

DAILY POST.

PITTSBURGH: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1863.

Advertisements must be handed in before 10 o'clock, p. m., to insure insertion.

ITEMS.

Our Government now holds \$1,000,000 of rebel prisoners.

A Confederate dollar is now worth just six and a quarter cents.

About \$181,000 have been subscribed in San Francisco for the Sanitary Commission.

There are 288 public schools in Philadelphia, and the cost of maintaining them last year was \$603,100.

During the year 602 bounty land warrants have been issued, calling in the aggregate, for 93,190 acres of land.

The Louisville Journal says river pilots are now getting from \$2,600 to \$8,000 per year.

The Republican State Central Committee of California suggests Gettysburg for the next national convention.

The value of cotton held in New York City by speculators is estimated at about \$10,000,000.

Several of the steamers on the Hudson have suspended their trips to Albany on account of ice in the river.

In 1852, 300,000 pounds of opium were imported into this country. Opium eating is fearfully upon the increase.

A writer in the Railroad Advocate says that statistics show that traveling in the cars is safer than by day.

HENRY ANDREWS, of the 144th Ohio, has been sentenced to be shot January 8th for desertion.

More than 600 rebel prisoners at Camp Douglas, Ill., have made application to take the oath of allegiance.

The Montreal Gazette says the emigration to the United States has been very extensive from that vicinity for some time past.

GEORGE W. NEWELL is editing a compilation of the letters and papers of the late WILLIAM L. MARCY, which will soon be given to the public.

The quota of Illinois, under the last call is rapidly filling up. The moment the recruits are clothed they are sent forward to fill up the old regiments in the field.

Judge SWAY, who is in New York, has not yet signified his acceptance of the appointment of State Supreme Judge, tendered him by Gov. Tom of Ohio.

A farmer took a single wagon load of his produce to Syracuse last Saturday, and sold it for \$1,650.00. It was the wool produced by his 180 sheep.

Steps are to be taken by Congress at an early date for mustering out of service a large number of major and brigadier generals. It is estimated that about forty will thus be waded out from the army.

General MAEDA's removal is decided. The only difficulty is to find his successor.

What started here now desires to enter as candidates for the next grave in this Gothic of marble.

Provost-Marshal-General PAY reports that less preparations are being made in Pennsylvania by the State authorities than in any other State to raise volunteers to avoid the draft.

Cedar river, Iowa, is said to be literally swarming with wild geese. Cornfields are devastated, and people living in the neighborhood declare that it is almost impossible to sleep, so annoying is their wild and discordant music.

West Point is now full again. It now contains 260 cadets, under the instruction of 25 commissioned officers; 67 have been admitted during the past year 46 of whom were appointed from the United States volunteers.

Congress will be asked to add to the number of clerks in the Government employ, as well as to increase the salaries of those now authorized. The Quartermaster General's Bureau alone asks for one hundred and sixty more.

General HALLOCK's report is looked for with much interest by military men. It will be a complete resume and review of the last year of our war, in all its details, and will place General HALLOCK, his friends and his enemies in an entirely new position before the country.

Two thousand one hundred and thirty Confederate prisoners from Chattanooga passed through Indianapolis, Ind., on Monday, en route to Rock Island. Twelve hundred more were expected there on Tuesday. One hundred and thirty-one others, mostly belonging to Major Gen. F. C. BRACKINRIDGE's command, also passed through, en route to Johnson's Island.

Quartermaster-friends appear to be getting, and to be increasing in frequency and enormity. A Washington dispatch states that the funds in the Quartermaster's Department at Alexandria increase in magnitude. They will reach over a million of dollars. In addition to the Chief Quartermaster FERGUSON and Captain CHRYSLER, heretofore arrested, Captains CHRYSLER and a brother of STRONACH have been committed to prison.

The steamer J. C. SWEET was fired into by guerrillas near the mouth of the river, a few days ago, while on her way to New Orleans. A fleet of gunboats lay within shooting distance, and a gunboat was conveying her past the place, but the rebels paid no attention to them, and they had been a fleet of transports. The firing was from musketry, and some ten balls penetrated the pilot house, but no one was hurt. A steer on the lower deck was killed.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 4th inst. says: "The Confederates have succeeded to day the most magnificent defeat of the whole war—a defeat for which there is but little excuse or palliation. For the first time during our struggle for national independence our defeat is chargeable to the troops themselves, and not to the blundering incompetency of their leaders. It is difficult for one to realize how occurred, so complete could have occurred on ground so favorable, notwithstanding the great disparity in the forces of the two hostile armies. The ground was more in our favor than it was at Fredericksburg, where Gen. LOVETT was said to have estimated that Lee's army was equal to 300,000 men. And yet we gained the battle of Fredericksburg and lost that of Missionary Ridge.

THE MAYORALTY CONTENT.

This afternoon and evening the Abolitionists of this city met in their primary meetings to elect delegates to a Convention, which will place in nomination some one for the coming Mayoralty election.

The struggle between the different factions is unprecedentedly bitter; the most serious charges are made against some of the aspiring candidates, going to show the desecration and the bitterness of the conflict. With these charges we at present have nothing to do.

