Superintendent of the Salt Springs to supply brine to any salt-works not built or commenced previous to April 15, 1858, so long as those works, if run to their full capacity during the entire manufacturing season, could use all the brine the State could furnish.

A company was then organized under the General Manufacturing Act (the Hon. Geo. F. Comstock was made President, the Hon. Thos. G. Alvord, the Hon. Allen Munroe, and most of the noted Syracuse political managers were Directors or large stockholders), which took leases of all the salt-works for a term of ten years, closing such as its present purposes did not require.

When it is remembered that to supply the present salt-works to their full capacity, during the entire manufacturing season, it will require nearly or quite double the quantity of brine the State can furnish, it will be seen that those springs and the valuable lands, pump-houses, and machinery for raising, and the thirty miles of aqueduct for distributing brine, all belonging to the State—worth in the aggregate several millions of dollars, and capable, under the present duty on foreign salt, of yielding a revenue to the State of at least half a million of dollars annually—have become, practically, the property of a few individuals, who, if let alone, will take good care that the State shall never furnish any more brine than their own purposes require, nor receive more than a few thousand out of the several hundred thousand dollars of profits realized annually from the products of those springs.

DO THE SLAVES WANT THEIR FREEDOM?

Let slaveholders themselves answer this question.

In the light they have themselves given us, we can learn how much importance is to be attached to their present bragging, when the combined promises and threats of 30,000 or 40,000 armed white men induce a few hundred wretched unarmed slaves to fight on their side—generally, without doubt, with no prospect but that of being immediately shot, if they refuse.

Judge St. George Tucker of Virginia, Professor of Law in the University of William and Mary, published a letter to a member of the Virginia Legislature, in 1801. In the course of it, he says:

"The love of freedom, Sir, is an inborn sentiment. At the first favorable moment it springs forth and defies all check. *Whenever we are involved in war, if our enemies hold out the lure of Freedom, they will have in every negro a decided friend.*"

In a debate in the Virginia Legislature, in the Winter of 1831-2, Mr. Moore said:

"I lay it down as a maxim not to be disputed, that our slaves are now, and ever will be, actuated by a desire for liberty. *They will always be disposed to avail themselves of a favorable opportunity for asserting their natural rights.* It may safely be assumed that wherever the slaves are as numerous as the whites, it will require one-half of the effective force of the whites to keep them quiet."

On the same occasion, Mr. McDowell [since Governor] of Virginia said:

"Sir, you may place the slave where you please, you may oppress him as you please, you may dry up to your uttermost the fountains of his feeling and the springs of his thought; *but the idea that he was born free will survive it all.* It is allied to his hope of immortality; it is the ethereal part of his nature, which oppression cannot reach."

In the same debate, Mr. Preston said:

"My old friend (Mr. Bruce) has told us that the Virginia slave was happy and contented. Mr. Speaker, that is impossible. Happiness is incompatible with Slavery. The love of Liberty is the ruling passion in man, and he cannot be happy if deprived of it."

In the same debate, Mr. Gholson of Virginia said:

"The love of freedom, and the prospect of obtaining it, would inflame their hearts and inspire revolution."

McCall, in his History of Georgia, alluding to the slaves, says:

"This class of people, who cannot be supposed to be contented in Slavery, *would grasp avidity at the most desperate attempts that promised Freedom.*"

The Rev. J. D. Paxton of Virginia, who was reared in the midst of Slavery, and had himself been a slaveholder, published a volume of Letters on Slavery, in which he thus states the result of his observation:

"The slaves—man, woman and child—are longing for freedom."

William T. Allen, son of a Presbyterian clergyman in Huntsville, Alabama, published a statement in 1839, in which he says:

"It is *Slavery* itself, and not *cruelties* merely, that makes slaves unhappy. Even those that are the most kindly treated are generally far from happy. The slaves in my father's family are almost as kindly treated as slaves can be, but they pant for Liberty."

The editor of *The Maryville Intelligencer*, Tennessee, in a paper published October, 1835, says:

"We of the South are surrounded by a dangerous class of beings. It is the consciousness that a tenfold force would gather from the four corners of the United States, and slaughter them, that keeps them in subjection. To the non-slaveholding States we are indebted for a permanent safeguard against insurrection. Without *their* assistance, the white population of the Southern States would be too weak to quiet that innate love of Liberty which is ever ready to act itself out."

From the above statements, it is evident that there is an immense latent force at the South ready to welcome Liberty. Which side, in this great struggle, will have practical wisdom enough to avail themselves of this ineradicable human instinct?

The arrival of Archbishop Hughes in London is announced. He reached that city on the 21st ult., and went to Paris the next day. During his brief stay in London, as *The Tablet* informs us, he visited several influential personages. The same journal adds that the purpose of his visit to Europe is not known. We learn, however, upon very good authority, that the country to which Mr. Seward has really given him a secret mission is Spain. There, it is presumed, and apparently not without reason, that he will be able to exercise a considerable influence over men in power, which can hardly be the case in France or England.

