The Compiler.

OUR FLAG!

The union of lakes—the union of lands—
The union of States none would sever;
The union of hearts—the union of hands—
And the Flag of our Union forever!

H. J. STABLE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

GETTYSBURG, PA.,

MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 3, 1863.

THE NEGRO PROCLAMATION.

On Thursday last President Lincoln issued a proclamation setting free all the negroes in the States in rebellion, viz: Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (excepting thirteen parishes and the city of New Orleans,) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, (except West Virginia and eight other counties,) which excepted parts are for the present left as if the proclamation were not issued. The slaves thus freed are hereafter to be received into the armed service of the United States, and the authorities of the Government are pledged to recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons. The proclamation is issued under the pretence of a necessity of the war.

Ever since the negro was put forward by Congress and the Administration as a prominent object in the war, the Federal armies have met with little else than disaster. The people, too, have lent the aid of their voices at the ballot box, to give the Administration further warning against persisting in its fanatical and ruinous course. But all to no purpose, it would seem. The radicals have the President in their hands, and he appears to be but too willing a tool in the carrying out of their reckless schemes. This unconstitutional act will draw down upon Abraham Lincoln the condemnation of every white laboring man in the North, if not in the world.

MR. SEWARD'S OPINION.

The Administration not the Government, and the Democracy not Disloyal.—The Abolition press have constantly ridiculed the idea of making a distinction between the Government and the Administration, and have stupidly and maliciously pronounced the strictures of the Democratic press on the latter treason to the former. Mr. Seward, it seems, entertains a different and more intelligent opinion. In one of his letters to Mr. Adams, our Minister to England, he says:

"In this country especially it is a habit, not only entirely consistent with the Constitution, *but even essential to its stability*, to regard the administration, at any time existing, as distinct and separable from the Government itself, and to canvass the proceedings of the one without the thought of disloyalty to the other."

Let the Abolition howlers put that in their pipes and smoke it!

REMOVAL OF GEN. WOOL.

The veteran Gen. Wool has been removed from the command of the Department of Maryland, and Gen. Schenck is his successor. The Albany *Argus* truly says that Gen. Wool has proved himself a good soldier and a wise Governor. He so conducted affairs in Maryland as to keep that State quiet and true to the Union. He was hated and denounced by the "Plug Ugly" faction—the very men who raised up the mob that killed the Massachusetts soldiers in Baltimore. To get rid of the General, the false charges of the Harper's Ferry Commission were published. These were refuted: and now he is removed without pretence.

Stupendous Frauds!—Commissioners, appointed by the general government, have been at work for several weeks past in New York and elsewhere, investigating alleged frauds upon the government in connection with the raising and subsisting of volunteers, organizing of regiments and other operations, from the commencement of the rebellion to the present time. Mr. H. S. Olcott, the commissioner appointed for New York, has discovered extensive frauds upon the government in that city, amounting to over $700,000, with the prospect of being largely increased as the investigation progresses. Oh, what "honest" times these are!

Still More Stealing.—We see by the Washington dispatches that there has been another theft of unsigned Treasury Certificates from Treasurer Spinner's office. The amount is not stated. Only a few weeks ago a similar theft of $2,500,000 occurred at the same office.

We find the above going around in little newspaper paragraphs. The stealing of two and a half millions is getting to be so common under this administration that it does not even create surprise, and is mentioned only in an incidental way. This is Abolition economy and reform.

☞ The Legislature meets at Harrisburg to-morrow. A United States Senator is to be elected on Tuesday of next week.

☞ Wisconsin will do! The official vote on members of Co[illegible] including the soldiers' vo[illegible] and th[illegible]

REPORT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.

The Senators and members of Congress, who were sent to Falmouth some days since, for the purpose of whitewashing the blunders of the President, Secretary Stanton and Gen. Halleck, says the *Pottsville Standard*, have submitted to both branches of Congress the evidence taken by them in relation to the attack on Fredericksburg.—The testimony of some of the Generals is of the greatest importance at a time like this, when the nation is bleeding under the defeat of our arms, the wholesale slaughter of our gallant soldiers, and the want of skill and military judgment in the handling of our troops. The deposition of General Burnside affords the most ample proof of the complicity of the President in the unfortunate disaster which has befallen the army of the Potomac.

