THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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TO THE PUBLIC.

THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET will be issued daily from the office formerly occupied by the *Daily Exchange*, and will be, as its name implies, simply a "News Sheet." It will furnish the latest intelligence as derived from the despatches of the Associated Press, by which it will be supplied in common with the New York journals; from its exchanges, and from such reliable private sources of information as it may be able to command. Expressing itself no opinions, it will devote its editorial columns to such extracts from other journals as may be deemed of interest to the public.

BALTIMORE:

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1862.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the House of Delegates an order instructing the Adjutant General to report to the House a list of volunteer companies to whom arms was distributed, was referred to the Committee on the Militia. The bill authorizing the Court of Appeals to hear petitions for writs of mandamus growing out of the opening of Holliday street was read a third time but final action was not taken.

The Northern journals and their letter writers from Washington continue to announce an almost simultaneous movement of the Federal forces all along the line of military operations. The future destiny of the republic, they predict, hangs upon the events of the next thirty days. The most unbounded confidence in the success of the gigantic movements is either assumed or really felt. Even Gen. McClellan, if Wendell Phillips is to be believed, has declared that the Union will be restored within ninety days. That the most momentous struggle of the war is now at hand is perfectly evident. But whilst the central force of the Confederates before Washington remains unbroken, the partial success of the expeditions upon the seaboard and down the Mississippi river would not have any sensible effect in bringing the war to a close; whilst the failure of any one or more of those expeditions would rouse the South to greater exertions, and perhaps enable Johnston and Beauregard to undertake offensive movements in their turn which might not only endanger the safety of the Capital, but might place the border free States in jeopardy. However this may be, it is certainly more prudent to wait for a victory than to exult over it in prophecy and bewail, subsequently, its loss in fact.

The Mississippi expedition—a part of which has gone on a trial trip up the Tennessee river, and the remainder reported to have sailed southward or to be about to sail—is of imposing magnitude. It consists of seventy-eight boats in all. Of these, twelve are gunboats, thirty eight are mortar boats and twenty-eight are tugs and steamboats. The number of troops enrolled for this expedition is said to be sixty thousand; but as exaggeration has become of late a favorite vice with a certain class of journalists and reporters, it would be safe, perhaps, to reduce the number stated by at least one-third.

If the account which is given in the Norfolk *Day Book* of Thursday last be correct, a number of gunboats connected with the Burnside expedition have already made their appearance in Pamlico Sound. The *Day Book* infers from this that an attack on Norfolk from the rear is intended, and perhaps also in front. If from the former the *Day Book* is of opinion that the Federal troops will have a hard road to travel. The principal portion of Burnside's Expedition was still anchored in Hampton Roads on Saturday last and the impression was that it would not leave for several days. Where the blow is really to be struck, no one appears to know, although Magruder has made every preparation at Yorktown to defend that point, if the expedition should attempt to land on the peninsula. The defeat of a party of Confederates at Blue Gap is confirmed by a despatch from General Kelley. Blue Gap is fifteen miles from Romney, in the direction of Winchester.

Singularly enough, we learn through the Pittsburg papers, that about the same time a scouting party of fifty Federal cavalry was surprised by the Confederates, some ten miles from Springfield, and equally near to Romney, and were put to rout—three privates being killed, and the captain in command and one private dangerously and it is supposed mortally wounded. General Lander has relieved General Kelley in command at Romney, where an attack by the Confederates is daily expected.

The Alexandria *Local News* denies that any attempt has been made to burn the hospital in that city. The *News* gives a narrative of the facts in the case as an illustration of the general character of the rumors that are current every day.

Some of the Northern papers are indulging in speculations with regard to the safety of the British steamer Rinaldo which left Provincetown on the 1st day of January with Messrs. Mason and Slidell on board. Her destination was supposed to be Halifax, but as she has not reached there it is surmised that she may have been lost in the terrible storm which raged during the night of the 1st inst. and the following day. As Captain Hewitt sailed under sealed orders we shall probably hear of the Rinaldo at Bermuda if she did not steam immediately across the Atlantic.

A telegram from Cincinnati states that the Confederate force at Prestonburg, Kentucky, commanded by Humphrey Marshall, disbanded and fled in confusion on the approach of a body of Federal troops under Col. Garfield. The most incredible incident given is that Marshall first sent a flag of truce, asking terms, and that he did not retreat until Garfield sent him word he must either fight or surrender. If he was not in a condition to fight, and a way of retreat was open to him, why should he seek to surrender?

EMANCIPATION.—The Boston papers contain a notice of six lectures, to be delivered under the auspices of the Emancipation League of that city, in order "that the people may have an opportunity to examine the reasons presented in this crisis of our country's affairs for emancipating the slaves." The lectures are to be delivered in Tremont Temple, by Geo. B. Cheever, Orestes A. Brownson, M. D. Conway and Frederick Douglass. The subject of the latter's lecture is to be "The Black Man's Future in the Southern States."

