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

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Latest News by Telegraph

TO THE

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

FALL IN THE REBEL GOLD MARKET.

Gold 3,500 Per Cent Premium.

The Rebels Refuse the Currency at Any Odds.

THE SUFFERING OF HOOD'S ARMY.

Rebel Secretary of War Resigned.

Return of Mr. Blair to Richmond.

&c., &c., &c.

Latest News from Richmond.

WASHINGTON, Jan'y 25.—The Richmond Dispatch of January 23d (Monday) contains the following:

"There was a report yesterday that General Price had captured Fort Smith, Arkansas, with its garrison of 2,000 men The report, however, is not confirmed by official intelligence.

"Mr. James A. Seddon has resigned the port-folio of War. We have not been able to learn that his successor has been appointed, though several prominent gentlemen are spoken of as likely to be appointed. Among these are General Braxton Bragg, General Breckenridge, and Senator Hill, of Georgia.

There is a report that the place had been offered Gen.-Breckenridge, but he declined to accept unless he was allowed to select his Commissary General. It is understood that Mr. Seddon was induced to resign by the action taken by the Virginia Congressional delegation. These gentlemen, it appears, sent to the President an official announcement that they had lost confidence in all the members of his cabinet except Mr. Trenholm, and asked for a change. Mr. Seddon, being informed of this action, immediately sent in his resignation.

Two important measures recently passed by Congress were made public on Saturday—one is the bill providing for the appointment of a General in Chief of the Confederate armies. This provides that the General in Chief shall have charge of the armies of the Confederacy—whether this implies the power to select the Generals who shall command these armies, is a matter of doubt—it also repeals the law providing a Chief of Staff of the General assigned to duty at Richmond. General Bragg now holds the position referred to. The bill has not as yet been approved by the President. The other measure is a resolution recommending the assignment of General Joseph E. Johnston to the command of the army of Tennessee.

Five hundred returned Confederate prisoners, who arrived at Varina on Friday, reached the city last night on our flag of truce boat. By the same boat, Mr. Francis P. Blair, Sr., Peace Commissioner, returned to this city. Nothing has transpired as to the object of his mission, but of course it has reference to peace negotiations, and this has grown out of his former visit. He is the guest of Captain Hatch, at the residence of the latter, corner of Fourth and Leigh streets.

Hon. S. Foote, of Tennessee, left the city yesterday morning by the Fredericksburg train, en route for Prince George County, Va.

The Whig of the 23d has the following:

"*Charleston, Jan.* 15.—The enemy in heavy force, supposed to be 15,000 strong, under Gen. Foster, advanced on Pocotaligo yesterday, and our troops, after obstinate resistance, fell back on this side of the Salkepatchie. Our lines embrace the Salkepatchie bridge. Every thing was brought off safely. Gen. Hardee is in command of our forces."

Canton, La., Jan. 14.—A large number of troops from Nashville, estimated at from fifteen to twenty thousand strong, recently passed down the river to New Orleans. It is believed that an expedition is organizing either to attack Mobile or go up Red River.

SERIOUS CONFLAGRATION AT BUFFALO.

BUFFALO, Jan. 25.—The American hotel at this place is on fire. The wind is west and blowing a gale, accompanied by a furious snow storm.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

BUFFALO, Jan'y 25, 11 A. M.—The fire is still raging. The thermometer is down to eight degrees below zero, which, with the prevailing wind and driving snow storm, makes it almost impossible for the fire department to work. The loss will be very heavy, as there are a number of stores already in ruins. The hotel property is believed to be fully insured. The landlord of the "American" has an insurance of $11,000 on his furniture.

[THIRD DISPATCH.]

BUFFALO, Jan'y 25, 1 P. M.—The fire is still burning, but its course on Main street, it is thought, will be checked.—The fire has reached as far as Bullymer's meat shop, and has only been arrested by Mayor Fargo having the buildings next to the American Hotel blown up by gunpowder. It is still feared that the fire will extend through to Pearl street The loss so far is estimated at from $500,000 to $700,000.

[FOURTH DISPATCH.]

Buffalo, Jan. 25—Evening.—The fire was arrested this afternoon after the blowing up of the building on Main street, known as the Old Eagle Tavern. It was stopped also in the rear of Pearl street.—This evening the flames broke out again in Bullymore's building. The fire department are working at every disadvantage. The weather is intensely cold, with violent wind and driving snow storm, freezing the hose and clogging up the engines. The fire communicated to the buildings adjoining the hotel It is reported that some persons have been injured by the falling walls, but amid the confusion prevailing it is impossible to ascertain the facts. The loss will not fall short of half a million of dollars.

The fire is still burning.

