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BARKER, Editor and Proprietor. and MUTCHINSON, Publisher.

I WOULD RATHER BE RIGHT THAN PRESIDENT .- HENRY CLAY.

EBENSBURG, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1866.

THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

THE DIST., PA., SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1863.

TOF PRO. MAR. 17TH DIST. PA., Gen. James B. Fry, Provost Marmeral, Washington, D. C .- Gen-In compliance with instructions the office of the A. A. Provost Mareneral Western Division of Penna., at Harrisburg, May 1st, 1865, I the honor to submit for your considon the following report of the operaand method of business of this office

Board of Enrollment as originally nuted, April 29th, 1863, consisted of D Campbell, of Huntingdon, Capad Provost Marshal; Abraham ck. M. D. of M'Veytown, Surand M. S. Harr, of Ebensburg, The Board first convened idaysburg, Blair county, on the of May, 1863, and having orproceeded at once to the division longressional District into subof convenient size, and as nearly cable of equal population. At ent meetings of the Board of Enat, suitable persons were selected to enrolling officers, usually one for sub-district, and their appointment al General. Deputy Provost Marand special agents also, to the allowed in paragraph 138 of Reegulations for the Provost Marshal by the proper department.

the provisions of the Act of

ompliance with orders received from per bureau, the approved enrolling for this Congressional District were labors to these headquarters. As distribution, and correction of quotas. ds of the families composing it. In but only a majority.

officer was furnished suitable ficial. om the Provost Marshal General's should have it correct and comclose of each day's labors he would mation can be obtained. er to these rolls from his temporary tanda the information necessary to

as it was possible under the circumstances

vost Marshal for his use.

ment and perpetuation.

ted for its mineral wealth, has its vast enrollments. eigners of every nationality, whose inter- of December 19th, 1864, the process was of faultless equity and good intention. ests in their own estimation, it would more lengthy and difficult than it had seem, are ever inimical to the genius of formerly been, and being less easily com-

Bureau, were in course of time have become citizens. They in this man- county. by the Board of Enrollment and ner easily become the tools of political In the early part of the war, there was to be drawn were invited to be present as sober thought as to its legitimate tenden- when held to service, has been uniformly figure as leaders, they are all devoted and place and the townships surrounding it, every portion of the district might be seminated with the deliberate design of nished the data or necessary information 1 1863, had been thus far car- uncompromising vassals. Their prejudi- nearly all of the men coming from the catisfied as to the complete fairness and fomenting and poisoning the public mind. for all the returns of credits, all reports effect, very little further organi- ces are of such a nature as naturally to latter and the officers from the borough. justice of results. was necessary before commencing enlist them in any measure which has for listed at the embarrassment of that class of persons its object the embarrassment of the Govenstituting the "national forces." - ernment, and the exigency which made of service, and as their post office address | Board of Enrollment, committee of ob- oppressed, not because they felt the mail- affecting the status of the different subtory of the country, and especially conscription necessary was peculiarly fa- in nearly every case was M'Veytown, it servation, and clerks took their respective ed hand of the law, but for the reason districts. ary situation just at that time, vorable for their nefarious purposes. It was given on their muster-in-rolls as the positions, in such manner as to allow all that their more intelligent fellow-citizens | For some time after my assumption of ed that every possible effort be gave them an opportunity, under the place for which they enlisted, thus secu- promiseuous spectators present to be grat- were constantly decrying the tyranny and the duties of this office, the credits of strengthen the weakened organi- feigned pretext of protection to themselves | ring their credits to the borough, which | fied with a view of the wheel of fortune. | military despotism under which they lived. | drafted men were ascertained by me from in the field at an early day. The and their naturalized brethren from what paid them very little if any local bounty, Two persons were then selected, one to It was hence the influence of this mis- the proper record book at these headquarto the Umon arms at Chancellors- they denominated tyranny and an unjust when in reality very few of them were turn the wheel, and the other, blindfolded, taken sentiment on the people more than ters and forwarded at stated periods to the and the threatened invasion and oppression, to manifest their inherent ani- residents of the place, and when they to take from it the tickets bearing the anything else, which appeared as a diffi- office of the A. A. Provost Marshal Gene devastation of Maryland and mosity against the policy and measures of might have received liberal bounties by names of those who became thereafter culty to be contended against and over- eral of the State, at Harrisburg. During vania by the Army of Northern the Government; and it was not, there- being credited where they properly be- soldiers of the United States. a were most conclusive proofs to fore, a matter of surprise to find this con- longed. de North, not only of the formida- trolling sentiment among them taking tary power, but of the desperation upon itself form and organization, and at pressed the depleted townships from which Board, arising from his seat, announced to seemed to the public so odious; it was based upon monthly and tri-monthly reit became evident, therefore, that if not treasonable demonstrations of oppo- borough to such an enormous extent that mence for the Seventeenth Congressional terpretation of it that its provisions ap- however, all credits were calculated at per of men obtained by voluntary sition to the enforcement of law. Accordit never after furnished a man, and has District, sub-district No. 1." ats would no tonger be sufficient dingly on several occasions and in different now at the close of the war an excess over Then, in accordance with instructions oppressive exactions; and this, I appre- in exhibits, each embracing a period of the demands of the Government localities in this Congressional district, all calls, of sixty-two years' service, which from Lt Col. J. V. Bomford, late A. A. hend, is the real it not the only source ten days. as had wisely anticipated, only the even death, if they did not at once desist county-seats and small towns were favored as soon as written, each sub-district by the conscription law. esort-that of enforced military from the further prosecution of their ob- at the expense of the rural districts in itself, counted by the Board of Eurollfering in person and possessions while sufficient as an illustration. carrying out the provisions of the law.