General Burnside says the command of the Army of the Potomac had been tendered to him on two occasions previous to his acceptance of it. The General very frankly declares that his reason for not accepting the command before when it was offered to him, was that he did not feel competent to command so large an army. He also says that he informed the President and Secretary of War, over and over again, that such was the case, and declined the appointment upon that ground alone. But the testimony of General Burnside does not stop there. He goes still further, and says: "*On both of these occasions I expressed to the President the opinion, that I did not think that there was any one who could do as much with that army as General McClellan, if matters could be so arranged as to remove their objections to him.*"

Who then is responsible for the slaughter of our troops at Fredericksburg? Not General Burnside, for he distinctly informed the President of his incompetency for the position. President Lincoln and his Abolition advisers are the guilty parties!—They and they alone are responsible for the wholesale murder of the gallant men composing the Army of the Potomac. It will not do for the Abolitionists to say that President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton have not interfered with the movements of the army. They were informed from time to time, that Gen. McClellan was the only man in the service capable of wielding so large a body of men to an advantage. That was the testimony of all the Generals who had been consulted in relation to the matter. Yet President Lincoln, with all the evidence before him, removed General McClellan from the command of the army, and placed it in the hands of an officer who distinctly declared that he did not feel competent for the position. The responsibility, therefore, rests with the President.

Another just cause of complaint was the non-arrival of the pontoon bridges in time to enable the army to cross the river and take possession of the heights of Fredericksburg. General Sumner says that if the bridges had been received one or two days after the arrival of his corps, he could have taken the place without much resistance, as the rebels had but few men there to dispute the passage of the river. Gen. Franklin attributes the whole defeat to the fact that the pontoon train did not arrive until after Lee had concentrated his army at Fredericksburg, and intrenched himself on the heights. The evidence of Burnside goes to show that he relied upon Halleck to furnish them at the proper time. The evidence of Halleck and Meigs establishes the fact that Burnside did speak with them in relation to the pontoon bridges, but Halleck says it was not his business to see that they were forwarded. That was the business of General Woodbury. General Woodbury says that he acted as promptly as possible after he received the order. Thus it will be seen that Halleck failed to order the bridges as requested by Burnside upon the miserable pretext that it *was not* his business to order them. Such conduct is inexcusable. It was a blunder or a wilful neglect, which has cost us from twelve to fifteen thousand men in killed and wounded, and these gentlemen would make us believe that nobody is responsible for it. There is a great responsibility resting upon the shoulders of some of the officials at Washington, and they should be held to a strict accountability for it.

"ECONOMY AND REFORM."

The estimate of the expense of contrabands to the pockets of Uncle Sam is $58,000 per day. They receive the same rations as soldiers, embracing meat, bread, coffee, vinegar, &c. &c. This reminds us of one of those lines that we have often heard:

"Oh! lay down the shovel and the hoe,
Hang up the fiddle and the bow;
For there's no more work for poor old Ned;
For he's good as the white folks now.

What a beautiful boarding house Uncle Sam will have, when he gets about four millions more! There is great "wisdom" in turning the producing agency of our great staples into indolent paupers and consuming stipendaries. "Economy and reform!"

☞ Thaddeus Stevens, in the debate on the admission of the proposed new State of Kanawha, made a very extraordinary speech, of which the following paragraph is a specimen brick:

"*This talk of restoring the Union as it was under the Constitution as it is, is one of the absurdities which I have heard repeated until I have become about sick of it.* This Union can never be restored as it was. There are many things which render such an event impossible. *This Union shall never with my consent be restored under the Constitution as it is, with slavery to be protected by it.*"

By Mr. Stevens' own confession he is as [illegible]ch a traitor as any man [illegible] arms against [illegible]ur intelligent [illegible]y, is a bit of phi-[illegible]n one occasion [illegible] of any color [illegible] is something [illegible] this sagacious [illegible]be," a wag [illegible]incoln, dis-[illegible]k, skedad-[illegible]ton, what [illegible] and the [illegible]o papers [illegible] excluded [illegible] their ap-[illegible]" have [illegible]n.

[illegible]ing last, [illegible]s place, [illegible]ng, and [illegible] a few [illegible]

WAR NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The news from the Rappahannock is not specially important. On Saturday morning week a new rebel encampment made its appearance on the second range of hills in the rear of Fredericksburg, in full view from our position. A considerable number of tents have recently been sent up from *Richmond to Lee's army.*

The enemy are engaged every night in raising and extending breastworks along the streets fronting the river, as if to prevent any future crossing by pontoon bridges.

The destination of Gen. Banks' expedition is at last definitely known. The steamer having on board that officer and his staff arrived at New Orleans on the 14th ult., and Gen. Butler was superseded in the command of the department, which has been extended so as to include Texas.—Five thousand of the troops had landed at Baton Rouge, and the remainder were to be sent forward as fast as they arrived. An order had been issued suspending all sales of property on account of the United States until further advised. Gen. Butler was to leave at an early day for the North, and it is understood that he will be placed in an important command.

