DAILY CLIPPER.

WM. WALES.....Publisher.

THURSDAY, AUG. 18, 1864.

[Reported for the Baltimore Clipper.]

MARYLAND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

ANNAPOLIS, August 16, 1864.

The Convention met this evening at eight o'clock, fifty-eight members present, and Hon. H. H. Goldsborough in the chair.

OATH OF STATE OFFICERS.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the fifth section of the article relating to the elective franchise, prescribing an oath for all the officers of the State.

Mr. Thruston, of Allegany, advocated the adoption of the oath.

Mr. Daniel, of Baltimore city, addressed the Convention on the same side of the subject, commenting on the violent denunciation of the Government of the United States by some of the members of the minority, stating that it was only owing to the clemency of that Government that some of them were not in its forts.

On the conclusion of Mr Dent's remarks, Mr. Ridgely, of Baltimore county, asked him if he would be in favor of a peace recognizing the Southern Confederacy as an independent Government?

Mr. Dent said I would.

Mr Sands desired to know if he was in favor of including Maryland in the Southern Confederacy?

Mr. Dent said if the majority of her people so decided, he was

Mr. Negley asked Mr. Dent if the question whether Maryland should ally her fortune with the South was submitted to the people if he would vote for it?

Mr. Dent—I answer frankly I would prefer an association with the people of the South.

Mr. Stirling, of Baltimore, thought the argument had taken a very wide range. He could not see why any gentleman who had taken the oath qualifying him as a member of the Convention should object to the oath proposed. In answer to the charge that the oath was retroactive in its operations, he said the Convention had a right to fix any oath it might please for the exercise of the elective franchise or the holding of office.—The oath before the Convention only asks a man to say whether he is for the United States or for its enemies A man must stand on one side or the other, and if he cannot express himself as to which side he is on, he is not fit to hold office.—If a man's feelings and sympathies are not with the Government he lives under he has no right under it.

At eleven o'clock, when Mr. Stirling had concluded, Mr. Abbott moved the previous question, which was sustained

Mr. Jones, of Somerset, moved to adjourn, which was rejected.

Mr. Adelen, of Charles, asked for a division of the amendmehnt, which was had.

The section was adopted by 39 yeas to 12 nays—a strict party vote.

It was published in the Clipper of Wednesday morning.

During the call of the yeas and nays Mr Ecker, of Carroll, said that as one of the committee on the article on the elective franchise he was inclined to stand by its report, but as this amendment seemed to tread very hard on the toes of his Democratic friends, and there must therefore be something very good in it, he would support it, and vote "aye."

At half-past eleven o'clock the Convention adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, August 17, 1864.

Present, Hon. H. H. Goldsborough, President, and 72 members.

The Elective Franchise—The Convention resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the "Elective Franchise."

Unconditional Nominations to Office.—Mr. Stockbridge moved to add to section third of the report (which is the same as section second of article first of the present constitution, prescribing penalties for bribery of voters illegal voting, &c.) the following:

"Or who shall be guilty of, or accessory to, any fraud, force, surprise, or bribery, at any primary meeting or nominating convention, to procure himself or any other person to be nominated to any office, national, state or municipal."

Mr. Miller moved to strike out the words, "at any primary meeting or nominating convention," which was carried, and the words were struck out. The amendment of Mr. Stockbridge as amended, was then adopted Yeas 45, nays 25.

Mr. Duvall offered an additional section providing that the section prescribing oaths to be taken shall remain in existence only until the end of the existing civil war, &c., which was rejected; yeas 23, nays 47.

Mr. Stirling offered the following as an additional section, which was adopted:

Section —. No person shall be excluded from voting at any election on account of not being registered, until the General Assembly shall have passed an act of registration, and the same shall have been carried into effect. But after such act shall have been carried into effect, no person shall vote unless his name is peared on the register.

The report of the elective franchise was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Militia.—Mr. Berry, of Baltimore county, chairman of the committee on the militia made the following report:

Article 1. The militia shall be composed of all able-bodied male citizens residents of this State, being eighteen years of age, and under the age of forty-five years, who shall be enrolled in the militia, and perform military duty, in such manner not incompatible with the Constitution and laws of the United States as may be prescribed by the General Assembly of Maryland.

Sec. 2. It shall be he duty of the General Assembly of Maryland to provide for and perfect, from time to time, the enrollment of the militia, and also for its effectual organization, and to make for the purpose such a division of the State into military districts as may secure these results, and in so doing to especially, pass such laws as shall promote the formation of volunteer militia associations in the city of Baltimore and every county, and to secure to them such privileges or assistance as may afford them effectual encouragement.

Section 3. The Adjutant General shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate. He shall hold his office for the term of —— years, and receive for his services an annual salary of ——.

Mr Wickard, from the same committee, made a minority report.

