

Valley Spirit.

CHAMBERSBURG, NOV. 20, 1861

On the Right Track.

The National Administration appears to be getting its eyes open to the fact that its worst enemies at the North are the *treacherous* who have been counselling the mobbing of Democratic printing offices. We see that it has ordered the arrest of the responsible persons connected with the New York *Independent*, the journal through which Rev. Henry Ward Beecher sports Abolition treason. If it would follow this good stroke up by caging that white-livered traitor Greeley of the *Tribune*, and that horrid, headed rascal Bennett of the *Herald*, it would strengthen the Union cause very materially. To be sure the *Tribune* pretends to be for the Union now; but at the very outset of secession it declared in favor of letting the Southern States go, and it has taken every occasion that has offered to give the Union's stab in the dark. It yelled "On to Richmond," well knowing that the enemy were prepared and the government was not; and when disaster befell our arm, it charged incompetency upon nearly everybody, and labored with all its might to produce wrangling in the cabinet and disaffection in the camp. Strange as it may appear this mischievous paper is not only tolerated by the government but we find papers professing to be Democratic, and strong for the Union, recommending it to the public, by publishing its prospectus, and thus attempting to inveigle Democrats into subscribing for such a treasonable abolition sheet. They would not, of course, publish the prospects of the New York *Newspaper Day Book*, but they would readily give a column of their paper to crack up, and extend the circulation of the *Tribune*, a paper a thousand times more disunited in its sentiments, and more inimical to the cause of the government, (unless the war is made purely an abolition war,) than either of the papers name. Loyal public opinion will hold the government accountable unless the *Tribune*, as well as the *Day Book* and *Independent*, is suppressed in the mails, and the Democratic party will see to it that these papers pretending to hang on to its ranks, and at the same time making efforts to circulate the *Tribune*, are drummed out of the Democratic camp to the tune of the Rogue's March.

The New York *Herald* too professes to be for the Union, but there is no doubt of its being in the pay of the secessionists. Bundles of the *Herald* were found in the forts captured at Port Royal giving details of the expedition and just such "aid and comfort" as the rebels most required. The government should know, as well as the rascal Bennett does know, how they got there. We can now see the motive that influenced BENNETT in publishing, in the very teeth of the government, from day to day, the most minute particulars of the Naval Expedition up to the hour it sailed. It was thus the rebels obtained their information concerning the fitting out, extent and character, of the Great Naval Expedition. Bennett makes a capital spy and the rebels seem to appreciate his services by patronizing the *Herald*.—Another proof of the *Herald's* unfaithfulness to the cause of the Union is the seal with which it has stirred up the mob spirit. Mobocracy reacts against the cause they profess to have at heart. The *Herald* is too shrewd not to know that the surest way to rain the Union cause is to get up mobs in its name. The Charleston *Mercury* is not hurting the government half as much as the *Herald*. Bennett says the Northern people will lose all they have by this war; that their property will dwindle away by taxation; that their commerce will be destroyed; that their manufacture will be ruined for a whole life time; that the poor will have no work, and that thousands and tens of thousands of men, women and children will starve to death; but the hypocrite adds, to keep up an appearance of serving the government, that the patriotism of the people will lead them to endure all these calamities with cheerfulness. This is advancing the Union cause with a vengeance! But the government has got on the trail of these treason-smelling traitors at last, and the prospect is good that Greeley and Bennett will soon be added to the list of secessions at Fort Lafayette.

The "Independent" Apologizes.

The New York *Independent*, the organ of Beecher and the religious political school of Abolitionists, created considerable sensation recently by the publication of a paragraph stating that Mr. Seward had expressed his conviction of the certain failure of the Government in the present war; and that Thurlow Weed had been commissioned by the Secretary as an Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to secure from England and France the most favorable terms for the United States in the event of a recognition of the Rebel Confederacy by European powers. The Government took great umbrage at the publication of this falsehood, and it was recently removed at Washington that the reported editor of the *Independent* were about to

be sent to Fort Lafayette to consult with the distinguished traitors incarcerated in that State Prison. The *Independent*, however, hastens to make an apology for the publication of the treasonable paragraph, and alleges in self defense, that after the editors left the office, and at the last moment before going to press, a gentleman whose name is not given, an occasional contributor to the paper, came in hurriedly with this item of news, which he claimed to have obtained on the best authority, and indeed, the person in charge of the paper to insert it. The occasional contributor is represented as "deeply mortified at being the occasion of so much mischief." No doubt the *Independent* editors shared this gentleman's mortification, mingled with considerable apprehension of the consequences of their disloyalty.—They may congratulate themselves at their escape from imprisonment at the expense of an "explanation." How lucky that none of them were Democrats!

