THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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BALTIMORE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 1862

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.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate the discussion on the report of the committee adverse to the expulsion of Mr. Bright was resumed in Committee of the Whole. In the House of Representatives no business of special importance was transacted.

In the State Senate the bill incorporating the Maryland Corn and Flour Exchange was referred. The *Habeas Corpus* bill was reported and read a second time. The Police bill was taken up and various amendments proposed, all of which were voted down. A motion to amend, by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting a section repealing the whole of the Police bill, as now in the code, was under consideration until the hour of adjournment.

In the House of Delegates the bill relating to the Green Spring avenue was referred to the Committee on Corporations. In Committee of the Whole the discussion on the Treason bill was resumed, and when the committee rose the bill was reported back to the House.

A correspondent of the Boston *Courier*, writing from Maine, discusses with great ability the right assumed by Mr. Seward to issue *Lettres de Cachet*, and declares that "of all the alarming signs of the times, that which gives men most cause to despair of the Republic is the apathy of the people under this encroachment on their rights; and the willingness, nay the eagerness, with which they bow their necks to the new yoke." He denies that any such *quasi*-dictatorial power can be exercised under the Constitution, and points out the inevitable consequences that will ensue. If this flagrant violation of the rights of the citizen be permitted to pass without rebuke, the result, he alleges, will be that—"One Administration will succeed another, Democracy will degenerate into mobocracy, and the mob requiring a leader, the people will be bound willing captives at the chariot wheels of him whose audacious spirit dare seize the falling reins of Government."

The rupture between the Northern Democracy and the Republicans is growing more serious every day. The Democratic Conventions of Indiana, New Hampshire and the State Convention of Illinois have already denounced that wing of the dominant party which seeks to make the war a war for the abolition of slavery, and have solemnly proclaimed that the resolution unanimously passed at the extra session of Congress last July, declaring that the war was "for the preservation of the Union with all the dignity, equality, and the rights of the several States unimpaired," met with the hearty concurrence of the Democracy of the Northwest. It is now charged, that in the conduct of the war the Republicans have not kept faith with their allies—that North ern unity has ceased, because the Northern people are no longer a unit as to the purposes for which the war shall be prosecuted.

The Mississippi expedition appears to be "progressing backwards." Gen. Grant moves a considerable force southward; constructs roads in one direction and finally uses the old highways instead; takes a rapid ride, through mud and slush, of forty miles in six hours, and having, in the language of the newspapers, "satisfactorily accomplished all that he expected to perform," returns to Cairo where the latest reports leave him snugly ensconsed. General McClernand also, under General Grant's direction, marches his division into Kentucky, proceeds to Blandsville, next to Mayfield or its vicinity, and then retraces his steps to Cairo without having encountered the enemy. Commander Foote, in charge of the naval portion of the expedition, is improving upon the motto "*Festina lente*," and "making haste" very "slowly" indeed. No blame, however, is said to attach to him. He has had to contend with many difficulties. His mortars have been sent East when they should have been transported West. He is short of seamen—the attempt to recruit men for the river service having signally failed. His guns are bad, his gunboats are not all in commission. He speaks freely of their defects says a correspondent whose letter we quote. "Nevertheless, it is said "he will move, whether ready or not, whenever the word is given."

We have what purport to be "further particulars" of the battle of Mill Spring, and the defeat and death of Zollicoffer; but the discrepancies in the earlier accounts yet remain to be reconciled. If it be true, as the Louisville *Journal* states, that General Thomas is pursuing the flying Confederates through Wayne county, the fortifications thrown up by Zollicoffer on both sides of the Cumberland river, must have been taken; but, as ten guns only are said to have been captured, and as it was previously reported that Zollicoffer had twenty-one guns and ten field pieces at Mill Creek, and some ten guns defending his works on the opposite side of the river, the trouble is to know what has become of the greater portion of these guns, if the victory was so complete as it is confidently stated to have been.

The news respecting the Burnside expedition is exceedingly vague and unsatisfactory; what reaches us is from Southern sources. An express which reached Wilmington, North Carolina, on Tuesday last, announced, with the usual amount of exaggeration in such cases, that one hundred vessels of the Burnside fleet were in Pamlico Sound, and twenty-five large transports in addition outside of Hatteras Inlet. It was supposed that an assault would be made on Newbern and Roanoke Island simultaneously. It is said that the Confederates are completely prepared to meet the attack. There is a rumor in Norfolk that General McClellan is about to cross the Potomac.

