

THE PILOT.

GREENCASTLE:
Tuesday Morning, March 3, 1863.



READ! READ!

We would again inform those of our Subscribers, who know themselves indebted to us—there being very few who are not—that we want money. It is impossible for us to carry on our business without money. We also call upon those who owe us for Advertising and Job Work.

PASSAGE OF THE CONSCRIPTION BILL.

On the 26th ultimo, the United State House of Representatives resumed the consideration of the bill for "enrolling and calling out the national forces and for other purposes, and finally, after adopting three amendments and rejecting several others, passed it by a vote of one hundred and fifteen yeas to forty-nine nays. The amendment adopted was as follows:—On confining the term of service to the present Rebellion, not, however, to exceed three years: one providing that all persons found lurking or acting as spies about our fortifications or camps in time of war or Rebellion shall be tried by general court-martial, and if found guilty shall suffer death: and one removing from the duties of the Provost Marshal that which requires them to inquire into treasonable practices and report the same to the Provost Marshal-General.

MEN OVER-DEVOTED TO BUSINESS.

There is much sound philosophy in the old adage, that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." There are men, and plenty of them, too, so thoroughly wedded to business, that they have never a moment to spare for intellectual improvement, or leisure to cultivate rationally the graces of social life. When such men are reproached for this continued devotion to business,—which, after all, is the worship of the golden calf, in another shape,—their constant reply is, that their pleasure and recreation is in their business. This may all be, and so it is the pleasure of some crazy men, unless restrained, to be forever maiming themselves; but is such a pleasure a proper or healthy one? Those who are in the habit of walking a great deal, know that it is much less fatiguing to walk over uneven ground, for any length of time, than it is over that which is perfectly level. In the former, a variety of muscles are called into action, one set relieving the other; but, in the latter, the same muscles are constantly engaged, and the fatigue is proportionate. It is so with the faculties of the human mind. No one will bear a continued tension without injury. Insanity has been well defined to be the continual entertainment of one idea. Now, if this be so, we will leave the man over-devoted to business to say how far he is removed from a madman. A prudent and steady attention to business becomes every man; but it is sadly making the means the end, when every other faculty of the mind is allowed to lie fallow, and all the rational delights, which are so lavishly strewn into our path, to remain ungathered and unloved. To this class of man, the market price of tallow is of higher importance than the freedom of Greece—and the value of sugar dearer to them than all the sweetmeats of social life.

With those about them they are generally severe and exacting, and if any of their clerks happen to have a taste for something more intellectual than the Price Current, a desire to enrich their minds by storing them with knowledge, he predicts their failure as business men, and by his own discouragements and strict exactions, himself lays the foundation for the failure he prophesies. Is it they happen to have started in life poor and without means, and have, in the course of years, by their plodding industry, accumulated money, they are forever holding themselves up for an example, and, like that egotistical old fogey, Lawrie Todd, who commenced life by making nails, they have no hopes of any young man whom fortune has saved the necessity of passing through the same ordeal. Lawrie Todd—we are indebted to Galt, the novelist, for palming this condensed essence of twattle upon us—wants every youth to begin life making nails, because he did. He turns up his dirty nose at the refinements of life, because he thinks that all the domestic virtues went out with linsey woolsey, and that the female vices came with pianos and guitars. The *dulce cum utile*—the sweet with the useful, a maxim worthy of universal respect. The highest degree of education, so far from being inconsistent with mercantile pursuits, is the very thing a merchant, in the noblest sense of the word, most requires. A merchant should be a gentleman of education, of polished manners and liberal views, because the class to which he belongs influence society more nearly and effectually than any other class.—Neither extremes of society—the aristocrat, nor plebeian—have the weight, for good or evil, as the great middle classes. With the latter is the great intelligence of every country, and on them rest the support of literature and of the arts and sciences.

LETTER FROM THE ARMY.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
February 22, 1863.

DEAR PILOT:—We are writing this in the "Signal Telegraph Office,"—about ten inches of snow and abundant reinforcements yet falling, and the absence of fire rendering our own shelter (?) too comfortable (?) for habitation. Our friend T. A. Greigh, and his *chum* operator, H. W. Fulton—from the 53d Reg., P. V., an estimable man, kindly tendered us the comforts of their office. The "Signal Corps" has done signal service to the Government; and we are glad to see that Congress is taking measures to make it a complete and permanent organization during the rebellion. There will soon be an instrument at each Corps headquarters, to communicate with the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. This facilitates the transmission of orders, and save orderlies many a pleasant (?) midnight ride.