From Cairo we learn that it was reported that the Federal forces had been ordered to evacuate Island No. 10, to spike the guns and blow up the magazines. It was also reported that Gen. Grant's army had fallen back across the Tallahatchie river, but this did not come through a reliable source.—There is nothing new from Northwestern Tennessee. The Confederates are said to have done great damage in the Obion river bottom.

The Confederates have made another dash into Kentucky. Gen. Morgan, at the head of three thousand of his cavalry, entered Glasgow on Wednesday week, the Federal troops occupying the town falling back to Munfordsville. At last accounts the Confederates held possession of Glasgow, and railroad and telegraph communication with Nashville is again interrupted.

The steamer Ariel, one of the line between New York and Aspinwall, was captured on the 7th ult., by the rebel steamer Alabama, and subsequently released on her commander giving bonds for two hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars ransom, payable thirty days after the acknowledgment of the Independence of the Southern Confederacy.

It was rumored in Washington that the Confederates had again occupied Winchester, the Federal forces retiring to Harper's Ferry. Doubtful.

A dispatch from Washington states that it was reported there that a picket guard was surprised at Occoquan on Sunday morning by Confederate cavalry and a fight occurred, in which a number were wounded and the commander of the Federal troops killed. Several supply wagons were captured by the Confederates. It was also reported that the Confederates captured some Federal troops and a battery at Dumfries on Saturday.

Davis, the President of the Confederate States, has issued a proclamation announcing that retaliatory measures will be used against Gen. Butler and his officers for certain acts of theirs said to be in violation of the *usages of war.* All negroes taken with arms are to be disposed of according to the laws of the State to which they belong. This means that they will be hung.

It was reported at Louisville on Monday that a Union brigade had captured Knoxville, Tenn., and destroyed four bridges and a large portion of the railroad between that place and Dandridge. It was rumored that a portion of the Confederate forces had reached Bardstown and destroyed the railroad at that point and Elizabethtown. The Confederates were repulsed in an engagement at Munfordsville.

A dispatch says that Confederate cavalry under Gen. Stuart were at Burk's Station, on the Alexandria and Orange railroad, twelve miles from Alexandria, on Monday, encamped there.

The reports on Wednesday that Confederate cavalry had crossed the Potomac at Harrison's Island, below Point of Rocks proved erroneous. Scouts had reported them in force in that vicinity, but none had shown themselves at the river.

A Louisville dispatch, dated Jan. 1, says: Gen. Rosencrans captured Murfreesboro' on Tuesday morning, and now occupies it, the rebels retreating to Tallaboma. The rebels made but little resistance, though Rosencrans lost the train of wagons following him, which was captured by the rebel Col. Morgan, of Tennessee.

An opinion prevails at Washington that the army of the Potomac will soon go into winter quarters either at Alexandria or Washington city.

ANOTHER BATTLE.

The dispatch published announcing that General Rosecrans had occupied Murfreesboro', Tenn., and that the Confederates had retired to Tallaboma, was premature. A great battle was fought at Murfreesboro' on Tuesday. General Rosecrans personally directing the movements of the Federal forces. At one o'clock in the afternoon the fight was still going on, the Confederate centre giving way and the whole Federal force advancing, the left wing capturing the intrenchments. The Federal troops suffered terribly, their losses being reported as enormous. Majors Rosengarten and Gens. Stanley, Rosseau and Palmer wounded. No estimate of the general losses of the Confederates are given, but it is said that Gens. Cheatham and Rains were killed. At the latest advices, the dispatch says, things looked favorable for the Federal side.

A Louisville journal says that the Federal works at New Madrid, Missouri, were blown up and the place abandoned by the troops on Saturday week. It was feared that the Confederates in large force under Jeff. Thompson, contemplated an early movement on the place, and hence the evacuation.

☞ Gen. Butler has been removed, and Gen. Banks has assumed command, at New Orleans. Upon what grounds Butler was superseded we are ignorant. It is understood that he has been complained against by the French Minister, and it is known that serious allegations have been made against him in the newspapers—these may have been some of the reasons for his removal; but it is more likely that he was recalled in order to give General Banks, who is to be the next Abolition candidate for the Presidency, a chance to distinguish himself as a hero.

☞ Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be.

THE FREDERICKSBURG BATTLE.

