The Alleghanian.

RIGHT OR WRONG.

WHEN RIGHT, TO BE KEPT RIGHT, WHEN WRONG, TO BE PUT RIGHT.

EBENSBURG:

THURSDAY.....DECEMBER 18.

Fredericksburg.

The Philadelphia *Press* comments as follows on the great struggle now going on near Fredericksburg:—The series of affairs which have just taken place on the line of the Massaponax river seem to indicate that neither Burnside nor Lee is prepared to make it a field for the test of their grand military conclusions. The former is evidently manœuvering to keep the enemy in his present position for a few days, and the latter is not willing to hazard the fate of his wicked cause upon the result of a single field The great risk that Burnside had to take was in crossing the Rappahannock; that movement successfully accomplished, he can afford to give battle of the heaviest description beyond. There need be no fear of a demonstration in his rear, for his position is entirely tenable in a military point of view He has a river behind him, and the enemy in front, with whom he can cope in superior force and material. This river is not fordable at present below a line running south from Dumfries, and Gen. Sigel has possession of the fords above. Gen. Slocum, with an excellent *corps d'armee*, is moving south by the roads east of the Bull Run ridge of mountains. Gen. Jackson cannot be spared from Lee's army to move up the Shenandoah valley again; and it must be confessed that Gen. Halleck is master of the position in Virginia. It was necessary for Gen. Burnside to discover, if possible, the exact position and force of the enemy after his movement across the river and to watch the feints of the enemy in his endeavors to conceal his designs. As the rebels fell back, our troops advanced under Gen Sumner in front, and on the the left under Gen. Franklin, flanking the enemy gradually. Skirmishing between our troops and the rebels in advancing became general, when a rapid advance was made, and the main body of the enemy was found strongly posted on the little ridge of hills on the line of the Massaponax. The first impulse of Gen. Sumner was to storm this position and force the rebels into the creek. In two or three sallies it is said he was repulsed, although it is not clear that he was operating his entire grand division. He was afterward ordered to hold the battle-field for the present. Gen Franklin was more successful, driving the enemy before him at all points for the distance of a mile or more. He has the advantage in having seized the hills and ravines below and southeast of the city of Fredericksburg, and will, no doubt, be able to force the enemy to fall back across the Massaponax, especially if Sumner should renew the attack in front. Every effort is being made to keep our forces concentrated, to guard well the flanks of our great army, and to strengthen weak points. It remains to behold the expression of that genius in our commander-in-chief which will launch all of his heavy columns at once against the enemy. To do this successfully, he must be guided alone by the circumstances of the case and his own experience in the accomplishment of his designs or schemes. "Success in war," said the Archduke Charles, "is only to be obtained by simultaneous action upon a given point, sustained with constancy and executed with decision." Gen. Burnside has all the resolution and indomitable courage of a military hero. From all we can learn we see good reason to be hopeful that the great battle may soon be fought, which will give us decisive victory and conquer a peace.

☞ A man calling himself J. Wesley Greene, of Pittsburg, Pa., has created quite a sensation latterly by furnishing a Chicago paper an account of an interview he pretends to have had with Jeff. Davis, in which the latter made some peace propositions to be submitted to President Lincoln. The whole story wears an air of utter improbability on its very face, but J. Wesley, by the bold stroke of *swearing* to his statement, will no doubt secure many believers. Failing in this, he will at least attain considerable notoriety—and that's all he desires. Good authority pronounces him an arrant imposter.

THE FIGHTING COMMENCED!

BURNSIDE'S ARMY CROSSES THE RAPPAHANNOCK!

Fredericksburg Ours!

GREAT BATTLE ON SATURDAY!

THE RESULT INDECISIVE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Thursday Morning*, 9 A. M.

Everything last night was bustle and activity, as to-day was the time fixed for the crossing of the river.

During the night the pontoons were conveyed to the river, and the artillery of 143 pieces placed in position opposite the city. At 5 o'clock this morning the rebels fired two signal guns, while during the latter part of the night rockets were frequently seen within their lines.

At 5 o'clock the construction of three bridges in front of the city was commenced; when about half completed the enemy opened a murderous fire of infantry from the houses on the river bank.

