New-York Daily Tribune

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1864.

To Correspondents.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty for his good faith.
We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.
All business letters for this office should be addressed to "THE TRIBUNE," New-York.

Terms of The Tribune.

DAILY TRIBUNE.
Single copy.....3 cents.
Mail subscribers, one year (311 issues).....$8

SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE.
For year (104 issues).....$3

WEEKLY TRIBUNE.
For year (52 issues).....$2
Payable in advance.
Address
THE TRIBUNE, New-York.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE must be handed in to-day.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

The story of "retaliation," as it is called in the Richmond papers, is confirmed by a dispatch from Fortress Monroe. Some of our men report that on the 14th inst. they found the body of a soldier hanging at Smith Mills, with the following words placarded upon it: "Here hangs private Samuel Jones of the 5th Ohio regiment, hung by order of Maj.-Gen. Picket, in retaliation for private David Bright of the 6th Georgia regiment, hung Dec. 18 by order of Brig.-Gen. Wild." Two can play at that game.

Col. Mulligan writes from New Creek, W. Va., Jan. 13, that "A soldier of ours, James A. Walker, Company H, 2d Maryland Regiment, captured in the attack upon the train at the Moorfield an Alleghany Junction on the 2d inst., by the enemy under General Fitzhugh Lee, escaped when near Brock's Gap, on the 5th inst., and reported to me this morning. He informs me that thirteen of the enemy were killed and twenty wounded in the skirmish."

Gen. Grant telegraphs, Nashville, Jan. 17: "On the 14th inst. Gen. Vance (Rebel) made a raid toward Temsville and captured a train of 20 wagons. He was promptly pursued by Col. Palmer, who recaptured the wagons and took one ambulance loaded with medicines, 150 saddle-horses, and 100 stand of arms. Vance, his Adjutant-General, and Inspector-General are among the prisoners captured."

A recent number of *The Montgomery* (Ala.) *Advertiser* says Gen. Martin's entire cavalry attacked a superior force of the enemy at Talbot's Station, drove them back four miles, when they were reinforced and drove Martin back with considerable loss.

A dispatch from Fairfax Court-House, Va., of Jan. 18, has this: "This morning 15 or 20 Rebels attacked our pickets at Flint Hill, but were quickly dispersed. A few guerrillas were hovering around us on Sunday night."

CONGRESS.

SENATE, Jan. 19.—The military Committee reported in favor of thanks to Gen. Thomas, his officers, and men. A bill was reported authorizing Collectors to increase (not exceeding $1 per day) the pay of Collectors. Mr. Sumner presented a bill for the payment of the claims of the Peruvian citizens. Mr. Wilson presented a bill establishing rules and regulations for the government of the armies of the United States. Referred. Mr. Wilkinson introduced a bill providing for the payment of a bounty of $100 to men mustered into the service prior to May 3, 1861. Referred. Resolutions were reported to thank Admiral Dupont and Coms. Cadwallader and Ringgold for gallant services. Mr. Morgan introduced a bill to facilitate proceedings in Court of Admiralty in New-York. The resolution amending the rules of the Senate to require a certain oath by the Senator was taken up. Mr. Bayard addressed the Senate at length against the propriety and constitutionality of the proposed rule. After Mr. Bayard's speech, the Senate held an executive session, and then adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the joint resolution amendatory of the Confiscation Act, so as to make it conformable to the Constitution. Mr. Bliss opposed the confiscation policy, contending that the estates could not be forfeited beyond the life of the offender. Mr. Boutwell advocated the pending resolution, understanding it to make it the duty of the courts to administer the penalties of treason within the limits of the Constitution. The subject was then passed over. The Naval Appropriation bill was reported and made a special order. The House went into Committee on the bill amending the Excise laws. Mr. Lovejoy proposed to tax spirits $1 instead of 60 cents per gallon. Fernando Wood opposed it. Mr. Chanler of New-York said some spiteful things against whisky taxation. Mr. Kelley of Philadelphia, spoke sharply of the encouragement given to Rebels by members of the House. Mr. Chanler put on the coat, and wanted to know if Mr. Kelley was not elected by Democrats. Mr. Kelley satisfied Mr. Chanler on that point, saying that he was too pure to do the dirty work of Chanler's party, that they repudiated him, whereupon the people elected him. Mr. Randall insinuated that Mr. Kelley had broken certain pledges to the Democratic party, but he got no satisfaction. Mr. Stevens opposed the increase of tax on spirits on the ground that it would decrease the revenue. Without voting the Committee rose. Fernando Wood introduced a bill to pay New-York City for her efforts in suppressing the rebellion. Adjourned.

