THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS----FIRST SESSION

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Mr. SUMNER reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations a bill indemnifying the owners and crew of the Danish bark Jorgon Lusentzen, unlawfully captured by the blockade, in the sum of $1,850, as recommended by the President.

Among several petitions was one praying for the freedom of the press in this country; and one that 5,000 copies of the reports of the patent office be printed in German, and one from citizens of New York in favor of a general bankrupt law.

Mr. LATHAM, of California, rose to offer a resolution, and read an extract from the Detroit (Mich.) *Tribune*, which, he said, was a curious document, showing that there was a league founded in Michigan for the purpose of overthrowing the Federal Government. The document was dated October 5, 1861, and represented that the league was doing a noble work in Maryland and among the soldiers at Fortress Monroe, and that ex President Pierce was among its most influential members. This document was now in possession of the State Department.

Mr. LA HAM also read a letter from ex-President Pierce, dated March 4th, saying that the article was published on Saturday previous in the Boston *Evening Journal*, the substance of which was before published in Michigan. The subject was not new to him, (Mr. Pierce,) for he had had correspondence with the Secretary of State on the subject as early as last December. He asked Mr. Latham if he would offer a resolution calling for the correspondence with the Secretary of State, as such imputations ought not to rest on any person.

Mr. LATHAM offered the resolution desired, requesting the Secretary of State to transmit to the Senate copies of all correspondence between Hon. Wm. H. Seward and ex President Pierce on the subject.

Mr. CHANDLER, of Michigan, said that a copy of the correspondence in question had been in his hands since October last, and related that a Dr. Hopkins, (a surgeon in the Federal army,) who had been arrested in this connection and sent to Fort Lafayette, was on his way to join the Federal army at the time. A letter of this Dr. Hopkins stated that an organization had been formed by which the members of the K. G. C. (Knights of the Golden Circle) were to rush into the army and service of the Federal Government, and thus gain influence and position for carrying out their treasonable schemes. A large number of traitors had thus got into the army, and were there now. He (Mr. Chandler) had a person in his confidence in that organization, and, perhaps, was better informed in regard to it than the gentleman from California.

Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, intimated that there was much other information in the Department of State on this subject than that called for by the resolution as offered, and suggested the adding of "any other correspondence" in the call.

The suggestion was accepted by Mr. Latham so far as to add "all papers relating to the same," and the resolution thus adopted.

On motion of Mr. TRUMBULL, of Illinois, the resolution in favor of giving aid, by pecuniary compensation, to any States that may adopt the policy of gradual emancipation of slaves, was taken up.

The pending question was on the substitute of Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, to pay a reasonable price for the slaves and the cost of their colonization in some other country.

Mr. SAULSBURY, of Delaware, said the amendment of the Senator from Kentucky was liable to the same objection as the original resolution, being unconstitutional. Between the two unconstitutional measures, if he voted for either, it would be for the latter.

Mr. BROWNING said there was no objection to the resolution. It interfered in no way with the rights of the States. It simply indicated the propriety of offering aid to any State that should, in its own time and way, hereafter propose emancipation.—As to its constitutionality, it was no longer ago than yesterday that the Senator from Delaware proposed an amendment to colonize, at the expense of the United States, the liberated slaves in the free States.

Mr. SAULSBURY explained that he offered it on the principle of making an unconstitutional measure as unobjectionable as possible. He understood that Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, had offered his substitute on the same principle.

Mr. BROWNING contended that he did not comprehend such a position.

Mr. WILLEY, of Virginia, would rather the measure had not been mooted at this time, but preferred the original resolution to the substitute. He regarded it as a renewed acknowledgement of the rights of the States over slavery, and he should vote for it.

Mr. DAVIS explained that he had always understood that in the course of legislation the offering of amendments to objectionable measures, even when regarded as unconstitutional, was legitimate and proper. He should vote for his own substitute, in this case, if he voted alone; but that failing, he should then vote for the original resolution, as expressing simply a sentiment, an idea, and not amounting to practical legislation, as yet making no appropriation or anything of that sort. The measure had emanated from the President, in whom he had perfect confidence, as a man desirous of acting with integrity, and in a spirit of patriotism.

[At the instance of Mr. LANE, of Kansas, a despatch from Gen. Shields was read, stating that on the 23d he was attacked by the enemy near Winchester, and giving the results as heretofore related.]

Mr. McDOUGALL, of California, declared against the constitutional power of Congress to appropriate money for emancipation, as well as the impolicy of the resolution.

Mr. POWELL, of Kentucky, said he regarded the resolution as a "pill of arsenic, sugar-coated." It was calculated to agitate and impair the value of slave property in the border States. He contended that it was interference in the domestic institutions of the States, and when the President sent that message to Congress he palpably violated the pledge of his inaugural, declaring "no intention to interfere, directly or indirectly," with the subject in the States.

