The Ebensburg Alleghanian.

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I WOULD RATHER BE RIGHT THAN PRESIDENT.—Henry Clay.

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EBENSBURG MAILS.

MAILS ARRIVE.

Eastern, daily, at	8.50 o'clock,	A. M.
Western, " at	6.25 o'clock	P. M.

MAILS CLOSE.

Eastern, daily, at	8 o'clock,	P. M.
Western, " at	8 o'clock,	P. M.

☞ The mails from Newman's Mills, Carrolltown, &c., arrive on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week, at 3 o'clock, P. M. Leave Ebensburg on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

RAILROAD SCHEDULE.

CRESSON STATION.

West—Balt. Express leaves at		9.13 A. M.
" Phila. Express	"	9.55 A. M.
" Fast Line	"	10.33 P. M.
" Mail Train	"	9.03 P. M.
" Pitts. & Erie Ml.	"	7.48 A. M.
" Altoona Accom.	"	4.32 P. M
East—Phila. Express	"	8.31 P. M.
" Fast Line	"	2.21 A. M.
" Day Express	"	6.43 A. M.
" Cincinnati Ex.	"	1.11 P. M.
" Mail Train	"	5.21 P. M.
" Altoona Accom.	"	12.36 A. M.

COUNTY OFFICERS.

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Clerk to Treasurer—John Lloyd.

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Poor House Treasurer—George C. K. Zahm.

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Coroner. -William Flattery.

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EBENSBURG BOR. OFFICERS.

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Burgess—C. T. Roberts.

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Inspectors—Richard R. Tibbott, Robert D. Thomas

Judge of Election—Daniel O. Evans.

Assessor—J. A. Moore.

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Inspectors.—Robert Evans, Jno. E. Scanlan.

Judge of Election.—John D. Thomas.

Assessor.—Capt. Murray.

SOCIETIES, &c.

A. Y. M.—Summit Lodge No. 312 A. Y. M. meets in Masonic Hall, Ebensburg, on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 6½ o'clock, P. M.

I. O. O. F.—Highland Lodge No. 428 I. O. O. F. meets in Odd Fellows' Hall, Ebensburg, every Wednesday evening.

S. of T.—Highland Division No. 84 Sons of Temperance meets in Temperance Hall, Ebensburg, every Saturday evening.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION
TO
"THE ALLEGHANIAN."
$2.00 IN ADVANCE,
OR
$3.00 IF NOT PAID IN ADVANCE.

Bob Fletcher, the Plowman.

I once knew a plowman, Bob Fletcher his name,
Who was old, and was ugly, and so was his dame;
Yet they lived quite contented, and free from all strife,
Bob Fletcher, the plowman, and Judy, his wife.

As the morn streaked the east, and the night fled away,
They would rise up for labor, refreshed, for the day;
And the song of the lark, as it rose on the gale,
Found Bob at the plow and his wife at the pail.

And a neat little cottage in front of a grove,
Where in youth they first gave their young hearts up to love,
Was the solace of age, and to them doubly dear,
As it called up the past with a smile or a tear.

Each tree had its thought, and the vow could impart
That mingled in youth the warm wish of the heart;
The thorn was still there, and the blossom it bore,
And the song from its top seemed the same as before.

I have passed by his door when the evening was gray,
And the hill and the landscape were fading away,
And I have heard from the cottage, with grateful surprise,
The voice of thanksgiving, like incense, arise.

And I thought on the proud, who would look down with scorn
On the neat little cottage, the grove, and the thorn,
And felt that the riches and tinsels of life
Were dross to contentment with Bob and his wife.

Pennsylvania's Heroic Dead---Where they are Buried in the South---Condition of the Cemeteries.

The following reports of Cols. Gregg and Chamberlin, agents on behalf of Pennsylvania to inquire into the condition of the cemeteries in the South containing the remains of Union soldiers who fell victims to rebel neglect and cruelty during the war, will possess peculiar interest to not a few of our readers:—

Transportation and Telegraph Dept., Harrisburg, January 16, 1866.

Sir:—That the great anxiety to know the condition of the graves and graveyards of those who fell victims to cruel neglect and starvation during the late war, in the prison places of the South, might be satisfied with personal observation and inspection—and that advisory answers as to the feasibility of the removal of bodies from these places, might be returned to unfortunate friends and kinsmen, for assistance of the State under the Volunteer Relief Associations—I proceeded by your direction to Washington on the 18th ult., en route to the principal points where these burying grounds are located, in the Military Department of the Atlantic, accessible by railroad.