GENERAL NEWS.

John B. Holmes, who is charged with killing policeman Gourlay in 1854, is now on trial in the Court of Oyer and Terminer. He passed through the ordeal of an examination at the time of the event, and was permitted to go at large on his own recognizance in the sum of $1,000. Three years after the occurrence he had some difficulty with his wife, she charging him with signing her name to a document without her consent. In court the case was decided against him, and he was sent to State Prison, but was pardoned out by Governor Morgan. He is now again brought to trial for an act committed nine years ago. Many of the witnesses are dead, and it is difficult to get at all the facts in the case. Mr. Chas. S. Spencer and Ex-Recorder Smith counsel for the defense brought forward witnesses to prove that Holmes was assaulted savagely by Policemen Sheehan and Gourlay while he was standing quietly near his own residence; that he was struck repeatedly over the neck, shoulders, and head, the blow on the head breaking in his skull and prostrating him; that the policemen then fell upon him, and at that time Gourlay was stabbed. He died from the effect of the wound. Sheehan has since died, as is alleged, the victim of violence at a fracas in the Fourth Ward. Holmes's life was almost despaired of for some time after the assault, and he bears upon his head an ugly scar, which shows the nature of the blow that was given.

The funeral services of Mr. George W. Burridge, killed at the Duane street fire, were held on Tuesday morning at Dr. Chapin's church. A large number of the members of the Fire Department were present. The remains were exhibited in the aisle of the church previous to the services. The body was placed in a handsome rosewood coffin, on which was a cross, wreath and garland of artificial flowers.

Some person interested in depressing certain railway stock, on Tuesday set afloat a story that a terrible accident had happened on the Cattawissa (Pa.) Railroad—a train had gone through one of the high bridges that mar the glorious natural scenery of the region. The story was very promptly contradicted, and if the operator made his point he did well—if such a swindle can bear so mild a title.

A serious railroad accident occurred near Painesville, Ohio, on Monday night. The express train west from Buffalo got stuck in the snow and was run into by the accommodation train, four cars were smashed up and burned, five persons killed and many others injured. Henry Coffin of New-York was one of the killed.

Mr. McMurray, President of the Board of Police Commissioners, appointed by Gov. Seymour, has resigned his position as Secretary and member of the Society for the Diffusion of Political Knowledge.

Restitution is the order of the day. Consciences are stringent—money easy. On Monday some convicted sinner sent to the Secretary of the Treasury $350 as condonement for past sin. Good.

The Postmaster-General has invited bids to reduce the running time four days from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for the conveyance of the letter mail only, as well as the entire mail.

Gov. Curtin of Pennsylvania was conspicuously inaugurated at Harrisburg on Tuesday for his second term. The proceedings were on a grand scale, and passed off well.

Five persons were burned to death in Buffalo on Monday night by the destruction of a small shanty.

Gold opened at 156¼, and has not varied materially during the day, the rate at 4 p. m. being 156¼. Stocks in the street were dull and generally lower. At the Stock Exchange, Government Bonds were steady. Money has been active, and 6 per cent, and a good deal of bargaining has been done for accommodation by speculators, whose profits tempt them to take any risk in the way of interest or length of loans.

Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, made a long speech yesterday in the Senate against the oath which he is legally required to take before he has a right to make any speech at all. He complained that the oath sought "to ascertain facts in a manner unknown to the common law and the Constitution by a forced confession of guilt!" Well, if Mr. Bayard is free from guilt he will have none to confess. If he is not, the oath properly excludes him from the Senate, and he may go, if he pleases, to the Congress at Richmond, where no oaths will be offered him but such as he can readily take. The Senate went into Executive session with the question still pending.

Mr. Fernando Wood told the truth of himself and his party yesterday in the House when he said that "if the Rebel Government had had control of the action of the Administration, it could not better have aided the Rebel cause than gentlemen here were now doing." What moved him to this confession was a proposed increase of the tax on whisky. He subsequently brought in a bill to reimburse the City of New-York for fitting out troops to suppress the Rebellion. The Committee will do well to see whether any items are charged on account of the Mozart Regiment, for which Fernando once claimed credit, but which unanimously repudiated him.