We are to bequeath a thousand millions or more of debt, growing out of this rebellion, to our posterity: that, just now, seems inevitable. Shall we bequeath them the *cause* of it, too, so that they may have a like contest, while National credit shall be impaired by the debt we are creating?

Had we commenced the present contest with such a debt on our hands as we must necessarily leave for the future to discharge, our chances would have been vastly worse than they are now.

The European Mails.

BOSTON, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

The Royal Mail steamship Canada will sail for Halifax and Liverpool at about 1 p. m. to-morrow. Her mails close at the Post-Office at 11 a. m.

THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

THE CASE OF COLONEL KERRIGAN.

ADDITIONAL SERIOUS CHARGES.

PROGRESS OF THE TRIAL.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

MR. HARLAN'S COLONIZATION BILL.

Rebel Storehouses Captured and Burned.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

FILLING UP REGIMENTS.

The Government has decided positively on the policy of filling up the numbers of the regiments in the field to 1,046 men. If it shall be necessary to do this to break up the imperfect regimental organizations now in progress, taking the rank and file and leaving the officers, it will be done. The Government has no notion of putting into the field an army of officers, or of putting them into the Treasury either.

THE CASE OF COL. KERRIGAN.

Reverdy Johnson was this morning employed by Col. Kerrigan as assistant counsel. An order from Gen. McClellan authorizes the Court to prolong its sittings in this case according to its own convenience. The following additional charges and specifications were read:

CHARGE 7.—Shameful abandonment of his post.

Specification.—Willfully abandoning Munson's Hill, which he had been commanded to defend, on August 27.

CHARGE 8.—Withdrawing of pickets without orders.

Specification.—Withdrawing pickets on the outposts at Munson's Hill when the enemy was advancing.

CHARGE 9.—Communicating with the enemy.

Specification.—That on the 25th of July, and on divers other times, between that day and October 1, he left his camp and visited and communicated with the enemy in Fairfax County.

The charges being read, Col. Kerrigan requested a postponement of his case one week to prepare his defense. The Court refused the application. A second application was then made for a postponement until Thursday next, to prepare his defense against this second series of charges. Denied by the Court. A postponement until Wednesday was asked for, and refused. The examination was then proceeded with.

Maj. Henry J. Savage, of the Twenty-fifth (Kerrigan's), testified that from the 21st of July to the 18th of October the prisoner did not give theoretical or practical instruction to the regiment. No such instructions were given them by any one.

Capt. Archibald H. Fergusson testified that Col. Kerrigan never gave instructions in the practice of the School of the Battalion to any of the officers or men of the regiment.

Lieut. Thomas P. Abbott swore that he had never been instructed by Col. Kerrigan.

Capt. Fergusson, recalled, testified that on the 25th of October five men who sat near the Colonel's tent after tattoo, sang in very loud voices, and called upon the Colonel to come out and take a drink. At that time there were more or less drunken men in the camp. Col. Kerrigan made no attempt to suppress the disturbance near his tent. When reviewed our regiment was found behind the other regiments of the brigade in discipline. The men lacked respect for their officers. At the review the uniform of the men showed very ragged—they were much in want of pantaloons—most of them were torn. As many as five men in each company had no shoes.

Gen. Martindale testified that when he reviewed the regiment, he heard loud and boisterous talking between officers and men, with no efforts anywhere to preserve order. At the review, the troops were disorderly and unsoldierly. Many of the men had their pantaloons partially unbuttoned, some had only drawers on, and some were barefooted. Many were dirty, unwashed, and ragged. At this point, Col. Kerrigan asked for an adjournment until to-morrow, to procure Reverdy Johnson as his counsel, which was granted.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

Section first of Senator Wilson's bill to provide for the reorganization of the Medical Department of the army provides for the appointment of the following officers:

Director-General, with rank of Brigadier-General, who shall be chief of the medical corps, and perform the present Surgeon-General's duties.

Sanitary Inspector-General, with rank of Colonel of Cavalry, who, under the Director-General, shall have general supervision of all that pertains to the sanitary condition of the army.

Six Sanitary Inspectors, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel of cavalry, who shall inspect the sanitary condition of the troops, and report to the Sanitary Inspector-General.

Surgeons of first class, with rank of major of cavalry, for staff, hospital, and bureau duties.

Fifty surgeons second class, with rank of captain of cavalry, to be assigned to duty with regiments.

Assistant surgeons, not exceeding seventy, with rank of first lieutenant of cavalry, with duties of assistant surgeons.