Our contributions recently have been so redundant with "snows," "slushes," "storms," et cetera, that we are fearful this tautology will be irksome to your readers; but the present condition of the elements necessitates another rehearsal of the same. The snow is about ten inches in depth, and still falling fast.—There is a German name (which we have heard frequently, but disremember its orthography now) that expresses this peculiar kind of a snow. One that falls in small light flakes, and is blown about by "evil" winds, and penetrates every crevice, immaterial how diminutive. There seems to be an evil genius hovering over the Army of the Potomac. This snow will prevent a move inside of a fortnight and perhaps two.

While we are writing, national salutes are being fired by selected batteries in each Corps; and strange inconsistency (!) distant thunderings tell that rebeldom, too, remembers the birth-day of GEORGE WASHINGTON. How is it possible that two such hostile powers, each one conscientious—at least professedly so, can consistently celebrate the same day?

Our boys have been on picket, but they were to be relieved yesterday. They fortunately escaped a terrible inclement night.

Our "always merry" friend George Watson has returned to the army. He looks very well, but is suffering severely from neuralgia in the jaw. The transit from home comforts to the exposures of the camp was too sudden; and his affliction is a natural sequence thereto.—George never received any intelligence of the army's moving, while guarding that unfortunate house at Warrenton, and the occasion of his capture is attributable altogether to *foreign* negligence. We mention this to correct a statement which the reader will remember of appearing in one of our letters soon after George's misfortune, in which we said that he "failed" to report.

We received a letter from Sergt. Strickler a few days ago. His wound is improving slowly, and he thinks it will confine him to Finlay a month yet.

Out of reverence for the day, we will abridge our letter. Always, yours,
M. D. R.

Pennsylvania Infantry Militia at Newbern, N. C.

Newbern, N. C., Feb. 16, 1863.—Brigadier-General Spinola's Keystone Brigade, is at present encamped on the west bank of Neuse river, about one and a half miles from the decayed, dilapidated, rickety, wooden town of Newbern. The Brigade was formed at Suffolk, Va., which was the rendezvous for the Pennsylvania Militia. We left that place on the 28th of December, 1862, marched along the border of the Dismal Swamp, through mud and water, sixty-seven miles, in three days, to the Chowan river, North Carolina, Rebel band of guerrillas hanging on our flank the entire route.

Here we embarked on Government transports, steamed down the river to Albemarle Sound where storms of wind seem to reside, which threatened to tumble our old hulks to the bottom and finish this Brigade of Pennsylvania Militia. The abdominal region of many of the men's stomachs were in an equally perturbed condition; and, in the midst of this sorry state of things the cry of fire broke from the lower deck! Now there was shouting and moaning, weeping and wailing, praying and exploring the evil fates that had brought these terrors over the waters. After two days and nights of confusion and distress, previously unknown to these untraveled men, we were safely debarked at Newbern. Bless me how joyously the troops frisked about, when they found themselves once more on terra firma, though to them a terra incognita. Briskly the work of erecting cabins, &c., went on, but a few days being required to put the camps in an admirable, cleanly condition, when the regular drills commenced and all the duties of regulars entered upon.

The One-hundred-and-fifty-eight Regiment, Colonel D. B. McKibben, of Philadelphia, commanding, deserve special mention. The Colonel, we understand, has gone North on special service.

The health of our Brigade is very good, owing, doubtless, to the cleanliness of the men

and their regular police duties, thought this region abound in swamps and bogs.

The militia as a body are good men, but whether they will fight well depends altogether on their officers, many of whom are ill qualified, and pursue a course well calculated to brew discontent and dissatisfaction.

The great expedition which left here a few weeks ago has not yet done its work. Cause unknown. General Foster started for Washington yesterday. A rumor prevails that difference of opinion as to military movements between him and General Hunter delayed operations.—*Cor. Philadelphia Inquirer.*

Capture of a Forage Train Near Romney, by the Rebels.

