BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

"THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS."

VOLUME L.—NUMBER 10. BALTIMORE, THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 12, 1865. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Latest News by Telegraph TO THE BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

LATEST NEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI.

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ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ENEMY.

HE CAPTURES 500 PRISONERS.

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&c., &c., &c.

From the Army of the Potomac

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Jan. 9.—The rebels made another attack on our pickets here this morning just before daylight and captured a few videttes on the right of the 2nd Division of the 6th Corps. The morning was very dark, and the attacking party approached cautiously behind an old abattis until they were almost at our line ere the picketts were aware of their coming. The men fired their pieces and ran back toward the reserves, but the rebels were so close to them and being dressed in our uniform, could not be distinguished from our own men, and consequently were not fired on as they otherwise would have been—not more than two shots were heard during the attack, and they soon retreated, taking nine men with them and wounding one of the 49th New York. Their main object seemed to be to obtain fuel and clothing, as they at once demanded the soldiers and knapsacks and blankets, but a few of which they got however. Our men go on picket for twenty-four hours and only carry one day's rations with them. The enemy got a few haversacks this morning, and to-day one of them was held up by a rebel to show our boys what they had gained. Some of them swear vengeance against the raiders, and are waiting an opportunity to pay them back with double fury. On the other part of the line not a gun has been fired for some days. The weather has again changed from cold to rain and the prospect to-night is that we shall have nothing but mud for a few weeks to come.

Among the promotions lately made are those of Major Sam McCombe, of the 93rd New York, to be Col., and Capt. Bumpus, of the 57th Pennsylvania, to be Lieutenant Colonel. These officers have well merited the honor bestowed upon them, having taken an active part in every important engagement of last summer's campaign. This recognition of their gallantry gives universal satisfaction in their several commands. W. D. McGREGOR.

GEN. GRIERSON'S RAID IN MISSISSIPPI.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 11.—The Vicksburg Herald has a full account of Gen. Grierson's recent raid in Mississippi.

The expedition left Memphis on the 21st ult., three thousand strong. At Egypt, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, a considerable force of the enemy was encountered, and a sharp fight ensued, in which quite a number of the enemy were killed and wounded, and five hundred prisoners taken. The Rebel Brig. Gen. Halcomb, commanding, was among the killed.

From Egypt, the command struck westward, crossing the Mississippi Central Railroad below Grenada, destroying thirty miles of the road, several locomotives and fifty cars. They also destroyed at Grenada extensive cloth and shoe factories. At Bunkston, the expedition brought in few horses and mules, and about the same number of contrabands. Among the prisoners captured are one Colonel, one Lt. Col., twenty-five line officers, and a number of our own men who to escape the horrible treatment of our prisoners at Andersonville, had joined the rebel army.

On the night of the 26th Dec., Ensign Blamer, of the steamer Virginia, cut out from Galveston, the schooner Dellie from Nassau with 120 bales cotton. The schooner when captured, was within 300 yards of the rebel guard-ship, close in shore, and protected by the shore batteries. She also passed directly under the guns of two forts on her way out.

Later from Europe

PORTLAND, January 11.—The steamship Moravian, from Liverpool via Londonderry on the 30th, has arrived. Her commercial advices are unimportant owing to the inactivity caused by the holidays.

The order of General Dix to pursue rebel raiders into Canada attracts much attention, and the leading journals hope it will not be acted upon, as trouble might ensue.

The Canadian difficulty caused a slight depression in Canadian funds. The papers generally discountenance the idea of being driven into unfriendly relations with the United States. The Times shows that the rebels could desire nothing better.

THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The annual meeting of the United States Agricultural Society took place at the Capitol to-day. Members were present from all the States. An adjournment took place until the 22d of March, when there will be discussions on various agricultural topics of national interest.

Southern News.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Richmond papers of Tuesday, the 10th instant, have been received. They chronicle a great fire at Charlotte, N. C. Government warehouses, including Quartermaster and Commissary offices, and a portion of the North Carolina and Charlotte and S. C. depot were burnt. The loss was first estimated at $200,000,000! but this had been reduced by the saving of grain, sugar, &c. Yankee incendiaries were supposed to have caused the disaster, but it was subsequently ascertained that the fire was the result of accident.

A dispatch from Charleston, S. C., January 8th, says that a gentleman from Savannah reports Sherman as sending the Seventeenth Corps round to Beaufort to co-operate with Foster's troops, between Pocotaligo and Coosawatchie.

A despatch from Macon reports the enemy one thousand or two thousand strong, with wagons and artillery on the Ocupee river, running in the direction of Southwestern Georgia, on the 5th inst.

A despatch received at the War Department, from Beauregard, dated Macon, Ga., reports that General Hood reports from Tupola, January 6th, that Gen. Thomas appeared to be moving up the Tennessee river until 9 A. M. on the 4th.