"PEACE DEMOCRATS."

A 'Peace Democrat,' when our country is fighting for existence, is rather a novelty. Usually, a Democrat, when he sees war made on the Stars and Stripes, 'goes in' for the old flag, without much inquiry as to whys or wherefores. To be "ag'in the Cholera and in favor of the next War," used to be a test of Democracy. But, in these days, certain oracles of Democracy tell us that they are "*Peace* Democrats."

Let us test their profession:

Within the last two or three weeks, we have had news from various quarters strongly indicating an early return of Peace. The movement in Arkansas for the reorganization of that State as a loyal, liberty-loving member of the good old Union, is the most important. Its leader, Edward W. Gantt, was chosen to Congress as an Independent Democrat in August, 1860, beating Mitchell, the regular Democratic candidate in the III (Southern) District, by 3,562 majority. The secession of his State prevented his taking his seat, and he became a Rebel General. Sick of the Rebellion, he is now in Washington, at the head of a strong delegation, to arrange for the resurrection of Arkansas as a loyal Free State. And it is plain that a very large majority of the people of that State are with him in heart and aim.

So Louisiana is preparing to resume her place in the Union as a Free and therefore immovably loyal State. No one imagines that, being Free, she can evermore be other than loyal. A very large proportion of her white freemen are actively enlisted in the movement, and they expect to poll a majority vote of the resident electors when their first election takes place. Extensive planters are ardently engaged in the work—satisfied that Slavery, whatever it may or might have been, has ceased to be useful, or even possible, in their State. One of the planters most active in the movement was worth Three Millions of Dollars when the State seceded, and was in the Rebel army at Shiloh; he thinks he is worth One Million still, if we can have an early peace on the basis of Free Labor, for which he is working. He is astonished by the fact that he can actually make Cotton and Sugar *cheaper* by Free Labor than he ever could by Slave.

Tennessee is likewise preparing to reorganize under the President's Proclamation. She will be fully represented in Congress as a Free State, we trust, before the end of the present Session.

As to old North Carolina, we presume no one doubts that she would to-day vote herself back into the Union under the President's Proclamation of Amnesty if she only had a chance. She never really seceded; yet her Unionists have been conscripted by tens of thousands to fight for the Rebellion and been placed in the hottest fore-front of the battle! More North Carolinians have died for the Rebel cause than ever were heartily in favor of it. And now her people are calling for Peace in tones that must make the rickety usurpation at Richmond totter to its foundations.

These are but samples of the universal drift. Thousands of the bitterest Secessionists of '62 frankly admit in '64 that the Rebellion is 'gone up.' The very men who were crying in our streets, one little year ago, that the Rebel army could never be "put down by force," now assert that it is down, and should be let up. They declared that the Proclamation of Freedom had ruined the Union cause; and now they assert that the President has but to say so and the revolted States will all come back and resume their old places in the Union! Did they pretend any thing like this before that Proclamation was issued? *Could* they?

What sort of "Peace" men are they who suppress where they can and belittle everywhere else the evidences pouring in from every side of the swift approach of a true and lasting Peace? Is Peace the real object of their desire? Are they not, on the contrary, signaling the Rebels to hold out, and run for luck in the next Presidential Election?

NAKED SWINDLING.

As the generation of fools never dies out, so the varieties and transformations of rascality are infinite, and seem to subserve the rogue's purposes as well to-day as ever they did. The following is a lithographed letter sent out in swarms from our City, with a lottery scheme accompanying it—the two being intended to lighten country greenhorns of their superfluous cash. Read!

NEW-YORK, Jan. 15, '64.

DEAR SIR: Being desirous of sending a handsome prize to some influential person in your town, who will circulate the fact among his friends and acquaintances, and thereby increase our business and popularity, we offer you the following extraordinary chance: Send us $10 for a whole ticket in the drawing of February 1, selecting the numbers 27, 4, 63, and we confidentially advise that you will secure a prize of at least $1,000. We give you this information in strict confidence, relying on your honor not to impart the secret to any one. Return this note with your remittance, to be recorded.

BLISS, BAILEY & CO.

—Is it possible that there can be greenhorns enough *so* green as to to make this swindle a paying one?

THE CASE STATED.