THE BANKRUPT LAW.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The bankrupt bill reported to-day by Senator Foster, from the Committee on the Judiciary, is amendatory of that passed the House of Representatives and is in the nature of a substitute. The principal alterations proposed by the committee are the following:

The 8th and 9th sections are stricken out. These authorize the President of the United States when the business of a District Court in bankruptcy has so accumulated that the Judge cannot perform the same in addition to other business, to appoint and commission one or more District Judges to sit in bankruptcy only, and also to appoint an assistant Circuit Judge under similar circumstances, the "voluntary bankrupt" and commencement of preceding sections are amended by striking out the authority to the Marshal or his Deputy on his taking possession of property, to except such as may be by the laws of the State in which the Judicial District is situated, exempt from attachment, being on seizure and sale or execution. Exception is made from the operation of the act the necessary household and kitchen furniture, and such other articles and necessaries of the bankrupt as the assignee shall designate and set apart, having reference, in the amount, to the family condition and circumstances of the bankrupt, not altogether to exceed in value, in any case, the sum of $500; and also the wearing apparel of the bankrupt, and of his wife and children; and the uniform, arms and equipments of a person who is or has been a soldier in the service of the United States. And the determination of the assignee in these matters shall, on exception taken, be subject to the final decision of the said Court.

The 19th section, which provided that all attachments of the property of the debtor shall be dissolved by the decree of bankruptcy, &c., is stricken out. In the section for the distribution of the bankrupt's estate, the committee strike out from the debts entitled to priority of payment, these due any physician for medical attendance on the bankrupt or his family during the pendance of the proceedings in bankruptcy, until the final dividend is declared, not exceeding $50.

In the orders for a dividend the following claims shall be entitled to priority or preference, and be first paid in full in the following order: 1st. The fees, costs and expenses of suit, and for the custody of the property as herein provided. 2d. All debts due to the United States and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof. 3d. All debts due to the State in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending, and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State. 4th. Wages due to any operator, clerk or house servant, to an amount not exceeding $50, for labor performed within six months next proceeding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy. 5th. All debts due to any person, who by laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference in like manner, as if this act had not been passed. Always provided, that nothing contained in the act shall interfere with the collection of taxes by the United States or any State.

The following is substituted for the 37th and 38th sections in relation to the discharge from bankruptcy and the allowance to the bankrupt named. That a discharge duly granted shall, with the exceptions mentioned, release the bankrupt from all debts, claims, liabilities and demands, which were or might have been proved against his estate in bankruptcy, and may be pleaded by a simple averment that on the day on its date such discharge was granted to him, setting the same forth *in hæc verba*; as a full and complete bar to all suits brought on any such debts, claims, liabilities or demands; and the certificate shall be conclusive evidence in favor of such bankrupt, of the fact and regularity of such discharge.

Always provided, that any creditor or creditors of said bankrupt, whose debt was proved, or favorable against the estate in bankruptcy, who shall see fit to contest the validity of said discharge, on the ground that it was fraudulently obtained, may at any time within ten years after the date thereof, apply to the Court, which granted it, to set aside and annul the same. Said application shall be in writing, shall specify under which in particular, of the several acts mentioned in the section is intended to give evidence against the bankrupt, setting forth the ground of evidence, and no evidence shall be admitted as to any other of the said acts. But the application shall be subject to amendment at the discretion of the Court, which shall cause reasonable notice of the application to be given to the bankrupt, and order him to appear and answer the same within such time as the Court shall deem fit and proper.

If upon the hearing of said party the court shall find that the fraudulent acts or any of them set forth by the creditor or creditors against the bankrupt are proved and true, and that the creditor or creditors had no knowledge of the same, judgment shall be given in favor of the creditors, and the discharge of the bankrupt shall be set aside and annulled, but if the court shall find that the fraudulent act, and all of them, set forth are not proved and not true, or that they were known to the creditor or creditors before the granting of the discharge, then judgment shall be rendered in favor of the bankrupt, and the validity of his discharge shall not be affected by the proceedings.

Sections 39 and 40 remain unaltered They relate to preferences and fraudulent conveyances declared void, and the bankruptcy of partnerships and copartners. The involuntary bankrupt sections are amended by including bankers with merchants and traders, and striking out the proviso that a petitioning creditor shall execute a bond with a sufficient security in a penalty of not less than $200, conditional for the payment to the debtor, in case it shall appear that there was no valid ground for the application, of all damages which he shall suffer by reason thereof.

There are other amendments, but the above are among the most important of them.

WOOL SALE.

NEW YORK, Jan'y 25.—The sale of 500,000 pounds of domestic fleece wool by auction to-day, was very largely attended by manufacturers and dealers from the East and Philadelphia, and other points. Most of the offerings were sold at prices fully up to the anticipation Course Ohio fleece brought 67a67½ cents; New York State do. do., 64 cents, No. 1 New York State 62 cents, and 20 and 30 fleece, $1.03; Michigan 90a95½ cents. Some tub-washed fleece, $1.15. Terms cash.