To the end that time and expense might be saved in the accomplishment of this object, it was thought advisable that Col. Chamberlin should proceed on a similar mission from Nashville to Andersonville, Ga., and intermediate points—the railroad communication being more perfect and the distance to be traveled less than beyond the most Southern point in the East I should be required to visit—I therefore communicated to Col. Chamberlin by letter the instruction under which I acted, and desired him to proceed at his earliest convenience in fulfilment of his part of the object.

An informal order from the headquarters of the armies of the United States secured me the courteous attention and assistance of all local military officers in furtherance of my mission.

On the outskirts of Richmond, I found the grounds allotted to the burial of Union soldiers in Oakwood and Hollywood Cemeteries, and the enclosure containing the graves of those who languished and died under the rigors of prison treatment on Belle Isle, surrounded by plain, substantial fences. The burials in Hollywood Cemetery are those deceased since the rebel evacuation of the city. The graves here are of sufficient depth, and well marked with plainly lettered head-boards. At Oakwood and on Belle Isle moulder the bodies of those who died during the dark days when the Confederate flag flaunted treason, and when brave and patriotic men, imprisoned in unwholesome prison-houses and on this bleak isle, sickened and died.

Here the furrowed ground alone marks the great mortality that depleted our armies, there being but few marks by which to identify or distinguish particular interments. A catalogue of the names, companies and regiments of the heroes buried in and around Richmond, compiled and published by the U. S. Christian Commission, is invaluable for the information it gives the bereaved friends of these.

An inspection of the prison graveyards at Danville, Va., discovered to me that some care, although unusual, had been taken in the burial and marking for future identification the graves of those who died here. Plain headboards exhibit the names, companies and regiments, painted in legible characters, of those who gave up their lives prior to November, 1864. The graves of those buried subsequent to that date are at regular intervals, and in the order in which they are numbered in the undertaker's register. A complete record of all buried here is given in the publication of the U. S. C. C. before referred to. I am of the opinion that the identification and removal of bodies from this point is practicable. A ravine divides this inclosure, on the opposite sides of which rest in the awful stillness of death Union and Confederate dead.

From Danville I proceeded to Salisbury, N. C. Here thousands of the Union armies found their graves, where gaunt death seems to have gorged itself with the lives of our ill-fated soldiery. Secresy envelopes the numbers of this great mortality, and bier after bier of crowded corpses, under shallow coverings of earth, alone give idea of the frightful ravages of disease and starvation. The dead bodies are laid side by side in trenches about seven feet in width, and extending the length of the enclosure; trench following trench fill up almost the entire area of less than two acres. The enclosing fence, the broken surface of the ground, together with the simple inscriptions of death on thirteen board tablets warn the visitor that he is on ground replete with the recollections of brutality and suffering, that sicken and appal. The drainage of the hill side on which this burying ground is situated, must soon expose the bones of those buried, unless steps are soon taken for its permanent improvement.

My observations here convince me of the utter impossibility of finding and disinterring particular remains, unless the identification was through some unnatural formation of the body, or some unusual care in its burial.

Learning that railroad communication was interrupted south of this point, and that I could only reach Columbus, S. C., by a very circuitous route, or long travel by stage, I determined to return, believing that I should find other prison places in the same condition as those visited, and that this report would be satisfactory as to the feasibility of the removal of bodies from prison graveyards in the far South. I visited several other points, where soldiers of Union armies have found their last resting places, in the course of my tour through this country.

At Petersburg, City Point and vicinities, hospital graveyards are neatly and substantially enclosed, and graves, as far as they could be identified, appropriately marked.

Officers of the Quartermaster General's Department have been engaged in the establishment of Government Cemeteries on many of the historic battle-fields of the late war. Under General Orders Nos. 35 and 58, from this Department, records of those who died in defence of the American Union, interred in the National Cemeteries at Washington, and those slain on the battle-fields of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania Court House, have been published.