Not exceeding seventy-five medical cadets, not less than 18 nor more than 25 years old at their entry, to be examined by a medical board. After three years' continuous service they may be examined for promotion to the rank of the highest class of non-commissioned officers.

As many Hospital Stewards as the service requires, designated by a Sanitary Inspector, on the recommendation of the Senior Surgeon of the post, division, or regiment, with rank of 1st Sergents of Cavalry.

Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 provide for selection by the President, from the whole Army Medical corps, of suitable persons to fill the places of Director-General, Sanitary Inspector-General, and Sanitary Inspectors, none of whom are to be over 60 years of age. Other officers are to be appointed and promoted by seniority. Vacancies are to be filled from civil life or from Brigade Surgeons of volunteers, after due examination, who are not to be over 35 years of age.

Section 5 repeals the allowance of extra rations to Surgeons, upon the completion of ten years service.

Section 7 provides for the retirement of every medical officer 65 years old.

Section 8 repeals all inconsistent laws.

COLONIZATION.

Mr. Harlan's bill, authorizing the President to acquire, if practicable, by purchase, territory for the settlement of such free persons of African descent as may wish to go, appropriates $1,000,000 for the purpose.

THE CASE OF DR. FINLEY.

Little progress in the trial of Surgeon-General Finley was made to-day. After the detail of the Court had been read, he objected to its jurisdiction, on the ground that he was the head of a Bureau. No one but the President, not even the General-in-Chief, had a right to order him to trial. The question stands over for decision. The Court adjourned till Thursday.

REBEL STOREHOUSES CAPTURED AND BURNED.

Opposite Mattewoman Creek, last night, the Union gunboats bombarded the storehouses on the Virginia side, drove out the Rebels, then landed and burned the houses.

THE REBELS SHELLING A CAMP.

The Rebel batteries have shelled the 1st Massachusetts camp, as is supposed. Whether any damage was done or not is not known.

POCKET PICKED.

At the Washington depot to-day, at noon, A. A. Johnston, brother of Gov. Johnston of Pennsylvania, while about leaving the city in the cars, had his pocket picked of money to the amount of $11,100, $6,800 of the amount was in Government drafts. There was also a check on the Pittsburgh Bank for $3,500, and $800 in cash.

PERSONAL.

The historian, Bancroft, arrived to-night.

SUSPECTED SPY.

It appears that the bright bugler boy, whose desertion we chronicled yesterday, turns out a suspicious character. He deserted once before, and was released on taking the oath of allegiance. He is believed to be a spy, and is in confinement.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Richard O'Gorman and John Savage had another interview with Gen. McClellan touching Col. Corcoran and the general subject of an exchange of prisoners. They received gratifying assurances which lead them them to hope for success in their mission. With Judge Daly they will have an interview with the Secretary of State to-morrow. It is understood that they ask the release of a prisoner of war such as Pegram or Barron in exchange for Col. Corcoran, not of a private, to whose treatment the rebels have assimilated that of Col. Corcoran.

It is certain that Government will not consent to yield to the Rebels on this point, as they would do were they to make the latter arrangement.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.

The following soldiers have died since our last report:

S. W. Russell, company C, 6th Wisconsin volunteers, at Seminary Hospital.

Samuel Paul, District of Columbia volunteers, at Union Hospital.

Solomon W. Bran, company G, 7th Wisconsin volunteers, at camp.

John R. Thornburg, company D, 19th Indiana, at Indiana Hospital.

Milton Brant, company A, 53d Pennsylvania, at St. Elizabeth Hospital.

John A. Hall, company C, 8th Michigan, at General Hospital.

James Dodge, company H, 7th New-York cavalry, at Indiana Hospital.

Private Krater, company G, 20th New-York volunteers, at camp.

Joseph Schæfler, company A, 104th Pennsylvania volunteers, at General Hospital.

Alexander Munsel, company A, 1st United States Chasseurs, at Naval Hospital.

G. W. Gist, company I, 1st Pennsylvania cavalry, at Columbian Hospital.

J. B. Kitchen, company E, 53d Pennsylvania, at Columbian Hospital.

John H. Decker, company I, 1st Michigan cavalry, at Eruptive Hospital.

David Koagler, company I, 36th Pennsylvania, at Indiana Hospital.

Wm. Dunlap, company C, 1st Pennsylvania reserve corps, at Camp Pierpont.

John T. Taylor, company J, 1st Pennsylvania reserve corps, at Camp Pierpont.

PENSIONS.

The following pensions have been granted:

William A. Gibbons, private; Company B, 2d Regiment N. Y. S. M; $6 per month, for hernia.

Joseph Floyd, private; Company B, 19th Regiment N. Y. V.; anchylosis of left ankle, — per month.

George Clifton, private; Company H, 3d Regiment U. S. Artillery; gun-shot wound in right thigh and knee; $8 per month.

