beach in front of the entrance, and the rest, male and female, approaching on horseback in different directions, sometimes two on a horse. The minister was a tall, iron-looking man, with gray, shaggy eyebrows, and a voice reduced to a whisper. He was glad to be relieved, and hoped I would feel at perfect liberty. The pulpit was simply an inclosure boarded on three sides. A little stool afforded accommodations for but one, so I occupied the desk alone. The church was crowded. For nearly three years it had been deserted, for Rebel troops had infested all the country, and the people, being mostly loyal, would not listen to traitor preachers, and could not to patriots. So this was somewhat of a jubilee.

I dined with one of my congregation, who wanted to know what I thought of negro equalization and the object of the war. I told him that nobody imagined that the negro was the equal of the Anglo-Saxon in point of attainment, but merely of privilege—that the degradation of the black should appeal to our christianity, that his weakness should move us to help him and not to oppress him. I asserted him that even no Abolitionist, as far as I knew, regarded the abolition of Slavery as the object of the war. The strife was begun and is continued to maintain the integrity, the reality of our Government, and, in the providence of God, our leaders have seen that the confiscation of the slave property of Rebels is a means to this end. Of course I did not for a moment admit the right of one man to hold another as a chattel, but simply stated, to the best of my ability, the position of the powers that be.

The road to Knoxville continued hilly. How delightful the solitude of that glorious Sabbath afternoon! From a lofty eminence I could see mountains grouped around the horizon blending in the distance with the sky, rising and falling as if God had spoken an ocean, in all the tumult of a storm, into adamant. White clouds were reposing on the nearer ranges, and the whole prospect was enveloped in a golden haze. As I sat taking notes on horseback, I could hear the mellow tinkling of a cow-bell, the chirping of birds, and the humming of insects, while a gray-squirrel flashed over the red clay road in the sunshine. I passed another night en route to Knoxville. Sad to relate, Uncle Sam, on the following day, within a dozen miles of that city, gave out utterly, so, putting Fred and the baggage on Billy, I walked to our destination. Never was a distant glimpse of Mecca more grateful to a pilgrim than the spires of Knoxville to Fred and to me. The dollar horse was grazing contentedly behind us. He always had energy enough to eat. I found myself quite a hero for my journey from Chattanooga, and was ordered to report myself to the General Commanding, who, as he shook hands, desiring to be friendly, remarked, "How do you do, Chaplain? It's a long time since I have seen you." This was perfectly true, as he had never seen me before.

RIVERDALE.

FROM ARKANSAS.

An Inside View of "Dixie."

From Our Special Correspondent.

CLARENDON, Ark., Oct. 21, 1863.

About a month ago, in Memphis, I was asked by a friend of mine—a resident of Arkansas, and a pretty strong "Southern sympathizer," by the way—to go home with him. The invitation was heartily given, but not readily accepted; for, although I was tired of Memphis and several of its miserable boarding-houses, I did not consider it altogether prudent to give any gang of guerrillas in Arkansas a chance to make my acquaintance. So I hesitated, and very frankly told my friend what I was afraid of; but upon his assurance that there was no danger to be apprehended, I decided to accompany him. He further stated that, in case of my capture by any regular or irregular body of Rebels, he would vouch for me as being a good Southern man, and pledged himself to damage somebody before he would permit harm to be done to me in any manner or form.

