BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

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

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Latest News by Telegraph

TO THE

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

FROM WASHINGTON

ANOTHER PROCLAMATION.

IMPORTANT SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT.

"A Righteous and Speedy Peace"

HIS VIEWS ON RECONSTRUCTION.

RICHMOND.

THE NEW REGIME IN RICHMOND.

20,000 Negroes wish to Enlist.

RELICS OF THE DEPARTED CHIVALRY

An Important Meeting of Prominent Rebels

Jeff Davis Reported at Danville.

The Probable Surrender of General Johnston

&c., &c., &c.

Important from Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 11—The Executive Departments, including the President's House, were again illuminated to-night and adorned with transparencies and national flags. Many places of business and private residences were also illuminated and bonfires blazed in various parts of the city, and rockets were let off in great numbers.

Thousands of persons of both sexes repaired to the Executive Mansion, and after the performance of several airs by the band the President, in response to the unanimous call appeared at an upper window and was most enthusiastically received.

The cheering with which he was greeted having ceased, the President spoke as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

We meet this evening, not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart. The evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond and the surrender of the principal insurgent army give hope of a righteous and speedy peace whose joyous expressions cannot be restrained. In the midst of this, however, He, from whom all blessings flow, must not be forgotten. A call for National Thanksgiving is being prepared and will be duly promulgated.

Nor must those whose harder part gives us the cause of rejoicing be overlooked. Their honors must not be parcelled out with others. I, myself, was near the front and had the high pleasure of transmitting much of the good news to you. But no part of the honor for plan or execution is mine. To Lieut. Gen. Grant, his skillful officers and brave men, all belongs. The gallant navy stood ready but was not in reach to take active part.

By these recent successes and the re-inauguration of the National authority, *reconstruction*, which has had a large share of thought from the first is pressed much more closely upon our attention. It is fraught with great difficulty. Unlike the case of war between independent nations, there is no authorized organ for us to treat with. No one man has authority to give up the rebellion for any other man. We simply must begin with and mould from disorganized and discordant elements.—Nor is it a small additional embarrassment, that we, the loyal people, differ among ourselves as to the mode, manner and measure of re-construction.

As a general rule, I abstain from reading the reports of attacks upon myself, wishing not to be provoked by that to which I cannot properly offer an answer. In spite of this caution, however, it came to my knowledge that I am much censured for some supposed agency in setting up and seeking to sustain the new State Government of Louisiana. In this, I have done just so much, and no more than the public knows.

In the Annual Message of December, 1863, and accompanying proclamation, I presented a plan of *reconstruction*, as phrase goes, which I promised, if adopted by any State, should be acceptable to and be sustained by the Executive Government of the Nation.

I distinctly stated that this was not the only plan which might possibly be acceptable; and I also distinctly protested that the Executive claimed no right to say when or whether members should be admitted to seats in Congress from such States. This plan was in advance submitted to the Cabinet and distinctly approved by every member of it.

One of them suggested that I should then, and in that connection apply the emancipation proclamation to the heretofore excepted parts of Virginia and Louisiana. That I should drop the suggestion about apprenticeship for freed people and that I should emit the protest against my own power in regard to the admission of members of Congress.

But even *he* approved every part and parcel of the plan which has since been employed or established by the action of Louisiana.

The new Constitution of Louisiana, declaring emancipation for the whole State, practically applies the proclamation to the part previously excepted. It does not adopt apprenticeship for freed people, and it is silent, as it could not well be otherwise, about the admission of members to Congress, so that, as it applies to Louisiana, every member of the Cabinet fully opposed the plan. The message went to Congress, and I received many commendations of the plan, written and verbal and not a single objection to it from any professed emancipationist came to my knowledge until after the news reached Washington that the people of Louisiana had begun to move in accordance with it.

Some time about July, 1862, I had a correspondence with different persons supposed to be interested in seeking a reconstruction of a State Government for Louisiana. When the message of 1864, with the plan before mentioned reached New Orleans, Gen. Banks wrote me that he was confident the people, with his military co-operation, would reconstruct substantially on that plan. I wrote him, and several of them to try it. They tried it and the result is known.

Such, only, has been my agency in building up the Louisiana government. As to sustaining it, my promise was out, as before stated. But as bad promises are better broken than kept, I shall treat this as a bad promise, and break it, when I shall be convinced that keeping it is adverse to the public interest. But I have not yet been so convinced. I have been shown a letter on this subject—supposed to be an able one—in which the writer expresses regret that my mind has not seemed to be definitely fixed on the question whether the seceded States, so called, are in the Union or out.

The writer would perhaps add astonishment to his regret were he to learn that since I have found professed Union men endeavoring to make that question, I have purposely forborne any public expression upon it, as it appears to me that question has not been nor yet is a practically material one, and that any discussion of it while it thus remains practically immaterial could have no effect, other than the mischievous one of dividing our friends. As yet, whatever it may hereafter become, that question is bad as the basis of a controversy; and good for nothing at all. A merely pernicious abstraction.