By the arrival at New York of the steamship New York, which left Liverpool on the 8th of January, the report that the privateer Sumter had entered the harbor of Cadiz, is confirmed. She landed there forty-two prisoners taken from three merchant vessels which she had captured at sea and destroyed. The names of the vessels were the ship Vigilant, bark Ellen Dodge, and schooner Arcade.—The adjustment of the Trent affair has given great satisfaction to England. On receipt of the news by the Java, Consols advanced from 1 to 1¼ per cent. The United States gunboat Tuscarora had reached Southampton, and was watching the Nashville, who is reported to have been ready to put to sea.

The Treasury note bill reported from the Committee of Ways and Means authorizes the issue of one hundred millions of Treasury notes of denominations not less than five dollars each, which notes are to bear interest, and are to circulate as lawful money, and as a legal tender in payments of all debts, public or private, within the United States. The Secretary of the Treasury is also authorized to issue coupon or registered bonds of the United States to an amount not exceeding five hundred millions of dollars, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. What the effect of this is to be who can tell? The New York *World* says "it is a ridiculous supposition that we can use $150,000,000 more currency; it is impossible, even if we could double the business of the country and quadruple the activity of the circulation of currency."

THE TIMES AND THE PAPER MAKERS.—The Trenton (N. J.) *True American* says that all the paper mills in this city have suspended operations, simply because they cannot get cash for the manufactured article; and at such times as these no reliance can be placed on men's promises to pay.—Large sums of money have already been lost by our paper makers by the failure of the New York houses, and they do not feel like risking any more. We had four paper mills in operation in this city, all a year ago doing a very prosperous business.

SHOWER OF RED DUST AT SEA.—The Haze, which arrived yesterday from New York, reports that on the 5th of August, in the Atlantic Ocean, in lat. 17 30 N., and lon. 36 58 W., 700 miles west of the Cape de Verde Islands, a shower of red dust fell upon the vessel and covered her sails and rigging. The dust was probably of a very light nature, and had been carried over by a sand storm.—*Alta Californian.*

MAYOR BROWN AND THE TREASON BILL.

To the Editors of the Maryland News Sheet:

In reading the debate in the House of Delegates on what is termed the "Treason Bill," I notice that a certain Mr. Stockdale, who represents (*sic!*) the city of Baltimore in that super-loyal body, has used the following language:

"Mr. Brown and others secretly plotted against the lives of soldiers going to Washington, and the Frederick Legislature passed a law relieving them from punishment."

Now, I have not the honor of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Stockdale, and must submit to the consequent imputation of being myself unknown. Nor did I ever hear his name mentioned, or his character and reputation described. I cannot, therefore, judge how far Mayor Brown will be affected in the public estimation by a charge of conspiring to commit murder, emanating from such a source. Nor is it my purpose to address one word of remonstrance to Mr. Stockdale, who probably spoke according to his light, and who might regard any objection to foulness of speech as mere fantastic prudery. But there are men in the House of Delegates whose silence, while the base slander was ringing in their ears, does excite surprise. Already we have been astonished that they, known as persons of standing and ability, should evince in their public capacity an acquiescence in acts of the Federal authorities, inconsistent with the dignity of their State, their party, and their own body. Since they swore "to bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and laws thereof," no one of them has whispered, even so faintly, "That the people of this State ought to have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal Government and Police thereof." And yet they see the police government of one-third of the population of the State, exercised by officers in the pay of the Federal Government, and appointed in contempt and disregard of existing laws of this State. Notorious facts do not seem to have recalled the declaration of our Bill of Rights: "The doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind;" or those other *intended* safeguards against executive tyranny: "That no power of suspending laws, unless by or derived from the Legislature, ought to be exercised or allowed." "That no free man ought to be taken or imprisoned," &c. * * * * but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land."

I will not dwell on other provisions intended to subordinate the military to the civil power, or to secure the house of the citizen from unreasonable searches without warrant. These gentlemen, of the House of Delegates, having read in the Constitution of Maryland, that "every free white male citizen, having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution, ought to have the right of suffrage," and having accepted office under an election where this provision was most flagrantly violated, naturally feel a delicacy about looking too keenly into the conduct of the dynasty which has elevated (!) them. Let us not be unjust. I do not doubt that some believe themselves duly elected, having no other means of information than the "*American*." Nor do I believe that all are willful—regardless of their duty to the State, and the obligations of their office. Some, undoubtedly, hold the new doctrine about Constitutions—that they are intended to restrain the Executive, State or Federal, only until he is ready to "assume the responsibility" of violating their provisions. They think the military ought to be subordinate to the civil power so long as the military is the weaker. In a word, that restraints on arbitrary power are very valuable until they are needed to protect somebody. To their mind, all the struggles of England and America for Constitutional freedom, have resulted in certain high-sounding phrases, of no practical value in time of trial—mere apples of the desert, fair to look upon, but dust in the mouth of the hungry.

