would at an early day adopt a general amnesty. Mr. Seward said he hoped the States would all be in their appropriate places soon. For the present the government must make sure work of preserving the peace of the nation.

Mr. Bliss, of Alabama, facetiously inquired if, in cases where parties did not have the twenty thousand dollars making the thirteenth exception, the government would make it up to them.

Mr. Seward replied that it would make it up to them in kindness and good will, and the preservation of peace and quiet for themselves and their families.

When Judge Fisher, of Mississippi, was presented, "So," said Mr. Seward, "you intend to be Governor?" Judge Fisher replied, "That is yet to be decided." In conversation with Colonel Fannin, of Georgia, reference was had to Mr. Seward, of Georgia, and his recent visit to Washington. These and other incidents showed that Mr. Seward keeps himself thoroughly informed about the condition of affairs in the several States.

Thus pleasantly did the evening pass away, so that it may be emphatically termed a reunion. Mr. Seward expressed his gratification at the state of good feeling that prevailed, and, referring to the fact that there were several English gentlemen present, he said he was glad such an occurrence had taken place, and that these gentlemen were with us to witness it.

MR. SEWARD TELLS A STORY.

He made a delicate reference to the effort that had been made to assassinate him, and said he would tell an anecdote. That when he learned it was the intention of the Southerners at Washington to pay him their respects he stated to the friend who informed him that he would be at home this evening, at eight o'clock. He then notified Mr. Frederick Seward that he would have a reception this evening.

"Reception of whom?" inquired he.

"Of the rebels."

"Unless it be a more agreeable reception of the rebels than the last one we had I would prefer not to be present."

"Sure enough he is not present; but he is too unwell to be out."

Several gentlemen promptly said the assassination was not the act of the rebels; that true-hearted Southerners scorned the act and despised the perpetrators.

The foregoing are some of the incidents of the evening, but not all. There were many gentlemen from the South present, mainly from South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. All took part in the conversation freely, and all went away pleased with the great Secretary of State and other members of the President's Cabinet who were present. Such free, frank and polite interviews are calculated to do good.

SPEECH OF THADDEUS STEVENS.

Southern Lands to Pay the National Debt—The South a Conquered Territory—The Crime of Treason—"Restoration" the Seed of Rebellion.

Thaddeus Stevens, member of Congress from Pennsylvania, delivered a speech in Lancaster, Pa., September 6, on the policy of reconstruction, from which we make the following extracts:—

THE SOUTH THREW OFF ITS ALLEGIANCE.

Four years of bloody and expensive war, waged against the United States by eleven States, under a government called the "Confederate States of America," to which they acknowledged allegiance, have overthrown all governments within those States which could be acknowledged as legitimate by the Union. The armies of the Confederate States having been conquered and subdued, and their territory possessed by the United States, it becomes necessary to establish governments therein, which shall be republican in form and principles, and form a "more perfect union" with the parent government. It is desirable that such a course should be pursued as to exclude from those governments every vestige of human bondage, and render the same forever impossible in this nation; and to take care that no principles of self destruction shall be incorporated therein. In effecting this it is to be hoped that no provision of the constitution will be infringed, and no principle of the law of nations disregarded. Especially must we take care that in rebuking this unjust and treasonable war the authorities of the Union shall indulge in no acts of usurpation which may tend to impair the stability and permanency of the nation. Within these limitations we hold it to be the duty of the government to inflict condign punishment on the rebel belligerents, and so weaken their hands that they can never again endanger the Union, and so reform their municipal institutions as to make them republican in spirit as well as in name.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH THE SOUTH.

We especially insist that the property of the chief rebels should be seized and appropriated to the payment of the national debt, caused by the unjust and wicked war which they instigated. How can such punishments be inflicted and such forfeitures produced without doing violence to established principles? Two positions have been suggested:—

First—To treat those States as never having been out of the Union because the constitution forbids secession, and therefore a fact forbidden by law could not exist.

Second—To accept the position in which they placed themselves as severed from the Union—an independent government *de facto* and an alien enemy, to be dealt with according to the laws of war.

THE CRIME OF TREASON.

The crime of treason can be committed only where the person is actually or potentially present. Jefferson Davis sitting in Richmond, counselling, or advising, or commanding an inroad into Pennsylvania, has committed no overt act in this State, and can be tried, if anywhere, only in the Richmond district. The doctrine of constructive presence and constructive treason will never, I hope, pollute our statutes or judicial decisions. Select an impartial jury from Virginia, and it is obvious no conviction could ever be had. Possibly a jury might be packed to convict; but that would not be an "impartial" jury. It would be judicial murder, and would rank in infamy with the trial of Lord Russell, except only that the one was the murder of an innocent man, the other of a traitor. The same difficulties would exist in attempting forfeitures, which can only follow conviction in States protected by the constitution, and then it is said only for the life of the malefactor. Congress can pass no "bill of attainder."

HOW TO BEGIN RECONSTRUCTION.