STILL IN PRISON.—The paragraph which appeared in the *News Sheet* a few days since, stating that Thos. J. Claggett, Esq., one of the imprisoned members of the late Maryland Legislature, had been released on taking the oath of allegiance, was, we are requested to say, without foundation. Mr. C. declined to take the oath, and is therefore still a prisoner.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

From Henry Taylor:

TOM TIDDLER'S GROUND. A Christmas Story. By Charles Dickens. 8vo., pp. 64. T. B. Peterson & Co., Philadelphia.

This pamphlet is another of the contributions made by Mr. Dickens, for many years past, to our Christmas enjoyments. In the present instance the author has been less happy than usual. The best that can be said of the trifle is, that it is from his pen. Tom Tiddler was evidently too much for him. The little stories, which appear to have been originally meant for the episodes, form, in reality, the work itself. Meant to be told in Tom Tiddler's hearing, and intended for his benefit, he neither listens to half nor profits by any of them. Like the traveller, to whose philanthropy and curiosity we are supposed to owe this production, the author himself grows weary and disgusted at the end of the fifth tale, and leaves Tom as he found him—neither better or worse. So our fair readers must take him, if they touch him at all. In filing away his last year's literary mom., Mr. Dickens will, no doubt, endorse the Tiddler manuscript as "Unfinished Business."

From the Publishers:

THE MERCHANT'S MAGAZINE FOR JANUARY.

The principal articles in the January number of this useful commercial periodical are as follows:—International Law *vs.* the Trent and San Jacinto—Survey of the Isthmus of Darien—the Commercial Progress of Four Centuries—Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade—the Coffee and Sugar Trade of the United States—Statistics of Population—the Arctic Expedition—Ocean Telegraphs—the Cotton Question.

The British gunboat Medea, from Bermuda, arrived at New York on Saturday. She mounts six guns, and has a crew of 160 men.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT.

Annual Report of the Comptroller of the Treasury of Maryland.

The report of A. Lingan Jarrett, Esq., Comptroller of the Treasury Department of Maryland, was laid before the Legislature on Thursday.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts into the Treasury for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of September, 1861, amounted to the sum of $960,813 08, which, being added to $255,587 75, the balance remaining in the Treasury at the close of the fiscal year of 1860, makes the aggregate of $1,216,400 83. Of this sum $819,651-78 was derived from revenue which accrued during the year, and the residue, $141,161 50, of revenue which accrued prior thereto.

During the fiscal year of 1859 there was paid into the Treasury the sum of $1,200,552 77, and the fiscal year of 1860 the sum of $1,048,339 67.

By comparing the present with those two previous years, it will be seen that the receipts of the present year are $239,739 69 less than those of 1859 and $87,525 59 less than those of 1860.

The disbursements of the Treasury for the fiscal year just ended amount to the sum of $1,046,356 41, being $330,013 21 less than those of 1859, and $239,686 67 than those of 1860.

Deducting the disbursements from the receipts, leaves a balance in the Treasury at the close of the fiscal year 1861 of $170,044 42. This balance is, however, subject to a variety of charges, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of $291,569 71, which would leave an apparent deficit of $121,525-29 against the Treasury. The probable receipts into the Treasury during the current fiscal year are estimated at the sum of $1,130,855 28. The probable demands upon the Treasury during the current fiscal year are estimated at the sum of $988 46.

These estimates are made upon the existing laws, without reference to future legislation or regard to the present disturbed condition of the country.

STATE SCHOOL FUND.

There remained to the credit of the free school fund at the close of the fiscal year of 1860 the sum of $19,432 23, and there was received on account thereof during the fiscal year of 1861 the sum of $79,989 33, making the aggregate $99,421 55.

During the fiscal year of 1861 there was disbursed the sum of $86,488 60, leaving a balance at the close thereof of $12,932 95 to the credit of said fund.

At the close of the fiscal year of 1860 there remained in the treasury to the credit of this fund the sum of $5,157 68, and there was received on account thereof during the fiscal year 1861, from interest on the stocks of said fund, and from other sources, the sum of $225,241 08, making in the aggregate $230,398 76.

During the fiscal year 1861 there was invested for the use and benefit of said fund the sum of $219,479 14, leaving a cash balance uninvested in the treasury to the credit of the fund of $10,919 62.

The aggregate of amount of stocks to the credit of the sinking fund at the close of the fiscal year of 1860 was $1,823,229 35, and there was purchased during the last fiscal year on account thereof the sum of $231,189 02, which, being added to the sum of $10,919 62, the cash remaining to its credit, makes the total amount of the sinking fund, at the close of the fiscal year of 1861, $5,095,337 99.