THE COMING DRAFT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The Provost Marshal General has assigned and forwarded to the different districts their correct quotas, under the call of December 19th, for 300,000 men. Shortly after the call was made, the quotas were assigned upon the enrolment as it stood on the 20th of November, and taking into account the reports of credits and the estimates of the number of years of service that were then available, and these quotas sent to the districts, in order that recruiting might commence without any delay for computing the exact quotas.

The correct quotas are based upon the enrolment corrected up to the 1st inst., and embraces all the credits for troops mixed up to that date. A complete settlement with each district has been made and all former deficiencies charged and the surplus credited to the district, consequently, all men put into the service since January 1st, whether by draft, the acceptance of substitutes or by voluntary enlistments, will be applied as credits in reduction of the quotas now assigned. It will be observed that the corrected quotas vary in certain localities from the quotas assigned on the 23d of December.

The reason for this is, first, that the enrolment in many localities has been much reduced since the 20th of November, while in others but little change has occurred. Second, full and accurate reports of men and years of service furnished, not only during the month of December, but from different localities for previous months have been received and taken into account in determining the correct quotas. The most obvious instance is in the case of the cities of New York and Brooklyn—the quota of the former being largely increased, while that of the latter is diminished.

This variance is, however, but partially attributable to the causes above stated, but is occasioned to a great extent by the re distribution of the years of service on account of naval enlistments allowed to the first ten congressional districts of the State of New York, while no change has been made in the number of men credited to each district by the commission, yet in looking into the report made of the terms of service of these enlistments, it was found that the number assigned to New York city was reported as all three years men, while those reported to Brooklyn and the Tarrytown district consisted mainly of one year men. This distribution being considered unequal and not sustained as correct by facts has been modified, and the one, two and three years' men distributed to the different localities pro rata, so that each district now receives its share of three years' naval men as well as one year men, and the quota of men to be furnished by the city of New York becomes largely increased.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT ABOUT TO REPLACE THE MONEY STOLEN BY THE ST. ALBANS RAIDERS.

QUEBEC, Jan. 25.—The Governor General, as soon as the speech from the throne was answered, sent down a message recommending an appropriation to replace the $90,000 in gold stolen by the St. Albans raiders, and which was given up to them by the Montreal police officer.—The message was read by the Speaker amid cries of "Hear, hear," and there was no expression of dissent.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

QUEBEC, Jan. 25.—A commission has been appointed to inquire into the failure of justice at Montreal. It will involve the conduct of Judge Coursal and other local authorities. If it should be proved that the money was given up through the misconduct of the chief of police, Lamothe, Montreal will be called upon to make good the money advanced by Parliament to pay it back again. These measures show that the Government and its supporters are in earnest, and that Northern influence predominates in the Canadian Cabinet and Parliament.

It is expected that the first measure that will be passed into a law, will be the alien and *habeas corpus* bill. The Attorney General will probably submit it to-morrow.

The majority for the new confederation scheme is at least three to one.

The tone of the speeches in both Houses was eminently friendly to the United States while pointing out the necessity for larger military preparations.

FROM HAVANA—REPORTED CAPTURE OF A BLOCKADE RUNNER.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—By the steamer Eagle, from Havana, we have advices to the 21st ultimo. The new Consul General of the Mexican Empire, for Cuba, had demanded the archives of the old Consul, who refused to deliver them up, insisting that his Government is still in existance.

The steamer Harriet Lane, lately called the Lavina, was destroyed by fire at Havana on the 18th. The fire is said to have been the work of one of the crew who was deprived of his pay.

A blockade runner from Galveston arrived at Havanna on the 14th with 1,100 bales of cotton. A report had been received from Keywest that the blockade runner Denligh, one of the most successful of the fleet of blockade runners, had been captured and taken into that port

The Col. Lamb, a very fast iron steamer, left Havanna on the 21st. It was generally reported that she would become a rebel pirate. She was reported to have 140 men aboard, evidently her crew though registered as passengers for Nassau. It was also said that she had cannon in her hold.

From Pernambuco.

PRIVATEERING ON THE COAST OF BRAZIL—ARRIVAL FROM FORT FISHER.

FORT MONROE, Jan. 23.—The bark Clifton, from Pernambuco, via Barbadoes, has arrived here. The captain reports that the rebel privateer Shenandoah had destroyed several American merchant vessels on the coast of Brazil, in consequence of which masters of vessels belonging to the United States were obtaining British registers and sailing under British colors.

The steamer California arrived here today from Fort Fisher, but brings no news of importance from our forces operating against Wilmington.

The weather has been very stormy on the coast for several days past. The steamer Atlantic, from New York for this harbor, reports having been detained 24 hours outside the capes by the heavy weather.

GONE TO EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—The steamer China sailed hence at noon to-day with $800,000 in specie. Among her passengers are Mr. and Mrs. McClellan.

THE ESCAPED CORRESPONDENTS.

THEIR CAPTURE AND CONFINEMENT.

Account of their Escape from Salisbury and Journey to Knoxville.