What right has any one to direct a convention to be held in a sovereign State of this Union, to amend its constitution and prescribe the qualifications of voters? The sovereign power of the nation is lodged in Congress. Yet where is the warrant in the constitution for such sovereign power, much less the Executive, to intermeddle with the domestic institutions of a State, mould its laws and regulate the elective franchise? It would be rank, dangerous and deplorable usurpation. In reconstruction, therefore, no reform can be effected in the Southern States if they have never left the Union. But reformation must be effected; the foundation of their institutions, political, municipal and social, must be broken up and relaid, or all our blood and treasure have been spent in vain. This can only be done by treating and holding them as a conquered people. Then all things which we can desire to do follow with logical and legitimate authority. As conquered territory Congress would have full power to legislate for them; for the Territories are not under the constitution except so far as the express power to govern them is given to Congress. They would be held in a territorial condition until they are fit to form State constitutions, republican in fact, not in form only, and ask admission into the Union as new States. If Congress approve of their constitutions, and think they have done works meet for repentance, they would be admitted as new States. If their constitutions are not approved of they would be sent back, until they have become wise enough so to purge their old laws as to eradicate every despotic and revolutionary principle—until they shall have learned to venerate the Declaration of Independence. I do not touch on the question of negro suffrage. If in the Union the States have long ago regulated that, and for the central government to interfere with it would be mischievous impertinence. If they are to be admitted as new States, they must form their own constitution, and no enabling act could dictate its terms. Congress could prescribe the qualifications of voters while a Territory, or when proceeding to call a convention to form a State government. That is the extent of the power of Congress over the elective franchise, whether in a territorial or State condition. The President has not even this or any other power to meddle in the subject, except by advice to Congress—and they on Territories. Congress, to be sure, has some sort of compulsory power by refusing the States admission until they shall have complied with its wishes upon this subject. Whether those who have fought our battles should all be allowed to vote, or only those of a paler hue, I leave to be discussed in the future, when Congress can take legitimate cognizance of it. There are about 6,000,000 of freedmen in the South. The number of acres of land is 465,000,000. Of this those who own above 200 acres each number about 70,000 persons, holding in the aggregate—together with the States—about 394,000,000 acres, leaving for all the others below 200 each about 71,000,000 acres. By thus forfeiting the estates of the leading rebels the government would have 394,000,000 of acres, beside their town property, and yet nine-tenths of the people would remain untouched. Divide this land into convenient farms. Give, if you please, forty acres to each adult male freedman. Suppose there are 1,000,000 of them. That would require 40,000,000 of acres, which deducted from 394,000,000, leaves 354,000,000 of acres for sale. Divide it into suitable farms, and sell it to the highest bidders. I think it, including town property, would average at least $10 per acre. That would produce $3,540,000,000. Let that be applied as follows, to wit:—

1. Invest $300,000,000 in six per cent government bonds, and add the interest semi-annually to the pensions of those who have become entitled by this villainous war.

2. Appropriate $200,000,000 to pay the damage done to loyal men, North and South, by the rebellion.

3. Pay the residue, being $3,040,000,000, toward the payment of the national debt.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

Our war debt is estimated at from three to four billions of dollars. In my judgment, when all is funded and the pensions capitalized, it will reach more than four billions.

The interest at six per cent, only (now much more)	$240,000,000
The ordinary expenses of our government are	120,000,000
For some years the extraordinary expenses of our army and navy will be	110,000,000
Total	$470,000,000

Four hundred and seventy millions to be raised by taxation! Our present heavy taxes will in ordinary years, produce but little more than half this sum. Can unnecessarily causes it will be accursed from generation to generation. It is fashionable to belittle our public debt, lest the people should become alarmed, and political parties should suffer. I have never found it wise to deceive the people. They can always be trusted with the truth. Capitalists will not be affected; for they cannot be deceived. Confide in the people, and you will avoid repudiation. Deceive them, and lead them into false measures, and you may produce it.

We pity the poor Englishman, whose national debt and burdensome taxation we have heard deplored from our childhood. The debt of Great Britain is just about as much as ours ($4,000,000,000), four billions. But in effect it is but half as large; it bears but three per cent interest. The current year the Chancellor of the Exchequer tells us the interest was $181,806,990. Ours, when all shall be funded, will be nearly double. The plan we have proposed would pay at least three-fourths of our debt. The balance could be managed with our present taxation.

WHO HAS KILLED SLAVERY?

