

finances are to be merely the records and harbors of murderers and thieves for the murderers and thieves to cross the border. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the Canadas and the Bermudas will henceforth be in the same class, in respect to the passport system, as it will be enforced against all troops, will also be placed at proper points on the frontier to cooperate in this protection and to render it as difficult as possible for St. Albans raids to occur in future, and this system will be kept up until those provinces see the justice of surrendering money robbed from our banks and of giving up men who commit murder on our soil. That the Canadians should make great complaints against the system is not strange. The contemptible people who abused the freedom with which they could cross our border will of course be the loudest in complaint when that abuse results in any inconvenience to themselves. But we will confess to some surprise at what we hear from Detroit. The people of that city know this measure to be a necessity of our national policy—a great measure of national justice—and yet, because it interferes with some of their small local interests, they clamor against it as if there were no nation in the case. Some of our readers may remember a story told by the President of a boy on a steamboat. The boat was at a dangerous point in the river—passing a rapid—and all the energies of the captain and company were bent to carry her safely through; and just at that critical moment the boy dragged at the captain's coat tail to have him stop the boat because he had lost his apple in the river. Judged by present appearances, Detroit would seem to be as oblivious as the boy was of any great interest at stake, and conscious only of its own little apple.

INTERESTING FROM WASHINGTON.

Further Rumors of Peace Missions to the Rebels.

Reported Application of Alex. H. Stephens for Permission to Visit Washington.

F. P. BLAIR'S ARRIVAL AT RICHMOND.

Approva by the President of the Resolution of Congress Thanking General Sherman and His Army.

The Reciprocity Treaty Under Consideration in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11, 1865.

PEACE RUMORS AND MISSIONS.
MORE PEACE RUMORS AND MISSIONS. Peace rumors have increased in number and consistency. In addition to the mission of F. P. Blair, Sr., and that of General Singleton, of Illinois, the peace democrat referred to in yesterday's dispatch as having gone on a peace mission to his rebel friends, by permission of the President, about which there is now no question—an account comes of a still more significant movement on the part of the enemy. The story—for which there is reason to believe there is foundation in fact—is that the rebel House of Representatives in secret session have appointed a commission to proceed to Gen. Grant's headquarters to meet Mr. Blair or other parties who might reasonably be supposed to understand and represent the views of the government in reference to a settlement of existing differences. Among the names mentioned as comprising the commission in quarters supposed to have means of knowing of what they speak, are those of Messrs. Orr, of S. C.; Gilmer, of N. C.; and W. C. Rives, of Va. While the facts may not be exactly as represented, there seems to be good reason to believe that in the present desperate straits of the rebellion, the more moderate and reasonable of the leading secessionists have determined that an effort shall be made to arrange terms of a settlement which shall arrest the further prosecution of the war before the South is utterly ruined and desolated, and that they regard the present as a favorable time to inaugurate such a movement.

ARRIVAL OF F. P. BLAIR IN RICHMOND.

It is understood that Mr. Blair has been received at the War Department of the rebel Gov. F. P. Blair at the Spotswood House, Richmond, on Monday evening.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IN THE HOUSE.

The discussion of the constitutional amendment is still protracted in the House, and there is nothing as yet to indicate when the vote will be taken. The principal speech to-day was that of Mr. Pennington in opposition. It was the most able effort so far on that side of the question, and was listened to with much attention. These most strongly opposed to him in principle respect the evident sincerity of his convictions, however erroneous they may be. The closest figuring that can be made as yet indicate a lack of three votes of the number necessary to carry it, and unless there can be overcome it is probable that final action will be postponed until a later period of the session.

THE RECIPROcity TREATY IN THE SENATE.

The discussion of the reciprocity treaty was extended to-day in the Senate much longer than was anticipated, and promises to wear out not only the patience of spectators, but of the Senate itself. Senators seem to revel in statistics. No one questions the ultimate passage of the resolution; but there is no probability of a vote being taken before Friday, perhaps not till next week. The representative men of the Senate urge the abbreviation of the treaty, and the objections are listened to with an apparent apathy far from encouraging to the speakers.