Gen. B. Brown, a Democrat, now serving with his brigade in Missouri, recently wrote home to a friend in Ohio a letter dated Jefferson City, Jan. 5th, from which *The Toledo Blade* extracts the following:

"Missouri is very quiet. The recruiting of Negro soldiers has had a good effect. All parties sustain it. Slaveholders, Conservatives and Radicals see no other way but to employ the Negro. You will recollect that over a year ago I wrote to you that the people of Missouri were far ahead of the politicians, and that the army unanimously sustained the policy of using Negroes to fight Slave propagandists. Our Northern Democrats doubted this, but the result has proved that I was right. But while the people have learned that this was to become the settled policy of the war, and that the Negro and every other means will be used in its prosecution, the army has taken another long stride in advance of them. Looking upon Slavery as the cause of the war, the army says, 'Remove the cause.' When peace comes, it will be with Slavery either entirely removed or in a state of progressive removal in all the country—*and all the world will say 'So mote it be.'* The Slaveholders have killed the 'Goose that laid their Golden Egg' in making a war to protect Slavery, and when they fired the first gun from Morris Island, it was its death knell. It will be peace with Slavery dead, and its grave protected by Freedmen, with arms guarding against its resurrection."

PAY OF COLORED TROOPS.

The War Department, by an order of December 22, authorized Gen. Gillmore to enlist and organize all the colored troops that can be recruited within his Department—their pay and allowance to be the same as now granted to colored troops, viz: ten dollars a month, less three dollars for clothing. In obedience to the Department, Gen. Gillmore has promulgated its order, and has appointed Col. Littlefield superintendent of the recruiting service; but his second act is to send Col. Littlefield to Washington on an errand of justice to the colored troops already under his command. He urges that Congress shall pass an act retrospective in its character, giving colored troops, from the date of their enlistments, the same pay and allowances for clothing provided by law for white soldiers. This recommendation is based on such a statement of facts as ought to secure immediate attention. Here are some of the facts:

The 54th Massachusetts left home May 28, 1863. The regiment has lost 39 killed in battle, 20 by disease, 155 wounded, 115 missing (prisoners). When these men enlisted they were promised $13 a month and the usual allowances for clothing. Now mark: Every man who died in battle, or by disease, died actually in debt to the Government. For clothing which they wore the Government charged them more than it paid them for their services, and the men who gave their lives to the country in the memorable assault on Fort Wagner are brought in debt on the Quartermaster's accounts for the uniforms which the Rebels stripped from their bodies after death. The regiment now asks to be paid from the date of its enrollment, or to be mustered out of the service. The 1st North Carolina enlisted also on the understanding that they were to have the same pay as white soldiers. They have been seven months in the service, and the average amount charged to each man for clothing is $31, leaving $19 due to each for the whole term of his enlistment—less than $3 a month. And there are due and unpaid to the regiment about $30,000 for work done in the Quartermaster's Department in North Carolina before they enlisted.

The 3d U. S. Colored Volunteers has lost nine men killed in battle, each one of whom is charged with $30 worth of clothing and credited with half that amount as pay. Each dies in debt to the Government, leaving no bounty or pension or provision of any kind for his family. Of the eighteen men who died from disease, the same is true; and the clothing issued to those living has absorbed more than four-fifths of their pay.

The 55th Massachusetts has been in service since June, 1863. The average amount of clothing charged to each man is $53, and there remained due to each for seven months service $17. And in every regiment of colored troops now in the United States service, whether raised North or South, substantially the same state of facts exists.

Now, in the face of such treatment as this, how can colored troops be asked to enlist? The facts are known to every negro in Gen. Gillmore's Department, and he sees that he has no right to attempt any further recruiting until the injustice is repaired. Col. Littlefield goes to lay the facts before the Military Authorities and Committees of Congress. We lay them before the country also. We say again that it is not enough to pass such a bill as has been introduced in the House, which provides only for future pay. The colored Regiments ought to have been, and by the existing laws might have been, paid in full from the beginning, like other soldiers, but they were not. The plain duty of Congress now is to pay of all arrearages by an act which shall at the same time put all troops in the service, white and black, on an equal footing for the future. And it ought to be done promptly, if we mean to ask any more black men to fight for the Union. We do not believe that the people approve such treatment as the colored troops have had hitherto, nor that they will tolerate any delay in setting matters to rights.

"HOUMAS LEGISLATION" AT ALBANY—OUR PUBLIC MARKETS.