While I hear it said everywhere that slavery is dead, I cannot learn who killed it. No thoughtful man has pretended that Lincoln's proclamation, so noble in sentiment, liberated a single slave. It expressly excluded from its operation all those within our lines. No slave within any part of the rebel States in our possession, or in Tennessee, but only those beyond our limits and beyond our power were declared free. So General Smith conquered Canada by a proclamation! The President did not pretend to abrogate the slave laws of any of the States. "Restoration," therefore, will leave the "Union as it was"—a hideous idea. I am aware that a very able and patriotic gentleman, and learned historian, Mr. Bancroft, has attempted to place their freedom on different grounds. He says, what is undoubtedly true, that the proclamation of freedom did not free a slave. But he liberates them on feudal principles. Under the feudal system, when a king conquered his enemy, he parceled out his lands and conquered subjects among his chief retainers; the lands and serfs were held on condition of fealty and rendering military service when required. If the subordinate chief rebelled, he broke the condition on which he held them, and the lands and serfs became forfeited to the lord paramount. But it did not free the serfs. They, with the manors, were bestowed on other favorites. But the analogy fails in another important respect. The American slaveholder does not hold, by virtue of any grant from any lord paramount—least of all by a grant from the general government. Slavery exists by no law of the Union, but simply by local laws—by the laws of the States. Rebellion against the national authority is a breach of no condition of their tenure. It were more analagous to say that rebellion against a State under whose laws they held might work a forfeiture. But rebellion against neither government would *per se* have any such effect. On whom would the lord paramount again bestow the slaves? The theory is plausible, but has no solid foundation.

"RESTORATION" THE SEED OF REBELLION.

The President says to the rebel States, "Before you can participate in the government you must abolish slavery and reform your election laws." That is the command of a conqueror. That is reconstruction, not restoration—reconstruction, too, by assuming the powers of Congress. This theory will lead to melancholy results. Nor can the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery ever be ratified by three fourths of the States, if they are States to be counted. Bogus conventions of those States may vote for it; but no convention honestly and fairly elected will ever do it. The frauds will not permanently avail. The cause of liberty must rest on a firmer basis. Counterfeit governments, like the Virginia, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas pretences, will be disregarded by the sober sense of the people, by future law, and by the courts. "Restoration" is replanting the seeds of rebellion, which within the next quarter of a century will germinate and produce the same bloody strife which has just ended.

THE SOUTH SHOULD BE A REPUBLIC OF TOIL.

If the South is ever to be made a safe republic, let her lands be cultivated by the toil of the owners, or the free labor of intelligent citizens. This must be done even though it drive her nobility into exile. If they go, all the better. It will be hard to persuade the owner of ten thousand acres of land, who drives a coach and four, that he is not degraded by sitting at the same table, or in the same pew, with the embrowned and hard-handed farmer who has himself cultivated his own thriving homestead of one hundred and fifty acres. This subdivision of the lands will yield ten bales of cotton to one that is made now, and he who produced it will own it and feel himself a man.

THE BLAIR FAMILY.

It is far easier and more beneficial to exile 70,000 proud, bloated and defiant rebels than to expatriate 4,000,000 of laborer, natives to the soil and loyal to the government. This latter scheme was a favorite plan of the Blairs, with which they had for a while inoculated our late sainted President. But a single experiment made him discard it and his advisers. Since I have mentioned the Blairs, I may say a word more of these persistent apologists of the South. For, when the virus of slavery has once entered the veins of the slaveholder, no subsequent effort seems capable of wholly eradicating it. They are a family of considerable power, some merit, of admirable audacity and execrable selfishness. With impetuous alacrity they seize the White House, and hold possession of it, as in the late administration, until shaken off by the overpowering force of public indignation. Their pernicious counsel had well nigh defeated the re-election of Abraham Lincoln; and if it should prevail with the present administration, pure and patriotic as President Johnson is admitted to be, it will render him the most unpopular Executive—save one—that ever occupied the Presidential chair. But there is no fear of that. He will soon say, as Mr. Lincoln did, "Your time has come!"

ALL DEPENDS ON CONGRESS.

Is this great conquest to be in vain? That will depend upon the virtue and intelligence of the next Congress. To Congress alone belongs the power of reconstruction—of giving law to the vanquished. This is expressly decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in the Dorr case, 7th Howard, 42. The Court say, "Under this article of the constitution (the 4th) it rests with Congress to decide what government is the established one in a State; for the United States guarantees to each a republican form of government," &c. But we know how difficult it is for a majority of Congress to overcome preconceived opinions. Besides, before Congress meets, things will be so inaugurated—precipitated—it will be still more difficult to correct. If a majority of Congress can be found wise and firm enough to declare the Confederate States a conquered enemy, reconstruction will be easy and legitimate, and the friends of freedom will long rule in the councils of the nation. If restoration prevails the prospect is gloomy, and "new lords will make new laws." The Union party will be overwhelmed. The copperhead party has become extinct with secession. But with secession it will revive. Under "restoration" every rebel State will send rebels to Congress, and they, with their allies in the North, will control Congress, and will occupy the White House. Then restoration of laws and ancient constitutions will be sure to follow, our public debt will be repudiated, or the rebel national debt will be added to ours, and the people be crushed beneath heavy burdens.

REBELS TO PAY THE DEBT.