Efforts to the same end are in progress, under the direction of the Chief Quartermaster in the Military Division of Tennessee. I presume similar records will be published of these operations. I have the honor to call your attention to the report of Col. Chamberlin, accompanying this. He pronounces as inexpedient efforts for the recovery of bodies from Andersonville, and dissuades all persons from such efforts, by reason of the great uncertainty in obtaining particular bodies, and the difficulties in the transmission of these to Pennsylvania. I have held this opinion based on the report made by Lieut. Colonel J. Moore, Assistant Quartermaster, September 20, 1865, and have uniformly advised those applying to this Department, of the extreme doubtfulness of efforts for the recovery of bodies from this place being successful.

That greater facilities might be afforded, I have arranged with the President of the Baltimore Steam Packet Company to transport, on the orders of the State of Pennsylvania, at two cents per circular mile, persons traveling for and in attendance on the corpse of deceased soldiers.

Negotiations are now pending with some of the railroad companies to still further reduce the personal expense of those thus traveling. To subserve economy in expenditure of the appropriation to this Department, I have endeavored to save expense by requiring one person to bring home more than one body, when applications were made, from the same locality. I know of no other plan so satisfactory as that of granting transportation to the relatives or their agent, when transportation is applied for, in the removal of bodies of deceased soldiers of Pennsylvania regiments. The innumerable places where bodies are buried, and the almost numberless routes and roads to be traveled in reaching these, preclude the possibility of accomplishing this object through established agencies.

While we honor and provide for those who have survived the casualties of war, it is well that we do not forget those who gave up their lives willing sacrifices for the preservation of the American Union, and the perpetuity of its liberal blessings—and whether by bringing home their bodies or in efforts looking to the permanent improvement of the burying places in which they rest, show our grateful appreciation of the sacred obligations that rest upon us.

Respectfully your ob't servant,
H. H. GREGG,
Chief of Transportation and Tel. Dep't.

His Excellency Andrew G. Curtin, Governor of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania Military Agency, Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 11, 1866.

Col. H. H. Gregg, Chief Transportation and Telegraph Departments, Harrisburg, Penn'a:

Colonel—In accordance with instructions contained in your communication of December 16th, 1865, to proceed to Andersonville, Ga., and other points within this Department, for the purpose of examining into and reporting upon the practicability of removing the remains of our soldiers interred in the National Cemeteries at these points, I beg leave to submit the following statement:

I left Nashville on the 28th ult., and proceeded to Chattanooga. Several thousand Union soldiers are buried at this point, and, among the rest, a large number of Pennsylvania soldiers. The Rev. Thomas B. Van Horne, Chaplain U. S. V., is Superintendent of the Military Cemetery at this point, and has a complete register of all soldiers there buried. I expect him to furnish me with a list of the Pennsylvanians within a few days, and will forward the same to you. Leaving Chattanooga, I proceeded by the way of Rome, Ga., to Atlanta. There are a large number of soldiers buried at various points along the Chattanooga and Atlanta railroad, at Rome, Dalton, Resaca, Kenesaw, etc., but as it would have required a great deal of time to have obtained a list of Pennsylvanians, I did not attempt it. There is a large National Cemetery at Atlanta, or rather near the city, but as the weather was very inclement, and I was suffering from a severe cold, I did not visit it. From Atlanta I went directly to Andersonville, over the Macon and Western and the Southwestern Georgia railroads. In regard to the practicability of obtaining the remains of our buried soldiers throughout this Department, I am satisfied from personal observation that the remains can be obtained in the Cemeteries here, at Nashville, at Chattanooga, at Murfreesboro, in most cases, and generally wherever the interments have been made by our own men, and under the direction of our own military authorities, as space has, in nearly every instance, been given, sufficient to distinguish each separate grave. At Andersonville, however, the manner of interment was such as to render the recognition of a corpse exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, in a large proportion of cases. During a part of the summer of 1864 and the early part of autumn of the same year, the burials averaged about seventy-five per day. Trenches about six feet in depth were dug, and in these the remains of our soldiers were deposited, often upon their sides, and so close together that the head-boards which mark the graves and which are but ten inches in width, leave no intervening spaces between each other for more than one hundred graves together.