The Judiciary Department.—The Convention took up the report of the committee on the judiciary department.

Section 1 was read and adopted without an amendment, as follows:

Section 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in a Court of Appeals, Circuit Courts, Orphan's Court, such courts for the city of Baltimore as may be hereinafter prescribed or provided for, and justices of the peace; all said courts shall be courts of record and have a seal to be used in the authentication of all process issuing from them. The process and official character of justices of the peace shall be authenticated as hath heretofore been practiced in this State, or may hereafter be prescribed by law.

Election of Judges.—Mr. Abbott moved to strike out the word "appointment" in the second section of the report, and insert the word "election."

Mr. Abbott stated that he offered the amendment in order to test the sense of the Convention upon the question of electing judges by the people or appointing them by the Governor. The amendment after debate was adopted—ayes 52, nays 18 So the Convention decided in favor of the election of judges by the people.

The second section was finally amended so as to read as follows:

Section 2. The Judges of the several Courts, except the associated Judges of the Orphans' Court, shall be citizens of the United States, and of the State, not less than five years next preceding their election, (or appointment by the executive in case of a vacancy by death, disqualification or otherwise,) and not less than one year next preceding their election or appointment, resident in the judicial district or circuit, as the case may be for which they are appointed. They shall not be less than thirty years of age at the time of their election or appointment, and selected from those who have been admitted to practice law in this State, and who are most distinguished for integrity, wisdom and sound legal knowledge.

Sec. 34, relating to the tenure of office of judges, was passed over informally.

Sec. 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th, which make no change in the present judicial system, were adopted.

Sec. 7th, which abolishes the special office of orier, was passed over.

Sec. 9th, providing for special judges in certain cases, was also passed over

Mr. Daniel offered the following as an additional section:

"Sec. 10. The testimony in equity cases shall be taken in like manner as in cases at law."

Pending debate on the above, the Convention adjourned until 8 o'clock, P. M.

LOCAL NEWS.

Exciting Runaway.—A runaway of an exciting character transpired yesterday afternoon on Broadway. Two horses attached to a hack in charge of Patrick Weakly, ran away on Broadway near Baltimore street, and when at the corner of Lombard street, he was thrown from his box and badly injured. A young girl who was crossing the street at the time, fell into the gutter in her hurry to reach the pavement. The sudden fall of the young lady frightened a Newfoundland dog, who in turn became frightened and knocked down a little boy, who received a cut over his right eye.—The horses continued their flight down Broadway until they reached Bank street, where they came in contact with a pedlars wagon, in charge of a man named Connolly. The wagon, which was filled with dry goods and other light articles, was wrecked and its contents scattered in wild confusion about the street. Connolly was badly injured about the head, and is severely cut in the right side from the pole of the hack. One of the horses attached to the latter vehicle became entangled in the debris and was severely injured in endeavoring to extricate himself, but before he could regain his feet, both animals were secured from doing further mischief.

Railway Accident.—A few minutes before nine o'clock last night, a collision occurred between two passenger cars on Pratt street, by which a valuable horse was killed. A car filled with passengers for Philadelphia was descending the grade at Sharp street, when the brake gave way, causing the car to run upon the horses. The driver finding that he could not stop it put his horses to their full speed, and when near Calvert street the car ran into the rear of another car, which was also proceeding to the President street depot. The platforms of both cars were demolished and several passengers badly bruised and cut by the violent concussion. Three ladies were bruised about the head and one cut over the left temple by being thrown against the seats. Remedies were immediately procured for them by their fellow passengers and their injuries properly attended. As the cars collided the shaft horse of the car with the broken brake fell and broke his right fore leg and it was found necessary to kill him.

Bank Robbed.—Between Saturday night and Sunday last, the bank of Milford, State of Delaware, was robbed of bills and specie amounting to nearly $20,000. Information was telegraphed to Marshal Carmichael giving a description of the supposed robbers.—One of them was of such a character that detective Cassel on Tuesday arrested Erasmus Levy and had him arraigned before Justice Spicer, which resulted in his being committed to jail for a hearing on Friday morning. Officers from Delaware were in this city yesterday with a requisition upon Gov. Bradford for the surrender of the accused. Judge Alexander issued a writ of *habeas corpus* yesterday morning, directed to the Warden of the jail, the writ to be made returnable this afternoon at 4 o'clock Levy denies most strenuously the charge preferred against him, and is confident of proving his innocence.

Arrival and Departure of Rebel Prisoners. Upwards of eight hundred rebel prisoners from Point Lookout, arrived in this city yesterday morning en route for Elmira, N. Y. The prisoners were a fine looking body of men, and clad in different styles of uniforms, that of the "butternut," however, prevailing. Their passage through our streets occasioned considerable interest among rebel sympathizers and persons fond of gazing upon unnatural objects. A great crowd of women and children assembled at the Bolton depot to witness the departure of the prisoners.