In order to put such of our legislative friends as are inexperienced upon their guard as to how their innocence may be imposed upon by the harpies of the lobby, we republish the greater portion of a letter which originally appeared some months ago in our columns relative to an interpolation surreptitiously made in last year's Tax Levy, whereby a certain object—very important, we presume, to the Lobbyist who "put it through"—was neatly and without question accomplished. We beg the very particular and earnest attention of all neophyte legislators to the developments hereinafter made. It is a perfect specimen of its kind—a lobby operation influencing the control of vast pecuniary and other interests; and yet so quietly put through that no creak of the machinery was ever heard until the result had been accomplished:

"*To The Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.*

SIR: * * * * By section 27 of the Amended Charter of the City of New-York, there was created in the City Inspector's Department a bureau 'for the inspection, regulation, and management of the public markets, the chief officer of which shall be denominated "Superintendent of Markets;" and upon this Superintendent was devolved the duty of making transfers of old stands, granting new stands, canceling permits for cause, and exercising control generally.

"Under Mr. Flagg's administration of the Finance Department, and in order to obviate a system of blackmail and extortion upon the standholders, previously in vogue, there was created and attached to the Finance Department, an officer called the Collector of Market Rents and Fees—this officer to transact all pecuniary business with the standholders, and to have nothing whatever to say to the transfer of stands, the granting of new permits, or the canceling of old ones. He was to be simply a machine for collecting legal rents and other dues; and was carefully debarred from personal or official power over the various lessees of whom these collections were to be made.

"The object of this division of labor between the Superintendent of Markets, and Collector of Market Rents, must be obvious. By attaching one officer to the City Inspector's Department and the other to the Finance Department, and by *taking away from the man who actually handled the money all power over the stand-holders, while the man having power over them was specially excluded from pecuniary dealings with them*, Controller Flagg no doubt intended to render corrupt or extortionate practices as difficult and dangerous as possible. Two men would have to be corrupt in place of one, and two distinct departments of the City Government would have to connive together in shielding any offender complained of from justice.

"But, *by a paragraph smuggled into the tax-levy of last year*, the Inspectorship of Markets was taken away from the City Inspector's Department and suddenly attached to the Controller's Department. By whom that interpolation was made in favor of the Finance Department is a mystery to all 'outsiders.' It is a still greater mystery to 'insiders' why the City Inspector should have submitted so tamely to the flagrant injustice and wrong of this act; for it was held by the Senate of the United States, in the case of the great "Houmas swindle," that fraudulent legislation, 'obtained by the insertion of a clause or clauses on subjects not recited in the title or preamble of a bill, should be held null and void.' This market operation was clearly another 'Houmas fraud,' though on a smaller scale; and as such it is due to the stand holders of all the markets in the city that its constitutionality should be tested.

"The superintendency of the markets and the collectorship of market rents and fees being thus illegally consolidated Controller Brennan appointed a Mr. John A. Coolley Superintendent of Markets, with orders, apparently, to abdicate from all official acts; while, in violation of right, Mr. Matthias Gooderson is appointed Collector of Market Rents and Fees, and exercises all the powers of Superintendent in addition. He collects the rents, makes transfers of stands, and grants or revokes permits—the Controller's signature being necessary to all these last-named acts.

"Now Controller Brennan must know thoroughly well, every time Mr. Gooderson comes into his office with a permit to be countersigned, that the act is wrongful—certainly, in violation of the spirit under which Mr. Flagg had the office of Collector of Market Rents and Fees created, and in direct violation of an ordinance of the Common Council, drafted by Mr. Flagg, which forbids the Collector of Market-Rents to have anything to do with the duties of the Superintendent of Markets. As for the present nominal Superintendent of Public Markets, Mr. John A. Coolley, he takes things as coolly as his name implies, and abdicates from all official duties, as the only apparent means of earning his salary to the satisfaction of his employer.

"On behalf of many suffering stand-holders in the public markets who dare not "squeal" at present, no matter how sharply the vise pinches, measures should at once be taken to test the constitutionality of the contemptible trick and fraud by which the Superintendency of Markets has been consolidated with the office of Collector of Market-Rents and Fees, and both placed under Mr. Brennan. Let us see who were the responsible manipulators of this rendition of the "Houmas Swindle," and see, also, if they have the frank audacity of Biddell and Benjamin, who came out openly and avowed their trick—a trick denounced on the floor of the Senate of the United States, as "worse than robbery, worse than all minor crimes, a poisoning of the very fountains of legislation.

"New-York, October 29, 1863."