Up to this time not a shot had been fired from our side. The engineers were driven from the bridges and several killed and wounded.

At 6 o'clock Gen. Burnside ordered all the guns to open on the city. The cannonading, which has continued without interruption up to the present time, is terrible.

The city is on fire, and its destruction appears to be certain.

The enemy, about seven o'clock, opened with their heavy guns from their works, but so far have done no serious injury.

Gen. Franklin constructed his bridges about three miles below the city, meeting with slight opposition. His troops are now crossing.

The gunboats are now shelling the enemy about fifteen miles down the river, where they have been concentrating their forces during the past two days

The concentrated fire of our batteries on the city has had the effect of driving back the enemy's infantry, and the work on the bridges has again been commenced.

The troops are all under arms near the river, prepared to rush over as soon as the bridges are completed.

HEADQUARTERS, Thursday, 12 o'clock, noon.—On the attempt being made to finish the bridges in front of the city, the rebel infantry again opened their fire.

The artillery in position was again opened on the city, the result being that it was fired in several new places.

The enemy have used very little artillery up to this time, as it would endanger their own men who are holding the river front

General Burnside has issued an order to concentrate every available gun upon the city, under cover of the fire of which it is believed the bridges can be finished.

The killed and wounded so far do not amount to more than fifty men.

HEADQUARTERS, Thursday evening, 11th—But little firing took place between 1 and 3 o'clock, during which time all the available batteries were placed in position They then numbered 176 guns. At a given signal all the batteries opened on the city. The fire was terrible, but the rebel sharpshooters could not be driven from their hiding places. The shot and shell went crashing through the houses, in many cases setting them on fire, causing a dense smoke, which together with the explosion of so large a quantity of powder, almost hid the city from view.

It soon became evident that the bridges could not be built except by a bold dash. Volunteers were called for to cross in small boats. The order was no sooner given than hundreds of braves stepped forward; but all could not go. About one hundred were selected.

They were soon on their way, while the artillery threw a perfect storm of iron hail on the opposite bank.

They reached the opposite shore, but not without loss. With fixed bayonets they rushed upon the enemy, killing several, and taking one hundred and one prisoners, who were safely landed on this side.

At half past four two bridges were finished opposite the city, when the troops immediately began to cross over. The enemy were soon driven from the city back to their line of works.

The two bridges in front of Gen Franklin were successfully laid early in the day; but his troops did not cross until the two upper ones were ready.

A sufficient force is now on the opposite side of the river to resist any attack that is likely to be made.

The rebels fired but few guns in the morning, and none in the afternoon, although their works were in easy range during the forenoon.

The rebels burnt the railroad bridge just outside the city.

Between thirty and forty houses were burned, mostly in the business part of the city.

During the day between 8,000 and 9,000 rounds of ammunition were fired by our artillery.

HEADQUARTERS. *Saturday Evening*, 13th.—The fog began to disappear at eleven o'clock this morning, affording unobstructed view of our own and the enemy's position. It was evident that the first ridge of hills in the rear of the city, on which the enemy had his guns posted behind earthworks, could not be carried except by a charge of infantry. Sumner assigned that duty to French's division, supported by Gen. Howard's. The troops advanced to the works at ten minutes before twelve o'clock at a brisk run. The enemy's guns opened a rapid fire upon them.

When within musket range of the ridge they were met by a terrible fire from the infantry, who were posted behind a stone wall and some houses on the right of the line. This checked their advance, and they fell back to a small ravine, but not out of musket range. At this time another body of troops moved to their assistance in splendid style, notwithstanding gaps had been made in their ranks by the rebel artillery.

When they arrived at the first line they advanced on a double quick, and with the command of fixed bayonets, endeavored to dislodge the rebels from their hiding places, The concentrated fire of artillery and infantry which they were forced to face was too much, and the centre gave way in disorder but rallied and were brought back. From that time the fire was spirited, and never ceased until sometime after darkness set in this evening.

Gen. Franklin, who commanded the attack on the left, met with better success. He succeeded, after a hard day's fight, in driving the enemy about one mile.