An officer attached to the division of Gen. French, writes from the field of battle:

It is not using too strong an expression to say that in this battle we were butchered.—More than one-half of the division of Gen. French were placed *hors du combat* before they had fired a shot. Having orders to withhold their fire charging upon the entrenchments, they anticipated no obstacle until they should meet in the hand-to-hand fight for the crest of the first range of hills. But how little they knew the foe they had to deal with. Lying close upon the soft earth, behind a low stone wall and half-destroyed fence which we had not taken into our calculations as obstacles, the enemy watched the approach of Gen. French until every man in the battle-line came under the aim of the best sharp shooters in the rebel army. In an instant, almost before the fence itself was discovered to be an obstacle, a long, thick line of flame and smoke streamed above the fence and wall; and at the moment the first volley was fired, sixty pieces of artillery, charged with grape and canister, sent their infernal contents straight through our advancing lines, raking them in front and upon both flanks. Destruction so terrible never before has been seen during this war. Gen. French went into action with 7,000 men. To-night, two days after the battle, but 1,200 men have reported to him.

The rebels gave our soldiers credit for great bravery. A gentleman who conversed with some rebel prisoners, relates the following:

"It was murder to fire on such brave men," remarked one, describing the gallant manner in which our troops charged upon them. "We waited till your troops got close up, and fired.—Hundreds fell, but they closed ranks and came on. We fired again and hundreds fell. Again they closed ranks, and came on. We were behind a protecting earthwork, and your balls whistled harmlessly over us. We were taken prisoners before we knew it." "You had greatly the odds in this fight," I observed, alluding to the time they had had for preparation, the formidable nature of their fortifications and batteries, and the embarrassing river in our rear. "That's so, and we knew it," was the reply, "but for all that, we prefer peace to fighting and murder."

THE LATE DISASTER.

The feeling throughout the country against all to whom blame attaches for the useless slaughter of brave men at Fredericksburg is intense. Almost every county in this State lost some of its best sons in that fearful, bloody and bootless contest, and a feeling of vengeance, the Harrisburg Patriot & Union fears, is cherished against the authors of the revolting tragedy. We subjoin two as specimens of the expression of indignation which reach us from all parts of the North.

The Greensburg Democrat publishes a list of the names of killed and wounded from that county, and then remarks:

"The lives of Lincoln, Stanton, Halleck and Burnside are no more valuable than the lives of those whom they marshed out to needless slaughter and misery. Why, then, should they be permitted to live and murder our people without mercy. I mean to make the army of the Potomac go to Richmond, if they have to go on crutches,' is the heartless declaration of a black-hearted murderer and scoundrel, who is alike unworthy of the respect or regard of men, or the mercy or blessing of heaven.—We wish to God that the men who caused the hellish butchery at Fredericksburg had been among its victims."

A Chesnut Ridge correspondent of a western paper says:

"Another great battle has been fought—another severe defeat to our arms. Almost every house is draped in mourning for near and dear friends—slaughtered, butchered, *murdered*, to make an Abolition holiday. How long shall this state of affairs continue? How long will the people remain silent? Shall *crime and murder* be unavenged? Shall the nation weep in streams of blood? Shall the administration at Washington remain secure to commit crimes of unparalleled atrocity?"

TRYSON IN HIGH PLACES.

The Providence *Post* has a chapter on "Treason in High Places." It says:

We have for months believed that there was a nest of traitors close to the very heart of our Government at Washington. Men high in position are making merchandise of liberty, and even Abraham Lincoln himself, if he be ever so honest, is not half so powerful as the traitors and thieves by whom he is surrounded. Is he honest? Then why does he not lay his hand on these scoundrels? He knows them well enough. Why are they not arrested? Why is not the nest broken up? When he receives proof that an Abolition Senator has attempted to send large quantities of hospital stores to the Rebels, why does he not, even if he dare not expose him, at least slide him quietly into Fort Lafayette, where are many Democrats who have never harbored a disloyal word? The truth is, Mr. Lincoln dare not assail the Abolition traitors by whom he is surrounded. McClellan and his Generals kept the plans of his Peninsula campaign a secret for months. At length, to prevent being ordered in another direction, it was divulged at a Cabinet council. The next day, says the Prince de Joinville, it was known to the Rebels! In the same way have scores of important facts gone [illegible] North. It is notorious that the Rebels [illegible] Government's plans long [illegible] know the [illegible] before loyal men [illegible] of them. The Administration [illegible] is too busy with its party machinery to give an attention to rogues.—If it can only get a few niggers, everything will go well.

IGNORANCE IN HIGH PLACES.

Sir Walter Raleigh somewhere quaintly and as sharply says:—"There is nothing in any State or country so terrible as powerful and authorized ignorance." That is to say—ignorance in authority—stupidity in rulers.