The Cincinnati Gazette of the 19th gives the annexed interesting account of the adventures of the escaped newspaper correspondents:

Since the war began, the rebels have taken no prisoners whom they have held with the same amount of persistent and obstinate determination, whose incarceration gave them such a demoniac satisfaction, and caused so general and fiendish a glee, as the correspondents of the New York Tribune, Messrs. Albert D. Richardson and Junius H. Browne. We know of no reason why this feeling should have arisen, or why, after it had arisen, it should continue to manifest itself throughout their long imprisonment, unless it may be accounted for by the general law that persons hate whom they fear and fear whom they hate.

When these gentlemen were captured at Vicksburg, May 4th, 1863, they were immediately paroled, but instead of being at once released and sent through the lines at that city, were hurried off to Richmond for the ostensible purpose of being sent North, via City Point. The soulless authorities of the Confederacy, however, did not hesitate to violate the stipulations under which their paroles had been given, and cast them into Libby Prison. Thence they were removed to Castle Thunder, and afterward to Salisbury, N. C., where they have remained ever since.

On May 13th, 1864, at Resaca, Georgia, Wm. E. Davis, the correspondent of the Gazette, was also captured, and after some months at Richmond, was sent to the same prison. The affinity that exists between members of the press soon attracted the three to each other, and, both through inclination and necessity, they became inseparable. At this time Salisbury penitentiary contained about five hundred prisoners. The fare was of good quality, and although small in quantity, was sufficient to preserve life, a fact which, however, was soon destined to be reversed.

About the 1st of October last, nearly ten thousand prisoners were added to the number that already filled the prison to its utmost capacity. This overtaxed the keepers, who were compelled to call to their assistance our journalistic friends, who had gained whatever good graces a rebel prison keeper might be expected to have by their urbane manners, their general intelligence, and their native force of intellect and character. Mr. Davis was therefore appointed hospital superintendent of all the hospitals in the prison limits; Mr. Browne became charged with the general dispensing hospital and depot of supplies outside; Mr. Richardson was made chief clerk and bookkeeper, and made up the reports, while Capt. Wolfe, who also escaped and arrived here with them, took part in the duties that devolved upon the other three.

The positions to which they had been assigned secured them all passes through the inner line of sentinels, with the exception of Richardson; and the faithfulness with which they discharged, all and singular, the duties assigned them, won for them not the esteem merely, but the love, also, of their patients, and the confidence of the commandant of the prison. Improvising doctors out of editors and newspaper correspondents is somewhat novel proceeding, but it was fortunate for our heroes, for it gave them the hospital ration, which was much larger and better than given to ordinary prisoners.

When they were given permission to pass the line of sentinels luckily no paroles were demanded, and if they had been they would have been refused, for, after at least fifty foiled efforts to escape, they were not made of stuff to be chained by a promise. Still, they had no intention of using the freedom these passes gave for the purpose of escape. They had two tunnels in process of construction, one of which was well nigh completed, and would have soon been used but for a circumstance which not only hastened their departure but assisted them in making their escape.

On the 17th of December, Gen. Bradley T. Johnson arrived at Salisbury, and relieved the former commandant of the prison. He was a soldier, and they feared the changes he would make would not only deprive them of the freedom they possessed, but also render their escape still more precarious, even if it did not postpone it indefinitely. They determined, therefore, to escape at once; and for the purpose of getting Richardson beyond the guard it was determined that he should use the pass belonging to Junius, who himself went through on his reputation and the fact, well known to the sentinel, that he had been passing for more than two months without hindrance and in accordance with orders.

On the night of Sunday, December 18, therefore, they met outside the inner guard-line, and walked past the outer line, the sentinels being under the impression that they were attaches of the rebel hospital outside. They travelled about a mile and lay down among some reeds, while Davis went prospecting a place to spend the remainder of the night and the next day. They heard footsteps approaching, and a man brushed against them as they lay pallid with fear and breathless with anxiety. He passed, however, and for that moment they were safe. A barn not more than a mile from their former prison protected them that night and the next day. On Monday night they left the vicinity of Salisbury, and during the week travelled fifty miles, being guided and fed during that time entirely by negroes.

At this point they met certain loyal people, who aided their movements and furnished them with food; sometimes giving them women for guides, sometimes men, until they reached Watauga river, Carter county, Tennessee, where they fell in with a party of North Carolina refugees, numbering about eighty, under the charge of a guide who has made the delivery of prisoners from the hands of the rebels a business for more than three years past. Two hundred miles of space had been traversed and three weeks of time consumed when they reached this point, and they were weary, but they were rapidly nearing the goal and their prospects were daily brightening.