We all agree that the Seceded States, so called, are out of their proper practical relation with the Union; and that the sole object of the Government, civil and military, in regard to those States, is to again get them into that proper practical relation. I believe it is not only possible, but in fact easier to do this, without deciding or even conceding whether these States have ever been out of the Union, than with it. Finding themselves safely at home, it would be utterly immaterial whether they had ever been abroad.

Let us all join in doing the acts necessary to restoring the proper political relations between these States and the Union, and each forever after innocently indulge his own opinion whether in doing the acts, he brought the States from without into the Union; or only gave them proper assistance, they never having been out of it.

The amount of constituency, so to speak, on which the new Louisiana government rests, would be no more satisfactory to all if it contained fifty, thirty or even twenty thousand instead of only about twelve thousand as it does. It is also unsatisfactory to some that the elective franchise is not given the colored man. I would myself prefer it were now conferred on the very intelligent and those who serve our cause as soldiers. Still the question is not whether the Louisiana government as it stands is quite all that is desirable.

The question is:—Will it to wiser to take it as it is and help to improve it or to reject and displace it? Can Louisiana be brought into proper practical relation with the Union sooner by sustaining or by discarding her new State Government?

Some twelve thousand voters in the heretofore slave State of Louisiana, have sworn allegiance to the Union, assumed to be the rightful political power of the State; held elections, organized a State Government, adopted a Free State Constitution, giving the benefit of public schools, equally to black and white, and empowering the Legislature to confer the elective franchise upon the colored man, and their Legislature has already voted to ratify the constitutional amendment recently passed by Congress, abolishing slavery throughout the nation.

These twelve thousand persons are thus fully committed to the Union and to perpetuate freedom in the State. Committed to the very things and nearly all the things the nation wants. And they ask the nation's recognition and its assistance to make good their committal. Now, if we reject and spurn them we do our utmost to disorganize and disperse, we in effect say to the white men you are worthless or worse, we will neither help you nor be helped; to the blacks we say, this cup of liberty, which these, your own masters hold to your lips, we will dash from you, and leave you to the chances of gathering the spilled and scattered contents in some vague and undefined when, where and how.

If this course,—discouraging and paralyzing both white and black, has any tendency to bring Louisiana into proper practical relations with the Union, I have so far been unable to perceive it. If, on the contrary, we recognize and sustain the new government of Louisiana, the converse of all this is made true. We encourage the hearts and nerve the arms of the twelve thousand to adhere to their work, and argue for it, and proselyte for it, and fight for it, and feed it, and grow it, and ripen it to a complete success.

The colored man, too, in seeing all united for him is invigorated with vigilance, energy and daring to the same end. Grant that he desires the elective franchise, will he not attain it sooner by saving the already advanced steps toward it, than by moving backward over them. Concede that the new government of Louisiana is only, to what it should be as the egg is to the fowl, we shall sooner have the fowl by hatching the egg, than by mashing it.—[Laughter.]

Again, if we reject Louisiana, we also reject her vote in favor of the proposed amendment to the National Constitution. To meet this proposition, it has been argued that no more than three-fourths of those States which have not attempted secession, are necessary validly to ratify the amendment.

I do not commit myself against this further than to say that such a ratification would be questionable, and sure to be persistently questioned, while the ratification of three-fourths of all the States would be unquestioned and unquestionable.

I repeat the question;—Can Louisiana be brought into practical relation with the Union sooner by sustaining than by discarding her new State Government? What has been said of Louisiana will apply severally to other States, and yet so great peculiarities pertain to each State, and such important and sudden changes occur in the same State, and with all so new and unprecedentive is the whole case, that no exclusive and inflexible plan can safely be prescribed as to details and collaterals.

Such exclusive and inflex plan would surely become a new entanglement. Important principles may, and must be inflexible. In the present *situation*, as the phrase goes, it may be my duty to make some new announcement to the people of the South. I am considering, and shall not fail to act when satisfied that action shall be proper.

The President during the delivery of the above speech was frequently interrupted by applause and also on the conclusion. The band struck up a patriotic air, when he paused and retired from the window.

There were repeated calls for Senator Sumner but that gentleman was not present to respond.

Senator Harlan, of Iowa, was then called for, and at the conclusion of the applause which greeted his appearance, he directed attention to two principles, settled or to be settled, by the closing contest. First. The American people had decided that the majority of voters of the Republic should control its destinies, and the incipient process of the making of the laws. Second. That no part of the Republic should ever be permitted by force to divide it.

The punishment of the traitor lay in the hands of Congress, and the Constitution, pointed out clearly what constituted treason. Those who hatched the treason should suffer the penalty, and under Congress he was willing to trust the future in the hands of the citizen elected a second time to see the laws faithfully executed.