At one time the rebels advanced to attack, but were repulsed with terrible slaughter and a loss of between four and five hundred prisoners, belonging to Gen. A. P. Hill's command

Gen. Franklin's movement was directed down the river, and his troops encamped to-night not far from the Massapotomax creek.

Our troops sleep to-night where they fought to-day.

The dead and wounded are being carried from the field to night.

The following is a list of officers killed and wounded as far as known: General Jackson, of Pa. Reserves, killed; Gen. Bayard was struck on the thigh by a shell and afterwards died; Gen. Vinton, wounded in the side, but not seriously; Gen. Gibbons, wounded in hand; Gen. Kimball received a wound in the thigh; Gen. Caldwell, wounded in two places, but not seriously.

The firing of musketry ceased at about six o'clock, but the rebels continued throwing shell into the city until eight p. m.

The position of the rebel forces was as follows Longstreet was on the left and held the main works of the enemy, Gen. A. P. Hill and Gen Jackson in front of Gen. Franklin, with Gen Jackson's right resting on the Rappahannock. Gen. A. D. Hill's forces acted as a reserve.

Gen. Burnside will renew the battle at daylight. The troops are in good spirits and not the least disheartened.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13—The *Herald's* dispatches recieved last night say:

Fredericksburg, Dec 13.—Forenoon.—It is ascertained that the rebel forces are nearly two hundred thousand strong—Jackson commands the rebel right extending from Guinea's station to Port Royal. Longstreet has the center, extending from Guinea's station to the telegraph road, Lee and Stewart are on their left.

A dispatch dated last night says Gen. Franklin's line was moved forward at sunrise with his right resting on Fredericksburg. His center advanced a mile from the river, his left resting on the river three miles below.

Skirmishing commenced about daylight on the left, and soon after a rebel battery opened on our lines, and the 9th New York militia was ordered to charge, but after a great struggle was compelled to retire—The remainder of the brigade, under Gen. Tyler, then charged the enemy's guns, when the fight became general on the extreme left, General A. P. Hill's command.

The cannonading was terrific, though our troops suffered but little from the enemy's artillery. Gradually the fight extended round, and the right and Gen Howe's division went into the fight, followed by Brooks' division

HEADQUARTERS, *Sunday Morn*, 11:30.—There is no fog to day, and the sun is shining brightly, with a strong breeze.—At daylight this morning there was a heavy fire of artillery and infantry in front of the first line of works, where Sumner and Hooker were engaged yesterday. The fire slackened about an hour after, and heard only at intervals until now. The same occurred in front of Gen. Franklin, down the river. The object of both parties was evidently to feel the other.

During the night and this forenoon the rebels have considerably extended their works and strengthened their position.—Large bodies of troops are now to be seen where but few were found yesterday.

Our dead, which were killed yesterday while charging in front of the enemy's works, still remain where they fell. When attempting their removal, last night, the rebels would open with infantry. The wounded have all been removed from the field, and all the dead obtained are now being buried.

The indications are that no decisive battle will be fought to-day, unless the rebels should bring on the engagement, which they will not probably do.

It is thought here that about forty thousand of our troops were engaged in to-day's battle. From information received early this morning, preparations were making all night for the conflict to-day. Gen. Burnside remained on the field giving orders and looking to the position and condition of his forces. Additional surgeons, and everything which the necessities of the wounded require, have been dispatched from Washington.

Gentlemen in high public positions repeat the assertion as coming from Burnside, that he has now enough and therefore desires no further reinforcements.

HEADQUARTERS, *Monday Morning*—11 a m.—There was considerable firing yesterday between the advanced troops of the two armies.

At one time the enemy showed a disposition to move on Gen. Franklin's command.

Occasionally the rebels would throw a few shells among our troops, just to remind us of the fact that they were still there. With these exceptions every thing was quiet.

There is some skirmishing this morning, with considerable artillery firing.

The body of Gen. Bayard was sent to Washington to-day. He was to have been married next Wednesday.

HEADQUARTERS, *Monday Evening*.—The weather to day has been clear and warm with a strong southerly wind. The roads are in very good condition.

The position of the two armies remain nearly the same. There was not much artillery firing this afternoon by either party. Those shots the rebels did fire were thrown into the city. The enemy who are in plain view are not idle, but busily employed in strengthening their position

Most of the wounded to-day were removed from the city to this side of the river, as on the renewal of the battle the rebel guns would likely cause its destruction.