The terms employed in the present message were very artful, very deceptive, and in one part amounted to the intimation that if the slave States did not take the meagre compensation offered them, they might be cut off with something worse—that is, with nothing. The interpretation which had been given to this message by some in the other House, and by Wendell Phillips in the Smithsonian Institution, was, if the slaveholders did not accept the offer their slaves would be taken away anyhow. This he had no doubt was the correct interpretation, and he was free to say that if he were a member from a free State he should not vote to buy negroes from others, on constitutional grounds, if no others. He should vote for his colleague's substitute as the least exceptionable, but on the final question, vote against the whole measure.

Mr. LATHAM, of California, thought the President honestly desirous to do his duty and restore peace to the country, but doubted the policy of any such measure. He had not heard whether his State would be willing to be taxed in addition to the great burden of the war, but he should vote against such schemes.

Mr. MCDOUGALL, of Maine, said he did not see how this proposition of the President, involving a mere expression of willingness to aid States in abolishing slavery in their own way, could reasonably be regarded as an offence to the slave States, as declared by some.

The question was then taken on Mr. Davis' substitute, and it was rejected—yeas 4, nays 34.

The yeas being Messrs. Davis, Henderson, Powell and Wilson, of Missouri. Neither of the Maryland or Delaware Senators voted.

The following was the form of Mr. Davis' substitute:

"RESOLVED, That although the whole subject of slavery in the States is exclusively within the jurisdiction and cognizance of the Government and people of the States respectively having slaves, and cannot be interfered with, directly or indirectly, by the Government of the United States, yet, when any of those States or their people may determine to emancipate their slaves, the United States will pay a reasonable price for the slaves they may emancipate and the cost of their colonization in some other country."

Mr. HENDERSON, of Missouri, moved to amend, to the effect, that nothing herein contained shall be understood as contrary to the intention of the government to prosecute the war to the entire restoration of the Union, &c. Rejected—the Senate refusing to call the yeas and nays thereon, as moved for by Mr. Davis, of Kentucky.

On motion of Mr. HENDERSON, the further consideration of the resolution was postponed until tomorrow, Mr. H. indicating a desire to speak on the subject.

Mr. ANTHONY, of Rhode Island, introduced resolutions tendering the thanks of Congress to General Burnside and forces for their victories in North Carolina, and also to Commander Rowan, of the navy, his officers, marines and seamen. Referred.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, introduced a bill to amend the Act creating the Metropolitan Police in the District of Columbia. Referred to the Committee on the District.

Mr. WRIGHT, of Indiana, introduced a bill to establish a Department of Agriculture. Referred.

The special order, the bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, coming up, Mr. Wilkinson, of Minnesota, spoke at length in favor of the measure, and against slavery generally as a great enormity. He denounced the slaveholders of the District as a set of traitors, who had a year ago, as a mob in the galleries, insulted the Northern Senators on this floor, being in league with such as Jeff. Davis, Toombs, and other leading traitors. And yet this Government had given these people the bread they eat. All was danger until the freemen of the North rushed to the rescue. Mr. W. spoke at length, and asked what border State had sent men to the defense of the capital?

Mr. WILLEY, of Virginia, replied that in Virginia a large portion of the population promptly rushed to arms in defence of the Government and of their wives and children at home, and now Western Virginia had a larger force to arms, in comparison to population, than any section of the country.

Mr. WILKINSON continued, saying that if it had not been for Northern troops the gentleman from Virginia would not be holding a seat here.

Mr. WILLEY cheerfully acknowledged the obligations of himself and constituents in that regard.

Mr. WILKINSON went on to consider the action of the border slave States, and declared that in Maryland, which of all others ought to have been loyal, the first blood of the war had been shed; and yet that State was here protesting against the passage of this measure—and her representatives declaring it to be a disregard of their rights. He read an account of the affair of the 19th of April, 1861, in Baltimore, when the Massachusetts troops were attacked in the streets by the mob—the action of Mayor Brown, Governor Hicks, the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and others, in connection therewith, &c., as showing what was then the treasonable condition of Maryland. Now, it is said that Maryland is a loyal slave State.

If so, he asked, who made her loyal? She had only been made so by the majestic power of the Government. Her people were demoralized by slavery, and Baltimore had never shown loyalty until the guns of Fort McHenry were turned upon her palatial residences, and the eagle eye of Gen. Dix had discovered the value of Federal Hill as a fortified position.

Mr. W., in the course of his remarks, referred to the speech of Mr. Willey, of Virginia, the other day, in which he declared that these abolition measures were giving aid and comfort to the enemy, and alluded to the taunts of the Senators from Virginia, who, he said, held their seats here through the action of Senators.

Mr. CARLILE, of Virginia, said it was not his habit to indulge in taunts, and declared that he held his seat here by as good a tenure as the gentleman from Minnesota—his State having a constitutional right to be represented here, and by decisions it retofore made, was here under the constitutional forms.