Upon our arrival at the mouth of White River, we learned that the next convoy for Duvall's Bluff would not leave until the third day. This was not very promising, but I spent the time so profitably that I do not regret the detention. The next morning I went on board the gunboat that guards White River Station, and while conversing with her commander, I heard one of his officers say to him, "There's a signal from the Mississippi side, sir." The captain immediately stepped to the starboard guard, applied his spy-glass to his eye, gave a sharp look to the east bank of the Mississippi, and said to his subordinate, "Send a boat across and bring him over." He then handed the glass to me, and told me to look through it at the party who was apparently so desirous of crossing. I looked long and well, and returned the glass with the remark that the object of my scrutiny appeared to be a large-sized man dressed in black. "Yes," said the Captain, "that's the Major; I'll introduce you to him when he comes over." Of course I at once asked what the Major's other name was, but finding the Captain was not disposed to gratify my curiosity just then, I did not repeat the question. In a few minutes "the Major" made his appearance in the after cabin, and he and the Captain greeted each other with much cordiality. I saw in a moment that he was no "country major," such as might have been found a few years ago in every one-horse village in the South and West, and I was equally confident that he had not gained his title either in the Rebel service or in that of the United States Government since the beginning of the Rebellion. I was also quick to make the discovery that he had mingled pretty freely in good society at some period of his life; for his manner, though somewhat brusque, possessed a certain kind of confidence and courtliness suggestive of Presidential levees at Washington and State dinners in Europe. But he was rather a rough-looking man, so far as his apparel was concerned. There was nothing particularly to find fault with in his dress. It was not badly made, nor ragged; neither was it much out of date in regard to style, but it was liberally supplied with Mississippi dust, and numerous particles of blue mud adhered to it as closely as Butler did to New-Orleans. Its wearer was apparently between sixty and sixty-five years of age, of powerful physique, coarse featured, nearly bald, with hands that would probably weigh a pound each, and an eye nearly, if not quite, as bright as that of our well-known eagle bird. He puzzled me considerably, and it may well be imagined I was more than anxious for the promised introduction. My desire was soon gratified; "the Major" shook hands with me in such a friendly way that I felt his squeeze in the joints of my fingers for several hours—and then we had a long chat. He spoke of his ineffectual efforts to induce his friends in Mississippi to keep clear of the Rebellion; of his many predictions to them that the sacrifice of their "peculiar institution" would most certainly follow their attempt to destroy the Government; of the ban under which he was placed in consequence of his loyalty; of many little annoyances to which he was subjected by those whom he had previously befriended; and finally of his arrest and transportation to Vicksburg to answer a charge of high treason. On the last topic he was very bitter, and used language too expressive to look well in print. He said that upon his arrival in Vicksburg he demanded the charges against him, and that after considerable delay they were furnished. There were thirteen specifications—one of which intimated that he had said on divers occasions that he would not trust Jeff. Davis further than a blind mule could kick, "or words to that effect." He admitted that he had said so, and offered to substantiate his belief by evidence bearing upon certain events connected with Jeff's political dishonesty in former years; but his proposition was ruled out. In regard to the other specifications, he said he was ready to prove any statement which they charged him with making in reference to the Rebellion, if time were allowed him in which to bring his witnesses. The result of the matter was that he was not brought to any regular trial, but was told, after several days' stay in Vicksburg, that he was at liberty to return to his plantation. He was not slow to avail himself of this permission, but when he returned he made the discovery that a party of rebel troops had helped themselves to large quantities of his corn and bacon during his forced absence. There is no discount on his loyalty. He resides in the lower edge of Cahoma county, Mississippi, about ten miles from the mouth of White River. His errand to the gun-boat was to procure copies of late Northern papers—he not having heard any news, except through Southern sources, for more than a month.

You are probably anxious by this time to learn the Major's name. His name is Andrew Jackson Donelson—for many years Old Hickory's private secretary, Minister to Prussia during the Administration of President Polk, and candidate for Vice-President on the Fillmore ticket in 1856. His family reside in Memphis, but he has remained alone on his Mississippi plantation since the the beginning of the rebellion. Upon his departure for home he gave me an invitation to pay him a visit, and I assured him that I would, if possible, give him an early call.

Early the next morning I crossed the river, and started for the Major's plantation on foot. Just after passing the levee, I saw three men sitting on a log by the roadside, each holding his horse by the halter. Knowing they had seen me, I thought it best to appear at ease, so I walked up to them with more confidence than I felt, for if ever I was afraid of guerrillas—and I believe I have been—it was at that moment.

Their appearance, upon close inspection, was not calculated to make me feel entirely satisfied with my position, and if there had been a Conscription Insurance agent at hand, I would have paid him an exorbitant premium without argument. They were dressed in butternut, wore shocking wool hats, and their shoe leather did not show that it had ever been acquainted with a first-class tan yard; but I soon became convinced that they had no evil designs upon me, and just before we parted, one of them was kind enough to advise me not to go many miles from the river, "for," said he, "some of Chalmer's men were not far from here day before yesterday, and if they fall in with you they will conscript you, sure."

They had eggs and butter with them, which they were going to take to the gunboat and sell to the officers, or, if possible, make an exchange for coffee. One of them had been a wealthy planter, the other two being of lower standing in the social scale. The planter had escaped conscription because of owning more than 20 negroes; one of his companions was exempt by age, and the other by some physical disability which was not visible to my unpracticed eye. All three claimed to be loyal men. They were greedy for Northern news, and kept me talking pretty lively for at least an hour. The planter asked me what truth there was in the rumor that war had been declared between the United States and France; and when I told him there was no truth about it, I thought he seemed disappointed. After camping one day, so far as regarded Northern accounts of Vicksburg, Kearsarge intelligence, and the probabilities of an insurrection in one or more of the Northern states, the planter and his companions went their way, and I with a lighter.

In short half an hour's walk I came to a very handsome residence, embellished with the usual number of verandas to be found attached to planters' dwellings throughout the South, and not far from it were cabins sufficient for the accommodation of probably 200 slaves. As the house was not more than an eighth of a mile from the road, I thought best to go to it and inquire of its inmates the nearest way to the place which I was aiming to reach. A rap at the first door brought a very good-looking "yellow girl" in sight—one who, in flush times, would have readily sold for $1,500 on any auction block south of the Ohio River. Her answers to my inquiry were not particularly clear to my mind, and I suppose they were not to her own, for she ended her somewhat profuse remarks by saying, "Massa knows de way right well; she's been dar good many times." Upon her invitation I took a seat in the parlor, and in a few moments the lady of the house entered. I explained my errand in a few words, and she readily gave me the desired information. She was a very lady-like woman in manner, and her conversation showed that she had been well educated. When she learned, as she soon did, that I resided in Memphis, she made numerous inquiries in regard to friends whom she had previously known there, and was quite anxious to learn if they had taken the oath. She evinced no desire whatever to be rid of my company, and when, after two hours' conversation, she asked me to stay for dinner, I saw no reason to refuse.