The assessed value of real and personal property for the year 1861, in the several counties and the city of Baltimore, is shown to be $286,430 056, of which amount $158,550,686 is that of the counties, and $127,890,370 of the city of Baltimore. Thus it appears that rather over four-ninths of the whole assessed value of real and personal property of the State is of the city of Baltimore.

The assessment shows an increase over that of 1860, of $3,749,558, and over that of 1859 of $6,699,299.

DIRECT TAX.

The levy of 10 cents on the $100 upon the assessed value of property in 1861 produced a direct tax of $286,430 05, of which amount there was paid into the Treasury during the fiscal year of 1861 the sum of $93,705 65.

The total amount paid into the the Treasury on account of direct tax during the fiscal year of 1861 was $219,638 97, of which amount Baltimore city paid $102,706 16.

The aggregate amount of direct tax in arrear and unpaid under levies prior to 1861, was, at the close of that fiscal year, $338,800 39, which, being added to the unpaid levy of 1861, would swell the amount to $527,702 59.

The balance of direct tax levied for 1861, remaining in the hands of the collectors of the several counties and the city of Baltimore, to be accounted for, is $189,122 20.

The State's capital and credit, as of 30th September, 1861, shows an aggregate amount of $24,277,-377 71, of which $8,221,128 19 is assumed to be productive, and $16,053,249 55 unproductive.

The funded debt of the State at the close of the fiscal year 1861 is shown to be $14,855,105 63. This is the full indebtedness of the State, but the sinking fund, amounting to $5,095,337 99, constituting a part of the same, being deducted, leaves the actual indebtedness $9,759,828 64, to meet which there is the productive capital and credits amounting to $8,221,128 19.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

There was received into the Treasury during the last fiscal year, from the clerks of the several courties and the city of Baltimore, the sum of $233-719 77, of which amount $222,136 61 was received from revenue accruing upon licenses, and the residue from other sources; showing a diminution, as compared with 1859, of $67,314 96, and $61,727 33, as compared with 1860.

REGISTER OF WILLS.

There was received into the Treasury during the fiscal year 1861, from the Registers of the several counties and of the city of Baltimore, the sum of $63,781 37; $39,265 thereof from taxes on commissions to executors and administrators, and $24,519 32 from tax on collateral inheritances; showing an increase over the year 1859 of $2,915 45, and a

AUCTIONEERS' LICENCES AND DUTIES.

The total receipts into the Treasury from this source of revenue during the past fiscal year is $7,734 93, being a decrease of $11,294 15 as compared with 1860, and $14,408 51 as compared with 1859.

TOBACCO INSPECTIONS

There was received into the Treasury from the several Inspectors on this account in the last fiscal year the sum of $7,457 25. The gross receipts from inspections during the same year were $48,-329 74, and the expenditures $53,359 26, being an excess over the receipts of $5,029 52. After the close of the fiscal year there was paid the further sum of $26,170 56 on said account.

RAILROADS.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has paid into the Treasury during the fiscal year of 1861 the aggregate amount of $109,314 77; $99 636 thereof being for dividends on the State's stock in said road, $40,926 77 for the one-fifth receipts from passengers on the Washington branch, and $67,752 for interest on the bonds of said road held by the State.

It is understood that this Company has a large claim against the General Government for transportation of troops yet unadjusted, and in which the State has a considerable interest. The interest of the State in its adjustment will no doubt be guarded and protected by its able President.

The Northern Central Railway has paid during the fiscal year of 1861 into the treasury the sum of $58,296 67 on account of arrears of interest. This road is still largely in arrear on the same account, and proceedings have been instituted for its recovery, and are now pending in the courts of this State, under the management and direction of Messrs. Thomas S. Alexander and Milton Whitney.

THE SUSQUEHANNA AND TIDEWATER CANAL COMPANY.

The Company has paid into the Treasury during the last fiscal year the sum of $58,000 on account of arrears of interest, leaving still a large balance due on that account.

OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE.

There was received into the Treasury during the last fiscal year, from the several banks, for dividends on stocks held by the State, the sum of $36,393 64.

The revenue derived from the State's bay and live stock scales, and from the State's wharves in the city of Baltimore, for the past year, was $8,-087 62.

The receipts from the land office were $745 58, and from fines and forfeitures $170 99.

The receipts into the treasury from the inspection of grain were $4,143 10, and from inspection of manure $14 54, and from interest on personal accounts $1,420 10.

There was paid into the treasury during the last fiscal year for licenses issued to agents of foreign corporations the sum of $14,400. The tax on protests paid during the same year was $3,806.

The receipts into the Treasury during the fiscal year of 1861, from tax on incorporated institutions amounted to $20,379 16.

The whole amount of revenue which accrued on the fiscal year ended 30th of September, 1861, is shown to be $1,532,180 39, and that received, after legal deductions, $810,651 78, and the difference $660,164 65.