Head-quarters Second Brigade, Milroy's Division, Romney, Va., Feb. 18, 1863.—Our force here is not doing much just now. The roads for some time back have been in very bad condition. Yesterday our forage train was captured by the Rebels about five miles from camp, on the Northwestern turnpike, west of this place. Twenty of the Rebel cavalry made a dash upon the train. Captain Brown, of the One-hundred-and-sixteenth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, having command of the guard with the train, which numbered eighty, mostly of his own company, and the balance from the One-hundred-and-twenty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, saw the Rebels coming, at least four hundred yards off, on the pike, himself and Second Lieutenant, with fifteen of his men being in the rear at the time.

His men asked the Captain "what they should do. He muttered out to them that the news must be taken to Romney, and immediately himself and second Lieutenant, both being on horseback, put spurs to their horses, and off they went, leaving his men to take care of themselves as best they could. The men stood still, not one of them making any attempt whatever to defend himself. As the Rebels came up they said:—"Throw down your arms and we will parole you," which they at once obeyed. The Rebels rode along the train, which was stretched out about a mile long the pike, our men throwing away their guns and trying to get off, as the Rebels were passing from one wagon to another along the road.

Only three wagons out of twenty-four succeeded in getting off, and they were the front ones and guarded by fifteen of the Washington County, Pennsylvania, Cavalry. Two of them fired upon the Rebels—all the firing that was done upon either side. This somewhat checked the Rebels and saved the three front wagons from being captured; the Rebels, however, captured twenty-one and sixteen of our men. They made our men unhitch their teams for them, and set the wagons on fire which were loaded with hay. Quite a number of the guard had left their guns on the top of the loads of hay, and when fired by the Rebels, the guns would pop off, which quite astonished the Rebels at first. After the wagons had been fired by the Rebels they made our men mount the team horses and mules, and quite a number they made carry their guns, and off they went towards Moorfield in full gallop. A short dis- of the Rebels had seven of their men on picket, whom they called to their assistance as soon as they got started, making twenty-seven, all told.

The total amount of horses and mules they took was one hundred and one, ninety-one sets of harness, and burned nineteen wagons, which are a total loss, and the other two partially destroyed by fire, being a Government loss of upwards of \$16,000. Such a disgraceful, humiliating and cowardly surrender as that of these sixty men of the One-hundred-and-sixteenth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry has not its equal in the history of this war, and the deep feeling of mortification is plainly visible in the countenance of every officer down to the rank and file here. The agony, it seems, was not enough till after the news reached head-quarters.

Colonel James Washburn, commanding, immediately despatched two hundred of the Ringgold Battalion Cavalry, Pennsylvania Volunteers, in pursuit. Seeing them dash out of town, you would have supposed that they would have soon overhauled the Rebels. They went eight or ten miles, found the Rebels had taken the Moorfield road; but as the citizens told them the Rebels had passed about two hours, they concluded it "wouldn't pay," to use the ranking Captain's phrase. They concluded to return back to quarters. Thus the war goes in Old Virginia with the Rebels—with a vengeance, and no doubt, we will get our eyes open by and by.

Mutiny of a Negro Crew in New York Harbor.

New York, Feb. 25.—The negro crew of the ship Lucy Thomson mutinied as the ship was about to sail to-day. A sharp struggle occurred, in which the mate, Mr. Blackstock, was knocked down and struck with a belaying pin. Crocker, seeing his danger, fired his pistol and wounded one of the mutineers, when the whole gang was driven forward.

The harbor police then arrested the mutineers, sixteen in number.

From California and Mexico.

San Francisco, Feb. 21.—A serious controversy is going on in Honey Lake Valley over the boundary question between California and Nevada, both sides claiming jurisdiction over the land in dispute.

California sheriff attempted to serve a civil process on the 15th inst., when the residents of the valley fired on the sheriff and his posse *omnibus*. Six of the sheriff's men were wounded. The sheriff has sent for reinforcements and his assailants also expected to be reinforced.

Both parties are very defiant and at the last accounts were fortifying themselves in log-houses.

A schooner which has just arrived brings advices from Mazatlan to the 22d of January. Four thousand Mexicans, commanded by La Vega, had sailed for Acapulco. The object of the movement was unknown.