Begging to be excused for a few moments she left the parlor, and when she returned she was accompanied by two handsome young ladies, whom she introduced to me as her daughters. The mother had not as yet said anything to induce me to suppose that she was more violently disloyal than most of the women of the South, but the young ladies were not slow in expressing *their* sentiments. They believed me to be a first class Rebel, and in that presumed character I was favored with their ideas of Yankee meanness to my heart's content. Their father and two brothers were among the first in their locality to join the Rebel service, and the position which they assumed had a strong influence upon many who might otherwise have remained quietly at their homes. One of the sons was killed at Shiloh, the father and remaining son being still in the service, both of them in Bragg's army. The young ladies were decidedly the bitterest Rebels that I ever had anything to do with. They could not speak six consecutive sentences in regard to the Rebellion without becoming excited, and at such times they made use of language which was wonderfully expressive, but sadly inelegant. They did not swear, however, which was *something* in their favor. They hated ordinary Yankees sufficiently intense for all practical purposes, but appeared to have a reserve stock of venom in store for President Lincoln and Gen. Butler. One of them asked me what chances Vallandigham had to be elected Governor of Ohio, and when I gravely informed her that there was not a shadow of a doubt of his triumphant success, her beautiful countenance fairly glowed with delight, and she exclaimed, "Thank God!"

By and by dinner was announced, and I was politely shown to the dining room and to a seat at the table. There was an abundance of food, but not much variety—the bill of fare consisting of corn bread, chicken, sweet potatoes, bacon, eggs, and a very fair substitute for coffee. The lady of the house expressed her regrets that she was not able to give me a cup of genuine coffee, and by way of apology said she had not seen a pound of that article for more than a year. I remarked that I had understood that in some portions of Mississippi, near the river, the people were permitted to purchase family supplies in limited quantities upon condition of their taking the oath. The lady said she believed such was the case, but had not considered it becoming in her to comply with the required condition. "I should think not," remarked one of the daughters, "before *I* would take the oath to the Lincoln Government I'd go without shoes, and live on roots or cotton seeds, without salt!"

The family gave me rather a dismal picture of the condition not only of themselves, but of that of many families of once well-to-do planters in their vicinity. Before the war they worked nearly two hundred slaves, and did not know what it was to be deprived of any desired article which money would buy. Now there are less than a dozen slaves on the plantation, most of whom are too old to be of any service as field hands. Other plantations have suffered in about the same ratio, while on the other hand I was told that a few slave-owners had thus far been lucky enough to retain the full amount of human property which they claimed to own.

My hostess appeared to regret very much the stampede of her slaves, and said she could not imagine what reason they *did* have for leaving a place where they had always been so kindly used. She further said she hoped they would never receive less attention, if sick, than she had given them, and when she remarked that if it should ever be in her power to render one of them a service, she would do it with pleasure, I was satisfied that she promised no more than she was willing to perform. I believe her to be a good woman, and to have been a kind mistress, but notwithstanding the feelings of respect which I have for her, owing to the courtesy with which I was received in her house, I am tempted to laugh at the ignorance which she displayed in regard to the cause or causes which induced her slaves to leave her plantation without her consent. I came very near telling her that the event which she could not account for was due to two causes—one, an inherent desire, long repressed, which her chattles felt to own themselves and their children, and other the President's Proclamation of Freedom.

Tilloing, after dinner, that I would not have time to go to Major Donelson's plantation and return to the mouth of White River the same afternoon, I concluded to give up the trip for the time being, as my engagement with my Arkansas friend compelled me to be ready to accompany him up the White River off the following morning. Upon my return to the Arkansas side, I saw several families of Union refugees from the vicinity of Shreveport, and was greatly interested in the accounts which they gave of matters and things in Southern Arkansas and Northern Texas, and of their sufferings before and after starting for the North. I purpose referring to them more fully in my next letter.

At White River Station is a camp, containing something over two hundred contrabands. The men are employed in cutting wood, but after inspecting the camp closely I was not able to discover any opportunity the women had to make themselves useful. The party who had charge of the men informed me that they were excellent laborers—orderly, respectful and industrious. Said he, "I used to believe that negroes were of no account, and when I made a contract with Government to furnish a sufficiency of wood at this place I couldn't exactly see how I was to get it out. I knew I could not force the contrabands to take an interest in the matter, so I determined to see what effect kindness would have upon them. I told them I would stand by them if they would by me; that if they worked well they would be paid well, and receive a proper allowance of food and clothing; and that if any of them were taken sick I would see them duly cared for. Then I gave them axes, and told them to go to work. You can see how they have made the trees suffer"—pointing to a number of piles of wood mostly corded on the bank of the river, and which were rapidly being transferred to the decks of half a dozen Government transports. "A negro," said the contractor, "is a good deal like a white man, after all; he'll do more work in an hour, if you use him well, than you could whip out of him in half a day."