The balance due the State by incorporations amounted in the aggregate at the close of the fiscal year 1861 to $30,888 08.

The balance due the State from clerks of courts and registers of wills, at the close of the last fiscal year, amounted in the aggregate to $29,114 21.

There is a balance due by Richard France, on lottery contract, of $12,750.

The report shows the several counties indebted on account of colonization tax, and the respective amounts owing, the aggregate being $8,061 21.

The indebtedness to the State of sundry sheriffs amounts in the aggregate to $46,856 75.

The late day at which he obtained possession of the books and papers of his office, occasioned by various impediments thrown in the way of it, must be his excuse for not calling the attention of your honorable body to several matters of interest to the State, touching this department, which he desired to do. He has not had sufficient time to make the investigations and gather the necessary facts, and does not think proper to make suggestions, or venture upon recommendations, without the certainty of the information under which he acted being correct. Respectfully submitted,

A. L. JARRETT, Comptroller.

NO DASH.—A recent letter from Mr. Russell to the London *Times*, after an allusion to Captain Porter's mortar fleet, now fitting out, says:

"When Captain Porter's expedition is ready, depend upon it that there will be more sharp work and energy displayed than has yet been heard of from either side. If there is one thing in this war which astounds one more than another, it is the utter want of 'dash' which has characterized both Confederate and Federalist alike. There was no dash at Sumter certainly. It would have effectually prevented the erection of the sand batteries—it would have taken Sumter by storm when once the fire was reduced, and the little garrison paralyzed by the flames and want of proper ammunition. In the West, where partisan leaders and wild bushwhackers, jayhawkers, and melodramatic rascality abound, there has been some hard fighting, but there has been no dash. Dash—an ounce of it—could have secured the Federal capital in April or May—could have made certain of it, Baltimore, Maryland—and who can say what more?—in the last week of July. The smallest particle of dash could have secured Fort Pickens for secession before it was reinforced, nor would Fortress Monroe have been very safe in the face of the same quality in the enemy. With plenty of individual courage, there has been as yet no exhibition of this valuable military adjunct—most valuable in an army of this kind and in irregular warfare."

The Boston *Courier* in speaking of the Confederate privateer Sumter, calls her "the scourge of the ocean."

EUROPE.

BY THE CANADA, AT BOSTON.

The Canada, it seems, on her last trip to England, apprehended an attack like that made on the Trent. The Cork *Examiner* says:

"Considerable uneasiness was felt on board the Canada, which arrived here on Saturday night, lest they might be overhauled by an American war ship and have to undergo a repetition of the affair of the Trent. Two days before they started from Boston a rumor was afloat that Mr. Breckinridge, the Southern Senator expelled from Congress, was to proceed to Europe upon a special mission, such as that of Messrs. Mason and Slidell. As it was believed, though untruly, that he would leave in the Canada, and as it was said a Federal steamer had, therefore, been despatched in pursuit, there was a pretty strong expectation that somewhere in the Irish Channel the mail boat would be stopped. This circumstance created a disposition among some of the English passengers to avail themselves of the security afforded by getting out at Queenstown. One certainly acted upon the apprehension."

The Paris correspondent of the *Independance Belge* pretends to know the terms upon which President Davis has signified his willingness to accept the mediation of France. They are, 1 Abandonment of the right to reclaim fugitive slaves in the Northern States. 2. The suppression of the Northern Custom Houses and the insuguration of entire Free Trade. 3. The admission of free labor into the South in concurrence with slave labor.

The departure of the Spanish expedition from Havana, and its successful landing at Vera Cruz, formed, it seems, no part of the plans contemplated by the allied Powers. The *Patrie* says:

"We have announced the arrival of the Spanish expedition before Vera Cruz, which circumstance has been since confirmed. Some explanations are, however, necessary, which we are now enabled to furnish. Marshal Serrano, on his departure from Havana, could not have known of the last arrangements made in London. He could not have received the despatches from his Government informing him of the common co-operation of the three Powers, and of the appointment of General Prim, to command the troops to be landed. It is, moreover, certain that the Marshal had received intelligence that the live, not only of his own countrymen, but of other Europeans in Mexico, were seriously threatened, and that a repetition of former acts of violence and assassination were to be dreaded. Under such circumstances, the conduct adopted by Marshal Serrano is naturally explained, but which we have no reason to believe has been the object of any blame on the part of the Governments interested."

ENGLAND'S WAITING FOR THE ANSWER FROM AMERICA.

From the London Times, Dec. 28.