—On closely examining the facts set forth in the foregoing extracts, it will be found that Mr. John Walsh, brother to the Hon. Wm. Walsh, was Superintendent of Markets under the City Inspector's Department at the time this "Houmas" clause was smuggled through. Between Mr. Wm. Walsh, then President of the Board of Aldermen, and Controller Brennan, a political contest was being waged, Mr. Brennan desiring to have Mr. Morgan Jones, elected to Mr. Walsh's seat in the Board of Aldermen. It would, of course, weaken Walsh, to remove his brother from the Superintendency of Public Markets, a place of much political as well as financial power in the Aldermanic district of which Mr. Wm. Walsh was the representative. The office was also, we believe, "a good one" in the city political acceptation of the term, its salary and possible perquisites, when consolidated with that of Collector of Market Rents and Fees, amounting to a sum variously estimated (depending on the holder's conscience) at between twenty-five and thirty thousand dollars.

Well! The Tax Levy was manipulated in the Committee on Cities and Villages. A clause having no connection with the title of the bill is slipped in and jumbled up with our annual Tax Levy. The Grinding Committee take no notice of the illegitimate intruder. Hey Presto! The work is done by magic. Now you see "the little joker" under the thimble of the City Inspector's Department. Now it is gone from there, and turns up—in the very place it was required to be in order to defeat Mr. Brennan's enemy, Walsh, and elect Mr. Brennan's protegé, Jones—under the Controller's thimble.

But more yet remained to be done, it would seem, in order to work the placer thus acquired to its full profit. In violation of both Charter and Ordinance, the duties of "Superintendent" and "Collector" of Markets had to be practically consolidated. No use, however, to throw away the chance of giving a political adherent a "bone" to the extent of $2,000 yearly. Mr. John A. Coolley is appointed Superintendent and given a permanent furlough; while Mr. Matthias Gooderson is both Collector and Superintendent *de facto*. This consolidation of the controlling power and collecting power in one hand is a master-stroke of the Lobby!

That Mr. Brennan should have selected Mr. Gooderson—a political opponent, and devout follower of Mr. Fernando Wood—for an office so important and valuable, is in itself not a little strange; but no stranger, indeed, than the apparent amicable division of all the remaining patronage of the Finance Department between the adherents of Messrs. Wood and Brennan. Of course, as there is a law making it a misdemeanor for any candidate for a public office to make bargains for the distribution of his patronage in case of success, in order to secure his nomination, we must resolutely dismiss from our minds any suggestion of this kind, and only fall back upon the case as a very remarkable illustration of the principle of "political coincidences."

RAILWAYS TO WASHINGTON.

It is a serious question, at the present juncture, how the country can best secure the means of transportation between New-York and the Capital. Thirty years ago, when railroads were as yet an experiment, the State of New-Jersey, in order to repay the adventurous spirit of certain capitalists, granted the charter of the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company, and enacted that no other roads should be built within four miles of this railway. It took but two years to show that railroads were no doubtful experiment, and the grantees of this charter obtained from New-Jersey a privilege which for breadth and ingenuity has scarcely been rivaled. It was enacted by the Legislature of New-Jersey, "That it shall not be lawful at any time during the said railroad charter, to construct any other railroad or railroads in this State (N. J.) *without the consent of the said Company*, which shall be intended or used for the transportation of passengers or merchandise between the cities of New-York and Philadelphia, or *to compete in business with the railroad* authorized by the act to which this supplement is relative." For thus selling its sovereignty to a company, which has ever since ruled it with a rod of iron, the State received from the Company one thousand shares of its stock.