of each week to report the result an interest, that is, the establishment, cations, and divisions.

the sub-districts were small, it No other subject connected with con- Congressional District having been and from it one of the tickets, which he hand- the examining room in small numbers, in characteristic anecdote of the lamented terwards thought unnecessary to scription had a power and an influence nounced by the Provost Marshal General, ed to the Commissioner of the Board, who the order of sub districts, and those whose | Lincoln: hem make a report until they should like this in attracting the attention of the after he had taken into account the cred- read aloud the name and number thereon, claims for exemption were founded on A good, and what is better, an authencompleted their rolls. The exact people and impelling them to action .- its to which it was entitled by estimating and in turn passed it usually to the com- physical disability, from any cause what- tie, story about Mr. Lincoln came to me making the enrollment as Here was where, if at all, the oppression the total number of its years' service by mittee of observation, that they might ever, were referred to the Surgeon for his the other day from a friend; which may by each officer, it would be im- and injustice of enforced military service "one," "two" and "three years' men;" detect any error which could possibly decision; while those whose claims were as well be set up in your types now as a Die for me to detail, because circum- were felt, and it was where the Govern- and the excess of years' service over the have been made in pronouncing the name of such a nature as not to require an ex- any other time. Conversing with the es with which I am unacquainted, ernment, while seeing and acknowledging | whole number of men furnished, -I equal- or number. which existed in different degrees in this oppression and these hardships, was | ized this credit by adding it to the quota | The name on the ticket was then tranvarious sub-districts, influenced to a powerless to remove or mitigate them of the District in gross, and distributing scribed by the proper clerk into a blank When a man had been rejected by the White House, the late President said extent the mode pursued in carrying without imposing others as severe. It it among the sub-districts according to the book which had been procured for this Board as not liable, from any cause, to in reference to the rush of office-seeker and completing the enrollment. But was one of those cases in which the mi- number enrolled in each. This gave the purpose, and thus the work progressed, perform military service, he was given a and their ingenious devices to secure his eneral thing, the information neces- nority are called upon to make concessions quota of the sub-district, increased by the taking each sub-district in the order in discharge or certificate of exemption ac- attention: be placed on the rolls was obtained and sacrifices, because that generous rule excess in proportion to the number en- which it was numbered, until the drawing cording to the prescribed form, and disofficer making a complete canvass in political ethics, "the greatest good to rolled; but as the number of "one," "two" for the district had been completed. Sub-district and examining the the greatest number," did not include all, and "three years' men," respectively, had After draiting the required number however, after careful examination, it was bere in Washington, for I am constantly