Camp Meeting.—We learn that the only camp meeting to be held this season is now in progress in the beautiful grove near Hanover Switch, under the charge of Presiding Elder Elisha B. Phelps and Rev. Mr. Wilsong. A train of cars will leave Camden station on Sunday morning next, at 8 o'clock for the accomodation of those who are unable to attend during the week, returning the same day, before dark.

Accident.—Francis Oberline, a boy, was seriously injured yesterday morning in Canton avenue by a lager beer wagon, in charge of John Lubecker, running over him. His collar bone was broken, and other injuries were inflicted upon him. Officers Robinson and Frazier conveyed him to his home, No. 153 Register street, where he was attended by Dr. Evans. The driver of the wagon could not prevent the accident.

A Wretched Sight.—A female named Pauline Riley was taken to the Eastern police station, yesterday afternoon, in a beastly state of intoxication. When found by the officer she was lying on the pavement, unable to stand. Her right eye was shockingly cut, the blood from which mingled with the mud upon her face, presenting a horrid appearance. Justice Whalen committed her to jail.

Assault with a Knife.—A colored man named Cassawa was arrested yesterday afternoon on the charge of assaulting and threatening to cut with a knife James Sorrell, a wood sawyer. The accused approached Sorrell on Centre market space, and, without provocation, assaulted him and attempted to cut him with the knife. Justice Spicer committed Cassawa to jail.

Stealing Rope.—Charles Nelson and Dermott Marrell, colored boys, were arrested yesterday, charged with stealing a quantity of rope from the schooner Virginia, lying at one of the Point wharves. Justice Whalen committed them to jail for the action of the Grand Jury.

Arrest of Justice Hiss.—Charles D. Hiss, a Justice of the Peace, was arrested yesterday, and locked up in the military prison, charged with compelling colored men to enter the army as substitutes. John and Wm. Bailey, charged with acting in concert with the accused, were also arrested and locked up.

Beating a Female.—John Fitzgerald was arrested yesterday, charged with beating Catherine Burke. Justice Whalen released the accused on security for his appearance at court.

PROVOST MARSHAL DRAFTED AND HELD.—It will be remembered that at the late supplemental draft, held in the Fourth District, Capt. Mills, Provost Marshal of the Fifth District, was drafted from the township of Broomfield, and that the Board of Enrolment decided that he was liable to be held, notwithstanding his office. The matter was also submitted to Col. Buchanan, Acting Assistant Provost Marshal General, for his opinion, which has brought out the decision that Captain Mills must be held, and that the ruling of Captain Brown was correct—Provost Marshals not being considered in the military service of the United States.—*Newark Advertiser, 14th.*

THE City Council of Bangor, Maine, would not allow the Democrats to use their hall for the purpose of holding the Democratic Convention, on the ground that it was for a "purpose tending to oppose the Government during the existence of the rebellion." The convention will be held in a large tent in consequence.

ACCIDENT TO HON. JOHN COVODE.—We are sorry to learn that, on Thursday last, Hon. John Covode, while attending his mowing machine on his farm in Pennsylvania, met with quite a severe accident. His left foot being brought in contact with the knives of the machine, was seriously cut, his left toe being nearly severed from the foot.

BANK ROBBERY.—We are informed by the American Bank Note Reporter that the Farmers' and Mechanic' Bank of Milford, Delaware, was robbed the either night of everything in the Bank. A telegraphic dispatch has been received to refuse payment of all notes until further orders.

THE importations at the New York port for the first seven months of 1864 exceed the entries of the same period in 1863 by nearly $40,000,000. The increase of gold revenue for the same period, at the same port, is $16,488,548.

ISAAC L. VARIAN, formerly mayor of New York, died at his residence in Peekskill, on Thursday.

LATEST NEWS ITEMS.

THE Joint Committee on Military Affairs of the Pennsylvania Legislature have reported a bill to raise thirteen regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and one of artillery, for State defence; also, directing the immediate enrollment of the militia, providing for a loan of three millions of dollars, and empowering the Governor to seize railroads and telegraph lines, take cavalry and artillery horses, and all other property necessary for public service.

A COMET APPEARED.—A comet, supposed to be the one seen by Mr. Hind, in London, July 9, was observed here Thursday evening, a little after eight o'clock, through the haze in the west, at an elevation of about ten degrees above the horizon, in the constellation Virigo. The atmosphere was so hazy that it was difficult to locate it among the stars, otherwise than to say that it formed with Jupiter and Arcturus a nearly equilateral triangle.—*Boston Herald.*

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD.—The Examiner, noting the fine rains in that county, adds: Since the rain vegetation has assumed quite a thrifty appearance, and the corn and potato crops, though blighted from the effects of the protracted drought, have been greatly freshened up and will yield a tolerable fair return, should the remainder of the season prove favorable.