While the Government is punishing its enemies it strikes us that an example might be made of some of these Abolitionists, who appear to have a license to say what they please, while others are punished for comparatively trifling indiscretions. There are Gerrit Smith, Garrison, Beecher, Wendell Phillips and Charles Sumner, who, together with the disappointed followers of Fremont, assail the Administration and the Government in the bitterest language, and labor with all their might to divide the Northern people upon the slavery question. They are the worst enemies of the Union, and need looking after.—*Patriot & Union*.

The Washington (Pa.) Examiner says there is no difference in theory between the secession of Abolition as taught and proposed to be practiced at the north sometimes since and the secession of Slaveocracy as carried into practical effect in the South. Yet people look at the two kinds of secession as being very different. The north looks upon the secession of Abolitionism as not only a tolerable political principle, but as a commendable one, while it regards the Slaveocratic secession as treasonable and therefore intolerable. For the life of us we cannot perceive how else these two kinds of secession differ from the principles of the Constitution, except in this, that the secession of Abolitionism did not break out in an armed rebellion, while the secession of Slavery did. The Abolitionists hold to the theory that it is legitimate for the North to secede from the South, while it is illegitimate for the South to secede from the North. They hold, too, that it is legitimate and proper for the North to dictate a domestic policy to the States of the South, while they deny to the States of the South the right to interfere with the policy of the States of the North.—This assumption of power, of right, of authority by the North over the South is the original cause of the existing rebellion, and this rebellion will never end, except it be in the subjugation of the South, if that be possible, until the North abate its pretensions of superiority, and until the Government of the United States treat Abolition as an equal treason and traitors precisely as it does, and ought, traitors who are influenced against the Government by no matter what motive or inducement. Traitors North as well south; Abolitionists as well as Slaveocrats must be made to feel that there is a Government, and that it has both the will and the power to exercise its authority, to afford security and protection to the lives and property of loyal citizens, be they of the North or South, West or East.

The Providence Journal thinks the war has done more to develop the ingenuity and cultivate the industry of the Southerners than years of peace. It has forced them to do a great deal of manual labor, more than they have done in twenty years previous. The usual art of shoveling was never so widely understood in the South before. Various mechanical pursuits have suddenly risen to new honor. A skillful worker in iron, or an accomplished ship carpenter all at once finds himself in repute. In this time of distress he is found to be of about as much importance as the man who raises cotton, which cannot be eaten, sold, or used in any manner, except as a bone of contention between Mr. Meeminger and the planters. The art of making shoes we see spoken of in Southern papers with evident respect. All this betokens a great change already in Southern modes of thinking upon

certain subjects. The rebels have shown an unexpected readiness to modify their notions in the stress of circumstances, and an amount of industry and enterprise in the accomplishment of severe physical labor, for which we should have hardly given them credit at the beginning of the contest. We see how much they might have done heretofore, if they had not harbored so absurd ideas about mechanical pur-

Mason and Slidell.

It is feared that the capture of Mason and Slidell on board a British mail steamer may involve us in war with England. England has always contended for the right of search and she should not complain of it in this instance. Mason and Slidell are by this time safe in Fort Monroe and England may sympathize with them, go to war about them, just as she pleases.

LOCAL NEWS.

Notice.

We want money—or rather our creditors do, and our debtors have all our ready cash in their possession. Would they be considerate enough, if they are doing us, to hand it over that we may be enabled to keep the wolf from our door. Don't neglect to put that small trifles, that you owe the printer, in your pocket when you come to town. We will be most happy to see one and all who know themselves indebted to us, and we have the assurance of those who have tried the experiment that a man never feels so happy in his life as at the precise moment he pays off his indebtedness to his printer.

PENNSYLVANIA TROOPS IN TRANSITU.

A detachment of one hundred and twenty-four troops, belonging to Gen. Negley's Pennsylvania Brigade, now in Kentucky, passed down the river yesterday, on the steamer *Argonaut*. Captain Pyfor in command of the detachment, reports that when a short distance above Marietta, one of the men, named Abraham Keller, from Allegheny City, deliberately jumped overboard, and was drowned before assistance could reach him. Another soldier, named Samuel Omer, from Newville, Cumberland county, accidentally fell overboard, during the prevalence of a dense fog, and was not seen afterward. The remainder are all well.