A Proclamation.

OUR VESSELS OF WAR NO LONGER TO BE DENIED CUSTOMARY NAVAL RIGHTS IN FOREIGN PORTS.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The following important Proclamation has just been issued.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, for some time past vessels of war of the United States have been refused, in certain foreign ports, privileges and immunities to which they were entitled by treaty, public law or the courtesy of nations, at the same time that vessels of war, of the country wherein the said privileges and immunities have been withheld, have enjoyed them fully and uninterruptedly in ports of the United States, which condition of things has not always been forcibly respected by the United States; although, on the other hand, they have not, at any time, failed to protest against and declare their dissatisfaction with the same;—in the view of the United States no condition any longer exists which can be claimed to justify the denial to them, by any one of said nations, of customary naval rights, such as has heretofore been so unnecessarily persisted in.

Now, therefore, I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, do hereby make known that if, after a reasonable time shall have elapsed for intelligence of of this proclamation to have reached any foreign country in whose ports the said vessel goes and immunities shall have been refused as aforesaid, they shall continue to be so refused, then and thenceforth the same privileges and immunities shall be refused to the vessel of war of that country in the ports of the United States. And this refusal shall continue until war vessels of the United States shall have been placed upon an entire equality, in the foreign ports aforesaid, with similar vessels of other countries.

The United States, whatever claim or pretense may have existed heretofore, are now, at least, entitled to claim and concede an entire and friendly equality of rights and hospitalities with all maratime nations.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this eleventh day of April, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the eighty-ninth.

(L. S.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Sec'y of State.

Jeff. Davis Reaches Danville.

He is Accompanied by a Part of His Cabinet—Breckinridge Missing—Jeff's Worldly Goods Packed Up in Three Trunks.

Parties have arrived from Danville within our lines, who report that the fugitive insurgent, Jeff Davis, arrived at Danville on Monday afternoon last, covered with dust and perspiration. His only baggage consisted of three dilapidated trunks, which looked hardly fit for a journey to Mexico.

Jeff. was accompanied by two or three members of his Cabinet, and the whole party seemed to be in an entirely demoralized condition.

Breckinridge, the rebel Secretary of War, had not turned up and was not heard from, although diligent inquiries were being made for him.—*Wash. Republican.*

THE FORT SUMTER CELEBRATION.

FORT MONROE, April 10.—The steamship Arago arrived here at 6:30 last evening with a party of excursionists from New York, among whom is Henry Ward Beecher, bound to Charleston harbor to participate in the ceremonies of raising the old flag on Fort Sumter. Owing to the southeast wind, the Arago was somewhat detained in reaching here by the stormy weather.

Judge Heath, Provost Marshal General Fry, Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, with others were here yesterday, awaiting the arrival of the Arago, and as soon as they had embarked the steamer immediately got under way and proceeded to sea. The weather at the time looked very unpromising and indicated the approach of a storm.

Latest from Richmond.

[Correspondence of the Phila. Inquirer.]

UNDER UNION RULE.

RICHMOND, April 9—Another day has passed, and the fact that the rebellion is one of the things that were has already broke upon the minds of the dyed in-the wool secesh. Quietly they come out of their houses and commence to reconnoitre and see the "Yanks." They find order reigns supreme; they find their slaves freemen, and excesses——they find the town full of soldiers, white and black, and no private property molested, no insults given, no cause of complaint even for the most fastidious.

They see with covetous eyes immense quantities of Government stores now landing at their wharves, their warehouses and factories a smouldering mass of ruins, and compare the clothes they wear to that of our men. The contrast is great, the remembrances are bitter, but yet they do not say they regret the step they have taken and succumb to the pressure, but with a surly manner that shows clearly that they consider we have made the war and continued it for the purpose of destroying them.

TEN THOUSAND APPEALS

Were made to-day for food from all classes and all colors. There were no Quartermaster stores that could be given out, but the Christian Commission gave out over two thousand small requisitions from stores in urgent cases, to enable the recipients to keep off the pangs of hunger for a day or two. A large portion of the white folks have their husbands or sons in the rebel army, but consider that we must feed them. They say they are sorry for the war, but if you question them closely it is "a sorry" *because they suffer*. It is no regret for the war with the colored population. The destitution is great, but they submit with far better grace than the whites. They have a word and a smile for our soldiers; the whites cannot do either.

I rode to-day a distance of eight or ten miles through various parts of the city with Vice-President Johnson and ex-Senator King, of New York. We had an escort of cavalry, but not a single white face appeared glad to see us, while not a colored man, woman or child, but manifested their friendship and joy by some means. It is not to be inferred that there are no real Union men here, but that they are very few.

THE RECORDS OF LIBBY PRISON.

From its commencement to its close, have been secured by General Weitzel, and will be preserved for future reference.—They show the date and home of every man who entered there, and the time he lived or was exchanged.

CAPTURE OF REBEL RECORDS.