Knowing that these views of the nature of a free Government were entertained, much was not to be expected from the Legislature. The delicacy of their position was understood. It required strenuous exertions on their part to convince the shrewd North that their adhesion was sincere. They had committed themselves so completely, they had so opposed coercion, they had so heartily endorsed the recommendation of Governor Hicks to the Legislature in May last that Maryland should stand neutral in this war between the *North* and *South*, that they dread to give evidence of "disloyalty" by any effort to sustain the Constitutional rights of our good old state. To be just, we must not lose sight of another important fact. There is telegraphic communication between Annapolis and Washington, and Fort Warren is a gloomy place. Independently of all the ordinary discomforts of imprisonment, the society there would perhaps be as unwelcome to them as was the Ghost of Banquo to Macbeth.

But we did expect that they would rise superior to these considerations, and although we looked for a formal renunciation of their long-cherished opinions, we hoped to see them make an effort at least to obtain the restoration of their own rights as a State Legislature. We thought that as Marylanders and Union, *loyal* Union men, they would be called at seeing Baltimore, where they have 14,000 majority, governed by telegraph. We thought that they would demand the right to govern the State, which their party, led by the sainted Hicks, has so nobly redeemed. We had even a faint expectation among the more sanguine, that their best men would unite them in a strong, firm demand upon the Federal Government, that the prisoners of Fort Warren should be allowed the privilege of the lowest malefactor—discharge from prison or indictment and trial.

Disappointed as we have been, in these hopes, we yet find some excuse for them, in their peculiar views of free government as illustrated by Warsaw and Venice, and can still retain a certain regard for the individual man, separated from his political errors.

But when men claiming such regard, sit and hear in silence a man known to most of them, admired and beloved by some, falsely charged with grave crime, how can we but feel that the manliness we thought in them has oozed out with their regard for those rights which separate freeman from slave?

When a late candidate for Congress thought it in good taste to denounce our imprisoned fellow-citizens when their voices could not be raised for their own justification and defence, we heard what came not unexpected from *that* orator. But these claim and have held a different place in the public regard. Did not their cheeks burn, do they not now tingle, at the thought that they have, by silence, acquiesced in such a charge against a man whom they know to be noble and incapable of crime? Do they not feel less men than before, in that, after their party has procured his imprisonment that some pliant instrument might occupy his official chair, they can sit and hear him reviled—no one of them to spring forward and with just anger brand as a *lie* what they know to be false? Shame, shame upon them, if the recorded slander pass unrebuked!

B.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Mrs. Baxley Again.

Messrs. Editors:—My attention has been called to a card in your paper professing to correct a previous statement which was made in your paper in regard to Mrs. Baxley. I know nothing of Mrs. Baxley's parentage, nor to what she is entitled by birth. I do know, however, that although her husband is living she appears to act very independently of him, and behaved so strangely here, in the early part of December last, as to call upon herself the suspicion of a good many persons to whom she applied for letters of introduction, making offers at the same time of her services. If I am not mistaken, there was a notice of her about that time in your paper, under the head of "City Intelligence." The mendacity of the "scribblers for Northern papers" is well known; but, in this case, the grounds for the statement they made, though possibly very exaggerated, came from Mrs. B. herself, she having talked very freely of her intimate friend, Dr. Brown. It may be not amiss to state that this intimacy is not acknowledged by him. Of one thing there can be no doubt, and that is, that Mrs. B. is at least much too imprudent to be trusted. Her companions in prison have, no doubt, made the discovery ere this. VERITAS.

TRIALS AND SUFFERINGS OF THE CREW OF THE BRITISH SCHOONER TRURO.—The British schooner Truro, of Maitland, N. S., Capt. Colton, from Acquian, St. Domingo, arrived at this port yesterday, after a passage of 66 days, having touched at Great Inagua and Fortune Island for medical aid, the captain, mate and two of the seamen being down with fever. At the latter place they were attended by a female physician, the widow of an English doctor, who treated the cases in a most skillful manner. After having partially recovered, and there being no seamen to be had, they proceeded to sea, and to add to their already unfortunate voyage, they were run into by the bark Sea Eagle, from Gibara for Philadelphia, and left in a sinking condition, although repeatedly asked to lay by her; and to still further cripple the schooner, one of her crew, who had not been sick, got on board the bark and was taken into Philadelphia, where it was reported that the Truro had sunk soon after the collision. But Capt. Colton, although very feeble and yet far from well, was not the man to give up, notwithstanding his bow was stove in, his bulwarks gone, plank-shear split, foremast almost useless, and the ship leaking 1,000 strokes per hour, he, by throwing overboard a part of his deck-load, succeeded in stopping the leak, and although the gales came from every quarter but a favorable one, succeeded in reaching Montauk, and thence to Long Island Sound, and so to this city.—*New York Times.*