Scouts report that Sherman is missing. Six gunboats and sixty transports had passed Savannah, going toward Eastpoint, loaded with troops and supplies.

Hood's report of the battle near Nashville, says that he lost fifty pieces of artillery and several ordnance wagons. His loss in killed and wounded he says was small. Prisoners not counted.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS IN LOUISIANA.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Major General Banks has submitted to the Senate committee on the judiciary some suggestions relative to the recent elections in Louisiana. He says that he did not assume, in his proclamation, of the 11th of January last, inviting the people of that State to participate in an election, to say whether slavery was or was not an institution recognized by law, as the condition of the State was such that no laws for the enforcement of the rights of the master could be executed without the disturbance of the public peace; and they could not be enforced by the army or navy, such intervention being forbidden by Congress. This declaration was generally acceptable to the people. There were three candidates, and the canvass was spirited, and eleven thousand five hundred votes were cast out of from fifteen to sixteen thousand formerly polled, as an average in the Parishes voting, the highest vote ever given being 21,000.

He expresses the belief that 500 persons voted in that election who were not citizens of the State previous to the rebellion, and every candidate had been from fifteen to twenty years identified with the interests of the State, and declares unhesitatingly that two-thirds, if not three-fourths, of the voting population of the State participated in the election. There were in the State from fifteen to eighteen thousand persons duly registered as qualified by the constitution and law of Louisiana as voters. He holds that any criticism on this election suggesting a departure from statute provisions rests upon the impossibility of exact compliance therewith.

Of the diminished vote on the ratification of the new Constitution, he says there was no material opposition to it, public or private, and that some failed to participate from apprehensions that Congress would not ratify the form of government. The majority, he asserts, had a contest been made by the opponents of emancipation would have been fifteen thousand, and he declares that the influence of the officers of the Government, civil and military, was indifferent, if not hostile to the organization. The register of votes has stated that in one department of the Treasury office, only 25 out of 200 persons voted either for or against the abolition of slavery.

He disclaims, in unqualified terms, the imputation of attempts to influence the election by the military authorities. The actual vote polled is claimed to have been more than one-third of the average vote of the entire State for ten years previous to the rebellion.

It is claimed that the population of the State has been reduced by enlistments in the rebel army, by removal to the North, and to Europe, and by appalling mortality. Of the blacks, from 440,000 to 70,000. Of the 40,000 enlisted in the rebel army, it is reckoned that not more than 1,500 are now living. Probably three-fourths of the population of the State are in the lines of our army. He asserts that he has never been governed in the administration of affairs in Louisiana by the fact that a person had taken the oath of allegiance, and never accorded any privilege on that ground. That public opinion there has a more substantial and permanent basis.

Gen. Banks refers to the significant Mexican movement of Napoleon, and claims that he would upon a convenient pretext plant the French flag on the west banks of the Mississippi, and hence the great importance of supporting the United States Government, in Louisiana, by every possible means, not only by force of arms, but by the sympathy of the people; and that all sections and interests of the country, political and commercial, have an equal interest in maintaining the power of the Government in this most important point of the continent.

A SENSATION STORY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Many newspapers have copied a telegram from Washington erroneously attributed to the Associated Press, giving a rumor that Gen. Sherman has communicated to the President that the Georgia State authorities have applied to come back into the Union, and that Secretary Stanton's visit to Savannah has doubtless some connection with this subject. The Washington agent has merely to say that he never circulated such a rumor, and besides there is no truth in it whatever.

INDIAN TROUBLES IN THE WEST.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 10.—Despatches from the West say that the Indians at last accounts were on Republican river retreating southward, and our troops were concentrating for pursuit. Advices from Fort Kearney say that the overland mail line is infested from O'Fallen's Bluff to Valley Station, and perhaps beyond. The Indians so largely outnumber the troops that offensive operations cannot at present be prosecuted with much chance of success.

FROM ARKANSAS.

ST. LOUIS, Jan'y 10.—Fort Smith (Arkansas) advices of the 27th ultimo confirm the reported evacuation of that port and Van Buren, and mention as probable the participation of the garrisons in some movement Southwest, leaving that part of the country; and it was feared that Forts Smith and Van Buren would be destroyed.

Lieutenant Wilcox, of the Chickasaw Battalion, had an interview with General Thayer on the 26th, under a flag of truce; the reported object of the visit being to negotiate terms for the surrender of his battalion to the Union forces.

The remnant of Price's army is at Boggs' Depot, on Red River. Deserters are very numerous, and the whole country is filled with stragglers.

Later advices from Fort Smith say that our troops have not yet left that post, and will be required to remain there to protect the Government stores until the Arkansas River is again navigable, so that they can be removed. In the meantime, it is believed the President will revoke the order of evacuation.