Over seven hundred prisoners have been taken since our army crossed the river.

—The following is given as the probable reason for the slight resistance shown by Lee to the passage of our troops across the river:

The slight resistance that Gen. Lee offered to the crossing of the Rappahannock seems to have been designed and not altogether a matter of necessity, as many were led to suppose yesterday. It seems to have been ascertained to day beyond much doubt that Jackson did not effect a junction with Lee until last night, and that the quiet reception of our terrific cannonading was simply to save a junction and draw us nearer to their formidable line of fortifications

Gen. Lee's army is now nearly if not quite 150,000 strong, with 200 hundred pieces of artillery. If he stands at all he must fight the most bloody battle of the war. This position is a stronger one than at Antietam, and if a panic is created in our ranks, the Rappahannock will be a difficult stream to recross. Ball's Bluff, repeated upon a most gigantic scale, will be our fate.

The city has not only been in part burned but ruined beyond almost all hope of recovery. All who passed through the village of Sharpsburg two days after the battle of Antietam, thought it would be almost impossible to make a town look more desolate and forsaken, but the appearance of Sharpsburg as compared with that of Fredericksburg, is comely and pleasant.

How to Conduct the War.

Secretary Stanton in his official report takes strong grounds in favor of freeing and employing the slaves of rebels, as will be seen by the following extract:

"It is seen that a force has been placed by the people of the United States at the command of the government to maintain its authority, more mighty in all the elements of warlike power than was ever before arrayed under one banner. How shall that force be employed? To smite the enemy on every hand, to attack his armies and strongholds, occupy his ports, clear the great rivers of the west of his obstructions, and pause not until he is subdued, is our duty; to disdain no legitimate aid that may save the lives of our gallant soldiers, diminish their labors, provide for their wants and lessen the burdens of our people.

"No aphorism is more universally received than that 'the sole object of a just war is to make the enemy feel the evils of his injustice, and by his sufferings amend his ways; he must therefore be attacked in his most accessible quarter.' The power of the rebels rests upon their peculiar system of labor, which keeps laborers on their plantations to support owners who are devoting their time and strength to destroy our armies, and destroy our government. Whenever that system is in hostility to the government, it is, in my opinion, the duty of those conducting the war to strike down the system, and turn against the rebels the productive power that upholds the insurrection."

☞ While Nashville was yet in possession of the rebels, a Jewish family, consisting of a man and two women, once set out from Cincinnati, in deep mourning; and carrying with them a finely made coffin, containing, they said, the body of the man's wife's sister, which they were taking to her old home, near Nashville, to be buried. They passed safely through Louisville, and were on their way to Bowling Green, then occupied by Gen. Sidney Johnson's troops, before the suspicions of a detective, who accompanied the train, were excited. He insisted on having the coffin opened; a screw-driver was brought—at the sight of which the distressed women fell into hysterics—and the lid lifted, when lo! the coffin was found neatly packed with quinine and revolvers.

☞ They must have had a very high appreciation of the Democratic victories in New York and Pennsylvania in Charleston, South Carolina, when they illuminated "beautifully" with the commonest kind of candles at $1 75 per pound, and no gas to serve their street lamps.

The First Fruit of the War---West Virginia.

While the war of the slaveholders to break up the Union and thereby destroy the government, has been productive of great evils and bitter fruits as well to those fighting in defence of as those battling against the government, the admission of a new State formed out of a part of Virginia, may be regarded as the first official and positive act which the slaveholders have made necessary for the defence and advancement of freedom. Heretofore, the friends of freedom hasied themselves in preserving the equilibrium of the states, anxious only that slavery should not get the control, but at the same time indifferent as to whether the free states possessed potent and absolute power in the national legislature. This position on the part of the friends of freedom was taken in order that the peace of the country might be preserved. Many things were granted to the advocates of slavery to secure this purpose, but the grant disappointed the grantors, and the war of the slaveholders to destroy the government, may be regarded as the result of this forbearance and concession. Had the assumed rights of the advocates of slavery been denied when at first avowed—had the institution been made to depend on its own merits, instead of the legislature privileges which its friends succeeded from time to time in wringing from the government, the investments in slavery would have been among the most insignificant of the financial ventures of the American people, while its interest would never have risen above the degradation which must forever attach to such system.