Mr. WILKINSON said he knew the extent of the territory of Virginia represented, and objected to the general course of remarks that had been indulged in by the Senators from Virginia.

Mr. CARLILE (who just now came in, after a few minutes' absence,) appealed to the Senators as to the truth of the charge that he had ever used taunts or menaces here, and again expressed his high appreciation of Northern patriotism.

Mr. WILKINSON had no doubt of the sincerity of the gentleman. But even in the loyal portion of Virginia nothing but the barbarity of slavery could ever have turned human beings into such brutes as the entrapping and massacre of Federal troops at Wyandotte, in that State, some time since, proved them to be.

He turned his attention again to Maryland, and the speech of Mr. Kennedy yesterday, asserting the latter had placed himself on ultra secession ground in declaring if this measure was adopted, he would consider it a duty to submit it to the vote of the people of Maryland. If this amounted to anything, it was an intimation that resistance would be resorted to in that State. Maryland had made one effort to break away from the Union—and Mr. W. declared in substance that if a second experiment were made she would certainly be less leniently treated than heretofore.

Mr. W. also paid his respects at length to Kentucky, and the views which had been expressed by Senator Davis in opposition to this, the confiscation, and other measures; and also, in regard to the case of Mrs. Bell, of this city, mentioned by Mr. Davis the other day, read a statement from a gentleman who had boarded with her, declaring the lady and her daughter secessionists, that they had boasted of sending Jefferson Davis information, had denounced the Federal troops as trash, &c.

The question was on the amendment proposed by Mr. Saulsbury, of Delaware, for apportioning the freed slaves of the District among the free States; and being taken, resulted—yeas none, nays 35—Mr. Saulsbury voting against his own amendment.

The question was now on the proposition of Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, to amend, in accordance with his intimation the other day, by requiring the commissioners under the act to examine into the case as between masters and slaves, allowing for support, education, etc., on the one hand, and for labor and service on the other, the money appropriated by the bill to be applied to adjusting the balance between the two—but not to exceed three hundred dollars in each case, &c.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, got the floor, but gave way to go into Executive session.

After a short time spent therein, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BLAIR, of Virginia, introduced a bill to regulate the time of holding the District Courts of the United States for the Western District of Virginia. Referred.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, rose to a privileged question. He said, while the Committee on the Government Contracts was absent from the House, A. Cummings, of New York, sent to this House his defence, and alleging certain charges against the committee. He read from the printed testimony taken before the committee, to prove that Mr. Cummings' defence was no defence at all, and utterly unfounded. He said, in conclusion, that there were quite a number of persons who desired to be heard before the committee, as to their defence, and among that number was the late Secretary of War, Mr. Cameron; but when the committee sent for him, to hear what he had to say, he was nowhere to be found.

Mr. FENTON, of New York, offered the following:

RESOLVED, That the Committee on the Conduct of the War be instructed to inquire into the cause of the exposure of large bodies of our troops, belonging to the army of the Potomac; consisting of regiments, brigades, and in some instances even of whole divisions—who have been deprived of shelter for days and weeks in consequence of having their orders to march countermanded, then again ordered to march, and again countermanded, without adequate food and protection; and also, who is responsible for this exposure of our troops.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky—I object. I believe in letting the army take care of itself.

The House, on motion of Mr. STEVENS, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and took up the Tax bill for consideration.

The committee disposed of sections 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71, relative to the mode and manner of collecting the taxes. There were no amendments of importance added to these sections.

The committee rose and reported the bill to the House without coming to any conclusion thereon.

The House adjourned.

CITY INTELLIGENCE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The annual election of officers of the Maryland Pract Society took place on Tuesday evening last, at the rooms of the Society, No. 73 Fayette-street, between Charles and St. Paul streets. The following are the names of the persons chosen: President, Rev. J.W. M. Williams. Vice Presidents—John Clark, Baltimore; James H. McCulloh, M D, do.; William Crane, do.; Hon. James Carroll, do.; John Coates, do.; H. D. Harvey, do.; Hon. R. H. Marshall, Frederick county; Roger Birnie, Carroll county; Hon. George H. Schley, Washington county; Hon. ——Hopper, Kent county; Rev. J. H. Symmes, Allegany county; ——Hopper, Queen Anne county; Robert P. Brown, Baltimore county; Rev. William Finney, Harford county; Rev. James McIntyre, Cecil county; William B. Cole, Prince George county; Hon. Nicholas Brewer, Anne Arundel county; James B. Matthews, Howard county; Irving Spence, Worcester county; John Brewer, Montgomery county; Hon. W. E. Goldsborough, Worcester county; Rev. G. W. Ridgely Caroline county. Treasurer, William B Canfield; Corresponding Secretary, Rev. S. Guiteau; Recording Secretary, Dr. P. C Williams; General Agent and Superintendent, Rev. Jonathan Cross; Superintendents City Tract Visitation—G. N. Cressey, west of the Falls; S. Sauner, east of the Falls. Executive Committee—Rev. H. Dunning, Chairman; Rev. Elias Heiner, Rev. J. W. M. Williams, Rev. N. C. Pridham, Rev. John McCron, Rev. N. H. Sebecck, Rev. S. Guiteau, Hiram Woods, Jr., Dr. P. C. Williams, W. F. Carey, J. L. Weeks, W. B. Canfield, G. S. Griffith, W. S. Hopkins, Wm. Bridges, J. N. Brown, James Mathers, H. C. Kirk, Wm. Stoddard, W. H. Griffith.