DESTRUCTION OF THE GALT HOUSE.

LOUISVILLE, Jan 11, A. M.—The Galt House was discovered to be on fire this morning at 1 o'clock, and its destruction seems to be inevitable.

LATER, 3½ A. M.—The Galt House is entirely in ruins. Very little furniture was saved. The warehouse on the Eastern side, occupied by F. W. Thomas and Andrew Buchanan, was also destroyed. Opinions differ as to the origin of the fire, whether an act of incendiarism or not. Major Preston narrowly escaped. The insurance on the furniture is in Dentforth's agency to the amount of $200,000. So far as is known at this hour there has been no loss of life. The fire is now entirely checked and the United States subsistence stores immediately in the rear of the Galt House have not been injured. Messrs. McKill & Mullen, clothiers, have lost heavily. The aggregate loss is nearly $1,000,000.

ARRIVAL FROM HAVANA—LATER FROM THE COAST OF TEXAS.

NEW YORK, Jan'y 11th.—The steamer Columbia, from Havana on the 7th, has arrived. The rebel steamer Coquette had left for Nassau flying the rebel flag. The blockade runners Lena and Maria had arrived from Galveston with cotton. The loss of the rebel steamer R. E. Lee, at the mouth of the Rio Grande, is confirmed. Six men were drowned. The cutting out of the schooner Belle at Galveston, by a Federal expedition, is also confirmed. Part of the crew of a blockade-running schooner had been arrested at Galveston on the charge of designing to surrender the vessel to our squadron.

Delegates from each of the Indian tribes friendly to the rebels had arrived at Shreveport to request the embarkation of cotton sufficient to provide for the pressing necessities of their families, and to furnish arms to the regiments now in the rebel service.

The United States fleet off Galveston on December 31st consisted of a screw vessel, three gunboats and three transports.

A Spanish steamer, from Vera Cruz, had arrived at Havana, but her news was not known when the Columbia sailed.

EMANCIPATION IN MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 11.—The State Convention of Missouri has just passed the following order of emancipation, by a vote of 60 to 4:

"Be it ordained by the people of the State of Missouri, in convention assembled, that hereafter neither slavery or involuntary servitude, excepting in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free."

ELECTION OF HON. MR. FESSENDEN TO THE U. S. SENATE.

AUGUSTA, ME., Jan. 11.—Hon. Wm. Pitt Fessenden was elected United States Senator to day for six years from the 4th of March next. The vote stood, in the Senate, Fessenden 25; in the House, Fessenden 116 to 23 for W. P. Haines (dem.) Nathan A. Farwell was elected for the unexpired term caused by the resignation of Mr. Fessenden, to take charge of the Treasury Department, some months since.

GEN. BUTLER'S FAREWELL.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Various members of Congress to day received from Gen. Butler himself, through the mail, printed copies of his farewell to the army of the James.

GEN. BUTLER'S FAREWELL ADDRESS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE JAMES, Jan. 8, 1865.

Soldiers of the Army of the James:

Your commander, relieved by the order of the President, takes leave of you. Your conduct in the field has extorted praises from the unwilling. You have endured the privations of the camp and the march without a murmur. You have never failed in attack when ordered.

You have stormed and carried works deemed impregnable by the enemy. You have shown the positions to be so by holding them against the fiercest assaults, in the attempt to retake them. Those skilled in the war have marvelled at the obstacles overcome by your valor. Your line of works has excited the wonder of officers of other nations, who have come to learn defensive warfare from the monuments of your skilled labor.

Your deeds have rendered your names illustrious. In after times your General's proudest memory will be to say with you, "I, too, was of the Army of the James." To share such companionship is pleasure. To participate in such acts is honor. To have commanded such an army is glory. No one could yield it without regret.

Knowing your willing obedience to orders, witnessing your ready devotion of your blood in your country's cause, I have been chary of the precious charge confided to me. I have refused to order the useless sacrifice of the lives of such soldiers, and I am relieved from your command. The wasted blood of my men does not stain my garments. For my action I am responsible to God and my country.

To the Colored Troops of the Army of the James.—In this army you have been treated—not as laborers—but as soldiers. You have shown yourselves worthy of the uniform you wear. The best officers in the Union seek to command you. Your bravery has won the admiration even of those who would be your masters. Your patriotism, fidelity and courage have illustrated the best qualities of manhood.

With the bayonet you have unlocked iron-barred gates of prejudice, opening new fields of freedom, liberty and equality, of right to yourselves and your race forever. Comrades of the Army of the James, I bid you farewell! farewell!

BENJ. F. BUTLER, Major General.

SOCIETY IN WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Clipper.]

WASHINGTON, January 10th, 1865.