But from the hour that the new state of West Virginia was admitted, a new era will date on the relation of freedom to slavery No longer will legislation be shaped to nullify or magnify slavery.—Compromises in its favor will cease—opposition to it now not only becomes necessary to stay its spread, but to obliterate it altogether. Hereafter, whenever and wherever freedom desires to plant her banners or establish her rule, the institution of slavery must give way. The eternal progress of truth and religion proclaim this decree, and civilization sanctions it with all her force and influence Thus old states now cursed with slavery, will be divided, until the rejuvenation of the one part, invites the other to experiments in freedom, and then again they will be united in the bonds of liberty. This new territory will be organized into states, and devoted eternally to freedom. And all because slavery assumed the power of either governing or ruining the American Union. Thus God makes use of bad men to rid the earth of wrong. Thus slavery has worked out its own destruction. Let the nation rejoice at the result.

—On the passage of the bill through the House, (the Senate having already acted on and passed the bill,) among the yeas we find only two Democrats from the free States—Mr. Haight and Mr. Lehman—while a few Republicans and Northern Union men—such as Ashley, Rogers, Conkling, Conway, Delano, Grinell, Rice, Thomas, Train, &c—vote with the Vallandighams, Coxes, &c., in the negative. But as an offset, we have the affirmative votes of such real Union men from the slave States as Blair and Brown, of Virginia; Clucy, of Kentucky; Fisher of Delaware; Maynard, of Tennessee; Noel of Missouri, &c. The bill provides for the gradual emancipation of slavery.

Victory in Arkansas.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.

The following despatch has been received at the headquarters of the army:

ST. LOUIS, Dec 11.

Maj. Gen. Halleck, General-in-Chief:

Further details are received from Generals Blunt and Herron, from the battle ground of Prairie Grove, near Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Our loss in killed and wounded is now estimated at a thousand, and that of the enemy at over two thousand.

The rebels left many of their dead and most of their wounded for us to care for

Extensive hospitals will be improvised in Fayetteville.

Persons who have returned from the battle field report that the enemy was 8,000 strong.

Their artillery was much crippled. We took four caissons filled with ammunition and a large number of small arms.

Gen. Blunt moves forward to-day on Cane Hill, Gen Herron remaining at Prairie Grove burying the dead and providing for the wounded.

The enemy muffled their wheels and moved off in the night, continuing their retreat to Van Buren, probably crossing the Arkansas river.

Col. M'Farland, of the 19th Iowa, is killed.

Col. Black, of the 37th Illinois, Major Thomas, of the 20th Iowa, and a large number of subaltern officers are wounded.

It was a hard fought battle, and complete victory.

[Signed] S. R. CURTIS,
Major General.

☞ Gen. Halleck has decreed that no more civilians shall be appointed Paymasters, but that these officers shall be taken from the Army, and by preference from those incapacitated for field service by wounds or disease.

☞ It is reported that the venerable and high minded James Gordon Bennett will retire from business on the 1st of January, leaving the *Herald* to his promising son, James G. Bennet, Jr.

☞ Wintrish at present: the weather.

☞ Important movements are on foot in eastern North Carolina. Twelve regiments left Newbern on Saturday. Some think their destination is Wilmington, but the more general belief is that they design an attack on Weldon and Petersburg.

On Sunday two transports and five gunboats ascended the Chowan river, and a land force of 10,000 men were seen in motion from Suffolk, indicating a move on Weldon.

The Raleigh *Progress* announced the landing of a large Federal force in Gates county. If this be true, an immediate attack on Weldon may be expected.

"Old Abe" put a thousand dollars in his wife's purse, and told her to distribute it among the sick and wounded soldiers in Washington. Like a good wife, she is obeying him.

EBENSBURG & CRESSON RAILROAD COMPANY—*Notice to Stockholders.*—Notice is hereby given to the stockholders of the Ebensburg and Cresson Railroad Company, that the annual election for a President and twelve Directors of said Company will be held at the office of the Company, on the second MONDAY, 12th day of JANUARY, 1862, beginning at the hour of one and closing at four o'clock, P. M.