State draft in 1862 were consulted that there would be no discord in the gross quota, the actual amount of excess carefully sealed up in a small envelope ted him to the Quartermaster store-rooms, other way. Here, yesterday, a very ound to render very valuable infor- workings of the multifarious machinery in years' service which the sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be the sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence, after signing the clothing rolls handsome young woman called, she would be sub-district and placed in this condition in a larger whence where the sub-district and placed in t not the completion of the present necessary to carry out the provisions of had furnished, or added its deficiency, envelope, which contained the tickets of and receiving the requisite amount of not take a denial, was admitted, and went the original rolls, in compliance with system, and one of so vast a magnitude, ber of men required under this call. Wisions of the Act of March 3d, had never before been introduced into our According to this formula, modified of ing endorsed on it the name and number commodation of guards, drafted men, vol. She plead her cause dexterously, eloquentthe two classes of persons liable to country. It was an experiment thrust by course as to results by the difference in of the sub-district to which the tickets unteers, and deserters. Here the recruits by, and at times was almost successful by duty were kept separate and dis- necessity upon the people in the very the status of sub-districts, the respective belonged, and carefully preserved. and the amendment of February midst of a terrible civil war, and in any quotas were arrived at; and though much | Immediately after the draft was conclud, abolished this distinction by other form of government, where the pre- of its workings seemed to the Board of Enrollment fixed the Reserve Corps which was on duty in this in my chair, until really her face car seemed to the people usethese classes, and thereby mate- dominant feeling and sentiment was not lessly inexplicable, its final results are dates for the reporting and examining of district. creasing the available forces from one of patriotism, its results might have believed to have been correct and just .- the conscripts from the respective counrecruit our armies. Each en- been disastrous; in ours, they were bene- The late hour in the history of the war at ties comprising the Congressional District. volunteers, had been accepted into the came to my relief, and drawing my self

through this office, on which to established and announced while this office he enrollment of his sub-district was under the supervision of my prede- others, by taking into consideration the which were forwarded from the Provost duty here. cessor, I am unable to speak, as the rec- number of men and years' service which Marshal General's Bureau, to be served These contracts or agreements are such Pior to sending it, with his final ords in my possession for that time do not each had furnished in response to the on all persons who had been drawn. as are provided for in paragraphs 150 and these headquarters. Generally, furnish any data from which this infor-

1864, it has been the uniform practice to doing exact justice to all. In subsequent them as soon as it could be done, and to to the provisions of other paragraphs the the enrollment of the persons announce the quotas of Congressional discalls, if there had been occasion therefor, forward to this office a written report of contained therein. At the close of almost nine cast of face. "Oh, yo w," said he, tames he had thus far taken down; tricts from the Provost Marshal General's all this apparent oppression and injustice, the date and manner of their service. when he had made the circuit of office at Washington, through the offices together with the seeming mystery in the I have already, in the course of my rethet, he was ready, with little addi- of the A. A. Provost Marshal Generals of operations of the formula here employed, marks under the head of Enrollment, a detachment for general rendezvous.— Tevision and correction, to transmit the respective States and divisions, to the would have disappeared; and in course of speken of the threatened and real resistant the respective States and divisions, to the would have disappeared; and in course of speken of the threatened and real resistant the respective States and divisions, to the would have disappeared; and in course of speken of the day, after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith's store, because of speken of the day after a gunsmith and the day after a gunsmith a guns Colleget, complete and final as far District Provost Marshals.

President and the date fixed upon as that | the admiration of all. Before dismissing this subject in my on which the draft should take place, the I believe the principle on which the to revert for a moment to that subject.

aliens, some of whom have been in this service was taken into consideration, employed in transcribing from the rolls to ried out their threats so far as to fire upon copy which was returned from the genecountry for many years, but who never there was a vast difference in the condi- blank draft cards or tickets, the names of and wound the officers, from their con- ral rendezvous with receipt upon it acsought to be citizens, because the right tion of sub-districts, some being apparent- the persons to be placed in the wheel cealment, but always in such a manner as companied the monthly return or roll of imposed some duties as well as granted by overtaxed that had been always fore- under the existing call. At this time to induce the belief that while they thus men at the end of each month to the privileges. They were, however, enrolled, most in their efforts to comply with the there was generally great activity in vol- were guilty of an infraction of the law, Provost Marshal General, in compliance and afterwards permitted to establish the demands of the Government, and had filled unteering, the recruits coming in from they feared the consequences of detection. with paragraph 74 of Revised Regulations fact of their alienage by good and sufficient with promptuess every requisition made every portion of the district, influenced While attributing it in part to the de. for the government of his Bureau. proof, either before or after draft. It upon them; while others, by this new in part by a spirit of patriotism, but in gree of foreign element in the population would seem that by the manner in which accession and through chance rather than much greater degree by that other potent of our mining localities, this spirit of might furnish the proper data from which they construe their relations to this coun- philosophic foresight, were relieved of and impelling force—the fear of conscription to the enforce- the correct credits to the various sub distry and its government, the advantages their oppressive burdens and vouchsafed tion. The difference in the spirit and ment of the provisions of the Enrollment tricts could be ascertained, I have been are all with themselves; and while they security for a long time to come. As a energy of volunteering was easily percep- Act, cannot be regarded as the result of careful to give in the column of remarks, cannot be required to perform the duties striking instance of the injustice effected tible, too, when the men were permitted this cause alone. It is to be deplored that the name of the sub-district in which the itted for approval to the Provost of an American soldier in time of war, in some parts of the District by taking to coter new organizations and when some of the leading men in certain por men were drafted and in consequence they yet assume or presume to exercise into consideration the number of years' they were forwarded at once to some vetsome interest in the direction of affairs by service furnished, I need only cite the eran company and regiment in the field. given in public and in private, exerted a tive book of drafted men wherein their influencing and controlling as far as possi- case of sub-district number 301, compri-