The letter books of the Treasury Department have been saved, and are in possession of Colonel Coughlin, of the Tenth New Hampshire, Provost Marshal, together with other important papers that will be sent to Washington. A guard has been placed upon the dome of the Capitol, and the papers, &c., of the rebel Congress and Legislature will be preserved and sent to Washington.

E. POLLARD, OF THE "EXAMINER"

Who was sent South, on parole, to procure the exchange of Richardson, of the Tribune, and failed to return, is here at large, and dines at the Spottswood House, and struts the streets with his usual bravado. He has not taken the oath, but having just published a book, to show the South that they are certain to succeed, he remains to complete his arrangements for its sale to some of our sutlers. He has a few thousand printed, and in a building here that was not fired. It won't be surprising if his schemes come to an untimely end to-morrow.

PROWLING AROUND.

About fifty rebel officers and several hundred rebel soldiers are to be seen daily upon the streets. An order will be issued to-morrow giving them twenty-four hours to report to the Provost Marshal, take the oath, or go to Libby. If they take the oath the rebel uniform must be discarded.

SECRET BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE.

Among the papers of the Treasury Department saved is correspondence with the British Government in reference to the hire and pay of English bank note manufacturers, who came over here to work for the rebels, in pursuance of a contract made direct with the British authorities. Another letter shows the payment of money in 1861 by one of the Secesh banks squelched by General Butler in New Orleans. Their condition became more prosperous under General Banks' *regime*. Perhaps there will be some documents yet to show the transactions of the gold confiscated in New Orleans by Gen. Butler's commission, and about which so much talk has been caused.

VIRGINIA TO COME BACK INTO THE UNION.

An effort has been inaugurated during the last twenty-four hours to start some new organizations to bring Virginia back into the Union. When Mr. Lincoln was here he had an interview with Judge Campbell, ex Peace Commissioner, to whom Mr Lincoln gave upon a slip of paper a memorandum, not affixing his signature, that he would grant permission for "Extra Billy" Smith, and other officials, to return to Richmond, and to take steps to restore Virginia to the Union.

To day there was a caucus of a number of Secesh to consider upon what terms they could make a treaty with the Yanks. It was held in the Whig office, and was attended by Marshall of Fauquier, and Garrison of Accomac, of the Virginia State Senate, and Messrs. English, Hall, Ambrose, Burr and Scott, of the House of Delegates, and Walker, Burr and Saunders, of the City Council, and Mayo, the Mayor, and a number of other Secesh citizens and office holders.

Brigadier-General J. R. Anderson, C. S. A., was unanimously chosen chairman. Judge Campbell made a short speech, saying that he was assured by Mr. Lincoln that he would make very liberal terms with them, and he thought now was their time. He proposed a commission of four to be appointed, who were to visit Generals Lee and Grant, and procure an armistice, and have a Convention held at Charlottesville, in Albemarle county, that to be declared neutral ground by both armies pending the constitution.

An adjournment was held over to Saturday.

These men expect to secure their property and complete pardon. Anderson owns the Tredegar Iron Works, and forged the cannon that filled the city works here, and that guarded Charleston, and Savannah, and Mobile, and New Orleans, and Port Hudson, and Vicksburg, and that furnished field batteries for all their armies. He was proud of his works, and marked his guns "J. R. A." We have captured hundreds and the ruins of the C. S. A. yards are filled with them. He built the engines and made the iron works for the Merrimac, and has made millions of dollars off of various kinds of materials for the Confederacy. While there was hope of success, he clung to them and made them strong by his iron hands. When the cause fails he now comes in and tries to save his immense property, estimated to be worth three millions. He has a fortune in England saved up from his enormous contracts. He says the confiscation act is illegal, and that we must pardon them all if we want peace.

Last night there was another meeting to take steps to redeem Virginia, attended by men who had spent many months in Castle Thunder, and men who had no commissions in either army, or State or city; men who are destitute, stripped by men like Anderson and Campbell, and who never swore to protect and defend the rebellion. Who shall be allowed to speak? Who recognize? Who can we trust? To whom do we owe protection and punishment? The latter meeting ask no armistice; have no price. They offer their all to us. They part with slavery cheerfully; but they beg we will not put them again in the power of those who tortured them and entailed misery and woe upon the State that half a century will not eradicate. The army is in favor of taking the rolls of Castle Thunder for our guide as to Unionism, and teach the leaders and actors that rebellion is a crime to be atoned for, not an experiment to be tried at their pleasure.

THE COLORED REGIMENTS RECRUITING.

About five hundred recruits have so far joined the various colored regiments here, but within a radius of fifty miles south and southwest of Richmond, twenty-thousand able-bodied men can be had in the next thirty days.

THE BURIAL PLACE OF THE UNION MARTYRS.