IMPROVED STEAM BOILER.—A Massachusetts inventor has contrived an improved boiler, which he claims may be constructed in an economical manner, for the purpose of generating steam or heating water with a very moderate consumption of fuel. To this end the boiler and fire-chamber are constructed and arranged in such a way that the water will be exposed to a large heating surface, and with a fire-chamber of very moderate dimensions; the latter being of annular form in its horizontal section, and interposed between two concentric water-chambers, which comprise the boiler, the ante-chamber being encompassed by a flue from the fire-chamber. The plan also involves an improvement in the grate of the fire-chamber, by means of which admission of air into the fire-chamber may be graduated with great nicety, and the ashes from the fire-chamber readily discharged when necessary; both of which are valuable practical advantages.

A STARTLING STATEMENT.—The Chicago *Tribune* publishes the following paragraph editorially:

We have before us three cartridges, brought to us from Annapolis by a friend. They are a portion of the ammunition for Enfield rifles served out to Burnside's forces for the great expedition. To the eye they are alike in appearance, and the slight difference in weight could not instantly be detected. But the difference is that one of the three contains not a particle of powder. A prominent officer of the expedition told our informant that this was about the proportion throughout the entire lot of Enfield cartridges—one-third of them carefully put up without powder. Now here is a case for investigation. Was it fraud, or treachery, that seeks to palm off on our brave troops, on the eve of an expedition, sham cartridges? Let us have an explanation of this affair, Secretary Stanton.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM MAINE.

To the Editor of the Boston Courier:

———, Maine, Jan. 18.

Solomon, many ages past, declared that there was no new thing under the sun. As a people we have been disposed to doubt this saying, but the longer we live, the more are we convinced that the wise man told but the truth. Under the old French monarchy, when the Bourbons reigned and died and reigned again, there was a system in operation by which individuals obnoxious to the powers in authority were disposed of in the most speedy and convenient manner. *Lettres de cachet* were issued, and the unfortunate suspect was hurried to a living grave, from whence he might cry as vainly for release as one literally entombed, during a trance mistaken for death itself. To such an extent was this system carried, that a court favorite could often obtain a blank *Lettre*, and cause the imprisonment of his private enemy at pleasure. When the Bourbons were dethroned, swept off by the infinite wrath of an outraged people, it was thought this system had perished with them, never more to be revived. But time has been moving forward, the age has been progressing as we supposed, though in fact only moving in a circle. We have again reached the old system, refined somewhat in appearance, but really worse in its operation, as it has not the merit of a regularly organized system, but acts arbitrarily, now sending its behests in one form and now in another.

Of all the alarming signs of the times, that which most causes us to feel like "despairing of the republic," and shakes our confidence in the permanency of free institutions, is the apathy of the people under this encroachment on their rights, and the willingness, nay, the eagerness with which they bow their necks to this new yoke, which, if fairly fastened on them, will bring them to the most degraded serfdom ever imposed upon a people. By a singular coincidence, an historic mockery, as it were, the names of two individuals most illustrious in our early days for their devotion to liberty, have become inseparably associated with this last phase of a refined despotism.—Lafayette and Warren have a second immortality conferred upon them. He who dedicated his youth and fortune to a struggling nation, almost hopelessly fighting for existence, and in latter life refused to uphold or sanction the beneficent autocracy of Napoleon, and he who on Bunker Hill laid down his life for his country, will suggest to future generations the temporary degradation of a great and free nation, which willingly submitted to the almost forgotten usages of an over brown dynasty.

It seems almost superfluous to attempt to show the illegality of the measures to which we have been referring. The Constitutional provision, that no one shall be restrained of his liberty but by due process of law, if intended to have any effect, is applicable to just these cases. The Secretary of State has seen fit to violate this plain guaranty, and telegrams purporting to be messages from him, are considered by our Marshals as sufficient warrant for arresting a peaceable citizen. Is this the "due process of law" contemplated by the Constitution? Is the Secretary of State a magistrate authorized to issue warrants to arrest persons suspected of treason or other offences against the General Government?

Mr. Seward has gained a late reputation for conservatism, and he really appears to have used his influence to moderate the counsels of his more impetuous colleagues in regard to the conduct of Southern affairs; but in this matter he has shown an utter disregard of the rights of the people, and lays himself open to the charge of a cowardly tyranny, showing himself bold towards those whom he could intimidate, but mild and forbearing towards those who he knew could repel force by force. Without touching upon the point whether it were, or not, proper to send to Forts Warren or Lafayette prisoners suspected of treason, in those districts where secession sympathy is strong, and where it would be almost impossible to convict one, however guilty of crimes against the Government, no one can deny the utter outrage of taking men, who are suspected of secession proclivities, from the loyal States, dragging them from their Districts, where they are entitled by the Constitution to have their trial, and throwing them into confinement without their knowing the charges against them. The miserable plea of necessity can find no place here. Such has been the state of feeling at the North, that the prisoner, not the Government, would fare the worse here on a trial for treason. There would be no attempt at rescue from our jails, and it a man were found guilty of treason and were hung, all the people would say Amen.