From Gen. Hooker's Army.

Aquia Creek, Feb. 23.—The anniversary of Washington's birthday was celebrated yesterday by the Army of the Potomac, notwithstanding the prevailing tempest, by salutes from several batteries. Nothing of the kind was heard from the rebel batteries on the south side of the Rappahannock.

A snow storm commenced late on Saturday night, and continued till yesterday afternoon, drifting in some places two to three feet. The depth of snow averages about seven inches.—The shelter tents of the soldiers afforded but poor protection from the storm.

Last night the atmosphere was piercingly cold, causing some frost bitten extremities.

Previous to the storm the mud had partially dried up, but now many days must elapse in this peculiar locality before the roads will become passable, under the most favorable auspices.

The Rebels Crossing the Rappahannock.

Washington, Feb. 26.—This afternoon's *Star* says:—"A large force of Rebel Cavalry doubtless crossed the Rappahannock last night, at Kelley's Ford, a few miles below Rappahannock Station. Their movements from that point indicated a raid upon our forces somewhere in the vicinity of Stafford Court House. Persons who came into our lines yesterday represent that a considerable Rebel force is now at Warrenton, while others say that Jackson, with some force, has gone up the valley to Strasburg. If all these things be true, our belief is that the venturesome Rebels will find their movements duly attended to by the Union forces.

The *Star* also says:—"Last night our picket (Chantilly) guard, out from Centreville, on the Chantilly road, were, all but one man, captured by a Rebel force of about one hundred men, after firing two rounds. An example will of course, be made of the officer commanding this picket, by dismissing him from the service summarily, for permitting this surprise to succeed.

Capture of a Train on the Nashville Road.

Louisville, Feb. 26.—At 1 o'clock this afternoon twenty freight cars, mostly laden with individuals going from here to Nashville, were seized by about sixty mounted Rebels at Woodburn, twelve miles below Bowling Green, and burned. The Rebels then fired up the locomotive and sent it ahead at full speed, supposing that it would come in collision with the passenger train coming from Nashville. Luckily the late rains had so injured the bridges that the passenger train had returned to Nashville, and the locomotive having exhausted its steam, stopped on the track, doing no damage.

Louisville, Feb. 26.—About one hundred of Morgan's band have captured the steamer Hetty Gilman, with forage and provisions, on Barren river, five miles above Woodbury. The steamer D. B. Campbell, from Evansville, to Bowling Green, with a similar cargo, it is feared will fall into their hands. The captain and passengers of the Gilman were paroled and released.

From the Army of the Potomac.

Head quarters of the Army of the Potomac, Feb. 27.—On Wednesday night two Rebel cavalry brigades, Fitz Hugh Lee's and Hampton's attempted to make a raid into our lines. They crossed the Rappahannock at Kelly's Ford, and succeeded, by a strong attack, in breaking our thin line of cavalry outposts at one or two points, and capturing a small number of our men.

Our cavalry outpost in reserve were brought up and the lines immediately re-established. A force was sent in pursuit of the enemy, and our captures included two or three officers.

The Rebels have failed in accomplishing their object, retreated in great haste across the Rappahannock, after felling trees along the roads and placing other obstacles in the way of the pursuing forces.

The cavalry force sent out in pursuit of them have not yet returned.

The Rebel cavalry were commanded by Gen. Stuart in person.

One of the Rebel prisoners is Captain John Alexander, of the Twentieth Virginia Cavalry.

PASSING EVENTS.

Files of The Pilot.—We have several files of last year's PILOT, which we will sell cheap.

Notice.—The undersigned purposes opening a Summer School in the North Western School House, on MONDAY, APRIL 13TH, 1863. For particulars apply to S. H. KBY, Greencastle, Feb. 24, 1863.*

Under Roof.—The new and large store room built by A. L. IAWIX, Esq., is now under roof and will be finished by the 1st of April, so as to be occupied by his Hardware Store. The building is quite an improvement to the public square. There is yet room for another building on the North-west corner of the square, which we trust will soon be put up.

Building.—Col. JAMES C. AUSTIN, who built five houses, on East Street last summer, intends building three more large and elegant dwelling houses in the same locality, after the spring season opens. He deserves the thanks of our people for the noble spirit he has manifested in improving the town. We hope he may become a permanent resident of this place himself.