Under this rule the whole people of the United States have been suffering. Numerous efforts both within and without the State of New-Jersey have been ineffectually made to break it down. In 1852 a company was chartered to run a road from Camden to the Sea Shore in a line almost due eastwardly from Philadelphia; this road for several years has been in successful operation. In 1854 the State of New-Jersey chartered the Raritan and Delaware Bay Railroad intended to convey passengers and merchandise from New-York to Delaware Bay, and thus connect with Norfolk and the South. Step by step the work was prosecuted until the Summer of 1862, when the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company, perceiving that upon crossing the Camden and Atlantic Railroad a direct and rapid communication might be opened between New-York and Philadelphia, applied to the Court of Chancery to restrain the new road from completing its line. This application failed and the junction was effected. Between September, 1862, and June, 1863, while the Capital was threatened by the Rebel legions, and the call had gone forth for men, and every loyal nerve was straining to place men and munitions on the Potomac, the Quartermaster in New-York applied to the new roads for means of transportation. This company, fearing the result and not knowing the authority of those making the demand, applied to Mr. Stanton for instructions. The Quarter-Master-General replied that the demands of the New-York Quartermasters were the demands of the Government, and as such must be respected. Thousands of soldiers, horses and munitions of war were thus carried without delay and in safety from New-York to Philadelphia, and the Government recognized the act by promptly paying for the service. While the new company was thus engaged in aiding the Government the monopolists filed a supplemental bill in the New-Jersey Chancery to prevent the use of the road. On the argument their counsel insisted that the orders of the Government were no defense to the alleged violation of their exclusive privileges, that the new road injured their business, that it was therefore a nuisance and should be abated. The Chancellor has not yet decided the case.

Is there, then, no remedy for this evil—no way to reach a corporation whose selfish policy cripples the growth of great cities, and would cripple the action of the Government, for the sake of swelling its already enormous profits? There is a remedy, and one which even the strongest advocate of State Rights must approve. By the Constitution of the United States, Congress alone is authorized to regulate the commerce between the States. New-Jersey has gone too far in undertaking to limit and control the means of transit between the cities of New York and Philadelphia. She thus assumes the regulation of commerce between States, and exceeds her powers. Twice already has Congress interfered in similar cases. When Virginia refused to allow the bridge at Steubenville, Ohio, to be thrown across the Ohio, and, like the dog in the manger, unable to enjoy, refused the right to others, Congress enacted that this was a lawful structure. When the Supreme Court of the United States decided that the beautiful bridge at Wheeling was a nuisance, Congress again interfered for its protection. Let Congress now exercise its privilege and its undoubted right, and authorize the two connecting roads to carry passengers, freight and mails—in other words, make it a postal route. It costs nothing, for the roads are built and stocked. The cry of centralizing power cannot be raised, for here is an express authority given by the Constitution of the United States.

Congress cannot resist a public sentiment arising from public necessity. Whether or not it is wise to pledge the national credit or further tax the national resources for the construction of a continuous road between Washington and New-York is not here in question; but Congress can at least interpose to preserve a route already open, and to protect it from the grasping cupidity of a rival corporation already swollen with public plunder.

One of the meanest of partisan frauds is that of attributing to your opponents language never used by them, and charging them with the sayings of men who never belonged to them. Thus *The Journal of Commerce* used for years to be quoted from as a 'Whig' paper, when it neither was nor pretended to be anything of the kind. Of late, a sheet issued at Newburyport, Mass., has been made to serve in the same way against the Republicans. *The N. Y. Express*—which excels in this particular kind of meanness—parades as "the opinion of a *Republican* Senator on the War" some recent strictures of Mr. Nesmith of Oregon, nailing them with

"This is not a Copperhead that says all this, but a Republican Senator."

Of course, it knows better, supposing it to know anything. Mr. Nesmith never in his life either was or pretended to be a Republican, but a Democrat, and as such gave a zealous support to Senator Douglas for President in 1860. You might as well call Pugh or W. A. Richardson a Republican.

—One falsehood incites to another: hence *The Express* proceeds naturally to say:

"The real, inner, secret inspiration, is,—
"*There is no desire, intent, or meaning, to end the war.*"

—Such calumnies are traitorous, and ought to be punished.

The Journal of Commerce has a tirade against "the crude ideas of demagogues and radical agitators" concerning Liberty, which commences as follows:

"HUMAN LIBERTY.—These two words have a significance which ought to be very plain, but the cant of modern abolitionists and radicals has so perverted them that it is hard to find a man who has any definite idea of what they really imply. It would be impossible now to get from a radical an intelligible definition of the single word liberty. The general notion on the subject is vague and sentimental."

—As it is possible that *The Journal* may consider THE TRIBUNE slightly tinctured with "radical" notions, we will attempt the alleged impossibility. Here is our definition of Liberty:

I. Liberty is that social and political condition wherein each adult, rational, innocent person is guaranteed by law his natural right to work for whomsoever he prefers (himself included) for the most satisfactory recompense his services will command.

