



Speaker of the House.

The opening of the State Legislature is drawing near and the organization of the House, which is Democratic, has already excited some discussion among our brethren of the press.

U. S. Senator.

Rumor has it that Simon Cameron has returned to this country, from Russia, where he is said to be the Minister of our Government, for the purpose of becoming a candidate for U. S. Senator.

The Somerset Herald & Whig thinks that if the editor of this paper will "but give his reason fair play, he, with his Democratic brethren, will hail" the movement of the Administration to have Congressmen elected from the districts in the rebellious states held by our troops.

We will give our reason "fair play" for a moment. First, we reason thus: If these Congressional elections are "the first practical step" towards the restoration of the Union, then all prior steps of the Administration have not been practical, and, hence, the Confiscation Act, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the war itself, have not been "practical steps."

When the Emperor of China issues an important decree, he usually appends to it these words—"Respect this. A vermillion edict."

On Tuesday last a file of 17 wagons, loaded with wood, wended its way past our office and "brought up" at the wood-barracks of Rev. S. Kepler, of the M. E. Church.

be well in these days of religious and political intolerance, if men would keep this fact in view a little more steadily than they are in the habit of doing.

The village of Centreville, in this county, out of 20 persons subject to military duty, has furnished fifteen men for the army.

The two and a half millions, in Government paper, recently stolen from the U. S. Treasury, are still non est inventa, and the distinguished officer who has the custody of the national coffers is still retained by Secretary Chase.

A great ado was made by the Abolition newspapers over the defalcation of the late Post Master at New York City, and his financial short comings were charged home, with great severity, upon the administration of Mr. Buchanan.

A telegraphic dispatch reports the retreat of Gen. Burnside, across the Rappahannock, after severe losses.

There was a great fire in Lock Haven, a short time ago. Some forty houses and much valuable property were destroyed.

We regret to learn that Capt. Eichelberger, of Hopewell, this county, attached to the 8th Pennsylvania Reserves, was wounded in the late battles at Fredericksburg.

St. Clair township is ahead! The wife of Enos Davis, of that township, gave birth, a few days ago, to four children, three boys and one girl, all living, at last accounts, and doing well.

P. S. We learn since writing the above, that one of the boys has died.

LIBERALITY OF PHYSICIANS. It has always been said that physicians would disparage any remedy, however valuable, which they did not originate themselves.

The Only Safety for the Sick. When the Emperor of China issues an important decree, he usually appends to it these words—"Respect this. A vermillion edict."

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ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

SUFFOLK, Dec. 1, 1862.

DEAR BROTHER: As I thought a line to you might not come amiss, I take this evening to write.

There is not much excitement here. Everything is quiet in this portion of the Grand Army of the North. We have occasionally some little picket skirmishing but it don't amount to much.

The force we are watching is on the other side of the Blackwater, and when they come across and attempt to come down, we go up and meet them and drive them back.

It is a nice time to stand picket just now. No fires, and snow or rain, you have to take it. A fellow's fingers get awfully cold carrying a gun before daylight comes.

Yours, &c. J. B. HELM.

The Battle on the Rappahannock. Opening of the Enemy's Batteries from their First Line of Defenses.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Dec. 11, 1862.—To-day has witnessed one of those rare, grand spectacles of war—the bombardment of a city.

Throughout the week there had been indications that the crisis was rapidly approaching; and each night the troops retired at tattoo, fully confident that the roar of artillery would be their reveille.

Last evening, at sundown, the movement commenced. Batteries hastened to the front, wagon trains were removed from the vicinity of the anticipated battle, the ponderous pontoons joined the current hurrying riverward, and night closed down upon us, bright and beautiful, with our pulses throbbing quick with eager expectations.

At two o'clock our pickets were withdrawn, and at three our pontoon train drove down to water. Lumber was noisily piled upon the ground, and the huge boats slid from off their

trucks. Then we hear a splashing in the river, a dark pathway lengthens out upon the silver surface, shadows flit here and there along its track, and the lusty blows of hammers re-echo from side to side.

Suddenly, crack! crack! crack! from a hundred muskets, tells us the ball is opened. A cry of pain comes up the bank from the gallant engineers; mules dash off, with pontoons thundering after, across the plot; the musketry grows louder and the whizz of bullets more frequent; frightened teamsters fly, panic-stricken, and the artillery horses plunge at the caissons.

It was designed to lay down two bridges at once, one at the lower end and the other at the upper end of the city. The enemy, posted in the houses and cellars, upon the bank of the river, were safe from our infantry and maintained a continuous fire.

The city, from its walls of brick, hurls back a thousand echoes, which beat up against the Falmouth bluff, roll back again beyond the town, and then from the distant hills once more swell over to us, as though the heavens were rent asunder.

The mist still clings to the river, the sun struggles up red and fiery, and the air is suffocating with the odor of gunpowder. Presently the bank of fog begins to lift a little, the glistening roofs gleam faintly through the veil, then the sunbeams scatter the clouds that intervene, and Fredericksburg, utterly desolate, stands out before us.