Furniture for Sale.—At a meeting of the BURN'S Association, it was resolved to sell the furniture of said association, at private sale. Persons wishing to make purchases will please call on S. H. PRATHER, President, or JOHN P. BYERS, Chairman Executive Committee. By order of the Association. W. A. REID, Secy.

Greencastle, Feb. 17, 1863.

Enjoyed.—Sleigh rides by moonlight were very much enjoyed by the young lads and lassies of our acquaintance last week. It is seldom we have such sleighing so late in the winter. Although it did not last long, still a good opportunity was presented for parties, &c.

We will say by way of conclusion that THE PILOT is a good family paper, and that our "dext" has one of the fastest horses in this neighborhood.

Soldiers at Home.—Several volunteers from the Army of the Potomac have lately been at home on the ten days leave of absence, now granted by Gen. Hooker. Among those looking remarkably well we may mention, Assistant Surgeon GEORGE W. BURK, of the 46th Regt. P. V., and Lieut. REID, of company K, 126th (at present Chief of the Ambulance Corps of Tyler's Brigade).

We may expect weekly visits from other of our soldiers.

Rumors.—Contrabands from Winchester bring reports of a Cavalry skirmish at Newtown, Va., on last Thursday. It seems that a body of Rebel Cavalry got inside our lines, and captured some of our pickets, but not deeming it prudent to advance too close to the main army, retreated again towards Strasburg. Gen. MILKOT having intelligence of this affair, sent out a force of his Cavalry which came up with the Rebels at Newtown and worsted them, driving them back to Strasburg, where it is supposed that a large force of the enemy is encamped.

Discharged.—We learn that Lieut. JACOB DARTON, of company A, 1st P. R. Artillery, (Easton's Battery,) was recently discharged from the service on account of physical disability. He is a young and gallant officer, and was with his Battery through the several engagements in which it took part, until the second Bull Run battle, where, being in charge of the Battery, he was badly wounded in the arm. He has not yet recovered the use of this arm. There are few officers like him in or out of the service. "The bravest of the brave," is a title which he has fairly won.

CHARLES PALMER, of company K, 126th, P. V., has arrived at home, having received an honorable discharge.

Remedy for Small Pox.—A great discovery is reported to have been recently made by a Surgeon of the English Army in China; in the way of an effectual cure for this terrible and loathsome disease. The mode of treatment is as follows:—When the preceding fever is at its height and just before the eruption appears, the chest is rubbed with croton oil and tartaric ointment. This causes the whole of the eruption to appear on that part of the body, to the relief of all the rest. It also secures a full and complete eruption, and thus prevents the disease from attacking the internal organs. This is said to be now the established mode of treatment in the English Army in China by general orders, and is regarded as a perfect success. As this disease now prevails in different parts of our country, it would be well for our physicians to put this remedy to practical test, and if found as successful here as it is said to be in the English Army in China, it will certainly prove a great blessing to the community in general. We are permitted to call these facts from a private letter just received from China by a friend.—*Ger. Ref. Messenger.*

Shinplasters.—The country is now flooded with the issue of shinplasters. For a time, something of this kind was necessary owing to the disappearance of silver change, and the tardiness manifested by the Government in supplying this want with the Postage-Currency. But now that this currency has become plentiful enough for the transactions of trade, it is, but right that those who have issued shinplasters, whether they emanate from individuals or corporations, should take immediate steps for their redemption. There is no longer any necessity for their being kept in circulation. We believe that the business men of Mechanicsburg, redeemed, in "green backs" or Postage Currency, the shinplasters issued by them, when presented in any sums from five cents upward. This is right.

We see by the Bedford Gazette that "The Grand Inquest of the county of Bedford" have presented certain persons and firms for the unlawful issue and circulation of "certain notes, bills, checks, papers and engagements, to circulate as currency, contrary to the Act of Assembly in such cases made and provided." "The Grand Inquest" further requests the Court to make an order or decree that all these checks, bills, &c., be redeemed on or before the 15th of April, 1863. If so redeemed at that time nothing will be preferred against them. Similar action might justly be taken in Franklin county.