The delay which winter gales have wrought in the transmission of news across the Atlantic, causes us to be still in doubt as to the reception of the British demands by the Government and people of the Northern States. The Europa, which carried the British demand of reparation, passed Cape Race on the 13th, but did not communicate; she would, however, be at Halifax in some thirty-six hours after, and then her momentous news would be flashed through the country, having at least two days to do its work in the shape of "sensation" telegrams before the remonstrances and exhortations of the Americans in this country could reach the Government at Washington. In this, perhaps, lies the chief danger of the unfortunate issue. In a country where the multitude is all-powerful and the Government timid to a degree unknown in Europe, it is quite possible that the reception of the news by the great cities of the Union may determine the action of the Executive, or, at least, lead the chief men of the republic into declarations from which they will find it difficult to draw back.

We cannot doubt that when the demands of the British Government were made known to Mr. Lincoln, when he found that we are serious in our resolve to have reparation, and when, moreover, the deliberate and unsolicited judgment of France was given in the case, he or any other sensible statesman would be slow to refuse concession, and to take the alternative of war, which, whatever its consequences in other quarters, must result in the independence of the South. There is in the acts of the Washington politicians enough to show that they are beginning to have some apprehension of a dispute with this country, and were willing to leave open a door for escaping from the difficulty, though they had not the grace to acknowledge that Captain Wilkes' act was indefensible, or even to admit that there could be a doubt about the law. We cannot but hope that they will have had the power to use the prudence which they seem to possess, and that when the demand of the British Government arrived, President Lincoln was not influenced by any warlike demonstrations on the part of his countrymen, or committed by any hasty language uttered by himself or his ministers.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION AT INDIANAPOLIS—ABSTRACT OF RESOLUTIONS.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 8.—The Convention reassembled at two o'clock P. M. A motion to adjourn till the Fourth of July was lost. During the absence of the Committee on Resolutions the Convention was addressed by Hon. John G. Davis, in an ultra secession speech. The platform and resolutions were then reported, which are very long, and were passed under the operation of the previous question. The following is an abstract of the resolutions:

1. That the restoration to power of the Democracy can alone preserve the Union and the Constitution.

[illegible] the National Convention of the party.

3. The existence of the Union depends on the faithful observance of the principles of the Constitution.

4. Declares the present civil war to have mainly resulted from slavery agitation and the consequent organization of a Geographical party in the North, producing its counterpart in the South, of secession, disunion and armed resistance to the General Government, causing the calamity which we have now to meet as loyal citizens, striving to secure the best mode of settlement calculated to restore union and harmony.

5. Condemns the course of the Republicans in last Congress for rejecting all peace propositions.

6. Peace and harmony would now reign had the party in power shown the same desire to settle internal dissensions that it recently exhibited to avoid war with England.

7. The restoration of the Union can only be accomplished by the ascendency of a Union party in the South, which shall by counter-revolution displace those who control and direct the Southern rebellion, and to encourage this definite settlement by additional constitutional guaranties of questions at issue between the two sections.

8. The Republicans have fully demonstrated their inability to conduct the Government through the present difficulties.

9. The twin heresies of Northern sectionalism and Southern recession are inimical to the Constitution.

10. Objects to waging war in the shape of a conquest of subjugation for the purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights and institutions of States.

11. A war for maintainance of supremacy of the Constitution and integrity of the Union we will sustain with all our energies.

12. Denounces all violations of the Constitution as usurpations of power.

13. Proposition to liberate and arm negro slaves is unconstitutional, insulting to loyal citizens, a disgrace to the nation, and calculated to retard the suppression of the rebellion.

14. A disregard of the writ of *habeas corpus* and imprisonment of citizens of loyal States are flagrant violations of the Constitution.

15. Liberty of speech and the press inestimable rights to citizens, and formidable to tyrants only.

16. The seizure of Slidell and Mason is either legal or illegal; if the former, the nation has been humiliated by the surrender under a threat; if the latter, they should have been delivered up before imprisonment.

17. The No-Party cry of Republicans is hypocritical, in view of the partisan character of all civil appointments and party caucusing at Washington.

18. Disclosures of enormous frauds, implicating heads of War and Navy Departments, demand a thorough investigation into all State and National expenditures, and a speedy and marked example should be made of all such birds of prey.

19. Complimenting the meritorious conduct of the Indiana troops in every battle-field where victory perched on the national banner, and sends the greeting of every Democrat for their future achievements in coming contests.

From the N. Y. World, Jan. 11.

IS THE STEAMSHIP RINALDO LOST?

FEARS FOR HER SAFETY—A STRONG PROBABILITY THAT SLIDELL AND MASON HAVE GONE TO DAVY JONES'S LOCKER.

The safety of the British steamer Rinaldo, with her cargo of Confederates, is beginning to be a matter of doubt. The general impression was, when she left Provincetown, that she would proceed by the usual route to Halifax, when Mason and Slidell would be transferred to a mail steamer for England, but the latest arrival from the former place brings no tidings of her. The length of time which has elapsed warrants the conclusion that, if Halifax was the destined port, the Rinaldo must have been lost in that terrible storm which raged with such unprecedented fury during the night of the 1st instant, and the following day.