The residence of Mr. Slaughter, father of the Mayor, Dr. Wallace's, Mrs. Hayes', and Timberlake's auction and commission store, are among the buildings burned.

In the meantime our own troops lined the hills upon this side as far as the eye could reach, all intently watching the operations. Artillery, cavalry and infantry, in solid columns, covered every plateau, and every camp in the vicinity was well nigh abandoned in the desire to witness the bombardment.

As night approached it was found that the enemy had no idea of yielding to us a free passage across the river. With their facilities for shielding themselves, our artillery could not prominently dislodge them, and companies C and G, of the 7th Michigan regiment, gallantly volunteered to cross in boats and drive them out of town.

Receiving assent to their proposition, they sprang into a couple of pontoon boats, rowed briskly across, dashed up into the city at double-quick, broke open the houses, and captured thirty-six prisoners, including a staff officer.

Our loss in killed and wounded is not large. The rebels, owing to their sheltered position, have probably suffered less than we, though at times our shells seemed to burst among them with considerable effect.

General Burnside remained at General Sumner's headquarters during the bombardment, in plain view of the whole scene.

A DESPERATE BATTLE.

The Rebel Position Attacked by the Union Army.

Murderous Fire of Infantry and Artillery.

THE FEDERAL CENTRE GIVES WAY.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Saturday, December 13, 11 P. M.—The fog began to disappear, and presented an unobstructed view of our own and the rebel positions.

The troops advanced to their work at ten minutes before 12 o'clock, at a brisk run. The enemy's guns opened a rapid fire. When within musket range of the base of the ridge, our troops were met by a terrible fire from the rebel infantry, who were posted behind a stone wall on the right of the line.

The concentrated fire of artillery and infantry which they were forced to face was too much, and the centre gave way in disorder, but were afterwards rallied and brought back.

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

The following is a list of the officers killed and wounded as far as known: General Jackson, Pennsylvania Reservers, killed; General Bayard, struck in the thigh by a shell, and afterwards died.

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

The position of the rebels was as follows: Longstreet on the left, and holding the main works; A. P. Hill and Jackson were in front of Franklin, Jackson's right resting on the Rappahannock; D. H. Hill acting as a reserve.

MARRIED.

GOLLIPHER—LONG.—In Schellsburg on the 4th inst., by the Rev. N. W. Colburn, Mr. Justice Gollipher to Miss Susan Long, both of Schellsburg.

MILLER—HILDEBRANT.—On Thursday evening, the 4th inst., at the house of the bride's father, by P. F. Lohman, Esq., Mr. William A. Miller, of St. Clair tp., to Miss Rachel C. daughter of Mr. Frederick Hildebrant, of Juniata tp.

SWARTZWELDER—DIEHL.—On the 4th inst., by Rev. H. Heckerman, Mr. Emanuel Swartzwelder, of Monroe tp., to Mary Ellen, daughter of Philip Diehl, of Friend's Cove.

TEMPLETON—KELLER.—On the 22d of Nov., by J. B. Anderson Esq., Roland F. Templeton, of Huntingdon co., to Miss Ella Keller, of Cumberland, Md.

DIED.

DIEHL.—On the 14th inst., Charles W. son of Benjamin F. Diehl, of Friend's Cove, aged 4 years, 10 months and 8 days.

Bedford Rail Road.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Bedford Rail Road Company, will be held at the office of the Company, in Bedford, on Monday, the 12th day of January, A. D. 1863, at 2 o'clock, P. M., when an election will be held for a President and Twelve Directors to serve for the ensuing year.

NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Rail Road and Coal Company, will be held at the office of said Company, 258 South Third Street, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 13th day of January, 1863, at eleven o'clock, A. M., when an election will be held for a President and Twelve Directors to serve for the ensuing year.

Public Sale OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE.

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Bedford county, the subscriber will offer at public sale, on the premises, in Union township, on Saturday the 24th day of January next, the following Real Estate, late the property of John Corle, dec'd, to wit:—A TRACT OF LAND, containing ninety three acres, sixty six perches and the usual allowance of six per cent. for roads, &c., adjoining lands of Jacob Corle, on the east, Isaac Imier, on the west, and Castleton Ake on the north and south.

Save Costs!

The accounts and notes due the late firm of Oster & Carn, have been left with me for collection. Persons indebted will please make immediate payment, otherwise costs will be added with about respect to persons.

Bedford, December 19, 1862.

O Yes! O Yes!

I take this method of informing the public that I have taken out Auctioneer and Sale License, and will attend whenever desired on the shortest notice and most reasonable terms. Apply to D. T. AKE, St. Clairsville, Bedford Co., Pa. December 19, 1862.—6m.

STRAY HEIFER.

Came to the premises of the subscriber, residing in Union township, about the first of December, last, a black and white spotted milky heifer, having the left ear off and the right ear split, with a piece cut out underneath, supposed to have been one year old last spring. The owner is requested to prove his property, pay charges and take her away, or she will be disposed of according to law!

ESTRAY.

