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JEFF. DAVIS.

The Southern Confederacy at Fortress Monroe.

Arrival of Jeff. Davis, Alexander H. Stephens, Clement C. Clay, John A. Reagan and Gen. Wheeler from Hilton Head.

INTERESTING DETAILS OF THEIR CAPTURE.

Special Report to the New York Herald.

Amusing Scenes at Jeff. Davis' Tent.

THE ATTEMPTED ESCAPE IN CRINOLINE

How Jeff. Davis and Family were Affected on Reading the President's Proclamation.

TEARS AND LAMENTATIONS.

The Capture of Alexander H. Stephens and General Wheeler.

SURRENDER OF CLEMENT C. CLAY.

SHIPMENTS OF SPECIE TO EUROPE.

THE ROUTE OF THE PARTY.

THE EFFECT OF THE CAPTURE.

Very Little Feeling Manifested on the Part of the Southern People,

&c., &c., &c.

Our Special Correspondence.

ON BOARD STEAMSHIP WM. P. CLYDE, FORTRESS MONROE, May 19, 1865.

Your correspondent has just arrived at this place from Macon, Ga., in company with Colonel D. B. Pritchard, Captain Charles T. Hudson, and Lieutenants Stanber and Purinton, of the Fourth Michigan cavalry, with their escort, in charge of the following valuable cargo, recently captured by them:—

Jeff. Davis, ex-President of the late so-called Southern confederacy, wife and four children.

John H. Reagan, formerly Representative in the United States Congress from Texas, but recently Postmaster General of the confederacy.

Colonels Wm. Preston Johnson and L. R. Lubbock, Aids-de-Camp.

Burton N. Harrison, private secretary.

Jeff. D. Howell and sister, brother and sister to Mrs. Davis.

Two waiting maids.

Several negro men servants. Also,

Vice President Alex. H. Stephens.

Clement C. Clay, of Alabama, and wife.

Major General Joseph Wheeler.

Four staff officers.

PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS.

Fully one week before General Wilson received the proclamation of President Johnson offering a reward for the capture of Davis and others, he had sent his scouts in all directions, and took every possible precaution to preclude the possibility of any of the fugitives escaping who were within the range of his cavalry. He soon gained information that Davis and escort had been at Washington, Ga., and immediately sent his forces in all directions to picket the ferries on the Ocmulgee and Flint rivers, and also the cross roads leading thereto.

Without wearying your readers with lengthy details of the meanderings of the various detachments sent out to head the arch-traitor, I will proceed to give a somewhat detailed account of the movements of the Fourth Michigan cavalry, under Colonel D. B. Pritchard, who have the honor of the capture.

This cavalry was formerly commanded by Colonel R. H. G. Minty, well known to fame for his valorous deeds and soldierly conduct on many a bloody field, but has been for some time commanded by Colonel Pritchard, Colonel Minty first commanding the brigade, and now the division (Lang's), of the cavalry corps, M. D. M.

THE PURSUIT.

Colonel Pritchard left Macon at eight o'clock on the evening of the 7th inst., with orders to push on by forced marches, until he had gained a distance of seventy-five or one hundred miles down the Ockmulgee river—from twenty-five to fifty miles beyond our outposts—take possession of all the ferries, and throw scouts on the opposite side of the river, to ascertain the approach or passage of any parties from Richmond. He, of course, had special directions to look out for Jeff. Davis and his cortege—the last remains of the defunct confederacy. Colonel Pritchard marched all the night of the 7th, and went into camp at eight o'clock on the morning of the 8th, thirty-six miles from his place of starting. Here he unsaddled and fed, and at ten o'clock again set out in pursuit. He arrived at Hawkinsville at six o'clock. Here he found a detail of an officer and twenty-five men guarding the ferry, and the citizens had gathered in a body, threatening to mob the soldiers. Colonel Pritchard rode up to the mob, and informed them that if they harmed the soldiers in any way after he left he would return and burn the town to ashes. This had a salutary effect, and the mob disbanded in a hurry.

After sending a courier back with despatches to Colonel Minty, he pushed on three miles further, and went into camp. At sunrise the next morning "boots in saddles" was sounded, and the cavalcade were again on the march. They moved in the direction of Abbeville, which point they reached about three o'clock P. M. Here they met a detachment of the First Wisconsin regiment, under command of the Lieutenant Colonel, and learned from him, as well as from citizens, that a train answering the description had crossed the Ockmulgee river, at Brown's ferry, at midnight on the 8th. The train had left Abbeville at four o'clock the same morning in the direction of Irwinsville. The detachment of the First Wisconsin followed on the direct road, and Colonel Pritchard determined to take a picked force of the best mounted men of his command and give chase in another direction. Accordingly he selected seven officers and one hundred and twenty-eight men, leaving the remainder of the regiment—about three hundred strong—under Captain Hathaway, to guard the ferries and scout the country north of the river. About four o'clock in the afternoon the detachment moved out, going down the Ocmulgee river a distance of twelve miles, to a point known as Wilcox Mills, eighteen miles from Irwinsville. Here they took a blind woods road towards Irwinsville, where they arrived at two o'clock on the morning of the 10th. Here they passed themselves off for rebels, and inquired for their train, describing it as near as possible. They were informed by citizens that a train answering their description was encamped one mile north of the town, on the Abbeville road, and Colonel Pritchard immediately made preparations for

THE CAPTURE.