On Tuesday, January 10, they reached Kelly's Gap, and here, while they were growing hourly less able to bear them, their troubles rapidly increased. About three hundred rebel scouts surrounded them at one time, and capture seemed unavoidable. Their guides, however, were wary as they were trusty, and about midnight they separated into two parties—those on foot taking one road, while those on horseback took another. God help them! So near the haven they were striving to gain, to have been defeated now would have been a cruelty on the part of Fortune too hard to bear. Three hundred miles from the hell from which they had escaped to have been taken back now would have rendered life a burthen and death a boon. Still they travelled cautiously on; worn out with their long privations; shoeless feet leaving bloody tracks upon the unpitying snow; the sullen trees stretching their naked arms above them, more like pursuing fiends than benediction breathing priests, as they should have been; while the stars sternly gazed upon them, but mercilessly gave no cause for hope.

Davis and Richardson had horses; so, too, Junius might have ridden a saddleless horse, but his experiences of this kind had rendered it impossible for him to travel further in this way, and he determined to go on foot the remainder of the journey. This separated the little band of heroes, who till now had shared each other's fate, and they parted with brave hearts and determined souls, but with extremely weak bodies. Over the mountain paths; through by-roads in the woods; over creeks and through swamps; still they pressed on, tired and hungry, until, thank God, January 13th brought them to Strawberry Plains. Here their journey was practically ended; civilization was reached, and thence to this city was a trip through Eden compared to the desert they had passed.

They left the prisoners at Salisbury in a most pitiable condition. Sleeping on the bare floor, with little fuel and less food, half starved, and with not sufficient fire to make up what heat should be furnished through diet, it is not wonderful the prisoners felt the agelid pains of starvation.

We will not attempt to describe the pains of their journey, their hair-breadth escapes, or to give an idea of what they passed through during the long and inhuman incarceration. This we leave to their own abler pens, which in due time will tell their own story. What we have written is but the prologue to that which our own correspondent will have to say to our readers when he shall have been sufficiently rested and recruited. Now we have only joy at a meeting which we once feared would not take place, and a deliverance the Government long since might and should have compelled.

Mr. Browne will arrive in the city this morning, and will join his companions at the Burnet House, and all will remain in the city for some days for rest and recuperation. A formal reception will take place to-morrow evening.

FROM CHARLESTON, SAVANNAH AND WILMINGTON.

Arrival of the Massachusetts at Philadelphia.

[From the Philadelphia Ledger.]

The U. S. transport steamer Massachusetts, Lieut.-Commander West, arrived yesterday afternoon from Charleston, bringing news also from Savannah and from the fleet off Wilmington. Deserters from the rebel army at Charleston, report that that city was being evacuated on account of the near approach of Gen. Sherman's army, it being generally believed his force was too large to be successfully resisted, and that as he was operating in the rear of the city, it was necessary to move quickly, before all the avenues of escape were cut off. It was supposed that Gen. Sherman's force would meet with but little if any resistance.

At Savannah everything was progressing satisfactorily under Gen. Geary's control. The farmers of the surrounding country had been invited to bring in their produce and many of them had done so. The residents seemed to be reconciled to the new order of things, and it was expected that all restrictions on commerce would soon be removed. The obstructions in Savannah river had been chiefly removed. Admiral Dahlgren's fleet was off Charleston.

Lieut. West was unable to obtain a list of those who perished by the blowing up of the iron-clad steamer Patapsco. Of the officers he states that Capt. Quackenbush, Lieut. Stewart, Chief Engineer Driver, an Ensign and a Third Assistant Engineer were saved. Three Ensigns went down with the vessel. Capt. Quackenbush stepped from the turret into one of the steamer's boats as she was going down, which he states she did in fifteen seconds from the time of the explosion — Unfortunately, the watch had just been relieved, and not a man was on deck.

The steamer Lehigh had just passed over the spot where the torpedo exploded, and that fact had relieved the minds of the officers and crew of the Patapsco of all apprehension from torpedoes. The men saved were picked up by the boats of the Lehigh.

Lieutenant West reports that five steamers, all flying the British flag, ran into Cape Fear River the day before he reached there, supposing, of course, Fort Fisher to be yet in the hands of the rebels, and were easily captured. He was unable to get their names, but states that all were large sized vessels.

The troops had all gone from the vicinity of Fort Fisher, and it was supposed were advancing on Wilmington. Several of the gunboats were shelling the roads, some distance up the river.

Viewed from the deck of the Massachusetts, Fort Fisher presented the appearance of a succession of sand heaps, the guns of the fleet having so demolished it as to render it of no avail as a defensive work. Most of Admiral Porter's heavy vessels had gone North, and the New Iron sides had been passed by the Massachusetts on her way to Hampton Roads. The wounded of the army and navy in the attack on Fort Fisher, had been sent North. Lieutenant West brought one hundred and eighty-five discharged men and a few sick officers and seamen. So confident are the officers of the Massachusetts of the ability of Gen. Sherman to take Charleston, that they expect to be able to run the steamer alongside of one of the wharves of that city next trip.