The first evening reception at the Executive Mansion, which took place last night, was one of the most brilliant and agreeable that have been held for many years. A marked improvement was the universal compliance of the company with the expectation,—rather than regulation,—that those who accept the opportunity of visiting the White House on these occasions should present themselves in suitable attire. This contributed vastly to the pleasant aspect of the rooms and to the enjoyment of the visitors. On some previous occasions of this kind, men and women have been seen pushing forward into the presence of the Chief Magistrate and his lady,—the former in rough overcoats, and dread-noughts, and soiled boots, and the latter bonnetted, shawled and furred as if for a hard journey! Surely this evinced a want of self-respect no less than a disregard of what was due to those whose position places them at the head of American society. While we have discarded official costume, and the "mountebank drapery of barbarous ages,"—and while it is not deemed necessary or desirable that every visitor should be arrayed in the reigning mode, the propriety of laying aside hats and bonnets, cloaks and great coats, and wrappings of every description, previous to entering the reception rooms, must be obvious. The effect was very observable by those who had been used to the sight of all sorts of outward habiliments mingling with the "Sunday's best" of well-bred persons in the humblest circumstances, or the splendid dresses of the wealthier classes.

Such a change was wrought by the simple suggestion that coverings of all sorts must be deposited with the attendants in waiting, who would take charge of them. Mrs. Lincoln deserves great credit for having inaugurated this alterative, relying on the good sense and good feeling of her countrymen and countrywomen to perceive and appreciate it.

There is another feature, sometimes overcrowded at receptions and public parties in Washington, with which no measures ought to be kept. A sharp critic says: "We are terribly afraid that some Americans spit on the floor; even when that floor is covered with good carpets. Now all claims to superior civilization must be suspended till this accusation is otherwise disposed of." If the Cabinet should undertake the task of enforcing the abatement of this nuisance by an embargo on the perpetrators, they would deserve the thanks of the country. *Ne quid nimis* (which being interpreted, means "No tobacco near ladies,") should be the motto of every gentleman.

Mrs. Lincoln received with her usual and characteristic easy courtesy. She was richly and yet quietly dressed, a bevy of fair maidens and matrons, whom I had the pleasure of "assisting" to escort, pronounced the taste irreproachable. "Jenkins" must give the details. I can only speak of the general effect, which was certainly faultless.

There was an unusually large number of youthful *debutants* present, graceful and sweet looking girls, to whom this was the first Presidential reception, and who seemed to enjoy it with the freshness of young life, bounding gaily and eagerly toward so entire an engagements and delights. Among these was the second daughter of the Chief Justice, (Chase.) In this class, also, were not a few of the "tall and stylish" Marylanders, who have been renowned, entirely in Washington, but throughout the world, and to whose personal attractions, vivacity, and elegance of demeanor and address, foreign travellers have unanimously borne testimony.

About half-past ten the President, who had for two good hours been shaking hands with the company, took Mrs. Denison, the accomplished and amiable wife of the Postmaster General, on a tour through the East Room. He was immediately followed by Mrs. Lincoln, under the escort of Governor Morgan, and Mrs. Farragut, attended by the Secretary of the Navy—after whom the general company who happened to be in the Blue Parlor fell into line, and made a promenade to the inspiriting music of the Marine Band.

The Diplomatic Corps, the Senate and House of Representatives, and the Supreme Court, were fully represented by both the distinguished men connected with these bodies, and their families. Mrs. Frederick Seward, the wife of the Assistant Secretary of State, by her mingled grace and intelligence is always the centre of cultivated and refined groups. Mrs. Sprague, formerly Miss Kate Chase, is still unimpaired for spirit, affability, and social tact, while her feminine delicacy of rite, aspect and manner carries out the imagination to beings of another and higher sphere. The sisters of Judge Giles, in their radiant loveliness, glided sparkling through the rooms, and charming every beholder, of taste or feeling.

The "*Season*" has now fairly begun. Most persons in society have already dinner or evening engagements for a week ahead. If our Baltimore friends would wish to see Washington to advantage, now is the time.

A LOOKER ON AT THE CAPITOL.

TAR MAKING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Rochester (N. H.) Courier has an interesting description of the tar-manufacturing process now being carried on in the western portion of Carroll county, New Hampshire. From Effingham, along the northeastern shore of Ossipee Lake (or the Great Pond, as it is locally called) and stretching away towards Conway, there are thousands of acres of pine plains, the timber on some portions having been cut. It is from the roots or stumps that the tar is extracted by a company locally organized for the purpose. The largest timber of these "cut downs" has been cut long enough to have all the sap wood rotted away, leaving nothing but the clear wood. The Courier says, speaking of a spot near the village of Freedom:

"Here they set their stump pullers at work, pulling from fifty to one hundred stumps each daily, according to the difficulties encountered. These stumps are hauled to Freedom village, where they are cut and split into pieces about the size of very fine stove wood, and placed in what is called a basket. The basket is a wrought iron cylinder, punched full of holes of about three fourth of an inch in diameter, and holding half a cord. This basket is taken by a crane and placed in a retort made to receive it. A round top cast iron cover is then fitted on tight, with a pipe from the centre, which connects with a coil of pipe in a condenser.