Let us forget all parties and build on the broad platform of "reconstructing" the government out of the conquered territory converted into new and free States and admitted into the Union by the sovereign power of Congress, with another plank—"The property of the rebels shall pay our national debt, and indemnify freedmen and loyal sufferers, and that under no circumstances will we suffer the national debt to be repudiated, or the interest scaled below the contract rates; nor permit any part of the rebel debt to be assumed by the nation."

YOUNG MEN MUST DO THE WORK.

Let all who approve of these principles rally with us. Let all others go with copperheads and rebels. Those will be the opposing parties. Young men, this duty devolves on you. Would to God, if only for that, that I were still in the prime of life, that I might aid you to fight through this last, greatest battle of freedom.

Brooklyn City News.

ESCAPE OF A NEGRO FROM THE QUEENS COUNTY JAIL—HE COMMITS AN OUTRAGE ON A RESPECTABLE MARRIED LADY.

A notorious negro, named Horace Aleck, who was serving a term of imprisonment in the Queens county jail, for a burglary committed some time since near Hempstead, succeeded a few days since in making his escape. His first act was to go direct to the house where he committed the burglary, and finding the lady alone in the garden, the men being absent in the fields, the brute threw her to the ground and filled her mouth with earth, and then committed an outrage upon her. As soon as he had perpetrated the foul deed he entered the house and ransacked it from cellar to garret, taking anything of value that he could find. He helped himself to a full suit of new clothes belonging to the lady's husband and then decamped. As soon as the lady recovered from the effects of the abuse she had received she gave the alarm, and in a short time the whole neighborhood was in a blaze of excitement; men rushed to their houses and armed themselves, and the whole country for ten miles round was scoured, but the villain had succeeded in getting out of their reach. The police have a full description of the fiend, and it is next to an impossibility for him to escape. It is to be hoped that he may be captured and made to pay the penalty of his infamous crime.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH.

Two men, named John Ryan and Thomas McLaughlin, while engaged yesterday morning in placing braces into a sink that was being constructed to carry the waste water from a brewery in Franklin avenue, were buried beneath a huge mass of earth and masonry. Mr. Malcolm, the owner of the building, chanced to see the accident, and almost instantly summoned all his workmen to the rescue, and, after a few minutes dextrous digging, both men were taken out of their perilous position alive, but considerably injured. They were removed to their homes and their wounds dressed by a physician.

CORONER'S INQUEST IN THE CASE OF GEORGE H. PARKER.

Last night Coroner Barrett held an inquest at his store, 212 Grand street, Eastern District, in the case of George H. Parker, who died, as was supposed, from injuries received on board the steamship Ocean Queen last month. Dr. Creamer submitted the result of a post-mortem examination which he made, when it appeared that death resulted from natural causes, probably Chagres fever. Verdict accordingly.

BROADWAY THEATRE.—Othello was played here last night, with Mr. Charles Kean as the Moor, Mrs. Kean as Amelia, Miss Chapman as Desdemona and Mr. Cathcart as Iago. The house was, as usual, exceedingly full, and of course uncomfortably warm. Mr. Kean renders the part of Othello with a quiet, a reserve, a dignity, that is certainly more consistent with the character than the fury with which it is usually given. He realizes the character well in this respect, and in his dress and bearing presents it finely to the eye. In many points it is his most successful Shakspearian character, and yet it is the one in which his voice is most against him. Mr. Cathcart played Iago admirably, giving a very even and satisfactory interpretation. The performance for to-night

THE WIRZ TRIAL.

The Defence Short of Witnesses.

The Prisoner's Counsel State that the Witnesses Summoned for the Defence Have Been Induced to Testify for the Prosecution.

The Witnesses Declare They Have Done so to Shield Themselves.

TESTIMONY OF MAJOR GENERAL WILSON.

Circumstances of the Capture of Wirz.

&c. &c. &c.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11, 1865.

After the record of Saturday had been read, Mr. BAKER brought to the attention of the Commission a matter in relation to witnesses for the defence, which he thought it would be better to attend to at this time. The Judge Advocate had suggested to him that it might be a subject outside of his own authority, and therefore properly belonged to the Court. Some time before this trial commenced the gentlemen who were then acting as the prisoner's counsel requested that a number of witnesses for the defence should be sent for, and on their application this was done. Some of them could not be found, and others, who were found, had not yet reported. The reason for this neglect the counsel for the defence did not know. Since the trial had been progressing matters were developed which showed the necessity of other witnesses being summoned, in order to meet new points brought out in the trial. Those witnesses were scattered, mostly in Georgia, and may be found in a few days; but in some places there were no mails or other means of reaching them by written communications; therefore it was not probable they could be reached by the time they were wanted to testify in this court. Under these circumstances it was for the government to say whether the defendant should have the facilities which the government could afford, or whether he must be deprived entirely of these witnesses. It was an absolute necessity that the defendant should have the witnesses in this way or not at all. The counsel believed this defendant could show an ample defence. This was their sincere belief, and it was for them to ask that the prisoner have the means of making his defence. If it was within the jurisdiction of the court he asked that a messenger be despatched with subpoenas for such persons, whom he felt it absolutely necessary to summon for the defence of the accused. The Judge Advocate had shown every disposition to procure the attendance of witnesses, so far as making out subpœnas was concerned, and so far as it was within the means of the defence to give their names as had been required by the Judge Advocate. Some sixty or seventy were in New York. After sifting them they had come to the conclusion that only seven or ten of them would be required; and now that the trial was approaching an end he repeated that the witnesses he had asked for were absolutely necessary for the prisoner's defence. They would not put the government to any unnecessary expense. So far as relates to New York, Richmond and in the neighborhood, the witnesses would be sent for at the expense of the defence. But further South, there being greater difficulties and increased expenses, it became absolutely necessary that the government should grant the accommodation in the manner requested. He (Mr. Baker) would be ready with the list of witnesses to-morrow, in order that the messenger might leave at once.