Pressing a negro for a guide, he moved out promptly on the road. When within half a mile of the camp he halted under cover of an eminence, dismounted twenty-five men, and sent them, under command of Lieutenant Purinton, to gain the rear of the camp and prevent their escape in that direction. At daylight Colonel Pritchard moved on to the camp. No alarm was given until the advance guard, under command of Captain C. S. Hudson, were within a few rods of the tent—all being folded in the arms of Morpheus. A dash was immediately made, the tents surrounded, and the entire party gobbled without difficulty. While the capture was going on, and before stopping to relate incidents, it is my painful duty to record the particulars of

AN UNFORTUNATE MISTAKE.

As the advance guard of the First Wisconsin detachment, under command of a sergeant, who were coming down the Abbeville road, were challenged by Lieutenant Purinton, he supposing them to be rebels going to the rescue of Davis and his party. The sergeant did not give a reply, but fell back to the main column. Lieutenant Purinton ordered his men to fire, which they accordingly did. The First Wisconsin were dismounted, formed in line, advanced, and firing commenced in earnest, and lasted until Colonel Pritchard came up and halloed "Who are you?" "First Wisconsin," was the reply, and he immediately ordered the firing to cease. This unfortunate occurrence resulted in the death of Corporal Jos. Hines, of Company E, Fourth Michigan, and private Rupert, Company C, Fourth Michigan. Lieut. Bartell, of the same company, was severely and several others slightly wounded. Neither of the officers in command are blamable, as it was very dark and each supposed they were firing upon rebels.

AMUSING INCIDENTS.

The ruse perpetrated by Jeff. Davis to get away from the guard throws entirely into the shade anything of the sort on record. When the guard went to the tent occupied by defunct royalty, they were met by Mrs. Davis *en dishabille*, with—

"Please, gentlemen, don't disturb the privacy of ladies before they have time to dress!"

"All right, madame," said the corporal, "we will wait till you have on your duds."

Presently there appeared at the tent door an ostensible old lady, with a bucket on her arm, escorted by Mrs. Davis and her sister.

"Please let my old mother go to the spring for some water to wash in!" said Mrs. Jeff., in a pleading tone.

"It strikes me your mother wears very big boots," said the guard, as he hoisted the old lady's dress with his sabre, and discovered a pair of number thirteen calf-skins.

"And whiskers, too," said the sergeant, as he pulled the hood from her face; and lo! Jeff. Davis, in all his littleness, stood before them.

A "Spencer" was immediately pointed at his ear, and he was marched back to the tent and placed in durance vile. "How are the mighty fallen!" The great leader of the confederacy trying to escape the clutches of justice in his wife's petticoats!

One more incident is all that time and space will permit me to mention. The soldier immediately went to searching Davis, to see what valuables he could find on his person, and besides an amount of specie found a fine silver mounted revolver, a present from a London manufacturing company. While he was searching, private secretary Harrison came up, and in a very indignant tone, said:—

"Aint you ashamed to treat our *President so*?"

"President—hell," said the soldier. "What's he President of?"

THE SPECIE STORY A HOAX—SHIPMENTS TO EUROPE.

The story that Jeff. Davis had with him such an enormous amount of specie is either a hoax or else he had left it behind at Washington, which is very probable. There was only about eight thousand dollars found with them, as far as known, although several boxes have not yet been searched. They were brought along, however, and will be delivered into the hands of the authorities at Washington. There *were found upon the person of Postmaster General Reagan papers showing a large amount of specie shipped for London*, and these will also be delivered to the authorities by Colonel Pritchard.

EN ROUTE FOR WASHINGTON.

Colonel Pritchard immediately formed his lines, placing the prisoners in their own wagons and ambulances, and started for Macon. The party were all sullen, but the ladies tried their skill at repartee several times, and the men strained themselves to be sarcastic. Davis remarked to Colonel Pritchard that, had they not been taken by surprise, they would not have surrendered without a fight.

"You were in a very bad predicament to fight when I saw you, dressed in your wife's morning gown," dryly said the Colonel, and Davis had no more to say.

When on the road they received a copy of President Johnson's proclamation, offering one hundred thousand dollars reward for Davis. Colonel Pritchard read it, and sent it by an orderly to Davis. He read it, and as he read he trembled like Belshazzar, when he read the handwriting on the wall. His hands dropped to his side, and with a groan he let the finner of his doom fall upon the floor. His wife picked it up, read it aloud, and then the entire party burst into tears and gave vent to the most bitter lamentations.