A. C. M'ILLIN, Secretary.

Ebensburg, December 18, 1862

THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.
---1863.---

The New York Tribune, first issued in 1841, now in its twenty-second year, has obtained both a larger and a more widely diffused circulation than any other newspaper ever published in America Though it has suffered, in common with other journals, from the volunteering and departure of tens of thousands of its patrons to serve in the War for the Union, its circulation on this 6th day of December, 1862, is as follows:

Daily,	50,125
Semi Weekly,	11,200
Weekly,	148,000
Aggregate,	215,375

Pre-eminently a journal of News and of Literature, The Tribune has political convictions which are well characterized by the single word REPUBLICAN. It is Republican in its hearty adhesion to the great truth that God has made of one blood all nations of men—Republican in its assertion of the equal and indeasable rights of all men to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"—Republican in its steadfast, earnest, defiant hostility to every scheme and effort of the Slave Power, from the Annexation of Texas to the great Rebellion, to grasp the empire of the New World and wield the resources of our country for its own aggrandizement—Republican in its antagonism to the aristocracy and despots of the Old World, who fondly hail in the perils and calamities and lonly thrust upon us by their American counterpart, the overthrow and ruin of the Model Republic—Republican in its hope and trust, its faith and effort, that this atrocious Rebellion must result in the great overthrow of its plotters, and the final establishment of equal rights and equal laws throughout the whole extent of our country, wherein Liberty and Union shall indeed be one and inseparable henceforth and forever.

The Tribune devotes attention to other times, and to some extent to Home, to Education, Temperance, Agriculture, Invention, and whatever can in any manner to the spiritual and material progress and well-being of mankind; but for the present its energies and its columns are mainly devoted to the suppression and suppression of the War for the Union. Its special correspondents accompany every considerable army and report every important incident of that great struggle which we trust is soon to result in the signal and conclusive triumph of the National arms and in the restoration of Peace and Profit to our distracted, bleeding country. We believe that no other one can give a fuller or more accurate view of the progress and character of this momentous conflict be obtained than through the regular perusal of our columns. And we earnestly solicit the cooperation of all friends of the National cause, which we regard and upholds as that of Universal Humanity, to aid us in extending its circulation.

TERMS:—The enormous increase in the price of printing paper and other materials used in printing newspapers, compels us to increase the price of The Tribune. Our new terms are:

DAILY TRIBUNE.

Single Copy,	2 cents.
Mail Subscribers, one year, (311 issues.)	$3

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One Copy, one year, (104 Issues.)	$2
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Five Copies, one year,	$12
Ten Copies, one year,	$22 50

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One Copy, one year, (52 issues.)	$1
Three Copies, one year,	$2
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Ten Copies, one year,	$15

Any larger number, addressed to names of subscribers, $1 50 each. An extra copy will be sent to every club of ten.

Twenty copies, to one address, one year, $15, and any larger number at same price.—An extra copy will be sent to clubs of twenty. To clubs of thirty, THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE will be sent. To clubs of fifty, THE DAILY TRIBUNE will be sent gratis.

Address THE TRIBUNE,
Tribune Buildings New York.

☞ When drafts can be procured, it is much safer than to remit Bank Bills. The name of the Post Office and State should in all cases be plainly written.

Subscribers who send money by Express must prepay the Express charges, else it will be deducted from the remittance.

THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC FOR 1863 will be ready about Christmas.

STRAY HEIFER.—Came to the residence of the subscriber, in Susquehanna Township, Cambria county, some time in October last, one two year old BLACK HEIFER, with a white spot on its forehead. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay all necessary charges and take her away.

HENRY WEAVER.

Wilmore, Nov 28th 1862-3t.

DISSOLUTION.—The partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the firm of Davis, Jones & Co., was this day dissolved by mutual consent. The Business will be settled by either of the partners, at the stand of Robert Davis, for a limited time, where all having unsettled accounts will save costs by calling soon.

ROBERT DAVIS,
JNO. P. JONES,
THOS. GRIFFITH.