"The gas and steam passing off from the top of the retort, and through the condenser, comes forth from a barrel in the shape of an acid (which is worth ten cents a gallon among the calico printers, but is here thrown away,) and a red oil. The red oil is then passed through a still, and gives about half its bulk in spirits of turpentine. The other half is thin tar, which is mixed with that which comes from the retort. From the bottom of the retort the pitch which is "fried out" of the pitch wood by the heat applied to it, comes forth in the shape of thick tar. There are eight or ten retorts, which bring forth forty barrels of tar a week, and seven or eight barrels of spirits of turpentine.

A cord of pitch wood gives about three barrels of tar and eighteen gallons of spirits, besides twice that amount of acid.—The company have stumps enough dry to keep the factory running until they can dig again in the spring, and it is said that there are stumps enough left on the plains to last the company for three or four years. The tar is worth about $11 per barrel and the turpentine about $2.50.—Who but Yankees would have brought down the price of tar and turpentine by digging pitch wood stumps for its manufacture?"

MARYLAND NEWS ITEMS.

CLOSE OF NAVIGATION.—The ice in the Chester and Patapsco rivers has caused a suspension of steamboat travel between this place and Baltimore since Monday. The Isadore is reported to have made unsuccessful attempts on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to get out of the Patapsco. The creeks and tributaries on the Kent side of the Chesapeake are tightly closed, and from present indications it will be some time before trade with the cities by water can be resumed.—*Kent News.*

HOMICIDE AT CHURCH HILL.—James Irons, a storekeeper at Church Hill, was shot and killed by Robert Lucas, a few days ago. It is reported that Lucas was creating a disturbance in Irons's store, and was threatened with ejection from the premises if he did not desist. Persisting in his course, Irons approached him with a hatchet in hand, when Lucas drew a pistol and fired, killing him instantly.—*Ind.*

Southern News.

SHERMAN'S EXPERIMENT OF CONCILIATION IN SAVANNAH.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan'y 7.]

General Sherman is trying an experiment on Savannah. He is permitted to at least begin with clemency and moderation, but on two conditions—first, neither he nor his Government is bound by any present concessions, nor bound to continue the indulgence one day or hour longer than they find it expedient; second, Geary's provost guard is to keep good watch and ward, so as to prevent anything valuable from being carried away by its owner. In the meantime they are willing to try whether they can get the principal city of Georgia to accept their rule with some show of contentment, whereby they may gradually detach the other towns of the State from the Confederacy. Yet even in these first days of the experiment of kindness, the inhabitants are sufficiently warned of what any given morning may bring upon them. If Yankee vessels on the Savannah river are fired upon, all the inhabitants of Savannah are to be ordered out of the city, as the Atlanta people were. In short, if the city of Savannah be found a serviceable base of operations for debauching the State, then, and so long, the people will be suffered to dwell in their own houses, under negro guards. Meanwhile, as a Yankee correspondent says, "the plate and linen are safe as in a strong box"—that is, safe for the Yankee conquerors. For the present they are only lending the people their own houses and their own goods, and every citizen holds his existence on sufferance.

This Sherman, it will not be forgotten, is the same who wrote the letter of instruction to his Adjutant General on the way in which he was to deal with the inhabitants of any district overrun by Yankee troops. "Rebels" own nothing—all they have is forfeited, even their lives; if permitted to live, it is only that they may be made useful to the cause of the Union, otherwise it would be a mercy to them to put them all suddenly to death. On these principles the whole Georgia campaign has been conducted until this day. The citizens of Atlanta were ordered to leave homes and wander into the wilderness, that Atlanta might be made a mere military post. Seven or eight towns were burned on the march. Sherman spreading out his army over a space of sixty miles, plundering everything as he went. "Before him was ruin, behind him wreck," and there lay, smoking far and wide, "the broad track of desolation." With what purpose, then, has he permitted the citizens of Savannah, for certain days, to live in their own houses and dine with their own forks, which are all forfeited, as well as their lives? It is a treacherous bait to deaden the spirit of resistance in other places. Until it be seen whether it answers this purpose the plunder and depopulation of Savannah are postponed.