The Rinaldo left Provincetown at 6 o'clock, P. M., of the 1st instant, and only two hours afterwards the gale commenced all along that vicinity. All those who witnessed it, and sailors who were out at that time, concur in representing it as the most furious that has been experienced on the eastern coast for many years. The losses to the shipping on the high seas were extremely numerous, as the long table of "disasters" in the ship news column of the *World*, immediately subsequent to the storm, have already chronicled. At least two vessels, the schooner Edward M. Clark, of Hartford, and another of unknown name, are known to have sunk with all on board during that fearful night. The scores of other cases that are not yet known can only be imagined by looking at the long list of vessels due, many of which should have been in port during the first few days of the present month. The Rinaldo *may* have stered for St. Thomas on leaving Cape Cod, but such a course would seem uncalled for and singular. She sailed, as the British Consul in this city states, under sealed orders, which Capt. Hewitt, her commander, was to open after leaving port.

The Rinaldo had a heavy armament of guns, which would naturally tend to disable the vessel in a storm. They were also mounted on the main deck, a fact which would still further tend to incapacitate the vessel for weathering a severe storm. Two of her cannon weighed over 10,000 pounds each, and the remaining fifteen were all 32-pounders. The Rinaldo is, or was, as the case may be, a screw steamer, with engines of 200 horse-power, manned by two hundred hands, under the following officers:—Commander, Hewitt; first lieutenant, A. Arlington; second lieutenant, K. Turton; master, C. Smythe; surgeon, A. Archer, paymaster, A. Thompson; assistant-surgeon, A. Nelson. If the steamer took the St. Thomas route for England and arrived safely at the former port, we shall probably not hear of the fact until ten or fifteen days longer.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.

From the Norfolk Day Book, Jan. 9.

Arrival of the Burnside Expedition at Pamlico Sound.

Information reached this city last evening to the effect that a Federal fleet had made its appearance in Pamlico Sound. The fleet consists of twenty gunboats, drawing from five to six feet of water, and carrying, some of them, five guns. They were first discovered by Capt. Hunter, who, while reconnoitering, was shot at by them. On his return to the island he reported the fact, and our force proceeded at once to place themselves in a state of readiness for an attack. This is supposed to be a portion of the Burnside Expedition, and it is thought, by some, that its object is to prepare for an attack upon Norfolk from the rear. However this may be, one thing is certain, and that is, that should this be their programme, they will find it a hard road to travel before they get to the end of it. We trust that our friends at Roanoke Island will make every preparation to successfully resist the foe, and that when he shows battle they will keep themselves cool and their powder dry, and by their valor cause another "masterly retreat" upon the part of the Hessians.

By Telegraph to the Day Book.

Huntersville Reported Burnt by the Federals.

RICHMOND, Dec. 8.—Passengers from the mountains say that Huntersville has been burnt by the Yankees. Also, that heavy skirmishing continues above Winchester. There is nothing official corroborating these reports.

Released.

William H. Hurlburt, confined since June last, suspicioned as a spy, has been released by Governor Letcher.

Affairs at Yorktown.

YORKTOWN, Jan. 4.—We are now in the midst of excitement. Regiments are marching, drums beating, and our brave soldiers are ready to endure any hardships or privations so they can only get a chance at the despised Hessians. While I write a large number of soldiers, the Second Mississipi Battalion, are passing, and the shouts of the soldiers on the roadside, as they pass, rend the air. Intelligence has just reached here that the enemy have advanced to Bethel, and succeeded in burning it. I cannot say whether they are in force or no, but Gen. Magruder has been expecting an attack for some time, as you know; and his wide-awake customs make some think him too suspicious; but our brave General believes in saving that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

During the absence of the Surgeon, W. H. Coffin, in charge of the Nelson Hospital, who was sick in your city, a fire occurred, which destroyed much of the bedding and valuables of the Hospital. The fire occurred in the clothes room, from some defect in the chimney, and was fortunately discovered in time to save the building and lives of many who could not have left their beds. The benevolent ladies, it is hoped, will soon remedy the loss.—Among the goods destroyed were six hundred sheets, many beds, pillow cases, shirts and clothing. The hospital accommodations are insufficient here, and it is feared that most of the sick, too sick to travel, will have to be sent off. The hospitals here, however, are in admirable condition, and a sick soldier is cared for as well as in any part of the army.

If we have a brush with the enemy, you may be sure the result will be creditable. The General of Bethel memory—the first memorable Yankee defeat—is ready to show them that the brave troops in his command can whip any force they can send by land or water.

From the Bedford (Pa.) Gazette, Jan. 10.

REPUBLICAN FRAUD AND CORRUPTION.