John D. Pierce, private; Company E, 18th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers; gun-shot wound in left foot, necessitating amputation at the metatarsal bones; $6 per month.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

CONSUL TO CHILI.

The President has recognized Pedro Pablo Ortiz as Vice-Consul of the Republic of Chili, for the port of New-York.

APPOINTMENTS SENT TO THE SENATE.

A number of appointments, made during the recess of Congress, have been sent to the Senate for confirmation.

CAPTURE OF REBEL STOREHOUSES.

The Secretary of the Navy to-day received the following letter from R. H. Wyman, Lieutenant commanding the Potomac flotilla, dated

U. S. STEAMER HARRIET LANE, OFF MATAWAMAN CREEK, Dec. 9, 1861.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that this morning, at about 9½ o'clock, seeing the enemy's pickets, three camp wagons, and a mounted officer coming down the road to the southward of Freestone Point, and halting at some buildings near the beach, I directed the steamers Jacob Bell and Anacosta to shell the buildings. I stood in with this vessel, as far as the draft of water would admit, to protect them in the event of the enemy's bringing a field-battery to Freestone Point.

After shelling the buildings and hill, and driving back the pickets, Lieut.-Commanding McCrea landed with a few men and fired four houses which have since burned to the ground. They contained sutlers' stores, flour, etc. As 18 hours elapsed before the fire subsided, I judge that the quantity of stores must have been considerable. The enemy fired but a few musket shot.

PROPOSALS FOR IRON PLATES.

The Navy Department invites proposals for furnishing, fitting, and securing to vessels-of-war iron plates of thirty-three inches thickness and fifteen and a half feet in length, to have planed edges and counter-sunk holes; to be bent to the shape of the vessel from stem to stern, and fastened to the timber with conical-headed bolts of one and a half inches in diameter. It is understood that the Department designs to thus clothe vessels-of-war with the least possible delay.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Richard O'Gorman, John Savage, Judge Daly, and Collector Barney were before the Cabinet to-day with reference to a general exchange of prisoners, and particularly with reference to Colonel Corcoran.

THE REBEL FORCE.

It is believed, from all that can be gathered, that the Rebel force in front of our lines, numbers at least 100,000 men.

PROMOTION.

George H. Sitto has been promoted to a 1st Lieutenant, Company B, Major Barker's McClellan Dragoons; and P. Purley Page elected 2d Lieutenant of the same company.

THE RAILROAD.

The express train from New-York to Washington in many instances fails to make a connection, owing to the trains being overloaded with recruits. To obviate future difficulty, Mr. Calfield, Manager of the Governments railoads, has made arrangements for a through train from New-York every twenty-four hours for recruits, who will not be permitted to occupy the express train.

VIRGINIA ITEMS.

There has been much rejoicing over the safe arrival of James C. Herndon, late Surgeon in U. S. Navy. This youth, whom the authorities did not see fit to arrest in New-York, where he arrived with Gwin and Benham, or in Washington, where he spent much time looking up military items, was actually driven down the river in a buggy, passed the demi-mythical U. S. camp at Port Tobacco, was taken over the river in a boat *which was awaiting him* about a mile above Port Tobacco, and was taken to a point a little below Acquia. Next day he was taken on the train to Fredericksburg, Va., where his father, a prominent citizen of that town, Dr. Broadie S. Herndon, resides. James took down a large correspondence, and papers in abundance. A large party was given him in Fredericksburg. He is a relative of the Minors, Bottses, and Mercers, and an unusually "smart" youth of about 25. It is gratifying to know, that after the escape of this fine rebel nag, our vigilant rulers boldly and resolutely locked the stable-door—by striking his name from the U. S. service.

At various meeting-houses in the counties adjoining Accomac and Northampton, and at some places in those counties, Gen. Dix's proclamation, so far as regards negroes, had been read to the assembled colored people, as indicating that the North was hostile to them. One preacher said: "If you run to them they'll kick you out, and send you back; and it is doubtful if you'll fare so well with your master then as if you had stayed at home and did your duty." Slaves are employed in large numbers by the Confederate Government in the Counties of Prince William, Stafford, King George, and around Fredericksburg. The pay the master gets for each is from $20 to $25, and the slave's rations. It looks as if the Southern army meant to begin some operations on the Lower Potomac. The fact, however, that there is almost a degree's difference in the isothermal line of Eastern and Western Virginia, may be sufficient reason for this tendency of their army toward the lowlands and soft climate of Eastern Virginia. They may be contemplating Winter quarters. These regions are also now for the first time healthy.

The Washington farm on this side of the Rappahannock River, immediately opposite Fredericksburg, through which the F. and R. R. R. passes, is the most completely defended spot around that town. It was here that the boyhood of George Washington was passed, and the tomb of his mother is in sight from its elevation.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

GENERAL BUTLER'S EXPEDITION.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 9, 1861, Via BALTIMORE, Tuesday, Dec. 10.