THE CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.—The Confederate prisoners, two hundred and thirty-five in number, are confined in the city jail. Yesterday numerous applications were made to the military authorities for permission to visit the jail, but without success. Among the applicants were personal friends and relatives of the prisoners, but they were unable to gain admittance. The authorities, however, allowed those who desired to send any articles of clothing, food or delicacies, and during the day a large quantity of such articles were furnished. A large crowd gathered around the jail-entrance and the wall, pleading for admittance, and watched anxiously for the appearance of the prisoners at the windows. Capt. Thomas James, the Warden of the Jail, is using his best efforts to make the condition of the prisoners comfortable. General Dix's staff have also interested themselves, and with genuine soldiers' feelings, are exerting themselves to discharge their duties with credit and kindness.

ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED.—Francis Robiolle, engaged as a landsman on board the United States gunboat Mystic, now lying opposite the wharf of Messrs. Murray & Hazlehurst, on the South side of the basin, was drowned on Tuesday night last. He was in an intoxicated condition, and while attempting to go up the taffrail of the gunboat Monticello, which lies between the wharf and the Mystic, he fell into the basin. Efforts were at once made to rescue him, and in fifteen minutes after the fall the body was taken from the water, but life was extinct. Coroner Battee was notified, and held an inquest, the jury rendering a verdict of "accidental drowning." The deceased was a native of France, and leaves a wife and children in New York. He was about 35 years of age.

DEATH OF A CONFEDERATE OFFICER FROM MARYLAND.—Intelligence was yesterday received in this city of the death of Captain Robert Noonan, of the Confederate army. He was killed in the fight near Winchester on Sunday last, while serving temporarily in Colonel Ashby's cavalry. His remains will probably reach here to-day for interment. At the beginning of the present national difficulties he was a cadet at the West Point Military Academy, and resigned to serve in the Southern army. When Ex-Governor Lowe organized his brigade, young Noonan was chosen to a captaincy. He was about twenty-one years of age.

LETTERS TO POLITICAL PRISONERS.—Attention is directed to the advertisement of Col. W. W. Morris, commanding at Fort McHenry, from which it will be seen that the prisoners confined in the Fort will not be allowed to correspond with any person whatsoever, except through the commanding officer, and that all such letters, whether written or received by them, must be strictly on private business or family matters, and must not exceed in length, one sheet of letter paper.

ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday evening, about six o'clock, a man named Walter C. Gray, who lives on Britton street near Madison, was driving along Madison street in a cart, when the cart came in contact with a dray. Mr. Gray was thrown from his seat and struck the ground with great violence, sustaining a severe injury to his right hip bone.—He was taken to his home, where Dr. Mabon rendered medical attention.

THE LOTTERY BUSINESS.—Abraham Read was yesterday taken into custody upon the charge of allowing lottery policies to be sold upon his premises, No. 124 West Lombard street, in violation of the Act of Assembly. He was arraigned before Justice Logan, who committed him to jail, in default of bail to appear at a further examination.

INCENDIARISM.—On Thursday night, about twelve o'clock, an effort was made to destroy Marion Hall, adjoining No. 6 engine house. A fire was built under the staircase, and the plastering was torn away to afford a good progress to the flames. Fortunately it was discovered and extinguished before serious damage had been done.

Amusements.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATRE.—Mr. Forrest will appear to-night in his great character of Spartacus in Dr. Bird's celebrated tragedy of the *Gladiator*. This play is always popular with the public, and never fails to attract crowded audiences on each representation. This is the last appearance but one of Mr. Forrest; we would therefore suggest to our readers the necessity of securing their seats in advance.

FRONT STREET THEATRE.—The entertainment tonight at this theatre will be one of the finest of the season. The two great comedians, John E. Owens and J. Sleeper Clarke, will appear in the *Comedy of Errors*, as the Two Dromios. The reputation of these comedians is the best guarantee for the faithful presentation of the piece. Each of them will also appear in a comedy, and those of our citizens who desire to have a hearty laugh should visit the Front Street Theatre to-night.

THE LONDON TIMES ON AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

From the London Times, March 13.