My experiences in Arkansas have thus far been of rather an interesting character, but as there is not room in this letter to do them justice, I will postpone further reference to them for the present. OBSERVER.

The Freedmen of South Carolina.

From Our Special Correspondent.

BEAUFORT, S. C., Oct. 20, 1863.

The triumphs of Peace and the achievements of War were never heretofore liable by their similarity to be confounded with each other. With martial operations we have always associated the images of fields laid waste, ruined homesteads, burning villages, and a fugitive and famishing peasantry. That an opposite condition of things could exist—that it could be fostered by the agencies of wholesale destruction indispensable to military subjection and occupation of an enemy's country—has never been imagined by the wildest prophet of Paradox. Yet throughout the whole of this Department of the South, excepting only the barren islands of Folly, Coles, and Morris, the cultivation of the soil and the sustentation of the native working people has been during the last past two years a matter of interest and solicitude to the military authorities, scarcely second in importance to the success of their offensive operations against the enemy.

There is good reason to hope that the readers of THE TRIBUNE may soon be supplied with an official report of the operations in this Department, having for their objects the development of self-sustaining industry among the freed negroes, and the utilization of the soil and its products, over which the arms of the Union have reestablished the National authority. Meanwhile, an unofficial statement of a few pregnant facts may be acceptable to those hopeful and humane citizens of our Republic whose faith in the progress of the human race has not permitted them to believe the libels hitherto current against one of the most unfortunate subdivisions of it—too frequently believed to be incorrigibly base, because in their persons useful labor has long been defrauded, degraded, and insulted.

The agricultural operations of the negroes, directed by agents appointed by the Government, have extended over the "sea islands" of St. Helena, Edisto, Port Royal, Paris, Ladies', Coosaw, Barnwell, Cat, Cave, Pinckney, Hilton Head, in South Carolina; St. Simon's, Ga., and St. Augustine and Fernandina, Fla. For the management of this extended domain, five principal and fifty-five subordinate superintendents have been found sufficient. To these sixty men has been committed the entire direction of the natives left by fugitive Secessionists, in addition to large accessions from the mainland escaping to Freedom, abandoned by their pretended owners, or captured by the Union forces in raids, such as that of Col. Montgomery into Combahee, June, 1863.

The principal Superintendents are paid $80 per month; their subordinates, $50 per month. Quarters and rations are assigned to all. A stringent oath is administered to them, pledging them not to trade with the negroes, not to seek in any way profits or a participation in the proceeds of the negroes' labor. For right of raising cotton, wages have been paid to the laborers, computed by the "task" or piece-work system. Six acres of land among planting corn and 300 acres of potatoes have been given to the negroes for their own sustenance, only a small portion of each crop being reserved for the feeding of the mules, horses, etc., necessary for the working of the plantations; 6,000 acres have been devoted to cotton, which crop has been reserved as Government property. This is a rough and imperfect statement of results down to April, 1863. By this time, 10,000 freed negroes claimed the protection of the Government, of which number 3000 were fit for military service.

In July, 1862, Gen. Hunter evacuated Edisto and Pinckney Islands, where to 2,000 acres in cultivation were abandoned, and 2000 negroes thrown upon the resources of the Department for maintenance.

The cotton crop of 1862 was much depreciated in quality and reduced in quantity by the ravages of the "cotton worm." It was ginned and sold in New-York, bringing $50,000.

The corn crop of 1862 furnished rations for forage of horses and mules in the Department, besides the amount necessary for the consumption of the black people.

Much ill-treatment and robbery of the negroes by the soldiers was perpetrated up to the end of 1862. The plunder and waste of their fields and gardens acted disgraceefully to their industry. These outrages are now almost unknown. The bravery of the black soldiers, and the industry and patience of the non-combatants, have procured for them a large measure of respect from the troops of all grades in the service.

The issue of rations to the freed people ceased Jan. 30, 1863, except in the instances of refugees arriving within the Union lines. These have been provided for until assigned to the army or to agricultural occupations.

The draft of all able-bodied men into the army in August, 1862, materially retarded agriculture.

In February, 1863, many estates (sold for arrears of taxes) passed into private hands. Equitable rules for the employment of the negroes by the new proprietors were instituted and enforced. The planting for this year amounted to 3,000 acres of cotton, 3,400 corn, for the Government; for private proprietors, 2,500 acres cotton, 2,000 corn. The rule that negroes should work for wages, not for rations, was observed. Their cheerful compliance and attachment to the soil were found to render most satisfactory results.

The cotton crop of this year is very large, and far exceeds the most sanguine expectations of the authorities. In South Carolina territory, alone, to Oct. 1, had been picked and stored 450,000 lbs. of cotton in seed, and it is estimated that a million pounds remain ungathered. Last year, in the whole Department, only 240,000 pounds were produced.