A SOLDIER named Joseph Megargee, who, having enlisted for the term of one year, was on his way from Harrisburg to join the army, was instantly killed on Sunday morning by coming in contact with the covered bridge at Ashland Furnace. He formerly resided in the vicinity of Branchtown Postoffice, Philadelphia.

A DISPATCH from St. Louis to the Chicago Time says: "Ex-Governor King, one of our members in the present Congress, was stoned in the streets of Richmond, Ray county, where he lives, a few days ago The assault was committed by militia He has left the place, for fear they will take his life."

BISHOP JAMES has organized the Delaware Conference of colored Methodists as fixed by the recent General Conference held in Philadelphia. The Conference has eleven elders, eight preachers were received on trial, seven were ordained deacons, and three ordained elders.

IN France, the waste steam from the locomotives is made to heat the cars in the train behind it. It is conducted from the escape pipes through tubes, which, inside of the cars, are copper, but outside are of vulcanized India rubber, with couplings which can be readily managed.

THE coal tonnage of the present season, according to the Pennsylvania Company's reports, exceeds that of last season by 766,509 tons. The supply of coal at New York continues large, but would be much larger if transportation were equal to production.

Two recent pictures of the well known Charles Fehr, the Belgian painter, who, born without arms, carries the brush in his toes, are very highly spoken of by the French critics—one a copy of Greuze's "Broken Jar," the other a portrait of Madame Victoria Lafontaine.

BETWEEN the end of 1862 and the beginning of 1864 one firm in Belfast, Australia, has shipped to London nearly 30,000 Kangaroo skins. Notwithstanding the great numbers of these animals slain yearly, they do not seem to diminish.

A VERY friendly feeling prevails among German financial circles towards the American Union. At Frankfort-on-the Maine more American stocks are bought and sold in one day than of all the other European stocks combined.

NO MORE BOUNTIES will be paid after the impending draft has been made. *All bounties end with the draft.* This is a fact worth knowing by those who desire to enter the army and still preserve themselves from pecuniary loss.

THERE is an excess of females over males in five States in the Union. Connecticut has 8,000, Massachusetts 37,000, New Hampshire 7,000, New York 11,000, Rhode Island 6,000. In Pennsylvania the numbers are nearly equal.

SENT TO FORT DELAWARE.—A South Carolinian, named William Dougherty, was arrested at the depot in Philadelphia, on Wednesday last. He was sent to Fort Delaware on Thursday, by order of the President.

DAVID PAUL BROWN has been invited by the citizens of Indianapolis to deliver a discourse upon the Women of the War—a great subject, and deemed to illustrate the proudest pages of our national history.

IN July over 49,583 rations were issued from the United States Commissary Department at Nashville, to poor women and refugees; this month an average of 2,000 to 2,500 a day.

THE municipality of Naples have sold a piece of land to the Jews which the latter intend to convert into a cemetery. Under the old *regime* they were not allowed to have a private burial ground.

THE returns of the National Banks have been promptly made to the Treasury, and it is gratifying to hear that nearly all of them have an amount of lawful currency on hand in excess of the per centage required by law.

HEIRS OF HUNDRED DAYS' MEN ENTITLED TO PENSIONS.—It would appear from correspondence published in the Washington Chronicle, that the heirs of hundred days soldiers are entitled to receive pensions.

THE locomotive Duchess, attached to the Hudson river railroad, blew up at Rhinebeck, on Saturday morning. The explosion was caused by the watchman leaving the blower on. Nobody was hurt.

WHILE one of Sherman's surgeons was amputating the leg of a wounded rebel soldier, the other day, he made the discovery that it belonged to a woman.

IOWA has sent 55,794 soldiers to the field, all but one regiment for three years, and is now at work raising her quota on the half million call.

THE Union Press, a daily paper, started in Buffalo ten days ago, and designed to represent the disunionists, has gone dead for want of sufficient patronage.

THE Cleveland and Erie papers notice the purchase of five homesteads in those cities by oil men, who have acquired sudden fortunes in Western Pennsylvania.

IT is estimated that the present permanent summer resident population of New Orleans is larger (175,000) than it has ever been before.

THE capitalists of Detroit are quite excited over the discovery of oil wells at Lakeport, on the shores of Lake Huron.

M. CARLOS CALDERON, the rich Spanish banker of Madrid, and Senator, died suddenly in that city on the 25th ult.

THE Union men of Patterson, N. J., have just completed a "wigwam" in that city capable of accommodating twelve hundred persons.

THE latest summary of National Banks gives a total of 394, with an aggregate capital of $80,599,089

THE largest gambling-house in the country, outside of New York, is kept by the prize fighter, Mocressey, at Saratoga Springs.

THE Lancaster and Harrisburg papers are loud in their complaints of frauds perpetrated upon recruits by "bounty jumpers."