A flag of truce went to Norfolk this morning, carrying thirty-two prisoners, discharged by the United States on parole. A rebel flag of truce met our boat, and transferred thereto some ladies coming from Richmond.

From to-day's *Norfolk Day-Book* we learn that a battle is immediately expected on the Potomac, as the Sutlers are removing their stores. War rumors were plentiful, and the war fever very high.

A telegram from Savannah, Dec. 7, states that Gen. Butler's Expedition arrived on that day at Port Royal.

Nothing is said about Parson Brownlow's victory or of Fort Pickens affairs.

Dr. Johnson Clark, Surgeon of the Union Coast Guard, died to-day of typhoid fever. His body is sent north by this evening's boat.

SOUTHERN ITEMS.

LOUISVILLE, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

Nashville papers contain a letter from George N. Sanders to Kossuth, extolling the Secession movement, and hoping European lovers of freedom will extend their sympathies to the South.

An elegant flag was presented by Louisville ladies to Gen. Monson, at Camp Ben Spaulding, yesterday. Mr. Lingle, editor of *The Lafayette Courier*, made the presentation speech on behalf of the ladies.

THE KENTUCKY SENATORSHIP.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

The Hon. Garrett Davis has been nominated for Senator, in place of the traitor Breckinridge, by one majority over the Hon. James Guthrie.

THE FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS BATTERY.

BOSTON, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

The 5th Massachusetts Battery, Capt. Eppendorf, leave Camp Readville for the seat of war to-morrow.

One hundred and twenty-six recruits under Capt. Devereaux passed through Boston this afternoon, to join the Massachusetts 19th Regiment, Col. Hinks. They were mostly three months men in the 8th Regiment, honorably known as the Salem Zouaves.

WESTERN VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

WHEELING, Va., Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

In the Legislature to-day Mr. Stewart offered a resolution requiring all persons in this State who take out license to transact any business, to first take the oath to support the Constitution and restored Government of Virginia.

Mr. Brown, of the Kanawha, offered a resolution to release the people of that valley from taxes this year, on account of the devastation of their country.

MILITARY AFFAIRS IN KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

Gen. Zollicoffer has not advanced north of the Cumberland River, as reported. Gen. Schoeff has withdrawn to Somerset, and there awaits reenforcements.

ELECTION OF A U. S. SENATOR.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

Garrett Davis was elected U. S. Senator for the remainder of John C. Breckinridge's term to-day, by a vote of 84 to 12.

CAPTURE OF THE MARAUDER SWEENEY AND HIS BAND.

GLASGOW, Mo., Dec. 3, 1861.

The notorious marauder, Capt. Sweeney, and his band of robbers, who have for some time kept this section of the country in terror, were captured yesterday at Roger's Mill, near here, by a detachment of cavalry under Capt. Merrill. Sweeney's pickets were surprised and captured, and his whole band, 35 in number, taken without firing a gun.

SHOCKING MURDER OF A LIEUTENANT.

BALTIMORE, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

This afternoon a shocking murder was committed at the camp of the 2d Maryland Regiment, stationed in the suburbs of the city. While the regiment was drawn up for dress parade, a private named Charles Koons came from his tent, picked up a musket, took deliberate aim at Lieut. Wilson, fired, and killed him on the spot.

It appears that some three weeks since Lieut. Wilson shot a private named Gardner for persistent insubordination, after three times trying to run the pickets, killing him. Koons, who was a friend of the deceased, determined to revenge his death by taking the life of Lieut. Wilson. The lieutenant was a resident of this city, and was generally esteemed in the regiment. Great indignation is expressed in the regiment at the murder, and a disposition was manifested to take immediate vengeance on Koons, but he was immediately sent a prisoner to Fort McHenry.

FROM SANTA FE.

KANSAS CITY, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

The Santa Fé and Cannon City mail arrived last night with dates to the 24th.

All the merchants in the Territory are required by Col. Canbey to turn over their money to Messrs. Donaldsons of Santa Fé as a loan to the Government.

On the 18th ult., a band of Navajo Indians went to Carroll's, near Albuquerque, and stole a large quantity of stock. A party of citizens started in pursuit, for the purpose of recovering the property, but six of the men, having got on in advance, fell into an ambuscade and were killed.

The rest of the party, being too few in number to continue the pursuit, were compelled to return. The same Indians have been committing depredations on a large scale. It is understood that Col. Canby is about to change the system heretofore pursued for holding the savages in check. Instead of keeping the troops in one post, he will divide them into companies and station them at convenient points on the frontier, from which they can make rapid pursuit after Indians when they attempt robberies.