For picking cotton, 2½ cents per pound has been paid. The wages earned by men, women, and children in this occupation average 40 cents per day. In addition to these wages, paid in money, it must be remembered that the work people have had all the corn and potatoes they could raise for their own use and that of the animals necessary to the cultivation of the land. Their quarters have been assigned them rent free, except in such instances as those of individuals preferring to engage in independent pursuits, such as fishing, hunting, etc. These have been charged for rent of huts, with gardens, in no case exceeding $2 per month. During the growth of the cotton, every hoeing has been paid paid for at the rate of 25 cents per "task," or quarter acre. Smart hands executed three tasks in a day. The average was 1½ tasks. As slaves, four tasks a day had been expected from a full hand, and in critical seasons as many as eight were at times exacted, under the stimulus of the driver's lash.

Much more work might have been done in the cotton-fields had not the negroes been privileged to raise miscellaneous crops for their domestic consumption, and for sale to the hospitals. In these latter pursuits they have been enabled to earn three or four times as large wages as the cotton culture would render them.

The important truth developed by these few facts, among others as significant, is, that the freed negro will work for wages, and sustain himself and family thereon. All controversy on this point hereafter must be futile or factious. It is certainly proved that the black people, including the women, youths of both sexes, and children, have for two years past honorably maintained themselves by industry—and they are still doing so. They cost the country nothing, but supply to the Department of the South much valuable material that otherwise must be bought in the North and transported hither for the use of the army.

Four regiments of negroes have been raised among these abandoned slaves, and the refugees who have come in. Of these the 1st South Carolina volunteered. The others were conscripted. No distinction exits, however, in the efficiency or soldier-like character of the several corps. Volunteers and conscripts, alike, vie with each other in the fidelity and bravery wherewith they can alone repay the nation for the priceless boon of Liberty awarded to their race. More regiments will be added to the service, as the men are found fit for duty. Those now organized are: 1st South Carolina, Col. T. W. Higginson; 2d South Carolina, Col. J. Montgomery; 3d South Carolina, Col. A. G. Bennett; 4th South Carolina, Col. Littlefield. The 3d South Carolina are all Quartermaster's employees. In addition to these, many more are in Government employ, in the Commissary and other departments, where a necessity exists for laborers, teamsters, &c. Every negro so placed relieves a white soldier for more important duties.

The moral and intellectual education of the black children has been cared for by the excellent societies instituted for the purpose in New-York, Boston, and Philadelphia. Two thousand children are receiving instruction in the rudiments of an English education. Their teachers have been chosen in every instance with a view to their qualifications, and have all been engaged in tuition of white children. They unanimously report that the capacity of negro children to learn has shown itself equal to the average among their former peers in the North. Most of these colored neophytes in knowledge work in the fields during a portion of the day. Thus they are preparing to become useful as well as intelligent citizens. The children are required to appear punctually during school hours, and to be clean in their persons and neat in their dress. Their aptitude to learn is very noticeable; and their docility and obedience to their preceptors is equally honorable and gratifying to all parties concerned.

The want of shelter, food and raiment for refugees continually escaping into our lines has been severely felt. These people arrive utterly destitute, and have to be provided for. A saw mill has been erected, in which timber, cut by the blacks, is converted into lumber suitable for the construction of cottages. Only negroes are employed in thus providing for the wants of their own people. To each cottage ten acres of Government property is allotted, and tracts of land are alternately planned for these and for future private owners, so that a sufficient supply of labor may be near enough to each estate to keep it in cultivation. By this plan the production of cotton and other crops in the Department will probably become tenfold what it ever has been under the system of forced and unpaid labor. The expenses of these various improvements and the value of the rations to refugees are reimbursed by the sales of cotton held by the Government. Up to this date, not less than $300,000 have been received for the cotton sent to New-York for sale. There will be a considerable balance in the hands of the Government after all claims have been settled. The prospects for the future are still brighter, from every point of view.

These are, indeed, curious, as well as profitable enterprises, to be conducted under military management. The leading spirit in all such good works is Brigadier-Gen. Rufus Saxton. While the credit should be given to him and to his efficient subordinates (especially to H. G. Judd, esq., Inspector of Plantations), it would be unjust to allow the inference to be drawn that the benevolent spirit and earnest endeavor, visible in all, have been exercised for these unfortunate people merely as negroes. True philanthropy knows no such narrow bounds as those prescribed by race, color or condition. I am assured that had Gen. Saxton's field of action been among any other people as miserable, as ignorant, and as oppressed as he found these blacks, his sympathies and his efforts would alike have been called forth for the improvement of their condition. This is no parallel drawn from fancy. Such similarities between degraded populations exist. The negro peasant on South Carolina soil, in his ignorance, his helplessness, his want of self reliance, has many peers among the sub-strata of rural populations in insular and continental Europe. By their present needs and their ultimate capacities all wretched classes, of whatever nations, demonstrate the unity of our race. Such examples among the diverse varieties of the human family should urge us on to establish the supremacy of justice and humanity throughout the world. Force and fraud can but aggrandize the few at the expense of the many. While these false principles reign, mankind only degenerate and multiply into semi-idiotic and animal conditions. Liberty and Right must triumph before the best types of Man can be developed. G. R.