ARRIVAL AT MACON.

The cavalcade, with their prisoners, arrived in Macon about three o'clock on the afternoon of the 13th inst. and Davis and his party were conveyed to the Lanier House (General Wilson's headquarters), where a dinner was prepared for them. Arrangements were immediately made, and Colonel Pritchard, with three hundred men as an escort, and the prisoners, took a special train for Atlanta. All the streets and the grounds surrounding the depot were crowded with soldiers and citizens, all anxious to get a sight at the Great Mogul whose sun had waned. We arrived

AT ATLANTA

about daylight on the morning of the 14th, where Gen. Upton had a special train and breakfast awaiting us. We were only detained at this woe begone desolation of all destruction city about one hour, when the iron horse whistled and we were *en route* again. Nothing interesting occured until we arrived at Augusta.

THE CAPTURE OF ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS AND GENERAL WHEELER.

There were large crowds of citizens out to see their late President, but with the exception of a few wavings of handkerchiefs by the ladies, and the doffing of a few hats by militia officers, with a little less than fifty yards of gold lace on their coat sleeves, there was no show of respect or sympathy for the fallen monarch. On arriving at the boat, a small sidewheel steamer, with no convenience, we found new accessions to our party in the persons of Vice President Alexander H. Stephens and General Joseph Wheeler and four staff officers, who had been captured by detachments of General Upton's division.

SURRENDER OF CLEMENT C. CLAY.

I should have mentioned above that Clement C. Clay and lady joined us at Macon, having previously surrendered themselves to General Wilson.

ARRIVAL AT SAVANNAH.

We were transferred to the steamer Emilie, and again at Hilton Head to the steamship Wm. P. Clyde, and conveyed to this place under convoy of the man-of-war Tuscarora, Captain Frailey.

FORTRESS MONROE.

When we arrived here we found that orders had been received from Washington by the commandant of the post to prepare casemates for the party at this place, and while the officers in charge of the matter are awaiting replies to despatches sent to the capital this letter goes per mail, so I am unable to inform you whether they will be detained here or go on to Washington.

In my next I will give you more details and also the *personnel* of the party.

The Press Despatch.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 19, 1865.

Jefferson Davis, late of the so-called Southern confederacy, with his family, staff officers, &c., captured by a portion of General Wilson's command in Georgia, arrived here to day at twelve o'clock, from Hilton Head, S. C., in the steamer William H. Clyde, convoyed by the United States gunboat Tuscarora, Commodore Frailey.

Colonel Pritchard, of the Michigan cavalry, who made the capture of the important prisoners, with a strong guard of his men, accompanied the rebel party on the steamer Clyde northward to this place, and on reaching here immediately telegraphed to Washington for instructions regarding the disposal of his charge.

At this writing, such is the strict secrecy observed, not only as to the presence of the prisoners, but also as to their future movements, that it is impossible to form even an opinion regarding the intention of the government.

The steamer Clyde still remains away out more than three miles from here, seemingly anchored, and Colonel Pritchard is probably the only one who has yet come ashore from her.

The gunboat Tuscarora anchored in the roads about two o'clock this afternoon; but nothing can be gleaned from her officers in relation to the party on the Clyde.

Rumors have been continually flying about this afternoon to the effect that the steamer Clyde ran in along close to the beach about four o'clock this afternoon, and landed Davis and his party on the beach, about one mile from the fort, and from there they were marched into the sallyport of the water battery, in order to escape the gaze of the curious.

FOUR O'CLOCK P. M.

The steamer Clyde has just dropped her anchor in the Roads, and there now seems no doubt that Jefferson Davis must have been landed somewhere along the beach.

No communication whatever is allowed with the steamer, and it is more than probable that the larger portion of the party still remains on board. The officer in charge awaits instructions from Washington.

About a week since Colonel Brewerton, of the engineer corps, received orders by telegraph from Major General Barnard to immediately have vacated one of the casemates inside the fort for the accommodation of prisoners of State. The work on the casemates, transforming them into cells, for which they are admirably adapted, was at once commenced.

The work has progressed very fast, and the casemates, which once communicated one into another, are now hermetically sealed by walls of brick. Strong iron bars and other substantial arrangements of a similar material enclose the windows and doors, completely rendering futile any attempt of escape or rescue.

A wide moat encircles the fort, and strong guards of sentinels will be posted in the immediate vicinity of the casemates. Every device which precaution and a desire to meet the wishes of the government and people should suggest will assuredly be adopted to insure still further the close custody of the most important prisoners captured since the war began.

That the government, in thus selecting Fortress Monroe as the place of confinement and double trial of Jefferson Davis and others of the defunct confederacy, has acted in a most wise and judicious manner the majority of the people will no doubt admit. It was here in its immediate vicinity the first dark scenes of the rebellion were enacted, and what more fitting end than that the finale should be given it, and that its President, with his immediate followers, should be tried, convicted and punished on the soil of that State where on numerous battle fields so many noble, martyred men have given up their lives so willingly to aid the grand consummation.

