Speeches of Douglass;
History of all Religions, etc., etc.
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Pittsburgh Gazette.

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TUESDAY MORNING,—NOV. 25.

Texas and Florida.

These two most Southern States are virtually conquered. The first has no port but what is in the hands of the Federal naval forces, and General Banks will soon be there with his expedition, ready to extirpate every vestige of the civil and military authority of the Confederate government.

From some hints incidentally thrown out, we think it probable that General Banks will enter the Mississippi with his expedition, and after assisting in the work of opening that river, ascend the Red River, and enter Texas from the Northeast. This, however, is only conjecture. The opening of the Mississippi, together with the capture of all the ports of Texas, completely cuts it off from the rest of Rebeldom, and leave little to do but to go in, occupy and restore.

Western Louisiana is nearly in the same condition, and slavery melts away before our advancing armies even before the time fixed by the proclamation.

Florida seems to be abandoned by the Confederate government to its fate. In fact, it is utterly out of their power to defend it with its immense line of coast. "Occasional," in one of his latest letters, says:

"I will not be surprised if, long before the meeting of the next Congress, a full Republican delegation is chosen from Florida, representing the free people of that State, and sustaining the principles and policy of the present Administration. It is certainly not going beyond the limits of discretion to say that arrangements are now making to fulfill this bold and significant programme."

A Republican delegation from Florida would indeed be something new under the sun; but is not by any means beyond the range of probability. Texas restored will also be Republican, of course. Indeed, since the only party opposed to the Republicans have chosen to link their destiny with Slavery, the extinction of the one will necessarily involve the extinction of the other. This the leaders know, and hence their bitter opposition to the proclamation of emancipation. The-Triumvirate of Slavery, Rebellion and Democracy, is tottering to its fall; but true democracy will survive and triumph under the banner of its synonym, Republicanism.

Parson Brownlow on Military Operations in East Tennessee--The State of Affairs in Kentucky, etc.

Parson Brownlow writes to the Philadelphia *Press* from Louisville, Kentucky, giving an account of the movements of General Rosecrans, whose force is set down by him at 100,000 men. They are to recover the eastern counties of Tennessee. The Parson says:

The East Tennesseans are perfectly delighted with the idea of going under Rosecrans, and of his leading them into East Tennessee! And, as they approach that country, I advise all Secessionists who have not made their peace with God to leave "for parts unknown."

The rebel forces under Breckinridge, Cheatham and others, are retreating from Murfreesboro and Lebanon towards Chattanooga, where they have an immense rebel army, as well as large supplies of arms and provisions. Rosecrans will follow them leisurely, putting through immense army supplies, from this point, with equal facilities for transportation. The rebels are destroying the roads and bridges as they go, but the dirt roads were never in better condition, and the streams are all low. The advance can repair the bridges rapidly, and the main force can follow on, keeping themselves in good condition. I have unbounded confidence in Rosecrans, and the country may look out for a triumphant march into East Tennessee, but for the spilling of much blood, and the loss of many lives on both sides in passing Chattanooga.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN KENTUCKY.

The heart of a Union man, desiring to see this infernal rebellion washed out, sickens to come into Kentucky and hear *the true state of things* as they are and as they have been. Out of 6,000 voters in Louisville 1,500 of them are Secessionists, and these carry with them thousands who are as out-spoken and as rabid as the most rabid rebels in the Confederacy. A large smuggling trade is going on between this city and the Confederacy, and has been all the time. I will give two instances of many: A citizen here obtained a permit to open a store in Jackson, Middle Tennessee, and there sold out his whole stock, at a large advance, to a citizen of Knoxville, who conveyed the goods by wagons! A similar case, occurred, in every respect, in Springfield, Robinson county, Middle Tennessee, and the Knoxville man bought out the stock, and took the goods by wagons to Knoxville! This sort of games is being played out all the time between Louisville and Cincinnati, on the one part, and the rebel States upon the other. The fact is notorious here, that more salt has gone south from Louisville this season, under these *corrupt permits*, than has usually gone in times of peace.

OFFICIALS—TRAITORS AND FOOLS.

Loyal readers may be inclined to ask the questions: How is this? and why is it? Why is not the blockade enforced with more vigor? I will state a few *facts*, and leave the reader to answer his own questions. Two classes of men have been in charge of important military posts, and of the Government offices, in various portions of this country, ever since the rebellion was inaugurated, and no good has been done under their auspices, and never will be. The classes I allude to are TRAITORS and FOOLS. The army has been cursed with Generals who are, at heart, on the side of the South, and with contractors, furnishers of supplies, and various other employees, whose sympathies are all on the side of the rebellion.

These unmitigated villains desire the war to be protracted, even for years to come, that they may make money out of it. They openly denounce the emancipation proclamation, and, by their conversation, prejudice the people and soldiers against the Government. Mr. Lincoln has made a sad mistake in appointing many men to office, in military and civil positions, and he now commits a greater mistake by continuing them in office. Many of these men are telling the people that the rebellion can't be put down in Lincoln's time, but that the *Democracy* will come into power after awhile, and they will compromise with the South. These men have been commissioned by Mr. Lincoln not to serve the country, but to break his head and aid in the ruin of the country.

PARSON BROWNLOW ON GEN. BUELL.—In a letter to the Philadelphia *Press*, Parson Brownlow expresses himself in the following strong terms:

"So far as the late invasion of Kentucky is concerned, no effort was made by Gen. Buell to capture General Bragg's army. This may seem like strong language, but, I repeat, Buell did not want to capture the enemy, for he could have done it with ease. On the other hand, he desired their escape, and he had actually to take some trouble to enable them to escape."