The above clip from the Cincinnati *Gazette* of the 18th inst. Lieut. Col. Housum informs us that the above stated detachment of troops were shipped by him from Camp Wilkins, at Pittsburgh, to join Col. S. M. Brumbaugh's Regiment, at Camp Nevin, Kentucky. He knew the man Keller, whom it is stated jumped overboard, and thinks he formerly resided in this neighborhood. The soldier named Samuel Omer, who also was lost overboard, he believes to be Samuel Over, a member of Capt. Wimer's company. Colonel Housum states that Over remained behind his company, at Pittsburgh, and was with the detachment of troops on board the *Argonaut*. Mr. Over was a native of Strasburg, in this county.

CAMP SLIFER.—Already two companies of Gen. McAllan's Regiment have taken up quarters at Camp Slifer. Capt. Brand's company, which is almost full, and Capt. Thomson's company from Shippensburg, marched into camp, on Saturday last, and are now recruiting actively to fill up their ranks. The portion of the Shippensburg company now in camp is composed of the right material for effective soldiers. Too much cannot be said in commendation of their arrival here. Capt. Brand's company is rapidly filling up and already numbers over seventy good and effective men. The following are its officers: Captain, A. J. Brand; 1st Lieutenant, George Cook; 2d Lieutenant, Benj. Rhodes. The officers chosen are the right kind of men and the soldiers will find them all they could desire in commanders.

This Regiment is particularly fortunate in having such an excellent officer as Gen. McAllan at its head. Young men who wish to fight for the Union will find this Regiment the very best in which they can enlist.

DEATH FROM EXPOSURE.—On Thursday night last, a party of men and boys from the neighborhood of St. Thomas, in this county, went on an expedition, a few miles into the country, to "Bull Bend" a wedding party. One of the men named Alex. Spear becoming intoxicated was left on the road side where he perished from exposure to cold, the night being very inclement. The deceased leaves a wife and two children to mourn over another victim added to the long list sacrificed by that foul fiend Intemperance.

PETROSON'S MAGAZINE.—We are in receipt of this popular Lady's Magazine for December. It is a splendid number. The title page for 1861 is the handsomest one we ever saw. "Peterson" will be greatly improved in 1862. It will contain 1000 pages of double column reading matter; 14 steel plates; 12 colored steel fashion plates; 12 colored patterns in Berlin work, embroidery or crochet; and 200 wood engravings—proportionately more than any other periodical gives. Its stories and novels are by the best writers. In 1862, Four Original Copyright Novelties will be given. Its fashions are always the latest and prettiest! Every neighborhood ought to make up a club. Its price is but Two Dollars a year, or a dollar less than Magazines of its class. It is the Magazine for the times!—To clubs, it is cheaper still, viz.: three copies for \$5, five for \$7.50, or eight for \$10. To every person getting up a club, the Publisher will send an extra copy gratis, as a premium. Specimens sent (if written for) to those wishing to get up clubs. Address, post-paid, Charles J. Peterson, 300 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Book Notice.—*Hymns and Chants*.

This is a new Hymn Book designed for the use of children and youth.

Among the large class of books of this sort, before the public, there could not be found one that met exactly the requirements of Sabbath and other Schools, and to supply this desideratum this little work has been compiled.

It will answer the purpose admirably and may be safely pronounced the best arranged collection of Hymns yet offered for the use of children and youth. It is published by the Sunday School of St. John's Church, Lebanon, Pa., and printed by M. Kessler & Co., in Chambersburg, Pa., in their best style.

LOCALS.—Subjects for "locals," this week, are "non est inventum," in other words they are scarce as are "teeth in feminine poultry," not to be thought vulgar. No murders have been committed; no eloquents have taken place, nothing shocking, horrible or revolting has happened since our last issue, which is a most unfortunate thing for sensationalists and news mongers, if, however, anything terribly alarming should come upon the 'topic' ere we go to press we will note it for our readers.

IN TOWN.—Lieut. Colonel Housum visited this place on Saturday last on business connected with the 77th Regiment. Col. Housum remains at Camp Wilkins, Pittsburg, and will accept a few more recruits to fill up companies in the 77th. This regiment is one of the very best in the service, officered as it is by men in whose courage, discretion, judgment and patriotism the greatest confidence may be reposed.

GLAD TO HEAR IT.—Mr. James Klink, writes us from Newville, that the statement published in regard to him in one of our town papers is a "slander on his character," and that he is prepared to "prove his entire innocence" of the charge. We trust Mr. Klink may be able to prove all he says, for the story, take it as it stands, is a very ugly one.

SEND US ITEMS.—We will be very much obliged to our friends in different parts of the county, if they will send us information of incidents and events, that may happen in their neighborhoods, that would be of interest to our readers. Send us the facts, no difference in what shape, and we will make them readable.