The graveyard where part of the prisoners who died on Belle Island were buried, is about five hundred yards from the prison field, in a bed of sand. Most of the graves were dug from three to four feet deep, but the ground is so close to the river that the water comes over it, and has washed away nearly all the top, and in one place the bank has given way, and several graves have been washed down the river. A very few years will see the rest all disappear. Most of them have headboards made of barrel staves, but few names are readable, and soon none at all will be. Upon the brow of the hill commanding the prison field remain the two howitzers used by the guard to threaten the camp with annihilation if there were any murmurs. Some of the colored soldiers were taking the cannister and shell out of the caissons, and soaking them in the river, to prevent any accident, and be on the safe side.

AN IMPORTANT LETTER FROM SECRETARY M'CULLOCH.

HIS VIEWS IN REGARD TO AN EARLY RETURN TO A SPECIE BASIS.

Mr. McCulloch, in answer to a communication from H. C. Carey, Esq., of this city (whose letter we are unable to give on account of the press of matter), writes under date of April 4, a long letter giving his views of financial policy, and explaining in detail the meaning he wished to be attached to the following sentance in the address he recently made to the officers of his Department:

"My chief aim will, of course, be to provide the means to discharge the claims upon the Treasury Department at the earliest day practicable, and to institute measures to bring the business of the country *gradually* back to the specie standard, a departure from which (although for the time being a necessity) is no less damaging and demoralizing to the people than expensive to the Government."

Mr. McCulloch says this is the only avowal of policy which he had made or expects to make at least for the present. He then proceeds:

The former of these objects is receiving my first attention. The sales of the 7 3-10 notes (than which no more desirable security will be offered to the public), which have been temporarily diminished by the Wall street panic, will, I am hopeful, be soon again so increased as to put the Treasury in a condition to meet all suspended requisitions, and honor all drafts that may be made upon it; so that the different departments, by being in a condition promptly to meet their engagements, may be enabled to reduce largely the expenses of the Government.

The latter object seems to be in the right train for accomplishment by the effective blows of our military and naval forces without any interposition of the Treasury Department, and in the face of a daily increase of currency through the instrumentality of the National banks.

You seem to be apprehensive that the return to specie payments to be effected by a contraction of Government issues; and you say that "in one thing that all have been disposed to unite, and that was that an early resumption was the cardinal point of my policy, and that it was to be sought at whatsoever cost to the capitalists and working men of the country."

A resumption of specie payments is with me a "cardinal point," because I believe that the specie basis is the only safe and healthy one for business; and because I am clearly of the opinion that the interests of capitalists and working men will be promoted by a return to it; but no policy could be more ruinous than that which should attempt to accomplish it by such a curtailment of the currency as would prostrate or injuriously affect those great interests upon the prosperity of which the Government depends for its revenue, and which cannot be broken down or severely depressed without depriving labor of its proper reward.

The history of Wall street within the last ten days sustains the correctness of the opinion which in another position I have frequently expressed, that the high price of gold was to be attributed in part, at least, to other influences than the expansion of the currency, and seems to indicate that the paper circulation of the country which has been issued or secured by the Government, even while its volume has been increased, may appreciate nearly to the specie standard.

As the war draws to a close, and the restoration of the Union is no longer doubtful, gold and currency approximated rapidly to each other in their market value, and, of course, all these articles which were made to follow the former in its ascent must sympathize with it in its decline. This cannot be prevented by any action of the Treasury, even if the interests of the country required it. It might have been better for the country and the people that the decline of coin should have been more gradual than has been the case for the week or two past, but it is better that that it should have come down as it has, that it should not have declined at all.

It is understood, I believe, among those whose habits of personal indulgence lead them into protracted excesses, that "sobering off" rapidly is a dangerous experiment; but dangerous as it may be, it is preferable to continued intoxication.

It does not follow, however, that because gold has declined from 185 to 146, and may specify decline still further, prices generally will fall to the same extent; nor do I believe that any permanent decline which is likely to occur will prostrate the great interests of the country. On the contrary, I am of the opinion that when the specie standard is restored, or nearly reached, the assurance which this state of things will create—that the business of the country is to be transacted on a firmer basis—will divert capital from speculation, and stimulate, instead of prostrate, productive industry.

The close of the war will remove the Government, in a good degree, from the market, both as a borrower and a purchaser; and while the business of the country is being accommodated to the new order of things, there will be, to a considerable extent, stagnation and embarrassment; but as hostilities are now likely to terminate before speculation has resulted in large individual indebtedness, the transition is likely to be effected with less the disasters which so many have apprehended.

The liabilities of the people are so small, the circulating medium is so ample and so well secured, the resources of the nation are so vast, and our political future is so brilliant, that the embarrassments which a change in the business of the country must bring about will be but temporary, and the indications are now decided that, by the time reconstruction is fairly commenced, enterprise will be quickened into new life; and with its integrity established, the only drawback upon the national prosperity and the only stain upon the national escutcheon removed, the great Republic will move forward again upon its career of prosperity and honor, scarcely staggered by such a struggle with a gigantic rebellion as would have broken any other nation into fragments.