Col. Charles Rivers Ellet, of the Mississippi Marine Brigade, whose death was announced a few days ago, was buried on the 7th at the Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia. He was born in that city in 1840, and completed his education at Paris. When his father, Col. Charles Ellet, established the ram fleet, he was ably seconded by his son, whose brilliant services on the Queen of the West, and during in going into the town of Memphis, hoisting his flag on the Post-Office, and demanding the surrender of the town, are well remembered. Though the youngest Colonel in the Army, he leaves a veteran's reputation behind him, which is the best consolation of those who are bereaved by a patriot's death, and of which all will speak with admiration when the histories of our brave soldiers are told by the firesides of generations yet unborn.

Dr. Tawney of Beetown, Wis., has been shot at his own house by Thomas E. Lloyd of Defiance, Ohio, whose wife the Doctor had seduced, and had living with him. Lloyd before the shooting induced the Postmaster and a constable to accompany him to Tawney's house, under the pretext that he only wished to have witnesses in demanding some property belonging to him. Arrived at the door he knocked, and on Tawney presenting himself he asked where the woman was, and, immediately on being told that she was in bed up-stairs, shot the seducer dead, and surrendered himself as a prisoner. He had been married to his erring wife 20 years, having a grown up son and daughter—the former in the army. Tawney when he eloped with Mrs. Lloyd left a wife and four children destitute.

GENERAL MEAGHER ON SLAVERY.

Irish-Americans on the True War-path.

From the United Irishman and Galway American.

NEW-YORK, No. 129 FIFTH AVENUE, September 26, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR: I have been in debt to you a long, long time. You have sent me your paper constantly, and have written to me frequently. Up to this you have not had from me one word of acknowledgment and thanks. True it is, I have been on the point of dropping you a line, saying how gladly and gratefully I received these evidences of your remembrance; but ever and always, something or other intervened, and I had to throw aside pen, ink and paper, and with them my good intentions in your regard.

This was invariably the case for the last two years or more: camp life being anything but conducive to the maintenance of friendly relations, so far as they depend on the interchange of envelopes and postage stamps.

Strange to say, however, *The Galway American* used to make its way to me across the ocean, down to Washington, over the Potomac, into the heart of Virginia. Many a pleasant hour it brought me, in the midst of the cares, worryings, hardships, and hard knocks of a campaign. It gratifies me truly to find that you had taken your stand against the Disunionists of America, and were true and staunch to the Stars and Stripes, and to all of the past, and all of the future, they so grandly symbolize.

But you, who were here for so long a time, and had studied and familiarized yourself so thoroughly with the political questions and parties of the Republic, know well how to discriminate between the unjustified and treacherous revolt of the South, and the revolutions which, in Europe, aim to shake off, not sworn alliances and sacred compacts, but mastership and domination, the grasp of the strong, the assumption of the arrogant, all the violence, wrongs, and burdens heaped upon the weaker by the more powerful.

You had seen and learned enough during your stay in this country to know that it was against the spirit and institutions of Democracy—against the freedom and nobility of labor, and all that was most humane, promising, and progressive in the Republic, that the territorial oligarchy of the South rebelled.

Not independence, but domination, was the inspiration and purpose of the Rebellion of the Slave Lords, the kings and princes of the cotton-fields and rice-swamps. To achieve this ascendancy, the disruption of the American Union was essential. Hence the seizure of the Federal custom-houses, forts, barracks, munitions, and ships of war, the expulsion of Federal officers, the rejection of the Federal authority, wherever force or fraud could effect the same in those uneasy States, where the slavery of the black man constituted the basis of wealth, of social consequence, and political power.

You remember how galling it was to us, while writing and speaking in favor of Democracy, and the liberty and new order of manhood the Republic guaranteed, silently to submit to the requirements of the National compact which compelled even the most ardent friends of human freedom to be in a great measure the accomplices of that thraldom which was the cancerous disease, as it was the glaring disgrace of this great nation, and a violent contradiction of the principles on which it was established. I cannot forget my friend, Mr. Smith O'Brien, asking me, more than once during his visit to this country, how it was that I could bring myself to be an apologist of the Slavery existing in the South. Neither can I forget that, in reply to this question, I told him I was not in favor of Slavery, but was devoted to the Union; and that, as the Union involved the Slavery he condemned, I had to accept the latter to befriend and serve the former.

National unity, national greatness, the blending of several interests and races into one great power, require many sacrifices of opinion, and, it oftentimes has happened, the toleration of grievous errors themselves; while generous impulses, enlightened views, the broader and loftier ideas and plans of government and society, have to be suppressed or modified.