After the first few hundred burials, the rebel authorities ceased to furnish coffins of any description, and the compact system of burial which I have described was resorted to. Decomposition has taken place so rapidly in these cases that nothing now remains of the corpses but the bones and hair, and the color of the latter is about the only means left of identifying them, unless the comparative size, or some peculiarity in the teeth may assist to that end. Upon the whole, I can only say that while the removal of these remains cannot be considered as entirely impracticable, still the effort must necessarily be attended with so much difficulty and uncertainty as to render such a course on the part of the friends of the deceased at least inadvisable. There are other difficulties necessarily attendant upon the removal of these remains, to which it may not be inappropriate to refer. Coffins to contain them must be procured in the North, or at Nashville, Atlanta or Macon, or some one of the intermediate cities, and the cost of transportation to Andersonville, under the present legislative provisions of the State, must devolve upon the friends or relatives of the deceased, as well as the original cost of the same; and this, together with the fact that the line of travel over which persons are obliged to go, necessitates a large number of changes from one railroad to another, all of which occasion more or less delay, trouble and annoyance, not to mention expense, must be taken into consideration by those having such an object in view.

The bridges have been swept away by freshets on the line of the road between Chattanooga and Atlanta, viz: those over the Oostanaula and Chattahoochie rivers, and it is doubtful whether they will be rebuilt sufficiently to allow the passage of trains before the first of March. I had an interview with Col. Baugh, Superintendent of the Chattanooga and Atlanta railroad, for the purpose of obtaining transportation at reduced rates, if possible, for the purpose specified; but he was about to resign his position as Superintendent, and refused to make any arrangements. The Superintendent of the Macon and Southwestern railroad was not at home, and consequently I could effect no arrangement with that road; and in view of these facts I made no further attempts with the officers of other roads.

In conclusion I would say that in a conference I had with Mr. H. B. Welton, Superintendent of the National Cemetery at Andersonville, I elicited the following facts, viz: That the remains of the soldiers there buried, consisting of the bones and hair alone, could be enclosed in a small box made of pine boards, not over two feet in length, and of a sufficient depth to contain the skull, and then shipped to almost any point in the Northern States, by express, for a sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars; including the cost of boxing and interment, and that if he were retained in his position as Superintendent he would cheerfully undertake to forward remains if they could be distinguished. A description of the hair, teeth and size of the person interred, together with the name, company and regiment to which he belonged, and, if possible, the date of his death and number of his grave, would give him every facility for recognizing the remains that the person going after him would possess, and would be attended with comparatively trifling expense; and this mode I consider the only feasible one to be pursued on the part of the friends and relatives of the deceased.

I will endeavor to obtain a list of the Pennsylvania soldiers buried at this and other points south of Nashville, and forward the same to the Governor at as early a date as possible.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

Jas. Chamberlin,
Lt. Col. and Penn'a. Mil. Ag't.

Remarkable Escapes of Eminent Men.

Two brothers were on one occasion walking together, when a violent storm with thunder and lightning came on.—One was struck dead, the other was spared—else would the name of the great reformer, Martin Luther, have been unknown to mankind.

John Wesley, when a child, was only just preserved from death by fire. The moment after he was rescued, the roof of the house he had been in fell in. Of Philip Henry, a similar instance is recorded.

The holy St. Augustine, having to preach at a distant town, took with him a guide, who by some unaccountable means mistook the road, and fell into a by-path. He afterwards discovered that his enemies, having heard of his movements, had planted themselves in the proper road with the design of murdering him.

Doddridge, when born, was so weakly an infant he was believed to be dead. A nurse standing by fancied she saw some signs of vitality. Thus the feeble spark of life was saved from extinguishment, and an eminent author and consistent Christian was preserved to the world.

When Oliver Cromwell was an infant, a monkey snatched him from his cradle, leaped with him through a garret window, and ran along the leads of the house. The utmost alarm was excited among the inmates, and various were the devices used to rescue the child from the guardianship of his newly found protector. All were unavailing; his would-be rescuers had lost courage, and were in despair of ever seeing the baby alive again, when the monkey quietly retraced its steps and deposited its burden safely on the bed. On a subsequent occasion the waters had well nigh quenched his insatiable ambition. He fell into a deep pond, from drowning in which a clergyman named Johnson was the sole instrument of his rescue.

At the siege of Leicester, a young soldier, about seventeen years of age, was drawn out for sentry duty. One of his comrades was very anxious to take his place. No objection was made and this man went. He was shot dead while on guard. The young man first drawn afterward became the author of the "Pilgrim's Progress."

Many years have now elapsed since three subalterns might have been seen struggling in the water off St. Helena; one of them, peculiarly helpless, was fast succumbing. He was saved to live as Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington.