Judge Advocate CHIPMAN replied that the court were aware that from time to time he had urged that the rule be complied with, namely, that a list of witnesses be furnished. That had not been fully done; and this morning the court was called upon to meet the request of the counsel that another special messenger be sent South. He said four weeks ago that one would be despatched to secure witnesses, more for the defence than for the prosecution. Those for the latter were mainly here. At the time the bailiff went to the Old Capitol Prison, and after the defendant had been furnished with a copy of the charges and specifications against him, a list of witnesses was made out by the prisoner, supervised by Messrs. Hughes, Denver and Peck, at that time his counsel, to which was attached this endorsement by Captain Wirz:—"The above named witnesses are all I require in my case." All of these witnesses, excepting four or five, were here. Their absence was accounted for by the fact that several are in Europe and the others in Texas. He had only to say that if, in the progress of this trial, it was believed by the counsel for the defence that additional witnesses were necessary, it was only fair to the government that the counsel should give a list of the witnesses and where they could be found, and also what they expect to prove by them. He asked that there be no delay and no unnecessary expenses to the prosecution in this matter. The government was trying to do what was fair. Witnesses in the South could be procured by telegraphing to the nearest military posts. On Saturday he subpœnaed forty witnesses for the defence, and placed postage stamps on the envelopes for mailing. As fast as the counsel had furnished him with the names of witnesses he had issued subpœnas. He did not know what more the government could do.

Mr. BAKER said it might be well, in reply to the suggestion of the Judge Advocate, to call attention to the fact that many witnesses who had been subpœnaed for the defence had been examined on the part of the government, and sometimes witnesses complained that improper language had been used to them to draw out of them something for the prosecution. He hardly believed the Judge Advocate would attempt to use the influence of the government to frighten or press out of our witnesses anything for the prosecution, and he would not charge it. But the witnesses came here under very peculiar circumstances. Many of them feel it necessary to say and do all they can to leave a favorable impression with the government officers and to show their friendship or good feeling to the government. Witnesses had remarked to him, when he asked them how they would testify—"Why, do you suppose I will leave anything undone to save my own head?" This, Mr. Baker said, without requiring any pressure on the part of the officers of the government, would account for the witnesses summoned for the defence appearing willing, as the Judge Advocate said, to testify for the prosecution. Mr. Baker, in continuation, remarked that the absence of the witnesses referred to necessitated the presence of others to fill their places. With regard to the suggestion of the Judge Advocate that he should make an affidavit of what he proposed to prove by each witness, he really could not do so for want of time. The court would have to adjourn for a week to enable him to do so.

The Court, after deliberating with closed doors, announced its decision relative to the witnesses—viz: That the defendant should present to the Court affidavits to the names of the several witnesses, their places of residence, and reasonable grounds that they can be found; and, secondly, to the facts he expects and believes he can prove by each of them. From this the Court may determine the materiality of the evidence, and order the witnesses accordingly.

Mr. BAKER said the Court understood from his remarks that with all the time the counsel could give to this subject they could not, with their other duties, now draw up separate affidavits. He was willing, however, to do anything in his power to give the prisoner a fair defence, and must from necessity, after the prosecution had closed, ask for a few days in order to attend to what the Court required, even if he had to work day and night, so that the subpœnas might be sent as soon as possible.

The COURT said it would be better to grant the time now than after a while; and not when the prosecution is closed. That involved time to make the affidavits and to send a messenger to Georgia, Texas and elsewhere.

Mr. BAKER replied they had no witnesses beyond New Orleans.

The COURT said they were disposed to grant the time; but the question was whether they should do so now or after a while.

Mr. BAKER suggested that if they waited until after the prosecution had ended many things would have been developed for which they could provide in their summoning of witnesses. If the court adjourned now the counsel would lose a great deal of time. But after the prosecution closed the counsel must have time to look over what the government witnesses had testified to, and if they had an opportunity they could confine the witnesses for the defence to particular points.

The COURT replied that an affidavit as to what the prisoner proposed to prove must be appended to the name of each witness, or the prisoner could state his belief.