Society itself—even in the household, the narrowest sphere in which it is presented—is held together, rendered harmonious, useful, happy, and beneficent, by similar compromises, by the like forbearance, by the subjection of individual tastes and ambition to certain general regulations, which preserve and govern it as a unit.

O'Connell declared himself willing to have Catholic disabilities (struck off by the Irish Parliament in 1793) re-imposed provided that the Irish Parliament were restored, and Ireland thus set again on the footing of an independent nation. The first speech he made was made memorable by this declaration. The patriotism of it was never questioned. It did much for his fame. He detested the bigotry which had placed those disabilities on the statute book. He would have had the Irish Catholic, so far as the law and the Government were concerned, the unrestricted and perfect equal of the Irish Protestant.

But the independence, and, with it and through it, the prosperity and eminence of Ireland, as a self-ruled and self-sustained nation, was dearer to him, and the more comprehensive and nobler object of his aspirations and great efforts.

In the same spirit was it that the Irish-born citizens of the United States assented to the Slavery existing in the South, submitting, without complaint or remonstrance, to this anomaly in the Republic, to the end that these vast States should consolidate, and be one and indivisible. What their love and ambition for the country of their adoption prompted, their oath of citizenship enforced. They had either to accept the Constitution, from which that country derived its national functions and authority, in all its parts, and in its complete integrity—with all its imperfections as well as with all its excellencies—or else stand aloof as aliens, availing themselves, it is true, of the liberal advantages it bountiously offered, but contributing nothing to its political security and growth—the foundation and framework on which, and within which, its marvelous activity and enterprise were set in motion, and its consequence and renown, spreading themselves year by year abroad, were reared.

So long as the South, notwithstanding its very peculiar institution, remained faithful to the National compact—submitting to the majority, when the majority asserted themselves legitimately in elections which varied the magistracy or general policy of the nation, and yielding its duty and good faith to the central authority—not an Irishman invested with the franchise, or otherwise possessed of any political influence, would have cast a vote or uttered a word to disparage or endanger the rights of property to which the South specially laid claim, and which, indeed, were not so much a concession under the Constitution as a vital inheritance, without the recognition of which there would have been no Union.

Breaking the compact, however, setting at defiance the legally expressed decision of the majority, as it did in the case of the last Presidential election—forcibly seizing the National property—the first to proceed to hostilities—laying siege to and reducing the National forts—compelling the National Government to call forth the military power of the people—plunging the country into a gulf of blood, and almost overwhelming it with taxation—laying waste the commerce of the loyal States wherever its buccaneering ships discovered it on the high seas—every citizen who looked upon the Slavery existing in the South as a flagrant inconsistency and a miscellaneous error in the political system, if it was not, as some pronounced it to be, a most odious and pernicious violation of the moral code, felt released from his obligation to tolerate what his humanity and conscience had long condemned.

The annihilation of Slavery in the South, however, was not the primary, nor, indeed, the remote or ulterior object of the war which the National Government was driven to wage against traitors and insurrectionists of the South. At first, and for some time, this war was prosecuted with the single purpose of reinstating National authority wherever it had been deposed, of recovering the National property wherever it had been seized, and compelling the observance of that good faith to the trustees and administrators of the National domain and revenues—the condition on which the National protection was afforded, the National resources applied, and the National *prestige* extended to every member, State, or Territory of the Union.

But, as the war went on, new developments occurred, and among these the emancipation of the slaves in the revolted States became a military necessity, which none but the Rebels in arms, or the meaner and more malignant Rebels in conspiracy with them at the North, were found unwilling to admit. Thus the inexorable logic of war compels the justice which fidelity to the Constitution solemnly withheld, and the Rebellion of the South emancipated all true Republicans from their complicity with an ordained system of bondage, which, as I have said before, was not only in conflict with their humanity and conscience, but falsified the spirit and neutralized the glory of a Republic, which otherwise was unexceptionable and incomparable.

Thus purified from Slavery, the National boundaries and property reclaimed, the National authority reestablished, the National flag flying proudly from every wall and mast from which it has been dragged down, the Republic of the United States will be reconstructed, and in its reformation will be stronger, worthier, nobler than ever. All the blood, all the treasures, all the agony it has cost to preserve it from the fate of Mexico, will render it the more valuable and irresistible in the future; and, admonished by the recollection of the perils into which it was plunged by the ambition of those who would have divided it for their own aggrandizement and splendor, the politicians, as well as public men of a higher stamp, will be careful to avoid a recurrence to those exasperating practices from which the disunionists furnished themselves with the only arguments that seemed to justify their treason. There will be a sounder, manlier, and fairer life thenceforth—a life of justice, courage and dignity, instead of a life of bickering, corruption, scheming, and vulgarity, as heretofore—visible and dominant in all public places, from the Ward Committee-room to the Halls of Congress.