Bills Rejected by Governor Fenton.

ALBANY, May 20, 1865.

Governor Fenton has sent to the Secretary of State, without his signature, the following bills:—

The bill for closing of incorporated banks.
The Metropolitan Railroad bill (underground).
The Pneumatic Railway and Express Company bill.
The Manhattan Gas Company bill.
The General Legalizing Act bill.

Police Intelligence.

TRAGIC AFFAIR IN A CONCERT SALOON—DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO MURDER AN OFFICER—PISTOLS, BOWIE KNIVES AND A HAMMER USED—THE ASSAILANTS ARRESTED.

A night or two since John Mangin, residing at No. 34 Oak street, entered the Old Salamander lager beer and concert saloon, No. 70 New Chambers street, of which John Viguel, an Italian, is proprietor. While there Mr. Mangin was relieved of a sum of money, and suspected Catharine Sheppard, one of the pretty waiter girls, of taking it from his pocket. Complaint was duly lodged against Catharine at the Fourth precinct station by Mr. Mangin, and Sergeant Wilson subsequently despatched officer Horbelt to the saloon with the victim for the purpose of arresting the girl. Officer Horbelt made known his business, when Viguel became greatly enraged, and swore that he should not take the suspected woman away. Horbelt told the girl to put on her hat and come with him, whereupon Viguel caught the officer by the throat, when the latter drew his revolver, but it was almost instantly knocked from his hand by Antonio Mulligan, alias Morel, the bartender. The latter then seized from the counter a large hammer, with which he struck the officer a heavy blow on the back, knocking him down. In a moment afterwards Viguel struck officer Horbelt in the face with the butt end of a revolver, and at the same time made a pass at him with a large bowie knife. The steel penetrated the officer's coat and cut a large slit in it, his vest and two shirts, but, fortunately, did not pierce his body. At this time officer Horbelt's life was in imminent danger; on seeing which, Mr. Cooper, residing at 68 Madison street, hastened to his assistance. With a club, which fell into his hands, Mr. Cooper partially disabled both Viguel and Morel, and kept them at bay till officer Mullen and other policemen arrived from the station house. After much difficulty Viguel and his subordinate were disarmed, taken to the station, and committed to the cells. They were subsequently arraigned before Justice Hogan, at the Tombs, and committed for trial. During the desperate struggle in the saloon Catharine Sheppard escaped, but she was afterwards arrested, and Justice Hogan locked her up. Officer Horbelt was badly injured, and may be unable to discharge his duties for some days to come.

GARROTING A SOLDIER AND ROBBING HIM.

About two o'clock yesterday morning Francis Leopold, a soldier attached to the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, was passing through New Bowery, on his way home, when he was stopped by Frank Smith and another man, whose name is unknown. Smith instantly caught the soldier about the neck with his arm, and pressed his head back, so that he was unable to help himself. While Smith thus held his victim the other man rifled Leopold's pockets, taking therefrom $13 in greenbacks and a gold ring worth $14. The highwaymen then ran away, but Leopold's cries for help were heard by officer Craig, of the Fourth precinct, who pursued the fugitives, and succeeded in arresting Smith; but his accomplice escaped and is still at large. Smith was taken before Justice Hogan and committed to the Tombs for trial without bail. The prisoner is a German, and says he lives at 21 Allen street. Of course he pleads not guilty to the charge.

ARREST OF ALLEGED HOTEL THIEVES.

On Friday two men appeared at the Anson House, corner of Spring and Crosby streets, and registered their names as Michael Walsh and James M. Smith, one claiming to be from Philadelphia and the other from St. Louis. They took a room, and during the night Henry Dixon, also a lodger in the same house, was awakened by hearing some one in his room. He jumped out of bed and saw, a man whom he believes to be Walsh, alias L. McWilliams, who apologized for the intrusion, saying he had made a mistake, and retired. Mr. Dixon discovered his pantaloons lying on the floor, and examining the pockets, found that his money (forty dollars) had been stolen. Officer Loonie, of the Fourteenth precinct, was called, and suspicion resting on Walsh and Smith, they were taken into custody. Nothing was found on their persons; but on examining the room in which they slept, the pocketbook and money stolen from Mr. Dixon, likewise a pair of nippers, were found secreted under the carpet. This state of facts appearing before Justice Hogan, he committed Walsh and Smith to the Tombs for trial, in default of $2,000 bail each.

ASSAULT WITH A RAZOR.

Fanny Bell, a dark complexioned woman, living at No. 190 Church street, complains that Alfred Scotland, colored, cut her on the thigh with a razor, inflicting a severe wound. Scotland was arrested and Justice Hogan committed him for trial. The prisoner pleaded not guilty to the charge. The origin of the difficulty between Fanny and Alfred did not transpire.

A CASE OF MAYHEM.