SIMEON HAZEN died at Sprague, Conn., July 22. He was ninety five years of age and was born in the house in which he died.

ON Thursday the house of Mrs. Jane Duncan, No. 474 Thirteenth street, Washington city, was robbed of $700.

FOR the past five months the Northwestern Sanitary Commission have shipped ton tons of supplies daily from Chicago.

SOME of the Berkshire (Mass.) farmers are plowing up potato fields and sowing turnips in them.

COMMODORE Vanderbilt has five horses at Saratoga valued at $75,000.

COL. MULLIGAN'S last words were, "Lay me down, boys, and save the flag."

A CONFESSION.—The peace wing of the Democracy are very outspoken in their criticisms on General McClellan. It is hardly possible that men who talk and feel as that great war-horse of the Democracy, Sam Medary, does, judging from the following paragraph taken from the Crisis, can be induced to rally heartily to the support of Little Mac:

It is well known that Gen. McClellan has not one spark of pretensions to the Presidency, except what he has made out of this war, under Mr. Lincoln. He never held a civil office in his life, and was unknown to the public when Gov. Dennison brought him forward as a military man. Yet, in three years as a mere soldier, he rises to the demands of the Presidency, to head a party which is for *peace*—a position requiring a statesman of enlarged views and a statesman's experience. If we are to plunge into interminable wars, each section or portion following its military leader, as in Mexico or South America, then McClellan might be proposed with some more show of consistency; but, as it is, it would be the utter annihilation of all constitutional politics and wiping out of the Democratic organization. And for what?

That a few men who have got his ear may get foreign missions and home positions, at the expense of the peace of the country, and the lives of their constituents. This is paying too dear for such whistles, and for one we protest against it in behalf of our bleeding, ruined and distracted country. If peace will not preserve order and preserve civil society, war will not, and we are a lost people, anyhow.

We print the above mainly for that pertinent inquiry it contains, "For what?" "That a few men may get foreign missions and home positions." That is just it, Mr. Crisis. You have hit the nail on the head exactly, and have given the reason not simply for the support of General McClellan, but for this unseemly hostility of your party to the Government at a time when every energy of the nation should be devoted to crushing rebellion and enforcing the laws where they are defied and set at naught.

Had a riot broken out in your neighborhood, and were the officers of the law calling on good citizens to enforce it, and you and your friends insisted first on being made constables and sheriffs, and getting your share of the emoluments of place, you would be as much less culpable than you are to-day, as the danger which threatens our common country is more disastrous and extensive than any mere local riot.

THE ROMANCE OF REAL LIFE.—The staid and highly respectable Washington House in Chesnut street was yesterday the scene of a piquant but melancholy incident. Among its guests were a lady, gentleman and two well-behaved children. They had been there about four days, exciting no other remark than they were foreigners—the lady being French, the man a German.

It seems that Detective Stephens had been employed by Leopold Hess, who keeps a billiard saloon in Brooklyn, New York, to ferret out the whereabouts of his wife, who had absconded in company with a German lithographer named Pellet from the same city.—The husband made affidavit that they had robbed him of several hundred dollars, and had carried away his two children. Detective Stephens, by diligent inquiry among the baggage expresses, soon brought the business to a focus, and last evening arrested at the Washington House the recreant wife and her guilty companion.

The latter is a ferocious-looking man, but dresses in perfect taste, with dark sorrel moustache and beard shot with red. The woman is Frenchy all over; plump and dumpling like, dramatic and voluble. When informed that she was in custody she manifested indignation in a manner that bordered upon the ludicrous. Her companion, on the contrary, paled with apprehension. They were taken before Alderman Welding, where the husband made his affidavit. That he didn't fall upon and slay the destroyer of his home evinced unusual forbearance. A piece of equal deception to that practiced upon him would be hard to find. The Alderman held the man in $800 and the woman in $600. At a late hour neither had procured it. The husband, when he had recovered his children, burst into a paroxysm of joy that brought the water into the eyes of the beholders. He declared that having recovered them, his recreant wife might go her way.—*Philadelphia United States Gazette.*

SOME persons while walking through the park of St. Cloud, near Paris, a few weeks ago, discovered a young man hanging by the neck from a tree. Some of them ran off in search of the gendarmes while the others let him down, and, after a while, restored him to life. When the gendarmes arrived they took him to their barracks, where he soon perfectly recovered. When interrogated, he replied that about three months before he was forced into a marriage, and that, having been ever since most unhappy, he had determined to take away his life rather than live with his wife. He was afterwards put to bed, and told to compose himself, but, when the gendarmes returned in the morning, they found that he had again hanged himself by his braces to an upper bar of the window, and was quite dead.