Measures are being taken to establish a mail route between Sante Fé and Denver City.

By connecting a link at 40 miles from Colorado to Fountain City the route would be complete.

It is stated that Messrs. Roberts & Co., contractors for carrying the mail from Independence to Santa Fe intends putting coaches on that part of the road. When these facts are laid before the Post-Office Department, and every effort made for its success, with the aid of the Pacific Telegraph from Denver City, Santa Fé will be placed within eight days' communication with the States.

AFFAIRS AT CHARLESTON, S. C.

We have leave to publish the following extracts from a very interesting statement made by some sailors who arrived from Charleston by flag of truce about the 1st of the present month:

CAPTURE OF PRIZES.

The sailors referred to above were captured on the high seas by the rebel schooner Sally, commanded by Capt. Libby. They remained on board that craft throughout a most interesting cruise, during which she captured three Northern brigs—the Betsy Ames, of New-York, Capt. Bartlett; the Elsenora, and E. K. Eating, both of Maine. The Betsy Ames was taken into North Edisto, S. C.; the Elsenora into Warsaw, Ga., and the E. K. Eating was burned and scuttled at sea.

PASSAGE OF THE PRIVATEER INTO CHARLESTON.

The privateer Sally went into Charleston at night, passing through the United States blockading squadron within sound of the bells on board the United States vessels, and so near that they could hear the cry of "All's well" sounding from their decks. The way of approach was Light-House Creek, where they anchored all night—a distance of twelve miles from Charleston.

THE FATE OF THE PRIZES.

The two prize vessels—the Betsy Ames and the Elsenora—were subsequently taken in through the creeks in the immediate vicinity of the squadron. They were taken up to Charleston, condemned, and sold. The sailors were confined in the common prison for twenty-one days. During the time of their imprisonment they were fed exclusively on bread and water. The jailor offered to exchange beef for bread, but the supply of the latter was so limited that they could not negotiate. They had no bread to spare.

BULL RUN SOLDIERS.

The sailors found in the same common prison 135 of the Union volunteers who were taken prisoners at Bull Run. These poor men are allowed two-thirds of soldiers' rations. They have more of a variety than the sailors were allowed, but the allowance is by no means adequate to the demands of their appetite. The soldiers are all in a very destitute condition in the matter of clothing, having nothing but what they were taken in at the battle of Bull Run, excepting a checked shirt each, which they received from a humane individual.

PROVISIONS IN CHARLESTON.

The general report everywhere in Charleston was, that provisions were scarce, and getting more so very fast.

COLONEL CORCORAN AND PUBLIC FEELING IN CHARLESTON.

When the news of Col. Corcoran's sentence of close confinement reached Charleston, the sailors were still in jail, and they were informed by the prison guards that the effect of the news upon the Irish population was terrible. The Irish generally became so excited that two regiments, exclusively of Irishmen, had to be removed to Sullivan's Island, for the purpose of preventing an outbreak.

The brave Colonel of the New-York 69th has acted like a hero on various occasions when he has been offered his liberty on condition that he promise not to take up arms against the rebels during the present contest. He uniformly declines all such offers.

The lovely and amiable ladies of Charleston's first families only, are anxious that Col. Corcoran should be hanged. They say he is a fit subject for the rope, and for nothing else. The gentlemen are not quite so virulent as their wives and daughters.

HOW EASILY CHARLESTON MIGHT HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

Upon the occasion of the United States forces landing at Port Royal, the consternation of the Charleston people was intense beyond all description, and there were not at that time, or for days after, more than 2,000 men in a condition to defend the city on the land side. Had the United States soldiers been marched on to the city, they might now have had it in their possession, but when the narrators left Charleston there were not less than 20,000 soldiers well-armed and prepared for defense.

ARMY AND NAVY.

The important General Order relative to the recruiting service, issued from the headquarters of the army, and published yesterday, does not refer so much to New-York as to other recruiting depots. The medical examination of recruits is conducted here with great strictness, and the recruiting officers are very particular in ascertaining, as well as they possibly can, the true age. Still men over age as well as under age, sometimes succeed in deceiving them, and make false declarations as well. The examing surgeon in New-York, for the regulars, is Dr. R. O. Abbott, an army surgeon of great experience.

Many privates belonging to the battalion in the course of formation on Governor's Island, are reported to be in the habit of absenting themselves without leave, or taking "French," as they call it, in consequence of the difficulty they experience in obtaining passes to visit the city. A few days ago fifteen or twenty were absent "on French" at one time.

The Naval Examining Board which has been in session for the last four months at Mr. Blunt's office in Water street, New-York, will hereafter convene at the Brooklyn Navy-Yard. Three applicants were examined yesterday. The following officers constitute the Board: Capt. Porter, President, and Lieuts. Smith, Watson and Quinn, members.