David Barry, residing at No. 209½ Monroe street, and a man named Andrew Browne, yesterday became involved in a quarrel while in one of the Market street saloons, when Browne, as charged, seized the nose of his antagonist between his teeth and bit off a portion of it, thereby disfiguring him for life. Browne was subsequently arrested by officer O'Byrne of the Essex Market court squad, and Justice Shandley required him to give five hundred dollars bail to answer the charge of mayhem.

Coroner's Inquest.

Coroner Grover yesterday held an inquest at No. 203 East Ninth street over the remains of William Hyde, a child two years of age, whose death was the result of scalds received by accidentally falling backwards into a tub of scalding water which stood on the floor. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE FIRST PEACE MEETING.

It Ends in a Three Handed Conflict Between the Chivalry, the Poor Whites and the Negroes.

CHIEF JUSTICE CHASE AS MEDIATOR.

His Policy and Views Suit Neither Party.

His Views on the Federal Relations of Seceded States and Negro Suffrage.

A New State Constitution, New Legislature and Executive Necessary to Readmission.

The Negroes Entitled to a Voice in Adopting a New Constitution.

Ill Feeling Between the Negro Troops and the One Hundred and Twenty-Seventh New York Infantry.

THE RAILROADS BEING REPAIRED.

WADE HAMPTON ON THE WAR PATH.

He Refuses to Be Surrendered, and is Determined to "Fight It Out" in the South Carolina Swamps "if It Takes All Summer."

The Paroled Rebels Anxious to Take the Oath,

&c., &c., &c.

The steam transport Arago, Henry A. Gadsden commanding, from Hilton Head, S. C., Wednesday, 17th inst., at 4:30 P. M. via Fortress Monroe, Va., arrived at this port last evening. Hatteras, bearing south by west, exchanged signals with steamship Fulton, bound south. The steamer Clyde, with Jefferson Davis, Stephens and others on board, was at anchor off Fortress Monroe on Friday evening. Among the passengers per Arago are fifty paroled prisoners of war, including ex-Brigadier General Basil Duke, of Wheeler's cavalry.

Our Charleston Correspondence.

CHARLESTON, May 15, 1865.

On the 10th instant an attempt was made to hold and organize a public meeting in this city by the old citizens, but, owing to the fact that on reaching Hibernian Hall the late chivalry found about one hundred and fifty negroes assembled, it was violently disrupted, and at least the major portion of the audience, consisting of individuals who were once rebels, and who are now endeavoring, after a manner, to be or appear Union men, left the room, and the meeting was held by Messrs. R. S. Tharin, David Barrow, Edmund Mackey, son of Dr. Mackey, and a few other out and out Unionists and the negroes. A great deal of feeling was the consequence of the failure of the meeting, and the arrival on the next day of Chief Justice Chase was looked upon as timely and fortunate, as it was hoped his presence would throw oil on the troubled waters. The disruption of the meeting on the preceding day, caused by the presence of the blacks, who claimed the right of voting and consultation in any public meeting of citizens, had produced such excitement that serious consequences were anticipated.

Groups of whites collected in the streets, giving vent to their indignation, the more impetuous declaring that the issue should be made at once. The older citizens counselled the people to return quietly to their homes and submit to the action of the authorities and the government. The commotion was increasing when the presence of Judge Chase in the city was announced. The committee of the meeting and a large number of leading citizens, including Mayor Macbeth, John Phillips, Esq., Hon. Isaac E. Holmes, formerly Member of Congress, waited upon the Chief Justice at the residence of General Hatch on Friday morning.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S VIEWS ON THE FEDERAL RELATION OF SECEDED STATES.

A very cordial and pleasant interview took place. The Judge was very free and communicative with every one. His audience room was crowded during the day. He candidly gave his own views and those of the government, so far as they came within his knowledge. In reply to numerous questions he expressed the opinion that it would be better for both white and colored that the latter should have the right of voting in the formation of the new constitution of the State. He did not know what would be the action of the government on the subject. He stated that while President Johnson was military governor of the State of Tennessee the people of that State adopted a constitution that did not give the right of suffrage to the colored people, or even the right to testify in a court of justice. That constitution had, however, been accepted by the government of the United States.

The Chief Justice said the government would not recognize the present Governor of this State or any present legislative body that had been engaged in the cause of the rebellion. A new State constitution would have to be formed and submitted to Congress, as in the case of the States of Tennessee and Virginia.

The Chief Justice was listened to with great attention during the expression of his views, and his conversations had a happy effect in reconciling our citizens with him and the new order of affairs.

In the afternoon the Chief Justice delivered an address at Zion (colored) church, before an assemblage of between five and six thousand colored people, and about five hundred whites. On his entrance into the church, arm in arm with Major General Gillmore, the whole audience rose and received him with tremendous cheering.

The Chief Justice was introduced to the audience by Major General Saxton, and on rising was again greeted with hearty cheering.

MR. CHASE'S SPEECH.