II. Liberty is that condition wherein every wife owes obedience and service to no other man paramount to or in conflict with the claims of her husband; and wherein no other man's claim to the obedience and service of children is paramount to that of their parents, so long at least as the latter are able and willing to support them, and to train them up in the ways of wisdom, virtue and industry. Liberty is that condition wherein Government is founded and rests on the consent of the majority; and wherein that majority have power to reform and modify the laws, which are intended to subserve the Public Good.

III. Liberty is Christ's Golden Rule vigorously applied to the sphere of Politics and Government.

IV. Liberty is the opposite of Slavery.

—Does *The Journal* find our "notions" "vague and sentimental."

Bills in Congress.

The bill of Senator Morgan of New-York, presented on Tuesday, to facilitate proceedings in admiralty and other judicial proceedings on the part of New-York, contemplates the separation of Kings, Queens, Suffolk and Richmond Counties, and constitutes a separate district, to be called the Eastern District of New-York. The effect of the bill is not to impair the local, territorial or other jurisdiction of the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New-York, and appeals and writs of error may be taken from the Eastern to the Court for the Southern District of New-York; the Eastern to have concurrent jurisdiction with the Southern District Court over the waters within the counties above specified, and all seizures made thereon. The salaries of the Judges of the Eastern and Southern District Courts are fixed at $6,000. Cases of prizes shall have preference over other causes upon any calendar of the Court. A term of the Court to be held on the first Wednesday of every month.

The Naval bill as reported to-day from the Committee of Ways and Means, appropriates for the ordinary operations of the Navy proper, about $37,000,000 in additions to the usual appropriations for the several bureaus of the Department, and for navy-yard docks and miscellaneous expenditures. The pay of officers, seamen and engineers requires $19,423,000, and for construction and repairs, $20,800,000. For armor-plated vessels, $3,600,000; hemp and other materials, $700,000; fuel, $3,840,000; equipment, $3,000,000; provisions, $3,415,000; construction and repairs of machinery, $20,312,000; surgeon's appliances and necessaries, $8,300,000; navigation apparatus and supplies $626,000.

The bill introduced on Tuesday by Fernando Wood directs that the Secretary of the Treasury, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, pay to the Controller of the City of New-York, or to his duly authorized agents, the cost, charges, and expenses properly incurred by the Corporation of the said city for enrolling, subsisting, supplying, arming and equipping the troops employed in aiding to suppress the present insurrection against the United States, to be settled upon proper vouchers, to be filed and passed upon by the proper accounting officer of the Treasury.

THE BROADWAY PAVEMENT.—The Committee on Streets of the Board of Aldermen, of which Mr. Clapp is the chairman, will hold a meeting at 2 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, at the City Hall, for the purpose of hearing suggestions from citizens generally upon the subject of improving the condition of the Broadway pavement. Several plans have already been received by the Committee for remedying the evil, one being contained in the recent communication of Mayor Gunther, who suggests that the street be covered with coarse sand. The suggestion recently made by the Croton Aqueduct Department to repave the street with the Belgian pavement seems the most feasible, and one which will involve the city, probably, in less expense than any other, as most of the stone now comprising the the Broadway pavement can be used again.

We learn that the Rev. N. A. Staples, of the Second Unitarian Church of Brooklyn, has been ordered to Fayal by his physician, and will leave on the 1st of February, accompanied by his wife. Mr. Staples lately received a vacation of three months from his church in order to recruit his failing health, which has never been robust since his return from his duties as Chaplain in the service of his country. He has taken a deep interest in the welfare of the soldiers, both in camp and since his return, and severely tried his strength in so doing. His congregation are devotedly attached to him, and his church has become very prosperous under his care. He is one of the ablest and most promising of the younger ministers of the Unitarian denomination, and has the earnest prayers and best wishes of all his friends for his early restoration to health and his duties.

COINS AND MEDALS.—Admirers and collectors of the antique have an opportunity of indulging their taste this evening by attending the sale of old coins and medals at the Book Trade Salesrooms, No. 498 Broadway. We notice a great variety of miscellaneous silver and copper coins, silver dollars, half dollars, quarters, dimes, half dimes; a complete collection of United States cents from 1792 to 1864, half cents; medals of Presidents, Congressmen, Governors, Generals, Captains, Emperors, Empresses, Kings, &c.; a great variety of Scripture medals; a complete set of medals of English Sovereigns (34), except Charles I., who had his head taken off, and a great number of silvered and bronzed Napoleon and other French medals.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—For want of a quorum there was no meeting of this Board yesterday. The next stated session will be held on Friday.