A VICTIM TO THE MANIA.—An old scene occurred yesterday afternoon in Third street, at the upper end of the Barbary coast. As everybody knows, since Friday last the price of gold has been trembling. A very rough looking German, whom we understood to be a dealer in second-hand commodities, was acting most singularly upon the sidewalk. His hair and beard were purple black—the latter covered his cheeks almost to his eyes. His garments, evidently made for another person, were mean and shabby. He walked hurriedly a short distance, then stopped and began soliloquising in a most excited manner. Then he started again into a brisk walk, and next sat down upon a basement entrance. Several persons watched him closely; there was slaver trickling from the corners of his mouth, and his eye looked wild and glaring. Presently he started up with a fearful curse, and literally yelled like a tortured dog. He ran up Third street to Church alley, which he turned, and we there lost sight of him. We learned afterwards that for two weeks past he had been larging about the Gold Board. He raised every dollar at his command and borrowed more. He launched the whole on a single venture. He could carry it no longer than yesterday, and the last decline swept him by the board. Until this explanation was given, we conjectured him to be a subject of hydrophobia, and kept beyond his grasp. If he wasn't a maniac, he cannot be many stages removed from a madman. He is fifty-three years of age, and was worth about $80,000. There was no sympathy manifested for the unfortunate man.—*Philadelphia North American.*

MILITARY FASHIONS.—The New York Herald says the prevailing modes for ladies were never so bizarre and brilliant as now, and the sudden irruption of crimson, yellow, blue, green and scarlet, gold braid and buttons, can only be traced to the prevailing military spirit of the country. Our gay zouave and chasseur uniforms have produced a sort of contagious fever for bright colors and singular patterns which has at once seized upon the sex with which dress is an important consideration. And this military origin of the fashion further shows itself in the actual insignia of the soldier, which are complacently adopted by the ladies. Chevrons, army buttons, corps badges, etc., are now a standard portion of the modiste's wares, and if the rage continues, we may expect to see our wives and daughters actually wearing swords and carrying cartridge boxes.

☞ The scientific world of Paris are much occupied by the experiment which M. Graof intends making in a few days of flying from the towers of Notre Dame by his new machine. He undertakes to remain suspended in the air with as much ease as a bird. Let him read the story of Icarus and beware.

Latest Southern News.

A DILATORY AND IDLE CONGRESS—LEE'S ARMY THE ONLY HOPE AND RELIANCE OF THE REBELS.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Jan. 21.]

The month of January has nearly passed, and we cannot point out one single measure which our Congress has passed for the increase of the army, either to numbers or organization. This dilatariness on the part of Congress discourages the people more than our military reverses. They see their representatives wasting precious hours, and they cannot but feel that the cause is not properly dealt by. If the conscription of negroes had been promptly passed at the opening of the session, these troops would now be in camp under drill, whereas Congress seems as far from adopting the measure now as it was at the beginning of the session.

The army organization bill has not yet passed, and if delayed much longer its execution will take place at the opening of active operations, and the new organization will not have the benefit of a knowledge of their new officers. With Sherman threatening Charleston, and Fort Fisher affording a base for operations on North Carolina, Hood's army defeated in the West, *and the army of Northern Virginia the country's only hope and reliance*, it was expected that Congress would have ere this taken measures for the next campaign. But instead of war measures, time has been wasted in pursuing the *spirit fatuis* of peace. The United States House of Representatives have rejected, by a vote of eighty one to fifty-one, the following preamble written by Horace Greeley, with the subjoined resolution by Mr. Cox:

Whereas the country hails with manifestations of patriotic joy and congratulations the victories recently achieved by our brave armies; and whereas the recognized object of war, at least among civilized and Christian nations, is an honorable and satisfactory peace, and that although we do not know that the insurgents are prepared to agree to any terms of pacification that our government either would or should deem acceptable, yet, as there can be no possible harm resulting from ascertaining precisely what they are ready to do, and in order to refute the imputation that the administration contemplates with satisfaction a continuance of hostilities, for their own sake on any ground of mere punctilio, or for any other reason than because it is compelled by an absorbing regard for the very ends of its existence; and whereas an established and rightfully constituted government, combatting an armed, menacing rebellion, should strain every nerve to overcome at the earliest moment the resistance encountered, and should not merely welcome but seek satisfactory, however informal, assurances that its end has been attained; therefore,

Resolved, That in the present hour of victory, which ought to be the hour of magnanimity, and before any action be taken to change the constitution of the United States, it is eminently the duty of the President, on the basis of the present rightfully constituted government, either to send or receive commissioners, or agents, with a view to national pacification and tranquillity, or by some other national means known to civilized and Christian nations, secure the cessation of hostilities and the union of the States.

If that compromise, the joint work of Greely and Cox, cannot find favor with the republican House of Representatives, what Confederate can hope for any terms other than an ignominous surrender! Let peace slide, and let us turn our whole and undivided attention to war. The negroes, recommended by the President, have not yet been provided. Will not the Congress immediately take action and secure the forty thousand!