You will perceive, by the statement of the condition of the Treasury on the 1st instant, that the Government circulation has not been diminished. Whether, or to what extent, this circulation will be reduced depends upon circumstances that cannot now be clearly foreseen. I have been, and still am, of the opinion that it must be curtailed before a return to specie payments can be effected; but it cannot be denied that the course of the market for the past month has been such as to justify a reconsideration of the opinions which have been so generally entertained in regard to the inflation of the currency. The increased demand for money, which is the result of the diminution of individual credits, may not have been fully estimated; and it may turn out that no considerable reduction of paper circulation will be needed for the restoration of the specie basis. At all events the Government will have no interest in retiring its direct issues, if the desired object can be obtained within a reasonable time without it.

That any valuable interests are to be permanently injured by a return to specie payments is hardly credible, and I cannot but think that your apprehensions of disaster to the manufacturing interests of Pennsylvania as the result of it, are without reasonable foundation.

The general tariff policy is, I apprehend, settled by our national debt. The discussion of it, therefore, at the present time is unnecessary. That the present tariff needs revision is undoubtedly true. This revision it will receive by the commission which is to be appointed to revise the revenue laws, from whose labors I anticipate the best results.

The necessities of the Government will give to our manufacturing interests all the protection they will require to shield them from destructive foreign competition; and before the close of the present Administration I confidently expect to see these interests more prosperous than they ever have been. What recommendations I shall make to Congress upon the tariff question I am not now prepared to say. I expect to be able to endorse the bill that shall be prepared by the commission, and shall be disappointed if this bill does not harmonize our foreign and internal duties, and produce a revenue which shall be sufficient to meet the interest on the public debt, and gradually reduce the principal, without being oppressive to the people.

In conclusion, permit me to say that I see no cause for discouragement in the present or prospective condition of the country. Our national debt is large, but our national resources are sufficient to carry it without embarrassment. While it would be foolish to call it a national blessing, it may be so managed as not to be a national calamity; and in the worst view that can be taken of it, it is a small matter in comparison with the inestimable value of the Union, in the maintenance of which it has been created.

I am, very truly, yours,

H. McCULLOCH.

From New Orleans and Mobile.

FORT SPANISH BESIEGED—ARRIVAL OF THE SANTIAGO DE CUBA AT HAVANA.

NEW YORK, April 10th.—The steamer Liberty, from New Orleans on the 21 instant and Havana on the 5th, has arrived.

The advices from Mobile are no later than those we have already had. The correspondence in the New Orleans papers state that Fort Spanish is besieged on three sides, and that our gunboats are operating on the other.

The U. S. steamer Santiago de Cuba, with Assistant Secretary Fox, en route for Charleston arrived at Havana on the 4th instant. The Irika and Cherokee had also arrived, the former leaving again on the 5th.

The sentence of Arguelles is understood to be perpetual banishment and nineteen years in the chain gang, at Ceuta, Africa, and to pay a fine of $50,000.

Stoneman's Raid

The Rebel Gen. Johnston's Army Cut Off—Johnston Must surrender to Sherman.

Information has been received at Gen Grant's headquarters from scouts that General Stoneman has arrived with his column upon the railroad below Danville and between Danville and Greensboro'. He will doubtless capture Greensboro' or cut the railroads around it rendering Johnston's escape from Sherman impossible.

It is highly probable that Johnston will be compelled to surrender to Sherman as Lee has to Grant. If he attempts to fight Sherman he will be annihilated, and it is impossible for him to get away from him.

THE CLOSING OF SOUTHERN PORTS

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The Proclamation in reference to closing Southern ports is in accordance with a law passed as early as 1861. It was then understood however, that while Foreign powers would respect the effective blockade of those ports by naval force, a claim to exercise legal authority over them as over other ports of the United States would not be respected. It is believed that the time has now come however, when the United States Government can claim to exercise that legal authority over all its ports, whether blockaded or not, which belongs to every independent sovereign power.

A sufficient number of Southern ports are left open for legitimate trade, and these now proclaimed closed will, it is presumed, be reopened after a time. Meanwhile blockade running is likely to be effectively ended.

The issuing of this Proclamation was considered to be the business upon which Secretary Seward was about to visit City Point to confer with the President last week.

Another important Proclamation issued to-day, claiming that our vessels of war in foreign ports shall no longer be subjected to restrictions as at present but shall have the same rights and hospitalities which are extended to foreign men of war in ports of the United States, and declaring that hereafter the cruisers of every nation will receive the treatment which in their ports they accord to ours.

WASHINGTON RUMORS.

[Special despatch to N. Y. Evening Post.]

WASHINGTON, April 10.—General Halleck and Secretary Stanton both express the opinion that there will be no more heavy fighting.