Of the forty thousand inhabitants of Savannah there are at least "seventeen" who promptly lend themselves to the promotion of Sherman's objects. They ask at once whether they can be of any use; and are bidden to hold a meeting and pass resolutions of submission. They do so with alacrity. Mayor Arnold calls the "seventeen" to order; and they speedily resolve—first that they accept Lincoln's terms; peace on laying down their arms and submitting to the "national authority," leaving all questions to be adjusted by legislative conference and vote." Here they might have stopped; that is all Mr. Lincoln wants; submission first, and then legislate on, courts and voters might be trusted to secure to the victors all the rest. But the seventeen have some more to say, in order as it were to exhibit their good feeling and zeal with which they enter upon their new career of conquered vassals.

The second resolution is, "to bury all bygones in the grave." Truly the people of Georgia who have been burnt out, the women of Georgia who have been ravished, the families of Georgia children who are now pining for bread, are all very much obliged to them for this liberal sentiment. Georgian soldiers' who have stood side by side with Virginians and Carolinians on so many bloody fields, for the honor and sovereignty of your State, and for the security of these very seventeen slaves—you who have trudged through the snows of four winters and fronted the tempest of a hundred battles, while those seventeen were sleeping soft and feeding high and speculating higher, know now that you are "bygones;" if not already "buried in the grave," the sooner you are buried the better. The seventeen are in a hurry to bury you themselves. As you stand now, with arms in your hands, do you not perceive that you are disturbing an era of good feeling?

Another resolution requests Governor Brown to call a convention of the State, to vote on the question of war or peace—that is, on the question of submission to their enemies or resistance; the question of being free citizens or subjugated vassals; and it is very clear how such a convention would vote if it were composed of such folk as the seventeen. After all, notwithstanding the statement of the gentleman from Savannah, who states to an Augusta paper that only seventeen persons attended the meeting, it is highly probable that a much larger number of persons were present. There are in Savannah enough of Jews, Englishmen and Yankees, besides other foreigners to make seven times seventeen; and as for the Mayor and the few other real citizens of the place who attended, they, no doubt, are among the fattest, sleekest, richest people of the town, having good wines in their cellars, valuable lots in the city, and valuable plantations in the sea islands. If they see presented to them a chance of saving the so good things, what to them is the independence of their State trampled under foot; the blood of their fellow-citizens poured on the cold hills of Virginia; their own personal honor lying a bleeding? For what is honor? A word. Who hath it? He that died a Wednesday. Bury the by-gones in the grave.

After all, we believe that Savannah or any other city in the Confederacy would be wrongfully calumniated if such a meeting as this were taken as the true representation of its spirit. The thing comes though the Loyal Georgian, a new paper, which a military officer, having seized a newspaper office, is publishing under orders of Sherman. Of course, no Confederate newspaper can now be published in that city, no Confederate word uttered.—In the churches last Sunday there were prayers for the Confederate Government. Next Sunday there will be prayers for its enemies; every man must pray, and swear, and pray, and sing, exactly as he is bidden, must clothe himself with lies and hypocrisy; must curse all that he blessed, and bless all that he cursed, must publicly denounce his own children as rebels and traitors; and must feel himself the most abject of the human race. No matter; his house is not pillaged yet by Sherman; Geary's provost guard has not yet driven him forth to perish in the wilderness.—Every day he is spared, he gains twenty-four hours of easy life, if he does not damn his own soul.

CAPTURE AND EXECUTION OF A NOTORIOUS GUERILLA.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 10.—Six inches of snow fell here to day. On Sunday a scouting party from Clarksville, Tennessee, captured south of the Cumberland river, the notorious guerilla leader, Jake Sly. Sly, with four of his men were executed on the spot, in retaliation for the murder of Union prisoners.

STEAMER AUSTRALASIAN ASHORE.

SANDY HOOK, Jan. 11.—The steamship Australasian, bound out, is ashore, half way between the Southwest Spit and the west bank. It is not likely that she will get off until high water to-night. The wind is northwest and closing freshly.

THE WEED-OPDYKE LIBEL SUIT.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—In the Weed-Opdyke libel suit, the jury, having been out twenty hours, came into Court to-day stating that they could not agree. The Court having charged the jury that upon one point, if publication, it was libellous in law and undefended, the jury upon that point were divided between *six cents* damages and some other sum. At one time seven and at another time nine of the jurors were for six cents.

FROM NEW ORLEANS—LOSS OF A GUNBOAT.

CAIRO, Jan. 9.—The steamer Magenta from New Orleans has arrived. General Thomas W. Sherman and staff, had arrived there on the steamer Morning Star.

The gunboat Ratler drifted ashore in the late storm between Vicksburg and Natchez, and was fired into by a gang of guerillas and burnt to the water's edge.

A letter from Mobile to a citizens of New Orleans, says that fighting was going on in that vicinity on the 31st ult.