RESCUED FROM A BEAR.—An exciting scene occurred on Friday at a public place on the Wissahickon, Pa. Among the many attractions on the borders of that romantic stream are several bears. A young lady had incautiously approached too near one of the animals, when he suddenly caught her by the hand, lacerating it in a dreadful manner.—Deputy United States Marshal Jenkins, who happened to be present on official business, grappled with "Bruin," and rescued the lady from his grasp and teeth. The contest was a fearful one for a few minutes, and resulted in Mr. J. having a suit of new clothing spoiled. It is feared that the lacerated hand of the young lady will have to be amputated.

GENERAL SMITH'S ARMY.—We have some definite intelligence in reference to Gen'l A. J. Smith's expedition, which left Memphis about two weeks ago. On the 4th instant, one brigade of the expedition was at Holly Springs, Mississippi; the remainder of the force had advanced beyond. The railroad is also said to be repaired some distance beyond Holly Springs, and is in running order between that place and Memphis. This indicates that the movement is a formidable one, and that it is designed to permanently occupy the country. Probably it has some relation also to the movement against Mobile and Atlanta.

THE following despatch from Mr. Chase, which was received subsequently to the convention in the First Congressional District of Ohio, is published as an act of justice to that distinguished citizen, who, it will be seen, is not responsible for the use made of his name on that occasion:

BOSTON, August 4.

A nomination spontaneous and unsought would command acceptance; but I cannot compete for it, and must not be regarded as a competitor. S. P. CHASE.

THE Wheeling Intelligencer says that on Friday evening last there was much lightning. After a particularly vivid flash, persons who happened to be passing along the pike east of the city experienced a strong blast of sulphur, which swept down the Wheeling Creek Valley, and was almost stifling. The "airs from heaven" brought what people were induced to suppose were blasts from the regions of Old Harry. It is supposed that some of the numerous coal beds along the valley had been disturbed.

THE rebel newspapers appreciate correctly the political meaning and value of the recent manifesto of Wade and Davis. The Richmond Examiner speaks of it as a "blow at Lincoln under the fifth rib." This is a very accurate description of the motive which prompted it—the result sought, however, may not be achieved.

LITCHFIELD, Conn., has voted $500 to each man who shall volunteer or provide a substitute, which, including the State bounty, gives the principal $800.

THE NAVIES OF THREE GREAT POWERS.—Russia, generally regarded as ranking inferior to the first class powers of Europe in the material progress which springs from the diffusion of knowledge and the development of the useful arts, has given us at least one proof that she is not greatly behind the rest of mankind in the attention her Government has devoted to the question of an iron clad navy. According to a Russian journal of high repute, the construction of iron clads for the Russian Government commenced at Cronstadt as far back as 1851.

The following iron-clads are now approaching completion: Two frigates, the Sebastopol and the Petropawlowski, each of 800 horse power, the first armed with 28 cannon, and the second with 26. There are also three floating batteries, the Perwenetz, Netrow Menia, and Kremlin, each carrying 26 rifled guns. Finally, there are ten monitors, some with single and others with double turrets, carrying steel rifled cannon eight inches thick. If these should all be finished this year, as is expected, Russia next spring will have an iron-clad fleet of seventeen vessels, carrying 157 guns.

The British iron-clad navy already afloat comprises but sixteen vessels, viz: The Black Prince, Warrior, Defence, Resistance, Hector, Valiant, Achillies, Minotaur, Royal Eagle, Prince Consort, Caledonia, Ocean, Zealous, Research, Enterprise, and Royal Sovereign. Thus the Russian navy is numerically the stronger of the two. However, there are eleven additional iron-clads in course of construction on the English ways, named as follows: Agincourt, Northumberland, Bellerophon, Prince Albert, Prince Alfred, Lord Clyde, Lord Werden, Pallas, Favorite, Viper, and Vixen.

Besides these, there are seven floating batteries, bearing the following cognomens:—Erebus, Terror, Thunderbolt, Etna, Glutton, Thunder and Trusty. Formidable as the fleets of these two great Powers may appear, they will not, even combined, bear comparison with our own iron-clad navy, which now embraces upwards of a hundred vessels, and constant accessions are being made to the list.

A "CONSERVATIVE" SUGGESTION.—The New York Observer is clearly opposed to the Administration. It professes to represent the conservative religious sentiment of the country. It is often candid in its discussions, and its suggestions are therefore entitled to consideration. The last issue of the Observer discusses the question of peace, and takes the ground that so long as the rebels are unyielding, we must fight them, for the Union must be preserved. But so soon as they shall manifest a desire to return to their allegiance, we ought to meet them in a spirit of kindness, and welcome them back, even as the father welcomed his prodigal son. In reference to the question of emancipation, the Observer thinks there should be no embarrassment.—It says:

"Those who do not wish to insist on that condition, are of course willing, as all others are, to abide by the decisions of the Supreme Court, as to the legal effect of the Proclamation. If that measure as a war measure was justifiable, Slavery is legally terminated forever, and the Supreme Court will settle the matter, when the first case comes before it.—And this brings us all upon one common platform, the Constitution and laws of the land, as the only necessary basis of peace."