How terrible are these United States afflicted in this regard just now! A heartless harlequin joker for President; utter incompetency in three-fourths of his Cabinet; a compound of ignorance, envy and malice General-in-Chief at Washington; an overruling combination of shallow, gassy pretenders in the Senate, and a hair-brained, factious, radical and revolutionary majority in the House of Representatives! Heaven, in its infinite mercy, protect and shield this mis-governed and unhappy country!—*Patriot & Union.*

Duty of the People.—The people should at once begin to labor for an overwhelming white man's constitutional triumph at the next fall's election. The Abolitionists have astonished even those who were prepared for a wild course of ruin, and if they be not completely checked by another year they will ruin this country forever. We must elect a Governor of this State next year.

☞ There are a few of Helper's disunion books still scattered around on the shelves of Abolition salesmen, standing as mementoes of their disunion services. The campaign documents of the Abolition party make an ugly record, and will curse their authors to the latest generation.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

ANOTHER SCARE.—On Friday last our town and the region between this and the mountain were no little excited by reports of "the rebels coming." Nearly everybody's horses were hurried off to places of supposed greater security, scores passing through town eastward. Though nobody had seen the rebels, *persons came* in who said they had held conversations with others who *had*. The non-arrival of the Chambersburg stage lent some color to the various rumors. In a few hours, however, the excitement died away, and the conclusion was come to that the rebels were still on the other side of the Potomac.

It seems that the report was started about Graffenberg, by several graceless fellows from Quincy, who imposed the "sell" on every one they met. If there is punishment for such outrageous doings, these miscreants should have it dealt out to them in its fullest force. We would, too, advise all to exercise a reasonable degree of discretion in giving currency to the flying reports that may reach them. Much unnecessary alarm and annoyance might thus be avoided.

☞ When the report of the approach of the rebels reached town on Friday, a gentleman gave the Court, then in session, the information." All not immediately connected with the trial in progress, at once rushed to the street. But his Honor, Judge Fisher, coolly remarked: "Gentlemen of the Jury—if the rebels come we are not in position to do them any harm. Our best place, therefore, is here, in the discharge of our important duties. The case will go on!" And it did go on, in the regular way, until the usual hour of adjournment. The Judge is not easily frightened.

SPECIAL COURT.—The Court, last week, was engaged in the trial of the old Witherow and Myers (or Epley) case—two suits. The first was in ejectment, upon which the jury returned a verdict for the Witherows. The second was brought by the Witherows against the Myers's, for mesne profits. Verdict of the jury, $2525 62—for the Witherows.

This ejectment is probably one of the oldest cases in Pennsylvania, having been started in November, 1823—nearly forty years ago. But one of the original witnesses, we are told, is living—Jacob Linn. We suppose that a score or more of attornies were engaged in it in its various stages, probably half of whom are in their graves. The case will, no doubt, be again taken to the Supreme Court. Many think it will be brought to a close before another year.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—The President and Associate Judges of this Judicial District, (composed of York and Adams,) met in this place, on Tuesday evening last, and unanimously appointed Henry A. Picking, Esq., of Straban township, Revenue Commissioner, to represent this District in the Board to assemble at Harrisburg in February next.—The selection is an excellent one. The duties of the position could not have been placed in more competent or faithful hands. We congratulate the District on Mr. Picking's appointment.

FIRE.—We learn, from several sources, that the light observed here on Wednesday night week was caused by the burning of the large building at Caledonia Springs, near the western limit of this county. The building was erected only a few years ago, at a heavy cost, and was calculated to accommodate a large number of guests. It was not occupied at the time. The furniture had, some time previously, been removed to Chambersburg, and there sold at auction. The building was partially insured.

"READY-ROOFING."—We direct attention to the advertisement of the Ready-Roofing Company, 73 Maiden Lane, New York. This roofing is highly popular throughout that State and the New England States, being largely used, and found to answer the purpose admirably. None better has ever been invented. The article should be had for sale in every county throughout the United States.

It is not only desirable for new and permanent roofing, but is found to be "just the thing" to repair the damaged places in tin and the various kinds of cement roofs. There is need for it in this vicinity, and we doubt not that should any one of our storekeepers order a lot, "ready" sale for it would be found. Let some one make the experiment:

HELP THE POOR.—Winter is at our doors—bleak, cold and dreary winter, with all its wants and privations. Extra expenses have to be met, while the income of many is curtailed. We hope the wants of the poor will not be forgotten by those who have to spare.

☞ We enjoyed a pleasant surprise on Tuesday. B. F. Myers, Esq., of the *Bedford Gazette*, "dropped into" our sanctum, "all unheralded," looking remarkably well. He reports the Democracy of Bedford in excellent spirits, resolved to "do better and better." It really does one good to take a sterling a Democrat by the hand—and we are glad to know that his able efforts in the good old cause, in his paper and otherwise, are properly appreciated by the people of Bedford. "Long may he wave."