When some of the officials connected with the administration of Ex-President Buchanan, were discovered in the commission of frauds upon the Government, the chaste and virtuous newspaper organs of the immaculate "Republican" party became exceedingly indignant and paraded in the boldest kind of display type, the "enormities" of the "Buchanan dynasty." Then it was that Covode did smell, and Haskins expose; then it was that Forney fumed and fretted and flamed with fiery wrath at the misdeeds of the unfortunate "J. B;" then the *Tribune* whined and moaned and shed its crocodile tears over the malfeasance of the "Buchaners," and its little sulphuretted satellite in this county and "our own Jordan" went into hysterics over the prospective ruin of the country ere Abraham Lincoln, the great benefactor of the human race, (Africans included) would be able to put the seat of his blessed unmentionables securely in the Presidential chair. OH! how intense, how fierce and savage, was their anger at "the corrupt old dotard," as they "loyally" and politely styled the President.

How thorough and convulsing as to their moral stomachs, was their disgust at the "driveling folly and criminal recklessness" of the "Old Man of the Sea," as they poetically and very satirically termed Mr. Buchanan. But where is their stern, proscriptive Puritanic love of public honesty now? Where is their hatred of treasury thieves, defaulting Government agents, cheating contractors, embezzling trustees, speculating Cabinet officers and peculating Generals? Where is the naval appendage of Covode, the pen of Forney, dipped in gall?—Whence have disappeared those Siamese twins of Northern politics, Hickman and Haskins, who fain would have cleansed the Augean stable of the Government of the filth deposited therein by party asinines and wind-galled Presidential equines? Ah! they are heard of no more. Fremont may buy damaged arms, to impose upon the Government, at exorbitant rates, rent political houses at monstrous prices, build fortifications where they are not needed, purchase provisions through corrupt favorites, and engage in gigantic swindles generally, yet Covode, or some of the other grand Woolly Horses of Congress, have not the nerve to expose it. It was not so in the days of Buchanan. Cameron may employ Cummings and other parasites of his, to clothe and victual the army, giving them *carte blanche* for millions, without bond or security of any sort, and it is all right in the eyes of the virtuous Forney, the far-smelling Covode and the rest of the hyperbolical fraud-hunters whose eyes were wont to be red with weeping over the sins of Floyd & Co.

Can any one give us a reason for this strange quiescence on the part of these great and luminous moral reformers? Is there an interdict from the White House upon their tongues and their pens?—Or are they too agreeably employed in sucking Government pap to wag the former, and too busily engaged in signing contracts for spavined horses and scabby backed mules to use the latter, against the harpies that hang around the Treasury? Can any of our "Republican" friends who are fighting bravely, with red-tape and Uncle Sam's money-bags, enlighten us on this subject? Will not the *Tribune's* newspaper echo in this county give us some information in this regard? If no explanation can be given on this point, will not, then, somebody inform us why Simon Cameron is retained in the Cabinet, after the censure passed upon him by the Van Wyck committee, a portion of whose report we publish in this issue? Why is it that the Republican journals do not yelp and howl upon Cameron's track as they did when in chase after the members of Buchanan's Cabinet? When millions on millions are squandered through the misconduct of the Secretary of War, and when a committee of leading members of his own party publish the evidence which convicts him of the most flagrant violation of official duty, why is it that Abraham Lincoln—"honest old Abe"—retains him by his side? The people want answers to these questions. Will the "Republican" newspapers dare to give them?

THE RUMORED ATTEMPT TO BURN THE HOSPITAL AT ALEXANDRIA A FALSE REPORT.

From the Alexandria Local News.

The town was rife yesterday with rumors of a diabolical attempt to blow up the, United States hospital, at the Mansion House. In this place, and "they say" went so far as to declare that a prominent citizen had been arrested, handcuffed, and taken to Washington, charged with connection with the attempt. This morning the following statement is found among the telegraphic despatches in the Northern journals—all growing out of a barrel of safety fuse found among the stock of Barley & Triplett, late dealers in hardware and notions, whose store was in one of the wings of the Mansion House:

"An attempt was made on Wednesday night to blow up the Mansion House in Alexandria. This building was formerly occupied as a hotel, but now as an hospital. A barrel had been secreted in the cellar, filled with powder and projectiles, and a fuse was found extending from there to the stable. In proximity to the combustibles, lucifer matches and Chinese crackers had been plentifully distributed, and the fuse end at the stable had actually been ignited. But this fact was fortunately discovered by the guard, and the progress of the slow-fire extinguished. But for this watchfulness and prompt action, not only would several hundred lives probably have been lost, but other casualties resulted."