That is precisely the ground which Union men have taken. They are willing to submit this whole matter to the decision of the Supreme Court. The Observer's suggestions, we trust, will be accepted by the opponents of the emancipation policy, and upon that basis there may be, as there should be, a Union of loyal men in support of the Government against the rebellion.

POLITICS IN THE ARMY.—As was said recently by your correspondent with the army of the Potomac, one feels in a purer and freer atmosphere, out here, among the blue coated and travel-stained soldiers of the Union.—Here you miss the hated hiss of the Copperhead, and feel rejoiced to hear instead the hopeful and hearty sentiments daily and hourly uttered by this portion of our glorious army. No one in these camps, not even the little drummer boys, have a particle of doubt as regards the ultimate success of the Union cause, and can scarcely imagine a worse fate for the vile and heartless men who so strenuously urge peace measures upon the people, than to compel them to show their heads in the army. Could the soldiers have their way, Copperheadism would soon vanish, and the elections this Fall will feel how vast and weighty is the influence of the army in the great question of the day.

People may sneer as they will about the soldiers' vote, and say that they cannot vote as they like, but as their officers dictate, but I can tell your readers that although a soldier is accustomed to implicit obedience as the strictest discipline, yet in matters *not military* he is not the man to allow others to dictate to him his line of conduct. But either way, it makes no material difference in the grand result. Both officers and men are united on the one great question of carrying on the war to a successful termination, for they have too often faced the enemy, and lost too many comrades by the casualties of war, to think now, even for a moment, of a compromise or any other ending of the war save that of the total and unconditional submission of the rebel States.—*New York Times.*

A BIT OF ROMANCE.—Yesterday morning, a sailor, named William Coleman, belonging to the steamer Don, entered the agency office of John F. Callan, Esq., near the Bank of Washington, in company with a young lady, and asked for a minister or other party qualified to unite them in the bonds of matrimony. Mr. Callan, seeing the fix the tar was in, immediately lent him all the assistance in his power by sending for the Rev. U. Ward, who has an office in the building, and giving them the use of the office in which to celebrate the nuptials, and in a short time Mr. W. appeared, and the twain were made one according to the rites of the Methodist Protestant Church. After receiving the congratulations of those assembled, and securing the certificate, the parties left the office, at peace "with all the world and the rest of mankind."

The bride is Miss Catharine Watson, of Cleveland, Illinois, and we understand her parents are in good circumstances. The groom says that they have known each other from their youth up. Coleman entered the navy two years since, and during this period has kept up a correspondence with the lady, who about nine months since went to New York to see him. He then took her home to her parents, and told her to wait until he had served out his time, when he would make all right: but it appears that the lady thought the time was too long, and came here to see him a few days since, and the result was that they were married yesterday, as above stated. Coleman says that he will send her home to her parents, and when his time is out he will serve the certificate (of marriage) on the old folks and claim her.—*Wash. Star.*

CAPT. T. A. M. CRAVEN, U. S. NAVY.—Captain Tunis A. M. Craven, whose death at Mobile is announced, entered the navy on the 2d of February, 1829, from the State of New York. He was a native of New Hampshire, and received his grade as commander on the 24th of April, 1861. He had seen two years and eight months' sea service under his last commission, and twenty-four years and three months in all. For four years and nine months he was unemployed, and had been on shore duty for six years.

Captain Craven commanded the iron clad Tecumseh at the time of his death, and went down when she was destroyed by the torpedo in Mobile bay. He was at the head of the list of commanders in the service, and enjoyed a high reputation for ability, energy and courage. His loss will be sensibly felt at this juncture, when the service needs all the educated officers it can find. Capt. Craven resided in New York.

PAYMENT OF TROOPS.—Five million five hundred thousand dollars left the Treasury on Tuesday for the payment of troops. The amount is distributed between the several military departments.

A MILITARY definition of a kiss—A report at head-quarters.—[Home Journal.]

SHERMAN'S SIEGE.—The siege of Atlanta is verifying its title. It is a siege rather than a battle; but the approaches, we are gratified to learn, are being successfully made. Various movements have been made by Gen. Sherman with partial success, and he has thrown up works which rival those of the rebels in strength. The rebels meantime are supposed to have received reinforcements.

Thus there is nothing novel or striking to chronicle from one of the points to which our eyes are turned with the greatest interest, and from which we are constantly hoping to hear good news. Neither is there anything unfavorable, and while the story continues to record the progress of our investment, with works as strong as those which they oppose, no weighty effort being made to prevent or destroy them, we may quietly calculate the days before victory. Either the investment must be broken or the city must surrender.

The rebels have not thus far ventured to come out and deliver a decisive battle. Unless they do, this gradual strangulation will destroy them. If they do, it is evidently the belief of General Sherman, by the mere fact of the siege, that he is capable of whipping them.