Mr BAKER said the President of the court, being a lawyer, knew that lawyers always shaped the affidavits.

Major General WALLACE—And there are two of you.

General BRAGG said the counsel must have been apprised of the names of witnesses and what they would swear to, or else the application was made in bad faith. If the defendant found out the names of the witnesses all that was necessary to be done was to consult with the defendant and draw out the facts which he expected to prove by those whose names he handed in this morning.

Mr. BAKER replied that it required time. The Court could give it to him by adjourning. He must have time to know how to shape things.

Major General THOMAS said this question was pretty well opened the first week. He knew it as well then as now. He knew what the defence would be, and it was too late to ask the Court for further time.

Mr. BAKER—I only asked the Court to send a courier.

The COURT—You heard the ruling.

Mr. BAKER repeated what appeared to his mind to be the difficulty in the way.

General BRAGG—How long will it require you to draw the affidavits?

Mr. BAKER—Two or three days, working steady. There are twenty or thirty witnesses. I could state generally what we expect to prove, and do this at the Judge Advocate's office with the aid of a reporter. This could be done without an adjournment of the court.

The COURT—Very well; the question is settled.

Judge Advocate CHIPMAN requested that a portion of

Mr. BAKER said he would not have the Judge Advocate rest under a wrong impression.

The official reporter then read the exceptionable words given in the former part of this report.

Mr. BAKER—There's no reflection there.

The JUDGE ADVOCATE—The language is improper. It censures the Judge Advocate, and leaves a clear inference that the counsel believes that they in the preliminary examination used improper means to influence the witnesses. I pronounce the whole thing false; the preliminary examination was conducted by Major Hosmer and myself, and made with all fairness and courtesy, and in the presence of the officers of the court and reporters and witnesses. I do not recollect of any such case, and I am sure nothing has occurred to justify the remark which I pronounce false. I ask the Court to order an investigation, so that the counsel may sustain his speech by proofs, and that the officer or officers found derelict in the particular of acting unprofessionally may be dealt with by this Court. This is due to the Judge Advocate.

Major General THOMAS—We should know the names of the witnesses referred to by the counsel.

Mr. BAKER—I thought I was careful in giving the impression of the witness' talk to me. I thought I was very careful not to leave any impression that the Judge Advocate could be guilty of any such thing. It may be enough for me to say that I have too high an opinion of the Judge Advocate to believe he did any such thing; but when witnesses come here they feel they are under those restraints which we cannot feel, because we are not in their position. I must let them go for what they are worth. I do not think the Judge Advocate is guilty of this thing, and I want no such construction put upon my language.

Major General WALLACE—The language is equivalent to a charge, not only against the Judge Advocate, but against some person connected with the government; and if not made in the form of a charge by the counsel of the defendant, it comes at least in an accusatory statement from witnesses. If the things stated are true, it is certainly in the power of the counsel to give the names of the witnesses.

Mr. BAKER—I don't know them.

Major General WALLACE—It is unnecessary to have an investigation as to whether any improper attempt has been made by persons belonging to this court to influence witnesses in their testimony. It is an impeachment indirectly of the Judge Advocate of the court, and an impeachment direct of the government in whose name this prosecution proceeds. For my part I think the motion of the Judge Advocate eminently proper.

After further conversation by members of the court General BRAGG said as Mr. Baker made the charge he was under obligation to substantiate it.

Mr. BAKER—You are a lawyer, and therefore know what the usual courtesy is. I thought I guarded my language very carefully.

General WALLACE—If any officer has used any improper means to influence witnesses you may be sure he will be punished.

Mr. BAKER—I have at no time charged that any officer connected with this court is guilty of any such thing.

Major General WALLACE—We understand you then to retract.

Mr. BAKER—I retract any inference that the Judge Advocate did any such thing.

Major General WALLACE—Or any body else?

Mr. BAKER—Why, surely, I cannot take my words back.

The JUDGE ADVOCATE—I hope you will sustain them by proof.

Mr. BAKER—I make no charges.

Judge Advocate CHIPMAN—Certain journals adverse to the government have gathered up just such charges against it and the court. Unless the officers demand some proof of the truth of the charges which have been made here so flippantly, the Judge Advocate must rest under the imputation. Unless the counsel should retract altogether the court should demand the proof.

Mr. BAKER—If the gentlemen can find the charges, let them do so.

Judge Advocate CHIPMAN—You say improper influences have been used.

Mr. BAKER—The reporter has got what I said. It is the language of witnesses.

The COURT—We want to know who the witnesses are.

Mr. BAKER—How can I know? They take me aside and tell me. There are no charges made. I have denied any intention or thought of making charges.

Major General WALLACE—We are to infer from your remarks that you used your language with care? You must have matured it.

Mr. BAKER—By reading my remarks it can be seen how careful I was.

Major General WALLACE—You cannot, then, give us the name of a single witness?

Mr. BAKER—I know none of my own witnesses, except two or three.