It is very remarkable to observe the expectations which have been raised, not only in America but in this country also, of the approaching end of the great civil war. On this point our private advices confirm the representations of the New York press, and the same impression has been acknowledged in our own Parliament by one of its most experienced leaders. Lord Russell on Monday evening gave the war just ninety days to run, being exactly the estimate of Mr. W. Seward; and, although the end anticipated by his Lordship was not that contemplated by the Federal Minister, the two statesmen appear, at any rate, agreed in their measurements of the struggle. Yet there is certainly nothing on the face of events to sustain this conclusion. The success at Fort Donelson was a great success, no doubt. All those prisoners, all those guns, and all those trophies of war would have constituted a genuine victory in any campaign, and the prospect opened to the conquerors was, perhaps, more important still. But the actual result cannot be presumed, except by some incredible consequences, to affect the fortunes of the war. Even if Tennessee were recovered for the Union—which is not yet done—Tennessee is but a single State, and not one of the States originally seceding. * * The only question is whether they will be so resolved, or whether the North can now intimidate them into submission, or persuade them into acceptable terms of separation. The Federals, beyond doubt, are gaining ground—not sufficiently to make a forcible reconstruction of the Union probable, but quite sufficiently to give them an advantage in negotiating for an amicable partition. This was evidently the particular end of the war which Lord Russell had in view, and this expectation it would be very natural to entertain if we could suppose that either or both of the belligerents mean somewhat less than they say.

At this conjuncture we receive the address of President Davis to his constituents, who have just established a permanent instead of a provisional government for the Confederate States, and elected their chief for six years of office. If this document is to be accepted as an expression of Southern feeling, it is certain, as our readers will at once discern, that the war will not be terminated by the subjugation of the seceders. The Confederate President can see little that is new, but he recapitulates the grievances of the South—their insurrection against "the tyranny of an unbridled majority—the most odious form of despotism," their efforts in the struggle, their past victories, and their recent disasters. "But," he adds, "in the heart of a people resolved to be free, these disasters tend but to stimulate to increased resistance." If this is really the spirit in which recent events are accepted by the South, many "three months" must pass before peace can be made on any terms but those of compromise. On such conditions, in short, the North can never win. But can President Davis count on the support which he thus bespeaks? Are his constituents all seceders at heart, and resolved at all hazards to achieve their independence? We cannot confidently say; but by the ordinary rules of political reasoning we should be bound to answer in the affirmative. It is true that the Southerners are now for the first time tried by reverses, which would have been borne, perhaps, with greater fortitude at the beginning of the war, when such trials must have been naturally anticipated. It is true, also, that the presence of a large Northern force on the frontier of the South may be the means of evoking an express ion of Unionist opinions in the seceding States; and when we observe the extraordinary confidence which the invasion of Tennessee has produced in the North, we should be justified, perhaps, in expecting some corresponding depression on the part of the South. If one side attaches such inexplicable importance to the capture of a provincial fort, why not the other? If the Northerners think this action decisive of the war, why may not Southerners share the belief?

To these questions we reply that nothing hitherto discernible in the proceedings of the Confederates can lead us to suspect them either of irresolution, inconstancy or political discord. On the contrary, their unanimity and determination have always been remarkably evinced. We have observed on former occasions that, whereas imputations of treason, sympathy with the "rebels" and Southern "proclivities," generally were current throughout the Federal States, no hint of Northern feeling ever reached us from the South. The Federals were not safe from traitors in their own camps, where the Confederates appeared always to have friends. The expeditions of the Federals failed uniformly in discovering any loyalist party at any point of Southern soil; and when we reflect upon the exertions which must have been required before the twenty millions of Confederates could have confronted as they have done the twenty millions of Federals for ten months together, it is impossible to doubt that the Southerners have been really in earnest. As to the effect of the campaign and its events, if a year's fierce and not inglorious warfare should have brought the South to desire a reconciliation with the North, the phenomenon will be a most surprising one.

Nevertheless, though reason would forbid us to expect either the voluntary submission or violent subjugation of the South, yet the "termination of the war" by the method of compromise may possibly be at hand, and the recent successes of the Federals may facilitate this conclusion, not only by re-establishing the military reputation of the North, but by limiting to more acceptable proportions the demands of the South. If the Government of Washington could secure the border States, it might resolve to let the Gulf States go, rather than prolong, at a prodigious cost, a war which, on the best of suppositions, could only end in the ruinous occupation of a hostile territory. It requires, as we know, 35,000 Federal troops to hold the petty State of Maryland. It would take, we were told on Federal authority, 200,000 men to conquer Kentucky; and if Tennessee, Virginia and Missouri are to be garrisoned on a similar scale, and the Gulf States to be invaded and occupied afterwards, how are such obligations to be supported? Possibly, therefore, the Federal leaders, in the midst of their rejoicings, are thinking of a favorable negotiation.—We do not profess to have discovered any such design in the reports which reach us, and which speak of nothing but unbounded and almost irrational confidence in continuous victory. But, as continuous victory itself would bring no practical success except by the voluntary return of the South into the bonds of union; as this return, from all we can infer, is utterly improbable, and as the alternative, that of military occupation, can scarcely be said to represent a possibility, it is but reasonable to think that some of the wisest among the Northerners must have contemplated negotiation and separation as a course to be ultimately pursued. That course can be pursued now with advantages which could hardly have been anticipated two months ago, and if the victory at Fort Donelson should have disposed one of the belligerents to some concessions, and the other to some abatement of its demands, it may certainly lead to a speedy termination of the war.