I need not say to you, it will ever be to me a kindling recollection, that, at the head of my noble little Brigade, I have stood true, on many a fiercely fire-swept field, to the Government of the United States, and all it represents and holds in trust. The basest of the base would we have been, had we stood by and seen without emotion, without a blush, without striking a blow to save it, that munificent and gracious Government, despoiled, crippled, shorn of half its consequence, of the dutifulness and homage due to it, and made the laughing stock of the slaveowners and cattle breeders of Europe generally, and Ireland particularly. Thank God! that disgrace has been averted from our race by the splendid conduct of the thousands of Irish soldiers who have fought in the Federal armies; and who, in upholding with their strong arms the honor and authority of the Government to which, on ceasing to be exiles and becoming citizens, they swore allegiance, prove themselves worthier of a better and a brighter destiny than that wortbier of a better and a brighter destiny than that which has for a winter of centuries shrouded the land of their birth in a dense mist of misery and humiliation—the most woeful and deathlike that ever darkened the hopes and memories of a nation.

With sincere regard and friendship, believe me my dear Roche, always to remain most faithfully yours,

THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER.

To JAMES ROCHE, Editor and Proprietor of *The United Irishman*.

THE TAX ON NEW-YORK BANKS.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28, 1863.

The following is the text of the decision of Commissioner Lewis concerning the tax on the New-York Banks holding the funds of the State:

By the 7th section of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1863, to provide ways and means, &c., it is enacted that "all banks, associations, corporations and individuals receiving deposits of money subject to payment on check or draft, except savings institutions, shall be subject to a duty of one-eighth of one per centum each half year after April 1, 1863, upon the average amount of such deposits beyond the average amount of their circulating notes or bills lawfully issued and outstanding as currency."

It has become a question whether the Banks of New-York, in which the public moneys of the State are deposited, are subject to the duty of one-eighth of one per cent each half year, according to the provisions of this section.

Those moneys are stated as being derived from several sources, viz: Loans, taxes, canal tolls, fees for licenses, State prison earnings, salt duties, &c.

The fourth title of Chapter 8 of the revised statutes defines the powers and duties of the State Treasurer. The following sections apply particularly to the subject:

"SEC. 8. The Treasurer shall deposit all moneys that shall come to his hands on account of this State, except such as belong to the canal fund, within three days after receiving the same, in such bank or banks in the City of Albany as in the opinion of the Controller and Treasurer shall be secure, and pay the highest rate of interest to the State for such deposits.

"SEC. 9. All moneys directed by law to be deposited in the Manhattan Bank in the City of New-York to the credit of the Treasurer, shall remain in said bank subject to be drawn for as the same may be required.

"SEC. 10. The Controller may transfer the deposits in the Manhattan Bank from time to time to the bank or banks in the City of Albany, in which the moneys belonging to this State shall be deposited, pursuant to the foregoing seventh section of this title, so often as it will be for the interest of the State to transfer such deposits; but the Controller may continue such deposits in the Manhattan Bank, if the said bank shall pay a rate of interest to the State for such deposits equal to that paid by the bank or banks in Albany in which the State deposits shall be made.

"SEC. 11. The moneys so deposited shall be placed to the account of the Treasurer, and he shall keep a bank book in which shall be entered his account of deposits in and moneys drawn from the banks in which such deposits shall be made.

"SEC. 12. The said banks shall respectively transmit to the Controller monthly statements of the moneys which shall be received and paid by them on account of the Treasury."

The canal funds of the State are under the control of the Auditor of the Canal Department, the Commissioners of the Canal Fund, and the Canal Board.

The canal tolls are deposited in banks designated by the Canal Board, the canal funds are deposited in banks designated by the Commissioners of the Canal Fund and the general funds in banks designated by the Controller and Treasurer. These officers obtain the highest rate of interest which they can by contract with the banks, except the Manhattan Bank, which is relieved of obligation to pay interest in consequence of its services and responsibilities in issuing, transferring, and taking care of the stocks of the State.

The 37th section of title 2, chapter 9, has relation to the Canal Fund and its administration.

"SEC. 37. The Commissioners of the Canal Fund may deposit the moneys belonging to said fund with any safe incorporated monied institutions in this State, and may make such contracts with such institutions for the interest on and duration of such deposits as shall be most promotive of the interest of said funds."

Other provisions of the statutes of the State require all receivers and collectors of public moneys to make payments to such banks as are authorized to receive the funds of the State.

The moneys deposited are subject to the drafts of the State Treasurer.

There are some sixty-five banks that have been designated by the Canal Board to receive the deposits of canal moneys collected at different points. These banks receive the deposits on certain terms and conditions particularly specified in contracts made with the people of the State, and attested by the corporate seals of the several banks.

Among those conditions are the following:

"I. The banks shall receive the deposits in money or in the bills of any bank or banking association in this State which shall continue to redeem its bills in the City of New-York, Albany, or Troy, pursuant to law. The said deposits shall be received by the banks as frequently as the Collector shall be directed to make them, not more than once each day, and shall be passed to the credit of the Treasurer of the State.

"II. In case the Collector's office is not at the same place with the b