The Rebels were burning cotton on the 29th ult., a short distance from Natchez.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS.

ALARMING ALTERNATIVE!—A flag of truce was sent to the captain of one of the Mississippi gunboats, with a challenge from a guerilla chief to meet him with thirty men, armed with muskets, one mile from shore, and have a pitched battle; or, in the event of declining that challenge, a bottle of whisky was requested as a forfeit. The gunboat captain didn't see fit to embrace either horn of the dilemma presented by the guerilla, whereat he was much offended.

REBEL MEMES.—The Enquirer of the 4th says that Louis Napoleon might be startled with another phenomenon upon peace between the North and South. It might not be impossible for a portion of the troops now engaged in deadly conflict to unite under the same banner, and march upon Mexico. This suggestion is borne out by the history of all ancient and modern times, that we fought with each other. The soldiers will fraternize in the common enterprise.

☞ It is said that M. Pion, the Emperor Napoleon's publisher, has persuaded his Majesty that it would be better to print the first volume of his "*Vie de Cesar*" at once, without waiting to finish the work. M. Pion, as well as the public, was evidently tired with the talk about this book, and he came to the conclusion that, without some stimulant, Cæsar's life will be finished about the same time as the Emperor's.

☞ About ten thousand pieces of Roman money—principally of the reigns of Augustus, Claudius and Nero—have just been discovered in the bed of the Moyenne, at St. Leonard. Their presence is explained by the fact of a dangerous ford having formerly existed at this spot and the custom of travellers to throw in their river a piece of money as a propitiation.

☞ The sloop-of-war Constellation, launched in 1797, has lately arrived from a three years' cruise in the Mediterranean (probably her last, although she is still seaworthy,) under command of Capt. Stellwagen. While at Syria, Abd El Kader visited the Constellation, and expressed his sympathy for the Union cause in the great struggles in which we are engaged.

☞ There is no influence so potent in changing Secessionists into Union men as a great military victories. Since Sherman took Savannah, nearly all the influential Rebels of that place, including even Lamar, the celebrated African slave trader, have participated in a meeting at which strong Union sentiments were expressed, and the Confederacy denounced.

☞ Governor Andrew, among other practical suggestions, in his inaugural address to the Massachusetts Legislature, suggests that the State should aid any movement proposed to open the door of emigration to young women who are wanted for teachers and other domestic employment in the West, "but who are leading anxious and aimless lives in New England."

☞ Alex. Bellers, of Hardin county, Ill., has succeeded in making a strong, smooth wrapping paper, from the fiber of the cane. From experiments already made, Mr. Bellers is satisfied he can manufacture a superior article of printing paper, at a less cost than other manufacturers can afford to make it out of rags.

☞ The Iron Moulders International Convention is in session in Chicago. It comprises delegations from nearly all the States and Canada. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the choice of Wm. H. Sylvis, of Philadelphia, President, and a full list of subordinate officers from Canada and various States.

☞ Gen. Hurlbut, in command at Memphis, has issued an order prohibiting officers and soldiers from attending theatres, billiard rooms, drinking saloons and other places of amusement on the Sabbath day, denouncing the habit as dishonorable and contrary to the duties which soldiers owe to themselves and their country.

FOREIGN OPINION.—The Austrian Military Journal calls the advance of Sherman from Atlanta towards Savannah, "one of the most interesting operations in the military history of modern times, and hardly less important for the fate of Richmond than Waterloo was for Paris.

☞ A man, noted for his calmness and a scolding wife, was one night stopped in the woods by a pretended ghost. "I can't stop, my friend," said he. "If you are a man, I must request you to get out of the way and let me pass. If you are the devil, come along and take supper, for I married your sister."

☞ The rebels are rebuilding the railroads destroyed by Sherman in Georgia. As iron is not to be had they are using wooden rails, fastened to the ties with wooden pins. Lead is so scarce in the Confederacy that they are cutting off sink spouts in Richmond to cast into bullets.

☞ A Washington special says the gold medal authorized by Congress to be struck off for General Grant, after the fall of Vicksburg, has been finished, and has reached Washington. The time and manner of its presentation have not yet been determined.

☞ The Italian Government has issued an address to the prefects in North Italy, warning them of the probability of a new outbreak in favor of Venetia next spring, and declaring that the Government is determined to discountenance a fresh foolish attempt.

☞ Governor O. P. Morton, of Indiana, in his message to the Legislature, last week, says that the total number of men sent to the war by Indiana from April 15, 1861 to January 1, 1865, is 165,314.

☞ It is estimated that the present number of petroleum companies in the United States is three hundred and five, with capitals ranging from $50,000 to $10,000,000 each. One company proposing to consolidate several others with it, has a capital of $15,000,000.