WINTER.—The chill, the blast and the boorishness of Winter, will soon invest us on every side. He is wise who seizes time by the forelock, and provides promptly for each coming season. Therefore, we are not surprised that judicious housekeepers are daily supplying themselves with the superior Stoves for sale at E. T. TER & HAMILTON'S, on the corner of the Diamond. Their stock Tinware, &c., is full and unsurpassed in cheapness and durability.

FARMERS and other people predict an early winter, a long one and a strong one. One of the signs is that the husks of the growing corn is very thick and close, and covers the ear to the very ends, a never-failing proof that overcoats and other heavy clothing will be in great demand, which reminds us that the very best clothing can be procured of A. J. White, fashionable clothier, between Muster's and the Diamond.

White has just received another supply of new goods.

HAT, GLOVE AND LINEN FUR.—A well selected and superior quality of the above articles are to be had at J. L. Dechart's Hat, Glove and Fur Emporium, much cheaper than former prices. Go and see.

From *Western Virginia*—Capture of the Rebel Blockader, Mason and Slidell.

Fortress Monroe, Nov. 15. The United States steamer San Jacinto has just arrived from the coast of Africa via the West Indies, where she has been cruising some six weeks.

Old Point was electrified by the tidings that she has now on board Messrs. Mason and Slidell, who were going abroad as ministers of the Southern Confederacy to England and France. They were taken from an English steamer in the channel of the Bahamas.

Commodore Wilkes report the news at headquarters in person, and will forward his dispatches to Washington to night.

The name of the British vessel from which the prisoners were taken cannot be ascertained. Passengers by the Old Point boat, state that all the private papers, documents, and instructions of Slidell and Mason were seized.

The families of the prisoners were allowed to proceed on their voyage.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

Fortress Monroe, Nov. 16.—(Special to the New York Tribune.)

Mason and Slidell were aboard a British mail steamer.

Commander Wilkes of the San Jacinto, sent aboard and demanded their surrender.

The reply was that there was not force enough to take them.

Commander Wilkes then sent an additional force and put the San Jacinto in a convenient position, whereupon Slidell and Mason were surrendered.

The officers of the English steamer state that they took them aboard not knowing who they were, their destination or business.

Captain Wilkes is understood to have acted on his own responsibility.

General Wool has granted Slidell and Mason permission to send open letters to their friends.

The San Jacinto leaves for New York direct this evening.

A flag of truce from Norfolk has to-day brought down 150 refugees.

PORTSMOUTH, Nov. 14.—There has been no arrival from Port Royal since the *Bencilla*.

Thirty-seven released prisoners were, this afternoon, sent to Norfolk by a flag of truce.

The only intelligence received to-day from the South is through the Norfolk papers. The Charleston papers of the 12th (Tuesday,) state the General Lee is making extensive preparations to defend Beauregard. That the plan has not been executed by General Sherman. That negroes are engaged in removing cotton and other property. They also give a report that two Yankee gun-boats were aground near the village.

The Charleston *Concurrent* states that there is but little cotton stored at or near Beaufort, and that a stand would be made.

A large number of families have left Savannah for the up country, alarmed at the anticipations of an attack on that city.

On Saturday last, according to the Charleston papers, (which appears to be the latest information received by them) there was no sign of Gen. Sherman's taking Beaufort.

The Rutledge Mounted Riflemen started for Beaufort, on Sunday morning, from Charleston, and a detachment of Mounted Riflemen from Col. Cleggton's North Carolina Regiment were also on the way to the seat of war.

The Charleston *Mercury* bitterly condemns "the manner in which the Confederates have neglected to prepare for the emergency."

From *Western Virginia*—Gen. Kelley's Operations at Romney.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Nov. 12.—Colonel Kelley, or rather now Gen. Kelley, with a force of about nine thousand men, is quietly throwing up entrenchments at Romney.

A detachment of three hundred of our Potowmack Border Line Brigade have just descended for Green Spring mouth of South Branch; a point selected by Gen. Kelley as a military base for operations in Virginia, instead of New Creek. The reason is obvious for the change of position.

Green Spring is only sixteen miles from Romney, over a fast-rate turnpike road. From New Creek to Romney is twenty seven miles, over the worst kind of road for a march. The bridge at New Creek, caused by the late freshets, has been replaced, and is now in use. The railroad will be opened to Green Spring, and on Dec. 1st this year; then, sir, you will shortly see the increased facility of transportation between Western Virginia and the sea, instead of the old, round-about route.

The other portion of our brigade, is for the present at Romney; never having been engaged in a general battle since the Battle of Bull Run. The Rebels' incursions have been trifling, more American.