The United States sloop Vandalia, having been overhauled, and filled up with stores, hauled into the stream yesterday, and the Quaker City took her berth. The latter vessel has been repaired and fitted up, and as soon as she receives her complement of stores, will be put into commission.

The new gunboat Chippewa has been floated out of the dry dock, and the new side-wheel steamer Octorara will take her place. The Chippewa is already armed, and will be commissioned in a few days.

The new gunboat Winona had steam up yesterday, trying her engines prior to going into commission.

The steamer Wyandotte and the ship Nightingale were expected to sail yesterday, but were detained by the fog.

The United States sloop-of-war Tuscarora hauled alongside the wharf to receive her armament.

LECTURE ON THE WAR.

A large audience assembled last evening at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, to listen to a lecture by the Rev. Dr. Storrs, whose subject, as advertised, was: "A Just War—its Relation to a Nation's Highest Development." Mr. Storrs was introduced by S. B. Chittenden, and received with enthusiastic applause. He commenced his lecture by referring to the history of different nations and the various vicissitudes which they had undergone. Each nation, as it grew up, expected a career of unexampled fortune; yet they were all liable to vicissitudes. A nation sometimes awoke to find itself involved in a terrible war; yet, as in the softest, sunniest dreams of steadfast peace there were naturally some sinking hearts, still, as a resolute man would dominate in the midst of disease, so would a nation, if of generous stock, rise superior to disaster. The speaker expatiated at considerable length upon the war becoming an improving agent in a state, and even unjust wars had their redeeming features, which served sometimes to draw forth a true patriotic feeling on one side. Yet, it was in many respects to be deprecated—it led to great and terrible waste—it wasted men and wasted means, and the loss of every man was the loss of so much labor. War had the effect of cementing states more closely in the bonds of friendship and was not so disastrous as it appeared upon the surface, and he contended that some nations, even in the midst of war, had achieved everything. Inventions, enterprises, and economy were stimulated. It taught economy and patience, and made us more penitent. During a long continued reign of peace and plenty, the people became careless and negligent in regard to their institutions, yet when the hour of peril came, and those dear objects were threatened, the old affection revived and they were ready to do battle in their defense; in short, their patriotism was rekindled. He considered, at some length, war in its moral aspect, and viewed it from a religious point, contending that it resulted in the improvement of our moral lives, and that the religious spirit was intensified and exalted, showing us that our deepest sense of dependence was upon God.

In concluding, he highly eulogized Washington and other mighty spirits that had long since passed away, and paid a glowing tribute of respect to the late Col. Baker. The war in which we were now engaged would establish freedom throughout the land, and ultimately in the downfall of American Slavery; it would exalt and redeem the people, and consecrate anew their institutions, and tend to lift them to a height of devotion much higher than they had yet attained.

FROM HILTON HEAD.

The following extracts from a private letter from a New-Haven boy, a lieutenant in the New-Britain company, 6th Connecticut Volunteers, are interesting:

HILTON HEAD, S. C., Thursday, Nov. 28, 1861.

DEAR . . . . : It is a dirty country, nothing but sand, and that as fine as ashes. It is impossible to keep clean. I don't wonder they sing about the "sandy bottom." I will tell you what we have done since we came here. We landed on Thursday night, slept in the sand, arms at our sides ready for "secesh," but "nary come." Friday morning took a scout about five miles down the island in a southerly direction—found a lot of cotton and corn, but nothing else. On Saturday morning went off in a westerly direction, passed five plantations, and went to a ferry leading over to the main land; here we found a prize—two fine brass guns—dumped into the water.

We dragged them out and carried them to camp, where we were joyfully received. We carried in also, some 60 head of beef cattle, several sheep, and about 30 horses and mules. Sunday night we again started off and stopped at Graham's plantation, about a mile from the ferry, and here we did our post duty for a week. Came in on Friday, and went out again on Monday, stayed three days and then returned. Last Friday, sent out three companies to the same place, who returned last night. On Sunday last, Col. Ely went over on an island called "*Bull Island*," and fired on a Secesh picket of a dozen men, who took to their horses and performed "*Bull Run*" *No. 2*. We captured a Secesh flag and some small arms. This is the end of our exploits so far.

Your old schoolmate and friend, WM. H. STOWE.

THE UNION DEFENSE COMMITTEE ON THE REBELLION.