noxious undertaking -some actually suf- their vicinity, but the one I have cited is ment and committee of observation in

between the ages of twenty and propriate in this connection to advert for much simplicity as an intimate resem- ter-revolutions, upon the result of which tion with the other necessary business of either by draft or voluntary enlistments, se years in their respective sub- a few moments to that other topic upon blance in the calculations whence the hung so many hopes and fears. After the the office. At an early hour in the day, are accredited to their proper sub-districts. is, without regard either to color, the discussion and adjustment of which correct quotas were derived after innu- cards had been sufficiently intermingled the Board commenced its sessions for the ty, or physical deformity, and at the people always seemed to feel so lively merable additions, subtractions, multipli- in this way, a small door in the side of examination of those only whose notice

Since my induction into office, Feby. 4, difficulty should at first be experienced in the district, with instructions to serve cuted and approved in strict conformity motto—be brief.

Whenever it was possible by lapse of conscription whose symmetrical propor- pointed to carry out the provisions of the at night, the clerks were busily engaged to have it, to the headquarters of the Pro- time between the call for men by the tions and efficiency could not fail to secure Act of March 3rd, 1863. In this con- in making out descriptive rolls of the men

report, I would respectfully say that per- enrollment lists of the District were re- quotas were arrived at under the call of In some of the disloyal portions of the Instructions from the heads of Dehaps in no other rural district in the whole vised and corrected; so that as little Dec. 19, 1864, to be the right one, and district, it became a matter of necessity partments about this time were that busi-North were there more and greater obsta- delay as possible should have been adopted as to employ members of the Veteran Re- ness should be transacted "without regard cles, threatened and real, to overcome in drawing such persons as were manifestly early as practicable after it became neces- serve Corps and other soldiers to serve to hours" in receiving, providing for, and securing a correct enrollment than in this unfit by reason of physical disability, sary to resort to enforced military service. the notices of draft, as the spirit of re- disposing of drafted men and volunteers; one. In making this assertion, it is not alienage or non-residence, to perform mil- There is no other, through the operations sistance to law had more than once mani- and without any spirit of presumption or my intention thereby to impugn the loy- itary service. When this had been done, of which exact justice can be meted out tested itself in open, overt acts. Not un- boasting, I indulge the belief from a comalty or do injustice to the law-abiding the total enrollment of the Congressional to all parts of the country; and when any frequently when notices were given to parison of results that no other office was spirit of the great majority of our people, District was then ascertained, and the measure or policy of a Government, even those for whom they were intended, they more active or continued in labor than far from it; but this Congressional dis- quota assigned by the Provost Marshal in its extremest exigencies, savors of were torn in pieces and scattered to the that of the 17th district of Penna. trict, located in the very center of that General was distributed among the sub- oppression or burden to the great masses winds, with expressions of utter contempt In forwarding a detachment of drafted portion of Pennsylvania so justly celebra- districts pro rata to their respective of the people, to be enduring it must have for the law and its officers. Posters were men to general rendezvous, their descripin its foundation and execution not only put up in conspicuous places, directed to live rolls were always made out in quintumines of coal and ore populated with for- In establishing quotas under the call the semblance, but the clearest evidences persons in the employ of the Government plicate, and disposed of in the following

that had contributed few men to fill up and the one fixed upon for the draft to all such pests.