☞ We are indebted to Mrs. Christian Benner for a New Year's present of a quantity of prime Butter, done up in the shape of a pine apple, very tastefully ornamented. It was the handsomest thing of the kind we ever saw.—The generous donor has the thanks of the printer and all his household.

☞ Our Carrier requests us to return his sincere thanks to his numerous friends for the *substantial* reception they gave him on New Year's day.

☞ The casualties in Company I, 127th Reg. P. V., (formerly Capt. Shipley's,) in the battle of Fredericksburg, will be found reported on our fourth page. Other interesting matter is contained in the same column.

☞ The Ladies' Fair in Sheads & Buehler's Hall closed on Wednesday evening. The receipts amounted to about $660—the profits $560. This was doing very well, the times considered.

☞ Mr. David Currens has sold his farm in Cumberland township, containing 45 acres, to Mr David Schaeffer, for $2,250 cash.

☞ We are pleased to learn that a Democratic paper is shortly to be published in the city of Philadelphia by A. J. GLOSSBRENNER & Co. The experience and ability of Mr. Glossbrenner as a newspaper editor and publisher assure us that under his control, assisted by an able corps of editors, it will meet the expectation of its most ardent friends, and fully supply the want which has long been felt, of a Democratic State organ at the great Commercial Metropolis of Pennsylvania. As friends of the Union, the Constitution, and the great Democratic party, the only hope of both, we anxiously await the appearance of this new Democratic organ, and bespeak for both its daily and weekly editions a large circulation throughout the State.

THE 165TH REG.—We are glad to be able to say that the various startling rumors in circulation in regard to the 165th Regiment P. M., (mostly from this county,) are without foundation. The Regiment was still at Suffolk, Va., at last accounts, in good condition.

The following appointments have been made in addition to those already announced: Quartermaster, E. T. Rinehart; Sergeant Major, Emanuel Myers; Quartermaster Sergeant, Leander Cunningham; Commissary Sergeant, Ephraim Shank; Drum Major, John Shank.

The following letter, from a friend in the Regiment, will be read with interest:

CAMP SUFFOLK, Dec. 31, 1862.

H. J. STABLE, Esq.,—Dear Sir:—There was a regular jubilee in Camp when it was understood that the *Compiler* had arrived. Finding that *you inserted the few lines I sent you before*, I concluded to write again for your excellent paper—especially as so many of your readers have sons, husbands, fathers, brothers—and lovers—in the Regiment, all of whom will, no doubt, be anxious to hear from us.

The note I addressed you before was penned at Newport News. Since that time we have been moved a considerable distance.

We left Newport News on the 18th, at 2 P. M. When we got to town, the officers found that an old boat, the South America, which had brought us from Washington, was waiting to take us on board again. We had enough of her to know that she was dangerous. The officers refused to move the men on board—and as a consequence, in a few hours another boat was sent from Fortress Monroe, which proved to be a safer one. We got aboard, and started—and landed at Norfolk at 7 P. M., when it was found that there were not cars enough to take the Regiment on. So the officers, or a part of them, interested themselves in finding quarters for the men, and succeeded very well—much better than any Northern soldier could expect. It was easily seen that a great number of the inhabitants looked at us with contempt, and who can blame them for visiting their town? I made it my business to make inquiry concerning the condition of the town, and was told that not more than one-sixth of the houses were tenanted by their owners. I inquired by whom the five houses on the Point were occupied, and was told, by the Federal officers!

We remained there until the 12th at 9 A. M., when we were moved off to Suffolk, the distance being 23½ miles, over an excellent road.

The country from Norfolk to Suffolk shows the ravages of war. Everything is laid waste. Our camping ground was a valuable farm. An officer told me that his company was among the first on our present location, and, said he, "there," *pointing from the homestead of a man who is living in his house with some of the officers*, "between this and your camp, a distance of a few hundred yards, were seven barns, and what is left? Nothing. Yes, nothing—all destroyed, and the fertile fields laid waste.

My mess concluded to have a grand Christmas dinner. So, with that intention I went to town. I was thinking quietly to myself what I would get. A turkey, or a young fat goose? I went to market and got to hunting for what I wanted, but unfortunately there were but three turkies, and they very poor, and as for a goose, there was *none* at all. So instead of getting the delicacies I intended to have for our grand Christmas dinner, I got nothing but three pounds of pork, three pounds of corn flour, a quart of molasses, and a package of pepper. This is an example of the Suffolk market.

Yesterday and last night it rained very hard, fairly deluging the Camp. The Regiment all enjoying excellent health. We have not as yet lost a man in our Regiment. None take it as hard as the Abolitionists. They do groan and groan at an awful rate for home. We expect to be moved before long—where, it is not known. You will hear from me sometime soon again.

Yours truly, S. L.