THE ITALIAN MINISTERIAL CHANGE.

The mails of the Arabia and Hansa have arrived, bringing London papers to the 5th instant. The chief feature of the news by the Arabia is the speech of Earl Russell, maintaining that our blockade of the Southern ports was effectual.

From Italy we learn that Baron Ricasoli has resigned and Ratazzi succeeds him as Premier. Gen. Durando will be offered the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs.

"Signor Ratazzi, in announcing to the Chamber the foreign policy which would be followed by the Government, said: "We shall depend upon the alliance of France and England. We shall secure the friendship of other nations by the wisdom of our conduct, and by provoking no one, either by deeds, speeches or demonstrations. We do not wish to compromise the peace of the world on the Roman question. We shall follow the deliberations of Parliament, and shall, above all, employ for the solution of that question moral and diplomatic means. We shall put into execution all the laws and orders of the day voted by the Chamber relative to the national armament. We shall produce the Budget for 1863, and realize a strict economy in all the branches of the administration except in the armament."

This ministerial change is significant, as arguing the dependence of Italy upon the French Emperor, Ratazzi being more subservient to the views of Napoleon III. than was Ricasoli. It also postpones indefinitely the solution of the Roman question.

The downfall of Ricasoli is attributed to a low palace intrigue. The London correspondent of the Manchester *Guardian* says that a mistress of Victor Emmanuel, by whom he has a family of six children, persuaded the King into asking the order of San Maurizio for his private secretary, who was a friend of this woman, the countess of Fiori, but oftener spoken of in Italy as "Rosina."

"Ricasoli, as Prime Minister, was requested to put the royal wish into proper train for accomplishment. When he proceeded to press the recommendation he learnt for the first time the real character of the man he had been asked to recommend. Deeply wounded and indignant, he expressed to the King, in terms which to a hot and high-spirited monarch must have been singularly unpalatable, his sense of the wrong done to him, no less than the order, by asking him to recommend such a man for its *insignia*. This has been one of the occasions—probably numerous—in which the rigid and unbending nature of Ricasoli has clashed with the easy-going, pleasure-loving, hot tempered, but not ungenerous, Victor Emmanuel. He is unders ood to have stood sternly aloof from all deference to the favorite, and to have given the deepest offence to that feeling which it would be an abuse of the word to call pride, but which takes its place in a person of the character and position of the Countess di Fiori.

"In all this now lies the root of Ricasoli's present resignation. I do not mean to insinuate, for a moment, that Ratazzi has personally soiled his hands by working such wires as these; but he has availed himself of the wires and those who pulled them.

"It is feared by all the well informed persons whom I have heard discuss the present state of affairs at Turin, this palace plot has been complicated by French intrigues, which have been diligently employed ever since Ratazzi's visit to Paris, about the work now accomplished, or substituting the man who is reported to be the more docile agent of Imperial projects in Italy for the unbending Tuscan, who has stood so resolutely aloof from both the temptations and the menaces of the Tuileries."

The London *Times'* correspondent says that Ricasoli's personal manner isms rendered him unpopular with the King. * * * *

Of Ricasoli's old Cabinet only one member, Signor Cordova, will remain with Ratazzi.

The following is the list of the old and new cabinets, as far as known:

Under Ricasoli.—Home, Minister Foreign Affairs, Ricasoli; Navy, Menabrea; War, De la Rovere; Interior, Cordova; Public Works, Peruzzi; Finance, Bastogi.

Under Ratazzi.—Home, Ratazzi; Foreign, Durando; Navy, Persano; War, Pelitti; Interior, Cordova; Public Works, De Pretis; Finance, Sella; Agriculture, Pepoli; Instruction, Mancini.

Most of these men were unfamiliar with the duties of government. Sella was a professor of Mineralogy. Pelitti is quite unknown. De Pretis was Garibaldi's pro-dictator in Sicily. Ratazzi's advisers are termed in Italy "The Carnival Cabinet."