After it had subsided the Chief Justice spoke as follows:—

MY FRIENDS—I shall comply with the invitation of General Saxton only to address you a very few words. It is true that I have always been the friend of freedom. I have always desired to see every man, of whatever complexion, protected in the enjoyment of all his natural rights; and to see every man clothed with every legitimate means for the protection of those rights. No man, probably, in this country, deplored this war more than myself; perhaps no man would have made greater sacrifices to avert it. I did not wish to see even the great good of emancipation effected at such a terrible cost. I believed that it would come some time; I believed that, by a wise and just administration of the federal government, it might be hastened; but I never desired to see such a terrible struggle as that through which we have passed. I never desired to see those seas of blood, and those vast gulfs in which the treasures of the country have been sunk, even for that highest good, which, as we all hoped, could have been obtained by other and gentler means. But, in the providence of God, war came; and as a means of carrying that war through to a successful issue, I felt it was the duty of the general government to respect its natural allies; and I knew that the whole colored population of the South was loyal. (Great cheering.) I said and I believed that if we would succeed in this struggle we must [illegible] the fetters from the bondman. Such was my co[illegible] in the Cabinet; and when that honored man—who[illegible]ith this nation mourns in common with all the lovers [illegible] freedom throughout the world—when that honored man made up his mind to say that all men in this land shall be free, none gave it a more hearty sanction or a more emphatic Amen than myself. Then, when that other question arose—"Shall we put arms into the hands of the black man?"—I never doubted the proper answer. If we make them freemen, and the defence of their freedom is the defence of this nation, whose duty is it to bear arms, if not theirs? Whose duty is it to take part in the struggle now for freedom as well as for Union, if not their duty? And how can we expect to succeed if we do not avail ourselves of that natural strength which in this struggle is created for us by the circumstances under which it is waged? When the government, therefore, made up its mind to call the black man to the field, I felt that it had not done it one moment too soon, but a great many days too late. But now the colored man has borne his full proper share in the great struggle. If anybody has made sacrifices he has made them. If anybody has suffered extreme ill he has suffered it; and the victory being won, and freedom and Union being secured, who has a better right than he to participate in the fruits of both? It is simply because I think it just and right that I advocate it. I believe that the safety of nations as well as of individuals consists in doing justice. I believe in the truth of that passage of Scripture which says that he that walketh uprightly, walketh surely. That man or that nation linking his or its action with truth and justice, relying upon the providence of Almighty God, is sure to issue safely and triumphantly. It may be that great struggles have to be gone through, great trials to be made, great martyrdoms to be endured. This war has seen multitudes of martyrs—last and noblest of them all, that great martyr, our beloved President, struck down by the hand of the assassin. So martyrdoms may yet be needed; but out of all your trials the issue is sure. I have said the victory is won. The armies of the rebellion are disbanded, peace returns, and peace brings with it its duties. A great race, numbering four millions, is suddenly brought into freedom. All the world is looking to see whether the prophecies of the enemies of that race will be fulfilled or falsified. It rests upon the men of that race to tell. They say that you will be disorderly, shiftless, lazy; that you will starve rather than work; that wages cannot tempt you to work; that you will become thievish vagabonds. So your enemies say; so, too, a great many people that are not your enemies seriously fear. It is for you to show whether it shall be so or not. You need not in the meantime be particularly anxious what people say about you. Show that you will be honest, temperate, industrious and faithful in your employments; that you are ready to do honest work for honest wages; be economical, lay up a portion of every day's or every month's earnings in some savings bank for yourselves and families for a rainy day. Do everything in your power to increase the products of the country; doing this with all your might you will save yourselves and reflect credit upon those who have been your friends. God forbid that before I die I shall be obliged to hang my head and say, I expected a great deal of this people, believed them to be honest, industrious and orderly, and I find I have been mistaken; that they allowed miserable prejudices to grow up among them; that they permitted themselves to be controlled by vindictiveness of feeling; that they were unwilling to labor for their living. For, after all, labor must be the cardinal law of your lives. I was, myself, a Western boy, and in the log cabins of the West we fared just as roughly as most of you have fared. We had very little capital, nothing to go upon but our own good will, pa[illegible] hearts and free school education, which, thank God, this country gave to all her white children, and is now going to give to all the blacks who will take it. Well, upon such capital we went to work, and we came to something. You can do the same thing if you will go to work in the same way. But if you spend your time in fretting because this or that white man has a better time than you have or more advantages, and take short cuts to what you may think success, you will, in the end, be very sadly disappointed. Take things patiently and labor faithfully; the result will be glorious. Let the soldier fight well, let the preacher preach well, let the carpenter shove his plane with all his might, and the planter put in and gather in as much corn or cotton as he can—working for fair wages, and, as he gets able, to hire others, paying them fair wages, too. Act thus, and I have no fears for your future. Now, as to the elective franchise. Major Delany has said that he heard me say in the hall of the House of Representatives at Washington that I knew no reason why the hand that laid down the bayonet might not take up the ballot. If he had listened to me twenty years ago, in the city of Cincinnati, he might have heard me say substantially the same thing. But the colored man did not get the elective franchise because I said it then. Quite possibly he may not now. Certainly, however, events have progressed remarkably in that direction. If everybody in this city saw things exactly as I see them, if they felt as I feel, that it would be desirable, on account of the general interests, that every man should have the same rights before the law in the elective franchise as in everything else, it would come to you very soon. But there is not that agreement. Having nothing to do with politics, I am not prepared to say what will be the action of the government. I am no longer in its counsels, and, therefore, do not know what it is prepared to do. I will only say this: I believe there is not a member of the government who would not be pleased to see universal suffrage. But I am not ready to say that the government will now establish universal suffrage. This I do not know. If you are patient, and constantly show by your acts that you merit the right of suffrage, then you can be safely trusted with it. That in your hands it will be on the side of order and liberty and education, reasoning upon general principles, I can safely say you will get the elective franchise in a very short period. I trust it will not find you unprepared. But respect yourselves and respect the rights of all, and do your very best to show that you are, each and all of you, worthy to have it. You cannot get it by threats or misbehavior. You can get it by patience and perseverance in well doing. Now, if the government of the United States, taking everything into consideration, shall not think it proper to enroll all the colored men as citizens and voters, what is your duty? To fret and worry about it? I think not. If I were in your case, I would go to work and show that the United States government was mistaken in making the delay. If you show that, the mistake will be corrected. I think it is the best plan for all men, white and black, that every man who is honest and of due age shall have the right of suffrage. Having it he will respect himself the more, will do more productive labor, and will add more wealth to the community. He will receive the respect of his fellow-men, and the society composed of such men is always great. But if the government think differently and circumstances delay its action, I advise you to be patient, calm and industrious. This is about all I have to say to you. When a man has been faithful in the honest performance of his duty, he is thought better off if success attend him in this world. But if it so happens, in the Providence of God, that these material results do not follow that performance, still he carries in his own mind the consciousness that he has tried to do what is right in the sight of God, rendering to everybody his due, contributing all he can to the general happiness and improvement, diffusing as much enjoyment and contentment as he can in the little circle of which he is the centre; with that consciousness he goes through life "happy as a king, though he may not be the king," ends it in felicity, and goes where there is an end of all these controversies, because there is but one God and one Father, before whom all his children are equal.