Judge Advocate CHIPMAN—Such remarks did not come from any soldiers who had been at Andersonville.

Mr. BAKER repeated the exceptionable remarks had been made by a couple who caught him by the arm. He meant no disrespect by the repetition, but merely mentioned them in illustration.

Major General GEARY—There are but two classes of witnesses; to which one did they belong?

Mr. BAKER—I don't know; I did not ask whether they were witnesses for us or not.

Several other members of the court took part in the conversation.

Major General WALLACE—I suggest that the court give until to-morrow morning to enable the counsel to furnish the names of the witnesses.

Mr. BAKER—If I can think of the name of the witness I will.

Major General WALLACE—If such language is used it is proper you should call our attention to it.

Mr. BAKER—If I can I will furnish the name.

TESTIMONY OF GENERAL WILSON.

Major General Wilson was called to the stand. He testified that he was a Captain of Engineers and a Major General of Volunteers; he had been operating in Alabama and Georgia with a cavalry corps in the military division of the Mississippi; he was now stationed at Macon; the rebels during the war drew supplies from Central Alabama and Georgia which could have furnished sufficient supplies to Andersonville; there were ample means of affording comforts to the prison, which he examined about the 1st of July; he saw the remnants of only ten sheds; the barracks for the troops were fair; shelters could have easily been erected for the Union prisoners; there was plenty of timber in the neighborhood, just such a place as the troops would like to encamp in for wood and water if they wanted to winter; it would not have been necessary to transport timber more than a mile; there was plenty of black labor in the country; the difficulty was in getting rid of the negroes; thirty men a day would have cut wood enough for 15,000 men; in winter the allowance of wood in the army is just double what it is in summer; and, therefore, sixty men in one day could have cut enough for 15,000 men in winter; on his arrival at Macon his first inquiry was as to the condition of the Andersonville prison, and who was responsible for it; he sent two officers there; he sent Lieutenant Vanderbook and Captain, now Major, Noyes; on their return they reported that the man Wirz was still there; he immediately ordered Major Noyes to return and arrest Captain Wirz, which he did, and brought him to Macon, where he was kept several days, when he was brought before him; he was then remanded to prison, and he requested that he might be brought to trial; no protection was ever granted to Captain Wirz, through General Wilson, who ordered his arrest for the purpose of bringing him to trial, and excepted him from the benefit of the capitulation of Johnston to Sherman. The witness gave a particular description of the grounds of the Andersonville prison, stating that the prisoners had generally burrowed in the ground for shelter, particularly on the hillside; their holes were about the size of the ordinary shelter tents, holding two or four men.

On the cross-examination he said he stepped down into several of the excavations; he saw no tunnelling under the stockade; he wrote a letter simply saying the man Wirz had been arrested, and that he believed him guilty of the infliction of punishment on prisoners at Andersonville, and that the miscreant be brought to justice, in order that the whole thing might be investigated; he wished the Court to understand he had great latitude as to power; he was there to do as he pleased, and as the interests of the government required; there were seven hundred and fifty Union prisoners at Andersonville when he reached there; they were nothing but shadows, and could not be moved without endangering their lives; many died after they were brought into his lines.

By Major General GEARY.—Did you offer any safe conduct for Captain Wirz's return? A. No; except to protect him until I delivered him into such hands as the Secretary of War might direct; my officers said they had risked their own lives to protect him; and but for Major Noyes, the post guard at Chattanooga would have killed him.

EXAMINATION OF WILLIS VAN BUREN.

Willis Van Buren was cross-examined, and said he saw clothing, sent by the Sanitary Commission, on rebel soldiers.

EXAMINATION OF GEORGE WELLING.

George Welling testified as to the resources of the country in and around Andersonville.

EXAMINATION OF PATRICK BRADLEY.

Patrick Bradley related what he had seen at Andersonville in the matter of cruelty.

EXAMINATION OF JOHN H. FISHER.

John H. Fisher (colored) and Henry C. Lull also testified regarding events in the same locality.

The court then adjourned.

The Nova Scotia Gold Case.

THE MOOSELAND COMPANY FALSE PRETENSE CHARGES—JUSTICE DOWLING DISMISSES THE COMPLAINT.

The examination in the case of Mr. Charles J. Anthony, a wealthy gentleman of Worcester, Mass., recently arrested on the complaint of Edwin S. Barrett, Esq., who charged him with having, by means of false and fraudulent representations, cheated him (Barrett) out of fifteen thousand dollars, was to have been resumed before Justice Dowling at nine o'clock yesterday morning, but was not, owing to the non-appearance of the complainant and his counsel. It will be remembered that in his affidavit Mr. Barrett, who was acting as the agent of ex-Governor Gilmore, of New Hampshire, charged that he had been induced by Mr. Anthony to invest fifteen thousand dollars in certain gold property in Nova Scotia known as the Mooseland Gold Company; that the property was very valuable, paying five hundred dollars a day, &c. Mr. Barrett charged that the representations of Mr. Anthony in relation to the Mooseland Company were false and untrue. Mr. Anthony was held in fifteen thousand dollars bail for examination, since which time he has been extremely anxious to have the case disposed of. Justice Dowling yesterday rendered the following decision:—

The complainant and his counsel not appearing in pursuance of the adjournment, which was at nine o'clock A. M., and on motion of Mr. John Sedgwick, counsel for the defendant Anthony, the complaint herein is dismissed and the bond cancelled.