On such frivolous charges, too, have men been sent to Fort Warren, that after a few days' confinement they have been discharged by order of the same omnipotent Secretary, whose unauthorized mandate sent them there. Would that some had been actuated by the noble spirit of Paul, who said, "They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay, verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out—" and refused their discharge until they knew, and the people knew, the cause of their confinement. One or two instances of this kind would go far towards causing the cessation of this unprecedented violation of the rights of the humblest citizen.

The evil effect of this course of procedure is not confined to the victims themselves, or their immediate friends. Let it once be established as a principle of American policy that an opponent of the Administration can be hurried to prison on frivolous charges, detained there as long as it suits the party in power, and discharged without a legal investigation into the causes of his commitment, and we can read our future history in the part of defunct republics. One Administration will succeed another, democracy degenerate into mobocracy, and the mob requiring a leader, the people will be bound willing captives at the chariot wheels of him whose audacious spirit dares seize the falling reins of Government, and can guide the State into a false and temporary security.

This is not the fevered dream of an enthusiast, adapting the words of the eloquent Virginian, "We have but one lamp by which our feet are guided, and that is the lamp of experience;" no one, who has paid the least attention to the history of the past, who has given a moment's reflection to the causes of the rise and downfall of nations, can fail to see that tyranny and anarchy are the complements of each other; that one produces the other; that the great danger of a republican form of government is a contempt for the laws which we feel so lightly; and if those in power overstep the law for their own fancied security, an example is thus given to the mob to break down laws offensive to them; thence the downward progress is swift and sure.

The excuse that we are in times of great peril, that the existing laws are insufficient, is no excuse. The attempt to make this Government a one-man power, cannot be disguised by any such flimsy veil. But we are told that when this crisis shall have passed away, when the rebellion is crushed, affairs will then move on in their wonted course, and the occurrences of the present will be no precedent for future action. We sincerely hope so—should that trust fail us, all were lost. But is not it a blind confidence, unworthy of freemen, to trust our most important interests to the sole judgment and forbearance of an individual?

Is this quasi-dictatorial power one contemplated by the Constitution? Can we safely trust irresponsible power to any, even the best individual?

We fear, though we hope for the best, that affairs will not so easily return to their wonted course. A tolerated infraction of the law is not only an evil itself, but the fruitful source of greater evils. The sanctity of the law is violated, it loses the respect due it, the whole body of the laws is shorn somewhat of its moral force, and the mind of the people is prepared to witness, without surprise or regret, still greater inroads upon their rights. Nor is it so easy to resign powers once held without dispute—a power so convenient, too, that the best man might well have a struggle with himself before yielding it. Nature is chary of her best results, and not every age has produced a Washington.

Too long have, we remained passive spectators of a great wrong—a wrong which, though it may not affect our immediate interests, is yet pregnant with future evil to us and our descendants. The time for blind obedience to unauthorized mandates is passed. Let the whole matter undergo an open and candid investigation. If we have any rights, let them be defended. We have no false sympathy for traitors of any degree, but they still have their rights, one of which is a trial by jury, and a public execution if found guilty. Let us have no more of this political imprisonment; let the people demand, in a voice that cannot be mistaken or neglected, that a stop should be put to this matter. If this be done without delay or equivocation, the past may be forgotten, or only recalled as a hideous dream which disturbed us but for a night, and we shall have some safety in the present, some hope for the future. DIMOO.

From the Chicago Press, Jan. 22.

THE FAILURE OF CONGRESS.

There is not in the country a town which is not suffering from the derangement in the currency caused by the financial operations of the Government. The banks which have not suspended are withdrawing their circulation, thus prospectively increasing difficulties which are already oppressive. Specie payment has been stopped on the treasury demand notes, and their par value is scarcely sustained. It is doubtful whether the Government could go into the market to-day and obtain seventy-five cents on the dollar for its bonds. The treasury is about empty, while the calls upon it are some two millions of dollars per day. In the face of all this, Congress are now in the second month of their session, and they have done nothing, absolutely nothing, to relieve the country, maintain the credit of the Government and supply the treasury, and nobody can tell when they will do anything. They hold daily sessions, but not one of these sessions thus far has been devoted to the public business, which, above all other public business, is most pressing. Most of these sessions, if not, indeed, all of them, have been consumed upon the negro question, in its direct and indirect aspects. All other questions are subordinated to this. It is negro at the begining, at the middle and at the end. A man from the moon dropping down upon Congress and listening to their deliberations—if deliberations they may be called—would conclude that they were assembled to care exclusively for the interests of negroes.