It is expected here that Johnston will surrender. Special despatches were yesterday sent to General Sherman.

There is reason to believe that Jeff. Davis was at Danville on Saturday night, trying to join Johnston, with the archives of the late rebel government and a large amount of specie.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Arrival and Reception of Admiral Farragut.—This distinguished naval hero arrived in this city shortly after six o'clock yesterday morning from Norfolk, in the fine bay steamer Louisiana, Captain Porter. He was received at the wharf by the Mayor, a committee of both branches of the City Council, a large detachment of military, ordered out by Brigadier General W. W. Morris, U. S. A., and several hundred citizens. The Admiral was accompanied by his lady, Mrs. Captain Pinnock, Miss Curtis, Miss Bertwick, and Mrs Col Lamb. As soon as the steamer was moored to her wharf in this city, his Honor John Lee Chapman proceeded to welcome the city's distinguished guest, after which the committee of the City Council was introduced to the hero. The Mayor in welcoming the Admiral spoke in substance as follows:

"The citizens of Baltimore who loved the Government of the United States and had nobly sustained it during its severest trials, had watched every point in his eventful and triumphant course, especially in the waters of the Mississippi, and his arrival amongst them would be a source of pleasure which mere words could scarcely express; he hoped therefore, that he would be able to remain at least a day or so in the city."

The Admiral replied that he and his wife were anxious to proceed to New York, as they were in fact "out of house and home," without a fixed habitation, but he would remain a day and see his friends in Baltimore. He was in citizen's dress, but was told by Col. McCauley, Commandant of Fort McHenry, that General Morris had ordered a military escort, and that the column was drawn up ready to salute him, he said, "Well, I must go in my regimentals and put on all my naval things." A member of the Council here inquired of the Admiral whether the members of his Staff had accompanied him. The Admiral replied that the Secretary of the Navy did not allow officers of the navy to have a Staff—that was an exclusive prerogative of the army—"but," after a moment's reflection, he added, "my rod and my *staff* do comfort me, and I will give you an introduction." At this moment Mrs. Farragut appeared at the door of the chamber which they had occupied during the trip, and a very pleasant introduction ensued. The Admiral, when informed of the late movements of Gen Grant, said that he had not heard of them at all, but added that he had the greatest confidence in him.

The military escort, composed of the best disciplined troops in the Department, were under command of Col. McCauley, commanding at Fort McHenry. The line was formed in the following order: Battalion of the 11th Indiana Infantry, under the command of Maj. George Butler, U. S. A.; a company of the 23 United States Regular Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Caleff, and a detachment of the 7th New York Heavy Artillery. The music consisted of the band of the 23 Regular Artillery, Captain Smith, and the band of the 7th New York, led by Captain Joseph K. Kraut. As the train of carriages proceeded along the water front one of the bands struck up the inspiriting air, "Behold the Conquering Hero Comes!"—when the whole column presented arms. The route of march was by way of Baltimore street to the Eutaw House, and, notwithstanding the early hour at which it moved, large numbers of persons assembled at the street corners and welcomed the hero of the Mississippi to Baltimore.

Upon arriving at the Eutaw House the military formed in two lines on Eutaw and Baltimore streets, and as soon as the Admiral alighted from the carriage, they presented arms, and the bands struck up another patriotic air. In the meantime the open space in front of the house on both streets was crowded with citizens, who greeted the naval hero with repeated rounds of applause. The Admiral, upon reaching the private rooms of the hotel, made a few remarks, stating that he was much pleased with the kind indications of regard and friendship manifested for him by the citizens of Baltimore, and he would never forget them. He then retired and breakfasted with the ladies, and at about 9 o'clock after left for the North.

At 11 o'clock the spacious parlors of the Eutaw house were crowded with ladies and gentlemen eager to get a glimpse of and grasp the hand of the man who is a stranger to defeat. From 11 A. M. to 4 P. M. the Admiral received the congratulations of the distinguished guest and his friends repaired to the dining room and partook of a very late dinner. The Mayor occupied the chair at the table with the Admiral, on his right. Commodore Dupont on the left, and flanked on either side by Brigadier General Schenck, Thomas Swann, Governor Bradford, Gen. Charles H. Pringle, representative in Congress from the Third Congressional District, and Hon. Wm. Price, Chief Clerk of the Navy Department. While the dinner was being served the band of the 6th regiment played a delightful entre acte. After the cloth had been removed the following regular toast was read:

"The President of the United States." Responded to by Commodore Dupont in a few appropriate words.

"Vice Admiral Farragut, the man who has been dashed but never whipped." Responded with great cheering. The Admiral said he was a stranger to most of the people here present, and he had always understood that Baltimore was a loyal city. He had always understood that Baltimore was a loyal city.