GENERAL SAXTON'S SPEECH.

Major General Saxton followed the Chief Justice, and told the colored men that he wanted them to draft a petition, have it signed and sent to the President of the United States and to Congress for the right to exercise the elective franchise—the right to vote for those who are to rule over them. He wanted to see one hundred and fifty thousand black men voting in South Carolina. I want, he said, to see the black man in the future save a nation's honor. I believe measures will shortly be introduced into Congress to pay the rebel debt, a debt contracted to make you slaves. I believe in that way the black man will have an opportunity to save the nation's honor. There is no telling how much virtue there is in this petition. Your petition will have to be sent to President Johnson and to the Congress, and Congress will insure the right of the black man to vote in this country. I cannot see how it can be otherwise. I want you now to elect and choose a committee to draft this petition. Have it clearly, strongly worded, with good reasons why you should vote, and get every colored man to sign it. I can get three thousand at Beaufort to sign it. But I want it started here in the city of Charleston, the leading city of the rebellion. I want it to lead off in the movement to insure your political equality.

THE JUDGE BETWEEN TWO FIRES.

You will see that the views previously expressed to the citizens were reiterated at length in the speech. Some of the old citizens expressed their disapproval of the highest judicial officer of the United States giving his opinion before an assembly of blacks on questions which, it is thought, must yet come before him for judicial investigation and decision, but were, nevertheless, reconciled to this seeming breach of judicial decorum by the tenor of his remarks, which were delivered in the most impressive manner and with deep sincerity of conviction.

The purport of the Chief Justice's address was to counsel the colored people to perfect submission to law and order; that the right of voting is ever to be obtained by freedmen—not by violence, but by orderly, industrious and virtuous conduct. Such a course would show, not only to the people of the United States, but to the white citizens of South Carolina, that they ought to have the right to vote. Some who differed with the Chief Justice were willing to concede that the time would come when it would be proper and just for freedmen to vote; but not until they had become accustomed to their new situation, and knew at least how to read. This provision they say should be adopted in the formation of the new State constitution. With this view many liberal-minded, influential citizens think the discussion of free suffrage for the negro at this time is premature, and are under the apprehension that that discussion will delay the work of peace and restoration of civil order. They contend that the freedmen would have been perfectly content with the "boon of freedom" for the present without the right of suffrage, if let alone by the leading agitators of this new question.