Our only object in alluding to this struggle, is to advise Democrats to take no part in it. So bitter have our opponents become towards each other, that they are soliciting Democratic votes to help them through their trouble. In this we trust they may be disappointed. But a few weeks ago, according to these same abolition leaders, Democrats were copperheads and traitors, unworthy of their association; now they are good enough to not only vote, but to make an Abolition nomination. But let us let the factions fight it out among themselves. Democrats have no right to take part in this struggle, because they will not support the nominee at the polls. Besides it is not by any means respectable in allowing one's self to be used by political opponents.

"THE MILK IN THE COCONUT."

By easy coaches, our learned and astute cotemporary, the Pittsburgh Commercialist—under the standing caption of its inscriptions. When first he began his agitation, proving from history that since the days of the Roman Tarquins, "nepotism" had, in all countries, and under all forms of Government, eventually corrupted the people, even unto the destruction of their Governmental systems, we imagined we were to be informed of something formidable and dangerous to our country. The Southern rebellion we thought troublesome enough, but "nepotism" is even worse. It has, as demonstrated by the Commercialist, ruined every form of Government, besides damaging the spiritual power of the Pope. This is pretty heavy on Mother Church; and yet his present Holiness, notwithstanding, occasionally issues a "bull," the like of which used (according to Bulwer) in the age of iron to "curb the mighty and raise the low."

After preparing his thousands of readers for something startling, in previous papers, the Commercialist yesterday approached the development of his mysterious hint and insinuation. It says that Mr. SEWARD and others in the Cabinet have seen and other relatives in the public service; and then the milk in the coconut is thus handsomely accounted for. Says our neighbor:

"The record of the Cabinet, however brilliant it may be otherwise, is in our view sadly tarnished by the nepotism of some of its members. But by far the most corrupting and demoralizing influence in the extension and dissemination of this evil, by giving to Congressmen the right of patronage in their respective districts."

Here we have the whole difficulty in a small nutshell. Gen. MOOREHEAD, our member, hasn't been distributing the Administration slices intended for this district, impartially and the faithful, and hence the danger of the sudden corruption of our Government. The only man that troubles us, just here, is distinguished what the "Roman Tarquins," and the "spiritual power of the Pope," have to do with Gen. MOOREHEAD's partialities among hungry Abolitionists? This is "a most lame and impotent conclusion;" we thought from the perusal of the first two articles on nepotism, that we were to be put in possession of something more destructive to our Government, than Southern treason; but the whole difficulty is that MOOREHEAD doesn't do the right thing with his patronage. Were he to change his pete the damages of nepotism would not probably be so alarming in some people's estimation. We rejoice, however, to see that our talented neighbor has discovered something which is to be guarded against, besides "Northern sympathy with treason." In fact, from the following concluding paragraph we infer that it regards the evil complained of, as being more destructive than even treason itself; it says:

"We shall devote a paper to the consideration of this new rule, which, whether intended to gain congressional favor, or to share public reputation, it leads inevitably and surely to the destruction of the Republic."

THE WAY TO SETTLE HOSTILITIES.

There have been several private meetings of leading citizens of New York lately held in the metropolis to consider the best means of restoring our severed Union. A friend in New York has sent us the following as the result of their deliberations. Among those who have given their names to this project are Gen. THURLOW WALKER, MILLARD FILLMORE, Gen. McCLELLAN and AUGUSTUS BELMONT, by whose authority, we understand, it will soon be issued. We give it to our readers, in the meantime, with the expression of our willingness to support almost any scheme that will secure peace to the country, save that of dissolution.

FELLOW CITIZENS: We hold that the war in which the people of the United States are now involved is a Revolution, and the consequence of unavoidable social and political antagonisms and an improper adjustment of certain important domestic interests; among these are the antagonistic political ideas implanted in the country during the colonial period—supposed conflicting sections, interests, and countries relating to the legal and moral rights of the servile system of certain States—the promulgation of the doctrine of negro equality and the determination of large numbers of the people, especially of the servile States, to maintain the supremacy of the white race in the Republic. To these may be added as among the causes of disruption a system of acquiring lands and occupying territory, which, together with a general maladministration of the affairs of the subordinate people of our country has produced a host of dissensions between the public and private interests of those people, and a consequent indifference among ourselves to our moral obligations and the requirements of law.

Believing that by recognizing the revolutionary character of the conflict, the existing terms of adjustment of past differences upon mutual concessions and appreciation of the past and future of persons and property in the revolted sec-

FROM CHATTANOOGA.

The Fight on the Left.

The army correspondent of the Chicago Times, writes as follows of the battle of Chattanooga:

The most stubborn resistance made by the enemy in the battle before this place, as I have before written you, was upon the left, where Sherman commanded. This was undoubtedly occasioned by the fact of his keeping upon his line of retreat along the railroad, which a successful assault would have endangered, if not also Granger, Sheridan and Hooker's line of right and center, and justly rank among the most brilliant of the war. But their lines were long, and their attacks so nearly simultaneous, the enemy could not concentrate a superior force at any one point, and after desperate resistance, he was compelled to yield his ground, and honor of our troops. Not so, however, here, as so admirably chosen that Sherman could not assault with a large force, and the enemy was not so nearly simultaneous, the enemy could not concentrate a superior force at any one point, and after desperate resistance, he was compelled to yield his ground, and honor of our troops. 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