☞ U. S. STAMPS ON BONDS AND NOTES.—We make the following extracts from a letter written by Commissioner Boutwell, in relation to U. S. Stamps on Judgment Bonds and Notes:

The bond as a "personal bond" requires a "mortgage" stamp under head of "mortgage" (schedule "B," p. 92, Ex. Law.) The power of warrant of attorney to confess judgment thereon, which accompanies the bond, also requires a stamp, viz: as *general* power of attorney, (the 4th clause of sched. B., pertaining to power of attorney.) The judgment note is subject to stamp duty as "*promissory note*," under head "Bills of Exchange Inland," (sched. "B," p. 88, E. L.,) and also to general power stamp, in case above.

According to this decision of the Commissioner, the stamps on a judgment bond given for any sum exceeding $100, and not exceeding $500, will cost $1 50, viz: 50 cents for mortgage stamp and $1 for power of attorney stamp.

The promissory note stamp on a judgment note will be less than the mortgage stamp.

Promissory notes for a sum between $20 and $100 require a stamp, however; and the power of attorney stamp must be used on all judgment notes.

So far as is understood here, the least expensive mode of giving a judgment is by confession on an Amicable Action, for which strictly there is no stamp provided in the schedule, but which, as is the opinion of some of the members of our Bar, cannot be subject to more than a 50 cent stamp for any amount.

IT IS NOT THE CAUSE.

If negro slavery is the cause of the war, as alleged by President Lincoln in his Message, why did it not produce war for the last eighty years? This institution prevailed in every State of the Union at the foundation of the government, and is recognised and protected by the Constitution. To say, therefore, that slavery is the cause of the war is simply ridiculous. The real cause of the war is the anti-slavery propagandism which has sprung up at the North within the last thirty years, and such is the unbiased, unprejudiced judgment of the American people.

☞ Governor Bradford of Maryland has appointed ex-Gov. Hicks U. S. Senator, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Hon. James A. Pearce.

☞ It is feared that Brig. Gen. Charles T. Campbell will not recover from his wounds received at the battle of Fredericksburg. He received three ghastly wounds, and is now in Washington.

Execution of Indian Murderers.—St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 27.—Thirty-eight condemned Indians were hung at Mankato, at 10 o'clock, A. M., yesterday. The gallows was so constructed that all the condemned fell at once. Several thousand spectators were in attendance. All passed off quietly.

Sudden Death.—On Sunday, the 21st ult., Mrs. Snyder, wife of Mr. Daniel Snyder, living near Smithsburg, Washington county, Md., whilst attending a funeral, was attacked by apoplexy and fell dead in the street.

A NEW SENATORIAL SCHEME.

CONTEMPLATED ARREST OF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

SENATOR STARK OF LUZERNE SELECTED.

OUTSPOKEN SENTIMENTS IN REFERENCE THERETO.

[From the Luzerne Union.]

For some weeks we have heard rumors from the councils of Simon, that among other expedients discussed to obtain an election to the U. S. Senate, was one no less bold and startling than to have the administration arrest two or three Democrats on some frivolous pretext, and imprison them till after the election shall take place. We confess the proposition looked to us impossible, and we gave it little thought; but the occurrences of the past week have put a different face upon our opinions. Some ten days ago Simon himself passed through the valley to Scranton. Following in his wake, a few days subsequent, another official, Surgeon Wilson, appeared at Scranton and vicinity, and pretended to take testimony to implicate Senator Stark in improperly obtaining exemption from service of drafted men.—What the offence is to be named we know not, but as the object to be attained is a seat in the U. S. Senate for Simon Cameron for six years, it is but fair to presume that it will be considered sufficiently grave to warrant the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, and incarcerate Senator Stark in some bastile till after the election in January. We learn that this Wilson, who, we believe, is a brother-in-law of Governor Curtin, stated at Scranton that there was a member of the House against whom the same charges had been preferred. This explains the whole matter. One Senator and one member absent, will give Cameron a clear majority. This would be cheaper than buying men, and not so difficult to perform. Now we have a few things to say about this, for fore-warned is to be fore-armed. Let it, then, be distinctly understood:

1st. That Senator Stark cannot be taken out of Luzerne county for any such purpose, save he be taken over the dead bodies of nine thousand Democrats.

2nd. If the administrations, State and National, are determined to persist in their revolutionary schemes—if they are determined to override the voice of the people by the exercise of arbitrary power, "worthy of tyrants only," Luzerne county is a good place for them to begin. The soil of our valley was steeped in the blood of the revolutionary patriots, and the descendents of those "fathers of Wyoming" are fit representatives to commence resistance to despotic power in 1863.