If there be those who have not before been convinced that the Republican party is totally incompetent as a governing party, they must be convinced now. If there be those whose fears have not hitherto been excited this party would, within the duration of the present Congress, complete the ruin of the country which began when it came into power, such fears must be excited now. To the dullest comprehension we are not drifting, but driving up the breakers.

Congress has really but one duty to perform at this session, and that is to pass such laws as will preserve the public credit and supply the Government with money. No other legislation is necessary. We predict that they will substantially fail in the performance of this duty, and that they will aggravate the failure by legislation which will be as wicked as injurious.

MECHANICS WANTED IN ILLINOIS.—A correspondent in Stephenson county, Illinois, says that shoemakers, wagon and buggy makers, blacksmiths, carpenters, stone masons, plasterers, wool-carders, and weavers are much needed in that vicinity.—The cost of living is very cheap. Rents low; butter, 8 cents per pound; beef, mutton, veal and pork, 3 cents per pound; chickens, 5 cents each; eggs, 5 cents per dozen; rabbits, 5 cents each; and venison 3 cents per pound. The country is thoroughly settled up with farmers in good circumstances.

WAR ITEMS.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Tuesday, P. M.—There is nothing more than the usual garrison news current to-day. That received from the South by the flag of truce will be found below.

The steamship Constitution still lies here with steam up, but nothing is yet known as to her destination. The troops she brought remain encamped on the beach, below the fort. The sloop-of-war Pensacola is preparing for a cruise, and it is supposed will be off in a few days.

The French steam frigate Pomone and the gunboat Catinet still lie in the roadstead. The commander of the former went to Norfolk a few days since to communicate with the French Consul.

The weather here to-day has been cold, boisterous and disagreeable.

Latest Southern Intelligence.

The steamer Rancocas, with a flag of truce, under the direction of Captain Millward, left here at noon to-day, carrying up the usual mail, and Lieutenant Herts, of the Confederate army, and a lady and three children, who had the necessary passports for the South. Lieutenant Herts was captured in Western Virginia some two months ago, and has been confined at Columbus, Ohio. He is liberated on parole and will be exchanged for Lieutenant Gordon, of our army, who was captured in Missouri. The flag of truce ran up to within a mile of Craney Island, from whence a yawl boat, flying the Confederate flag aft and a white flag at the bow, soon came out to communicate with the Rancocas. Lieutenant Sydnor, of Virginia, and Adjutant of the forces at Craney Island, was in command of the party. The usual formalities were observed, the parties going South transferred, good wishes and courteous good-byes expressed, and the boats separated. The only Southern papers received were those of Norfolk of to-day, and they contain but few items of news.

The Burnside Expedition.

The only intelligence in reference to the Burnside Expedition is contained in the following despatches:

GOLDSBORO', N. C., January 21, P. M.—A large number of women and children have arrived here from Newbern. A fight expected there. No other news.

WILMINGTON, January 21.—An express arrived at Goldsboro' from Newbern reports that at 4 P. M. yesterday there were one hundred vessels of Burnside's Expedition within Pamlico Sound, and twenty-five large transports outside of Hatteras Inlet. Private information received here says that the enemy will attack Newbern, Hyde county, and Roanoke Island simultaneously. Our forces are completely prepared for them.

The Norfolk papers make no mention of any vessels of the Expedition having been driven ashore by bad weather and burnt to prevent the Confederates from taking possession of them.

From Port Royal.

The Norfolk *Day Book* publishes the following despatch:

SAVANNAH, January 21.—From forty to fifty vessels are in Broad river, fifteen miles above Port Royal.

Miscellaneous News.

In none of the papers received is there any reference to the fight in Kentucky, or to the defeat and death of Zollicoffer.

The funeral of ex-President Tyler took place at Richmond on the 21st, and was attended by Jefferson Davis, the members of the Cabinet and of Congress.

The *Day Book* copies a paragraph from a Petersburg paper which says that the sloop-of-war Pensacola did not escape from the Potomac without damage. A gentleman who examined her with a spy-glass, after she had passed the batteries, gives that paper the assurance that she had "a hole as big as a hogshead in her bow." The Captain of the rifled gun at Evansport also has a "firm conviction" that though he missed the Pensacola with shots Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5, that No. 3 made its impression. A personal inspection to-day enables your correspondent to assure these gentlemen that the only holes in the bow of the Pensacola are those essentially necessary to the right development of the powers of her forward pivot gun.