JOSEPH DOWLING, Police Justice.

NEW YORK, Sept. 11, 1865—10 o'clock A. M.

Returning Veterans.

THE SECOND MASSACHUSETTS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

This regiment, one thousand and twenty-four strong, under command of Colonel Jones Frankle, arrived at the Battery Barracks yesterday, and left for Boston in the afternoon. They come direct from Fort Caswell, North Carolina, and went home by the Neptune line.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH NEW YORK.

The above regiment, which arrived home from Charles-

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Meeting of the Commissioners—Organization of More New Companies—Appointments, Transfers and Innovations—A New System of Uniforms—Contracts—Fire Telegraph—Applications, &c., &c.

At the regular tri-weekly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, in Firemen's Hall, yesterday afternoon, an unusually large number of spectators were in attendance. The private committee rooms of the Commissioners, in the upper story, were besieged in the early hours of the afternoon by department attaches or aspirants. It appears the real business of the Board is transacted in these committee sessions, each "committee" being simply all the members of the Board under a specific chairman.

The reports, moves, &c., being all ready for the public gaze, the four Commissioners organized in the lower hall, approved the minutes of Friday, and in a very few minutes the tables of Secretary Gildersleeve and the reporters were supplied with a huge pile of "communications" and other documents, whose substance we give below:—

From Chief Engineer, transmitting expulsions and resignations from No. 42 Hose and Nos. 22, 25 and 21 Engines. Referred to Committee on Appointments and Discipline. Chief Engineer required sundry articles in his department. Referred to Committee on Supplies. No. 30 Engine Company wanted engine changed for horses. Referred to Committee on Apparatus. Committee on Discipline was directed to see about expulsion matters in Hose No. 44 and in Hook and Ladder No. 7.

From Volunteer Hose Company No. 28, saying they had disposed of their furniture and wished to be discharged. Referred to Committee on Appointments.

From one hundred firemen of Third and Fourth districts, asking to be organized under the Metropolitan system into an engine company, to be located in house of Hose Company No. 38. Referred to Committee on Appointments.

From No. 37 Engine, complaint against members. Referred to Committee on Discipline.

From Isaac Edwards, Street Department, asking leave for sprinkling Bloomingdale road. To Chief Engineer. The Secretary was empowered to supply H. Jones, of 55 Engine, with exempt badge. From No. 30 Engine, naming candidates for offices. To Committee on Appointments. Resignation of James Ahern, engineer, of 37 Engine, was received.

Commissioner ABBE, for committee, then presented a resolution honorably discharging members of Nos. 28 and 51 Hose, and Nos. 16 and 12 Hook and Ladder in good standing on 20th inst. Adopted.

NEW COMPANIES.

The following resolutions were also presented by Mr. ABBE for Committee on Appointments, and were adopted:—

Resolved, That an engine company be formed, to be known as Metropolitan Company No. 8, and stationed in the house of Hose Company No. 51, East Fiftieth street, and that the following appointments be made:—George Jarvis, stoker; Albert Horner, driver; W. H. Brown, C. Pye, C. H. Groves, T. Harrison, W. Beaman, C. H. Smith and J. Egan, privates.

That a Hook and Ladder Company be formed in the house of Hook and Ladder Company No. 12, in Thirteenth street, to be known as Metropolitan Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, and that the following appointments be made therein:—James Timoney, Foreman; John McCue, Assistant Foreman; T. G. Hannil, driver; M. Kelly, W. G. Mullen, J. Horn, J. Healy, J. W. White, J. Hewme, J. McGee, J. H. Honnessey and J. Thompson, privates.

That "Metropolitan Hook and Ladder Company No. 2" be formed in the place of Hook and Ladder Company No. 16, on Lexington avenue, and that the following appointments be made therein:—Andrew C. Brady, Foreman; John Rourke, Assistant Foreman; Ernest Keiser, driver; Archibald Calvert, Tellerman E. Story, R. Amos, R. Hambletl, E. Smith, M. D. Tompkins, L. Brower, J. Berry and J. H. Voss, privates.

Commissioner ENGE, for committee, presented report and resolutions, as follows:—

Resolved, That the companies heretofore organized be named as follows:—In house of No. 8 Hose, as Engine No. 4; of 20 Engine, as Engine No. 6; of 22 Engine, as Engine No. 7; of 18 Hose, as Engine No. 10, of the Metropolitan system.

APPOINTMENTS.

Commissioner ABBE, for