The Ricasoli administration, it should be remembered, to comprehend the importance of this move in Italian politics, has the full confidence of the Parliament, which may not ratify Ratazzi's appointments. On this point the London *Spectator* remarks:

"We can only express our own opinion that it is probable, perhaps likely, that it will for a time tolerate the new Ministry, and this for the following reasons: First, there is the strongest possible wish not to come to an open rupture with the King, as nothing could be more fatal to the prospects of the nation. Secondly, even giving the King credit for strictly constitutional conduct, if Ratazzi were at once defeated, he would certainly advise the King to dissolve Parliament. Now the power to collect taxes has only been given up to the end of March, and a new Parliament could not by any possibility be got together before the beginning of May. There are many places still in Italy which are nine days distant from Turin, and this fact, added to the complexity of the electoral law requiring an absolute majority, render two months the minimum time requisite for an election of a new Parliament. Hence, to offer any motive to Ratazzi for an immediate dissolution, would be to offer a strong motive for the arbitrary collection of the taxes without parliamentary authority during at least a month, in the hope of an indemnity, which in the present youth of Italian constitutionalism is very undesirable. It is far from improbable, then, that for both these reasons the Italian Parliament, with its wonted self-restraint, will tolerate Ratazzi for the present, until a fair opportunity occurs for restoring their old chief to power without inflicting a conspicuous humiliation on the King. We confess this appears to us to be, on the whole, the wisest course, though we deeply deplore the fatal and pernicious weakness in the monarch which has led to so grave a crisis."

THE CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.

The following is an official list of the Confederate prisoners who were brought to Baltimore on Tuesday, and who are now confined in the jail:

Andrew Farrell, Co. C, Thirty seventh regiment.
Henry Forsyth, First regiment Provisional Army.
Stephen Arlen, Irish Battalion, Captain Bridgfoot.
E. R. Davis, Co. G, Fourth Virginia.
John H. Addison, Co. F, Second Virginia.
Charles B. Hesser, Co. F, Twenty-seventh Virginia, Colonel Eckle.
F. H. Pike, Co. E, Second Virginia.
Michael Albright, Co. A, Third Virginia.
William Dominser, First Battalion, Col. Burke.
Bushrod C. Washington, Co. G, Fourth Virginia.
Elliot Willis, Co. G, Fourth Virginia.
Tanner Warter, Co. I, Thirty third Virginia, Col. Cummings.
John N. Lyle, Co. I, First Lieutenant, Fourth Virginia.
John M. C. Hamberger, Thirty-third Virginia (Hospital.)
J. C. Price, Co. G, Fourth regiment, Virginia Vols.
G. F. Crush, Co. G, Fourth regiment, Virginia Vols.
Lieut. George G. Jenkins, A. D. C. to Gen. Jackson.
J. T. Smith, Fourth Virginia regiment.
J. H. Langhorner, Fourth Virginia, Lieutenant and Adjutant.
W. J. Lee, Sergeant, Co. K., Second Virginia Vols.
Charles Farrell, Co. B, Second Virginia Vols.
John J. Flemming, Seventh Va. cavalry, Ashby's.
Weldon Maddox, Co. A, Corp., Capt. Turner's Co., Ashby's Cavalry.
Thomas J. Boyd, First Lieut, Co. C, Fourth Va.
J. D Graham, private, Co. C, Fourth Va.
William Wade, Second Lieut. Co. G, Fourth Va.
W. J. Seargent, Captain, Co. C, Twenty-third Va.
H. K. Morrison, Co. I, Fourth Va.
C. C Burke, Second Lieut Co. H, Fourth Va.
S. P Holloway, Co. C, Twenty-seventh Va.
William Scanler, Sergeant, Co. C, Twenty-seventh Va.
Shawan Patrick, Irish Battalion.
Cpns. A. Rollins, Co. H, Twenty-seventh Va. Vols.
J. W. Matthews, Co. H, Fifth Reg Va. Vols.
J. D. Graham, C. D, Fourth regiment.
D. S. Pollock, Co. C, Fourth regiment.
S. C. Williams, 1st Lieut. and A. D C. to Gen. Garnett.
H. H. Robertson, Captain, Co. B, Twenty-seventh Va. regiment.
J. A. Lucas, Co G, Fourth Reg. Va. Vols.
Joseph McIlowan, Co. G, Fourth Reg Va. Vols.
S. S. Caddall, Co. C, Fourth Reg. Va. Vols.
S. J. Wattbd, Co. G, Fourth Reg. Va. Vols.
T. C. Craig, Co C, Fourth Reg. Va. Vols.
J. T. Tedinger, Co. C, Fourth Reg. Va. Vols.
M. S. Sanders, Co. C, Fourth Reg. Va. Vols.
H. W. Cassedy,
J. F. Abank,
J. F Hamilton,
Michael Sheekv,
N. E. Tennabell,
H. L. Brady,
S. Willis,
F. F. Hamilton,
Wilson Bowler,
James W. Slow,
F. E. McKenney,
Thomas Cronan,
A. J. Dobrush,
Daniel Foley,
S. W. Rice,
Edward Fleming,
W. A. Hand,
Daniel Conklin,
Charles A. Ratcliff,
M. Conners,
W. Londonald,
J. Silver,
L. A. Bonnard,
John Howard,
W. Crawtait,
J. C. Frederick,
J. W. Borman,
Nathanie Lawn,
Benjamin Allen,
William Shilling,
Joseph J. Field,
David C. Cormack,
Robert N. Elys,
Berjamie Cole,
John T. McKee,
J. B. Lady,
John Kelly,
Richard McCartney,
S. P. Hanerkerhouse,
J. B. Gardner,
Thos. B. Richardson,
W. J. Henry,
A. P. Henderson,
J. H. Comby,
Par. Ryan,
L. Lutz,
J. A. Rawbird,
James H. Fowler,
W. Steens,
Thomas Harrington,
J. W. Horrycoon,
G. L. Sanderson,
W. A. Duran,
T. B. Hall,
C. F. Keller,
W. A. Fearn,
P. A. Booth,
Charles Robinson,
E. J. Hamkins,
W. S. Ewinbank,
A. P. Baker,
Wm. Wright,
W. Dailey,
A. Scratcheld,
C. J. Henderson,
Wm Locke,
J. W. Silver,
C. E. Thompson,
George Hamberger,
John McMann,
James Ford,
Peter S. Harris,
A. B. Kerfoot,
George W. Hinson,
P. Woody,
J. W. Dugan,
J. N. Toone,
Henry Oliver,
David A. Trice,
John McCall,
B. L Horn,
W. M. Allison,
J. B. Wampler,
G. W. Johnson,
D. E. Stallnaker,
J. R. Fletcher,
A. G. Bolton,
W. R. Kellogg,
P. H. Duke,
J. L. Burress,
A. W. Keeling,
William Cawer,
James S. Johnson,
Mathias Lee,
C. W. Johnson,
P. A Adams,
W. J. Webb,
W. Barton,
David Hall,
W. Gust,
R. F. Kellys,
Dan McCarty,
B. E Farmer,
D. C. Smith,
B. Overlys,
Dan Antier,
Samuel S. Taylor,
W. Kinne,
J. V. Vorhees,
F. J. Conraw,
J. P. Conly,
M. Oliver,
J. J. Dix,
L. M. Hartrick,
J. Virtle,
S. A. Byens,
Patrick Macon,
George W. Nolan,
R. Nichols,
Lorenz Davis,
W. H. Patterson,
T. S. M. McCauley,
Marion Floyd,
William Sheppard,
Frank Gallagan,
David Lowry,
Daniel Cliley,
Lawrence Hartnell,
John Mollride,
James R Overton,
John Pendleton,
John H. Bruff,
Thos. V. Attington,
Wm. Read.
James S. Witcher,
P. P. Conway,
Wm. Davenport,
A. J. Scott,
W. S. Shelton,
T. D. Gould,
John A. Varner,
A. Brooks,
W. A. Wilson,
B. F. Werner,
John Pryor,
Wm Brown,
P. Collings,
C. S March,
W. B. Couch,
L. L. Soulsbury,
T. Sherman,
A. B. Keller,
S. B Hurd,
J. W. Wright,
D. Morgatty,
W. D. Wetmore,
W. H. Reggen,
C. C. Andrews,
J. T. Aubry,
W. J. Harris,
Joseph Labris,
Thomas D. Brandon,
James Driscoll,
Chas. Farrell,
J. J. McCarge,
George Merrical,
D. W. Hawkins,
God. Frankhouser,
Rob. S. Bell,
Wm. Barton,
A. B. Ramsey,
J. W. Woods,
H. A. Paxton,
Randolph Beaton,
R. S. Burnell,
Simon Hurst,
Henry C. Young,
C. E. Bell,
J. J. Smith,
G. G. Junkin,
J. H Langhans,
John W. Legg,
J. E. Bonham,