The Cost of Peace--Letter from Robert Dale Owen to Secretary Chase--The Conditions of Lasting Peace.

We lay before our readers, this evening, the first portion of a highly important letter, addressed by ROBERT DALE OWEN to Secretary CHASE, on the great political problem of our time. Mr. OWEN's letter to the President, which was the precursor of the memorable Proclamation of the 22nd of September, has in this second communication to Secretary CHASE its just complement; and both will be read in after years as amongst the most significant memorials of the progress of ideas—of the influence which shaped the course of our national policy in a great crisis. We shall give the concluding portion of the letter tomorrow, and our readers cannot do better than read with attention what this enlightened and right-minded Democrat has so forcibly written on this all-important subject. It will doubtless be an excellent preparatory exercise (of the right kind of faculty) for considering the President's Message, which a few more days will place before us:

To the Hon. Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury:

SIR: In briefest terms I state the propositions which, as the subject of our recent conversation, I promised to reduce to writing.

What are the reasonable hopes of peace? Not, that within the next fifty days the South, availing herself of the term of grace offered in the President's proclamation, may, to save her favorite institution, return to her allegiance. Let us not deceive ourselves. There are no conditions, so guaranties—no, not if we proffer her a blank sheet on which to set them down, with unresisted pen, in her own hand—under which she will consent to reunion, except in one contingency—conquest, more or less complete, by force of arms.

Are we likely to obtain peace by conquest? In search of an answer, let us look closely at a few statistical facts.

By the census of 1860 the number of white males between the ages of 18 and 45 is, in the loyal states, about four millions; and, in the disloyal states, about one million three hundred thousand; a little upwards of three to one. The disproportion seems overwhelmingly great.

But this calculation, as a basis of military strength, is wholly fallacious; for it includes persons of one color only.

Out of the above four millions the North has to provide soldiers and (with inconsiderable exceptions, not usually extending to field-labor) laborers also.

But of the three millions and a half of slaves owned in the rebel States about two millions may be estimated as laborers. About three hundred thousand of these are employed in domestic services and other occupations followed by women among us, and we have seventeen hundred thousand plantation hands, males and females, each one of which counts against a Northern laborer on farm or in work-shop.

Then, of that portion of population whence soldiers and out-door laborers and mechanics must chiefly be taken, the Northern States have four millions and the Southern States three millions.

Supposing the negroes all loyal to their masters, it follows that the true proportion of strength available in this war—that is, of soldiers to fight and laborers to support the nation while fighting—may fairly enough be taken at three in the South to four in the North.

Under this supposition of a South united, without regard to color, in an effort for recognition, shall we obtain peace by subduing her? If history teach truth, we shall not. Never, since the world began, did nine millions of people band together, resolutely inspired by the one idea of achieving their independence, yet fail to obtain it. It is not a century since one-third of the number successfully defied Great Britain.

But let us suppose the negroes of the South loyal to the Union instead of to their masters, how stands the matter then?

In that case, it is not to a united people, but to a Confederacy divided against itself, that we are opposed; the master on one side; the laborers, exceeding them in number, on the other.

Suppose the services of these laborers transferred to us, what will then be the proportion, on either side of forces available, directly and indirectly, for military purposes?

As about five and three-fourths to one and a third: in other words, nearly *six nine to two.*

Such a wholesale transfer is, of course, impossible in practice. But in so far as the transfer is possible, and shall occur, we approach the above results.

How much wisdom, under these circumstances, is there in the advice that we should put down the rebellion first and settle the negro question afterwards? What shall we say of their statesmanship who, in a war like this, would leave out of view the practical effects of emancipation?

On the other hand, however, it is to be admitted that African loyalty in this war will little avail us, if we have not good sense and good feeling enough properly to govern the negroes who may enter our lines.

To render them available, in the first place we must treat them humanely—a duty we have yet to learn: and secondly, both for their sakes and for our own, we must not support them in idleness. Doubtless, they are most efficient as laborers, as domestics in camp, as teamsters, or employed on entrenchments and fortifications, or in ambulance corps, or as sappers and miners, or as fast as southern plantations shall fall into our possession, as field-hands. But if all these posts become over filled, better do away with the surplus for further draft in the North by putting markets in the hands of able-bodied men, colored differently from ourselves, than to delude their ignorance into the opinion that among the privileges of freedom is food without work.

Such is philanthropy and discretion enough wisely to administer such a change of system? Possibly not. Administrative capacity in public affairs is not our strong point. We would do well to bear in mind, however, that without such capacity not this war only, but our entire governmental experiment, will prove a failure at last.

Do other objections hold against the plan? Does humanity forbid us to accept the aid of an enslaved race? In so far as humanity can ever enjoin war at all, she enjoins the employment, by us, of the African in this; first, because his employment may shorten, by years, the fratricidal struggle; and then, because, if he is not permitted to assist in civilized warfare under us, and if, without his aid, we fail to effect his liberation and thus disappoint his hopes, he may be overtaken by the temptation to seek freedom and revenge in his own wild way. In accepting the liberated slave as a soldier we may prevent his rising as an assassin. By the creation of negro brigades we may avert the indiscriminate massacres of servile insurrection.

Or is there an insuperable difficulty of caste in the way? In a contest likely to eventuate in securing to another race than ours the greatest of temporal blessings, are we determined to hunt out that race from all share in its own liberation? Are we so enamored of the Moloch, War, that we will suffer none but our sons to pass through the fire? Terrible penalty to pay, with life and death at stake, for a national prejudice against the southern Pariah!

As to the duty of our rulers in the premises, I cannot see according to what principles of ethics a government, charged with the lives of millions, the putting down of a gigantic rebellion and the restoring of t