3d. We call upon all our Democratic friends through the county, who have not armed themselves, to do so at once, and to hold themselves in readiness to resist at all hazards, the arrest of Senator Stark, or his removal from the county, except done by regular judicial process and authority, and with full opportunity for bail.

4th. A committee should be appointed whose duty it should be, in case of such attempt, to apply immediately to a Judge for a writ of *habeas corpus*, who will have the right to declare the law of the constitution, protect the rights of citizens, and defy threats or bayonets. The people will take care of his defence.

That Senator Stark has committed any offence at all, we do not believe. The charge may have aided some poor constitutionalist in getting exempt is probable; and surely in proper cases, would be his duty. But if he has committed any offence, or be guilty of impropriety, our courts are the proper remedy. We warn the powers that be they must not again pollute Luzerne or insult its people by such military arrests.

☞ A Baltimore correspondent of the *Patriot & Union*, under date of Dec. 31st, writes:—"I have it from a responsible source that an extensive quarrel and fight took place between Secretary Stanton and General Halleck. The melee had its origin in the late battle of Fredericksburg. Stanton was at the War Department when something like the following occurred:

Stanton—"Well, Halleck, you have made a successful butchering trade."

Halleck—"You lie, you d—n scoundrel!"

As soon as this answer was given, Stanton hit his *pal* Halleck between the eyes, and the blow laid the General sprawling on the floor of the War Secretary's office."

If this is true it looks as though the irrepressible conflict was coming home.

A Lady Officer Reviewing Troops.—Mrs. Major Belle Reynolds, of Ill., participated in a review of the Union troops at Lagrange, Tenn. She wore a military costume and rode a spirited charger.

☞ The President has signed the West Virginia bill.

☞ We are to have a further issue of two hundred millions of Treasury notes.

MARRIED.

On Christmas evening, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. L. P. Williams, Mr. WM. H. CLUTZ to Miss LIZZIE L. GETTIER, daughter of Mr. Stephen Gettier, all of Adams county.

On the 18th ult., by Rev. E. H. Hoffheins, Mr. W. WARREN HAFER to Miss MARY JANE WILSON, all of Abbottstown.

On the 25th ult., by the same, Mr. ABRAHAM SHIFER to Miss ANNA LOCHMAN, both of the vicinity of Abbottstown.

On the 20th ult., by the same, Mr. JAMES W. FEID, of Hunter-town, to Miss MARY SEIFERT, of Oxford township.

On the 4th ult., by Rev. R. S. Grier, Mr. ROBERT C. McKINNEY, of Mountjoy township, to Miss MAGGIE, daughter of Hon. John Thompson, of the vicinity of Taneytown, Md.

On the 25th of Dec. 1862, by Rev. S. Henry, Mr. JACOB W. CRESS, of Strabane township, Adjutant of the 138th Regt. P. V., to Miss MARY A. A. DETRICK, only daughter of Mr. David Detrick, of Mountpleasant township.

On the 23d ult., in Littlestown, by Rev. J. Philip Bishop, Mr. HENRY W. YOUNT, of Gettysburg, to Miss LAVINA C. BISHOP, of Littlestown.

On the 11th ult., near New Windsor, by Rev. E. Hillery, Mr. HANSON E. REEVER, formerly of this place, to Miss MARTHA E. ENGEL, all of Carroll county, Md.

☞ Obituary notices exceeding six lines will hereafter be charged at half our regular advertising rates for all over that number of lines. ☜

DIED.

On Sunday morning week, of consumption, Mr. ALEXIS ROBINSON, aged about 25 years. The deceased was a well-known and respected citizen of Oxford township. He left a wife and family and many friends to mourn his loss.

On the 2[illegible] ult., Mr. GEORGE DUTTERA, of Mum[illegible]ship, aged 78 years 4 months and 8 days.

On Sunday last, in this place, CHARLES K., son of Mr. Stephaniah Rogers, aged about 12 years.

On the [illegible] ult., in Littlestown, Mr. JACOB LANKING, aged about 31 years and 6 mos.

On the [illegible] ult., of diptheria, JOHN STEWART TUCK, son of William A. and Charlotte Tuck, aged 1 year 11 months and 25 days.

On the [illegible]th ult., in Adams county, ANN ELIZABETH, daughter of Mr. Rufus Duttera, aged 3 years and 3 months.

On the 26th of December last, in Franklin township, Mr. NICHOLAS STERNER, aged 39 years 10 months and 11 days.

On the 2d inst., in Franklin township, AMOS STERNER, son of Nicholas Sterner, (just one week elapsed between the death of the father and son,) aged 16 years and 4 months.

On the [illegible] ult., in Menallen township, DANIEL ENGEL, aged 1 year 1 month and 29 days.