Came trespassing upon the premises of the subscriber residing in Union township, a dark red bull, supposed to have been two years old last spring, having no marks, except the right horn broken at the point. The owner is requested to prove his property, pay charges and take him away, or he will be disposed of according to law.

STRAY LAMBS.

Came to the premises of the subscriber residing in Bedford tp., about the middle of last September, two lambs, one having the right ear off and a notch underneath both ears, and the other having a small low-tail cut out of the left ear. The owner is requested to prove his property, pay charges and take them away, or they will be disposed of according to law.

Bedford County ss:

At an Orphans' Court held at Bedford, in and for said county, on the 17th day of November, A. D. 1862, before the Judges of said Court, On motion of O. E. Shannon, Esq., the Court granted a rule on the heirs and legal representatives of David Dicken, late of Cumberland Valley township, dec'd, to wit: Elizabeth Dicken, (widow) Jonathan C. Dicken, Mary Eve, intermarried with Wm. Walter Shelly, George Martin, B. L. Dicken, and Mary Alice Dicken, all residing in Buldo county, Pa., to accept Mary Eve, who resides in Allegheny county, Md., to be and appear at an Orphans' Court to be held in Bedford, in and for the county of Bedford, on the second Monday of February, (9th day) A. D. 1863, to accept or refuse to take the real estate of said deceased at the valuation which has been valued and appraised in pursuance of a writ of partition or valuation issued out of this our said Court, and to the Sheriff of said county directed, or show cause why the same should not be sold.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Court, at Bedford, the 27th day of November, A. D. 1862.

Attest—John J. CESSNA, Sheriff.

December 19, 1862.

Bedford County ss:

At an Orphans' Court held at Bedford, in and for said county, on the 17th day of November, A. D. 1862, before the Judges of said Court, On motion of Attorney Spang, the Court granted a rule on the heirs and legal representatives of John S. Staller, late of Napier township, Bedford county, Pa., dec'd, to wit: Mary F. Clark, intermarried with Rev. A. B. Clark, residing in Blair county, Pa., Isabella B. intermarried with Dr. S. P. Cunningham, residing in Beaver county, Pa., John C. Staller, residing in California, Dr. S. G. Staller, the petitioner, residing in Bedford county, Louisa, intermarried with James Graham, of Cumberland county, Pa., F. B. Staller, residing in the state of Ohio, Anna M. Staller, residing in Cumberland county, Pa., Augustus J. Staller, residing in Philadelphia, Emma, intermarried with Dr. J. P. Clark, residing in Cumberland county, and James B. Staller, minor, to be and appear at an Orphans' Court to be held in Bedford, in and for the county of Bedford, on the second Monday (9th day) of February, A. D. 1863, to accept or refuse to take the real estate of said deceased at the valuation which has been valued and appraised in pursuance of a writ of partition or valuation issued out of our said Court, and to the Sheriff of said county directed, or show cause why the same should not be sold.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Court, at Bedford, the 25th day of November, A. D. 1862.

Attest—John J. CESSNA, Sheriff.

December 19, 1862.

Bedford County ss:

At an Orphans' Court held at Bedford, in and for said county, on the 20th day of November, A. D. 1862, before the Judges of said Court, On motion of Job Mann, Esq., the Court granted a rule on the heirs and legal representatives of Daniel McDonald, late of Union township, Bedford county, Pa., dec'd, to wit: Alice, (widow) still living, and issue, to wit: James McDonald and Emily McDonald, residing in Bedford county, and two grant children, sons of his oldest son, Daniel McDonald, deceased, to wit: James McDonald, residing in Clayto, State of Iowa, and Daniel McDonald, of Union township, Bedford county, now in the U. S. Army, to be and appear at an Orphans' Court to be held at Bedford, on the second Monday (9th day) of February, A. D. 1863, to accept or refuse to take the real estate of said deceased at the valuation which has been valued and appraised in pursuance of a writ of partition or valuation issued out of our said Court, and to the Sheriff of said county directed, or show cause why the same should not be sold.

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Bedford County ss:

At an Orphans' Court held at Bedford, in and for said county, on the 20th day of November, A. D. 1862, before the Judges of said Court, On motion of A. King, Esq., the Court granted a rule on the heirs and legal representatives of Mary Burns, late of Napier township, deceased, to wit: James Burns, John, Oliver and Joseph, all residing in said county of Bedford, Eliza, intermarried with Michael Ott, residing in Bradford, Wilt county, Indiana, Mary J. nee, intermarried with Joseph Burns, residing in Illinois, Thomas Jefferson Burns, residing in Ohio, and Sarah, intermarried with A. Boyd Taylor, in Iowa, to be and appear at an Orphans' Court, to be held at Bedford, in and for the county of Bedford, on the second Monday (9th day) of February, A. D. 1863, to accept or refuse to take the real estate of said deceased, being the undivided half part of the tract of land in the writ of partition mentioned and described at the valuation which has been valued and appraised in pursuance of a writ of partition and valuation issued out of our said Court, and to the Sheriff of said county directed, and in case the same is not taken at the valuation, then show cause why the same should not be sold.

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