On the other hand, the friends of the negroes did not appear to altogether relish the views of Chief Justice Chase counselling perfect submission to law and the peaceful agitation for redress in reference to the right of suffrage, so that the Judge is between two fires, his course not having met with the sanction of the extremists on either side. Apelles, therefore, the well known maxim, "truth generally lies between two extremes," we must come to the conclusion that the Judge, under all the circumstances of the case, has acted wisely.

ENTERTAINMENT IN HONOR OF MR. CHASE.

Another grand entertainment was given on Friday evening in honor of the Judge's presence, by Colonel Gurney, commandant of the post. Among the guests present were Chief Justice Chase, Rear Admiral Dahlgren, Major Gray, of General Gillmore's staff; Fleet Captain Bradford, of the Philadelphia; Captain Pickering, of the Vanderbilt; Hon. Albert G. Browne, Special Supervising Agent of the Treasury; John H. Pillsbury, Assistant Special Supervising Agent of the Treasury, Mrs. Pillsbury, Judge Cooley, Tax Commissioner; Mrs. Cooley, Mr. James P. M. Stetson, Miss Kate Stetson and Mr. England, Secretary to Collector Draper. On the right of Mrs. Col. Gurney sat Chief Justice Chase, and on his left Rear Admiral Dahlgren.

While the party were discussing the viands which were delicate, varied and bounteous, a procession of colored citizens, headed by the fine post band of Beaufort, marched up to the piazza and gave three rousing cheers for Judge Chase. The band then struck up a lively air, and, after more cheers from the crowd, Colonel Gurney appeared on the balcony and remarked that, although the Chief Justice highly appreciated the compliment which had been paid to him, and sincerely thanked them for the same, his time was so limited that it would be impossible for him to make even a brief speech.

The citizens then gave three cheers for Chief Justice Chase, three more for Colonel Gurney, and another three for Admiral Dahlgren, after which the band played a national air and the procession moved into the street. Shortly after Mr. Chase, accompanied by Admiral Dahlgren, Captain Bradford and Major Gray, were driven in a carriage to the pier.

HIS DEPARTURE FOR HILTON HEAD.

The Chief Justice left in the steamer Wagenda for Hilton Head about nine o'clock Friday night. The party who arrived with him in this city, including Mrs. Chase, Mr. Mellen and son, Rev. Dr. Fuller and Mr. W. Reid, of Washington, sailed with him.

FEELING BETWEEN THE NEGRO TROOPS AND THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS.

Considerable ill feeling seems to exist between the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh regiment, N. Y. V., post garrison, and the colored soldiers here, since the meeting of last Thursday, when Lieutenant Bodine desired the colored attendants to withdraw, the meeting being intended for an assemblage of white citizens. The One Hundred and Twenty-seventh have shown much sympathy and sincere kindness to the white citizens, and the polite, gentlemanly bearing of both officers and privates has secured the respect and gratitude of the white population.

The interruption on last Thursday, and the exhibition of this reciprocal feeling, above mentioned, have enraged the blacks. At an assemblage of colored people, including colored soldiers, on Friday evening, it is said three groans were proposed and given for all the officers and privates of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, except Colonel Gurney.

The radicals among us, who have been preaching inflammatory doctrines to the colored people, will, it is feared, increase this feeling, unless they are stopped in the course they are pursuing.

An investigation, I learn, has been ordered into this disgraceful affair, and the parties will be required to account for their shameful proceedings.

COLONEL BEECHER'S SPEECH.

Colonel James C. Beecher, Thirty-fifth United States Colored Troops, delivered a discourse at Zion church yesterday, in which, alluding to the meeting, he told the colored people that if the public call was made for citizens every one had a right and should be present. If, however, the call was limited to white citizens, they should all stay away, and a meeting of colored citizens called thereafter as soon as possible. With regard to the excitement in the city, and the fears of a collision felt by many, he felt satisfied, after the exhibition of sublime, orderly conduct of the colored men, who quietly withdrew on being told to do so by a United States officer, that no apprehension of a disturbance by them need be entertained. No disturbance, he said, would follow so long as both parties conformed their action to peaceful measures. But if arms were resorted to in an attempt to deprive colored people of their right as citizens, then he was in favor of using all the arms and means that God gave them to resist and assert their rights.

General Hatch and Colonel Gurney have been very prompt in the suppression of these rising symptoms of outbreak, and have restored tranquility.

It is now said that no further meetings will be allowed. If the white citizens do not act promptly, and repeal or declare null all State laws antagonistic to the United States, then it is thought that the State will be entirely given over to the negroes, who will form the new constitution.

This is just what the radical party are believed to be working for, and hence the breaking up of the late meeting is also believed to have been matured beforehand by that party.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.

A large force is at work repairing the culverts and breaks on this road. It is expected that the repairs will be finished as far as Orangeburg to-morrow, and that place be in railroad communication with the city this week. General Hartwell's brigade, which has been at Summerville, will leave for Orangeburg as soon as the trains commence running. This brigade consists of the Fifty-fourth New York Veteran Volunteers, Twenty-fifth Ohio Veteran Volunteers,