At a meeting of the Union Defense Committee held yesterday, the Hon. Edwards Pierrepont in the chair, and the following members present, viz: Messrs. Abiel A. Low, Wm. M. Evarts, Samuel Sloan, Wm. E. Dodge, Isaac Bell, jr., Moses H. Grinnell, R. A. Witthaus, A. C. Richards, P. M. Wetmore, his Honor Mayor Wood, A. T. Stewart, the Hon. R. T. Haws, Controller; R. H. McCurdy—the following preamble and resolutions, submitted by Mr. Sloan and seconded by Mr. Grinnell, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The citizens of New-York, in mass meeting assembled, on April 29, 1861,

Resolved, That it is the duty of all good citizens, overlooking past differences of opinion, to contribute by all the means in their power to maintain the Union of the States, to defend the Constitution, to preserve the National flag from insult, and uphold the authority of the Government against acts of lawless violence, which, if longer unresisted, would inevitably end in breaking down all the barriers erected by our fathers for the protection of life, liberty, and property, and involve the country in anarchy and confusion.

And *Whereas*, The President of the United States manfully and patriotically in his message declares that "In sustaining the policy to be adopted for suppressing the insurrection, I have been anxious and careful that the inevitable conflict for this purpose shall not degenerate into a violent and remorseless revolutionary struggle. I have, therefore, in every case, thought it proper to keep the integrity of the Union prominent as the primary object of the contest on our part, and that the Union must be preserved and hence all disposable means must be employed. We should not be in haste to determine that radical and extreme measures, which may reach the loyal as well as the disloyal, are indispensable." Therefore

Resolved, That this Committee do most heartily approve the patriotic sentiments of President Lincoln, and we trust that he may receive the united support of all good citizens who stand by the Union, the Constitution and the laws.

Resolved, That we deprecate the discussion of projects which tend to distract and alienate the Union sentiment of our people.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to the President of the United States.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published.

EDWARDS PIERREPONT, President pro tem.

WM. M. EVARTS, Secretary.

THE STEAMER NEW-BRUNSWICK CHARTERED BY GOVERNMENT.—The steamer New-Brunswick of the International line to St. Johns, N. B., has been chartered by the United States Government, and she left Boston on Monday morning for New-York. The Forest City is to take her place on the route.

PERSONAL.

— D. Romanoff, the agent sent by the Russian Government to look into our telegraph system, who arrived in this city some two months since, is again here, with his wife and son, at the Clarendon Hotel.

— Baron de Stoeckel, the Russian Minister, from Washington, is at the Clarendon Hotel.

— Governor E. D. Morgan and Gen. C. A. Arthur, of Albany; Mr. Buckingham, of Conn.; Col. D. H. Abell, of Penn.; Lieut.-Col. Olmstead, of Ky., and Rufus Choate, jr., of Mass., are at the Astor House.

— Lieut. Breese, of the U. S. Navy; G. L. Pratt, of Boston; Joseph Trumbull, of Worcester; T. A. Jencks, of Providence, and Mr. Du Barry and lady, of West Point, are at the Brevoort House.

— H. Sibley, of Rochester; A. J. Rich and family, of Buffalo; Samuel Douner, of Boston, and H. Q. McSheny, of the U. S. Navy, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

—Chas. J. Faulkner, ex-Minister to France; Capt. Darnell, of the U. S. Navy; N. Berry, of Paris; Capt. W. C. Stout, of Huntington, and Thos. J. Fennell, of Liverpool, are at the New-York.

—The Hon. P. H. Palmer and the Hon. B. R. McAlpine of Rochester; the Hon. A. Monroe of Syracuse; the Hon. T. T. Morton of Nevada Territory; C. R. Dimond of Iowa; Capt. Hatch, Geo. McGown, and W. F. Greeley, U. S. Army; Charles H. Ammiden of Missouri; Capt. S. H. Wilkeson of Buffalo; and T. G. Hill and lady of Providence, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

—The Hon. James H. Graham of Delhi, and Jas. B. Palmer of Providence, are at the Albemarle Hotel.

—Prof. Alex. C. Twining of New-Haven is at the Union-Place Hotel.

—Charles J. Faulker, who, it was rumored some days since, was to be released, and exchanged for Congressman Ely, left Fort Warren yesterday morning, and arrived in this city in the afternoon, putting up at the New-York Hotel. Mr. Faulkner will remain in the city a few days before proceeding to Virginia.

BOSTON MAYORALTY ELECTION.—The following is the vote for Mayor in Boston on Monday:

Ward.	Wightman.	Tobey.	Scat.	Total.
I	828	220	..	1,048
II	628	692	..	1,320
III	545	168	..	713
IV	423	353	2	778
V	454	493	..	947
VI	458	743	1	1,202
VII	518	193	..	711
VIII	409	446	..	855
IX	406	437	..	843
X	464	387	..	..
XI	822	974	1	1,797
XII	810	689	..	1,499
Total	6,765	5,795	4	12,564

And the Hon. J. M. Wightman is elected by 970 plurality. The vote last year stood as follows: Wightman, 8,824; Kimball, 5,674; Scattering, 126. Total, 14,634.

The Official Vote of the State.

ALBANY,