This announcement was startling to the inhabitants of this place. The whole affair will be thoroughly investigated. Such an attempt made in a building occupied and guarded by the military, would have been strange indeed. No man with the proper feelings of a man, but would denounce and deprecate such a horrible and atrocious design, which, if successful, must not only have killed the sick and wounded, but scattered destruction through a large portion of the town; and its inhabitants and citizens

The facts of the case, as they come to us, are as follows:—The store and keys of Barley & Triplett have been in charge of the late Provost Court, since it was taken possession of at the application of certain creditors, some months since. On Wednesday Mr. W. N. Brown, agent for Mr. Barley, discovered that the back door of the basement was open, and, fearing for the safety of the goods, gave notice at the military headquarters, and was informed that a guard would be placed there. On Wednesday night, about 9½ o'clock, Mr. B. was informed that a light had been seen in the store, and upon proceeding there found soldiers inside. He called upon Dr. Porter, U. S. A., in charge of the hospital, to inquire into the matter, and hearing that dangerous combustibles had been found in Barley's store, proceeded there in company with the Chief of the Hospital. In the store he found a barrel of safety fuse, such as is used by the railroad companies of this city. The barrel, the head of which was partially broken in, exhibited no marks of any burning whatever—and was directed to "Barley & Triplett," being apparently a portion of their stock, not in the cellar, but on the second floor.

One of the soldiers present said he had found a piece of the fuse about three yards long, lying in a ditch some seventy-five feet distant from any building, burning at both ends. Gen. McLane and Col. Freese were sent for, and at once made an examination of the building and grounds. No "powder" of any kind was discovered anywhere. Chinese crackers and matches were found in the upper story, where they are so known to have been when an inventory of the stock was taken by a commission of the Military Court, some months ago. It is well known that fuse was kept for sale by Barley & Triplett, and bought from them in large quantities by railroad agents, some of whom are now in this city; and at the time of the inventory mentioned a barrel of it was examined by the commission to ascertain whether keeping had diminished its value. Out of this has grown all these rumors; it is a fit illustration of the thousand that are current every day.

The amount of coal annually consumed in the city of Chicago is 140,000 tons. The expenditures for coal and wood in 1861 were $925,000.

From the Washington Star of Saturday Last.

MR. CHEEVER'S LECTURE.

Last night, Rev. Dr. Cheever, of New York, delivered the sixth lecture of the course before the Washington Lecture Association at the Smithsonian. Subject: "The justice and necessity of military emancipation."

The claims of justice, he said, are supreme, and we only secure self-preservation by fulfilling its laws. We want a policy—a policy of justice—and this want forms the basis of three great inquiries; what is just to the slaves? what is just to the rebels? and what is just to ourselves? Reviewing the provisions of the Constitution, he held if one half of that instrument protected slavery we would be perfectly justifiable in using the other half to destroy the institution. But the only allusion to slavery in the Constitution is that clause relating to fugitives, and even there the United States had but little authority, as all the provisions of the law were dependent for execution upon the States themselves.

If local laws sustaining slavery are cut off from the Government, they at once become null and void and every slave a free man. The rebellious States had separated from the laws and regulations of the Union whereby their institution had been protected, and slavery was by that act annihilated.—The United States Government no longer knows or recognizes any of the local laws of the seceded States, and any assumption by it over the slaves is an usurpation. Slaves are now free men, and the President and Cabinet are usurpers of power if they forbid the freedom of any person held in bondage. Neither has Congress or any other body power over the slave. It is the just duty of Government to protect them as free men, and a Government divests itself of every element of honor and justice if it does not protect their freedom. [Female voice—"That's true."]

The slave States had demanded at our hands by the rebellion the halter, and it is our bounden duty to regard them as enemies, and to subjugate them by the most expedient method. We are under no constitutional obligations to the rebellious States, except to conquer them and hold them as territories; and the object of the war to reconstruct the Union and slavery by military authority is infernal. Emancipation is not only right and just, but would be the noblest accomplishment of the war, and it would be no more than right if the Almighty should change the skin of every man laboring for the perpetuity of slavery. We should employ negroes in our army. Why, men should be accepted to put down this rebellion and extinguish slavery if they were covered with soot from the bottomless pit! This is not the time to have our cannon spiked by red tape, or to allow ourselves to be turned to death while waiting for the proper officer to put up the fender. What is the difficulty with us since we have the right of conquest and martial law, that we cannot sweep slavery from the government? It is not merely the love of slavery or the rebels, nor the idea that it is made sacred by the Constitution, but the fear of its effect upon the border States. So that a few thousand people have forced upon this great nation the whole policy of the war.

From this had arisen all our imbecility and disasters—the greatest, those of Port Royal and Beaufort. When our expedition struck the extreme South they should have also struck at slavery, and they would have broken up the rebel army and struck terror to the whole rebellion. If John Brown had been in command of that expedition, with ten thousand men he would have taken possession of Charleston and Savannah, sold cotton to England on our own terms, and come up into Virginia, his army increased to one hundred thousand men