A day or two prior to the commence- very baleful influence on their fellow citi- names are transcribed from the tickets as ble the actions of those among them who sing the borough of M'Veytown, Mifflin ment of the draft, a few prominent men zens. Very frequently, I think, this ad- they are drawn from the wheel, and in of different political faith from the county vice was distributed without a second which their descriptions are recorded intrigue, and though few of their number a company of volunteers recruited in this a committee of observation, in order that cies, and then in other cases it was dis-

This accession, while it unjustly op been completed, the Commissioner of the was nothing in the statute itself which A. Provost Marshal General of the State. times precipitating its adherents into open these men came, multiplied the credit of the all present that "the draft will now com- only when they listened to a partizan in- turns transmitted him by me. Later,

been furni-hed without regard to the from any enrollment district, the tickets decided to hold him to service, he was beset by women of all sorts, high and State of the rolls which had been made It could not reasonably be expected number enrolled, I subtracted from this bearing the names of those drawn were taken in charge by a guard, who conduction, pretty and ugiy, modest and the the Act of March 3d, 1863. Such a and the result was the net quota or num- said district that had not been drawn. clothing, he was taken to the barracks at straight to work soliciting a certain office : This large envelope was then sealed, hav- these headquarters, prepared for the ac- for somebody supposed to be her husband.

name we should have had a system of tance which had been made to officers ap-

nection, I deem it not out of place again | who had been accepted into service during

DRAFTED MEN. the wheel was thrown open, and the person | required them to report on that date. The amination of their person, were attended Hon. James A. Briggs, formerly State to by the Commissioner and myself .- Agent of Ohio in New York, one day a t

As soon as men, either by draft or as me to kiss her. When my indignat ion which it was determined to reward the All of the available clerks in the office service, they were subsisted and lodged in back and straightening myself up, I gave Of the manner in which quotas were patriotism and generous loyalty of certain were then employed in filling up and pre- the same manner and under the same her the proper sort of a look and said: localities and rigidly exact justice from paring draft notices, printed forms of contract as those soldiers who were on Mrs. ---, you are very pretty, ar id it's

the day.

warning them that if they dared visit manner: two copies accompanied the decertain localities, they did it at the jeop- tachment, one of which was returned, with After the establishment and publica- ardy of their lives; stigmatizing them as receipt for the men delivered written upon our institutions and hostile to any meas- prehended by the people, it was the sub- district quotas, and declaring it to be the inten- it; another was transmitted direct to the the having for its object their improve- ject of no little consternation in districts the intervening time between this date tion of many citizens to rid the country of Provost Marshal General; another to the A. A. Provost Marshal Genl. of the State, The great majority of these miners are the armies. When the excess in years of begin, nearly all the clerks were usually On one or two occasions, they even car- and one retained on file in the office. The

> In completing these rolls so that they A chafing, restless, perturbed spirit in the of the draft and drafted men, and in fact-

come in the faithful execution of all pro- the same time credits allowed for volunteers These preliminary arrangements having visions in the Enrollment Act. There were announced to this office by the A. peared to justify and legalize the most Harrisburg, and announced to this office

emergencies, or even to recruit the officers appointed to make the enroll- is ample credit in a town of its population Provost Marshal General of the State, whence flowed all the dissatisfaction and Proper blank books were furnished me ies again to their complete and ment were abused, maltreated, threatened against a call for a million men. I might the tickets were taken out of the sealed imaginary injustice which have been so in which to keep an account with each my proportions, there remained, as with the destruction of their property, and multiply examples of this kind in which envelope in which they had been placed uniformly referred to and charged upon sub-district, so that at a glance its real condition might be seen and its surplus or deficiency at once ascertained. The meth-In receiving the drafted men when they od at present pursued in calculating and 1 conjunction, and the names of any who reported for examination in obedience to announcing credits is in my opinion the In ascertaining the quotas of sub-dis- had been exempted since the tickets were notification, the Board of Enrollment en- best which has at any time been adopted . tricts under the call of Dec. 19, 1864, written, taken out. Those that remained deavored as nearly as possible to have only It not only combines simplicity and rigid Before entering in detail on the subject | there was no uniform percentage to be | were then placed in the wheel, and it such number report on each day as could correctness, but it reduces to a uniform and to enroll as speedily as possible of drafting, it would not perhaps be inap- applied in all cases as before, not even so began its significant revolutions and coun-

ANOTHER ANECDOTE -A corespondent The number of men required from this selected being properly blindfolded, took drafted men reporting were admitted into of a Cincinnati paper tells the following

"Why Briggs, I believe there is ever missed without further ceremony. If, a system of female brokerage in officer of every nature were quartered, under the her importunate entreaties. By degree a so near my own that I thought she want ed very tempting; but I won't."

The doctor's motto-be patient. of the most potent arguments why such the different enrolling officers throughout vost Marshal General's Bureau, and exe- ter's motto-be composed. The lawver's

Hans was told that he had a femievery day's examinations, a sufficient num- "my mudder was a womap. -dae ist di-

A chicken potpie is o-

ald to be like cause it contains