The enemy will not offer us any terms, other than those of submission, as long as they have the prestige of success. It is not in the Yankee nation to be other than a bully, and as long as military disasters attend our armies we may expect to be bullied by the rejection of all propositions looking to an honorable peace. If we would have peace, we must first gain victories. The army must have more men, and new and better organization. This is the only work for Congress to do. Let them do it, and do it quickly. Turn peace over to Mr. Blair and Mr. Foote. Let them hobnob over it to their hearts' content, and whether this side or the other of the Potomac makes no matter. War and war measures for the Congress of this Confederacy are the only things now left for our Legislature.

ANOTHER REBEL CONGRESSMAN FOLLOWS FOOTE'S EXAMPLE AND EXPELS HIMSELF.

It will be remembered that during the debate in the rebel House of Representatives on the 16th instant on the resolutions censuring the Richmond Sentinel for applying the title "treason" to some acts of certain members of the House, Mr. Smith, of Alabama, declared he could no longer take part in the proceedings of a House which endorsed the language of the Sentinel. He has formally taken leave of the House in an address to his constituents, in which he alludes to the peace movement then and now agitating the secret sessions of the House. He says that he is not at liberty to say what the measure under debate is, and adds, "but as your representative I am under the deepest conviction that there are not one hundred men in the district who would object to it."

THE REBELS CALLING US UGLY NAMES.

From the Richmond Whig, Jan. 23.

All the blood of the Revolution of 1775 was shed to establish the right of self-government. The revolution had no other end, meaning if it did not establish that right that it was a sanguinary farce; and yet because we choose to exercise that right we were declared rebels, and numerous herds of mercenaries collected from all quarters of the globe, were hurled against us.

Four years of terrible, barbarous warfare, of cruelty the most savage, and wickedness the most wanton have followed.—The Yankee has disclosed himself to us and the world. Our outraged women, our homeless babes, our sons untimely slain, our blackened homes, our leagues of desolated land, our battered cities, our slaves in arms against us, our prisoners murdered in cold blood or pining year after year in Northern dungeons, all tell us what the Yankee is at heart.

The whole world, with one voice, proclaims him a disgrace to civilization. A liar beyond all liars the earth has ever known, blood-thirsty, rapacious, insolent, vain, malignant, mean and devilish. His acts of confiscation are unrepealed on his statute books, his coil and brutal threat of extermination still hangs over us.

His flag is still set up as an idol in his pulpits, and his fanatical preachers still breathe threatenings and slaughter. His enormous and daily increasing debt is unliquidated. His purpose to parcel out our lands is still fixed. His intention to ravage and despoil, to deluge all before him with blood, and to leave nothing behind him but ashes is still inflexible.

For the day he may seem to relent, as in Georgia, but his charity is more demoniacal than his anger: for be it known that when we submit he can strip us at his leisure, and without danger to his person. Yet we are told in Congress we can get better terms from the Yankees than from the English or the French. Oh, shame. Oh, folly! What! believe in the Yankee, now! Monstrous! Why he could not, if he would, make fair terms with us. His debt must be paid, and he is mad who thinks that that debt will be paid out of the Yankee pocket when Southern land, Southern cotton, Southern tobacco, Southern rice, and Southern forests of live oak, of pitch, tar and turpentine, lie helpless at his mercy.

No! Better the jaw of the tiger, the fangs of the adder, the teeth of the shark, the sting of the scorpion, than the mercy and the justice of the Yankee; for where there is neither truth nor humanity there can be no mercy and justice.

THE REBEL GOLD MARKET.

From the Charleston Mercury, Jan. 19.

The heavy tumble in gold during the last few days has excited no little remark. There seems to be a complete reaction from the panic which prevailed a fortnight ago in the specie market. We heard of several considerable sales of gold at forty yesterday, and the demand for sterling exchange is now very slack at thirty five.

GOLD AT MOBILE.

[From the Mobile Register, Jan. 8.]

Everybody is running down Confederate money, *yet everybody is straining every nerve to get it.* It is so scarce as to make borrowing an object, and yet so depreciated both by borrower and lender that reason would teach that neither ought to value it.

How are depreciation and demand to be reconciled? Gold, they tell us, commands forty for one, and that is the measure of its value. Gold lies if it says so; but it is not gold that says so; it is the cowards who will neither trust God nor have faith in their country's just cause. *The Yankees shame us by their faith in their cause and government.* With a currency and debt treble our own, and with resources to redeem them not a tithe of ours, they rate their government paper at two hundred and twenty-five; and our patriotic money barometers put ours at forty hundred.

These are follies that cannot be reasoned with, and we have long since ceased to try it. If men are mad enough to cut their own throats, scuttle the ship that bears them up, or eat poison in their food, who can help it? We knew a man crossed so much beside himself with fright in a storm at sea, and in great danger of shipwreck, that he blew his brains out with a pistol shot to escape the torture and the danger. And this is what every man in the confederacy, suffering under the leprosy of avarice and the panic of public danger, is doing in reference to the government currency. One and all they are in the full cry of depreciation, running it down like a mad dog, and hunting it to its death.