☞ A New York Tim s correspondent says the verdict of the coroners jury to investigate the failure of the Petersburg mine explosion, will divide the responsibility (some) between Burnside, Meade and the General who led the assault.

☞ It is said that President Lincoln will, upon his inauguration, be obliged to give way to the unexampled pressure for office, and make some changes among office holders throughout the country.

☞ The First regiment of Hunter's new corps is to be armed with Sharp's breech-loading rifles and a new style of equipment. Each weapon is to bear the name of the man who carries it, and is to be his property after the expiration of his term of service.

☞ The Hospital boat Ohio, at New Albany, took fire a few days since, while three hundred patients were on board. They had a narrow escape, for the fire was put out after it had gained considerable headway.

☞ The late William Curtis Noyes, of New York, has devised his magnificent and valuable library, which was one of the largest and most complete in this country, to the Hamilton College in that State.

☞ The Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Brownell, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut, and Senior Episcopal Bishop of the United States, is dead.

☞ Some political friends of Hon. Reuben E. Fenton, Governor of New York, last week presented his wife with a beautiful set of Victoria china, valued at $3,500.

☞ It is reported from Norfolk that Sherman proposes to make a straight march through the Carolinas into the back of Richmond.

☞ According to the municipal census just taken, the city of St. Louis contains 187,820 inhabitants.

☞ Several of the newspaper publishers in St. Louis now employ female compositors.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Locust Point.—Those of our citizens who have not visited this section of Baltimore, during the past five years, will scarcely recognize in the neat, thrifty, industrious locality, what was a few years ago a barren waste. The place at this time is beginning to assume the proportions and appearance of a city in itself, and capitalists are turning their attention hither with the view of erecting in the coming spring a large number of dwelling houses suitable for mechanics, who are unable to pay the exorbitant rents demanded in the city proper. The advantages of Locust Point for manufacturing purposes cannot be equalled on the Eastern seaboard of the United States, in consequence of the facilities for obtaining coal of the most suitable kind, brought by the railroad to the very doors of the factories, and for transportation of manufactured goods by railroad and by water to all parts of the country and of the world. The peninsula constituting Locust Point, in shape and reference to its water frontage, is similar in many respects to that on which the city of New York is erected. A short time since several gentlemen formed themselves into a company, styled the "Locust Point Company, of Baltimore," with a capital of $300,000, in 30,000 shares of $6 each, for the purpose of improving the place. The company purchased all the land lying East of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, between the Railroad and Hollistreet, and between Bason and Marriott streets; also all the land lying West of Bowman street, North of Marriott street, and South east of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; also all of the land lying South of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to Fort Avenue, and between lots Nos. 6 and 9 at Whetstone Point, and all the lands lying North of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad between the property of the late John Eager Howard, at Locust Point, and the property known as Rees's Furnace. The property takes in nearly all the lands between the extensive coal wharves of the railroad and the improvements on the South side of the Harbor.

The improvements of the water front continue from the lands of the Company, without intermission, up to the head of the basin of Baltimore; so that the lands of the Company fronting on the water are nearly the only unimproved lands between the city and Locust Point, the coal terminus of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Within a great many coal companies have recently been formed, and are now in active operation for the bringing of coal from the Allegany region to tide-water, to new facilities have been created for the outlet of this trade in the city of Baltimore; and the immense and almost daily increase of the coal business has, therefore, to find its outlet through the wharves of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company and a few private wharves, now totally inadequate to meet the demands of this trade.

The water front is capable of being improved by eight or nine large docks, greater in width than any of the docks on the north side of the basin, with wide piers extending into the harbor, of the piers to be wide enough for several railroad tracks to deliver coal.

It is believed that full demand would be found for all the facilities for the delivery of coal which could be furnished; and it is estimated that each of such piers would be capable of shipping 100,000 tons per annum.

The following are the names of the officers of the "Locust Point Company:"

President, Wm. Woodward; Directors, Wm. Woodward, Henry W. Elliott, Robert T. Maccoun, Charles R. Gallagher, A. Brown Davidson, and Wm. F. Frick; Treasurer, Jno. Swan; Secretary, Charles R. Gallagher.

The Defence Committee.—The following report and resolution was read in the First Branch of the City Council last evening:

The joint special committee to whom was referred the report of the Defence Committee of the City of Baltimore, beg leave to state that we have examined the books of record and vouchers for the disbursements made in furtherance of their trust, and find them correct and entirely satisfactory in respect. This committee was appointed July 11th, 1864, and was composed of his Honor the Mayor, James Young and Samuel Duer, Esqrs., Presidents of the two Branches, together with Messrs. Pfoud and Kennard.

The return of the trust, which was so onerous and at the same time important, involving as it did the defence and protection of the great metropolis of our State, was met with unswerving patriotism and moderated zeal, and that degree