Thus the conditions of the movements there are simply that Sherman proposes to reach surrender by strategy and engineering, or victory by a battle in which the rebels are compelled to be the assailants. Some little time may be required to bring the alternative forcibly home, but its result grows less doubtful every day.—*United States Gazette.*

THE Commissioners of Lancaster county, Pa., have appropriated $11,000 for the relief of the Chambersburg sufferers.

MINIATURE ALMANAC FOR 1864.

AUGUST.	Sun rises.	Sun sets.	Moon's Phases.	
15-Monday.....	5 12	6 49	AUGUST.	
16-Tuesday.....	5 13	6 47		D. H. M.
17-Wednesday	5 14	6 46	New	2 9 27m
18-Thursday..	5 15	6 45	First qr	10 12 52a
19-Friday.....	5 17	6 43	Full	17 8 32m
20 Saturday...	5 18	6 42	Last qr	24 1 1m
21-Sunday.....	5 19	6 41		

MARINE AFFAIRS.

PORT OF BALTIMORE, August 17, 1864.

ARRIVED.

Steamer Adelaide, Cannon, from Old Point, Va to M N Falls.

Steamer John S Shriver, Dennis, from Philadelphia—mdse to J A Shriver.

CLEARED.

Steamer Adelaide, Cannon, Old Point, Va.

Steamer John S Shriver, Dennis, Philadelphia.

ARRIVALS FROM BALTIMORE.

Steamer Franklin, Young, New York, 16th inst.

Ship Joseph Rowan, McNabb Liverpool, 1st.

Schr Mary Ellen, Wheeler, Philadelphia, 16th inst.

Schr Adrianna, Williams, Bath, 13th inst.

MEMORANDA.

Ship James Cheston, Bryan, sailed from Rangoon, 8th June, for New York, so supposed, reported as having arrived.

Ship Mary Whitridge, Cressy, sailed from Singapore, June 12th, for Hong Kong.

Bark Florence & Anna, from Newport for Baltimore, was spoken 5th inst, lat 42 30, lon 53 50, 6 days out.

Schr S H Jackson, Tracy, for Bridgeport, N B, cleared at New York, 16th.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

SALE AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD

Furnished by Leonard J. Tormey, Stock and Bill Broker, No. 22 South Street.

Aug. 17, 1864.

1,750 U. S. Five-Twenties,	.....	110
110 Baltimore City 6's 75	.....	115
500 shares Baltimore Chrome Co.	.....	2 05
300 Maryland Copper Co.	.....	.80
800 shares Mineral Hill Mining Co.	...	2.75
900 do do do b30	...	2.80
150 shares Santa Clara Mining Co.	b..	23¼
50 do do do b10	.....	23⅜
100 do do do	.....	23
4,500 shares Atlantic Mining Co	b30	1.45
1,000 do do do	.....	1.40
1,400 do do do	.....	2.25
400 do do do	.....	2.20

Prices of Stocks and Bonds in N. York, Aug. 17.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Through L. J. Tormey, Stock and Bill Broker, No. 22 South Street.

	1st Board.	2d Board.
United States 6's 1881, Coupon	108¼	108⅜
U. S. Five-Twenties	109⅜	109⅜
" " " int. currency	95⅜	94⅜
Gold (office sales)	255⅜	..
Tennessee 6's	56	56¼
Virginia 6's	54	..
North Carolina 6's	60	..
Missouri 6's	69	..
Canton Company	37⅜	37¼
Cumberland Coal Co	60⅜	61
Quicksilver	..	84⅜
N. Y. Central Railroad	130⅜	120⅜
Erie	113	112⅜
" Preferred	..	110⅜
Hudson River Railroad	133⅜	133⅜
Harlem Railroad	107⅜	..
Reading Railroad	138	137
Michigan Central Railroad	139⅜	139
Michigan S. and N. Ind. R R.	92⅜	92⅜
Illinois Central Railroad	130⅜	131⅜
Cleveland and Pittsburg R R.	113⅜	114
Cleveland and Toledo Railroad	132⅜	...
Chicago and Rock Island R R.	114	..
Milwaukie & Prairie dus Chein	68	..
Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago	116⅜	116
Alton and Terre Haute R R	60	63
Chicago and Northwestern R R	57⅜	..
" " Preferred	..	..
Tone of the market	Firm.	Weak.

By Telegraph from New York, 4½ o'clock P. M.

Gold	..
Erie	112⅜
Reading	137⅜
Pittsburg	118⅜
Southern	92
New York Central	130⅜
Rock Island	113⅜
C & N Western	57⅜
Hudson	131⅜
Cumberland	61⅜
Fort Wayne	116

Market Dull.

At Evening Stock Exchange, 10 o'clock, P. M. Furn