BUREAU OF FREEDMEN'S AFFAIRS.

The bill for the organization of a bureau of freedmen's affairs, now in committee of conference, is expected to be reported to the Senate at an early date in a form placing the freedmen and plantations under the control of the agents of the Treasury. Notwithstanding the immense failures which this system has met with in its experiments during the past year on the Mississippi, and the serious evils resulting to the government, as set forth in General Canby's recent report, it is understood that an effort will be made to rush the bill through Congress in this form without affording an opportunity for the exposure of its faults by general debate.

THE REMOVAL OF GENERAL BUTLER.

The removal of General Butler has given rise to more comment here than any military change that has taken place for a long time. Some of the more radical republicans are greatly incensed at and protest against it; but there is no probability of his appointment in any other command at present.

THE LOUISIANA ELECTION.

Major General Banks has submitted to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary some suggestions relative to the recent elections in Louisiana. He says he did not assume in his proclamation of January 11, 1864, inviting the people of Louisiana to participate in election, whether slavery was or was not an institution recognized by law, as the condition of the State was such that no laws for the enforcement of the rights of the master could be created without disturbance of the peace, and they could not be enforced by the army or navy, such intervention being forbidden by Congress. This declaration was generally acceptable to the people. There were three candidates. The canvass was spirited, and eleven thousand four hundred votes were cast, out of from fifteen to sixteen thousand formerly polled as an average in the previous years, the highest vote ever given being twenty-one thousand.

There were in the State from fifteen thousand to eighteen thousand persons registered as qualified by the constitution and laws of Louisiana as voters. It holds that any criticism on this election, suggesting a departure from the statute provisions, rests on the impossibility of exact compliance therewith. Of the diminished vote on the ratification of the new constitution, he says there was no material opposition to it, public or private, and that some failed to participate from apprehensions that Congress would not ratify the form of government. The majority, he asserts, had a contest been made by the opponents of emancipation, would have been fifteen thousand; and he declares that the influence of the officers of the government, civil and military, was insufficient, if not hostile, to the organization. The register of votes has stated that in one department of the Treasury office only twenty-five out of two hundred persons voted either for or against the abolition of slavery. He declines to influence the election by the military authorities. The actual vote polled is claimed to have been more than one-third of the average vote of the entire State for ten years previous to the rebellion. It is claimed that the population of the State has been reduced by emigration to the rebel army, by removal to the North and to Europe, and by the appalling mortality of the blacks from 700,000 to 450,000 of 40,000 men enlisted in the rebel army. It is reckoned that not more than 50,000 are now living. Probably three-fourths of the population of the State are in the hands of our army. He asserts that he has never been governed in the administration of affairs in Louisiana by the fact that a person had taken the oath of allegiance; never accorded any privilege on that ground; that public opinion has a more substantial and permanent basis.

General Banks refers to the significant Mexican movement of Napoleon, and claims that he would, upon a convenient pretext, plant the French flag upon the west bank of the Mississippi, and hence the great importance of supporting the United States government in Louisiana by every possible means—not only by force of arms, but by the sympathy of the people, and all sections and interests of the country, political and commercial, have an equal interest in maintaining the power of the government in the controlling and important point of the country.

THANKS TO GENERAL SHERMAN BY CONGRESS. The President has approved the joint resolution tendering the thanks of the people and Congress to Major General Sherman, and the officers and soldiers of his command, for their gallant conduct in the late brilliant campaign through Georgia.

THE ALBANY BRIDGE CASE.

Secretary Seward appeared before the Supreme Court to-day and argued the Albany bridge case.

PERSONAL.

Among the arrivals here to-day are Postmaster Walker and Hon. Henry J. Raymond, of New York.

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