Yet their highest interests, not only political and civil, but social and pecuniary, demand of them imperatively to do all in their power to uphold the currency and the credit of the nation to the end of the great struggle. But there is no use in talking. Ephraim is joined to his idols, and panic and folly rule supreme over the heads of the men of money.

Men who would take a gambling risk of ten to one on almost any named betting proposition, on the trite maxim that "it is a good bet if I lose it," absolutely decline to bet with the odds of forty to one on the success of our cause and the honesty of our Government and people. Can unreason go beyond this? But we repeat: "there's no use talking," and time must be left to teach and punish the stupendous folly.

CAPTAIN RAPHAEL SEMMES SAFE IN RICHMOND.

From the Richmond Whig, January 19.

Captain Raphael Semmes, whose arrival in the Confederacy had been previously announced, is now in Richmond. The gallant captain is looking as hale as ever, and his many friends will be pleased to learn that he has accomplished his long and tedious journey homeward in safety. We are not informed of the captain's movements; but the country can ill spare him from that sphere of usefulness in which he has made so great a reputation for himself and so gloriously defended the country's cause.

THE REBELS BEGINNING TO CALCULATE ON GUERILLA WARFARE.

[From the Charleston Courier.]

French armies captured the great cities of Spain, demolished the Spanish armies to a great extent, instituted a new government, and were afterwards compelled to relinquish their supposed conquest by the terrible assaults of Spanish guerilla bands. And it is as true to-day as if revealed by Heaven that if our armies were disbanded, and our people were still unalterably determined to resist Yankee rule over this land, that such rule could not be maintained by five hundred thousand Yankee soldiers.

SUFFERINGS OF THE REBELS IN THEIR ESCAPE FROM TENNESSEE.

General Hood has safely recrossed the Tennessee river at Bainbridge, near Tuscumbia, Ala. On the 24th ult., Cheatham's corps was at Iuka, Miss., fourteen miles from Corinth. Forrest covered Gen. Hood's retreat from Columbia, Tenn., and it is reported, suffered severely at several points between that place and Florence, Ala. It is stated by men from the army that the troops were not demoralized, as reported by the Federals. Of course they were tired and worn out by the arduous campaign through which they have just passed.

There were not many stores brought out of Tennessee. The army, however, got enough to eat after getting into the wealthy portion of the State.

Where General Hood will make his headquarters is not yet known. It may be necessary, in consequence of a want of sufficiency of supplies at Corinth and other points beyond the break on the road, that he should fall back to a point this side of Corinth temporarily, until the road is completed.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS FROM MEXICO.

From the New York Herald.

The following letter was received by the last mail from Mexico by a distinguished gentlemen in this city. It speaks of a scheme on the tapis, foreshadowing the above news:—

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 26, 1864.

I have before intimated to you that a cession of territory was probable. I now know positively that negotiations are pending with Count Montholon for the cession to France of a strip of territory stretching across from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and embracing the peninsula of Lower California, Sonora, on the right bank of the river Yaqui—that is to say, the northern part of this state—the greater portion of Chihuahua, the whole of Nuevo Leon y Coahuila, and the greater part of Tamaulipas.

In fine, the line will be drawn from the mouth of the above mentioned river to the Pancco, the limits of Mexico thus reduced by the course of these two rivers to their source, and a line drawn from one point to the other. This lower Napoleon once attained, will enable him to say, "This is the most glorious act of my reign," and even his enemies will not be able to contradict him.

Maximilian, however disgust. He may be with this arrangement, neither can nor dare oppose it; for, besides protecting the empire against the attacks of the filibusters, it will produce the total liquidation of the claims of France, as I will give him, it is said, three hundred millions with which to meet the rapidly increasing expenses of his Government and enable him to enter upon that vast system of German immigration which is his dominant dream. And, as upon the other hand, this strip of territory has really hardly belonged to Mexico more than in name, dominated as it has been by three or four uncontrollable men, and as it is any way destined to be lost either by being taken by the French or by the Yankees, the advantages of the arrangement console Maximilian for the great blow it inflicts upon his pride.

MAXIMILIAN IS HOT WATER.—The Tribune publishes an article from a Havana paper, on the dissension between the Emperor of Mexico and the Mexican clergy. It thinks the rupture will greatly encourage the hopes of the Liberal party for a speedy restoration of the Republican form of Government.

☞ The Richmond Dispatch accounts for the rise in gold in the Confederacy by the fact that refugees and negroes are converting rebel currency into gold at any price, previous to running off.

☞ The Senate Military Committee refused to appropriate $50,000 for the erection of a national monument at Gettysburg, they considering such an expenditure not warranted at present.

MISCELLAN