THE MOVEMENT IN FAVOR OF A GENERAL BANKRUPT LAW.—The association formed in New York for the purpose of securing the passage by Congress of a general bankrupt law has absorbed three organizations which had been formed for the same object. First among the aims of this association, at present, is concert of action among the friends of the proposed measure in New York and elsewhere. It has adopted a plan of act on, of which the following are the prominent features: Measures have been taken to secure the signing of petitions, which are to be forwarded to Washington, and a delegation of ten gentlemen has been selected, who will visit the capital on Friday, March 28, and in company with delegations from other cities, lay the matter before Congress, and urge the passage of a suitable law.

The particular measure which finds most favor among the members of this association, is one guaranteeing entire exemption to the debtor, upon giving his property into the hands of his creditors.—It is likewise strongly recommended that the present system, which puts it in the power of the debtor to make a preferred list of creditors, be wholly abolished. Finance and executive committees have been formed and the organization is complete. The city will be canvassed in three days for signatures to a petition, of which the following is a copy:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress:

We, the subscribers, merchants, traders and citizens of the city and State of New York, hereby petition your honorable body for the passage of a general uniform bankrupt law.

It will be observed that no particular bill or measure is specified, but it is understood that the bill introduced into the House by Mr. Conkling embraces the main objects desired by the association.

MEASURES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE NEGRO INTRODUCED INTO CONGRESS.—1. Recognition of