The Norfolk *Transcript* in an editorial article says that "McClellan is going to cross the Potomac," and the Yankees, confiding their cause to the direction of Providence, observed Friday last as a day of thanksgiving and prayer.

The *Day Book* publishes a long article recording the adventures, misfortunes and maltreatment of Miss Poole, lately released from the prison for females at Washington. The *Day Book* calls Miss Poole a heroine, and according to her own story there was no possible indignity or outrage to which she was not subjected.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Washington Despatches to the New York Tribune.

THE SERVICES OF FOREIGN OFFICERS.

The Senate Military Committee is considering the subject of giving authority to the President to accept the services of foreign officers who have volunteered for the war. The President has appointed several such to high grades, but the passage of a special act seems to be necessary to legalize their services and commissions in company commands.

GEN. SIEGEL.

The President is said to have declared to-day that he appreciates the very great services rendered by Gen. Siegel, and that justice will be done him by creating him a General of Division. Also that Colonel Koerner, of Iowa, will be made a Brigadier General.

THE TARIFF ON CERTAIN WARES.

A committee of hardware merchants from New York endeavored to enlighten the Ways and Means Committee as to their duty to make the tariff upon the Sheffield and Birmingham wares, in which they deal, light and feeble. The committee, however, is after revenue for the war, and the people who will pay direct taxes will want the burden lightened.

THE VAGARIES OF MR. DIXON.

Mr. Dixon's speech is regarded as a very strange one, from a man elected as a Republican. The member who crossed the House to sit by his side, and shouted "Order" when he was interrupted, and shook hands with him at the close, was Mr. Wadsworth, of Ky. Vallandigham and Ben. Wood also sat near him, delighted listeners.

The Cairo Expedition.

Correspondence of the New York Times.

CAIRO, Jan. 17.—In fact the whole expedition seems to be about as incomprehensible as to its objects and results as anything well can be. Troops have gone forward to no point in particular, done nothing whatever, and returned to their starting point. Baggage trains have gone for a certain distance along a road and then returned, without the slightest apparent reason. Regiments have been suddenly formed in line of battle, batteries planted, and after a little the whole have sat down coolly to dinner, under the comfortable assurance that there was not a single armed foe within a dozen miles. Roads have been carefully repaired in one direction, and the column then moved in one exactly opposite. One hour the Generals and staffs have galloped savagely in one course; an hour after showers of mud were flying from their horses' heels as they spurred fiercely in another. We have made more changes than there are in a dozen cotillions—have gone ahead and have gone back, crossed over and crossed back, *don-si-don-ed* up and down the middle, right and lefted, until my head grows dizzy at the bare effort to recall one-tenth of the movements that have taken place. It may have been that something has been done—something important may have been done under my very eyes—but if so, I have not seen it.

An Army Buried in Mud.

A correspondent of the New York *Express* says:

CAMP TENALLYTOWN, Jan. 20.—The army on the Potomac really is "buried in mud." At least the troops lying north of Washington find themselves to-day in this not very agreeable predicament.—The camp of the 55th, which on account of its elevated position still presents a paradise (as regards the mud) in comparison with the other camps in the vicinity, affords in itself the most decided answer to those un-military men who are turning heaven and earth to cause the army of the Potomac to move "Onward." March, or anything like it just now, cannot be thought of. It is impossible to drill the troops, the ground being in such a state that a walk through our camp alone causes one to gather more mud on his boots than a New Yorker, accustomed as he is to dirty streets, is wont to look upon. Life in camp, consequently, under these circumstances, is not only monotonous but really disagreeable. Were it not for the great and small fetes, caused by presentations of one kind or another—it would be almost intolerable.

Affairs at Fort Lafayette.

Special Deputy Debos proceeded to Fort Lafayette on Saturday to release G. F. Newman and W. F. Castro, but upon offering Castro the opportunity to take the oath of allegiance he refused, declaring that "he would request the same favor of the Deputy Marshal one of these days, when New York was in possession of President Jefferson Davis." Of course he was not released. This is the second time that he has had the opportunity to get out, and has refused. He is a Brittonoreau, about forty years of age, and was taken on a prize, when he represented himself as a passenger.

The other prisoner, Newman, was arrested for attempting to prevent enlistments in the army. He expresses himself perfectly satisfied with his treatment in the Fort, and says he has gained sixteen pounds in flesh since his arrest.

Commander Foote and the Obstacles with which he Contends.