Lord Clive, while a young man holding a subordinate position in the East India Company's service, was only saved from filling a suicide's grave by the fact that his pistol, which he snapped twice at his head, refused to go off. He afterward snapped it out through the window, when it went off without any difficulty. He exclaimed, "I must be reserved for something great!" and from that moment gave up all idea of suicide.

Bacon, the sculptor, when a boy five years old, fell into a soap-boiler's pit, and was only rescued with the utmost difficulty.

Educational Department.

[*Prepared for The Alleghanian.*]

Compulsory Attendance.—Our last article closed by suggesting the fitness of depriving of the elective privilege, for a time at least, such parents and guardians as through negligence, avarice, or aversion to knowledge, withhold from the youth under their care a stated yearly amount of schooling. It is in continuation of that subject we now speak.

That all the people of a State can attain to proficiency in learning, or even in the common rudiments, is a proposition that need not be combated, its simple statement being sufficient to prove its impossibility. None the less useful is it, however, for a person in his earlier years to have himself under good training, and become at least sufficiently acquainted with the practical use of his own tongue as to gather the correct meaning of plain Saxon speech, spoken or written. A little knowledge is in itself a little thing; and the store of it in the mind of one whose chief concern is to secure food and raiment for himself and those who lean on him and are part of him, is a very small thing; but then, again, the vaster comprehension and more extended information of even the most learned of earth is not a very large thing, being only a "few pebbles picked up from the sea-shore," while the great ocean of knowledge lies undiscovered beyond. Yet a little knowledge may be a very, very great thing, may be the key to unlock the door of things infinite. But it is not the amount of knowledge that is all that is to be looked at. Not only is the plain, common, every-day man, with a practical knowledge of the use of words, more capable of understanding what he reads or hears, and of forming a correct judgment thereon, but he is more capable of putting himself down to steady, sober thought. The information a farmer's boy has obtained at the district school may in great part forsake him; he may forget "the double rule of three," or the rules of government in grammar, or that the Dniester flows into the Black Sea—all these may leave his head when he gets black-eyed Susan into his heart, and especially when he gets her to preside in his home, and that home has a junior black-eyed Susan, and black-eyed Susan's brother and sister, or perhaps two or three of each, for then the plough must be faithfully followed, and the seed well sown, and every corner watched, or there will be scarcity in the larder and on the table, in the wardrobe and on the back, but the power of thinking, the strength coming from the discipline of youth, will be there still. There will be a pride in the school-house "where I went to school when I was a boy."—There will be many a chapter from the Good Book read, or a prayer; many a piece of information gathered that will have its influence for good manifested on election-day.

What right has any man, either moral or any other, through avarice, neglect, or stone-blind prejudice, or by any pretence, to deprive his child of what the child when grown to manhood will himself deem essential to his usefulness and self-enjoyment, and what the State *does* deem essential to both?

If the State is right in deeming universal education essential to good citizenship and the peace and welfare of society, and in taxing all for the support of its educational system, why let the wickedly careless, the avaricious, or the obstinately perverse spit on the judgment of the State and cause the public treasure to be thrown away?

Is a man so careless of his own offspring or so anxious to wring from their young lives the utmost farthing as to inflict on them an injury and shame that at best cannot cease sooner than death, fit to be trusted with the guardianship of public affairs? Failing in his duty over those who should be to him scarcely less than life itself, what punishment carries with it such natural fitness as that of depriving him of a voice in the affairs of the commonwealth to which he has shown himself an actual if not deliberate enemy?

Is this measure feasible? We answer that the teacher should be a sworn officer. Then, let him be required to send to each parent or guardian by each of his pupils at the close of each week, a statement of the child's attendance. Then, at the end of a session, provide a certificate of the actual attendance and the percentage.—Let each district keep a list of the school children in it, and make it the duty of the assessor to take the requisite census and make out the list. Place such as have school children under their charge, yet can show no such certificate, on a level with those whose taxes remain unpaid for two or three years. Make the certified or sworn statement of a regular physician necessary to justify detention from school.

Cannot Vote.—The Department of Common Schools of Pennsylvania has decided that School Directors elected next spring will not be entitled to vote at the coming election for County Superintendent, which takes place the first Monday in May, 1866. The terms of School Directors commence on the first Monday in June, and therefore only those now in office can vote.