"Our Country, one and indivisible." Responded to by Hon. Thomas Swann, Governor, who reviewed the war, tracing its origin to the great conflict, and concluded by expressing the hope that the naval strategy exhibited by Admiral Farragut in capturing the rebel forts would be followed by a corresponding success on the part of our army, every division of which was commanded by Brigadier General. Patterson spoke of the great joy during the delivery of which the General remarked that the glory of conquering the enemy did not belong alone to the commanders, but that the rank and file were entitled to their full share of the glory.

"Our gallant Navy, the envy of the world, and the mistress of the seas."—Responded to by Commodore Porter, and who gave in response "the City of Baltimore, renowned for its hospitality and the liberality of its citizens."

"The Brave Defenders of our Country; we honor the living and reverence the dead."—Responded to by Joseph J. Stewart, assessor for the Third district.

"Free Maryland—the heart of the Union." Responded to by Hon. Wm. H. Purnell.

"The Loyal Press." Responded to by John Wales, Editor of the Clipper.

At an early hour last evening the Big Union League, each member bearing a Chinese lantern, marched to the Eutaw House and paid their respects to the Admiral.

The following was the bill of fare served up at the banquet:—Oysters on half shell; Soup—ochra and tomato, oyster soup; fish—boiled halibut, lobster sauce, broiled cod, a la maitre d'hotel; boiled—leg of mutton, caper sauce, chicken, oyster sauce, smoked tongues, corned beef, pickled and kale, canard ham; roast—turkey, stuffed, capon chicken, ham, champagne sauce, spare ribs of pork, apple sauce, loin of veal, sirloin of beef, entrees—brief oyster, a la Maryland, lima de veal, pigeons chaw liquors, macaroni, au parmesan, au gratin, pigeons Italienne, au poulet pois, devilled crabs, New York style, chicken salad, garnished with celery, tin de veau, glace; game—ortolans, broiled, butter, plum sauce, terrapin, croquettes de tin, a la vanilla. Vegetables—Mashed turnips, sweet potatoes, baked, lima Bombay, can peas, boiled rice, stewed tomatoes, succotash, asparagus on toast, washed potatoes, beets. Relishes—Celery, radishes, mustard, gherkins, Worcestershire sauce, cucumber pickles, walnut catsup, cucumber sauce, pickalily, French mustard, mangoes, lettuce, Sauter's oyster catsup, English Club sauce, apple butter, Spanish olives, horse radishes. Pastry, desert, &c.—Peach pies, English plum pudding, brandy sauce, apple pies, vanilla ice cream, small puddings, cocoanut cakes, Italienne cream, lady cakes, oranges, macaroons, jar prunes, strawberry pies, kisses, &c.

Dreadful Accident.—On Monday afternoon a lad named Francis Ashby was fearfully mangled at the President street depot. He was engaged in picking up pieces of ice that had been strewn along the track, when the regulating locomotive ran upon him, crushing his left arm and leg in a horrible manner. Surgeon Ford, with officers Frasier and Talbott, of the Eastern police station, procured a stretcher and removed the boy to the residence of his parents, 80 Albemarle street, where he received the attention of Dr. Delcello. Later in the evening he was removed to the Lombard St. Infirmary. Yesterday morning the mangled arm and leg were amputated.

Incendiarism.—At noon yesterday, a small unoccupied brick building situated on Baldwin street, near Light, was fired by an incendiary. The flames were extinguished without the aid of the firemen. The loss will not exceed $3.

Public School Board.—This body met last evening. Free admissions to the number of thirty-five were reported. A communication from the Firemen's Insurance Company, asking the reason why the Board had insured the school buildings in another Company, the Equitable, was read. From Rev. I. Van Bokkelen was received a letter accepting the invitation to attend the meetings of the Board, and stating that he would be present on Tuesday, 25th instant. An application for position as teacher was received from Henry Clement. Mr. Faringer nominated Miss Mary Snyder as first assistant in Male Grammar School No. 5, and obtained permission to place temporarily a teacher in her place in No. 3 Male Grammar School. Miss Sally Stoner was elected as assistant in Female Primary No. 3. On motion, the Committee on the New High School Building was requested to report at the next meeting of the Board the condition of that building.

Health Report.—The report of Dr. Knight, Commissioner of Health, shows the number of deaths during the past week to have been 84, a decrease of 5 from the number of the preceding week, and of 51 from the number of the corresponding week of last year. The causes of death were as follows:—Asthma 2, cancer 4, casualty 5, child bed 1, consumption 25, croup 3, dropsy 2, dropsy in the head 3, diarrhœa 1, drowned 1, diptheria 3, catarrhal fever 2, scarlet fever 1, typhoid fever 1, inflammation of brain 2, inflammation of lungs 2, old age 2, disease of heart 2, palsy 1, rheumatism 1, teething 2, unknown adult 5, infantile 14—total 84. Males 48, females 36, including 9 negroes. Of the whole number 32 were children under 1 year. There were no deaths from small pox reported last week, while in the corresponding week of the year previous there were 19 dea