A correspondent writes from Cairo to the Boston *Journal*—"The naval force here is under command of Commander Foote, a brave, efficient officer, an agreeable gentleman, highly educated, who stands high in his profession. I had an interview with him to-day. He was at leisure, and talked freely of matters relating to the organization of the fleet. He has had to contend with great difficulties. The Department has rendered him but little service: He has done his best to obtain mortars; has sent officers to Pittsburg, where they are cast, but they are all sent East for Commander Porter's fleet. He regrets it exceedingly, for with them he thinks it will not be a difficult matter to reach New Orleans, though, as he modestly remarked, quoting the Scriptural proverb, 'it becomes not him who putteth on the harness to boast.' He is lacking in men. He has had officers at Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo and other lake ports attempting to recruit men, but they have signally failed, because the Department does not pay any advance to those in the river service, while on the seaboard advances are made. He has not men enough to man his gunboats, much less the mortars, provided he had them.

The Department has furnished him with but few new guns. He has been obliged to take those which were at Sackett's Harbor—old guns, far inferior to those with which Commodore Dupont knocked Tybee and Hilton Head to pieces. He has had to get gun-carriages manufactured in Cincinnati, other things at St. Louis, others at Pittsburg; but he has, notwithstanding this, a fleet which will throw a tremendous weight of metal. He is not ready to move, yet he will move, whether ready or not, whenever the word is given. Every day is adding to his strength. Every day his men are becoming more efficient. His boats are not all in commission, but will be in a few days. He spoke freely of the defects of the gunboats. They are too low in the water, and the engines are of too limited capacity. They will not be able to make much headway against the stream. It remains to be seen whether or not they will be effective.

The U. S. gunboat Wissahickon, (new) from Philadelphia, arrived at Ship Island on the 17th, having burned out one of her boilers on the passage. She has now gone to blockade Horn Island Pass.

From the Chicago Press.

WHO HAVE DESTROYED NORTHERN UNITY?

In the month of July last—only six months ago—the two Houses of Congress, by a vote nearly unanimous in each House, adopted the subjoined resolution, introduced by Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky:

"That the present deplorable civil war has been forced upon the country by the disunionists of the Southern States, now in arms against the Constitutional Government, and in arms around the capital; that in this national emergency, Congress, banishing all feeling of mere passion or resentment, will recollect only its duty to the whole country; that this war is not waged on their part in any spirit of oppression, or for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, or purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of those States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that, as soon as these objects are accomplished, the war ought to cease."

The Democracy of the country heartily, cordially, joyously accepted this resolution, promptly upon its passage, as the rule which should control the Government in carrying on the war; and they have religiously adhered to it from that day to this. The Republican leaders professedly accepted it, and so long as they abided by it Northern unity in the prosecution of the war was perfect. If Northern unity has ceased, it is because the Republican leaders have ceased to abide by the Crittenden resolution. And it has ceased. The Northern people are no longer a unit as to the purposes for which the war shall be prosecuted. The chief Republican leaders have set up another rule for the control of the Government than that of the Crittenden resolution; and between the two the North are split.

Thus it is plain who have destroyed Northern unity, upon the preservation of which, more than upon anything else, or all things else, has depended suppression of the rebellion. The rule of the Crittenden resolution was just, right and constitutional. The rule of the Republican leaders is neither. It is as unconstitutional as secession; it is itself unconstitutional, and its adoption by the Government would as effectually destroy the Constitution as secession seeks to destroy it. The Democracy will resist this rule as earnestly as they have resisted, and will resist, recession; and if it shall be persisted in, it is not difficult to foresee both the early and the ultimate consequence. We are just now beholding the ripening of anti-slavery prospects long since embraced and steadily pursued. The war was just as certainly precipitated by the anti-slavery party "to destroy slavery" as it is now sought to be converted to that purpose.

IS THE MONEY TO BE HAD?

From the New York World, Jan. 22.

Really this question of cash—how to get it and so on—is taking alarming shapes. Like Hamlet's cloud, it is like a camel, and a weasel, and a whale, all in a breath. This medical adviser suggests a plaster upon the public money chest; the other proposes a pill to purge the general weal withal. There is some unanimity in the conviction that the patient is in a bad way, but as to the right sort of treatment there are as many opinions as there are reeds in Thrasymene.

We have read a good many schemes of late intended for the relief of the treasury. They have in most cases been composed chiefly of rhetoric and statistics. We have not greatly admired either the rhetoric, the statistics, or their authors. It has seemed to us that the former would cut up into excellent epitaphs, and that the latter ought to be measured for those articles without delay. "Die of a good idea," would be a nice introduction to the intellectual society of a future state, and most of the inventive people who have interposed paper plans between the national credit and its peril, would be entitled to such a record.

Calculating and sagacious housewives say of certain sorts of fabric, "It won't wash." Let us borrow the homely phrase and make it